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***A message from Marion Verles, CEO at Gold Standard:***

Dear colleagues,

In April, we announced that Gold Standard would spin off its certification services from the standard-setting body into a new company. The objective: to best position Gold Standard to deliver on its commitment to make credible impact quantification mainstream. Specifically, this will be made possible through exemplary governance in pursuit of full ISEAL membership, while unlocking the ability to secure investments in new IT solutions to digitise and streamline the certification process for greater scalability.

I'm thrilled to announce that the day is now here.

**Today marks the launch of SustainCERT – a mission-driven company to mainstream credible impact certification through user-centric, tech-driven solutions.**

[Read full press release>>](#)

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With this change, both organisations will focus on what they do best:

- Gold Standard will continue to innovate in standard setting and will deepen its emphasis on thought leadership to catalyse more ambitious action toward

climate security and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

- SustainCERT will innovate with IT solutions that make certification of climate and development impact simple and credible assessment of progress scalable.

The two organisations will work together to co-develop new user-centric solutions for credible impact certification and accelerate progress toward the Paris Agreement and the SDGs.

SustainCERT clients -- from project developers in carbon markets to sustainability-minded corporates and investors -- will benefit from simpler, more efficient processes to certify their climate and SDG impacts. More than a distant promise, this is already underway. In November, we launched a [new user-friendly application>>](#) to manage certification reviews. We will continue making improvements to this app and broader IT infrastructure in the near term.

This restructuring also leads to personnel moves. Effective today, the certification team is now employed by SustainCERT, a transition that should be seamless for all our projects. You can see the full [SustainCERT roster here>>](#). As part of my own deep and personal commitment to helping impact certification become mainstream, I will also move to SustainCERT in the spring of 2019 to lead this new endeavour as CEO. Lisa Rosen will serve as CEO for SustainCERT in the interim. I'd like to thank Lisa for her leadership and the certification team for their commitment to our common vision.

The Gold Standard Board of Directors have kicked off the official recruitment process for a new Gold Standard CEO, who will be charged with implementing the strategy we initiated together in 2015 – to become the benchmark standard to measure and maximise impact toward the SDGs. I will remain with Gold Standard during the recruitment process and through a full transition to new leadership to ensure continuity and to cultivate an excellent partnership that will allow both organisations to thrive moving forward.

Gold Standard has made sustainable development mainstream in carbon markets, proving that higher ambition is possible and that complexities that come along can be overcome. I am extremely proud of the Gold Standard team, both before the start of my tenure and what we have accomplished together over the past four years. I now look forward to facilitating the transition to new leadership, then ensuring that SustainCERT helps extend the reach of Gold Standard for the Global Goals, scaling impact in all corners of the globe.

We expect this collaboration will be formidable – greater than the sum of its parts – and a strengthened asset for all our stakeholders to achieve their goals.

Sincerely,  
Marion Verles

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