**Gold Standard for the Global Goals**

**Validation Appraisal Report**



**Sept 2020 - version 1.2**

**KEY PROJECT INFORMATION**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| GS ID (s) |  |
| Title of Project |  |
| Version number of the VAR |  |
| Completion Date of version |  |
| Microscale Project Type  | [ ]  Standalone | [ ]  Microprogramme |
| Title of MicroProgramme (mark N/A if project type is Standalone) |  |
|  |  |
| Project Cycle: | [ ]  [ ]  Regular [ ]  Retroactive (1st Round of Stakeholder Consultation conducted after the Project Start Date) |
| Estimated Annual SDG Impacts (as per PDD): | 1 – 2 – 3 –n. |
| List document titles and versions supplied for Objective Observer review |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Objective Observer |  |
| Date of Site Visit (dd/mm/yyyy) |  |
| Signature(final version only) |  |

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| **SECTION A. BRIEF PROJECT DESCRIPTION** |

\*Project Developer to supply a brief description of the scenario prior to the implementation of the project, the technology (ies) used and the current status of the project. This is section A.1 & A.3/Purpose and general Description of project Technologies and/or measures from the GS4GG PD - delete this paragraph when complete\*

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| **SECTION B. OBJECTIVE OBSERVER’S OPINION**  |

*>> Justify your opinion (half page max.) as to whether the project is likely to go beyond Business as Usual and contribute to Climate Security & Sustainable Development (Gold Standard Principles 1 and 5) and its proposed design should be certified.*

*Use the table to summarise risks you observed in key sections in this report aligned to Gold Standard Principles 2, 3 and 4. If deemed significant, these risks will be assessed in more detail in the parallel certification process.*

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| **Gold Standard Principles** | **Summary of any observed risks for further review**  |
| 2: Safeguarding Principles (section E) |  |
| 3: Stakeholder Inclusivity (section D) |  |
| 4: Demonstration of real outcomes (section F &G) |  |

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| **SECTION C. DETAILS ABOUT THE SITE-VISIT** |

**C.1. Individual or team on site**

*>> Name the Objective Observer(s) that went on site. Provide brief information about their background and relevant skills. Confirm no perceived or potential conflict*

 *of interest exists between the Objective Observer(s) and the project (s).*

**C.2. People interviewed**

*>> Add rows to provide a complete list of the people interviewed during the site visit, including information on the organisation they represent. Please use ‘beneficiary’ for role where the interview is with project users.*

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Name** | **Role** | **Organisation** | **Topics Covered** |
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**3. Means for interviews**

*>> Describe the means used to interview individuals during site visit; e.g. one to one meetings, focus groups, telephonic conversations, etc.*

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| **SECTION D. STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION (SC) PROCESS** |

\*Project developer to copy across information from the Stakeholder Consultation report – delete this paragraph and \*instructions\* below when complete.\*

**D. 1. Attendance**

*>> Assess whether attendance at the Stakeholder Consultation in the Participants List below was representative enough*

\*copy across the Stakeholder Consultation Participants list\*

**D. 2. Evaluation of the Stakeholder Consultation (SC) Process**

*>> Assess whether the comments raised below are addressed appropriately, and whether the proposed (or lack of) alterations are reasonable*

\*copy across ‘Assessment of comments from all consultations’ and ‘Summary of Alterations based on comments’ (C.3 & 4 in version 1.1)’’\*

**D. 3.** **Evaluation of the Stakeholder Feedback Round**

*>> Assess if there are open issues or feedback raised by the stakeholders during the Stakeholder Consultation that have not been addressed.*

\*copy across the design, timeline and any feedback shared during the stakeholder feedback (E.2 and E.3 in version 1.1) \*

**D. 3.** **Evaluation of the Continuous Input / Grievance Mechanism**

*>> Assess whether the approved/selected methods of Continuous Input/Grievance Expression are suitable to the local context and if they have been implemented on site. Report on any Inputs you observe and if an adequate response has been provided.*

\*copy across the proposed Continuous Input / Grievance Mechanism methods\*

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| **SECTION E. Evaluation of the risks associated with the project**  |

*>> Assess if the Safeguarding Principles Assessment carried out by project developer is fair and matches the situation you observed on site. Where present, assess if mitigation measures proposed are adequate.*

\*Project developer to copy across the Safeguarding Principles Assessment from the Project Design Document including any mitigations proposed – delete this paragraph when complete\*

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|  |  | **Section F. Evaluation of SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL Impacts** |  |  |
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*>> Assess if the SDG impacts are likely to go beyond the business as usual situation and therefore are likely to be demonstrated by the project. You should pay attention to variables that can be observed whilst on site (e.g. Technology Usage Rates, wood fuel consumption, survey data) in your assessment.*

\*Using headings for each SDG, Project developer to summarise the SDG Impacts and copy across the monitoring parameters from the Project Design Document (Section 7.1 in version 1.1) - delete this paragraph when complete.\*

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| **for inclusion of a VPA into a PoA**  |

*>> Assess if the Sustainable Development eligibility criteria for inclusion of the VPA to the registered micro-programme have been met, paying attention to criteria that can be observed on site.*

\*For micro-programmes only:

Standalone: mark N/A

Microprogrammes: Project developer to copy across completed PoA Sustainable Development inclusion criteria **ONLY** from the POA Design Document here – delete this paragraph when complete\*

**APPENDIX – REVIEW PROTOCOL**

This section records the clarifications and questions listed by section that were posed to the Objective Observer during the finalisation of this report. Any changes in this report should be done using tracked changes in word for transparency and the final version saved as clean.

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| 1. **Section X**
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|  |  |
| Response by Objective Observer – 1st round  |  |
|  |  |
| Response by SustainCERT – 1st round |  |
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| Response by Objective Observer – 2nd round |  |
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| Response by SustainCERT – 2nd round |  |
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Revision History

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| --- | --- | --- |
| Version | Date | Remarks |
| 1.2 | 1st July 2020 | Improved guidance for developers on what sections to be part completedImproved guidance for Objective observers on feedback requiredInclusion of risks summary tableClarification that SD inclusion criteria only are required for POAs.Removal of signed, dated COI declaration Inclusion of review protocol showing the review of the report. |
| 1.1 | 15th January 2019 | Updated to include a section to indicate version numbers of documents reviewed |
| 1 | 10 July 2017 | Initial adoption |