GSv2 'Fast-tracking' option now available for projects seeking retroactive registration

As per Gold Standard rules, projects applying for retroactive registration must undergo a 'Pre-feasibility Assessment' (PFA), which is required to assess whether a proposed retroactive project activity[1] can apply for registration under the Gold Standard.

However, it has been noted that under specific circumstances defined below, a pragmatic approach could be taken to increase efficiency without the loss of quality in the retroactive assessment process. Thus, the Gold Standard now offers a 'fast-tracking' option for projects applying for retroactive registration that meet the following conditions:

1) The project is applying under the retroactive project cycle.
2) The retroactive registration fee, same as for the conventional retroactive registration process, has been paid by the project proponent and received by the Gold Standard Foundation.
3) The project proponent is 'experienced with GS' and in particular with GS requirements for the type of project activity proposed, i.e. it has submitted at least 5 projects to the GS overall, and has received one or more pre-feasibility assessments (PFAs) from GS for the same type of project activity and applying the same (or similar) version of a given methodology.
4) The DOE contracted to validate the project activity fulfils <u>one of</u> the following requirements:

    1. The DOE has submitted at least 10 validation reports to GS overall in the year prior to the start of validation of the project activity proposed for the 'fast-track' process, and at least 3 validation reports for project activities making use of the same methodology than the project submitted through the 'fast-track' process.

    2. An auditor of the validation team taking care of the submitted project activity has either attended a GS DOE training workshop within the last 6 months prior to the start of validation of the project activity proposed for the 'fast-track' process, or commit to a training that will have to be conducted within the first 3 months of the validation process. In the latter case, if the condition is not met a pre-feasibility assessment will have to be performed by GS as per the conventional rules for retroactive registration, i.e. validation will only be considered if the outcome of the pre-feasibility assessment is positive, and the validation will have to report on the issues raised by GS during the pre-feasibility assessment.

    3. An auditor of the validation team taking care of the submitted project activity has attended a GS DOE training webinar within the last 6 months.

    DOEs that are interested in a GS training workshop, please contact Dr. Ayse Frey
    ayse@cdmgoldstandard.org

The Fast-track process consists of the following steps:
1) Project proponent applies for the fast-track process by first contacting the Gold Standard Secretariat (closest GS Local Expert[2]) and by providing the proof of compliance (i.e. a list of project ID numbers, auditor names, webinar/workshop dates, etc) with the criteria listed above for both the project proponent and the DOE.
2) GS Secretariat checks whether the project activity submitted for the fast-track pre-feasibility meets the eligibility criteria and if so, sends a project-based Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to project proponent.

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[1] Project already under implementation or construction at the time of first submission to Gold Standard.
[2] http://www.cdmgoldstandard.org/Contact-Us.56.0.html

3) Project Proponent signs the project-based MoU and sends back to GS.

4) GS Secretariat signs the project-based MoU and returns to the project proponent, then "lists" the project in the registry.

5) Project proponent prepares the project documentation in the light of feedback received for the most recent other similar project activities submitted for a pre-feasibility assessment.

6) Project proponent to upload the revised project documentation (PDD, Passport, etc.) into the GS registry and to submit for validation by a GS experienced DOE, as defined above.

This fast-tracking option is considered a pilot phase and will be revisited after 6 months.