



# DEVIATION REQUEST FORM

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PUBLICATION DATE **14.1.2021**

Version **4.0**

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## A. To be completed by Gold Standard

### 1| Decision

**1.1 | Date – 31/05/2022**

**1.2 | Decision**

The deviation request is hereby **APPROVED**.

The above decision is subject to fulfillment of the following two conditions:

- I. The CME shall ensure that the PoA/VPAs demonstrably comply with all relevant monitoring requirements within the gap period of 31/03/2021 till actual renewal of crediting period.
- II. The VVB shall review all the evidence related to this deviation and include a clear validation statement in the validation report.

**1.3 | Is this decision applicable to other project activities under similar circumstances?**

No



**B. To be completed by the Project Developer/Coordinating and Managing Entity and/or VVB requesting deviation** (Submit deviation request form in Microsoft Word format)

## 2| Background information

Deviation Reference Number	COVID_DEV 265	
Date of decision	31/05/2022	
Precedent (YES/NO)	NO	
Precedent details	N/A	
Date of submission	08/04/2022	
Project/PoA/VPA	Project	ID – GSXXXX
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PoA	ID – GS3112
	<input type="checkbox"/> VPA	ID – GSXXXX
Project/PoA/VPA title	GHG Emission Reduction through use of Bondhu Chula (Improved Cook Stoves) in Bangladesh	
Location of project/PoA/VPA	Host country(ies): Bangladesh	
Scale of the project/PoA/VPA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Microscale <input type="checkbox"/> Small scale <input type="checkbox"/> Large scale	
Gold Standard Impact Registry link of the project/PoA/VPA	<a href="https://registry.goldstandard.org/projects/details/537">https://registry.goldstandard.org/projects/details/537</a>	
Status of the project/PoA/VPA	<input type="checkbox"/> New <input type="checkbox"/> Listed <input type="checkbox"/> Certified design <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Certified project	
Title/subject of deviation	Deviation from GS4GG principles and requirement, para 5.1.46 regarding delay in the completion of re-validation beyond the last date of current certification cycle	
Specify applicable rule/requirements/methodology and version number	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>COVID 19: INTERIM MEASURES, PUBLICATION DATE 21/12/2021, 5.1 Extension Request under Rule 5 (Submission Timelines)- Clause 5.1.1. <a href="https://globalgoals.goldstandard.org/ru-2021-covid-19-interim-measures-update/">https://globalgoals.goldstandard.org/ru-2021-covid-19-interim-measures-update/</a></li> <li>GS4GG principles and requirement, section 5.1.46 states "Delay in the completion of re-validation beyond the last date of current certification cycle shall result in a reduction of any issuance of Certified Product and/or Impact Statements available during following certification cycle (for example, a delay of 1 year beyond the first cycle shall mean that no Certified Impact Statements shall be issued for the period of delay)." <a href="https://globalgoals.goldstandard.org/101-par-principles-requirements/">https://globalgoals.goldstandard.org/101-par-principles-requirements/</a></li> </ol>	

Specify the monitoring period for which the request is valid (if applicable)	Start date 01/04/2021      End date 31/03/2026
Submitted by	Contact person name: Rohit Lohia
	Email ID: <a href="mailto:rohit.lohia@climate-secure.com">rohit.lohia@climate-secure.com</a>
	Organisation: Climate Secure India Private Limited
Validation and Verification body (VVB opinion shall be included, where required by the applicable rules/requirements or request is submitted by the VVB).	Project participant: Yes <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	If yes; VVB name:  Auditor name:

### 3| Deviation detail

#### 3.1 | Description of the deviation:

*\*Guidance\* Use the space below to describe the deviation and substantiate the reason for requesting deviation from applicable rules/requirements. Please include all relevant information in support of the request. You are requested to follow the principles for requesting deviations, given in the [Deviation Approval Procedure/ Design Change Requirements](#).*

##### 3.1.1 | Deviation detail (to be completed by Project developer):

Bangladesh Bondhu Foundation (BBF), the CME of the PoA, wishes to renew the crediting period of the PoA GS3112: GHG Emission Reduction through use of Bondhu Chula (Improved Cook Stoves) in Bangladesh which was due on 01/04/2021 after the end of the 1<sup>st</sup> crediting period (01/04/2014 to 31/03/2021).

**As per the Gold Standard, GS4GG principles and requirement, version 1.2, dated 24th October 2019, section 5.1.46:**

***Delay in the completion of re-validation beyond the last date of current certification cycle shall result in a reduction of any issuance of Certified Products and/or Impact Statements available during following certification cycle (for example, a delay of 1 year beyond the first cycle shall mean that no Certified Impact Statements shall be issued for the period of delay).***

Bangladesh Bondhu Foundation (BBF) thus requests an extension for renewal of the PoA GS3112: GHG Emission Reduction through use of Bondhu Chula (Improved Cook Stoves) in Bangladesh.

The PoA under concern in a micro-scale PoA in Bangladesh, that has been instrumental in bringing a significant change in the rural and semi-urban ecosystem in Bangladesh. The ICS are manufactured by micro entrepreneurs (a network on >5000 small sanitary shop owners created by BBF). These micro entrepreneurs manufacture the project ICS and sell at a subsidized price to the beneficiary. The subsidized price helps in easy adoption of project ICS by beneficiaries. The revenue from sale of ICS is the income of corresponding micro entrepreneur. Thus, in this PoA, the CME is not receiving any monetary proceeds from sale of ICS. Further, the subsidy bill of the micro entrepreneur is settled by BBF using proceeds from carbon credits. This ensures that the micro-entrepreneurs see the manufacturing and sale of project ICS as a viable and sustainable business and are not affected by price reduction being offered to ICS beneficiaries. Thus, this PoA is one of the most exemplary PoAs and it keeps itself sustainable primarily from sale of carbon credits. Granting successful deviation, would effectively help restore the loss of emission reductions during the crediting gap year and help the beneficiaries of the PoA.

In this regard, please also note the following:

- Clause 5.1.1 of the COVID 19: INTERIM MEASURES, v5 – 21.12.2021, allows the project developer to seek an extension by submitting a request to Gold Standard if Submission of design review for renewal is later than the last date of current certification cycle.
- Further, the approved Gold Standard Deviation DEV\_158 sets following precedence:

[https://globalgoals.goldstandard.org/standards/DEV\\_158\\_Deviation-Request-Solar-cooking-in-Chad.pdf](https://globalgoals.goldstandard.org/standards/DEV_158_Deviation-Request-Solar-cooking-in-Chad.pdf)

*The project is allowed to claim a part of their gap period following a delay in submitting request for renewal of its crediting period, if it can demonstrate that –*

- a) The delay in applying for CP renewal was due to exceptional circumstances, for example the project's presence in a refugee zone/conflict area.*

- b) *The project has all the monitoring data available in compliance with the methodology version applicable at time of renewal of crediting period.*

*The maximum allowable gap in such cases is*

- a) *1 year for non-LDC/LLDC/SIDS*  
b) *2 years for LDC/LLDC/SIDS*

Due to the COVID pandemic, the plan of achieving the design certification renewal for the aforesaid PoA was compromised to a large extent. No progress could be made towards the completion of re-validation before the last date of current certification cycle, due to complete lockdown and severe travel/movement restrictions in Bangladesh due to COVID since March 2020. Below are some of the publicly available news/information regarding these regions:

- <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/world/south-asia/bangladesh-extends-lockdown-till-may-23/articleshow/82680896.cms>
- <https://www.reuters.com/world/asia-pacific/bangladesh-extends-lockdown-combat-covid-19-surge-2021-07-05/>
- <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2021/7/23/bangladesh-covid-lockdown-two-weeks>
- <https://www.aa.com.tr/en/asia-pacific/bangladesh-imposes-total-lockdown-over-covid-19/1778272>

The PoA currently has 36 VPAs included all of which have a 10-year fixed crediting period and are therefore immune to the PoA renewal as well as VPA crediting period renewal. Thus, a delay in renewing the PoA period does not have any bearing on the reduction of any issuance of Certified Products and/or Impact Statements for the existing VPAs.

The PoA intends to seek renewal to facilitate addition of new VPAs in the PoA in future in the second PoA period. Through this extension, the CME seeks assurance that retroactive crediting of the future new VPAs (as per clause 5.1.37 of the GS4GG principles and requirements, ver 1.2), is not compromised by clause 5.1.46 of the GS4GG principles and requirements, ver 1.2) applied at the PoA level.

“DEV\_158” allows for a 2-years gap in design certification renewal for an LDC. Bangladesh, being an LDC country therefore is eligible for a two-year extension towards getting the PoA renewal.

Hence, it is requested to grant an extension to renew the crediting period of the PoA for 6 more months within which the CME shall work towards getting the PoA renewed.

3.1.2 | VVB opinion (to be completed by VVB, if applicable):

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### 3.2 | Assessment of the deviation:

*\*Guidance\* Use the space below to describe how the deviation complies with the requirements, and, where applicable, the accuracy, completeness and conservativeness is ensured. Please include all relevant information in support of the request.*

3.2.1 | Deviation assessment (to be completed by Project developer):

As stated above, the present request is to deviate from requirement 5.1.46 of GS4GG Principle and Requirements. Apart from deviation from the stated rule, the project complies with all other requirements.

3.2.2 | VVB opinion (to be completed by VVB, if applicable):

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### 3.3 | Impact of the deviation:

*\*Guidance\* Use the space below to describe the impact of the deviation on project design, safeguarding principles assessment, SDG assessment, emissions reductions, monitoring frequency, data quality, potential risk or any other relevant aspect of the project. Please substantiate the impact assessment with relevant and verifiable data/information.*

3.3.1 | Impact assessment (to be completed by Project developer):

No Impact envisaged

3.3.2 | VVB opinion (to be completed by VVB, if applicable ):

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### 3.4 | Documents:

*\*Guidance\* List of documents provided (note that once a decision has been made by Gold Standard, this deviation form along with supporting documents will be made public on the Gold Standard website. If any of the supporting documents are confidential, please indicate here to ensure they are omitted.)*