

"Gold Standard Project Developer Webinar: Clarifications on GS4GG transition requirements "

Tue, Feb 13, 2018 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM CET

FAQs

Is there a limit to how many SDGs you can apply to a project?

No, there is no limit. Note that each SDG target requires monitoring and verification in order to provide Certified SDG Impacts.

Can you add additional SDGs to projects later on in the project cycle?

Yes, you can add new SDGs to project later through a due process review by Gold Standard.

Under Gold Standard for the Global Goals, can you issue Certified SDG Impacts without issuing carbon credits? IE, can a developer register a project that is not a carbon project?

Our vision is 'Climate Security and Sustainable Development' hence your project must show contribution to SDG 13 by demonstrating GHG mitigation or climate adaptation. However, this does require issuance of carbon credits. You can, for example, certify health outcomes in the form of ADALYs from a clean cookstove project and not issue any carbon credits.

What happens if you do not meet an SDG target?

To keep things pragmatic, Gold Standard for the Global Goals requires a contribution to only three out of 17 SDGs, and SDG 13 is required for all projects. We are not aware of a potential project types in GS pipeline that could not demonstrate contributions to two additional SDGs. However, if you still struggle with your project then please reach out to us as help@goldstandard.org.

How do the Transition Requirements affect projects at the Registration or Listing stage?

Transition Requirements do not apply to projects at Registration or Listing stage. The projects at these stages can complete the process with version of GS Requirements that they applied for. These projects will need to transition with first verification post-registration.

Is there a requirement to transition to the newest methodology? For example, TPDDTEC v3.1?

You do not need to transition to updated version of methodology with the transition to Gold Standard for the Global Goals at the time of next verification. However, you need to do it at time of renewal of crediting period.

What is the transition requirement for GS forestry projects?

The transition requirements for GS forestry projects are same, that is transition is required with next verification or next renewal after 1st March 2018, whichever is earlier. Further, forestry projects can retain their 30 to 50 year crediting period as approved with registration.

If a project developer signs a contract with DoE for verification work before the 1st March 2018, will they have to transition the project to Gold Standard for the Global Goals before credit issuance or can the developer transition after the issuance?

The developer can transition to Gold Standard for the Global Goals with next verification.

Could you please clarify what changes Gold Standard for the Global Goals implies in terms of stakeholder consultation, with particular emphasis on multi-country, multi-project type PoAs?

There are no changes to our stakeholder consultation requirements with respect to multi-country, multi-project type PoAs. Relevant details are available in the Gold Standard for the Global Goals Stakeholder Procedures, Requirements & Guidelines.

Is Ongoing Financial Need (OFN) part of Gold Standard monitoring during verification and certification?

No, Ongoing Financial Needs (OFN) assessment is only carried out during renewal of crediting period. This is not part of verification process.

In the Requirements on Ongoing Financial Need (OFN), it states, "The information shall not be used for formal decision making ..., though the submission of the information is mandatory." Can this delay the renewal approval decision if Gold Standard determines that the information from the project developer is not sufficient to demonstrate OFN?

Since this will not be a decision making criteria, Gold Standard will ensure that project renewal decision is not delayed due to lack of information; however, Forward Action Requests (FARs) may be issued where necessary.

Will the transition of existing projects to Gold Standard for the Global Goals require validation by VVBs with a separate validation report?

No, there is no involvement of VVB if transition occurs with verification. However, if transition happens with renewal of crediting period, it requires validation by VVB.

In CDM there are certain criteria for exempting site visit. Does Gold Standard grant any exemptions during validation and verification?

No, there are no exemptions from site visit during validation and verification for Gold Standard projects. However, we do have rules for projects in conflict zones where the VVB is not required to go on-site, but rather assigns an Objective Observer that is authorized to access the conflict zone. The VVB carries out a desk-review.