



Gold Standard[®] for the Global Goals

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PILOT PROGRAM - DEPLOYING DMRV SOLUTIONS - OVERVIEW

This document outlines a pilot program for Gold Standard for the Global Goals (GS4GG) projects to implement digital Measurement, Reporting, and Verification (dMRV) solutions. The program aims to assess the effectiveness of dMRV solutions in a real-world context by allowing GS4GG projects to integrate them into their operations. The document details the program's timeline, eligibility criteria, requirements for participants, and the transition plan for successful dMRV solutions. It emphasizes the importance of compliance with GS4GG requirements, data security, and transparency in data collection and reporting. The pilot program serves as a learning platform to inform the development of future guidelines and requirements for dMRV solutions within the GS4GG framework, paving the way for a more efficient and digitally-driven system for issuing carbon credits and certified impact.

CONTENTS

- Programme Summary**
- Programme Documents
- Programme Brief**
- Scope
- Timeline
- Applicability
- Requirements for participation
- Transition Plan
- Safeguards and Liability
- Reference
- FAQs

Programme Documents



Application of GS4GG
Requirements with
dMRV Solution



Assessment
Procedure



Submission
Guidelines



Template

1 | SCOPE

The Pilot Program aims to test and validate digital Measurement, Reporting and Verification(dMRV) solution for issuing carbon credits and certified impact under the Gold Standard for the Global Goals (GS4GG). It focuses on:

- Evaluating dMRV solutions in real-world contexts
- Encouraging developers to integrate dMRV into their GS4GG project designs and development
- Addressing deployment challenges and streamlining mainstreaming processes and solutions

PROGRAMME TIMELINE

The pilot programme will follow the below timeline to ensure all objectives are met within the intended timeframe:

PROGRAMME LAUNCH DATE **10 October 2024**

APPLICATION CONSIDERATION **1 November 2024**

START DATE

APPLICATION SUBMISSION
DEADLINE All interested GS4GG projects shall submit their applications by following the procedure and schedule outlined in [DMRV Submission Guidelines](#)

SELECTED PARTICIPANT
ANNOUNCEMENT The successful participants will be informed following the assessment cycles outlined in [DMRV Submission Guidelines](#). Gold Standard will maintain the public record of selected project activities details during the piloting.

PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION Ongoing throughout the pilot period.

PROGRAMME END DATE this programme is expected to conclude on **30 October 2026**

APPLICABILITY

To participate in the pilot program, projects are expected to meet the following conditions:

Eligibility Criteria

- 1. GS4GG Project Status:** Projects must be GS4GG certified and have at least achieved listed status with Gold Standard.
- 2. Technology Focus:** The program targets technologies with mature dMRV solutions that can accelerate deployment and represent a significant share of certified project types. (See [*DMRV Submission Guidelines*](#) for details)
- 3. dMRV Solution:** Projects must apply a dMRV solution, which may include integrated third-party solutions. While we acknowledge the existence of numerous third-party dMRV solutions, it is only GS4GG projects that are applying a dMRV solution, including integrated third-party solutions, that can apply under this pilot program.

Important Notes

- a. The program targets technologies with mature dMRV solutions that can accelerate deployment and represent a significant share of certified project types. See [*DMRV Submission Guidelines*](#) for details on eligible technologies and methodologies.
- b. Currently, the pilot program excludes projects solely using modeling approaches for GHG quantification. This may change once GS4GG publishes requirements for validating and verifying modeling approaches, with updates expected in Q2 2025.
- c. The pilot aims to gather insights from dMRV solutions within projects, rather than endorsing specific platforms. These learnings will inform future GS4GG guidelines and requirements.
- d. Gold Standard supports projects to complete piloting and issue GS4GG products (e.g., carbon credits). However, projects failing to meet GS4GG and MRV requirements won't receive GS4GG products and may need to switch to traditional certification.
- e. Project developers should maintain traditional monitoring alongside dMRV solutions to mitigate risks.
- f. Projects can receive labels like CORSIA or CCPs if they fully comply with applicable requirements.

REQUIREMENTS FOR PARTICIPATION

To be eligible for the pilot program, participants shall meet or agree to the following criteria:

Requirements for project developers

- a. Technical capability:** Participants must demonstrate that they have the technical capability to implement and maintain a dMRV solution.
- b. Risk Assessment:** Participants should be able to conduct a risk assessment of the dMRV solution, identifying potential challenges and ways to mitigate them.
- c. Documentation:** Participants must be able to provide any necessary documentation as required by GS, including the submission of a detailed application by the deadline in Annex 1.
- d. Resources:** Participants must have sufficient resources to implement the dMRV solution and participate in the pilot program. This includes financial resources, technical resources, and human resources.
- e. Commitment to follow the program timeline:** Participants must commit to following the program timeline as outlined.
- f. Willingness to provide data:** Participants must be willing to provide information, data for analysis to help assess the effectiveness of the dMRV solution.
- g. Compliance with future GS4GG requirements:** Participants should be prepared to refine and update their dMRV solutions according to GS4GG guidelines and requirements as they evolve.
- h. Adherence to Ethics and Transparency:** Participants should demonstrate commitment to ethical practices and transparency during the implementation and operation of the dMRV solution. This includes obtaining consent where necessary for data collection and maintaining honesty in reporting.
- i. Feedback and Iteration:** Participants should be open to feedback and willing to iterate on their dMRV solution based on observations and learnings from the pilot program.

Requirements for projects and dMRV solutions

- a. Be a GS4GG project:** Only GS4GG projects are eligible to apply under this pilot program.
- b. Proof of Concept or Prototype:** Participants ideally should have a proof of concept or a prototype of the dMRV solution that demonstrates its potential effectiveness. Having such a proof of concept or prototype will improve the chances of being accepted into the program, however it is not mandatory.

- c. Data safety and security measures:** Participants must establish and adhere to rigorous data handling procedures, use secure technologies, and comply with relevant regulations.
- d. Data origination:** participants shall demonstrate no conflicts of interest are caused by the generation and use of any data put forward for assessment by the GS-VVB and ultimately to the Gold Standard for certification. The participant retains responsibility for provision of data and its suitability for the purpose of certification.
- e. Sustainability and Scalability:** The proposed dMRV solution should be sustainable and have the potential to be scaled up if successful.
- f. Integration of Third-Party Solutions:** If applying a third-party dMRV solution, it must already be integrated into the project; standalone platform applications will not be considered.

TRANSITION PLAN FOR DMRV

Following the successful completion of the pilot program and demonstration of dMRV solutions' effectiveness, Gold Standard aims to expand their application. Insights gained will shape final requirements for dMRV deployment and GS4GG product issuance. Gold Standard intends to integrate successfully piloted dMRV solutions and their associated projects into broader application post-pilot, contingent on the following criteria:

- a. Compliance with Future GS4GG Requirements:** dMRV solutions should align with evolving GS4GG guidelines. This alignment may necessitate technical upgrades, enhanced data management, operational adjustments, and revisions to project design and monitoring plans in accordance with updated dMRV methodology.
- b. Continuous Monitoring and Improvement:** Once dMRV solutions comply with GS4GG requirements, projects should be eligible to continue using them throughout their remaining crediting period. This should be contingent on implementing necessary updates and establishing required procedures for ongoing monitoring and improvements.
- c. Review and Update:** Regular reviews should be conducted according to the final set of requirements to ensure dMRV solutions maintain their effectiveness and relevance. Any necessary updates or modifications should be implemented in a timely manner.

- d. Integration with Other Systems:** The dMRV solutions should integrate with other systems for data exchange or reporting. This should include, but not be limited to, systems such as the GSIQ, the Digital SDG tool, GS registry system, or other digital platforms that Gold Standard develops or recommends. Any future requirements on integration methods and compatibility may necessitate updates to the piloted dMRV solutions.
- e. Data Safety and Security Measures:** To ensure the safety, privacy, and security of participants and their data, appropriate measures should be implemented in accordance with relevant regulatory provisions. This should involve robust data handling procedures, secure technologies, and strict adherence to applicable regulations. Project developers should establish and maintain compliance during the pilot phase, and implement any necessary updates for transition purposes.
- f. Continuity and Compliance:** If the project developer chooses to discontinue the dMRV solution during the pilot, or if the project fails to show compliance, it can still retain GS4GG certification. This is contingent on the project continuing to comply with GS4GG requirements beyond the dMRV aspect. Compliance can be maintained by reverting to traditional MRV processes as recommended by Gold Standard.

Note - Gold Standard holds no liability for any losses or damages that may occur during the pilot phase under any circumstances.

SAFEGUARDS AND LIABILITY

- a. All parties involved in the implementation of the dMRV solution are expected to act in good faith throughout the pilot phase.
- b. In case of any disputes arising during the application of the dMRV, the Gold Standard (GS) reserves the right to be the sole authority to make a decision. This includes, but is not limited to, disputes regarding methodology, data accuracy, and compliance with GS requirements. Entry into the pilot project does not guarantee certification and/or the issuance of GS products.
- c. It should be noted that the Gold Standard unequivocally holds no liability for any losses or damages that may occur during the pilot phase, under any circumstances. This includes, but is not limited to, data loss, technical failures, or discrepancies in emission reduction calculations.
- d. Costs associated with the use of dMRV solutions are borne by the applicant as are any 'extra over' costs for GS approved VVB

assessment of projects applying them.

- e. Additional safeguards should be in place to ensure the security and integrity of the data collected and processed through the dMRV solution. This includes the implementation of robust data management procedures, including data storage, access, retrieval, and backup.
- f. Furthermore, all parties involved are expected to comply with all relevant laws and regulations, including those relating to data privacy and environmental standards. Non-compliance with these laws and regulations can result in penalties, including the termination of the project.
- g. Lastly, in the event that the dMRV solution is found to be ineffective or inaccurate, the GS reserves the right to withdraw its approval and require the project to revert to traditional MRV methods.

REFERENCE

[Draft Guidelines for methodologies](#)

[MRV Report on Pilot Projects, Roadmap and Resources](#)

[White paper on Digitising Verification for Climate Markets](#)

FAQS

1. What is the dMRV Pilot Programme? The dMRV Pilot Programme is an initiative by Gold Standard to test and validate digital Measurement, Reporting, and Verification (dMRV) solutions for projects seeking to issue carbon credits and certified impact under the Gold Standard for the Global Goals (GS4GG). The programme aims to assess the effectiveness and challenges of implementing dMRV solutions in real-world settings.
2. What is the timeline for the dMRV Pilot Programme? The programme will run for two years, commencing on 10 October 2024 and concluding on 30 October 2026. Specific deadlines for applications and selection are available in Annex 1 of the programme documentation.
3. Who is eligible to participate in the dMRV Pilot Programme? The programme is open to GS4GG projects that have achieved at least “listed” status and employ dMRV solutions. The technology used should be mature, offer potential for accelerated deployment, and represent a significant portion of certified project types. [DMRV](#)

Submission Guidelines provides a detailed list of eligible technologies.

4. Can projects using modeling approaches for GHG quantification participate? Currently, projects solely reliant on modeling for GHG quantification are excluded. However, this may change in Q2 2025, following the publication of GS4GG requirements for validating and verifying modeling approaches.
5. What happens after the pilot programme ends? Will dMRV solutions be integrated into GS4GG? The insights gathered during the pilot will shape the final requirements for dMRV deployment and GS4GG product issuance. Successful dMRV solutions may be integrated into GS4GG, subject to their compliance with evolving guidelines, continuous monitoring and improvement, integration with other systems, and adherence to data safety and security measures.
6. What are the requirements for project developers to participate in the programme? Project developers must submit the required documentation, possess sufficient resources (financial, technical, and human) to implement the dMRV solution, commit to the programme timeline, and share data for analysis. They should also conduct a risk assessment of the dMRV solution and demonstrate a commitment to ethical practices and transparency.
7. What happens if a project discontinues the dMRV solution during the pilot or fails to meet requirements? Even if a project discontinues dMRV or experiences compliance issues during the pilot, it can still retain GS4GG certification by adhering to traditional MRV processes. However, failing to meet GS4GG and MRV requirements may prevent the issuance of GS4GG products (like carbon credits). It's recommended to maintain traditional monitoring alongside dMRV solutions to mitigate this risk.
- 8: Is Gold Standard liable for any losses or damages during the pilot phase? No, Gold Standard explicitly states that it holds no liability for any losses or damages that may occur during the pilot phase under any circumstances.

For inquiries please contact Gold Standard Technical team at:
standards@goldstandard.org

