# Rule update – NOTIFICATION OF DELAY for preliminarY review during COvid-19 Period

**Publication Date:** ­08/07/2022

**Related Documents:**   
– Preliminary Review Delay Notification Form

– [GS4GG Principles and Requirements](https://globalgoals.goldstandard.org/101-par-principles-requirements/)

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### BACKGROUND

The impact of COVID-19 has affected the project developer’s capacity to design, implement and operate Gold Standard projects worldwide. Gold Standard published [COVID-19 Interim Measures](https://globalgoals.goldstandard.org/ru-2021-covid-19-interim-measures-update/) in April 2020 to provide support to project developers during the pandemic, however due to COVID-19 restrictions, in several instances, project developers were unable to meet timelines for first submission of the project as required by the [GS4GG Principles and Requirements](https://globalgoals.goldstandard.org/101-par-principles-requirements/) and [Stakeholder Consultation and Engagement Requirements V1.2](https://globalgoals.goldstandard.org/standards/102_V1.2_PAR_Stakeholder-Consultation-Requirements.pdf).

This rule update provides a procedure for projects/PoAs/VPAs that faced delays due to COVID-19 and could not pursue Gold Standard for the Global Goals (GS4GG) certification.

## Rule UPDATE

###### PROJECT CATEGORY: **All project types**

1. Rule update
   1. Scope and applicability
      1. The rule update applies to all projects seeking GS4GG certification, that have their start date[[1]](#footnote-2) on or between 01/10/2019 to 01/03/2022 and could not meet the first submission timelines[[2]](#footnote-3) as required by [GS4GG Principles and Requirements](https://globalgoals.goldstandard.org/101-par-principles-requirements/) and [Stakeholder Consultation and Engagement Requirements V1.2](https://globalgoals.goldstandard.org/standards/102_V1.2_PAR_Stakeholder-Consultation-Requirements.pdf).
   2. Requirements
      1. The projects with a start date on or between 01/10/2019 to 01/03/2022 are required to complete Annex 1 (Notification Form – Preliminary Review) of this document and submit the word version (.docx) to [help@goldstandard.org](mailto:standards@goldstandard.org) no later than **31/12/2022**. To facilitate ease of review, “Notification Form” shall be the subject line of the email submission.
      2. The project developer shall fill in the relevant information in the notification form (Annex 1). At a minimum it must mention:

* Project details
* Evidence (such as investment decisions) that are available to demonstrate prior consideration of carbon revenue at the time of decision making
* Project implementation timeline
* Summary of the progress made until the submission of this notification to Gold Standard
* Expected project document submission date for preliminary review
  + 1. The project(s) shall comply with the GS4GG rules and requirements applicable on the date of the first submission of project documentation to Gold Standard (i.e., the date of submission for preliminary review).
  1. Procedure
     1. The submission of Annex 1 shall notify the project developer’s intent and delay in submission to the Gold Standard. Once the completed notification form is submitted to Gold Standard, the Secretariat shall conduct a completeness check of the provided information.
     2. The Secretariat shall decide if the notification form shall be accepted/not accepted. The decision shall be communicated to the project developer by the Secretariat.
     3. If the notification form is accepted, the project shall continue with the preliminary review and submit the required documentation by **31/12/2022**.
     4. The project developer shall document the notification approval in the PDD/PoA-DD/VPA-DD. During the validation, the validating VVB/Certification Body shall, with the help of the available information and evidence at their disposal, assess the project against the requirements mentioned above and provide their opinion in the Validation Report.
     5. If the notification form is not accepted by the Gold Standard Secretariat, the project shall be ineligible for preliminary review under GS4GG.

**Figure 1: Summary of the procedure required for notification of delay**

## Annex 1: Notification form – preliminary review

1. For Gold Standard

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Reference number | [to be completed by Gold Standard] |
| Date of decision | [to be completed by Gold Standard] |
| Decision *The approval does not guarantee listing/registration under GS4GG. The approval is restricted to allowing the projects to submit project documents relevant to the first submission to GS by 31/12/2022.* | Accepted  Not accepted |
| Comment (if any) | [to be completed by Gold Standard] |

1. For Project developer/CME
   1. Project/VPA Details

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Date of submission | *DD/MM/YYYY* |
| Project/PoA/VPA title |  |
| GS ID (if available) |  |
| Location of project/PoA/VPA | Host country(ies) – |
| Other location details (state, city, province etc.)- |
| The scale of the project/PoA/VPA | Microscale  Small scale  Large scale |
| Project type | ☐ [Renewable Energy Activity Requirement](https://globalgoals.goldstandard.org/202-ar-renewable-energy-activity-requirements/)  ☐ [Community Services Activity Requirements](https://globalgoals.goldstandard.org/201-ar-community-services-activity-requirements/)  ☐ [Land-use and Forests Activity Requirements](https://globalgoals.goldstandard.org/203-ar-luf-activity-requirements/)  ☐ N/A |

* 1. Project Developer Details

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Project Developer |  |
| Project Representative (if applicable) |  |
| Contact person | Name:  Designation:  Organisation:  Email ID: |
| The tentatively planned date for the first submission | *DD/MM/YYYY* |
| Acknowledgement | ☐ The project developer/project representative acknowledges that the submission/approval of this form does not constitute a decision regarding the eligibility of the project for listing/design certification. The purpose of this submission is to notify Gold Standard regarding a delay in the first submission of project documentation. |

* 1. Additional details and evidence

To be completed by the Project Developer

* + 1. **Evidence/Justification that can be provided for prior consideration justification**

*Please list the evidence/justifications that are available and may be provided to VVB/CB to confirm the prior consideration of carbon revenue.*

*Evidence may include:*

* *Minutes and/or notes related to the consideration of the decision by the Board of Directors, or equivalent, of the project participants, to undertake the project as a proposed CDM project activity*
* *The final investment decision*

*You are* ***not*** *required to provide/submit a copy of the evidence with this form.*

Use this space

* + 1. **Project timeline and progress made to demonstrate real and continuing actions**

*Please summarise the key milestone achieved, and progress made until the submission of this notification.*

*The timeline should include, where applicable, the date when the investment decision was made, the date when the construction work started, the date when commissioning started, and the date of start-up (e.g., the date when*

*commercial production started).*

*The project developer may also include events and actions including any communication with VVB, Gold Standard, to pursue GS4GG certification. The evidence may be used to support these actions (e.g., contracting a VVB etc.), if required.*

*You are* ***not*** *required to provide/submit a copy of the evidence with this form.*

Use this space

* + 1. **Expected date of project documentation relevant to the first submission to Gold Standard**

*Tentative date for submission of project documentation relevant to the first submission to Gold Standard. Note that the project developer must submit the project documents for preliminary review before* ***31/12/2022****.*

Use this space

* + 1. **Other information**

*Use the space below to provide any other relevant information (if required). Write N/A if not applicable.*

Use this space

Document history

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Version number** | **Release date** | **Description** |
| 1 | 08/07/2022 | Initial adoption |

1. The project start date is the earliest date on which the project developer has committed to expenditures related to the implementation of the Project. This does not include the purchase or option to purchase the land upon which a Project is intended to take place.

   For distributed technology projects, the start date is the date of implementation of the first unit under the project. For the definition of the start date, refer to para 4.1.39 and 4.1.40 of the GS4GG [Principles and Requirements](https://globalgoals.goldstandard.org/101-par-principles-requirements/). [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. First submission timelines such as:

   Para 4.1.49(b) of GS4GG [Principles and Requirements](https://globalgoals.goldstandard.org/101-par-principles-requirements/) - *Retroactive projects shall submit the required documents for preliminary review (time of first submission) within one year of the project start date.*

   *Para 10.1.2 of* [*Stakeholder Consultation and Engagement Requirements V1.2*](https://globalgoals.goldstandard.org/standards/102_V1.2_PAR_Stakeholder-Consultation-Requirements.pdf) *(if applicable) - The Stakeholder consultation report shall be submitted to Gold Standard within three months of the physical round of local stakeholder consultation.* [↑](#footnote-ref-3)