

RULE UPDATE

APPLICABILITY OF GLOBAL WARMING POTENTIAL FOR GOLD STANDARD FOR THE GLOBAL GOALS PROJECTS

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BACKGROUND

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) periodically updates Global Warming Potential (GWP) values for converting all greenhouse gases (GHGs) to a CO₂eq basis, based on the most recent science. Currently, Gold Standard for the Global Goals (GS4GG) requires all projects to calculate GHG reductions and removals based on the 100-year GWPs in the IPCC Fourth Assessment Report, Working Group 1, Chapter 2, Table 2.14. This document outlines Gold Standard's Technical Advisory Committee's (TAC) decision to update GWP values following [IPCC Fifth Assessment report](#) (AR5).

RULE UPDATE

1 | Applicable GWP values

1.1.1 | The Global Warming Potential (GWP) values, for calculating the carbon dioxide equivalence of anthropogenic emissions by sources and removals by sinks, have been updated as per IPCC AR5. These updates have been decided by the Gold Standard Technical Advisory Committees (TACs) and apply to GS4GG project activities and programmes of activities (PoAs) from 01 January 2020.

Table 1. GWP Values: IPCC AR4 and IPCC AR5.

Eligible GHGs	GWP Values 100 year time horizon	
	IPCC AR4	IPCC AR5
CO₂	1	1
CH₄	25	28
N₂O	298	265

1.1.2 | The Technical Advisory Committees (TACs) of Gold Standard also will review and make any subsequent decisions as and when new GWP values become available from IPCC. Until that time, the AR5 values as summarised in Table 1, above, will be applied by all GS4GG project activities and programmes of activities (PoAs).

2 | Requirements for Project Developers

2.1 | Overarching Requirements

2.1.1 | All emission reductions and removals accrued by GS4GG projects and PoAs (micro, small and large scale) will be calculated by using the IPCC AR5 GWP values. This requirement will apply to all GS4GG projects and PoAs and shall enter into force from 01 January 2021.

2.1.2 | All requests for Preliminary Review and/or Design Certification of GS4GG projects and PoAs submitted after 01 January 2021 shall use the AR5 GWP values for demonstrating additionality, determining contributions to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and calculating ex-ante emission reductions and removals, as applicable.

2.1.3 | All monitoring, verifications and requests for performance certification of Certified products and/or Impact Statements for the period starting 01 January 2021 shall use the AR5 GWP values for calculating emission reductions and removals accrued by GS4GG projects and PoAs. This requirement is applicable to all emission reductions and removals accrued by GS4GG projects and PoAs irrespective of the Gold Standard version and project cycle stage.

2.2 | Project Documentation Requirements

2.2.1 | All Project Design Documents (PDDs) or PoA Design Documents (PoA-DDs, CPA/VPA-DDs), as applicable, where the time of first submission is **on or after 01 January 2021** shall use the IPCC AR5 GWP values for demonstrating additionality, determining contributions to SDGs and calculating ex-ante emission reductions and removals.

2.2.2 | All Project Design Documents (PDDs) or PoA Design Documents (PoA-DDs, CPA/VPA-DDs), where the time of first submission (for Preliminary Review) is **before 01 January 2021** shall apply the IPCC AR5 GWP values to PDDs/PoA-DDs and CPA/VPA-DDs, as applicable, that are submitted for Design Certification after 01 January 2021.

2.2.3 | For PDDs/PoA-DDs and CPA/VPA-DDs, as applicable, that are formally submitted before 01 January 2021, project developers and/or Coordinating/Managing Entities (CMEs) may opt to use the IPCC AR5 GWP values to calculate the ex-ante emission reductions and removals for the period starting 01 January 2021.

3| Entry into force

3.1.1 | This rule update enters into force on 01/01/2021.