**CHECKLIST – FUND INVESTMENTS**

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###### CONTACT DETAILS

**The Gold Standard Foundation**

International Environment House 2

Chemin de Balexert 7-9

1219 Châtelaine

Geneva, Switzerland

Tel: +41 22 788 70 80

Email: [help@goldstandard.org](mailto:help@goldstandard.org)

**Summary:**

This checklist, based on the Fund Certification Requirements, is to be completed by the Fund Manager as evidence of inclusion of an Investment under a GS approved Fund.

The Fund Manager must answer all assessment questions listed below and provide additional information/justification, where required. A full set of records and evidence must also be maintained to support all declarations made in this document.

This complete and final document (in word) must be available for third party assessment (if requested), along with other required documents as listed below:

* [Stakeholder Consultation Report](https://globalgoals.goldstandard.org/t-prereview-stakeholder-consultation-report/)
* Safeguarding assessment (in Appendix 1 – Safeguarding Principles Assessment)
* SDG impact assessment in the form of a filled out [SDG Impact tool](https://globalgoals.goldstandard.org/430-iq-sdg-impact-tool/)
* Supporting Calculations for Impact Goals
* Supporting Evidence

# Eligibility check for INVESTMENTS

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| [**Requirement**](https://globalgoals.goldstandard.org/requirements-for-projects-to-transition-from-other-schemes-to-gold-standard-for-global-goals/) | | **Declaration** |
| Is the investment an eligible technology in GS4GG Principles and Requirements (Section 4.1.3 – 4.1.7), Activity Requirements and the Fund Requirements | | Yes  No |
| Does the investment comply with the Exclusion List established by the Fund? (see appendix 3) | | Yes  No |
| Is the investment a geo-engineering technology? | | Yes  No |
| If yes, provide evidence of where the geo-engineering technology is published | *>>* | |

Using table 1, list the Impact Goals in the Investment, confirming alignment with the Fund Design and stating the type of approach used to monitor the Impact Goals.

A completed [GS SDG tool](https://globalgoals.goldstandard.org/430-iq-sdg-impact-tool/) and/or a baseline and monitoring plan developed in compliance with any applied GS approved [methodology](https://globalgoals.goldstandard.org/427-list-of-eligible-cdm-gs-methodologies/) (ies) must be used to monitor Impact Goals. New, non-approved approaches/methodologies must seek approval from Gold Standard before they are incorporated into the operation of the Fund.

**Table 1 – Impact Goals**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Sustainable Development Goals | SDG Listed in Fund-DD? | Impact Goal measured by: | | |
| GS SDG Tool | GS Approved Methodology | GS Approval needed |
| 13 Climate Action (mandatory) | Yes  No |  |  |  |
|  | Yes  No |  |  |  |
|  | Yes  No |  |  |  |

## INVESTMENT Checklist

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1. Stakeholder consultation –   >> To be reported in the [Stakeholder Consultation Report Template](https://globalgoals.goldstandard.org/t-prereview-stakeholder-consultation-report/) | | | |
| * 1. Has the investment performed a stakeholder consultation in line with the [Stakeholder consultation and engagement requirements](https://globalgoals.goldstandard.org/102-par-stakeholder-consultation-requirements/)? | | | Yes  No |
| * 1. If the investment also seeks to issue carbon credits (or other GS products), were any issues of Free Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) and revenue sharing with affected stakeholders of the Investee addressed during Due Diligence? | | | Yes  No  N/A |
| *Comments (if any):* | | | |
| 1. Safeguarding Principles and Requirements   >> to be reported using Appendix 1 – Safeguarding Principles Assessment | | | |
| * 1. Has the investment carried out an assessment of all possible negative impacts covering all SDGs, in line with the [Gold Standard Safeguarding Principles and Requirements](https://globalgoals.goldstandard.org/103-par-safeguarding-principles-requirements/)? | | | ☐ Yes  ☐ No |
| * 1. If all safeguards as per the [Gold Standard Safeguarding Principles and Requirements](https://globalgoals.goldstandard.org/103-par-safeguarding-principles-requirements/) are initially not met, does the investment – * Identify the non-compliances * Identify mitigation strategies * provide a time bound plan to close out the non-compliances * set milestones to be met in the interim | | | Yes  No |
| * 1. In addition to the assessment in 2.1, has the investment also put in place necessary safeguards to ensure full rights of children | | | ☐ Yes  ☐ No |
| *Comments (if any):* | | | |
| 1. Contribution to the Sustainable Development Goals   >> to be reported using the [SDG Tool](https://globalgoals.goldstandard.org/430-iq-sdg-impact-tool/) | | | |
| * 1. Has the investment included an assessment of all its Impact Goals using the Gold Standard SDG tool | | Yes  No | |
| * 1. Does the investment have documented information on the baseline/pre-investment scenarios for the SDG assessment | | Yes  No | |
| *Comments (if any):* | | | |
| 1. Methodology for SDG 13 Impact Quantification   >> to be reported using supporting calculations and to be summarised in the [SDG Tool](https://globalgoals.goldstandard.org/430-iq-sdg-impact-tool/) | | | |
| * 1. Does the investment use a GS approved methodology to design its monitoring system and quantify its SDG 13 mitigation impacts?   Refer to list [here](https://globalgoals.goldstandard.org/427-list-of-eligible-cdm-gs-methodologies/) for GS eligible methodologies. | | Yes  No (go to 4.3) | |
| * 1. State the precise name and version of the GS approved methodology (ies) |  | | |
| * 1. Does the investment comply with all methodology applicability/eligibility requirements? | | Yes  No | |
| * 1. If the methodology planned to be used is not GS approved, then has the Fund Manager applied for GS approval (and recognizes that approval is at the discretion of GS)? | | Yes  No | |
| *Comments (if any):* | | | |
| 1. Start date and duration of the impact reporting period | | | |
| * 1. Has the investment documented information on its start date, lifetime and duration for generating SDG impacts? | | Yes  No | |
| *Comments (if any):* | | | |

### Appendix 1 – Safeguarding Principles Assessment

>> Fill this section

You must refer to the instructions in the [Guide to Completing](https://globalgoals.goldstandard.org/standards/TGuide-PreReview_V1.2-Project-Design-Document.pdf) this Form for how to complete the Assessment correctly (noting that Mitigation Measures do not have to be transferred elsewhere)

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Assessment Questions/**  **Requirements** | **Justification of Relevance (Yes/potentially/no) - only required in white boxes** | **How Project will achieve Requirements through design, management or risk mitigation.** | **Mitigation Measures added to the Monitoring Plan (if required)** |
| **Principle 1. Human Rights** | | | |
| 1. The Project Developer and the Project shall respect internationally proclaimed human rights and shall not be complicit in violence or human rights abuses of any kind as defined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights 2. The Project shall not discriminate with regards to participation and inclusion |  |  |  |
| **Principle 2.  Gender Equality** | | | |
| 1. The Project shall not directly or indirectly lead to/contribute to adverse impacts on gender equality and/or the situation of women 2. Projects shall apply the principles of non-discrimination, equal treatment, and equal pay for equal work 3. The Project shall refer to the country’s national gender strategy or equivalent national commitment to aid in assessing gender risks 4. (where required) Summary of opinions and recommendations of an Expert Stakeholder(s) |  |  |  |
| **Principle 3. Community Health, Safety and Working Conditions** | | | |
| 1. The Project shall avoid community exposure to increased health risks and shall not adversely affect the health of the workers and the community |  |  |  |
| **Principle 4.1 Sites of Cultural and Historical Heritage** | | | |
| Does the Project Area include sites, structures, or objects with historical, cultural, artistic, traditional or religious values or intangible forms of culture? |  |  |  |
| >> |
| **Principle 4.2 Forced Eviction and Displacement** | | | |
| Does the Project require or cause the physical or economic relocation of peoples (temporary or permanent, full or partial)? |  |  |  |
| >> |
| **Principle 4.3 Land Tenure and Other Rights** | | | |
| Does the Project require any change, or have any uncertainties related to land tenure arrangements and/or access rights, usage rights or land ownership?  For Projects involving land use tenure, are there any uncertainties with regards to land tenure, access rights, usage rights or land ownership? |  |  |  |
| >> |
| **Principle 4.4 – Indigenous people** | | | |
| Are indigenous peoples present in or within the area of influence of the Project and/or is the Project located on land/territory claimed by indigenous peoples? |  |  |  |
| >> |
| **Principle 5. Corruption** | | | |
| 1. The Project shall not involve, be complicit in or inadvertently contribute to or reinforce corruption or corrupt Projects |  |  |  |
| **Principle 6.1 Labour Rights** | | | |
| * 1. The Project Developer shall ensure that all employment is in compliance with national labour occupational health and safety laws and with the principles and standards embodied in the ILO fundamental conventions   2. Workers shall be able to establish and join labour organisations   3. Working agreements with all individual workers shall be documented and implemented and include:      1. Working hours (must not exceed 48 hours per week on a regular basis), AND      2. Duties and tasks, AND      3. Remuneration (must include provision for payment of overtime), AND      4. Modalities on health insurance, AND      5. Modalities on termination of the contract with provision for voluntary resignation by employee, AND      6. Provision for annual leave of not less than 10 days per year, not including sick and casual leave.   4. No child labour is allowed (Exceptions for children working on their families’ property requires an [Expert Stakeholder](https://globalgoals.goldstandard.org/glossary/) opinion)   5. The Project Developer shall ensure the use of appropriate equipment, training of workers, documentation and reporting of accidents and incidents, and emergency preparedness and response measures |  |  |  |
| **Principle 6.2 Negative Economic Consequences** | | | |
| * 1. Does the project cause negative economic consequences during and after project implementation? |  |  |  |
| >> |
| **Principle 7.1 Emissions** | | | |
| Will the Project increase greenhouse gas emissions over the Baseline Scenario? |  |  |  |
| >> |
| **Principle 7.2 Energy Supply** | | | |
| Will the Project use energy from a local grid or power supply (i.e., not connected to a national or regional grid) or fuel resource (such as wood, biomass) that provides for other local users? |  |  |  |
| >> |
| **Principle 8.1 Impact on Natural Water Patterns/Flows** | | | |
| Will the Project affect the natural or pre-existing pattern of watercourses, groundwater and/or the watershed(s) such as high seasonal flow variability, flooding potential, lack of aquatic connectivity or water scarcity? |  |  |  |
| >> |
| **Principle 8.2 Erosion and/or Water Body Instability** | | | |
| * + - * 1. Could the Project directly or indirectly cause additional erosion and/or water body instability or disrupt the natural pattern of erosion?         2. Is the Project’s area of influence susceptible to excessive erosion and/or water body instability? |  |  |  |
| >> |
| **Principle 9.1 Landscape Modification and Soil** | | | |
| Does the Project involve the use of land and soil for production of crops or other products? |  |  |  |
| >> |
| **Principle 9.2 Vulnerability to Natural Disaster** | | | |
| Will the Project be susceptible to or lead to increased vulnerability to wind, earthquakes, subsidence, landslides, erosion, flooding, drought or other extreme climatic conditions? |  |  |  |
| >> |
| **Principle 9.3 Genetic Resources** | | | |
| Could the Project be negatively impacted by or involve genetically modified organisms or GMOs (e.g., contamination, collection and/or harvesting, commercial development, or take place in facilities or farms that include GMOs in their processes and production)? |  |  |  |
| >> |
| **Principle 9.4 Release of pollutants** | | | |
| Could the Project potentially result in the release of pollutants to the environment? |  |  |  |
| >> |
| **Principle 9.5 Hazardous and Non-hazardous Waste** | | | |
| Will the Project involve the manufacture, trade, release, and/ or use of hazardous and non-hazardous chemicals and/or materials? |  |  |  |
| >> |
| **Principle 9.6 Pesticides & Fertilisers** | | | |
| Will the Project involve the application of pesticides and/or fertilisers? |  |  |  |
| >> |
| **Principle 9.7 Harvesting of Forests** | | | |
| Will the Project involve the harvesting of forests? |  |  |  |
| >> |
| **Principle 9.8 Food** | | | |
| Does the Project modify the quantity or nutritional quality of food available such as through crop regime alteration or export or economic incentives? |  |  |  |
| >> |
| **Principle 9.9 Animal husbandry** | | | |
| Will the Project involve animal husbandry? |  |  |  |
| >> |
| **Principle 9.10 High Conservation Value Areas and Critical Habitats** | | | |
| Does the Project physically affect or alter largely intact or High Conservation Value (HCV) ecosystems, critical habitats, landscapes, key biodiversity areas or sites identified? |  |  |  |
| >> |
| **Principle 9.11 Endangered Species** | | | |
| * + - 1. Are there any endangered species identified as potentially being present within the Project boundary (including those that may route through the area)?       2. Does the Project potentially impact other areas where endangered species may be present through transboundary affects? |  |  |  |
| >> |

### Appendix 2 - Contact information of INVESTEE

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Organisation name |  |
| Registration number with relevant authority |  |
| Street/P.O. Box |  |
| Building |  |
| City |  |
| State/Region |  |
| Postcode |  |
| Country |  |
| Telephone |  |
| E-mail |  |
| Website |  |
| Contact person |  |
| Title |  |
| Last name |  |
| Middle name |  |
| First name |  |

##### Appendix 3 – Guideline on InEligible GS Projects

The purpose of this guide is to provide a brief overview of projects/practices that are considered ineligible because of fundamental properties that cannot be easily changed/upgraded/mitigated during the project’s lifecycle.

It is intended to be used in screening out projects that should not be pursued in further detail/due diligence as potentially eligible GS projects. GS requirements that can be met via adjustments in project design and due diligence (for example via mitigations in theAppendix 1 – Safeguarding Principles Assessment) are not covered here for this reason.

This guide is not intended to replace Gold Standard rules, which are the sole criteria that define if a project is eligible or not. The source of each rule is provided for the user to check the source.

Screening should be done sequentially, beginning with 1. Principles and Requirements followed by 2. Safeguarding Requirements, followed by 3. Activity Requirements. A template 4. Fund Exclusion criteria may be populated with Fund specific criteria that are not captured by GS rules to make a comprehensive Exclusion List.

Some rules within sections are only applicable to carbon credits; if carbon credits are not part of the activity, the check must be skipped.  

* 1. [Principles and Requirements](https://globalgoals.goldstandard.org/100-gs4gg-principles-requirements/) (v1.2) Rule Check

Principles and requirements apply to all GS projects.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Rule and Reference (simplified) | OK? |
| 3.1.1 Full and uncontested legal ownership of any GS Products (tradeable assets such as carbon credits and aDALYs) that are generated under Gold Standard Project Certification, must be demonstrated. Where such ownership is transferred from project beneficiaries, Free Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) must also be demonstrated. |  |
| 4.1.7 Geoengineering projects - without SDG co-benefits and/or not robustly applying the precautionary principle, for example Solar Radiation Management projects |  |
| 4.1.7 Nuclear projects |  |
| 4.1.7 Fossil fuel switch projects - excepting LPG improved cookstoves and Sustainable Transport Solutions, see [Clarification](https://globalgoals.goldstandard.org/applicability-of-gold-standard-approved-methodologies-sustainable-transport-solutions/) |  |

* 1. Only applicable to Carbon Credits

The following rules only apply to carbon credit projects (which can only be certified outside of Fund Requirements). Skip this check if carbon credits are not part of an Investment.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Rule and Reference (simplified) | OK? |
| 4.1.49 (b) Projects that started before an in-person GS consultation took place must submit completed documentation for preliminary review within one year of the project start date (note that the definition of start date differs according to project type) |  |

1. [Safeguarding Requirements (v1.2) Rule Check](https://globalgoals.goldstandard.org/103-par-safeguarding-principles-requirements/)

Safeguards are mandatory rules for all GS project types, to be efficient, the key Safeguard exclusions can be assessed below before conducting a full Safeguards Assessment in appendix 1.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Rule and Reference (simplified) | OK? |
| SGP 3.9.6 Projects involving the use of Genetically Modified Organisms GMOs (meaning the introduction of GMO as a means to mitigate climate change and/or to maintain or increase yields or realise its SDG impacts, see [Clarification](https://globalgoals.goldstandard.org/rc-2020-clarification-on-eligibility-of-project-involving-gmos/)) |  |
| SGP 3.9.17 Projects must not make use of chemicals or materials that are subject to international bans or phase-outs. (e.g. chemicals listed in international conventions such as the Stockholm Conventions on Persistent Organic Pollutants (e.g. DDT, PCBs) or the Montreal Protocol which covers HFCs/CFCs) |  |
| (A/R [methodology](https://globalgoals.goldstandard.org/403-luf-ar-methodology-ghgs-emission-reduction-and-sequestration-methodology/)) Afforestation and reforestation projects (which may include agroforestry or silvopasture) must not be on wetlands |  |
| 3.9.29 Projects involving Animal Husbandry must not administer Synthetic growth promoters including hormones |  |

1. [Activity Requirements Check](https://globalgoals.goldstandard.org/200-activity-requirements/)

Activity requirements are mandatory rules for that apply for specific GS project types, they are mutually exclusive.

Use this table to determine which Activity Requirements apply by answering the numbered questions one by one and following instructions in the grey boxes (which either confirm the Requirements that apply or ask you to move to the next question).

Once you have determined which Activity Requirements apply, move to the relevant Rule Check in the subsequent sections to screen against rules (e.g. If Renewable Energy Activity Requirements apply, move to the Renewable Energy Activity Requirements Rule Check)

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | Yes | No |
| 1 | RE 2.1.2 (a) Project generates and delivers energy services (e.g., mechanical work/electricity/heat) from non-fossil fuel and renewable energy sources – e.g. Solar PV/Solar Thermal |  |  |
| 2 | RE 2.1.2 (b) Project supplies energy to a national or a regional grid, which is a locally distinct grid that is connected to the national grid (includes supplying to an identified consumer facility via a contractual agreement such as wheeling) |  |  |
| 3 | RE 2.1.2 (b) Project supplies on-site energy for captive consumption at an industrial facility |  |  |
| Renewable Activity Requirements apply for projects with a yes to q1 AND either 2 or 3 | | | |
| All other replies - move to q4 | | | |
| 4 | CSA 2.1.2 Project improves access to services/resources at the household, community or institution level (An establishment with a specific purpose that serves individuals or group of individuals within its premises) |  |  |
| 5 | CSA 3.1.1 (a) Project generates and delivers energy services (e.g., mechanical work/electricity/heat) from renewable energy sources off-grid - or to a mini grid which is defined as being <= 15MW that is **not** connected to the national grid) |  |  |
| 6 | CSA 3.1.1 (c) Project uses waste to generate energy that is not connected to a national or regional grid or converts waste to a usable product (e.g. compost) |  |  |
| 7 | CSA 3.1.1 (d) Project delivers water sanitation and hygiene (via application of a GS Wash methodology |  |  |
| Community Service Activity Requirements apply for projects with a yes to q4 and either 5, 6 or 7) | | | |
| All other replies - move to q8 | | | |
| 8 | Project is Afforestation (planting trees where they were NOT previously)?  This can include agroforestry/silvopasture activities |  |  |
| 9 | LUF 2.1.1 (a) Project is Reforestation (re-planting trees where they were previously)? This can include agroforestry/silvopasture activities |  |  |
| 10 | LUF 2.1.1 (a) Project is agriculture (i.e. farming of animals or plants)? |  |  |
| LUF Activity requirements apply for projects with a yes to 8, 9 or 10) | | | |
| All other replies - No GS Requirements apply yet, **please contact Gold Standard for advice** | | | |

* 1. [Renewable Activity Requirements (v1.4) Rule Check](https://globalgoals.goldstandard.org/202-ar-renewable-energy-activity-requirements/)

Use this for Renewable Activity Requirement projects only (as the rules may not apply to other activity types.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Rule and Reference (simplified) | OK? |
| 3.2.1 - Hydropower projects must not be in High Conservation Values (HCVs) areas. |  |
| 3.4.1 – Projects applying a suppressed demand baseline via an approved GS methodology must be small scale, or microscale (please note this requirement is nearly always limited to carbon credits) |  |
| A1.1.1 Hydropower projects with capacity > 20MW must comply with the World Commission on Dams [Guidelines](https://archive.internationalrivers.org/resources/dams-and-development-a-new-framework-for-decision-making-3939).  Gold Standard may also deem such hydropower projects ineligible at its own discretion |  |
| A1.2.1 & 1.2.6 Project activities making use of biomass resources for renewable energy must not use non-renewable biomass resources unless it remains less than 20% (greenfield) or 50% (retrofit) of the fuel consumed on an energy basis |  |
| A1.2.2 Project activities making use of biomass resources for renewable energy that are already in use must prove the resources are either in surplus OR there is formal agreement to the envisioned project from the current resource users |  |
| A1.2.3 Project activities making use of biomass resources for renewable energy must use only degraded land to grow the biomass (to avoid competing for food production) |  |
| A1.2.5 Project activities avoiding methane from biomass decay must also use the biomass for energy or other sustainable development benefits (i.e. methane avoidance alone is not eligible) |  |
| A1.2.7 & 1.3.2 Project activities making use of palm oil, palm oil mill by-products or residues for electricity, heat generation or biofuel production must comply with the latest version of the Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil ([RSPO](http://www.rspo.org/)) guidance document on Principles and Criteria for Sustainable Palm Oil Production |  |
| A1.3.1 Project activities using landfill gas and biogas from agro-processing, wastewater and other residues must make use of the gas recovered for the delivery of energy services to be eligible. |  |
| 1.4.1 Emission reductions from Project activity using Waste Heat/Gas recovery related to the export of heat or electricity generated from waste heat are NOT eligible unless it can be shown that the primary and unique source of energy for the industrial process is renewable energy |  |
| 1.5.1 Emission reductions from Fossil co-generation project activities related to the export of heat or electricity generated from the waste heat recovered are NOT eligible |  |
| 1.6.1 Waste incineration and gasification projects must involve energy generation (electricity and/or heat) from MSW incineration (i.e not simply be disposal) |  |
| Waste incineration and gasification projects must comply with the most stringent of either: host country regulatory requirements OR the most recent version of European Union Regulations for Waste Incineration Plants & Waste Co-incineration Plants |  |
| 1.7.1 Waste handling and disposal projects Project activities making use of waste materials for renewable energy that are already in use must prove the waste materials are either in surplus OR there is formal agreement to the envisioned project from the current waste material users |  |

3.1.2.  [Only applicable to carbon credits (Renewable Energy – v1.4) Rule Check](https://globalgoals.goldstandard.org/202-ar-renewable-energy-activity-requirements/)

The following rules only apply to Renewable Energy carbon credit projects (which can only be certified outside of Fund Requirements). Skip this check if carbon credits are not part of an Investment.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Rule and Reference (simplified) | OK? |
| *2.1.3* **New** carbon creditprojects that are **connected to National or Regional electricity grids** must be in at least one of the following - a: | |
| Least Developed Country (LDC), |  |
| Small Island Developing State (SIDS) that is NOT also a high-income country |  |
| Land Locked Developing Country (LLDC) |  |
| Low Income or Low Middle-income country where the penetration level of the proposed Renewable Energy Technology type is less than 5% of the total grid installed capacity |  |
| The following are technology exceptions to the above country criteria and are also eligible?: | |
| Any **distributed Renewable technology**, where individual unit size is up to a maximum 500 kW |  |
| Any **off-shore wind** projects |  |
| Any **waste to energy projects** that involve utilization of landfill gas/biogas to electricity generation |  |
| Other exceptions the above country criteria may also be justified (and accepted only at Gold Standard’s discretion prior to starting certification) such as: | |
| projects serving **impoverished beneficiaries** at preferential electricity rates |  |
| projects in a **conflict zone** |  |
| project technology type is **not a common practice** in the relevant **region** of the host country. |  |

* 1. [Community Service Activity (v1.2) Requirements Rule Check](https://globalgoals.goldstandard.org/201-ar-community-services-activity-requirements/)

Use this for Community Service Activity Requirement projects only (as the rules may not apply to other activity types.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Rule and Reference (simplified) | OK? |
| 3.1.3 – Projects applying a **suppressed demand baseline** via an approved GS methodology must be small scale, or microscale (please note this requirement is nearly always limited to carbon credits) |  |
| A1.1.1 - **Hydropower projects** must not be in High Conservation Values (HCVs) areas. |  |
| A1.1.6 **Hydropower projects with capacity > 20MW** must comply with the World Commission on Dams [Guidelines](https://archive.internationalrivers.org/resources/dams-and-development-a-new-framework-for-decision-making-3939).  Gold Standard may also deem such hydropower projects ineligible at its own discretion |  |
| A2.1.1 & 2.1.6 **Renewable energy and waste handling** projects making use of biomass resources for must not use non-renewable biomass resources unless it remains less than 20% (greenfield) or 50% (retrofit) of the fuel consumed on an energy basis |  |
| A2.1.2 **Renewable energy and waste handling** projects making use of biomass resources that are already in use must prove the resources are either in surplus OR there is formal agreement to the envisioned project from the current resource users |  |
| A2.1.3 **Renewable energy** project activities making use of **biomass resources** must use only degraded land to grow the biomass (to avoid competing for food production) |  |
| A2.1.5 Project activities **avoiding methane from biomass decay** must also use the biomass for energy or other sustainable development benefits (i.e. methane avoidance alone is not eligible) |  |
| A2.1.7 & 3.1.2 Project activities making use of **palm oil, palm oil mill by-products or residues for electricity, heat generation or biofuel production** must comply with the latest version of the Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil ([RSPO](http://www.rspo.org/)) guidance document on Principles and Criteria for Sustainable Palm Oil Production |  |
| A3.1.1 Project activities using **landfill gas and biogas from agro-processing, wastewater and other residues must make use of** the gas recovered for the delivery of energy services to be eligible. |  |
| A4.1.1 Emission reductions from **Project activity using Waste Heat/Gas recovery** related to the export of heat or electricity generated from waste heat are NOT eligible unless it can be shown that the primary and unique source of energy for the industrial process is renewable energy |  |
| A5.1.1 Emission reductions from **Fossil co-generation project activities** related to the export of heat or electricity generated from the waste heat recovered are NOT eligible |  |
| A6.1.3 **Waste incineration and gasification projects** must involve energy generation (electricity and/or heat) from MSW incineration (i.e not simply be disposal) |  |
| A6.1.7 **Waste incineration and gasification projects** must comply with the most stringent of either: host country regulatory requirements OR the most recent version of European Union Regulations for Waste Incineration Plants & Waste Co-incineration Plants |  |
| A7.1.1 **Waste handling and disposal projects** Project activities making use of waste materials for renewable energy that are already in use must prove the waste materials are either in surplus OR there is formal agreement to the envisioned project from the current waste material users |  |
| A8.1.1 **Projects distributing Compact Fluorescent Lights** (CFLs) must ensure the CFLs are disposed of or recycled properly - with particular attention to mercury. |  |
| A9 Projects that involve replacing a fossil fuel with another fossil fuel can only claim emission reductions from improvements in energy efficiency (emission reductions arising from using fossil fuels with a lower carbon content cannot be claimed) |  |

* 1. [LUF Activity requirements (v1.2.1) Rule Check](https://globalgoals.goldstandard.org/203-ar-luf-activity-requirements/)

Use this for Land Use and Forest Activity Requirement projects only (as the rules may not apply to other activity types.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Rule Reference (simplified) | OK? |
| LUF 2.1.1 (b) Project area must not meet the definition of a forest 10 years before project start date and at project start date (i.e. the project can prove it was not deforested recently).  The official National definition of a forest must be used (or [FAO](http://www.fao.org/docrep/003/x6896e/x6896e0e.htm) definition if none is provided) |  |
| LUF 2.1.9 (C) Forestry projects must hold uncontested legal land title for the Project Area, all necessary permits to implement the project AND own the rights for timber and non-timber forest products for the Project area |  |
| LUF 2.1.12 (C) Agriculture projects must hold uncontested legal land title for the Project Area AND own the rights necessary to implement the project (e.g. harvest rights) |  |
| LUF 3.1.5 10% of the total Project Area must be used to protect or enhance biological diversity following the High Conservation Value approach ([HCV](https://hcvnetwork.org/)). Note smallholders and microscale projects (<500Ha) are exempt from this requirement |  |
| LUF 3.1.6 Projects must maintain a 15-meter buffer zone extending from the banks of any permanent or temporary water bodies(e.g. lakes, streams, rivers, wetlands etc). Irrigation channels are excluded from this requirement.  Amongst other protection measures, the buffer zone must keep all native trees and if any trees are planted they must be native |  |

1. Fund Exclusion Criteria  [Check](https://globalgoals.goldstandard.org/200-activity-requirements/)

The table can be populated with Fund Specific Exclusion criteria.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Fund Criteria | OK? |
| Criterion 1 |  |
| Criterion n (add delete rows as needed) |  |

##### Revision History

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Version** | **Date** | **Remarks** |
| 1.0 | 15/09/2022 | Initial adoption |