RULE UPDATE

THE SDG IMPACT TOOL

PUBLICATION DATE **14.12.2021**

RELATED DOCUMENTS

– Principles and Requirements

– GHG Emissions Reduction & Sequestration Product Requirements

CONTACT DETAILS

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BACKGROUND

To streamline the process of SDG impact assertion and assurance, the Gold Standard has created the SDG Impact Tool which will help project developers more efficiently monitor, quantify, verify and track a project's contributions to the SDGs. This rule update is meant to communicate the official launch and integration of the SDG Impact Tool in GS4GG standard framework and provide information on its scope, applicability and entry into force.

RULE UPDATE

PROJECT CATEGOTY: **N/A**

1| SCOPE

1.1.1 | The SDG Impact Tool is meant for use by all GS4GG projects/VPAs and CPAs (hereafter "projects" refers to project, VPAs/CPAs), irrespective of their scope, type and scale.

2| APPLICABILITY

2.1.1 | As per paragraph 4.1.12 of <u>Principles and Requirements</u>, Gold Standard projects shall demonstrate a clear, direct contribution to sustainable development, defined as making demonstrable, positive impacts on at least three Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), one of which must be SDG 13 (defined herein as Emissions Reductions or Removals and/or Adaptation to climate change). These are referred to as SDG Impacts.

2.1.2 | The SDG Impact Tool is based on the provisions laid out in paragraph 4.1.12(b) (Option 2) of <u>Principles and Requirements</u>, which provides a valid means for demonstration of SDG Impacts.

2.1.3 | The SDG Impact Tool application is mandatory for all new projects submitted for Preliminary Review after 14.03.2022 and projects (including PoAs/VPAs) submitted for design certification review and renewal after 14.03.2022.

2.1.4 | The SDG Tool application is optional and not mandatory for design certified projects until the end of the ongoing Crediting Period (after which application is mandatory) and new VPAs that will be included in design certified PoAs. Such projects may apply SDG tool on voluntarily basis and make applicable changes in the monitoring plan by submitting a design change request at the time of next issuance.

3| ENTRY INTO FORCE

3.1.1 | The date of entry into force of the SDG Impact Tool will be **14.03.2022**.