International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) Carbon Offsetting and Reduction Scheme for International Aviation (CORSIA)

Re-application Form for Emissions Unit Programmes seeking eligibility to supply units to the CORSIA 2027 – 2029 compliance period

(Version 1, January 2025)

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SECTION I: ABOUT THE ASSESSMENT OF RE-APPLICATIONS

Background

ICAO Member States and the aviation industry are implementing the Carbon Offsetting and Reduction Scheme for International Aviation (CORSIA). Together with other mitigation measures, CORSIA will help achieve international aviation's aspirational goal of carbon neutral growth from the year 2020. Aeroplane operators will meet their offsetting requirements under CORSIA by purchasing and cancelling CORSIA eligible emissions units. The ICAO Council determines CORSIA eligible emissions units upon recommendations by its Technical Advisory Body (TAB) and consistent with the CORSIA Emissions Unit Eligibility Criteria (EUC).

In March 2019, the ICAO Council unanimously approved the ICAO Document *CORSIA Emissions Unit Eligibility Criteria* for use by TAB in undertaking its tasks[1]. TAB's assessment of emissions unit programmes is undertaken annually[2]. The results of ICAO Council decisions that take account of these recommendations are contained in the ICAO Document *CORSIA Eligible Emissions Units*[3]. At present, six Emissions Unit Programmes are eligible to supply CORSIA-eligible Emissions Units for the 2024-2026 compliance period (the CORSIA 'first phase').

In March 2020, the ICAO Council requested TAB to monitor and review the continued eligibility of emissions unit programmes that the Council determined to be eligible under CORSIA. In view of the Council's request, and in line with TAB Procedures[4], TAB agreed to re-assess all CORSIA-eligible Emissions Unit Programmes and present recommendations to the Council a year prior to the starting date of the next compliance period. Therefore, in 2025, TAB will re-assess all CORSIA eligible programmes and present its recommendations to ICAO Council regarding the possible extension of their eligibility timeframes beyond the 2024-2026 compliance cycle.

ICAO invites emissions unit programmes[5] already eligible for the first phase to apply to TAB's 2025 re-assessment cycle, which will make recommendations on their eligibility to supply CORSIA-Eligible Emissions Units for the **2027-2029 compliance period** (part of the CORSIA 'second phase'). Any interested programme should provide the updated information requested through this Re-application form and its Appendices, as well as supplementary materials and evidence as applicable. In undertaking this work, TAB may also ask programmes to provide specific examples illustrating how programme procedures or systems perform in practice.

This re-assessment will be conducted during TAB's 2025 annual assessment cycle, according to the TAB Terms of

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[1] Available on the ICAO CORSIA website: https://www.icao.int/environmental-protection/CORSIA/Pages/CORSIA-Emissions-Units.aspx

[2] Recommendations from 2019 TAB assessment cycle: https://www.icao.int/environmental-protection/CORSIA/Pages/TAB2019.aspx
Recommendations from 2020 TAB assessment cycle: https://www.icao.int/environmental-protection/CORSIA/Pages/TAB2020.aspx
Recommendations from 2021 assessment cycle: https://www.icao.int/environmental-protection/CORSIA/Pages/TAB2021.aspx
Recommendations from 2022 assessment cycle: https://www.icao.int/environmental-protection/CORSIA/Pages/TAB2022.aspxRecommendations from 2023 assessment cycle: https://www.icao.int/environmental-protection/CORSIA/Pages/TAB2023.aspx
Recommendations from 2024 assessment cycle: https://www.icao.int/environmental-protection/CORSIA/Pages/TAB2024.aspx

[3] Available on the ICAO CORSIA website: https://www.icao.int/environmental-protection/CORSIA/Pages/CORSIA-Emissions-Units.aspx

[4] Refer to TAB Procedures paragraph 7.4, 7.7, 7.8 ,7.8.3 and 7.8.4

[5] "Emissions Unit Programme", for the purposes of TAB's assessment, refers to an organization that administers standards and procedures for developing activities that generate offsets, and for verifying and "issuing" offsets created by those activities. For more information, please review the TAB FAQs on the ICAO CORSIA website: https://www.icao.int/environmental-protection/CORSIA/Pages/TAB.aspx

Reference, TAB Procedures, Work Programme and Timeline, which are available on the ICAO TAB website.

About this form

Programme responses to this Re-application form will serve as the primary basis for the assessment. This form requests *evidence of programme procedures or programme elements.* The evidentiary documentation enables TAB to a) confirm that a given procedure or programme element is *in place*, b) more fully understand the programme's summary responses, and c) archive the information as a reference for potential future assessments. TAB's assessment may also involve, *e.g.*, a completeness check and initial screening of applications, written clarification questions, and/or live interview(s) with programmes.

This Re-application form is accompanied by, and refers to, Appendix A "*Supplementary Information for Assessment of Emissions Unit Programmes*", containing the EUC and *Guidelines for Criteria Interpretation*. The ICAO Council, on recommendation of its Committee on Aviation Environmental Protection (CAEP), updated the *Guidelines for Criteria Interpretation* in March 2024. These EUC and updated Guidelines are provided to inform programmes' completion of this Re-application form, in which they are cross-referenced by paragraph number.[6]

This form is also accompanied by Appendix B "*Programme Assessment Scope*", and Appendix C "*Programme Exclusions Scope*", which request all re-applicants to identify the programme elements[7] they wish to submit for, or exclude from, TAB's assessment.

CORSIA Eligible Emissions Unit Programmes must also complete Appendix D of this Re-application form, "*Emissions Unit Programme Registry Attestation"* in line with the instructions contained in that Appendix. Applicant organizations are strongly encouraged to submit this information by the deadline for submitting all other application materials for the current assessment cycle.

Translation: As was done previously, if the programme documents and information are not published in English, the programme should fully describe in English (*rather than summarize*) this information in the fields provided in this form, and in response to any additional questions. Where this form requests *evidence of programme procedures*, programmes are strongly encouraged to provide English translations of these documents, to facilitate a complete and accurate understanding. Where this is not possible due to time constraints or document length, the programme may provide such documents in their original language in a readily translatable format (*e.g.*, Microsoft Word). Those programmes that need to translate documents prior to submission may contact the ICAO Secretariat regarding accommodation.

Information provided in this form continues to be used following a decision by ICAO Council to approve an emissions unit programme for CORSIA eligibility. TAB's recommendations on the extent and limits of a programme's eligibility are developed on the basis of TAB's assessment of the information that the programme provided in its application materials, as well as any updates or clarifications that the programme communicates to

[6] For further information on how TAB interprets the EUC in light of the *Guidelines*, refer to the document Clarifications of TAB's Criteria Interpretations Contained in TAB Reports available on the ICAO TAB website: https://www.icao.int/environmental-protection/CORSIA/Documents/TAB/TAB2024/Clarifications_Sep2024.pdf

[7] At the "activity type" level (*e.g.*, sector(s), sub-sector(s), and/or project "type(s)")

TAB during the course of its assessment. This information is used by Council to define the general and/or programme-specific eligibility parameters set out in the ICAO Document titled "CORSIA Eligible Emissions Units." Eligible programmes agree to maintain consistency with the EUC in the manner (e.g., procedures, measures, governance arrangements) described in the application form and in any subsequent communications with TAB. Failure to provide accurate information during the initial assessment, or to inform of changes to that information in a timely manner, could give rise to an Eligibility Deviation, including the possible revocation of any eligibility that was granted.

Disclaimer: The information contained in the Re-application form, and any supporting evidence or clarification provided by the programme including information designated as "business confidential" by the programme, will be provided to the members of the TAB to properly assess the programme and make recommendations to the ICAO Council. The application and such other evidence or clarification will be made publicly available on the ICAO CORSIA website for the public to provide comments, except for information which the applicant designates as "business confidential". Public comments received during that period, including commenter names and organizations, are published following their review by TAB. In accordance with section 9.4 of the TAB Procedures, all comments that meet the submission guidelines are published as received and Programme responses to public comments are not published on the ICAO website. The applicant shall bear all expenses related to the collection of information for the preparation of the application, preparation and submission of the application to the ICAO Secretariat and provision of any subsequent clarification sought by the Secretariat and/or the members of the TAB. Under no circumstances shall ICAO be responsible for the reimbursement of such or any other expenses borne by the applicant in this regard, or any loss or damages that the applicant may incur in relation to the assessment and outcome of this process.

SECTION II: INSTRUCTIONS

Submission and contacts

A programme is invited to complete and submit the Re-application form, including accompanying evidence and with required appendices, through the ICAO CORSIA website no later than close of business on **3 March 2025** via **TAB@icao.int**. Within seven business days of receiving this form, the Secretariat will notify the programme that its form was received.

If the programme has questions regarding the completion of this form, please contact ICAO Secretariat via email: **TAB@icao.int**. Programmes will be informed, in a timely manner, of clarifications provided by ICAO to any other programme.

Form basis and cross-references

Questions in this form are derived from the CORSIA emissions unit eligibility criteria (EUC) and the *Guidelines for Criteria Interpretation*. Each question includes the paragraph number for its corresponding criterion or guideline that can be found in **Appendix A** "*Supplementary Information for Assessment of Emissions Unit Programmes*". Compared to previous (Re-)application forms, TAB has adjusted the order and contents of the questions in light of the ICAO Council's March 2024 decision to update the *Guidelines for Criteria Interpretation*.

Re-application Form completion

The programme is expected to respond to all questions in this re-application form at the time of submission. TAB cannot initiate its assessment unless this information is provided in full as requested. Failure to provide complete information may result in delays to the assessment process.

A "complete" response involves three components: 1) a written summary response, 2) supporting evidence, and 3) any planned programme revisions.

1) Written summary responses: The programme is encouraged to construct written summary responses in a manner that provides for general understanding of the given programme procedure, independent of supporting evidence. TAB will confirm each response in the supplementary evidence provided by the programme. Please note that written summary responses should be provided in all cases—supporting evidence (described in 2 below) should not be considered as an alternative to a complete summary response.

2) Supporting evidence: Most questions in this form request *evidence of programme procedures or programme elements.* Such evidence may be found in excerpts or quotations of programme standards, requirements, or guidance documents; templates; programme website or registry contents; or in some cases, in specific methodologies. To help manage file size, the programme should limit supporting documentation to that which directly substantiates the programme's statements in this form.

   Programmes are expected to provide such evidence, along with the written summary response, in the following ways:

a) copying/pasting the relevant excerpts or quotations of programme documentation directly into this form (no character limits);
b) web links to the sources of these excerpts or quotations and any supporting documentation, with instructions for finding the relevant information within the linked source (i.e. identifying the specific text, paragraph(s), or section(s) where TAB can find evidence of the programme procedure(s) in question);
c) if needed, attaching supporting documentation to this form at the time of submission, with instructions for finding the relevant information within the attached document(s);

EXAMPLE of preferred approach to providing supporting evidence that could meet expectations for complete responses to a question:

> "The Programme ensures its consistency with this requirement by requiring / undertaking / etc. the following:
>
> [*Summary response*: Paragraph(s) introducing and summarizing specific programme procedures that are relevant to the question]
>
> [*Evidence*: Quotes/excerpts of the relevant provisions in the programme's procedures, with citations]
>
> The full contents of these procedures can be found in [Document title, page X, Section X, paragraphs X-X]. This document is publicly available at this weblink: [weblink]."

3) Planned programme revisions: Where the programme has any plans to revise the programme (e.g., its policies, procedures, measures, tracking systems, governance or legal arrangements), including to enhance consistency with a given criterion or guideline, please provide the following information in response to any and all relevant form question(s):

a) Planned revision(s);
b) Process and expected timeline to develop and implement the proposed revision(s);
c) Process and timeline for external communication and implementation of the revision(s).

Scope of re-application

The programme may elect to submit for TAB re-assessment all, *or only a subset,* of the activities supported by the programme. The programme is requested to identify, in the following Appendices, the activities that it wishes to submit for, or exclude from, TAB's assessment:

In **Appendix B** "*Programme Assessment Scope*", the programme should clearly identify, at the "activity type" level (e.g., sector(s), sub-sector(s), and/or programme/project "type(s)"), elements that the programme ***is*** **submitting for TAB's assessment** of CORSIA eligibility; as well as the specific methodologies, protocols, and/or framework(s) associated with these programme elements; which *are* described in this form.

In **Appendix C** "*Programme Exclusions Scope*", the programme should clearly identify, at the "activity type" level

(e.g., sector(s), sub-sector(s), and/or programme/project "type(s)"), any elements the programme ***is not*** **submitting for TAB's assessment** of CORSIA eligibility, which *are not* described in this form; as well as the specific methodologies, protocols, and/or framework(s) associated with these programme elements.

In **Appendix D** "*Emissions Unit Programme Registry Attestation*", the programme should update and re-submit the *Registry Attestation*, if any information therein has changed since it last submitted the Registry Attestation. If no information has changed, the programme may elect to re-submit its previous Registry Attestation form.

Treatment of EUC-relevant programme procedures at the methodology level

Programmes that identify with the following explanations are encouraged to summarize and provide evidence of both their overarching *programme-level* procedure(s) and *methodology-level* procedure(s) wherever relevant:

The CORSIA EUC and TAB assessments typically apply to *programme-level* procedures rather than to individual methodologies or projects. Most programmes' overarching guidance documents contain a mix of *general/guiding* requirements and *technical* ones. However, some programmes set out general requirements in overarching guidance documents, while reflecting key technical procedures in programme methodologies[8]. **Such methodologies may be relevant to TAB's assessment**. This could be the case where, e.g., the methodologies are developed directly by the programme (staff or contractors); the programme must refer to a methodology's requirements when describing its alignment with the EUC; and/or the programme's general requirements alone are too high-level/non-specific for TAB to assess them as stand-alone procedures.

> EXAMPLE: Programme A's project standard contains its *programme-level* general requirements. The standard requires all activities to pass a programme-approved additionality test. However, Programme A sets out a unique list of approved tests in each of its methodologies—rather than providing a single list or menu in its programme-level standard. These lists vary across different activity types or category(ies). Thus, TAB may ultimately need to assess Programme A's programme- *and* methodology-level requirements in order to confirm its use of the specific additionality tests called for under the *Must be Additional* criterion.

"Linked" certification schemes

This application form should be completed and submitted exclusively on behalf of the programme that is described in Part I of this form.

Some programmes may supplement their standards by collaborating with other schemes that certify, e.g., the social or ecological "co-benefits" of mitigation. The programme can reflect a linked scheme's procedures in responses to this form, where this is seen as enhancing—i.e., going "above and beyond"—the programme's own procedures. For example, the programme may describe how a linked scheme audits sustainable development outcomes; but is not expected to report the linked scheme's board members or staff persons. Programmes should clearly identify any information provided in this form that pertains to a linked certification scheme and/or only applies when a linked certification scheme is used.

Disclosure of programme application forms and public comments

[8] Note that any applicant may use different terminology. For example, a programme may refer to a "methodology" as a protocol or framework.

Application materials, including information submitted in Appendices B, C, and D, as well as other information submitted by applicants will be publicly available on the ICAO CORSIA website, except for materials which the applicants designate as business confidential.

The public will be invited to submit comments on the information submitted, including regarding consistency with the emissions unit criteria (EUC), through the ICAO CORSIA website, for consideration by the TAB in its re-assessment. All public comments that meet the submission guidelines are published as received and Programme responses to public comments are not published on the ICAO website.

SECTION III: RE-APPLICATION FORM

General information

A. Programme Information

Programme name: Gold Standard for the Global Goals (GS4GG)

Administering Organization[9]: The Gold Standard Foundation

Official mailing address: Chemin de Balexert 7-9, 1219 Châtelaine, International Environment House 2, Geneva, Switzerland

Telephone #: +41 (0) 22 788 7080 Official web address: www.goldstandard.org

B. Programme Administrator Information

Full name and title: Vikash Talyan, Senior Director

Employer / Company (*if not programme*): The Gold Standard Foundation

E-mail address: Vikash.talyan@goldstandard.org Telephone #: +16083599634

C. Programme Representative Information (if different from Programme Administrator)

Full name and title: Margaret Kim, Chief Executive Officer

Employer / Company (*if not Programme*): The Gold Standard Foundation

E-mail address: margaret.kim@goldstandard.org Telephone #: +41 (0) 22 788 7080

D. Programme Senior Staff / Leadership (e.g., President / CEO, board members)

List the names and titles of programme's senior staff / leadership, including board members:

Senior Staff

Margaret Kim – Chief Executive Officer
Owen Hewlett – Chief Technical Officer
Jean-Mathias Coulanges - Chief Operating Officer
Sarah Leugers - Chief Growth Officer
Miranda Bevc – Chief Finance Officer
Hugh Salway - Senior Director, Market Development and Partnerships

Board member

Yannick Glemarec – President of the Board
Manuel Pulgar-Vidal – Board Member
Luc Gnacadja – Board Member
Matthew Spannagle – Board Member
Preety M. Bhandari – Board Member
Veronica Scotti – Board Member

[9] Name of the business, government agency, organization, or other entity that administers the Emissions Unit Programme,*if different from "Programme Name"*.

Provide an organization chart (in the space below or as an attachment) that illustrates, or otherwise describes, the functional relationship a) between the individuals listed in D; and b) between those individuals and programme staff / employees; and c) the functions of each organizational unit and interlinkages with other units.

Attachments

- General information – Board
- General information – Org Chart

Questionnaire

Note—where "evidence" is requested in *Part 1* through *Part 5*, the programme is expected to provide quotes/excerpts and web links to documentation and to identify the specific text, paragraph(s), or section(s) where TAB can find evidence of the programme procedure(s) in question. If that is not possible, then the programme may provide evidence of programme procedures directly in the text boxes provided (by copying/pasting the relevant provisions in full) and/or by attached supporting documentation, as recommended in "SECTION II: INSTRUCTIONS—***Form Completion: Supporting Evidence***".

Note—"*Paragraph X.X*" in this form refers to corresponding paragraph(s) in Appendix A "*Supplementary Information for Assessment of Emissions Unit Programmes*".

Note—Where the programme has any plans to revise the programme (e.g., its policies, procedures, measures, tracking systems, governance or legal arrangements), including to enhance consistency with a given criterion or guideline, provide the following information in response to any and all relevant form question(s):

- Proposed revision(s);
- Process and proposed timeline to develop and implement the proposed revision(s);
- Process and timeline for external communication and implementation of the revision(s).

PART 1: Governance *and Safeguards*: Sustainable Development Criteria; Do no net harm; Safeguards System; Transparency and Public Participation Provisions; Governance; Legal Nature and Transfer of Units

Criterion: Legal nature and transfer of units

Q1: Does the Program… *(Paragraph 2.5)*	
(a) …define and ensure the underlying attributes of a unit?	☒ YES
(b) … and publicly disclose process by which it does so?	☒ YES
(c) …define and ensure the property aspects of a unit?	☒ YES
(d) … and publicly disclose process by which it does so?	☒ YES

Summarize and provide evidence of the processes, policies, and/or procedures referred to in a) and d), including their availability to the public:

A. Information reflecting the current state of the programme and its documentation (i.e., as of the time that this form was completed):

Our registry system and program rules define the underlying attributes of units. The Gold Standard for Global Goals Requirements clearly specifies key attributes, including unit type (VER - Verified Emission Reduction/Removal), unique serial numbers for each unit, comprehensive project details, vintage information, specific methodology, and current unit status (issued, retired, or transferred). (Refer to Registry User Guide V2.0, page 7-11, Section 3).

The process is publicly disclosed through relevant standard documents including the GS4GG - Terms of conditions,

Registry - Terms of Use, Registry User Guide, Public Registry and Claims guidelines. Collectively, these documents provide the underlying process details.

Regarding property aspects, Gold Standard defines clear ownership rights and transfer procedures through several key mechanisms. These include establishing legal rights for unit holders, implementing comprehensive transfer and retirement procedures, putting measures in place to prevent double counting, and setting clear terms for unit cancellation. The information is captured through legal documents - Cover letter, Terms and Conditions, Registry App Terms of Use, Claims guidelines, and Public Registry, Registry User Guide.

These guidelines clearly define how the various underlying attributes, ownership, legal rights, and how certified unit can be managed through appropriately made claims.

B. Any planned/forthcoming changes, including their expected timelines (*if none, "N/A"*):
N/A

Criterion: Programme governance

Q2. Does the programme publicly disclose… (*Paragraph 2.7*)	
a) …who is responsible for the administration of the programme?	☒ YES
b) …how decisions are made?	☒ YES

Provide evidence that this information is available to the public:

A. Information reflecting the current state of the programme and its documentation (i.e., as of the time that this form was completed):

a) The **Gold Standard Secretariat manages the Gold Standard for the Global Goals (GS4GG) programme**, independently governed by the **Technical Governance Committee (TGC) and it's standing Committees**, The Secretariat is responsible for the development of all Standards under Gold Standard for the Global Goals (GS4GG) [Reference – Standard Setting Procedures, para 1.1.1, page 2]. The **TGC** mandates the development and approval process for all Standards and Modules, delegating authority to Committees, Working Groups, or the Secretariat as appropriate. Standard approval decisions are categorised, with **Category 1 decisions** on cross-cutting and strategic issues typically made by the **TGC** or a **Technical Advisory Committee** appointed by it, while **Category 2 decisions** on activity-specific matters are generally handled by project or function-specific standing Committees. The STANDARDS SETTING PROCEDURES document outlines the governance and decision-making processes, including roles and responsibilities. For detailed information, see page 2, Section 2 Governance and Decision Making in the Standard Setting Procedure V2.1.
The Gold Standard Foundation's **governance structure**, including the Board of Directors (approves the governance structure and the activity scopes of GS4GG), TGC and it's Committees (approve all normative documentation), and Secretariat, is clearly disclosed on their website. The roles and responsibilities of each body are publicly available. Updates to Gold Standard governance will be publicly disclosed. Reference: https://www.goldstandard.org/about-us/governance

b) Gold Standard maintains a transparent decision-making process, which is detailed in its STANDARDS SETTING PROCEDURES, Section 2.0, Page 2-4. Major **Standard setting decisions** require stakeholder consultation periods (STANDARDS SETTING PROCEDURES, Table 1, Page 3) and are made through established governance bodies. Technical decisions follow clearly documented procedures. The Technical Governance Committee (TGC) oversees the development and approval process of all Standards and Modules by following the Technical Governance Guiding Principles. New or updated Standards and Modules must receive proper approval before publication or implementation, as specified in the TGC Terms of Reference. The TGC does not make these decisions directly—rather, it delegates authority to Advisory Committees (Terms of Reference), Working Groups (Terms of Reference), or the Secretariat as appropriate. The terms of reference for all committees involved in decision-making can be found in the Governance section of the website.
The Gold Standard **certification decision-making process**, as detailed in Section 6 of "Validation & Verification Body Requirements", involves a five-step procedure. It begins with the **project developer appointing a GS VVB** for validation or verification. Following a positive VVB assessment and report, **Gold Standard undertakes a review** that includes peer review and stakeholder consultation. Certification is granted if the VVB's positive decision is upheld after all corrective actions and clarifications are resolved, and the final decision is then **published on the** Gold Standard Impact Registry**. The details are** captured on the Page 9, Section 6.0 Gold Standard certification decision making of the "Validation & Verification Body Requirements".

Reference documents:

- Standards Setting Procedure
- Technical Governance: Guiding Principles
- Terms of Reference: Technical Governance Committee
- Terms of Reference: Technical Advisory Committee – governance, guidelines and responsibilities

B. Any planned/forthcoming changes, including their expected timelines (*if none, "N/A"*):
N/A

Q3. If the programme is not directly and currently administered by a public agency, can the programme demonstrate up-to-date professional liability insurance policy of at least USD$5M? (*Paragraph 2.7.4*)	☒ YES

Provide evidence of such coverage:

A. Information reflecting the current state of the programme and its documentation (i.e., as of the time that this form was completed):
The Gold Standard Foundation maintains a professional liability policy of USD $5 million. Please see the attached "P1 Q3 PII - Policy per 22.01.2024 - Business Confidential" for reference (Business Confidential – NOT TO BE MADE PUBLIC).
Evidence:

B. Any planned/forthcoming changes, including their expected timelines (*if none, "N/A"*):
N/A

Q4. Can the programme demonstrate that it has been… (*Paragraph 2.7.2*)	
a) …continuously governed for at least the last two years?	☒ YES
b) …continuously operational[10] for at least the last two years?	☒ YES

Provide evidence of the activities, policies, and procedures referred to in a) and b):

A. Information reflecting the current state of the programme and its documentation (i.e., as of the time that this form was completed):

a) The Gold Standard for the Global Goals (GS4GG) has a well-established operational history spanning nearly two decades. Launched in August 2017, GS4GG evolved from Gold Standard V2.2 (operational since June 2012), with the program's origins dating back to Version 1.0 in May 2006. Earlier versions of standard document can be accessed on the Previous versions of Gold Standard page.
b) Certification dates for Gold Standard Voluntary Emission Reductions (GS-VERs) are publicly viewable in the Registry. For example, this project's credits were certified on April 29, 2008: https://registry.goldstandard.org/credit-blocks/details/4530

B. Any planned/forthcoming changes, including their expected timelines (*if none, "N/A"*):
N/A

Q5. Does the programme have in place… (*Paragraph 2.7.2*)	
a) …a plan for the long-term administration of multi-decadal programme elements?	☒ YES
b) …a plan for possible responses to the dissolution of the programme in its current form?	☒ YES

Provide evidence of the activities, policies, and procedures referred to in a) and b):

A. Information reflecting the current state of the programme and its documentation (i.e., as of the time that this form was completed):

a) The Gold Standard Foundation maintains a comprehensive plan for long-term administration of the standard across multiple decades. Gold Standard has short-term strategy through 2025 in place available publicly here, while for 2025- 2030 strategy has been approved by Board and being prepared for publication. For more information, please refer to "P1Q5 GSF 2025-2030 Strategy Business confidential" .
b) The Gold Standard Foundation Board of Directors oversees the organization's overall governance. In the event of dissolution, the Board makes necessary decisions and appointments to address standards-related issues. For further details on the Gold Standard Policy regarding dissolution of the Standard,

[10] Note: For further explanation of the meaning of 'operational' for the purposes of the EUC and TAB's assessments, please note para. 2.7.2.1 of Appendix A of this Application form, as well as the Initial screening questions in section 7.12 of the TAB Procedures.

please refer to "P1Q5 Standard Dissolution Plan - Business Confidential" (Business CONFIDENTIAL DOCUMENT – NOT TO BE MADE PUBLIC).

Evidence

- GSF Strategy 2020- 2025 & Public announcement
- P1Q5 GSF Strategy 2025-2030 Business CONFIDENTIAL DOCUMENT
- P1Q5 Standard Dissolution Plan - Business Confidential

B. Any planned/forthcoming changes, including their expected timelines (*if none, "N/A"*):
N/A

Criteria: *Multiple* (re: Conflicts of interest)

Q6. Are policies and robust procedures in place[11] to… (*Paragraph 2.7.3*)	
a) … prevent the programme administrators, staff, board members, and management from having financial, commercial or fiduciary conflicts of interest in the governance or provision of programme services?	☒ YES
b) …ensure that, where such conflicts arise, they are appropriately declared, and addressed and isolated?	☒ YES

Summarize and provide evidence of the policies and procedures referred to in a) and b):

A. Information reflecting the current state of the programme and its documentation (i.e., as of the time that this form was completed):

a) The Gold Standard Foundation maintains strict policies to prevent conflicts of interest among program staff, board members, and management. These policies are documented in the Conflict of Interest Policy (signed by all employees), independent contractor agreements, any Organisations working for or on behalf of GS, (through Conflict of Interest Declaration). The COI policy for Board members outline robust approach to the management of conflicts of interest within Board and Committees.

b) Staff members, board members, and outside vendors must inform the Secretariat of any conflicts throughout their service period. Previously disclosed conflicts have been handled through meeting or voting recusals.

Evidence

- P1Q6 GS staff COI Policy Oct. 2024 Business confidential (Business confidential – not to be shared publicly)
- P1Q6 Board member COI policy Business confidential (Business confidential – not to be shared publicly)

B. Any planned/forthcoming changes, including their expected timelines (*if none, "N/A"*):
N/A

[11] *Note:* For programmes staffed solely by government officials and employees who are subject to domestic laws and regulations governing conflicts of interest, the programme may refer to these laws and regulations in responding to this question.

Q7. Are policies and robust procedures in place[11] to… (*Paragraph 2.4.6*)	
a) …prevent the programme registry administrators from having financial, commercial or fiduciary conflicts of interest in the governance or provision of registry services?	☒ YES
b) …ensure that, where such conflicts arise, they are appropriately declared, and addressed and isolated?	☒ YES

Summarize and provide evidence of the policies and procedures referred to in a) and b):

A. Information reflecting the current state of the programme and its documentation (i.e., as of the time that this form was completed):

a) Registry administrators are also governed via GS staff COI Policy Oct. 2024 Business confidential thus provide clear procedure to manage potential COI.

Evidence

- P1Q6 GS staff COI Policy Oct. 2024 Business confidential (Business confidential – not to be shared publicly)

B. Any planned/forthcoming changes, including their expected timelines (*if none, "N/A"*):

N/A

Q8. Are provisions in place to ensure the independence of accredited third-party entities performing validation and/or verification procedures, including… (*Paragraph 3.3.3*)	
a) …requiring accredited third-party(ies) to disclose whether they or any of their family members are dealing in, promoting, or otherwise have a fiduciary relationship with anyone promoting or dealing in, the offset credits being evaluated?	☒ YES
b) …to manage and/or prevent conflicts of interest between accredited third-party(ies) and the programme and the activities it supports?	☒ YES
c) …to address and isolate such conflicts, should they arise?	☒ YES

Summarize and provide evidence of the policies and procedures referred to in a) through c):

A. Information reflecting the current state of the programme and its documentation (i.e., as of the time that this form was completed):

The Gold Standard Validation/Verification Body (VVB) Requirements document – publicly available includes several provisions aimed at ensuring the independence of accredited third-party entities performing validation and/or verification procedures [7.11.1, page 28].

a) Regarding the **disclosure of fiduciary relationships with offset credit dealers or promoters**, the document requires that VVBs establish, document, and implement a **policy on safeguarding impartiality** [7.11.6, page 29]. This policy should demonstrate the VVB's understanding of potential influences [7.11.6, page 29]. Furthermore, external individuals used by VVBs are explicitly required to notify the VVB of **any existing or prior association with any project participants** of the Gold Standard project activity or PoA they may be assigned to validate or verify/certify [7.5.2, page 14]. This includes actual or potential involvement in identification, development, or financing of Gold Standard project activities or PoAs [7.5.2, page 14]. While **fiduciary relationships** with offset credit dealers or promoters or their family members aren't explicitly mentioned, these would likely fall under the broader requirements for

disclosing associations if they could compromise impartiality. VVBs must also obtain a declaration of no Conflict of Interest from external individuals for each assignment.
VVBs are also required to obtain and verify a **declaration from the subcontractor that there is no Conflict of Interest** arising from the appointment [7.5.3.1, page 15] and a similar declaration from external individuals for each assignment [7.5.3.4, page 15].

b) Concerning the **management and prevention of conflicts of interest**, the VVB requirements have a dedicated "**Safeguarding impartiality**" section [7.11, page 28]. The requirements outline that the **VVB shall act impartially and avoid any conflict of interest** that may compromise its ability to make impartial decisions [7.11.2, page 28]. VVBs must ensure no conflict of interest exists between their validation/verification functions and other parts of a larger organization or related bodies [7.11.3, page 28]. At the policy level, VVBs need to have a statement describing **how they manage conflict of interest and ensure the objectivity** of validation/verification functions [7.11.7, page 29]. At the organizational level, VVBs are required to have a **documented structure that safeguards impartiality** [7.11.4, page 30] and an **impartiality committee** with independent representation to oversee the implementation of the impartiality policy and related procedures [page 29-30], including the **approval of conflict-of-interest analysis and mitigation measures** [page 30]. Operationally, VVBs must establish, document, implement, and maintain a **procedure for analyzing potential threats against impartiality** [page 31], including carrying out a **conflict of interest analysis at least annually** and whenever significant changes occur [page 31]. This analysis must consider risks arising from various sources, including **self-interest** and **familiarity** [page 31]. Certain activities of the VVB or its related bodies, such as the **identification, development, and/or financing of GS4GG project activities**, **consultancy related to these projects**, and **providing training on related topics**, are explicitly considered threats to impartiality [page 31].

c) To **address and isolate conflicts of interest should they arise**, VVBs are required to establish, document, implement, and maintain a **procedure for the mitigation of threats against its impartiality** [page 33]. This procedure should describe the mitigation strategies and actions to be taken, such as **prohibitions**, **restrictions**, and **disclosures** [page 33]. Specifically, the **VVB shall not conduct both the validation and verification/certification of a GS4GG project or PoA/VPA** in most circumstances [page 33]. Furthermore, VVBs and the entities to which they have outsourced functions **shall not have any direct relationship** with the VVB's clients and the activity developer other than validation/verification activities and third-party conformity assessments [page 33]. The **use of personnel involved in the development, consultancy, or financing of a specific Gold Standard project for its validation or verification is prohibited** [page 33-34]. If any potential conflict of interest becomes known during a validation/verification, the **personnel concerned shall be removed** from the validation and/or verification/certification immediately [page 34]. Furthermore, an **annual analysis and review of all data and information relevant to impartiality** is mandatory [page 35] to review the effectiveness of the safeguards in place [page 35]. Any recommendations for action resulting from this review must be reported to the VVB's top management [page 35].

Reference documents:

Validation/Verification Body (VVB) Requirements

B. Any planned/forthcoming changes, including their expected timelines (*if none, "N/A"*):
N/A

Criterion: Transparency and public participation provisions

Q9. Does the programme publicly disclose what information is captured and made available to different stakeholders? (*Paragraph 2.8*)	☒ YES

Summarize and provide evidence of the procedures referred to above:

A. Information reflecting the current state of the programme and its documentation (i.e., as of the time that this form was completed):
The Gold Standard Registry provides relevant certification documentation for all projects, accessible via the project page's Certification Document Section here. These documents are publicly available as outlined in GS4GG Principles and Requirements (Principles & Requirements, Section 6, page 30,). The Public Disclosure Requirements for Projects Documentation (section 1.1, para 1.1.1, page 2) provides list of documents to Validation/Verification Bodies (VVBs), project developers, and coordinating/managing entities (CMEs) on project information and documents that must be made publicly available at each certification stage, while also prescribing how to handle confidential information (section 1.1, para 1.1.1, page 2).

Reference Documents:
Principles & Requirements
Public Disclosure Requirements for Projects Documentation

B. Any planned/forthcoming changes, including their expected timelines (*if none, "N/A"*):
N/A

Q10. Does the programme publicly disclose its local stakeholder consultation requirements (if applicable)? (*Paragraph 2.8*)	☒ YES

Summarize and provide evidence of the procedures referred to above:

A. Information reflecting the current state of the programme and its documentation (i.e., as of the time that this form was completed):
Stakeholder inclusivity is one of the five Principles governing our Program (GS4GG). Projects seeking certification must identify and engage relevant stakeholders, including expert input when necessary, during project design, planning, and implementation. Projects must incorporate stakeholder views and maintain ongoing feedback throughout their lifecycle. This process is outlined in Section 3.3 of our "Principles and Requirements (P&R document)," with detailed guidelines available in the Gold Standard Stakeholder Consultation and Engagement Requirements.

Additionally, every project activity undergoing design certification, performance review, and crediting renewal

includes a two-week public consultation managed by Gold Standard [Principles and Requirements (P&R document, Para 5.1.19, 5.1.34] through our publicly accessible Consultation page.

References documents:
Principles and Requirements
Gold Standard Stakeholder Consultation and Engagement Requirements
Consultation page https://www.goldstandard.org/consultations

B. Any planned/forthcoming changes, including their expected timelines (*if none, "N/A"*):
N/A

Q11. Does the programme…. (*Paragraph 2.8*)	
a) … conduct public comment periods for the following *(select all that apply)*? ☒ methodologies, protocols, or frameworks under development ☒ activities seeking registration or approval ☒ operational activities (e.g., ongoing stakeholder feedback) ☒ additions or revisions to programme procedures or rulesets	☒ YES
b) … disclose its public comments provisions and requirements?	☒ YES
c) … disclose how public comments are considered (*if applicable*)?	☒ YES

Summarize and provide evidence of the procedures referred to in items a) through c):

A. Information reflecting the current state of the programme and its documentation (i.e., as of the time that this form was completed):
The **public consultation is a part of the** Gold Standard's Standards Setting Procedure [para 3.1.1, 3.1.3]. The requirements for public consultation vary depending on the category and type of document being developed or revised, as outlined in Table 2 [3.1.1]. Here's a breakdown of the public consultation approach for standard development processes including operational and additional and revisions to set rules, requirements:

- **Category 1 decisions**, which include new Principles, Requirements, Procedures, and Guidelines, as well as major reviews and updates, require **two rounds of public consultation (60 days and 30 days)**. These also require publication of terms of reference and key principles/rationale.
- For **Category 2 decisions**, such as activity-specific application of Principles & Requirements or rule clarifications, public consultation is **at the discretion of the relevant Committee**.
- New Activity-type Requirements (outside a given Committee scope) require **one round (30 days) of public consultation**, along with the publication of terms of reference and key principles/rationale. Updates to Activity Requirements within a Committee scope have public consultation at the Committee's discretion.
- New Context Requirements, Tools and Guidelines require **one round (30 days) of public consultation**, along with the publication of terms of reference and key principles/rationale.
- New cross-cutting Product Requirements (outside a given Committee Scope) require **one round (30 days) of public consultation**, along with the publication of terms of reference and key principles/rationale. Product Requirements within a given Committee scope follow the same

requirements.

- The **TGC or appointed Committee can enhance the public consultation requirements** noted in Table 2 when deemed necessary [3.1.2].
- For the development of Category 1 Standards, **a proposal for the public consultation approach is included in the governance and workplan proposal** submitted to the TGC.
- The **outcomes of any public consultation steps are transparently published to the Gold Standard website within 6 weeks of the closure of consultation periods.**
- All stakeholder consultations must follow the **Gold Standard Stakeholder Consultation Policy** [3.5.2]. The Secretariat maintains a **dedicated area on the organisation's website for all ongoing consultations** [3.5.2].
- The **Terms of Reference for all new Standards or major revisions will include opportunities for engagement and consultation in Standards development** [3.4.1].

a) **Methodologies, protocols, or frameworks under development**: Gold Standard conducts a **30-day public stakeholder consultation** for draft new methodologies after approval by the TAC and/or recommendation by the methodology working group. For revised methodologies, **public stakeholder consultation is required for major revisions**. [Procedure for Development, Revision, and Clarification of Methodologies and Methodological Tools, para 4.1.26, 4.1.27, 4.2.9, 4.2.10, 5.1.12]

b) **Activities seeking registration or approval**: **Gold Standard Certified Design or renewal of crediting period status** undergo a two-week public consultation managed by Gold Standard as part of the Design Review process via public interface of Assurance platform. Similarly, projects undergoing **Performance Review** also have a **two-week public consultation** managed by Gold Standard [Principles and Requirements**, para 5.1.19, 5.1.32, 5.1.147]**

c) **Operational** activities during project life (e.g., ongoing stakeholder feedback): The sources emphasise ongoing stakeholder consultation and engagement throughout the project lifecycle [Principles and Requirements, para, 4.1.23, 4.136]. Project design should reflect stakeholder views, and ongoing feedback should be sought, captured, and acted upon. The Monitoring Report is required to include an update on stakeholder feedback received and any actions taken.

d) Additions or revisions to project life: During the Design Review, Performance Review and design change, all project documentation is made available for public consultation.

In summary, the **public consultation policy is embedded within the Standards Setting Procedure** and its specific application depends on the nature of the standard or module being developed. Generally, more significant and strategic developments (Category 1) require more extensive public consultation than activity-specific matters (Category 2). The Gold Standard also has a dedicated Stakeholder Consultation Policy that governs these processes, and all ongoing consultations are made available on website [3.5.2] https://www.goldstandard.org/consultations

Key References -

- Public Stakeholder Consultation Policy
- Standard setting procedure
- Procedure for Development, Revision, and Clarification of Methodologies and Methodological Tools

- Principles and Requirements
- Standard Consultation page https://www.goldstandard.org/consultations
- Project consultation page https://assurance-platform.goldstandard.org/public-consultations

B. Any planned/forthcoming changes, including their expected timelines (*if none, "N/A"*):
N/A

Criteria: Safeguards system and Do no net harm

Q12. Does the Programme have in place dedicated safeguards to address… (*Paragraph 2.9*)	
a) …environmental risks?	☒ YES
b) …social risks?	☒ YES
c) Are these safeguards publicly disclosed?	☒ YES

Summarize and provide evidence of the safeguards referred to in a) and c), including their availability to the public:

A. Information reflecting the current state of the programme and its documentation (i.e., as of the time that this form was completed):

Safeguards is one of the five Principles that govern our Program (GS4GG). Projects applying for certification under GS4GG shall conduct a Safeguarding Principles Assessment [page 11, para 4.1.19 of GS4GG Principles and Requirements] – publicly available. This procedure is described under principle 2 of our "GS4GG Principles and Requirements" and detailed guidelines on how to conduct this assessment are provided in Gold Standard's Safeguarding Principles and Requirements.

The Safeguarding Principles are categorized as social, economic and environmental & ecological safeguards and subcategorized to facilitate detailed assessment using the list of assessment questions. All GS4GG project activities must undergo a safeguarding assessment that includes conducting an initial evaluation against Safeguarding Principles & Requirements, following these principles during implementation, and incorporating risk mitigation measures in the validated design documents. Projects must also regularly monitor and report on the status of identified risks during verification, and promptly report any grievances related to compliance with safeguarding principles throughout the project lifecycle. The following is the list of safeguarding principles that each project to be registered under GS4GG needs to be complaint with:

Category	No.	Principle	Sub-principle
Social	Principle 1	Human Rights	
	Principle 2	Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment	
	Principle 3	Community Health and Safety	
	Principle 4	Cultural Heritage, Indigenous Peoples, Displacement and Resettlement	4.1. Sites of cultural and historical heritage
			4.2. Forced eviction and displacement
			4.3. Land tenure and other rights
			4.4. Indigenous peoples
	Principle 5	Corruption	

Economic	Principle 6	Economic Impacts	6.1 Labour Rights and Working Conditions
			6.2 Negative economic consequences
Environmental and Ecological	Principle 7	Climate and Energy	7.1 GHG Emissions
			7.2 Energy supply
	Principle 8	Water	8.1 Impact on Natural Water Patterns/Flows
			8.2 Erosion and/or water body instability
	Principle 9	Environment, Ecology and Land Use	9.1 Landscape modification and soil
			9.2 Vulnerability to natural disaster
			9.3 Biosafety and genetic resources
			9.4 Release of pollutants
			9.5 Hazardous and non-hazardous waste
			9.6 Pesticides & Fertilisers
			9.7 Harvesting of forests
			9.8 Food security
			9.9 Animal welfare
			9.10 High conservation value (HCV) areas and critical habitats
			9.11 Endangered species
			9.12 Invasive alien species

Page 9, Para 4.1.5, Table 2 of Safeguarding Principles and Requirements outlines the requirement for public disclosure of assessment outcome necessary at each of the project certification cycle. The detailed requirements corresponding to each principle and sub-principles are described on page 12-39, while further assessment questions are listed in the page 40 onwards, Annex 1, Safeguarding Principles and Requirements, available on the GS4GG website.

Key references:
GS4GG Principles and Requirements
Safeguarding Principles and Requirements

B. Any planned/forthcoming changes, including their expected timelines (*if none, "N/A"*):
Minor revisions based on periodic review will be released in Q3 2025. While the core requirements of the document and principles will remain unchanged, the revisions will focus on updating the document as per standard procedures to include any further changes – editorial, refinements to ensure consistency and improvements as needed.

Q13. Please describe, and provide evidence of, how the safeguards system in Question 12 above is used to ensure that environmental and social risks are identified, assessed and managed: (*Paragraph 3.8*)

A. Information reflecting the current state of the programme and its documentation (i.e., as of the time that this form was completed):

The Gold Standard for the Global Goals (GS4GG) Safeguarding Principles and Requirements ensures the proper identification, assessment, and management of environmental and social risks through a structured process and a set of overarching principles and specific requirements.

Identification and Assessment of Risks:

- The system mandates that all GS4GG project activities must **undertake an upfront assessment** against the Safeguarding Principles & Requirements [page 8, para 4.1.1.]. This assessment is intended to identify potential negative impacts.
- This assessment process is guided by a **non-exhaustive list of assessment questions** set out against each of the nine Safeguarding Principles, which cover Social, Economic, and Environmental and Ecological aspects. Project developers are required to **answer all questions** and demonstrate compliance with all safeguarding principles and requirements [page 10, Table 3].
- The assessment questions are designed to identify potential risks and adverse outcomes of the activity. For each question, the project developer must provide a response ("Yes," "Potentially," "No," or "NA") and a **justification for the response**, with evidence provided where required [page 10, Table 3]. For the questions marked as “yes”, identifying an existing risk, a monitoring parameter is added to the project design to mitigate the risk. This forms the risk mitigation plan for the project.
- The document specifies that the safeguarding assessment shall apply to the Project Scenario, involving a comparison to the Baseline Scenario(s) and/or the implementation or decommissioning phases.
- Several Safeguarding Principles explicitly require the **opinion and recommendations of independent Expert Stakeholder(s)** in the risk assessment process. Where applicable, the project must demonstrate that these recommendations have been incorporated into the project design [page 9, para 4.2.1].
- The **Draft Safeguarding Principles Assessment**, including a summary of environmental, social, and economic impacts, must be made available to stakeholders to gather feedback during stakeholder consultation rounds [page 9, Table 2].
- A **completed Safeguarding Principles Assessment**, validated by a Gold Standard Validation and Verification Body (GS-VVB), is required at the Design Review stage and verification at each performance as needed [page 9, Table 2].

Management of Risks:

- The requirements outlined in the document guide a project developer to **identify and evaluate the risks and adverse outcomes** of the proposed activities [page 3, para 1.1.4].
- Project developers are required to **adopt a mitigation strategy to avoid, or where avoidance is not possible, minimise identified risks**, to achieve the stated requirements [page 3, para 1.1.4].
- The validated design documents must include **measures corresponding to the identified risks and adverse outcomes, to minimise and address negative impacts** prior to design certification. The requirements themselves define what an activity shall achieve through design, management, or risk mitigation [page 8, para 4.1.1].
- Monitoring reports at each verification must **provide information on measures implemented to address the identified risks and the status of risk**. These reports also need to update information on any assessment questions answered ‘Potentially’ or where requirements call for regular re-assessment[page 10, para 5.1.1].
- In certain circumstances where unavoidable negative impacts exceed the Requirements, a **deviation request** can be submitted to Gold Standard for review, potentially involving a panel of experts to

recommend changes to minimise adverse outcomes [page 11, section 6].

- The document outlines specific requirements under each Safeguarding Principle that aim to prevent or mitigate potential negative impacts related to human rights, gender equality, community health and safety, cultural heritage, indigenous people, displacement and resettlement, corruption, economic impacts, climate and energy, water, and environment, ecology and land use [page 10-39].

Compliance with Regulations and Public Disclosure:

- All GS4GG project activities shall **comply with applicable national law, including those laws implementing host country obligations under international law [page 8, para 4.1.2]**. When host country requirements differ from the document's requirements, projects must comply with the more stringent option.[page 8, para 4.1.2]
- To demonstrate compliance with safeguarding principles and their requirements, **evidence, as needed, shall be provided to the validating and/or verifying body**. This evidence can include Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs)[page 8, para 4.3.1, 4.3.2]. The necessary supporting documents and evidence shall be made available to Gold Standard as per the requirements of any findings raised during design review or performance review [4.3.1, 4.3.2].
- The supporting documents and evidence shall be **made publicly available on the** Impact Registry, except for confidential information, in line with the Public Disclosure Requirements for Project Documentation. If confidential information is included, a redacted version must be provided [page 10, paras 4.3.3, 4.3.4].
- Projects are required to **report any grievances related to compliance and safeguarding principles** that are registered at any point during the project cycle [page 11, para 5.1.1.].

In summary, the GS4GG system ensures proper identification, assessment, and management of environmental and social risks through a mandatory upfront assessment using detailed questions, the requirement to develop mitigation strategies, the involvement of expert stakeholders, ongoing monitoring and reporting, and the need for validation and verification by an independent body. Furthermore, it mandates compliance with all relevant regulations and promotes public disclosure of safeguarding assessment and supporting documentation.

Reference document

- Safeguarding Principles and Requirements
- Impact Registry

B. Any planned/forthcoming changes, including their expected timelines (*if none, "N/A"*):
N/A

Q14. Does the programme have in place… (*Paragraph 3.8*)	
a) … institutions, processes, and procedures to implement, monitor, and enforce the environmental and social safeguards?	☒ YES
b) Are these institutions, processes, and procedures publicly disclosed?	☒ YES

Summarize and provide evidence of the institutions, processes and procedures referred to in a) above, including their public disclosure:

A. Information reflecting the current state of the programme and its documentation (i.e., as of the time that this form

was completed):

The Gold Standard has **institutions, processes, and procedures to implement, monitor, and enforce** its environmental and social safeguards. These are also, for the most part, **publicly disclosed**.

Institutions:

- The **Gold Standard Foundation** is the primary institution responsible for establishing and overseeing the Safeguarding Principles & Requirements. Contact details for the Gold Standard Foundation are provided on page 1 of Safeguarding Principles and Requirements.
- **Gold Standard Validation and Verification Bodies (GS-VVBs)** are independent third-party institutions responsible for validating the project design against the Safeguarding Principles and verifying the implementation and monitoring of these safeguards. [page 9, table 2]
- A **panel** comprising the **Gold Standard Secretariat**, at least two relevant **third-party Expert Stakeholder(s)**, and a **Gold Standard Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) member** is convened to review and assess deviation requests pertaining to safeguarding principles. [page 11, section 6]
- **Expert Stakeholders**, defined as individuals with over 10 years of relevant expertise, play a role in providing opinions and recommendations during the assessment and design phases, as required by several Safeguarding Principles. Their appointment is made by the project developer, and they must provide a signed statement confirming no conflict of interest. [page 9, section 4.2]

Processes and Procedures:

- **Upfront Assessment:** All GS4GG project activities must undertake an upfront assessment against the Safeguarding Principles & Requirements to identify potential negative impacts. This involves answering assessment questions provided in Annex 1 and providing justifications. [page 8, para 4.1.1]
- **Mitigation Strategies:** Project developers are required to adopt a mitigation strategy to avoid or minimise identified risks to achieve the stated requirements. Measures corresponding to identified risks must be included in validated design documents. [page 8, para 4.1.1]
- **Expert Stakeholder Engagement:** Several Safeguarding Principles require the opinion and recommendations of independent Expert Stakeholder(s), which must be incorporated into the project design. [page 9, para 4.2.1]
- **Stakeholder Consultation:** A draft Safeguarding Principles Assessment, including a summary of environmental, social, and economic impacts, must be made available to stakeholders to gather feedback during consultation rounds. [page 9, table 2]
- **Validation and Verification:** A completed Safeguarding Principles Assessment is validated by a GS-VVB at the design certification stage. Monitoring reports, which include updates on implementation and the status of risk mitigation measures, are verified by the VVB during performance certification. [page 9, table 2]
- **Monitoring and Reporting:** Projects must provide information on implemented measures and the status of risks in the monitoring report at each verification. They must also update information on 'Potentially' answered assessment questions for each monitoring report. Any grievances related to compliance and safeguarding principles must be reported. [page 9, table 2]
- **Grievance Mechanism:** Projects are required to report any grievances related to compliance and safeguarding principles registered at any point during the project cycle. For Indigenous Peoples, mutually agreed, culturally appropriate, accessible, and inclusive channels for feedback and grievance redress must be available. A grievance mechanism accessible to workers must also be in place and information about

it provided at the time of recruitment. [page 8, para 4.1.1]

- **Non-Conformity Process:** Any failure at any time in completion of the Safeguarding Principles Assessment or non-conformity with Requirements and Monitoring & Reporting Requirements can lead to the invoking of the Non-Conformity section of the Principles and Requirements. [section 7, page 31 of GS4GG Principles and Requirements]

Deviation Request: A formal procedure exists for seeking an exception to a specific Safeguarding Principle or Requirement in certain circumstances, involving a review by a panel of experts and a final decision by Gold Standard. [page 11, section 6, Safeguarding Principles and Requirements]

Public Disclosure:

- In order to demonstrate compliance, evidence shall be provided to the validating and/or verifying body. The **necessary supporting documents and evidence shall be made publicly available on the Impact Registry**, except for confidential information. [page 10, section 4.3]
- If supporting documents contain confidential information, a **redacted version** of the same document must be provided.[page 10, para 4.3.4]
- A summary of the Safeguarding Principles Assessment (including any key identified risk that relates to the project type or context) is included in the information provided at the Preliminary Review stage. [page 9, table 2]

Therefore, the Gold Standard has a comprehensive system with defined institutions, detailed processes for risk management at each stage of the project lifecycle, and a commitment to making key information about these safeguards publicly accessible.

Reference documents–

- Safeguarding Principles and Requirements
- GS4GG Principles and Requirements

B. Any planned/forthcoming changes, including their expected timelines (*if none, "N/A"*):
N/A

Q15. Are procedures in place to ensure that offset projects do not violate local, state/provincial, national or international regulations or obligations? (*Paragraph 3.8*)	☒ YES

Summarize and provide evidence of the policies and procedures referred to above:

A. Information reflecting the current state of the programme and its documentation (i.e., as of the time that this form was completed):
The procedures are in place to ensure that offset projects do not violate local, state/provincial, national or international regulations or obligations.
The "General requirements" section of the Safeguarding Principles & Requirements explicitly states that **all GS4GG project activities/PoAs/VPAs shall comply with applicable national law, including those laws implementing host country obligations under international law**. Furthermore, it is stipulated that **when host country requirements differ from the requirements presented in this document, projects shall comply with the requirements whichever is more stringent [page 8, para 4.1.2]**. This ensures that projects meet at least the

minimum legal standards and aim for higher standards when the Gold Standard's requirements are more demanding.
Principle 1, which addresses Human Rights, also reinforces this commitment by stating that **the Gold Standard "does not recognise or support activities that may contribute to violations of a State's human rights obligations and the core international human rights treaties" [page 12, para P.1.b]**. This demonstrates a clear intention to avoid any complicity in human rights abuses as defined by international law.
Moreover, Principle 6, concerning Economic Impacts, includes a specific requirement that projects **"comply with national employment and labour laws and international commitments" [page 21, para P.6.c]**. This ensures adherence to labour regulations and obligations at both the national and international levels.
Therefore, through these explicit requirements outlined in the "Safeguarding Principles & Requirements" document, the Gold Standard has established procedures to ensure that offset projects do not violate local, state/provincial, national, or international regulations or obligations.

Reference documents

- Safeguarding Principles and Requirements

B. Any planned/forthcoming changes, including their expected timelines (*if none, "N/A"*):
N/A

Criterion: Sustainable development criteria

Q16. Does the programme use sustainable development criteria? (*Paragraph 2.10*)	☒ YES

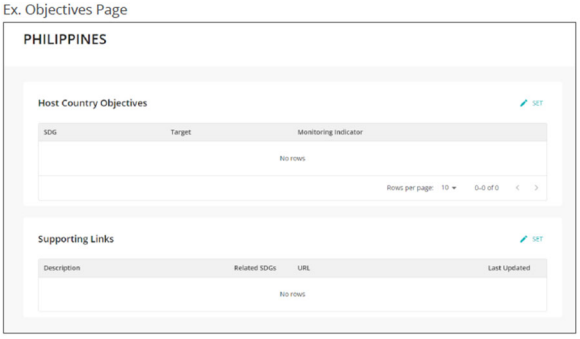
Summarize and provide evidence of the policies and procedures referred to above:

A. Information reflecting the current state of the programme and its documentation (i.e., as of the time that this form was completed):
The Gold Standard programme incorporates comprehensive sustainable development criteria. As stated in our Principles & Requirements **- (c) Contribution to climate Security & Sustainable development [page 9]**, all Gold Standard projects must demonstrate a clear and direct positive contribution to sustainable development by making demonstrable impacts on at least **three Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), with SDG 13 (Climate Action) being mandatory [page 8, para 4.1.2(b) of** GS4GG P&R**)**. These positive impacts are assessed by comparing the Project Scenario with the Baseline Scenario.
Regarding the consideration of a host country's stated sustainable development priorities, our methodology allows projects to align with and report against national SDG targets and indicators. Project Developers can review the relevant National SDG Indicators to select the most appropriate targets and indicators for their chosen SDGs. The tool also allows host country to confirm the alignment to set their priorities [SDG – impact user manual for host countries]. Screenshots are pasted here as these features are embedded in the digital SDG

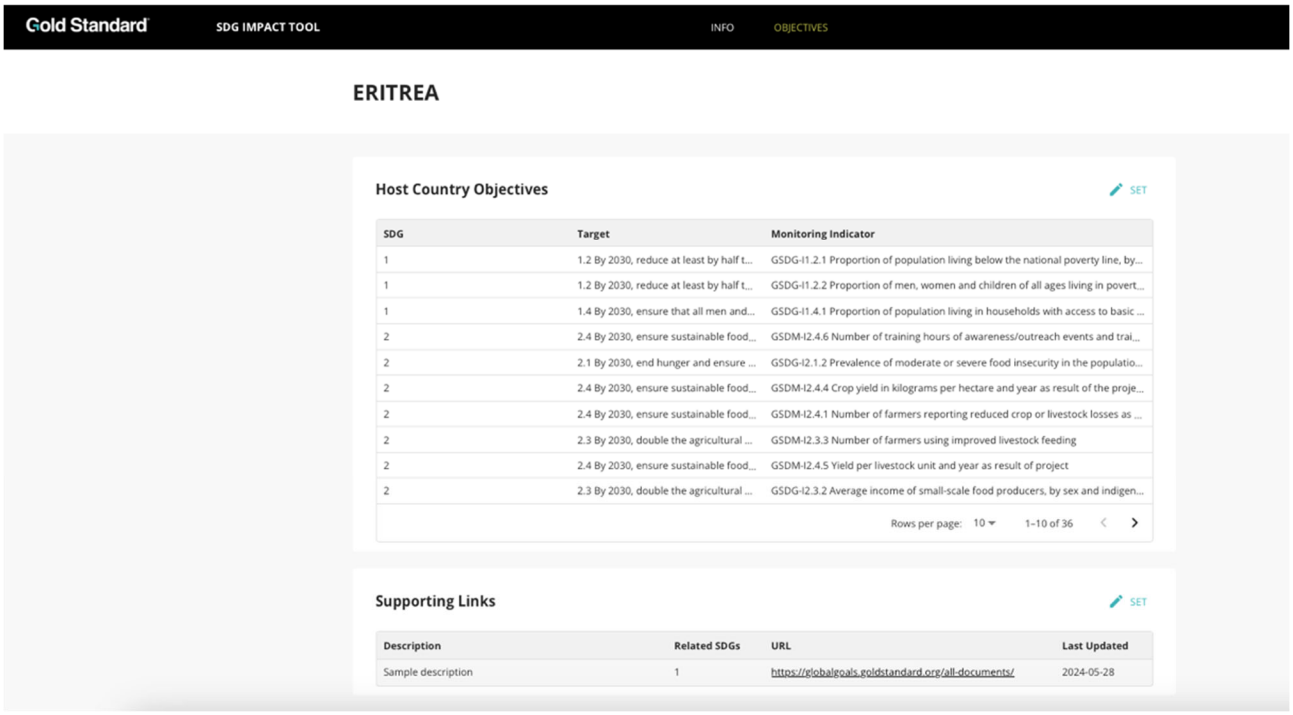
Objectives Page

The objectives page is designed for host country entity users to conveniently declare the SDG Monitoring Indicators as host country objectives. Host Country users can select from the list of SDG Impact Indicators to declare as their host country objectives. They can select the indicator either at the SDG level, the Target level or the Indicator level.

Ex. Objectives Page

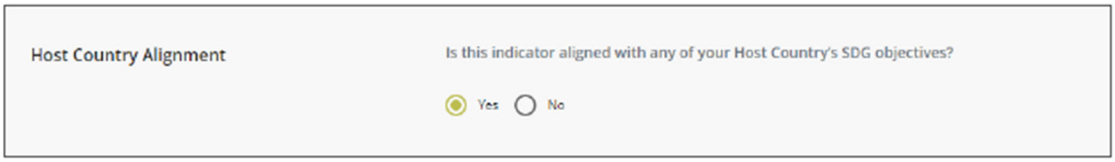


Impact Tool and accessible via public page.



The digital SDG Impact tool has specific questions for developer to confirm which indicator is aligned with host country SDG's objectives.

6. Select whether or not the indicator selected is aligned with the Host Country's SDG Objectives



All user manuals are available publicly to confirm the workflow and features of the Digital SDG Impact tool at https://globalgoals.goldstandard.org/430g-iq-sdg-impact-tool-manual-app/

A new SDG IMPACT DASHBOARD is also released in Dec 2024 to help understand the project impacts including host country alignment. The SDG impact Dashboard can be accessed here https://dashboard.goldstandard.org/

Furthermore, we have robust provisions for **monitoring, reporting, and verification (MRV) of these sustainable development contributions**.

a. Projects are required to develop an upfront **Monitoring & Reporting Plan** as part of the Project Design Document (PDD). This plan must include detailed approaches for monitoring and reporting parameters identified for positive SDG Impacts and associated targets. [page 15, para 4.1.43 Principles & Requirements]
b. Projects undergo a rigorous **Design Certification** process, including **Validation** by accredited, approved third-party Validation and Verification Bodies (VVBs). Validation assesses the project's design and monitoring plan against Gold Standard requirements, including SDG contributions. [page 4, para 2.1.1 Principles & Requirements]
c. To certify that impacts have been realised, projects must undergo **Performance Certification**, which includes **Verification** by VVBs. Verification confirms that the project has followed the approved Monitoring Plan and that the Certified SDG Impacts are real.[page 5, para 2.2.1 Principles & Requirements]
d. The **SDG Impact Tool**, as detailed in the RU_2022-The-SDG-Impact-Tool, and the SDG Digital Tool User manuals is a key instrument for project developers to efficiently monitor, quantify, verify, and track their contributions to the SDGs. The use of the digital SDG Impact Tool is now mandatory for most new projects and existing projects are being moved to digital in systematic way to further improve the visibility of project impacts reporting.

Public disclosure is a fundamental aspect of the Gold Standard.

- The **Project Design Document (PDD)**, including the project's contribution to SDGs and the Monitoring & Reporting Plan, is made publicly available through the Gold Standard Impact Registry after successful Preliminary Review and certainly after Design Certification. [page 5, para 2.2.2 Principles & Requirements]
- The outcomes of the **SDG Impact Tool application are also publicly disclosed** through the Gold Standard Impact Registry. Project developers are required to download the report from the digital tool and upload it to the registry. RU_2022-The-SDG-Impact-Tool

- **Validation and Verification Reports** submitted by the VVBs are also made public. [page 5, para 2.2.2 Principles & Requirements]
- Annual Reports, which include updates on SDG impacts, are also publicly available. [page 5, para 2.2.2 Principles & Requirements]

Only projects that adhere to these reporting requirements for their sustainable development contributions will be issued Gold Standard Certified Impact Statements or Products. This reporting aligns with our commitment to transparency and sustainable development outcomes.

Reference documents –

- Principles & Requirements
- RU_2022-The-SDG-Impact-Tool
- SDG Digital Tool User manuals

B. Any planned/forthcoming changes, including their expected timelines (*if none, "N/A"*):
Several changes were introduced in December 2024, particularly regarding the mandatory application of the SDG Digital Tool, through rule updates. A comprehensive update is currently underway to incorporate these rule updates and changes into the primary standard. This update will not alter any existing requirements that were established during 2023-2024 but rather consolidate the information and enable comprehensive use and reporting through the Gold Standard SDG Digital Tool. This effort aims to ensure clarity and consistency while enhancing host countries' ability to contribute to their specific priorities, including facilitating reporting to UNFCCC as required under the Paris Agreement. These changes are being implemented through systematic standard updates and will be released progressively through the end of Q3, 2025.

Q17. Does the programme have in place and publicly disclose procedures that identify a list or menu or potential sustainable development indicators that may, for example, enumerate relevant sustainable development goals (SDG) and, as appropriate, additionally include indicators that are publicly specified by a host country? (*Paragraph 2.10.2*)	☒ YES

Summarize and provide evidence of the policies and procedures referred to above:

A. Information reflecting the current state of the programme and its documentation (i.e., as of the time that this form was completed):
The Gold Standard programme does have in place and **publicly discloses procedures that identify a list or menu of potential sustainable development indicators** that enumerate relevant Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and, as appropriate, additionally include indicators that are publicly specified by a host country.
Here's how this is supported by the sources:

- The Principles & Requirements document outlines, under **Principle 1: Contribution to Climate Security & Sustainable Development**, that all projects must demonstrate a positive impact on at least three SDGs, including SDG 13 [page 10, para 4.1.16]. To achieve this, the programme provides several options for identifying SDG Impacts:
    - **Option 1**: Project Developers shall review the **SDG targets and indicators from the relevant National SDG Indicators**, or in their absence, the latest internationally adopted version. This clearly indicates a procedure for using indicators publicly specified by a host country.

- **Option 2**: Project Developers can **Follow a Gold Standard Approved SDG Tool** for the demonstration of SDG Impacts. The existence of this tool implies a predefined set of potential indicators.
- **Option 3**: Project Developers can **Follow a Gold Standard Approved Methodology**, published or referenced via the Gold Standard website. These methodologies often include specific indicators for assessing SDG impacts.

The Rule update with the launch of the Digital SDG Impact tool introduces and mandates (for most new projects) the use of the **SDG Impact Tool [option 2]**. This tool functions as a **menu of potential indicators** categorised by Technology Group and Method of Selection (either starting with SDGs or Impact Category). Project developers select relevant indicators from the options presented within the tool. The SDG Impact Tool streamlines the reporting and verification of SDG contributions for GS4GG projects. The tool provides project developers with a comprehensive list of monitoring indicators, including descriptions of the corresponding SDGs and pre-defined monitoring, reporting, and verification (MRV) guidelines. The list of indicators is filtered based on the technology type chosen by the project developer at the start of the assessment.

The user manual for project developers serves as a comprehensive user guide, explaining how developers can navigate the "Select Impact Indicator" section. This section offers a structured approach for choosing from various SDG-related indicators. The manual specifically includes the option to select indicators that align with the Host Country's SDG Objectives within the tool. [Screenshot included in answer to Question 16.]

The outcomes of the SDG Impact Tool application—including selected indicators and reported project contributions—are **publicly disclosed through the Gold Standard Impact Registry, SDG Dashboard, and certification documents available via project page [section 4, page 3,** RU_2022-The-SDG-Impact-Tool**].** This transparency makes the "list or menu" of potential indicators accessible to the public for all implemented projects. An example screenshot is inserted in response to Q16 above.

In summary, the Gold Standard implements clear procedures through its SDG Impact Tool and national SDG indicators option. These procedures identify potential sustainable development indicators, enumerate relevant SDGs, and incorporate host country-specified indicators. All procedures and resulting project documentation remain publicly accessible.

Note that prior to launch of SDG Impact Tool, for the purpose of reporting the SDG contribution of the project an excel version was available. The excel version list the same indicator and can be accessed here https://globalgoals.goldstandard.org/430-iq-sdg-impact-tool/

Reference documents –

- Principles & Requirements
- RU_2022-The-SDG-Impact-Tool
- user manual for project developers

B. Any planned/forthcoming changes, including their expected timelines (*if none, "N/A"*):

Gold Standard is currently working on expanding its SDG indicator framework and plans to incorporate new indicators into the SDG Digital Tool by Q3 2025. This expansion will enhance monitoring capabilities across

additional project types and broaden the existing set of indicators.
Evidence - https://www.goldstandard.org/careers/expansion-of-sdgs-monitoring-indicators-and-mrv-guidelines

Q18. Do the Program's procedures clearly state that only units that have been or will be issued to activities that report their sustainable development contributions or co-benefits according to criteria above, can be identified as CORSIA Eligible Emissions Units? (*Paragraph 2.10.2*)	☒ YES

Summarize and provide evidence of the policies and procedures referred to above:

A. Information reflecting the current state of the programme and its documentation (i.e., as of the time that this form was completed):

Gold Standard procedures ensure that **all certified projects must demonstrate and report positive contributions to at least three Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), including SDG 13 [para 4.1.2, page 7 of** GS4GG Principles and Requirements]. This is a fundamental requirement for any unit issued under the GS4GG framework.

The **Gold Standard registry includes a mechanism to identify units as CORSIA eligible** via registry function [section 2, Labelling of Credits and Projects in the Gold Standard Impact Registry].

Consequently, **any unit recognised as CORSIA eligible on the Gold Standard registry has inherently met Gold Standard's rigorous sustainability criteria**. This sustainability assessment is a prerequisite for GS4GG certification, upon which the CORSIA eligibility recognition is built.

It is understood that the **ultimate determination of CORSIA Eligible Emissions Units rests upon full compliance with all eligibility criteria**. Thus, Gold Standard's registry designation reflects a recognition of eligibility based on all criteria, underpinned by GS4GG's mandatory sustainability assessment for all its projects.

Reference document-

- GS4GG Principles and Requirements
- Labelling of Credits and Projects in the Gold Standard Impact Registry

B. Any planned/forthcoming changes, including their expected timelines (*if none, "N/A"*):

N/A

Q19. Does the programme publicly disclose any provisions for monitoring, reporting and verification in relation to these criteria? (*Paragraph 2.10*)	☒ YES

Summarize and provide evidence of the policies and procedures referred to above:

A. Information reflecting the current state of the programme and its documentation (i.e., as of the time that this form was completed):

The Gold Standard programme **clearly and comprehensively** publicly discloses provisions for monitoring, reporting, and verification (MRV) in relation to its sustainability criteria.

Here's how the sources support this:

- **Project Documentation is Publicly Available:** Upon achieving 'Listed' status, the **Key Project Information and draft Project Design Documentation (where applicable)** are made publicly available.

Following successful Design Review, the **Project Design Document, supporting documentation, Monitoring & Reporting Plan, and final Validation Report** are made public. After successful Performance Review, the **Project Documentation, supporting documentation, and Verification Report** are made public via the Impact Registry. [para 2.2.2, 5.1.11, 6.1.2(b) Principles and Requirements]

- **Monitoring & Reporting Plans are Essential and Public:** Projects are required to develop a detailed **Monitoring & Reporting Plan** as part of their Project Design Document. This plan outlines the approach for monitoring and reporting parameters related to positive SDG impacts, Safeguarding Principles, and stakeholder engagement. This plan is then made publicly available. [para 5.1.24 Principles and Requirements]
- **Monitoring Reports are Produced and Public:** Projects undertake monitoring in accordance with their Monitoring & Reporting Plan and produce **Annual Reports and Monitoring Reports**. These reports contain updates on stakeholder feedback, project activities, and a summary of monitoring information. These reports are submitted to Gold Standard and made publicly available. [para 5.1.36, 5.1.41 Principles and Requirements]
- **Verification is Mandatory and Public:** To achieve Gold Standard Certified Project status, projects must undergo **Verification** by accredited third-party Validation and Verification Bodies (VVBs). This process assesses the Monitoring Report and supporting evidence against all applicable Gold Standard Requirements, including those related to SDG impacts. The **Verification Report** is also made publicly available on the Impact Registry. [para 6.1.2(b) Principles and Requirements]
- **SDG Impact Tool is Public:** The application of the **SDG Impact Tool** is mandatory for most new projects and projects undergoing design certification review or renewal. The **certified SDG tool** and its outcomes are made **publicly available through the Gold Standard Impact Registry**. Project Developers are required to download the report from the tool and upload it to the registry. [Para 6.1.2(b) Principles and Requirements]
- **Transparency via the Impact Registry:** The **Gold Standard Impact Registry** serves as the central platform for public disclosure of all relevant project documentation, including the PDD, Monitoring & Reporting Plan, Annual Reports, Monitoring Reports, and Validation and Verification Reports. [Para 6.1.2(b)]

In summary, the Gold Standard programme has established a **transparent framework** where the provisions for monitoring, reporting, and verification in relation to sustainability criteria are **integral to the certification process and are consistently made publicly available** through the Gold Standard Impact Registry. This ensures stakeholders and the public can review how projects are monitoring and reporting their contributions to the Sustainable Development Goals and how these claims are being verified.

Reference document–

- Principles & Requirements

B. Any planned/forthcoming changes, including their expected timelines (*if none, "N/A"*):
N/A

PART 2: *Quantification and tracking*: Validation and Verification procedures; Quantification and MRV; Offset Credit Issuance and Retirement Procedures; Identification and Tracking; Clear and transparent chain of custody

Criterion: Are quantified, monitored, reported, and verified

Q1. Are procedures in place to ensure… (*Paragraph 3.3*)	
a) …that emissions units are based on accurate measurements and valid quantification methods/protocols?	☒ YES
b) …that emission reductions are measured, calculated and reported in a transparent manner?	☒ YES
c) …that monitoring, measuring, and reporting of both activities and the resulting mitigation is conducted at *specified intervals* throughout the duration of the crediting period?	☒ YES
d) …that mitigation is measured and verified by an accredited and independent third-party verification entity?	☒ YES

Summarize and provide evidence of the policies and procedures referred to in a) through d):

A. Information reflecting the current state of the programme and its documentation (i.e., as of the time that this form was completed):

a) Gold Standard has procedures in place to ensure that emission units are based on accurate measurements and valid quantification methods/protocols, aligning with the principles of conservativeness and transparency.

Firstly, the interpretation of all Gold Standard rules adheres to the core principles of **fairness, reliability, conservativeness, and pragmatism** [Para 1.2.6, Principles and Requirements] . This overarching principle guides the entire certification process. To ensure offset credits are based on accurate measurements and valid quantification methods, Gold Standard employs the following key procedures:

Use of Approved Methodologies: Projects seeking to issue Gold Standard Verified Emission Reductions (GSVERs) are required to apply a **Gold Standard Approved Methodology [8.2.1, 8.2.2, 8.3.3 GHG product requirement]**. These methodologies provide the specific guidelines and protocols for quantifying emission reductions or removals. The project must use the latest version of the methodology and applicable tools available at the time of first submission at the time of design certification and its renewal **[8.2.1, 8.2.2, 8.3.3** GHG Emissions Reduction & Sequestration Product Requirements**]**. This ensures that **valid and standardised quantification methods** are employed for calculating emission reductions . The "Methodology - Procedure" document ("https://globalgoals.goldstandard.org/standards/401_V2.0_SDGIQ_Methodology-approval-procedure.pdf") further supports this by outlining the detailed and rigorous process for the **development, revision, and clarification of these crucial methodologies**.

Rigorous Validation and Verification by Approved Third Parties: All Gold Standard projects undergo both **validation and verification** by **approved independent third parties known as Gold Standard VVBs (Validation and Verification Bodies)** [para 5.1.1.f, Validation and verification body requirements].

- During **validation**, the VVB assesses whether the proposed project meets all applicable Gold Standard rules and requirements, including those specified in the Principles & Requirements, relevant Activity Requirements, Product Requirements, and selected methodologies [4.1.2.c, Validation and verification

Standard). The VVB must determine whether the information provided by the Project Developers (PDs) is accurate, conservative, relevant, complete, consistent, and transparent [4.1.2.d,e,f, Validation and verification Standard]. They also assess the appropriateness of formulae and the **accuracy of all calculations**. If the VVB identifies mistakes that will influence the ability of the project to achieve real, measurable, verifiable, and **additional** GHG emission reductions, they are required to raise a Corrective Action Request (CAR).

- During **verification**, the VVB assesses whether the implementation and operation of the registered project, and the steps taken to report emission reductions, comply with the applicable regulatory documents. This involves a review of relevant documentation as well as on-site or remote inspections. The VVB must confirm that the **calculations of baseline emissions, project emissions, and leakage emissions have been carried out in accordance with the formulae and methods described in the registered monitoring plan and the applied methodologies**. They also assess the quality of evidence and ensure an audit trail exists to validate the reported figures [9.5.1, Validation and Verification Standard]. Similar to validation, the VVB will raise a CAR if non-compliance with the registered monitoring plan or mistakes in calculations impact the quantity of emission reductions [9.3.12, Validation and Verification Standard].

Emphasis on Accuracy and Completeness in Monitoring: Projects are required to have a detailed **Monitoring Plan** [7.15, 11.10, 12.14, 13.15, Validation and verification Standard]. VVBs assess whether the monitoring of parameters related to emission reductions has been implemented in accordance with the registered monitoring plan [9.4.10, Validation and verification Standard]. They also determine whether the **calibration of measuring equipment**, which impacts claimed emission reductions, is conducted at the frequency specified in the applied methodologies or the monitoring plan [9.4.13, 9.4.19, Validation and verification Standard].

Conservativeness as a Guiding Principle for Methodologies: Methodologies are designed to ensure that GHG emission reductions or removal enhancements are **not overestimated** [4.1.6, 4.1.7, 5.1.6 Validation and verification Standard]. This includes using **conservative assumptions, values, and procedures** [7.14.1, 9.4.20 Validation and verification Standard], particularly when estimation methods are used instead of direct measurement.

Transparency Through Public Registry and Reporting: All projects from Listed status and beyond, including those with Certified Impact Statements or Products like Gold Standard Verified Emission Reductions (VERs) , are captured on the **Gold Standard Impact Registry and are publicly and transparently available for review**. Validation and verification reports also document the assessment process, findings, and any issues raised (CARs, CLs, FARs) [6.3.18, 8.6, 9.3.13, Validation and verification Standard].

Gold Standard Review and Oversight: The Gold Standard Secretariat reviews all documentation [5.1.31 Principles and Requirements] and may require corrections or enhancements to ensure a project meets the requirements [5.1.34, 8.2 d, 8.3 b, 9.3.14]. Gold Standard also has a **Performance Management approach for VVBs**, which includes reviewing their reports to improve the quality and efficiency of certification services [our conversation history, 7.8.1.1 Validation and verification body requirements].

The **rigorous process for methodology development, revision, and clarification** further reinforces the validity of the quantification methods used. This process involves (references from Procedure for development, revision and clarification of methodologies and methodological tools):

- A thorough review by the Secretariat, methodology working groups, and independent experts [4.1.21].

- A 30-day global stakeholder consultation to gather feedback [4.2.8]
- Final approval by the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) [5.2.10]
- Guiding principles that ensure methodologies are relevant, complete, consistent, accurate, transparent, and conservative .
- Approved methodology, module, and tool goes through a periodic review at least **once every three years - 5 years.**

In summary, Gold Standard ensures that emission units are based on accurate measurements and valid quantification methods/protocols through the mandatory application of **rigorously developed and approved methodologies**, thorough **validation and verification processes** conducted by competent and independent VVBs, a focus on **accurate and complete monitoring**, the guiding principle of **conservativeness** in calculations, and **transparency** in project information and reporting

b) Gold Standard has several procedures in place to ensure that emission reductions are measured, calculated, and reported transparently.

The **Principles & Requirements** document outlines the project cycle, emphasizing the need for upfront planning and independent verification. **Principle 4: Demonstration of real outcomes** states that projects shall:

- "Design and develop an upfront Project Design Document (PDD), incorporating a Monitoring & Reporting Plan" [para 4.1.36].
- "Undertake monitoring in accordance with the Monitoring & Reporting Plan and produce Annual Reports and Monitoring Reports" [4.1.37].
- "Undergo Performance Certification (comprising Verification and Performance Review) in order to achieve Gold Standard Certified Project status and to issue Gold Standard Certified Impact Statements and Gold Standard Certified Products where sought" [4.1.37].
- Furthermore, the document specifies the content of the Monitoring & Reporting Plan, requiring a detailed approach to:
- "(a) Monitoring and reporting of parameters identified for positive SDG Impacts and associated targets" [4.1.43].
- "(d) Any monitoring requirements and parameters in any Gold Standard Approved Methodology, Tool and/or Product Requirements selected" [4.1.43].
- "The Project Monitoring & Reporting Plan shall be presented as part of the Project Documentation for Validation and shall form the basis of ongoing Monitoring Reports that shall be presented for Verification" [4.1.43].

The **Validation and Verification Standard** **(VVS)** details the role of the independent Validation and Verification Body (VVB). It requires the VVB to "conduct a thorough and independent assessment of the implementation and the reported emission reductions, SDG Impacts... against the applicable GS4GG rules and requirements." The VVB must assess the project's mandatory documentation, including the Monitoring Report [Section 9 of VVS].

The VVB employs standard auditing techniques, including:

- "A review of the data and information presented to verify their completeness" [9.3.2].
- "A review of the registered monitoring plan, the applied methodologies... paying particular attention to the frequency of measurements, the quality of metering equipment... and the quality assurance and

quality control procedures" [9.3.2].

- "An evaluation of data management and the quality assurance and quality control system in the context of their influence on the generation and reporting of GHG emission reductions/removals and SDG Impacts" [9.3.2].
- "Cross checks between information provided in the monitoring report and data from other sources such as plant logbooks, inventories, purchase records..." [9.3.2].

"A review of calculations and assumptions made in determining the GHG data and emission reductions/removals and SDG Impacts" [9.3.2].

- The GHG Emissions Reduction & Sequestration Product Requirements also stipulate that upon completion and approval of the Performance Review, "the Gold Standard shall certify the entire amount of emission reductions specified in the monitoring report and achieved by the Project. Certification of only part of total volume of emission reductions specified in the report approved by Gold Standard is not allowed" [10.3.1]. This ensures that the verified emission reductions are fully accounted for.
- All Gold Standard Certified Projects, including their documentation and verification reports (except confidential information), are made publicly and transparently available on the Gold Standard Impact Registry [2.2.1, Principles and requirements]. This public accessibility enhances the transparency of the measurement, calculation, and reporting of emission reductions.

c) Gold Standard ensures compliance with audit frequency requirements through mandatory site visits and verifications throughout a project's crediting period.
According to the Principles and Requirements, verification must occur at least once during the five-year Certification cycle, with the first Verification completed within two years of project Implementation Date or Design Certification, whichever is later [para 5.1.1]. Projects must follow a **Monitoring & Reporting Plan approved at the time of Design Certification** and submit **Monitoring Reports for Verification [Para 2.2.1]**. Additionally, projects must produce **Annual Reports [5.1.39]** that include a **brief descriptive summary of all monitoring information collected during the year [5.1.39]**. Failure to provide Annual Reports can result in **de-certification of the Project [5.1.40]**.
The "Site Visit and Remote Audit Requirements" specify that independent VVBs must verify mitigation achievements during the monitoring period. At minimum, the **VVB shall conduct a physical site visit within two years of the project start date [Page 6, Section 3, Site visit Requirements]**. Subsequently, physical site visits must occur **once within every three years after the first physical site visit date [Page 6, Section 3, Site visit Requirements]**.
The "Validation and verification Standard" mandate that for verification of a design-certified project activity, an on-site inspection is **mandatory for the first verification by the VVB** and when **more than three years have elapsed since the last on-site inspection conducted for verification [9.3.4.]**. These requirements, combined with the five-year certification cycle involving Performance Certification (Verification and Performance Review), ensure consistent audit and verification activities.

d) Gold Standard has robust procedures to ensure that mitigation is measured and verified by an **accredited and independent third-party Verification and Validation Body (VVB)** before the issuance of offset credits.
According to the "Principles and Requirements":

- To certify that impacts have been realised, a project **shall undergo Performance Certification** [Para 2.1.1].

- Performance Certification comprises **Verification and Performance Review** [Para 2.1.1].
- During Performance Certification, the project and its Certified SDG Impacts must be **validated and verified as required by an accredited, approved third party VVB** [Para 2.1.1].
- Following successful Performance Certification, a project **may be issued Certified Impact Statements and Products such as Gold Standard Verified Emission Reductions (VERs)** [Para 2.1.1]. This confirms that verification must occur before credits are issued.
- The VVB is **directly appointed by the Project Developer** and must be selected from a **list of approved VVBs** eligible for the project type and pathway [Para 5.1.27].

e) The "Validation and Verification Body Requirements" further detail the requirements for VVBs:
- VVBs must demonstrate and maintain impartiality while conducting validation and verification activities [5.1.1(f)].
- Gold Standard administers a Roster of Experts to conduct peer reviews of the validations and verifications decisions to enhance consistency and rigour [para 5.2.2(a)].
- A project may only enter the certification review process with a positive validation or verification decision from a VVB. Gold Standard cannot overturn a negative opinion, which ensures the VVB's independent assessment [para 5.2.2.d].
- Therefore, Gold Standard mandates ex-post verification through Performance Certification by an accredited and independent VVB before issuing Certified Impact Statements or Products like GSVERs. This process ensures that qualified third parties scrutinize emission reductions before offset credits are generated.

Gold Standard requires a re-evaluation of baselines, procedures, and assumptions for quantifying, monitoring, and verifying mitigation at the renewal of a project's crediting period. This process is outlined in the **Design Certification Renewal section of** the "Principles and Requirements" [page 28]:

- To retain Certified Design status at the fifth year, all projects must undergo **Design Certification Renewal by updating information and the baseline**, unless otherwise stated in relevant Activity or Product requirements [5.1.1(d)].
- **Ongoing Financial Need shall be demonstrated at Design Certification Renewal [4.1.52]**.
- **Design Certification Renewal follows the same process as Validation and Design Review (Design Certification)**, including a two-week public consultation, though the assessment scope is limited to specific areas [5.1.47].
- The scope of assessment for Design Certification Renewal [5.1.47] includes:
  - Changes in the Project related to General Eligibility Criteria.
  - Updates to Gold Standard Requirements.
  - **Re-definition of Baseline Scenario and its impact on Eligibility Principles, Criteria and Requirements**.
  - Gold Standard activity, product and methodology-specific Requirements.
  - Demonstration of Ongoing Financial Need, where applicable

All crediting period changes must be verified by a VVB to ensure compliance with Design Change Requirements. If re-validation is delayed beyond the current certification cycle, there will be a **reduction in the issuance of Certified Products and/or Impact Statements for the following certification cycle** (e.g., a one-year delay means

no Certified Impact Statements for that period).[5.1.46]
When an activity exceeds verification timelines, particularly beyond the five-year certification cycle without Design Certification Renewal, two consequences follow:

- **Suspension of Certification and Issuance:** The project loses its Gold Standard Certified Project status and cannot issue Certified Products or Impact Statements due to unmet verification conditions.
- **Requirement for Re-Validation and Baseline Update:** Since Design Certification Renewal with baseline re-evaluation is mandatory every five years, a project with significant verification lapses must undergo a new **Preliminary Review** and full **Validation**, including a current **re-evaluation of the baseline scenario** per latest requirements.

For delays in crediting period start dates, Gold Standard treats these as **changes to the start date of the crediting period** under **design changes**. According to the "Design Change Requirements" document [Table 1, page 6]:

- Requirements vary based on **how much earlier or later** the revised start date is compared to the original date in the Project Design Document (PDD).
- **No approval needed:** For start dates up to 1 year earlier than originally planned
- **Minor delays (1-2 years):** Requires demonstration of baseline conservativeness or baseline updates
- **Moderate delays (2-4 years):** For all countries, requires:
    - Proof of continued additionality
    - Baseline validation/updates with current data
    - Updated methodology default values
- **Major delays (>4 years):** Not permitted for most countries (except LDC, LLDC, SIDC)

The VVB must verify that any proposed crediting period start date change **complies with the Design Change Requirements**.
In summary, crediting period delays can be addressed through start date change requests. Requirements vary by delay length and project type. **Major delays or retroactive changes beyond limits require substantial justification including revalidation of baseline or may be prohibited**. A VVB must assess all design changes.

Reference documents-

- Principles and Requirements
- GHG Emissions Reduction & Sequestration Product Requirements
- Procedure for development, revision and clarification of methodologies and methodological tools
- Validation and verification body requirements
- Validation and verification Standard
- Site Visit and Remote Audit Requirements
- Design Change Requirements

B. Any planned/forthcoming changes, including their expected timelines (*if none, "N/A"*):

Gold Standard is updating its methodology and additionality requirements in accordance with the "Procedure for development, revision and clarification of methodologies and methodological tools" document published in 2023, which requires methodology developers including Gold Standard to follow **Chapter V B - Methodologies,**

Paragraphs 33-39 of the Annex of the Article 6, Paragraph 4 of the Paris Agreement.
Two standards to provide further requirements in line with above have completed for public consultation and will be published for implementation in Q2 2025:

- Requirements For Methodology Development (applicable to both new and current methodologies - para 3.2.1) published for consultation in Oct 2024
- Standard Additionality Demonstration published for consultation in Oct 2024

These requirements are designed to ensure alignment of Gold Standard approved methodologies, including CDM where needed, with Article 6 principles based requirements as outlined in requirements for methodology development.
With CDM methodologies and tools expiring on December 31, 2025, all projects must transition to Article 6-aligned methodologies. Gold Standard will update and publish methodologies and relevant rules in accordance with these new standards. The organisation is following the A6.4 rules and methodology development to ensure all projects fully align with Article 6 principles and requirements. Gold Standard will provide provisions, guidelines, and requirements for transitioning projects to new methodologies as revisions are introduced, ensuring that post-2025 period issuance aligns with Article 6 requirements as outlined in the Requirements For Methodology Development. While these changes will affect various regulatory requirements to ensure consistency and coherence, the fundamental requirements for validation, verification, and robust quantification, monitoring, reporting and verification of outcomes as explained above are likely to be unchanged.

Criterion: Validation and verification procedures

Q2. Does the Programme have in place requirements and procedures for… (*Paragraph 2.6*)	
a) …the accreditation of validators?	☒ YES
b) …the accreditation of verifiers?	☒ YES
c) Are these standards, procedures and requirements publicly disclosed?	☒ YES

Provide evidence of the standards, requirements, and procedures referred to in a) and b), including their availability to the public:

A. Information reflecting the current state of the programme and its documentation (i.e., as of the time that this form was completed):
Gold Standard have in place **requirements and procedures for the accreditation of validators and verifiers**, and these are **publicly disclosed**.
The Validation and Verification Standard outlines the requirements and procedures for Gold Standard Validation and Verification Bodies (GS VVBs) to conduct validation and verification. Section 1.2.3, page 5 of this standard requires VVBs to **refer to the** Validation & Verification Body Requirements for understanding two key procedures:

- **Seeking approval/re-approval to become a GS-VVB and be eligible for performing validation and verification activities**. This approval process serves as the accreditation for validation and verification bodies under Gold Standard.
- **Maintaining eligibility as a GS-VVB to conduct validation and verification activities.**

The Validation & Verification Body Requirements document details these procedures comprehensively. Section

7, pages 11 -28 outlines the "**VVB ELIGIBILITY & APPROVAL REQUIREMENTS**", covering:

- General requirements
- Accreditation
- Human resources and competence
- Monitoring of performance and ensuring competence
- Safeguarding impartiality

Section 9, pages 44 and 45 of the Validation & Verification Body Requirements specifies the "**VVB APPROVAL PROCESS**", detailing initial approval, renewal procedures, and conditions for modification, suspension, or revocation of VVB status.

The Validation and Verification Standard, Validation & Verification Body Requirements**,** and other associated procedures are **publicly disclosed by Gold Standard** through their website (VVB documents – Gold Standard for the Global Goals). Section 11.1.1, page 51 of the Validation & Verification Body Requirements specifies "**Information to be made available in public domain**" that VVBs must publish on their websites throughout their approval term, reinforcing Gold Standard's commitment to transparency.

Reference -

The VVB requirements and supporting templates for applications are available on Gold Standard website (VVB documents – Gold Standard for the Global Goals).

More concretely, the VVB documents governing the compliance requirements for VVBs are:

Validation & Verification Body Requirements – Gold Standard for the Global Goals outlines the principles, rules, and criteria for VVBs seeking approval to conduct assessments, as well as the process for maintaining this approval. Mandatory supporting documents for VVBs are i. Form - Application Form for the approval of Validation/Verification Bodies (VVBs) –vers. 3.1, ii. Form - Auditor Competence & Technical Knowledge Version 1.0 iii. Form – VVB Quality Management System in-depth Review Checklist Version 1.0 available on the website (VVB documents – Gold Standard for the Global Goals)

Reference document:

- Validation and Verification standard – Gold Standard for the Global Goals offers a roadmap for efficient and consistent project assessments when validating and verifying standalone projects and Programmes of Activities (PoAs).
- Terms and Conditions for Validation and Verification Bodies is a mandatory legal agreement defining the relationship between Gold Standard and the VVBs.
- Site visit and remote audit requirements and procedures details the necessary protocols for conducting audits, whether through physical site visits, remote techniques, or a combination of both.

B. Any planned/forthcoming changes, including their expected timelines (*if none, "N/A"*):

N/A

Q3. Does the Programme have in place standards and procedures for… (*Paragraph 2.6*)	
a) …the validation of activities?	☒ YES
b) …the verification of emissions reductions and/or removals?	☒ YES
c) Are these standards, procedures and requirements publicly disclosed?	☒ YES

Provide evidence of the standards, requirements, and procedures referred to in a) and b), including their availability to the public:

A. Information reflecting the current state of the programme and its documentation (i.e., as of the time that this form was completed):

The Gold Standard Programme has in place **standards and procedures for both the validation of activities and the verification of emissions reductions and/or removals**, and these **are publicly disclosed**.

a. **Validation of activities:**
   The Gold Standard has a comprehensive "Validation and Verification standard ". This document outlines the **general validation requirements** in Section A, which are applicable to all GS4GG activities. Specific validation requirements are detailed for:
   - **Standalone Project Activities** in Section B, covering aspects such as project description, additionality, baseline scenario, monitoring plan, stakeholder consultation, and the validation decision and report.
   - **Programme of Activities (POAs) and Real Case Voluntary Project Activities (VPAs)** in Section C, with specific procedures for the validation of the POA itself, real case VPAs, and the compliance check for the inclusion of regular VPAs.

   The Validation & Verification Body Requirements also defines the "**VALIDATION AND VERIFICATION PROCESS AND REQUIREMENTS**" in section 8 (page 35). This section details aspects like contract review and the raising of Corrective Action Requests (CARs), Clarification Requests (CLs), and Forward Action Requests (FARs) during validation [Section 8, para 8.6.1.2 - 8.6.1.5, pages 38, 39].

b. **Verification of emissions reductions and/or removals:** The Validation and Verification standard also provides detailed **verification requirements** in Section A and Section B. Section 9, page 35 specifically focuses on the "**VERIFICATION OF IMPLEMENTATION AND MONITORING**" for standalone projects. This includes defining the objectives and approach of verification, means of verification (such as document review and on-site/remote inspections), verification of compliance with the monitoring plan, assessment of data and calculations, and the verification report.
   Section C of the Validation and Verification standard also provides specific verification requirements for **POAs and VPAs**, particularly in section 17, page 73 on the "VERIFICATION OF MONITORING REPORT OF INCLUDED VPAS".

c. **Public disclosure: The** two core documents, the Validation and Verification standard and the "**Validation & Verification Body Requirements**", and other associated **standards, procedures, and requirements are publicly disclosed by Gold Standard** through our website (VVB documents – Gold Standard for the Global Goals). The availability of these documents allows stakeholders and potential project developers to understand the validation and verification processes and the requirements for accredited bodies.

Reference documents–

- Validation and Verification standard and
- Validation & Verification Body Requirements .

B. Any planned/forthcoming changes, including their expected timelines (*if none, "N/A"*):

N/A

Q4. Are procedures in place to ensure…	
a) …that validation occurs prior to or in tandem with verification? (*Paragraph 3.3.2*)	☒ YES
b) …that validation assesses and publicly documents the likely mitigation results from proposed activities supported by the programme? (*Paragraph 3.3.2*)	☒ YES
c) …that the results of validation and verification are made publicly available? (*Paragraph 3.3*)	☒ YES

Summarize and provide evidence of the policies and procedures referred to in a) through c):

A. Information reflecting the current state of the programme and its documentation (i.e., as of the time that this form was completed):

In accordance with Principle 4, "Demonstration of real outcomes" [Page 14, Principles & requirements], Gold Standard has established comprehensive requirements and procedures. These focus on validation, assessment of potential mitigation results, and transparent public disclosure of validation and verification outcomes.

a. **Procedures to ensure validation occurs prior to or in tandem with verification:**

The Gold Standard project cycle [page 18, section 5, Principles & requirements] is structured to ensure that **validation of the project design precedes the verification of its implementation and outcomes**.

- Projects must first develop an upfront Project Design Document (PDD) incorporating a Monitoring & Reporting Plan.
- They then undergo **Design Certification**, which comprises **Validation** and Design Review. A Validation and Verification Body (VVB) is contracted to conduct a thorough and independent assessment of the proposed project against applicable Gold Standard requirements during validation.
- Following Design Certification, projects undertake monitoring in accordance with their Monitoring & Reporting Plan.
- Subsequently, projects undergo **Performance Certification**, which involves **verification** of the implemented project and its reported outcomes by a VVB.
- Successful conclusion of the project cycle, leading to the issuance of Certified Impact Statements, requires both Design Certification and Performance Certification to be approved.

This sequential process ensures that the project's design, including its intended outcomes and monitoring plan, is assessed and approved through validation before its actual implementation and the resulting impacts are verified. While initial performance certification might occur relatively soon after the project start date, the core validation of the project's design is a necessary precursor to the ongoing monitoring and verification activities throughout the project's certification period. Gold Standard requires that projects **LIST** by undertaking a Preliminary Review before moving to later stages, which include validation.

Furthermore:

- The "Validation & Verification Body Requirements" [Section 8, page 35] on "VALIDATION AND VERIFICATION PROCESS AND REQUIREMENTS" clearly states that validation and verification are distinct but related processes.
- The "Validation and Verification standard " contains separate sections for "VALIDATION FOR DESIGN CERTIFICATION" [Section 8, page 31] and "VERIFICATION OF IMPLEMENTATION AND MONITORING" [Section 9, page 35].

- The "Site-Visit and Remote Audit Requirements" describes in paragraph 3.2.3, page 7 a specific case where audits may be combined: "**the VVB may decide to combine the validation audit with the first verification audit if the project developer and VVB combine Design Certification with the first verification and Performance Review**". This exception demonstrates that while validation for Design Certification normally precedes verification of performance, these distinct activities may be combined for initial verification.
- According to the " Validation and Verification standard " (STEP 4), "**Certification is provided if: i. The VVB provides a Validation or Verification Report with positive decision**..."[Section 7.16.3 'a', page 30]. A positive validation report enables initial certification based on design, preparing the way for subsequent implementation verification.

While combined initial audits are possible in specific cases, the standard process ensures that **validation, focusing on the project's design, happens before or at the very start of the verification of its actual performance and emission reductions**.

b. Procedures to ensure validation assesses and publicly documents the likely mitigation results from proposed activities supported by the programme:
Validation is specifically designed to assess the proposed project's ability to achieve its intended climate security (mitigation or adaptation) and sustainable development impacts. This assessment and the expected outcomes are documented and made public in accordance with the Principles & requirements.

- During validation, the VVB assesses the claims and assumptions in the Design Documentation (DD), including the PDD. This involves evaluating the proposed methodologies for estimating emission reductions or net anthropogenic removals and the project's contribution to Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
- The VVB must include a statement in its **Validation Report on the likelihood of the proposed project achieving the anticipated emission reductions/GHG removals and SDG Impacts stated in the PDD**. [7.16.1, Validation and Verification Standard]
- The Validation Report documents the VVB's assessment process, findings, and any Corrective Action Requests (CARs), Clarification Requests (CLs), and Forward Action Requests (FARs) addressed during validation. These typically address the credibility and accuracy of projected mitigation results. [7.6.16, Validation and Verification Standard]
- All **Project Documentation, including the PDD and the Validation Report (excluding confidential information), shall be made publicly available through the Gold Standard Impact Registry**. This ensures transparent documentation and public access to the likely mitigation results assessed during validation. [2.2.2, Principles and Requirements]

The "Validation and Verification standard " explicitly requires the assessment and documentation of expected mitigation outcomes during the validation phase.

- The "**Objectives of validation**" include conducting a thorough assessment of the proposed project against GS4GG requirements, which involves evaluating its potential to achieve credible emission reductions.
- Section 7.14, page 27, "**Estimation of emissions reductions or net anthropogenic removals**", mandates that the VVB determine whether the methodology for ex-ante calculations of emission reductions aligns with the applied methodologies.

- The "**Validation decision**" [Section 7.16.1, page 29] must include "**a statement on the likelihood of the proposed project achieving the anticipated emission reductions/GHG removals... stated in the PDD**".
- The "**Validation Report**" [Section 7.16.6b, page 30] must include "**results of the dialogue between the VVB and the Project Developer(s) and discussions on and revisions to the project documentation**". This dialogue and documentation covers the estimated mitigation results and their assessment.

c. Procedures to ensure that the results of validation and verification are made publicly available:
Transparency is a fundamental principle of the Gold Standard, with clear procedures ensuring public access to both validation and verification results.
According to paragraph [Page 7, 5.1.1.,c] of the "**Validation & Verification Body Requirements**": "**The project shall transparently document and provide certification related information to enable reproducibility and traceability. Approved Project documents shall be made public on the Impact Registry unless pre-agreed as confidential...**". The Validation Report, as a key approved project document that details the validation process and findings, is **made publicly available on the Impact Registry unless specific confidentiality agreements exist**.
    - The **Validation Report**, containing detailed findings and conclusions from the validation process, is required for Design Certification.
    - A **Verification and Certification Report** is then prepared after verifying the project's implementation and monitored outcomes.
    - The VVB must **upload the final Validation or Verification Report to the Gold Standard Registry**.
    - **All Project Documentation, including the Validation Report and the Verification and Certification Report (except for pre-agreed confidential information), shall be made publicly available through the Impact Registry [page 25, para 5.1.24.a,** Principles & requirements]. This transparency ensures that stakeholders and the public can access both the initial assessment (validation) and subsequent performance reviews (verification). The complete list of published documentation is available in the Principles & Requirements.

Reference documents–

- Principles & requirements
- Validation and Verification standard
- Validation & Verification Body Requirements
- Site-Visit and Remote Audit Requirements

B. Any planned/forthcoming changes, including their expected timelines (*if none, "N/A"*):
N/A

Q5. Does the Programme have procedures in place to…	
a) …to ensure that *ex-post* verification of mitigation is required in advance of issuance of emissions units? *(Paragraph 3.3)*	☒ YES
b) …or, to transparently identify units that are issued *ex ante* and thus ineligible for use in the CORSIA? *(Paragraph 3.3.5)*	☒ YES

Summarize and provide evidence of the policies and procedures referred to in a) and b):

A. Information reflecting the current state of the programme and its documentation (i.e., as of the time that this form was completed):

a. Regarding whether the Programme has procedures in place to ensure that **ex-post verification of mitigation is required in advance of issuance of emissions units**:
    - The Gold Standard's core document, "Principles & requirements", states that Certified Impact Statements and/or Products are issued only after successful verification of procedures and requirements [Page, 5, para 2.2.1]. This confirms that ex-post verification is a prerequisite for issuance.
    - The "Validation and Verification standard " reinforces this in Section 9 [page 35], which defines verification as an independent assessment of **reported emission reductions** and monitored information. Gold Standard Verified Emission Reductions (GSVERs) are issued only after completing this verification process.
    - For Land Use & Forestry (LUF) projects, the "GHG Emissions Reductions & Sequestration" document in Annex C – LAND-USE & FORESTS ISSUANCE GUIDELINES outlines **Planned Emissions Reductions (PERs) [Page 15, Section 11.2]**. These can be issued after Design Certification or Performance Certification, and are **based on expected future emissions reductions (ex-ante) [Page 16, para 11.2.3.c]**.
    - Importantly, these PERs are **converted into GSVERs only after the effective emission reductions are verified (ex-post)**. This conversion process, detailed in Annex C of the "GHG Emissions Reductions & Sequestration" document, ensures that actual reductions are verified before final GSVER issuance **[Page 16, para 11.2.3.f]**.

b. Regarding whether the Programme has procedures to transparently identify units that are issued ex ante and thus ineligible for use in the CORSIA:
    - The Gold Standard framework clearly distinguishes between **PERs (issued ex-ante)** and **GSVERs (issued ex-post)**, particularly for LUF projects. This distinction is documented in Annex C – LAND-USE & FORESTS ISSUANCE GUIDELINES of the "GHG Emissions Reductions & Sequestration" document [Page, 42].
    - This document specifies that PERs are issued pro-rata annually for up to five years for land use project and up to 3 years for AGR. The Impact Registry maintains these PERs separately from GSVERs, as outlined in the Claims Guidelines **[Page 14, Section 5.3]**.
    - Gold Standard has explicitly requested that ex-ante issued PERs be excluded from CORSIA eligibility, as these represent **planned reductions not yet verified in previous assessment**.
    - The **transparent distinction** between PERs (ex-ante, subject to future verification) and GSVERs (ex-post, verified reductions) in the Gold Standard Impact Registry clearly identifies the nature of issued units and their CORSIA eligibility.

In summary:

- The Gold Standard requires **ex-post verification** before issuing Certified Impact Statements and GSVERs.
- For LUF projects, while **PERs are issued ex-ante**, they **only become GSVERs after ex-post verification**.
- The system clearly labels PERs as CORSIA-ineligible, distinguishing these **planned, unverified reductions** from **ex-post verified GSVERs required for CORSIA eligibility**. The **transparent reporting of PERs versus**

GSVERs in the Impact Registry enables clear identification.

Reference documents–

- Principles & requirements
- Validation and Verification standard
- GHG Emissions Reductions & Sequestration
- Claims Guidelines

B. Any planned/forthcoming changes, including their expected timelines (*if none, "N/A"*):

N/A

Criterion: Offset credit issuance and retirement procedures

Q6. Does the Programme have procedures in place defining how offset credits are… (*Paragraph 2.3*)	
a) …issued?	☒ YES
b) …retired / cancelled?	☒ YES
c) …subject to discounting (*if any*)?	☒ YES
d) Are these procedures publicly disclosed?	☒ YES

Summarize and provide evidence of the policies and procedures referred to in a) through d):

A. Information reflecting the current state of the programme and its documentation (i.e., as of the time that this form was completed):

a. **Issuance** of credits is covered in Section 10.3 of the "GHG Emissions Reductions & Sequestration" document, *Issuance of GSVERs or GSCERs,* which states "Upon completion and approval of the Performance Review the Gold Standard shall certify the entire amount of emission reductions specified in the monitoring report and achieved by the Project" and Sections 7.3 and 7.4 of the Registry App Terms of Use states "Units will be listed with a unique serial number in the Gold Standard Impact Registry recorded against the Project listing in the account holder's account" and that the account holder must have "paid any applicable fees". The fees are listed in the fee schedule.
b. The **retirement** of credits is covered in Section 4.4 of the Gold Standard Impact Registry User Guide and the guidance for labelling credits in the Gold Standard Impact Registry. Retirements are also covered by Section 9 of the Registry Terms of Use.
c. While Gold Standard does not employ formal procedures for direct unit discounting, the standard always applies conservative approaches to the emission reductions certified. These are generally captured within the methodologies.
d. These procedures are all publicly disclosed in the standard documents listed with above reply.

Reference documents–

- GHG Emissions Reductions & Sequestration
- Registry Terms of Use
- Fee schedule

- Registry User Guide
- Labelling of Credits and Projects on the Gold Standard Impact Registry

B. Any planned/forthcoming changes, including their expected timelines (*if none, "N/A"*):
Updates will be made to registry user guide and labelling guidance to better demonstrate the selection of *Use Cases* for the retirement of CORSIA eligible credits, indicating the Phase used: these are changes that have already been made in the registry software. This is expected by the published by end of Q2 2025.

Criteria: Identification and Tracking, Clear and transparent chain of custody

Q7. Does the programme utilize an electronic registry or registries? (*Paragraph 2.4.2*)	☒ YES

Provide web link(s) to the programme registry(ies) and indicate whether the registry is administered by the programme or outsourced to a third party (*Paragraph 2.4.2*):

A. Information reflecting the current state of the programme and its documentation (i.e., as of the time that this form was completed):
The Gold Standard Impact Registry is administered by the programme. It is located at this address: https://registry.goldstandard.org/. It is also accessible directly from the Gold Standard website.

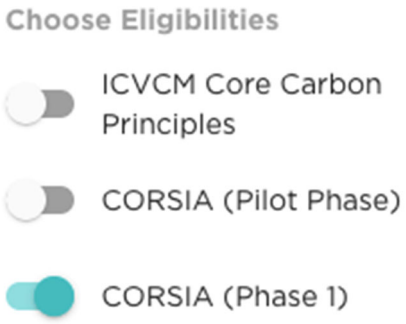
B. Any planned/forthcoming changes, including their expected timelines (*if none, "N/A"*):
N/A.

Q8. Does the programme have procedures in place to ensure that the programme registry or registries…	
a) …have the capability to transparently identify emissions units that are deemed ICAO-eligible, in all account types ? (*Paragraph 2.4.3*)	☒ YES
b) …clearly identify unit owners or holders? *(Paragraph 2.4 (d))*	☒ YES
c) …identify, and facilitate tracking and transfer of, unit ownership/holding from issuance to cancellation/retirement? (*Paragraphs 2.4 (a) and (d) and 2.4.4*)	☒ YES
d) …identify unit status, including retirement / cancellation, and issuance status? (*Paragraph 2.4.4*)	☒ YES
e) …assign unique serial numbers to issued units? (*Paragraphs 2.4 (b) and 2.4.5*)	☒ YES
f) …identify in serialization, or designate on a public platform, each unique unit's country and sector of origin, vintage, and original (and, if relevant, revised) project registration date? *(Paragraph 2.4.5)*	☒ YES

Summarize and provide evidence of the procedures referred to in a) through f):

A. Information reflecting the current state of the programme and its documentation (i.e., as of the time that this form was completed):

a. Any block of emission units that is deemed ICAO-eligible can be marked as such by a registry administrator:



b. Unit owners/holders are clearly identified. Gold Standard Impact Registry account holders must go through Know-Your-Customer (KYC) checks before opening an account. If an account holder wishes to hold credits on behalf of a third party, they must do so in a subaccount disclosing the third party. Section 7.10 of the Registry Terms of Use states that "The Account Holder shall not hold any accounts or Units on an omnibus basis on behalf of one or more third parties on the Gold Standard Impact Registry".
c. Upon the issuance of serialised emissions units, all activity of the unit is tracked in the registry. This maintains a record of any transfers between account holders / owners, or use (retirement) of the emissions units. Further information on the procedures for transfers of units can be found in Section 4.1, 4.2 and 4.3 of the registry user guide, and procedures for retirement can be seen in section 4.4.
d. The registry tracks the status of units, including *issued* and *retired/cancelled.* Issuance records can be viewed, and searched, on the public issuances page and retired credits can be viewed, and searched, on the public retirements page. It is possible to view additional details on each block of credits by clicking the 'View' button, which then allows the view of the history of split of the issued credit block.

SERIAL NUMBER	GS1-1-IN-GS11401-12-2020-26331-1-172599
STATUS	Issued
NUMBER OF CREDITS	172599
ISSUANCE DATE	Mar 07, 2024

ELIGIBILITIES

CORSIA (PILOT PHASE)	Yes

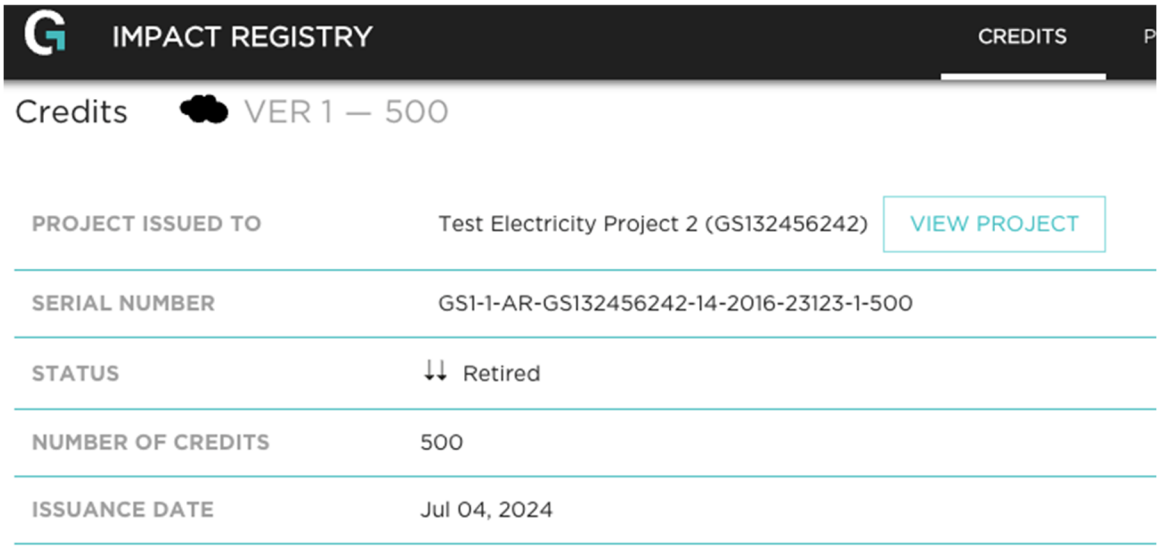
ATTRIBUTES

EMISSION REDUCTION	Yes

HISTORY

1 — 172599	Issued 172599 VERs to Bhesada Wind Power Project in Rajasthan
1 — 172599	Split 172599 VERs into two blocks
878 — 172599	171722 VERs
1 — 877	877 VERs
878 — 172599	Split 171722 VERs into two blocks
878 — 13245	12368 VERs
13246 — 172599	159354 VERs

The view button on the public retirements page has a similar view:

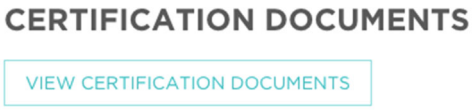


RETIREMENT DETAILS

RETIREMENT DATE	Jul 04, 2024 VIEW RETIREMENT
RETIREMENT NOTE	*Test Corsia*
USING ENTITY	Test Using Entity
USE CASE	CORSIA (Pilot Phase)

e. The Gold Standard Impact Registry assigns unique serial numbers to every emissions unit that is issued. Please see the supporting document "P2Q8 Gold Standard Serial Number Format" for more information.

f. As outlined in the supplied *Gold Standard Serial Number Format* document, each serial number identifies each unique unit's country, sector of origin and vintage. The project registration date (and revised date, if applicable) is designated and currently available in each project's public documentation, accessible via the Gold Standard Assurance Platform. The documentation is available via the direct link on each project's public page on the Impact Registry:



Evidence

- P2Q8 Gold Standard Serial Number Format

Reference documents

- Registry Terms of Use
- Registry user guide
- Issuance page
- Public retirements

B. Any planned/forthcoming changes, including their expected timelines (*if none, "N/A"*):

f) To make the project registration date / design certification date more accessible that accessing via the public documentation. The public view on the Registry, or linked area of the public view assurance platform, shall be updated to include a *Certification Milestones* section. This is expected by the end of Q4 2025.

Q9. Are provisions in place for registry account screening, including…	
a) …provisions ensuring the screening of requests for registry accounts? (*Paragraph 2.4.7*)	☒ YES
b) …provisions restricting the programme registry (or registries) accounts to registered businesses and individuals? (*Paragraph 2.4.7*)	☒ YES

Summarize and provide evidence of the registry security provisions referred to in a) and b):

A. Information reflecting the current state of the programme and its documentation (i.e., as of the time that this form was completed):

a. Gold Standard carries out Know Your Customer (KYC) and Anti-Money Laundering (AML) due diligence checks on account applicants. The required documentation to be supplied by applicants is detailed on the 'How do I open a Gold Standard registry account?' page of the Gold Standard FAQ pages.

b. Accounts on the Gold Standard Impact Registry are restricted to registered businesses. Individuals cannot hold registry accounts. Impact Registry Terms of Use for Account Holders

B. Any planned/forthcoming changes, including their expected timelines (*if none, "N/A"*):

N/A.

Q10. Does the programme have procedures in place…	
a) …to ensure that the registry is secure (i.e. that robust security provisions are in place)? (*Paragraph 2.4 (c)*)	☒ YES
b) …ensuring the periodic audit or evaluation of registry compliance with these security provisions? (*Paragraph 2.4.8*)	☒ YES

Summarize and provide evidence of the registry security provisions referred to in a) and b):

A. Information reflecting the current state of the programme and its documentation (i.e., as of the time that this form was completed):

Gold Standard has implemented robust security procedures to ensure the registry's security. This includes an audit trail, maintaining records detailing user access and system communications. All transactions within the registry are tracked for security and auditing purposes. Furthermore, the program enforces Multi-Factor Authentication (MFA) for all accounts with administrative access.

Please refer to the annexed letter from the CEO of Algorithmic Intelligence Pte Ltd. (P2Q9 Letter from Algo to Gold Standard – Confidential), our development partner responsible for the technological infrastructure maintenance, support and enhancement of the Gold Standard Impact Registry. This letter outlines the security policies and practices of the corporation, including the application of regular security audits with respect to the Gold Standard Impact Registry.

Also see a letter from the COO of Abilene Advisors (P2Q9 Letter from Abilene Advisors to Gold Standard – Confidential), contracted by Gold Standard to assist on matters related to information security. The letter includes reference to Gold Standard's intent to achieve compliance with ISO/IEC 27001:2022 and Abilene Advisors' commitment to support this.

Both documents are considered business-confidential and therefore should be treated accordingly.

Evidence

- P2Q9 Letter from Algo to Gold Standard – Confidential
- P2Q9 Letter from Abilene Advisors to Gold Standard – Confidential

B. Any planned/forthcoming changes, including their expected timelines (*if none, "N/A"*):

Gold Standard is planning to launch a tendering process for the enhancement of the Gold Standard Impact Registry in Q2 2025, with the aim of rolling out upgraded registry infrastructure compliant with the ISO/IEC 27001 certification. Any changes to current registry security procedures would be summitted to ICAO via a material change notification.

Q11. If the programme registry has the capability to directly transfer units to/from any other registries or equivalent tracking systems that are not operated by the programme, list any/all other registries to which the programme's

registry(ies) are linked and indicate where these linkages are publicly disclosed: (*Paragraph 2.4 (e)*)

A. Information reflecting the current state of the programme and its documentation (i.e., as of the time that this form was completed):
N/A.

B. Any planned/forthcoming changes, including their expected timelines (*if none, "N/A"*):
Gold Standard is exploring rule updates that would allow, in certain cases and with Gold Standard's express consent, for the transfer of GS-VERs to registries administered by national authorities engaged in cooperative approaches under Article 6. If taken forward, this is likely to be implemented in the first half of 2025, and Gold Standard would submit a material change notification to ICAO.

Q12. In respect of any registry linkages identified under **Q11** above, list any/all data exchange standards or systems to which the programme's registry(ies) conform and indicate where this information is publicly disclosed: (*Paragraph 2.4 (f)*)

A. Information reflecting the current state of the programme and its documentation (i.e., as of the time that this form was completed):
N/A.

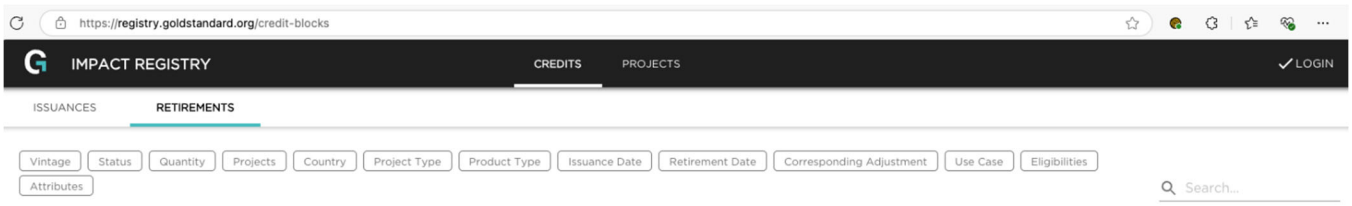
B. Any planned/forthcoming changes, including their expected timelines (*if none, "N/A"*):
N/A.

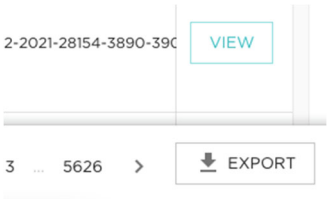
Q13. Does the programme Registry publicly display information… (*Paragraph 2.3.1*)	
a) …on each batch of cancelled units?	☒ YES
b) …in a machine-readable format (*e.g.*, XLS, CSV) that is searchable and downloadable?	☒ YES
c) …at no cost?	☒ YES
d) …with no login credentials required?	☒ YES

Provide evidence of the registry features referred to in a) through d):

A. Information reflecting the current state of the programme and its documentation (i.e., as of the time that this form was completed):

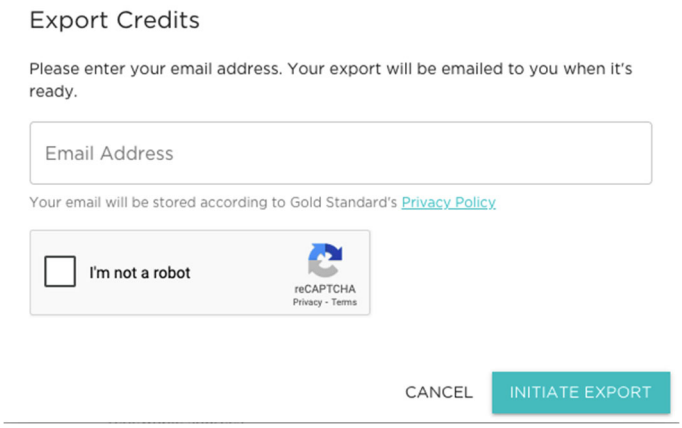
a. Every batch of retired/cancelled units is visible on the public retirements page of the Gold Standard Impact Registry.
b. The page has a range of filters, and search functionality, to enable the identification of retired/cancelled emission units. It is possible to download the data, in .csv format, using the export functionality.





c. There is no cost associated with downloading the data.

d. It is not necessary to login to the Gold Standard Impact Registry to download the data. However, users are required to provide an email address to receive the delivery of the download by email. This helps protect the registry infrastructure from a denial of service (DoS) attack and allows the infrastructure to queue the download and delivery of data in times of high demand.



B. Any planned/forthcoming changes, including their expected timelines (*if none, "N/A"*):
N/A.

Q14. Does the machine-readable information on cancelled units contain discrete fields for each of the following, in respect of each batch of units (*please select*)? (*Paragraph 2.3.1*) ☒ Quantity of emission units cancelled ☒ Start of serial numbers ☒ End of serial numbers ☒ Date of cancellation ☐ Name of Programme *(if the Registry holds units from multiple Programmes)* ☒ Unit type ☒ Host country ☒ Methodology ☐ Start date of the activity's first crediting period ☒ Vintage year of the unit or batch of units ☒ CORSIA compliance period(s) for which each batch of units is eligible ☐ Unique identifier of the registry account where the batch was cancelled ☒ Beneficiary in whose name the unit was cancelled	☒ YES

☐ Unique identifier of the registry account from which the cancellation was initiated *(if applicable)*	

Provide evidence of the registry features referred to above:

A. Information reflecting the current state of the programme and its documentation (i.e., as of the time that this form was completed):

Please see the supplied file "P2Q14 Example GSF Registry Retired Credits Export.csv" for a sample report showing the information currently included in the registry export showing retired/cancelled units.

B. Any planned/forthcoming changes, including their expected timelines (*if none, "N/A"*):

The start date of the activity's first crediting period will be added to the project export. This should be completed by end of Q4 2025.

PART 3: *Methods and assumptions*: Additionality; Realistic and credible baselines; Clear Methodologies, Protocols, and Development Process; Scope Considerations; Quantification and MRV; Offset Credit Issuance and Retirement Procedures

Criterion: Clear methodologies and protocols, and their development process

Q1. Provide *evidence*[12] that the programme's qualification and quantification methodologies and protocols are *in place* and *available for use* (*i.e.*, finalized and not in "draft" form), including where the programme's existing methodologies and protocols are publicly disclosed. (*Paragraph 2.1*)

A. Information reflecting the current state of the programme and its documentation (i.e., as of the time that this form was completed):

The Gold Standard programme features a transparent and detailed methodology approval process, maintains established qualification and quantification methodologies and protocols that are publicly available, and clear requirements for methodology application;

- **Gold Standard approved methodologies are a basis for project eligibility and impact quantification [4.1.2.c,** Principles & requirements**]**. A list of approved methodologies available for applications are included in Programme_Application_Form_Appendix_B_Programme_Assessment_Scope_2025. To qualify for Gold Standard Certification, projects must apply GS approved quantification methodologies, which are **published on the Gold Standard website**. As per the paragraph 4.1.32 of Procedure for development, revision, and clarification of methodologies and methodological tools , all approved methodologies need to be published on Gold Standard website. These methodologies include both Gold Standard-designed methodology for different eligible sectors and approved CDM methodologies with additional applicability conditions, where needed. All methodologies are available on the SDG Impact Quantification Methodologies page and are ready for implementation.
- **Approved methodologies are published on the Gold Standard website**. According to the "Methodology - Procedure" document, the Secretariat publishes newly approved methodologies and methodological tools on the website, which become effective immediately upon publication. Before approval, new methodologies undergo a comprehensive review process including concept note review, draft development, completeness checks, expert reviews, a 30-day public stakeholder consultation, and final approval by the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC). This thorough process ensures methodologies are fully developed before implementation. Explained further under next question.
- The "GHG Emissions Reductions & Sequestration" document requires the application of the latest version of **approved Methodologies**, including eligible CDM Methodologies [Para 8.2.1, page 8] at the time 1st submission or renewal of CP.

Key references-

- Principles & requirements
- Procedure for development, revision, and clarification of methodologies and methodological tools
- SDG Impact Quantification Methodologies webpage

[12] For this and subsequent "evidence" requests, evidence should be provided in the text box (*e.g.*, web links to documentation), and/or in attachments, as recommended in "SECTION II: INSTRUCTIONS—*Form Completion*".

- GHG Emissions Reductions & Sequestration

B. Any planned/forthcoming changes, including their expected timelines (*if none, "N/A"*):

N/A

Q2. Summarize the programme's process for developing further methodologies and protocols, including the timing and process for revision of existing methodologies, and indicate where this process is publicly disclosed. (*Paragraph 2.1*)

A. Information reflecting the current state of the programme and its documentation (i.e., as of the time that this form was completed):

METHODOLOGY PROCEDURE describes the process for reviewing, approving new methodology & methodology tool, revisions and updates to an approved methodology and methodology tool and addressing clarifications on approved methodology and tools, followed under the GS4GG.

The Gold Standard methodology review and approval process involves Six steps: **1. Submitting a concept note; 2. Methodology draft preparation, 3. Methodology review by Secretariat and working group, 4. Stakeholder consultation, 5. Final recommendation for TAC consideration, 6. Consideration by TAC.** [METHODOLOGY PROCEDURE, Fig1 page 2, 4.1, 5.1].

For **new methodologies**, a methodology developer submits a concept note [4.1.4, 4.1.6] that is checked for completeness by the Secretariat [4.1.9] and may be reviewed by the Methodology Working Group and/or TAC [4.1.9]. Upon approval, a draft methodology and a model Project Design Document (PDD) may be required [4.1.11 -4.1.17]. The draft methodology undergoes a completeness check [4.1.19] and is reviewed by up to two independent subject matter experts and one reviewer from the relevant Methodology Working Group and/or TAC [4.1.23]. A **30-day public stakeholder consultation** is conducted after TAC approval and/or working group recommendation , and comments are addressed [4.1.25-26]. The relevant working group finalises a recommendation [4.1.29] and the **TAC makes the final decision** on approval or rejection. Approved methodologies are published on the website within 30 days [4.1.32(e)]. The Secretariat maintains a **publicly available list** of all proposed new methodologies and their status on the Gold Standard website, along with a summary of the concept note[4.1.35]. It is available on GS website here https://globalgoals.goldstandard.org/in-development/

For the **revision of existing methodologies**, a concept note outlining the proposed changes is submitted [5.1.5]. This is followed by a draft revised methodology. The review process varies slightly for major and minor revisions, with major revisions typically involving a **30-day public stakeholder consultation [5.1.19]**, while minor revisions may not. The Secretariat conducts a completeness check and manages the review process involving experts and the working group/TAC. The **TAC ultimately approves or rejects** the proposed revisions [5.1.21].

The methodology updates are conducted periodic (at least every three to five years) and ad hoc revisions, which may involve stakeholder consultation, with the TAC making the final decision [section 5.2]. Editorial revisions can be proposed by the Secretariat and approved by the chair of the relevant working group.

The Gold Standard maintains **publicly available lists** of proposed new and revised methodologies (https://globalgoals.goldstandard.org/in-development/) and publishes approved methodologies and clarifications on its website (https://globalgoals.goldstandard.org/400-sdg-impact-quantification/).

Key reference:

- Procedure for development, revision, and clarification of methodologies and methodological tools

B. Any planned/forthcoming changes, including their expected timelines (*if none, "N/A"*):

N/A

Criterion: Scope considerations

Q3. What level of activities are allowed under the programme (e.g., project based, programme of activities, jurisdiction-scale)? Please indicate where the programme (a) defines and (b) publicly discloses the level(s) at which activities are allowed under the programme: (*Paragraph 2.2*)

A. Information reflecting the current state of the programme and its documentation (i.e., as of the time that this form was completed):

According to the Principles and Requirements, the program allows for activities at the **project level** and **Programmes of Activities (PoA) [para 1.1.1]** – where the term "Projects" refers to Projects, Programmes, or interventions unless explicitly stated otherwise [para 1.1.2].

The program **defines** activity levels in the publicly available "Principles & Requirements" document [para 1.2.1]. The Gold Standard certification cycle accommodates multi-phased programs with multiple interventions across sectors and extended implementation periods [para 4.1.55]. All Programmes of Activity must follow the Programme of Activity Requirements [para 4.1.56]. These requirements apply to Programs with multiple individual activities distributed across space and time. Voluntary project activities (VPAs) constitute a group of Projects submitted together for Gold Standard Design Certification within a Programme of Activities. For microscale projects, a VPA can only be included in a Microscale PoA.

Gold Standard does not certify "jurisdiction-scale" activities.

The program **publicly discloses** information about activity levels (projects and PoAs) and certified activities through the Gold Standard Impact Registry.

Reference documents

- Principles & Requirements
- Programme of Activity Requirements

B. Any planned/forthcoming changes, including their expected timelines (*if none, "N/A"*):

The Gold Standard is currently piloting the policy-based crediting approach, which launched in June 2024 for piloting. This certification cycle allows certification and crediting of mitigation outcomes that result directly from new action based on policies or regulations. After completing the pilot phase, Gold Standard plans to incorporate this approach into GS4GG. Once integrated, Gold Standard will submit a request to ICAO through the material change procedure for inclusion as an eligible scale in Q 1/2 2026.

Q4. Please indicate where the programme (a) defines, and (b) publicly discloses, the eligibility criteria for each type of offset activity (e.g., methodology applicability conditions; which sectors, project types, and geographic locations

are covered) (*Paragraph 2.2*)

A. Information reflecting the current state of the programme and its documentation (i.e., as of the time that this form was completed):

The Gold Standard programme defines and publicly discloses the eligibility criteria for each type of offset activity using a three-tier structure in the following ways:

a. **Definition of Eligibility Criteria:**

Principles & Requirements: The Principles & Requirements document sets out requirements applicable to all Project Developers and the Projects seeking Gold Standard Certification. Section 4 outlines the **Eligibility Principles**. This section details that eligible projects shall include physical action/implementation on the ground.

- Pre-identified eligible project types are referenced in the Eligibility Principles and Requirements section [3.1.1].
- For project types not automatically eligible, a Project Developer may submit to Gold Standard for approval, demonstrating how the Project would contribute to Gold Standard's Vision and Mission and meet the Gold Standard for the Global Goals Requirements [4.1.4].
- The Project shall define both the Baseline and Project Scenarios, which are used to identify potential SDG Impacts [4.1.14, 4.1.18]. The SDG Impacts must demonstrate a positive effect beyond what would reasonably be expected in the Baseline Scenario [4.1.15].

Location and Compliance: Eligible projects may be located in any part of the world but must be in compliance with applicable Host Country's legal, environmental, ecological and social regulations [3.1.1].

- Further application of other associated core documents, i.e., Stakeholder Consultation and Engagement Requirements, Safeguarding Principles & Requirements, Gender Equality Requirements & Guidelines and other requirements such as GHG Emissions Reductions & Sequestration Product Requirements involves assessment of eligibility on various aspects such as start date, period, risks and potential impact, and feedback from stakeholders.

- **Activity Requirements**: A project type automatically qualifies for Gold Standard Certification if it has approved Activity Requirements, Impact Quantification Methodologies, or if it is referenced in the Gold Standard Product Requirements [4.1.3, Principles & Requirements]. Activity Requirements specify high-eligibility criteria and requirements for different activity types, including technology specifications, additionality rules, crediting period eligibility, and other specific criteria applicable to the technology group. Currently, Gold Standard has four sets of activity requirements: Community Services Activity Requirements, Renewable Energy Activity Requirements, Land-use & Forests Activity Requirements, and Blue Carbon and Freshwater Wetlands Activity Requirements. These requirements are published on the Gold Standard website and must be followed when available for a given project type.
- **Methodology Requirements**: Methodologies outline specific applicability conditions for project types, scale, applicable geographic locations, etc. All approved methodologies are publicly available on SDG Impact Quantification Methodologies without restriction and can be used by any stakeholders. When validating a project, the VVB must determine whether the selected baseline and monitoring methodology(ies) and applicable activity requirements and other core documents are complied with [7.12.3, Validation and Verification Standard]. This includes assessing the project boundary and the

identification of the baseline scenario. The VVB also confirms that the proposed project meets the applicability conditions of the chosen methodology(ies) [7.12.5, Validation and Verification Standard].

b. Public Disclosure of Eligibility Criteria:

- **Gold Standard Website**: Gold Standard approved **Activity Requirements** and **Impact Quantification Methodologies**, which define the specific eligibility for different project types, are published on the Gold Standard website. Gold Standard may issue updates, changes, clarifications, or corrections to the Requirements, which are also published on the website. Project Developers are responsible for staying up to date by checking the rule updates section [1.2.3, Principles & Requirements].
- **Gold Standard Impact Registry**: All projects from Listed status onwards are recorded on the Gold Standard Impact Registry [2.2.1 Principles & Requirements] and are publicly and transparently available for review. This includes key project information [5.1.11 Principles & Requirements].

Reference document

- Principles & Requirements
- Stakeholder Consultation and Engagement Requirements,
- Safeguarding Principles & Requirements,
- Gender Equality Requirements & Guidelines
- Activity Requirements
- SDG Impact Quantification Methodologies
- Validation and Verification Standard
- Rule updates
- GHG Emissions Reductions & Sequestration Product Requirements

B. Any planned/forthcoming changes, including their expected timelines (*if none, "N/A"*):
Gold Standard is currently developing new Activity Requirements for Engineered Removal activities, which have been published for consultation, with the final version scheduled for Q2 2025. Additionally, the current Land Use activity requirements will be restructured to address specific needs for Agriculture and Forestry-based activities, resulting in two separate Activity Requirements. The new versions are to be published in Q2 2025.

Criterion: Offset credit issuance and retirement procedures (Continued)

Q5. Does the programme have in place procedures defining… (*Paragraph 2.3*)	
a) …the length of crediting period(s)?	☒ YES
b) …whether crediting periods are renewable?	☒ YES
c) Are these procedures publicly disclosed?	☒ YES

Provide evidence of the procedures referred to in a) and b), including their availability to the public:

A. Information reflecting the current state of the programme and its documentation (i.e., as of the time that this form was completed):
The Gold Standard program has clearly defined procedures for crediting period lengths and renewability, which are publicly available.

a. **Definition of Crediting Period Lengths and Renewability:**

- The Gold Standard for the Global Goals Project Certification operates on a **five-year renewable certification cycle [5.1.1,** Principles & Requirements] . When new projects achieve Gold Standard Certified Design status, they enter this cycle and must undergo Verification and Performance Review to maintain their certification status and obtain Gold Standard Certified Impact Statements and Products **[5.1.1,** Principles & Requirements] .
- Projects must undergo **Design Certification Renewal** at the five-year mark by updating their information and baseline, unless specified otherwise in Activity or Product requirements **[5.1.1(d),** Principles & Requirements]. This **five-year Design Certification Renewal cycle** is standard for all projects **[5.1.47,** Principles & Requirements] . Activity Requirements and Product Requirements determine the maximum number of allowed renewals for specific project types. If not specified, projects are limited to one renewal (maximum 10 years certification) [**5.1.1 (f),** Principles & Requirements] .
- The maximum Certification Renewals/Cycles (i.e., Crediting Period) as specified in the relevant Activity Requirements.
  Renewable Energy and Community Services projects have a maximum crediting period of 15 years (five years renewable twice). For Land Use and Forestry projects, afforestation/reforestation activities require 30-50 years, while agriculture projects have a fixed 10-year period unless otherwise specified. Blue Carbon and Freshwater Wetlands projects require 30-50 years for mangrove reforestation, while other activities' periods are defined by their impact quantification methodology. All crediting period procedures are publicly documented.

- **Transition projects [moving from other standards to Gold Standard]** retain their existing crediting cycle when transitioning to Gold Standard for Global Goals [5.1.49, Activity Requirements]. These projects follow the GS4GG certification cycle for renewals (e.g., 5 years) when issuing or converting emission reductions to GSVERs [6.5.1 under Annex B page 39, GHGs Emissions Reductions & Sequestration product requirements] . The first renewal under GS4GG accounts also accounts for previously issued crediting years [6.5.2 under Annex B page 39, GHGs Emissions Reductions & Sequestration product requirements].
  The **start date of the Crediting Period** for GSVER projects begins when the Project Developer first commits to implementation expenditures, excluding land purchase or options [4.1.39, Principles and requirements]. It can start either at the operation date (planting date for A/R Projects) or up to two years prior to Project Design Certification (three years for A/R & AGR), whichever comes later [10.2.1, page 13, GHGs Emissions Reductions & Sequestration product requirements].

b. **Public Disclosure of These Procedures:**
   All standard documents, including crediting period procedures and requirements, are publicly available. The **Project Design Document (PDD)**, which includes crediting period details and the Monitoring & Reporting Plan, is part of the Project Documentation.

Reference document

- Principles & Requirements
- Activity Requirements
- GHG Emissions Reductions & Sequestration Product Requirements

B. Any planned/forthcoming changes, including their expected timelines (*if none, "N/A"*):

With the proposed Requirements for Methodology Development – public consultation completed, the following changes to crediting periods are expected with the publication of the final draft in Q2 2025 [Para 5.12.1].

The methodology shall include provisions to ensure equitable sharing of mitigation benefits among participating parties, as outlined in Article 6.4 of the Paris Agreement (PA. para 33). This may be achieved through one or more of the following [Para 5.12.1]:

a. Setting **crediting periods shorter than the life time** of the technology implemented including any replacements undertaken during the crediting period, particularly when emission reductions from the technology are expected to continue beyond the crediting period;
b. Other approaches to fulfil the demonstration of equitable sharing of mitigation benefits;
c. mandatory provisions that ensure that the sharing of mitigation benefits between participating Parties tangibly supports the sustainable development objectives of host Parties, such as through the use of the GS4GG SDG Tool in the activity design and implementation
d. Mandating estimation of mitigation benefits for the host party.

Criterion: Carbon offset programmes must generate units that represent emissions reductions, avoidance, or removals that are additional

Q6. Does the Programme have procedures in place to ensure, and to support activities to analyze and demonstrate, legal or regulatory additionality[13]?	☒ YES

Summarize and provide evidence of the policies and procedures referred to above:

A. Information reflecting the current state of the programme and its documentation (i.e., as of the time that this form was completed):

According to para 4.1.47, Principles and Requirements, all projects must demonstrate additional impacts. This means that the impact of the project on climate security (mitigation or adaptation) and sustainable development must go beyond what would have occurred without the certified Gold Standard project. Thus, the benefits of the project must exceed those of a business-as-usual scenario.

To demonstrate financial additionality (para 4.1.48), Gold Standard projects must use either a UNFCCC or a Gold Standard-approved additionality tool. However, note that currently, there is no GS-approved additionality tool.

As per the UNFCCC additionality tool 1 & 2, compliance with this requirement is confirmed through the outcome of 4.2.2. Sub-step 1b: Consistency with mandatory laws and regulations.

Moreover, several CDM methodology requirements take into account the level of regulatory compliance, if applicable, in emission reduction calculations. For instance, ACM0022, applicability criterion 3(m).

Refer to para 4.5.1 for Programme of Activity requirements and procedures for applicable requirements.

[13] Legal or regulatory additionality means that the programme's carbon offsets represent greenhouse gas emissions reductions or carbon sequestration or removals that exceed any greenhouse gas reduction or removals required by law, regulation, or legally binding mandate

Combining the requirements mentioned in Para 4.1.47, UNFCCC additionality tool application, and application of methodology provisions allows identification of activities that are implemented due to legal requirements and are not considered eligible for GS4GG certification.

In addition, baseline scenario is required to consider the existing government policies and legal requirements as stated in paragraph 4.1.8.a of the GS4GG Principles and Requirements: "The Baseline Scenario is defined as the reasonable, conservative scenario that would exist in the absence of the project. When setting the Baseline Scenario, the Project Developer should consider the relevant applicable legislation and how effectively these are enforced."
GHG quantification methodologies under GS4GG have safeguards in place to ensure that the national, regional, and local regulatory requirements are determined and maintained while assessing the baseline and quantifying the emission reduction. A few examples are as follows:

- Paragraph 2.3.1 of Methodology for Emission Reductions from Safe Drinking Water Supply
- Paragraph 2.3.1 of Methodology For Animal Manure Management and Biogas Use For Thermal Energy Generation
- Paragraph 2.3.1 of Reduced Emissions from Cooking And Heating: Technologies and Practices to Displace Decentralized Thermal Energy Consumption (TPDDTEC).

Reference documents

- Principles and Requirements
- UNFCCC additionality tool
- Programme of Activity requirements and procedures

B. Any planned/forthcoming changes, including their expected timelines (*if none, "N/A"*):
The Gold Standard for Global Goals (GS4GG) is strengthening its procedures to analyze and demonstrate legal and regulatory additionality - to be published in Q2 - 2025. The Requirements for Additionality [public consultation completed] outlines these requirements in the section on **"Regulatory surplus analysis"[5.3.a]**
The methodology standard requires each methodology to include provisions for **regulatory surplus analysis [section 6.1]**. This analysis is implemented at the **mitigation activity level [5.3.1.a]**. The key procedures include:

- **Demonstrating that the mitigation activity type is not excluded by the host country** from its eligibility list (e.g., a negative list)
- **Demonstrating that the mitigation activity results in emission reductions or removals that would not occur due to existing legal requirements.** This involves verifying that legal requirements do not:
    - Directly mandate the implementation of the mitigation activity (e.g., a regulation requires landfill gas capture).[6.1.3.a]
    - Indirectly mandate the implementation by preventing alternative scenarios, including the baseline scenario (e.g., air pollution regulations for landfill sites that can only be met by capturing landfill gas). [[6.1.3.b]
    - Lead to the same amount of emission reductions or removals without the mitigation activity due to laws or regulations requiring specific quantitative targets (e.g., an emissions trading system that caps the emission sources reduced by the mitigation activity)[6.1.3.b] .

For **high-income countries**, all legal requirements are deemed to be enforced **[6.1.1]**. For other countries, legal

requirements are considered unenforced only if **non-enforcement is widespread and documented** through credible, authoritative, and up-to-date evidence relevant to the mitigation activity [6.1.2].
The analysis must be based on **authoritative, credible, and up-to-date evidence** and be thoroughly justified. The methodology must specify the **appropriate frequency for updating the analysis**:

- For analysis at the mitigation activity level, it shall be performed at each verification or at least at each renewal of the crediting period [6.1.4].
- For analysis at a standardised baseline level, the methodology shall specify a validity period not exceeding three years[6.15].

Through these specific requirements for regulatory surplus analysis, the GS4GG will ensure that methodologies have clear procedures for analyzing and demonstrating legal or regulatory additionality.

Q7. Identify one or more of the methods below for which the programme has procedures in place to ensure, and to support activities to analyze and demonstrate, that credited mitigation is additional; which can be applied at the project- and/or programme-level: (*Paragraphs 3.1, and 3.1.2 - 3.1.3*)

☒ Barrier analysis
☒ Common practice / market penetration analysis
☒ Investment, cost, or other financial analysis
☐ Performance standards / benchmarks

Summarize and provide evidence of the policies and procedures referred to above, including describing any/all additionality rules/policies as well as analyses and test types that are utilized under the programme:

A. Information reflecting the current state of the programme and its documentation (i.e., as of the time that this form was completed):

According to Principle 5: Financial Additionality & Ongoing Financial Need as contained in Principles & Requirements, all Projects must demonstrate impacts that are additional as compared to their baseline scenario. Gold Standard Projects shall use either a UNFCCC-approved or a Gold Standard-approved additionality tool to demonstrate project additionality. Small-scale Gold Standard Projects can use the latest version of the CDM "Methodological Tool - Demonstration of additionality of small-scale project activities" to demonstrate additionality. Currently, there is no tool is approved by GS to demonstrate additionality, some of the GS methodologies have special considerations and provisions. CDM Combined tool to identify the baseline scenario and demonstrate additionality is an approved tool that includes barrier analysis, investment analysis and common practice analysis as steps to demonstrate additionality.

Para 35 of the CDM tool – Tool for the demonstration and assessment of additionality requires the identification of financial indicators such as IRR, NPV, cost benefit ratio, or unit cost of service (e.g. levelized cost of electricity production in $/kWh or levelized cost of delivered heat in $/GJ) most suitable for the project type and decision-making context.

The Step 3a: Barrier analysis of CDM tool - Tool for the demonstration and assessment of additionality requires to identify barriers that would prevent the implementation of the proposed mitigation activity. Such realistic and credible barriers may include, among others:

(a) Investment barriers, other than the economic/financial barriers in Step 2 above, inter alia:

(b) Technological barriers, inter alia:

(i) Skilled and/or properly trained labour to operate and maintain the technology is not available in the relevant country/region, which leads to an unacceptably high risk of equipment disrepair and malfunctioning or other underperformance.

(ii) Lack of infrastructure for implementation and logistics for maintenance of the technology (e.g. natural gas cannot be used because of the lack of a gas transmission and distribution network);

(iii) Risk of technological failure: the process/technology failure risk in the local circumstances is significantly greater than for other technologies that provide services or outputs comparable to those of the proposed CDM project activity, as demonstrated by relevant scientific literature or technology manufacturer information;

(iv) The particular technology used in the proposed project activity is not available in the relevant region;

(c) Other barriers, preferably specified in the underlying methodology as examples

The approach using market penetration/common practice assessments to demonstrate additionality is available at specific project type. For example with the METHODOLOGY-Two and three wheeled personal transportation, activities that are type 7, 9, 10, 11 (i.e., introduction of e-bikes or e-scooters) and the market (penetration) of e-bikes or e-scooters in cars in use in the city is below or equal to 1.5% based on number of annual car trips undertaken in the city or based on stock of cars will be additional.

Para 6 of the CDM tool - Tool for the demonstration and assessment of additionality requires that in validating the application of this tool, VVB shall carefully assess and verify the reliability and creditability of all data, rationales, assumptions, justifications and documentation provided by project participants to support the demonstration of additionality. The elements checked during this assessment and the conclusions shall be documented transparently in the validation report.

B. Any planned/forthcoming changes, including their expected timelines (*if none, "N/A"*):
The Gold Standard for Global Goals (GS4GG) is enhancing its additionality analysis procedures, with publication planned for Q2 2025. The Requirements for Additionality (public consultation draft) outlines requirements for analyzing and demonstrating additionality in credited mitigation activities through four methods applicable at both project and program levels [Section 5.2]: barrier analysis, common practice analysis, financial viability analysis, and performance analysis [Section 5.3 & 6].

- **Barrier analysis** is primarily conducted at the methodology or standardized baseline level, with optional application at the mitigation activity level if recommended by the methodology. At the methodology level, provisions must show that barriers prevent eligible mitigation activities and that carbon credit revenue helps overcome these barriers. When applied at the activity level, the methodology must specify eligible barriers (institutional, informational, financial), require verifiable evidence, and demonstrate that at least one alternative faces no significant barriers. The methodology must show that barriers prevent implementation without carbon revenue, that no other incentives would independently

drive the activity, that carbon revenue is essential for overcoming barriers, and that alternatives face no significant barriers.

- **Common practice analysis** can occur at the methodology, mitigation activity, or standardized baseline level. The methodology must establish procedures to prove eligible activities are not common practice, including clear indicators based on adoption rates, defined geographical boundaries, and conservative thresholds. For activity-level analysis, the methodology must specify assessment boundary criteria, additionality thresholds, and required evidence.
- **Financial viability analysis** encompasses investment, cost, and other financial analyses at any level. The methodology must demonstrate that activities are not financially viable without carbon credit revenue, that this revenue significantly improves financial performance, and that it can make activities viable. Analysis types include simple cost analysis, benchmark analysis, and investment comparison analysis. The methodology specifies the appropriate type and requires justification. Activity-level analysis requires detailed procedures, consideration of all costs and revenues, transparent assumptions, consistency with decision-maker information, and sensitivity analysis. Benchmark analysis must align with capital costs and be conservative. Investment comparison analysis requires alternatives to provide similar products or services. The activity must demonstrate it's not financially attractive without carbon credits but becomes the best option with them. This is the default approach unless justified otherwise.
- **Performance analysis** can be conducted at any level to show that activities outperforming others in specific parameters (like emissions benchmarks) are unlikely to be implemented without carbon revenue. The methodology must specify assessment boundaries, additionality thresholds, and required evidence. It must define reliable indicators and thresholds for additionality and prove that external factors alone wouldn't lead to threshold exceedance.

GS4GG's overarching additionality rules require all projects to demonstrate additional impacts beyond their baseline scenario. Projects seeking finance or market product certification must prove both Financial Additionality and Ongoing Financial Need. Methodologies must specify additionality approaches showing that eligible activities wouldn't occur without carbon credit revenue. They must ensure conservative demonstrations and consider all relevant policies. Standardized baseline methodologies must specify which approaches, parameters, or conditions demonstrate additionality. Additionality includes exceeding legal requirements, avoiding emissions-intensive practice lock-in, and proving the activity wouldn't occur without GS4GG incentives.

- **Mandatory Ongoing Financial Need (OFN) assessment:** The reassessment of additionality within the Gold Standard (GS4GG) program centers on **Ongoing Financial Need (OFN)**, evaluated during crediting period renewal [7.1.1]. This reassessment verifies the continued need for carbon credit revenue and ongoing additionality through a regulatory surplus check and either financial viability, performance, or barrier analysis, matching the initial approach.

Q8. If the Programme provides for the use of non-traditional or new additionality analysis/tests (*i.e.* method(s) *not* listed in Q7 above and *not* a positive list per Q10 below), describe the alternative procedures and how they ensure that activities are additional: (*Paragraph 3.1*)

A. Information reflecting the current state of the programme and its documentation (i.e., as of the time that this form was completed):

Paragraph 4.1.48 (c) of Principles & Requirements provides for proposals to be made for new Gold Standard

additionality tools. Gold Standard reserves the right to require changes to proposed additionality tools, seek clarification, or reject proposed additionality tools if insufficient progress is made on requested changes. New approaches for additionality demonstration may also be submitted to Gold Standard for approval as part of a new SDG Impact Quantification Methodology. However currently no non-traditional method is approved or in use.

B. Any planned/forthcoming changes, including their expected timelines (*if none, "N/A"*):
N/A

Q9. For activities that use the additionality tests/analysis/methods listed in Q7 and/or Q8 above, is additionality and baseline-setting… (*Paragraph 3.1*)	
a) assessed by an accredited and independent third-party verification entity, including for activities that use non-traditional or new additionality tests/analysis/methods?	☒YES
b) reviewed by the programme?	☒ YES

Summarize and provide evidence of the policies and procedures referred to in a) and b), including their availability to the public:

A. Information reflecting the current state of the programme and its documentation (i.e., as of the time that this form was completed):
For activities that use additionality tests, analysis, or methods, additionality and baseline-setting undergo a two-step verification process:

a. **Additionality is assessed by an accredited and independent third-party verification entity (VVB):** To achieve Gold Standard Certified Project status, an accredited, approved third-party VVB must validate and verify the project and its Certified SDG Impacts [2.2.1, Validation and Verification Standard]. VVBs must maintain impartiality throughout this process [5.1, Validation and Verification Standard]. They must demonstrate expertise in additionality assessment and baseline establishment [7.6.3.1.a, Validation and Verification Standard]. Using local knowledge and sectoral and financial expertise, VVBs assess the reliability and credibility of all data, rationales, assumptions, justifications, and documentation provided by Project Developers to demonstrate additionality [7.4.2, Validation and Verification Standard]. When required by specific methodologies, VVBs also apply methodological tools and guidelines for demonstrating additionality [7.4.2-6, Validation and Verification Standard].

b. **The Gold Standard programme reviews the project, including the VVB's assessment of additionality and baseline-setting:** After the VVB review, Gold Standard conducts its own assessment, including an independent review by the Gold Standard Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) and NGO Supporters [2.2.1.c, Validation and Verification Standard]. The Gold Standard Secretariat reviews all documentation and may require corrections or improvements [5.1.g, Validation and Verification Standard]. The TAC oversees Gold Standard's certification decision-making process [1.1.1.3-1.1.14]. To ensure consistency and rigor, Gold Standard conducts expert peer reviews of validation and verification decisions [5.2.2.a, Validation and Verification standard]. During this review process, Gold Standard may raise non-conformities that must be addressed before certification can proceed [6.1.2. Step3, Validation and

Verification Standard].

Reference document

- Validation and Verification standard

B. Any planned/forthcoming changes, including their expected timelines (*if none, "N/A"*):
N/A

Q10. If the programme designates certain activities as automatically additional (e.g., through a "positive list" of eligible project types)(*Paragraph 3.1*):	
a) Are the criteria for such positive lists conservative?	☒ YES
b) Are these criteria publicly disclosed?	☒ YES
c) Does the Program provide clear evidence on how each activity included on a positive list was determined to be additional?	☒ YES

Summarize and provide evidence of the policies and procedures for determining the automatic additionality of activities, including a) the criteria used to determine additionality and how these are conservative, b) their availability to the public, and c) how item on the list was determined to be additional, in line with the criteria:

A. Information reflecting the current state of the programme and its documentation (i.e., as of the time that this form was completed):
Different Activity Requirements, depending on sectoral needs, provision the use of automatic additionality provisions such as a positive list. The criteria for such automatic eligibility are **publicly disclosed** via specific requirements. For example:

- Renewable Energy Activity Requirements - paragraph 4.5.2 allows Projects and VPAs, to refer to valid CDM Tool 32: Methodological tool: Positive list of technologies to demonstrate additionality. This is with the caveat that under no circumstances should deemed automatic additionality conditions imply an exemption from the Gold Standard eligibility criteria related to the technology types. Paragraph 4.5.4 of these activity requirements provide deemed additionality criteria for an eligible Microscale project.
- Community Services Activity Requirements - paragraph 4.1.9 provisions deemed additionality for positive list projects (Annex B of the said activity requirements), projects located in LDC, SIDS, LLDC and microscale projects.
- Land-use & Forests Activity Requirements – provide positive list as an option for eligible projects under paragraph 3.1.16(b).
- Blue Carbon and Freshwater Wetlands Activity Requirements - Paragraph 4.1.21 outlines that a micro-project or small-scale project located in least-developed countries (LDC) or Small Island Developing States (SIDS) are deemed additional.

B. Any planned/forthcoming changes, including their expected timelines (*if none, "N/A"*):
With the proposed update to Requirements for Methodology Development & Requirements for Additionality – PUBLIC CONSULTATION completed – public consultation draft, the changes to positive list are expected with the publication of the final draft in Q2 2025 [Para 5.12.1].

Criterion: Are based on a realistic and credible baseline

Q11. Are procedures in place…	
a) …to ensure that *methods of developing baselines*, including modelling, benchmarking or the use of historical data, use assumptions, methodologies, and values do not over-estimate mitigation from an activity? (*Paragraph 3.2.2*)	☒ YES
b) …requiring activities to ensure and demonstrate that emissions baselines are set in a conservative way and below business-as-usual emission projections? (*Paragraph 3.2.4*)	☐ YES
c) …requiring any non-traditional baselines (*e.g.*, sector-wide performance benchmarks or standards, which do not rely on business-as-usual analysis) to deliver and demonstrate equivalently conservative and below business-as-usual outcomes? (*Paragraph 3.2.4*)	☐ YES

Summarize and provide evidence of the policies and procedures referred to in (a) to (c) above:

A. Information reflecting the current state of the programme and its documentation (i.e., as of the time that this form was completed):

a. **Methods for Developing Conservative Baselines: Ensuring Accurate Mitigation Estimates through Modeling, Benchmarking, and Historical Data**
   - The Gold Standard methodology approval procedure emphasizes the principle of conservativeness [3.1.1., Procedure for Development, Revision, and Clarification of Methodologies and Methodological Tools]. This principle requires **conservative assumptions, values, and procedures to ensure that GHG emission reductions or removal enhancements are not overestimated** [3.1.1., Procedure for Development, Revision, and Clarification of Methodologies and Methodological Tools]. Methodologies must **define assumptions and specify quantification methods and monitoring requirements to ensure that GHG emission reductions and removals are not overestimated**, especially when using estimation methods [3.1.4., Procedure for Development, Revision, and Clarification of Methodologies and Methodological Tools]. Additionally, methodologies should **use conservative assumptions, values, and procedures** to prevent overestimation [3.2.1., Procedure for Development, Revision, and Clarification of Methodologies and Methodological Tools]. The Validation and Verification Body (VVB) evaluates the reasonableness of monitored data and parameter estimates during project validation [7.14.4., Procedure for Development, Revision, and Clarification of Methodologies and Methodological Tools]. The VVB also verifies that calculations will yield an accurate or **conservative estimate** of emission reductions [7.14. 4., Procedure for Development, Revision, and Clarification of Methodologies and Methodological Tools].

b. **Requirements for Conservative Baseline Setting Below Business-as-Usual Emissions**

   The Gold Standard requires the Baseline Scenario to be a **reasonable, conservative scenario that would exist in the absence of the project [4.1.8, Principles & Requirements]**. Project Developers must consider relevant legislation and its enforcement effectiveness when setting the baseline. The project documentation must include both Baseline and Project Scenarios **[4.1.8 - 4.1.9** Principles & Requirements**]**. For Small Scale Projects only, certain Impact Quantification methodologies permit accounting for a **Suppressed Demand scenario** in baseline establishment **[4.1.10** Principles &

Requirements]. The VVB validates that the baseline accurately represents the anthropogenic emissions that would occur without the project, and assesses its plausibility by examining the assumptions, calculations, and rationales in the Project Design Document (PDD) [Validation and Verification standard].

Setting baselines below business-as-usual emissions is a new requirement that has not been fully integrated into the methodologies yet. Please refer to the update section below for forthcoming updates.

c. **Requirements for Non-Traditional Baselines: Performance Benchmarks and Standards**

Non-traditional baselines such as sector-wide performance benchmarks to demonstrate equivalently conservative and below business-as-usual outcomes are not integrated into the methodology requirements. Please refer to the expected update section below for forthcoming updates.

B. Any planned/forthcoming changes, including their expected timelines (*if none, "N/A"*):

Gold Standard Requirements for Methodology Development [public consultation completed] - final version to be released in Q2 2025, does outline procedures pertaining to the setting of conservative and below business-as-usual emission baselines. Specifically:

Procedures requiring activities to ensure and demonstrate that emissions baselines are set in a conservative way and below business-as-usual emission projections are explained as follows [Section 5.5]

- **Ensuring Below Business-as-Usual Baseline Selection:** Section 5.5 explicitly states that the methodology shall require activities to **demonstrate that the baseline for emission reduction activities is below "business-as-usual" (BAU) levels**.
- **Ensuring Real, Transparent, Conservative, and Credible Emission Reductions:** Requirements mandate estimation methods that lead to reductions or removals that are **real, measurable, and conservative [5.3.3] along with** the **selection of a conservative emissions baseline when multiple data sources and parameters are available [5.5.1]**.

Procedures requiring any non-traditional baselines (e.g., sector-wide performance benchmarks or standards, which do not rely on business-as-usual analysis) to deliver and demonstrate equivalently conservative and below business-as-usual outcomes are also addressed as summarised below[**5.6]**.

- **Establishing Robust and Justified Baseline Setting:** Section 5.6 details various baseline-setting approaches beyond a direct BAU analysis. These include a **performance-based approach** considering best available technologies and **ambitious benchmarks** set at least at the average emission level of the best-performing comparable activities [5.6.2]. It also includes an approach based on existing actual or historical emissions, **adjusted downwards** .
- **Applying Standardized Baselines:** Section 5.16 discusses the development and application of **standardized baselines** . While the use of standardized baselines is generally optional, the Gold Standard may require their application in specific cases, such as addressing leakage [5.16.2]. The Gold Standard and host Parties determine the level of aggregation for these baselines, considering factors like similar output and performance differences [5.16.3].

In essence, the Gold Standard Methodology Standard mandates procedures to ensure baselines—whether traditional BAU-based or non-traditional like performance benchmarks or standardized baselines—are established conservatively and result in emission reductions below what would have occurred without the activity. Methodologies must justify their chosen baseline approach and adhere to the principles of

conservativeness and environmental integrity. The final version of the Requirements for Methodology Development will be published in the first half of Q2 2025. The Gold Standard will begin implementing new requirements upon publication of new requirement, with full implementation required by January 1, 2026. At this point, all activities must switch to methodologies that fully align with these requirements. To help a smooth transition of existing and future projects, the work on documentation is also undergoing and will be published along with the updates to the methodology. Refer to Section B7.of draft PDD template and instructions for example (Evidence P3 Q11 Form - Project design document standalone V2025 & P3 Q11 Instructions - Project design document standalone V2025).

Gold Standard is closely monitoring the development and transition of CDM methodology to the A6.4 mechanism to ensure that activities using CDM methodology (which expires December 31, 2025) can transition to A6.4 methodology. If there are delays in the A6.4 mechanism transition, Gold Standard will develop its own methodologies as needed to facilitate the transition of existing methodologies and tools.

Q12. Are procedures in place for activities to respond, as appropriate, to changing baseline conditions that were not expected at the time of registration? (*Paragraph 3.2.3*)	☒ YES

Summarize and provide evidence of the policies and procedures referred to above:

A. Information reflecting the current state of the programme and its documentation (i.e., as of the time that this form was completed):

To maintain Gold Standard Certified Project status beyond five years, a Project must undergo Design Certification Renewal.

- **Design Certification Renewal:** All projects must undergo a Design Certification Renewal every five years. This renewal requires reassessing the Baseline Scenario and evaluating how changes affect the Eligibility Principles, Criteria and requirements **[5.1.47,** Principles & requirements**]**. This process shall begin (defined by the submission of a Renewal opinion by a VVB for Design Review to Gold Standard) no later than the last date of current certification cycle. (**para 5.1.45,** Principles & requirements). All projects must undergo Design Certification Renewal by *updating information and the baseline*, unless otherwise stated in relevant Activity or Product requirements (para 5.1.1.d, Principles & requirements). The VVB must evaluate whether the original baseline remains valid by considering new national and sectoral policies and circumstances [**10.1.4,** Validation and Verification Standard]. They must also verify that approved methodologies are correctly applied to determine baseline validity [**10.1.4,** Validation and Verification Standard]. When ex-ante data and parameters used in the original baseline are no longer valid, project developers must update them appropriately [**10.1.4,** Validation and Verification Standard].
- **Monitoring Plan Updates:** Projects must maintain a Monitoring & Reporting Plan **[5.1.47,** Principles & requirements**]**. This plan may need modifications based on stakeholder feedback, methodology applicability, SDG Impact, safeguarding assessments, and other requirements. While these updates don't directly alter the baseline scenario, changing conditions may require adjustments to monitoring parameters that influence baseline assumptions.
- **Methodology requirements:** Some methodologies require ongoing monitoring of changes, with immediate baseline updates required when significant changes occur. The clean cookstove methodology exemplifies this requirement.

Reference documents

- Principles & requirements
- Validation and Verification Standard

B. Any planned/forthcoming changes, including their expected timelines (*if none, "N/A"*):

The Requirements for Methodology Development [public consultation completed] - final version to be released in Q2 2025, outlines procedures that require activities to respond to changing baseline conditions, particularly at the time of crediting period renewals. Here's a breakdown of the relevant information:

- **Crediting Period Renewal:** Factors or quantitative methods for downward adjustment shall be included in the activity design document and updated at each crediting period renewal [5.7.3]. This implies that changes in baseline conditions can be addressed and incorporated at these renewals.
- **Host Country Considerations:** Downward adjustments can also be in line with the host country's approach if they decide to apply more stringent factors or quantitative methods, while ensuring alignment with the Paris Agreement's long-term temperature goal [5.7.3]. This allows for consideration of evolving national circumstances that might affect baseline conditions.
- **Monitoring Plan Updates:** The methodology shall require activity developers to submit a monitoring plan upon activity registration, which shall be reviewed and updated at the start of each crediting period [5.8.5]. While this focuses on data collection and emission calculations, significant unexpected changes in baseline conditions could necessitate updates to the monitoring plan to ensure it remains relevant and accurate.
- **Standardized Baselines:** Standardized baselines have a default validity period and can be updated by host Parties upon expiration. While updates to standardized baselines would primarily affect new or renewed activities, they highlight the recognition that baseline conditions can change over time [5.16.4]. Registered activities using a previous version are generally not affected until the end of their current crediting period [5.16.4].

Q13. Are procedures in place to ensure the public disclosure of baselines and underlying assumptions? (*Paragraph 3.2*)	☒ YES

Summarize and provide evidence of the policies and procedures referred above.:

A. Information reflecting the current state of the programme and its documentation (i.e., as of the time that this form was completed):

Project design documents are made publicly available and include the information on the project as listed in the criteria.

As per paragraph 6.1.2 (b) of Principles & Requirements, "All Project Documentation, except confidential information, shall be made publicly available through the Impact Registry." Link

Each project's registry page has a section called "CERTIFICATION DOCUMENTS" which provides a link to the project documentation. Link

Furthermore, a rule clarification titled "Public Disclosure Requirements for Project Documentation" was issued regarding the above requirement on 16/08/21. Through this Rule Clarification, Gold Standard provides further guidance to SustainCERT, Validation/Verification Bodies (VVBs), project developers, and coordinating/managing entities (CMEs) on specific project information and documents (for each certification stage) that shall be made

publicly and transparently available. It also prescribes the approach for treating confidential information in project documents that are required to be made public. Link
Para 1.1.1, final versions of the following project-related information and documents shall be made publicly available on the Gold Standard Impact Registry:

- Stakeholder Consultation Report
- Safeguarding assessment
- **PDD/PoA-DD and VPA-DDs, Ex-ante emission reduction and other impacts spreadsheets**
- **Monitoring Reports, ex-post emission reduction and other impacts spreadsheets**
- IRR/financial analysis spreadsheet, where additionality is justified applying financial additionality
- Validation and Verification Reports, including for microscale projects/PoAs/VPAs that are audited
- Any other relevant project documents deemed necessary by VVB to ensure transparency.

Reference document

- Principles & Requirements
- Public Disclosure Requirements for Project Documentation

B. Any planned/forthcoming changes, including their expected timelines (*if none, "N/A"*):
N/A

Q14. Please provide any additional information on how the programme ensures that all offset credits are issued against realistic, defensible, and conservative baseline estimations of emissions, including how "conservativeness" and "below business-as-usual" are defined and ensured in practice.

A. Information reflecting the current state of the programme and its documentation (i.e., as of the time that this form was completed):
GS4GG employs a comprehensive framework across its various standards and procedures to ensure that offset credits are issued against **realistic, defensible, and conservative baseline estimations of emissions** [Validation and verification standard]. This framework relies on rigorous methodology requirements, independent validation and verification by approved bodies (VVBs), and a principle of conservativeness embedded throughout the project cycle [Validation and verification standard].

Role of Approved Methodologies:

- Projects seeking Gold Standard certification must apply **Gold Standard approved methodologies** [Validation and verification standard]. These methodologies provide specific guidance on establishing baseline scenarios and calculating emission reductions [Validation and Verification Standard].
- The **methodology development process itself incorporates the principle of conservativeness** [Procedure for development, revision, and clarification of methodologies and methodological tools]. Methodologies are designed to use conservative assumptions, values, and procedures to avoid overestimation of emission reductions or removal enhancements [Procedure for development, revision, and clarification of methodologies and methodological tools, 3.1].
- Methodologies must design applicability criteria that projects use to demonstrate compliance with the core principles of Gold Standard, including principles related to accurate GHG accounting [Procedure for development, revision, and clarification of methodologies and methodological tools, 3.2].

- VVBs validate the **applicability of the selected methodology** to the proposed project [Validation and Verification Standard, 7.12.1]. This includes verifying that the project meets all the conditions under which the methodology is designed to provide a conservative and realistic baseline [Validation and Verification Standard, 7.12.5].
- Methodologies may allow for the consideration of **Suppressed Demand** scenarios when establishing a baseline, but this is typically limited to Small Scale Projects [Principles-Requirements 4.1.10], and when applied, **'stacking' of Gold Standard Certified Impact Statements or Products may not be possible** [Principles & Requirements 4.1.10] as the baseline definition might be contradictory [Principles & Requirements 4.1.10].

Rigorous Validation Process:

- **Independent VVBs conduct a thorough assessment** of the proposed project, including the baseline scenario, against applicable Gold Standard requirements and procedures [Validation and Verification Standard, 4].
- VVBs determine whether the identified baseline scenario **reasonably represents the anthropogenic emissions** that would occur in the absence of the project [Validation and Verification Standard 7.13.1].
- VVBs assess the procedures used to identify the baseline scenario and **validate the assumptions, calculations, and rationales** presented in the Project Design Document (PDD) [Validation and Verification Standard 7.13.7]. This includes cross-checking information with credible sources [Validation and Verification Standard 7.13.2, 7.13.6].
- VVBs with relevant **competence, including knowledge of additionality assessment and baseline establishment** [Validation & Verification Body Requirements Annex B], are required to perform these assessments [Validation & Verification Body Requirements 7.5.1].
- The validation process involves a **review of the project documentation** [Validation and Verification Standard 6.3.2], including the baseline scenario [Validation and Verification Standard 7.13], and may include **on-site inspections and interviews with stakeholders** [Validation and Verification Standard 6.3.2, Site-Visit and Remote Audit Requirements].
- VVBs must **assess the reliability and credibility of all data, rationales, assumptions, justifications, and documentation** provided to support the baseline and additionality demonstration [Validation and Verification Standard 7.4.4, 7.13.7].
- Any issues identified by the VVB that require further elaboration or could lead to non-real, non-measurable, or non-additional emission reductions must be addressed through **Corrective Action Requests (CARs)** [Validation & Verification Body Requirements 21, 27, 28] before certification can proceed [Validation & Verification Body Requirements 21].

Conservative Estimation of Emission Reductions:

- VVBs verify that the description of how to calculate baseline, project, and leakage emissions aligns with the applied methodology [Validation and Verification Standard 7.14.1].
- VVBs ensure the **appropriate data and parameters are chosen and correctly applied** in the calculations [Validation and Verification Standard7.14.1, 7.14.2], leading to an accurate or conservative estimate of emission reductions [Validation and Verification Standard 7.14.1].
- For parameters fixed ex-ante, VVBs confirm that the data sources and assumptions result in a **conservative estimate** [Validation and Verification Standard 7.14.1].
- The principle of **conservativeness guides the choice between comparable alternatives** in baseline

setting and emission reduction calculations when completeness and accuracy are similar [Validation and Verification Standard 78].

- In situations where monitoring equipment calibration is delayed, VVBs may only conclude verification if a **conservative approach** is used [Validation and Verification Standard9.4.3], applying the maximum permissible error to underestimate reductions [Validation and Verification Standard 9.4.3].

Ongoing Verification and Performance Review:

- Following validation, **verification is conducted to confirm that the project has been implemented and monitored as described** [Validation and Verification Standard 9.1.1], and that the claimed emission reductions are real and have occurred [Validation and Verification Standard 9.1.1].
- VVBs assess the **quality of the evidence** presented in the monitoring report [Validation and Verification Standard 9.5] to support the claimed emission reductions against the established baseline [Validation and Verification Standard 9.2.2].
- VVBs review the data collection system [Principles & requirements 8, Validation and Verification Standard 9.4.4] and its compliance with the monitoring plan [Validation and Verification Standard 9.4.4] and the applied methodology [Validation and Verification Standard 9.4.4].
- Similar to validation, verification involves **document review** [Validation and Verification Standard 9.3.2] and may include **on-site or remote audits** [Validation and Verification Standard 9.3.2, Site-Visit and Remote Audit Requirements]. Remote audits must also ensure the integrity of the audit process [Site-Visit and Remote Audit Requirements 5].
- Any **material misstatements, omissions, or errors** identified during verification that could lead to an overestimation of emission reductions must be addressed [Site-Visit and Remote Audit Requirements 9.6, 9.7.3].

Methodology Revisions and Clarifications:

- Gold Standard has a procedure for **revising approved methodologies** [Procedure for development, revision, and clarification of methodologies and methodological tools 5]. Revisions may be necessary if new scientific evidence suggests over- or underestimation of emission reductions, or to address inconsistencies [Procedure for development, revision, and clarification of methodologies and methodological tools A.2.2].
- Stakeholders can submit suggestions for updates or changes to Gold Standard methodologies [Procedure for development, revision, and clarification of methodologies and methodological tools 5.1.4].
- **Clarifications can be sought** for approved methodologies or methodological tools [Procedure for development, revision, and clarification of methodologies and methodological tools 7] to ensure their correct application [Procedure for development, revision, and clarification of methodologies and methodological tools 7.1.1]. These clarifications can inform potential methodology revisions [Procedure for development, revision, and clarification of methodologies and methodological tools A.3.1].

In summary, the Gold Standard ensures realistic, defensible, and conservative baseline estimations through a combination of **rigorous, conservatively designed methodologies** [Procedure for development, revision, and clarification of methodologies and methodological tools 3.1], **independent validation by competent VVBs** [VVB-Requirements 7.6], and **ongoing verification of reported emission reductions** [Validation and Verification Standard 9]. The principle of **conservativeness is a guiding factor** [Validation and Verification Standard 3] in

methodology development and project assessment, aiming to prevent the over-issuance of offset credits. The involvement of VVBs, who must demonstrate impartiality [Validation & Verification Body Requirements 7.11, Validation and Verification Standard 3.1] and competence [Validation & Verification Body Requirements 7.6], further enhances the credibility and integrity of the baseline estimations.

B. Any planned/forthcoming changes, including their expected timelines (*if none, "N/A"*):
The Requirements for Methodology Development [public consultation completed final version to be released in Q2 2025 is likely to lead to the updates to methodology pertaining to the baseline setting thus conservative estimation of emission reductions.

Q15. Are procedures in place requiring that the renewal of a crediting period includes a re-evaluation of the baseline, procedures and assumptions for quantifying, monitoring, and verifying mitigation, including the baseline scenario? (*Paragraph 3.3.4*)	☒ YES

Summarize and provide evidence of the policies and procedures referred to above:

A. Information reflecting the current state of the programme and its documentation (i.e., as of the time that this form was completed):
The procedures for **renewal of a crediting period** include a **re-evaluation of the baseline, procedures and assumptions for quantifying, monitoring, and verifying mitigation, including the baseline scenario**. This requirement is outlined in the Gold Standard documentation.
Projects must undergo Design Certification Renewal, which involves updating information and the baseline, unless specified otherwise in the relevant Activity or Product requirements (para 5.1.1.d, Principles & requirements). All projects must continually demonstrate that their impacts are **additional as compared to their baseline scenario** [Principles & requirements 4.1.47]. The renewal process ensures ongoing compliance through baseline review.

The Design Certification Renewal process mirrors the steps of Validation and Design Review (Design Certification). According to para 5.1.47, Principles & requirements, the certification renewal assessment includes:

- (c) Re-definition of Baseline Scenario and any impact of change on the Eligibility Principles, Criteria, and Requirements
- (e) Demonstration of Ongoing Financial Need, where relevant

Projects must undergo Design Certification Renewal every five years. For specific project types, refer to P-4 demonstration of real outcomes in activity requirements.
The " Validation and Verification standard" (VVS) details these procedures. During renewal, the Validation and Verification Body (VVB) assesses the **continued validity of the baseline and the monitoring plan** [VVS 10.1], including whether the **baseline scenario remains valid** [VVS 10.1].
For cases where ex-ante baseline data and parameters are no longer valid, the VVB must verify that the Coordinating/Managing Entity has updated these according to requirements [VVS 18.2.2]. This applies during design certification renewal of regular Voluntary Project Activities (VPA) under a Programme of Activity (PoA).
In summary, based on the "Principles & Requirements" [Principles & Requirements 4.1.9, 4.1.47] and "Validation and Verification Standard" [VVS 10.1], crediting period renewal requires a comprehensive re-evaluation of the baseline, procedures, and assumptions for quantifying, monitoring, and verifying mitigation, including a reassessment of the baseline scenario's validity and its update when necessary.

B. Any planned/forthcoming changes, including their expected timelines (*if none, "N/A"*):
N/A

Q16. Do the procedures in Q15 above also apply to activities that wish to undergo verification but have not done so within the programme's allowable number of years between verification events?	☒ YES

Summarize and provide evidence of the policies and procedures referred to above, including identifying the allowable number of years between verification events:

A. Information reflecting the current state of the programme and its documentation (i.e., as of the time that this form was completed):

The procedures for crediting period renewal as outlined in Principles & Requirements is applicable to activities that wish to undergo verification but have not done the renewal on time within the programme's allowable number of years between verification events.

- The Gold Standard for the Global Goals Project Certification is based on a **five-year renewable certification cycle [para 5.1.1(d),** Principles & Requirements**]**. After attaining Gold Standard Certified Design status, projects enter this cycle, where they need to undergo Verification and Performance Review to achieve and maintain Gold Standard Certified Project status and issue certified products [5.1.1., Principles & Requirements]
- To retain Certified Design status at the end of each five-year period, projects **must undergo Design Certification Renewal [5.1.1,** Principles & Requirements**]** This process must begin no later than the last date of the current certification cycle [5.1.45, Principles & Requirements].
- **Delay in completing Design Certification Renewal (re-validation) beyond the last date of the current certification cycle shall result in a reduction of any issuance of Certified Products and/or Impact Statements available during the following certification cycle**. For example, a delay of one year means no certified impact statements can be issued for the period of delay [5.1.46, Principles & Requirements].
- Therefore, if a project has not undergone Design Certification Renewal on time (i.e., at the end of the five-year cycle), its **Certified Design status lapses**. While a project might still be within the period where a verification is due (at least once within five years), its ability to maintain its 'Certified Project' status and issue further Gold Standard Certified Impact Statements and Products after the initial five-year period is contingent upon a successful Design Certification Renewal[5.1.1.c]
- **Even if a verification is conducted after the five-year period without a timely renewal, the project will face restrictions on the issuance of certified products for the subsequent period of delay in renewal**.

In summary, while verification is a recurring requirement within a certification cycle, **a timely Design Certification Renewal is mandatory to maintain continuous certification status and the ability to issue Gold Standard certified products beyond the initial five-year period**. If a renewal is missed, even if verifications were conducted within the allowable frequency of the previous cycle, the project will need to undergo the Design Certification Renewal process to regain full certification status and the ability to issue credits in a new cycle, where the delay s**hall result in a reduction of any issuance of Certified Products and/or Impact Statements available during the following certification cycl**e.

B. Any planned/forthcoming changes, including their expected timelines (*if none, "N/A"*):
N/A

Q17. Please provide any additional information to demonstrate how the procedures described under **Questions 5 to 16 above** provide a reasonable assurance exceed any greenhouse gas reductions or removals that would otherwise occur: (*Paragraph 3.1*)

A. Information reflecting the current state of the programme and its documentation (i.e., as of the time that this form was completed):
The procedures described within the GS4GG standard document to provide reasonable assurance that a project's greenhouse gas (GHG) reductions or removals exceed what would otherwise occur through several key mechanisms:

- **Baseline Scenario Definition and Validation**: Projects are required to define both their Baseline Scenario (what would happen without the project) and their Project Scenario [4.1.1, principle and requirements]. The Validation and Verification Body (VVB) plays a crucial role in determining whether the identified baseline scenario reasonably represents the anthropogenic emissions by sources of GHGs / removals by sinks that would occur in the absence of the proposed project [7.13 & 12.12, VVS]. VVBs use their local and sectoral knowledge and may consider alternative scenarios to ensure the chosen baseline is the most plausible [7.13.3, VVS]. This process aims to establish a credible counterfactual against which the project's impact can be measured.
- **Financial Additionality Assessment**: For projects seeking the issuance of Gold Standard Certified Impact Statements or Products, **Financial Additionality must be demonstrated [4.1.46, Principle and requirements]**. This means proving that the project's climate security (mitigation or adaptation) and sustainable development impacts are beyond those that would have occurred without the certified Gold Standard project. VVBs assess whether the proposed project activity would be the most economically or financially attractive alternative or economically or financially feasible without the revenue from the sale of GS VERs [7.4.5, VVS]. They validate the parameters used in financial calculations and assess the suitability of any benchmarks applied. Furthermore, projects applying for Gold Standard certification need to demonstrate **Ongoing Financial Need** at certification [4.1.51, VVS].
- **Common Practice**: As part of the additionality assessment, the VVB confirms whether the proposed project activity is not common practice [7.4.6.d, VVS]. This helps ensure that the emission reductions are a direct result of the project intervention and not part of a wider trend.
- **Methodology Requirements**: Approved methodologies themselves often include specific requirements and approaches for demonstrating additionality [3.2.1, Methodology procedure].
- **Ongoing Assessment**: The requirement to **demonstrate that the project activity remains additional** prior to or at the time of the renewal, and to ensure the original baseline scenario remains valid, provides a continuous check on the additionality of the project. If changes to the project occur, their impact on additionality is also assessed. [5.1.47, Principle and requirements]
- **VVB Oversight and Corrective Actions**: VVBs are mandated to thoroughly review the contributions of a project, along with compliance with eligibility principles, including additionality. If the VVB identifies mistakes that will influence the ability of the proposed Gold Standard project activity to achieve real, measurable, verifiable, and additional GHG emission reductions. [7.4, VVS]

By requiring projects to define a credible baseline, demonstrate financial additionality and that they are not common practice, and by subjecting these aspects to rigorous validation and ongoing verification by independent VVBs, the Gold Standard procedures aim to provide reasonable assurance that the certified GHG reductions or removals are indeed additional and would not have occurred in the absence of the project.

B. Any planned/forthcoming changes, including their expected timelines (*if none, "N/A"*):

The Standard Additionality Demonstration [public consultation completed] - final version to be released in Q2 2025 introduces mandatory **reassessment of ongoing financial needs (OFN)** for the renewal of a mitigation activity's crediting period. This ensures the activity still requires **carbon credit revenue for financial viability and additionality**.

The methodology must specify the scope of reassessment, requiring demonstration of continued compliance with **regulatory surplus** (mandatory) and **one of the initially applied additionality approaches**: financial viability, performance, or barrier analysis.

OFN assessments typically occur **at least every 5 years**, with exceptions for longer-term projects. Specific requirements exist for each analysis type during reassessment, ensuring the continued need for carbon revenue or the ongoing validity of the initial additionality rationale.

Exceptions to OFN analysis include activities on valid global or national positive lists for financial additionality at the time of renewal. However, if an initially used positive list is no longer valid, a financial viability analysis might be required.

PART 4: Permanence and Leakage

Criterion: Permanence

Q1.a) List all emissions sectors (if possible, activity types) supported by the Programme that present a potential risk of reversal of emissions reductions, avoidance, or carbon sequestration:

A. Information reflecting the current state of the programme and its documentation (i.e., as of the time that this form was completed):

Removal activities under Land Use and Forests activities (e.g. afforestation and reforestation, soil organic carbon), Blue Carbon and Freshwater activities (e.g. mangroves) and Engineered activities (e.g. Biomass Fermentation with Carbon Capture and Geological Storage) are eligible under Gold Standard for Global Goals and present potential risk of reversal.

B. Any planned/forthcoming changes, including their expected timelines (*if none, "N/A"*):

Engineered Carbon Dioxide Removals Activity Requirements | GS and Activity requirements - agriculture | GS have completed public consultation and are due for publication in Q2 2025.

Q1.b) What is the minimum scale of reversal for which the Programme provisions or measures require a response? (Quantify if possible)

A. Information reflecting the current state of the programme and its documentation (i.e., as of the time that this form was completed):

The Programme provisions outlined in Performance Shortfall Guidelines, Requirements and Procedure require a response for a reversal when there is a **significant loss (more than 5%) of previously verified GSVERs** as a result of losses of carbon stocks in pools accounted for the project. This situation is defined as a "loss event" which leads to reversal. In the event of a reversal or performance shortfall (a situation where already promised emission removals i.e. Planned Emission Reductions or PERs could not be achieved), the Project Developer is required to notify the Gold Standard Secretariat no more than 30 calendar days after the discovery of the reversal event [para 4.2.1]. Both, reversal from a loss event or a performance shortfall need to be compensated. If the performance shortfall is identified during the certification process, immediate notification is required. The guidelines outline procedures to address performance shortfalls caused by force majeure or non-force majeure, which can lead to a reversal of GSVERs [Section 4.1]. A reversal/performance shortfall can also result from the discontinuation of the project. In all these scenarios, if a loss event (more than 5% loss of GSVERs) occurs, the Programme's measures and procedures are triggered.

Reference - Performance Shortfall Guidelines, Requirements and Procedure

B. Any planned/forthcoming changes, including their expected timelines (*if none, "N/A"*):

N/A

Q2. For sectors/activity types identified in question 1(a) above, are procedures and measures in place to require and support these activities to…	
a) undertake a risk assessment that accounts for, *inter alia*, any potential causes, relative scale,	☒ YES

and relative likelihood of reversals? (*Paragraph 3.5.2*)	
b) monitor identified risks of reversals? (*Paragraph 3.5.3*)	☒ YES
c) mitigate identified risks of reversals? (*Paragraph 3.5.3*)	☒ YES

Summarize and provide evidence of the policies and procedures referred to in a) through c):

A. Information reflecting the current state of the programme and its documentation (i.e., as of the time that this form was completed):

Risk assessment is covered by Land-use & Forests Risks & Capacities Guideline. The 'Risk & Capacities' guideline is used to assess performance risks related to the project's non-delivery or reversal of greenhouse gas benefits and other SDG Impacts. Mitigation measures are in place to monitor, mitigate, and compensate any material incidence of non-permanence through Performance Shortfall Guidelines and GHG Emissions Reductions & Sequestration Product Requirements . Project developer is responsible to compensate any shortfall and reversal (para 3.1.2, Performance Shortfall Guidelines). For procedure and options available for project developer, please refer to section 4.5 of Performance Shortfall Guidelines.

B. Any planned/forthcoming changes, including their expected timelines (*if none, "N/A"*):

Three relevant documents have completed public consultation and are due for publication in Q2 2025:

- Risks & Capacities for Agriculture & Forestry Activities | GS
- Risks and Capacities Guidelines for Blue Carbon and Freshwater Wetlands Activities | GS
- Tool 04: Reversal Risk Calculations for Geological Storage | GS

Q3. Are provisions in place that… (*Paragraph 3.5.5*)	
a) confer liability on the activity proponent to monitor, mitigate, and respond to reversals in a manner mandated in the programme procedures?	☒ YES
b) require activity proponents, upon being made aware of a material reversal event, to notify the programme within a specified number of days?	☒ YES

Summarize and provide evidence of the policies and procedures referred to in a) and b), including indicating the *number of days within which activity proponents must notify the programme of a material reversal event*:

A. Information reflecting the current state of the programme and its documentation (i.e., as of the time that this form was completed):

Performance Shortfall Guidelines, Requirements and Procedure, in paragraph 2.1.1.h defines a reversal event as a situation where net carbon stocks are negative as a result of a loss in carbon stocks. As per paragraph 4.2.1 of this document, all reversal events must be notified to the Gold Standard by PD within 30 days of detection or by VVB immediately upon discovery. Project developer is responsible to compensate any shortfall and reversal (para 3.1.2, Performance Shortfall Guidelines). For procedure and options available for project developer, please refer to section 4.5 of Performance Shortfall Guidelines.

B. Any planned/forthcoming changes, including their expected timelines (*if none, "N/A"*):

N/A

Q4. Are provisions in place that confer responsibility to the programme to, upon such notification, ensure and confirm that such reversals are fully compensated in a manner mandated in the programme procedures? (*Paragraph 3.5.5*)	☒ YES

Summarize and provide evidence of the policies and procedures referred to above:

A. Information reflecting the current state of the programme and its documentation (i.e., as of the time that this form was completed):

This is only possible as third and last option i.e., Compensate using an equivalent number of GS VERs available in the compliance buffer pool in force majeure cases that lost credits are compensated using an equivalent number of GS VERs available in the compliance buffer pool (Table 1 of Performance Shortfall Guidelines, Requirements and Procedure – Gold Standard for the Global Goals).

B. Any planned/forthcoming changes, including their expected timelines (*if none, "N/A"*):

N/A

Q5. Does the Programme have procedures in place which provide for reversal monitoring and compensation requirements to be applied by an activity that generates CORSIA-eligible units for … (*Paragraph 3.5.4*) [14]	
a) …at the very least, twenty (20) years from the start of their first crediting period, in the case of activities that started crediting before 1 January 2027?	☒ YES
b) …at least forty (40) years from the start of their first crediting period, for activities that start crediting after 31 December 2026?	☒ YES

Summarize and provide evidence of the policies and procedures referred to in a) and b):

A. Information reflecting the current state of the programme and its documentation (i.e., as of the time that this form was completed):

Reversal monitoring and compensation requirements are part of the GHG Emissions Reductions & Sequestration Product Requirements and Performance Shortfall Guidelines, Requirements and Procedure. These requirements remain in force for the extant crediting period which is between 20 and 50 years for afforestation and reforestation projects.

B. Any planned/forthcoming changes, including their expected timelines (*if none, "N/A"*):

N/A

Q6. Does the programme have the capability to ensure that any emissions units which compensate for the material reversal of mitigation issued as emissions units and used toward offsetting obligations under the CORSIA are fully eligible for use under the CORSIA?	☒ YES

[14] Procedures for jurisdiction-scale activities must alternatively ensure that the volume of emissions units contributed by a given activity to a reversal risk pool will, at a minimum, fully compensate for the activity's reversal risk for the same timeframe.

(*Paragraph 3.5.6*)	

Summarize and provide evidence of the policies and procedures referred to above:

A. Information reflecting the current state of the programme and its documentation (i.e., as of the time that this form was completed):

Each GS VERs are uniquely numbered and CORSIA eligible credits are labelled. As per GHG Emissions Reductions & Sequestration Product Requirements in cases where VERs have been labelled as eligible for use under CORSIA's first or later phases, VERs shall remain labelled as eligible for use under the relevant phase(s) of CORSIA. As per para 4.4.7 of Claims Guideline , where specific Products issued by Gold Standard are assigned or transferred and retired, any claims made by the Project Developer should be transparent that ownership has been assigned or transferred to another party.

B. Any planned/forthcoming changes, including their expected timelines (*if none, "N/A"*):

N/A

Q7. Would the programme be willing and able, upon request, to demonstrate that its permanence provisions can fully compensate for the reversal of mitigation issued as emissions units and used under the CORSIA? (*Paragraph 3.5.7*)	☒ YES

Summarize and provide evidence of the policies and procedures referred to above:

A. Information reflecting the current state of the programme and its documentation (i.e., as of the time that this form was completed):

Yes

B. Any planned/forthcoming changes, including their expected timelines (*if none, "N/A"*):

N/A

Q8. Please provide any additional information to demonstrate how the program's procedures ensure full compensation for material reversals of mitigation issued as emissions units and used toward offsetting obligations under the CORSIA:

A. Information reflecting the current state of the programme and its documentation (i.e., as of the time that this form was completed):

The Gold Standard programme has several procedures in place to ensure full compensation for material reversals of mitigation issued as emissions units, including those used toward offsetting obligations under CORSIA. The programme aims to ensure full compensation:

- **Notification and Freezing of Registry Account:** Upon discovery of a reversal event or performance shortfall, the Project Developer must notify the Gold Standard Secretariat within 30 calendar days. Gold Standard will then freeze the affected project's registry account, preventing any further transactions of GSVERs. This immediate action prevents further use of potentially compromised units. [4.2.2, Performance Shortfall Guidelines, Requirements and Procedure
- **Assessment and Action Plan:** The Project Developer is required to submit a detailed assessment report

within three months, explaining the causes, magnitude of loss, and proposed mitigation measures. Subsequently, an action plan for compensation of the losses is prepared in consultation with the developer. [4.3, Performance Shortfall Guidelines, Requirements and Procedure]

- **Obligation to Compensate:** The Project Developer is obligated to compensate for the lost GSVERs. They must immediately notify buyers holding the affected GSVERs and inform them of the reversal and the agreed Action Plan. [4.5, Performance Shortfall Guidelines, Requirements and Procedure]
- **CORSIA Eligibility Compliance:** The Project Developer must ensure that the GSVERs offered for compensation have the **same eligibility compliance** as the lost GSVERs. For example, CORSIA-eligible emission units can only be replaced by units that are fully eligible for the same CORSIA compliance period. The Gold Standard Secretariat verifies the eligibility of the compensation units before confirming the resolution of the reversal or shortfall. This ensures that units used for CORSIA offsetting are replaced with equivalent, eligible units, maintaining the integrity of the offsetting obligation. [4.5.5, Performance Shortfall Guidelines, Requirements and Procedure]
- **Gold Standard Oversight and Intervention:** If the Project Developer fails to compensate within the stipulated timeframe, the Gold Standard Secretariat reserves the right to freeze the project registry account and use any existing GSVERs in the account to compensate for the reversal or shortfall. The Gold Standard also records the reversal event and the compensation measures taken in the Gold Standard Registry. Furthermore, Gold Standard may introduce further compensation options. [4.5.7, Performance Shortfall Guidelines, Requirements and Procedure]
- **De-certification Scenario:** In the case of project discontinuation (de-certification/de-registration), it is considered a full reversal of all issued GSVERs, and the project developer must compensate for the full amount. [4.1.3, Performance Shortfall Guidelines, Requirements and Procedure]

Through these detailed procedures, the Gold Standard programme ensures that any material reversal of emission reduction units, including those intended for CORSIA offsetting, triggers a process of notification, assessment, and mandatory compensation with equivalent and similarly eligible units.

B. Any planned/forthcoming changes, including their expected timelines (*if none, "N/A"*):
The Gold Standard is exploring options to establish a specific *process* for securing compensation when insolvent project developers cannot fulfill their obligations. This process may be implemented in 2025 or early 2026.

Criterion: Assess and mitigate against potential increase in emissions elsewhere

Q9.a) List all emissions sectors (if possible, activity types) supported by the programme that present a potential risk of material emissions leakage:

A. Information reflecting the current state of the programme and its documentation (i.e., as of the time that this form was completed):
Gold Standard incorporates leakage assessment as a critical component of its certification framework. Gold Standard certified projects span multiple sectors, including renewable energy generation, end-use energy efficiency, waste management, and land use changes. For each sector the specific methodological requirements and guidelines outlines requirements for leakage assessment.
For example: energy efficiency projects—especially those involving technologies that displace decentralized

thermal energy consumption—the Gold Standard methodology **Technologies and Practices to Displace Decentralized Thermal Energy Consumption** requires a comprehensive evaluation of potential leakage sources and appropriate baseline emission discounting. The key leakage sources requiring monitoring and assessment include:

1. Reuse of displaced baseline technologies beyond project boundaries, which may increase emissions
2. Non-project users switching to higher-emitting energy sources
3. Effects on Non-Renewable Biomass (NRB) fraction in regions with other carbon credit projects
4. Compensatory behavior to offset lost space heating benefits
5. Unintended market effects from high-efficiency technology promotion

The methodology also offers a simplified approach where a discount factor of 5% may be applied.
This thorough approach also applies in similar manner for all sectors where methodologies offering detailed guidance for leakage monitoring, assessment and accounting. To maintain environmental integrity, projects deduct leakage impacts from their carbon credit generation during the crediting period's first year.

B. Any planned/forthcoming changes, including their expected timelines (*if none, "N/A"*):
The Requirements for methodology development—public consultation draft, to be published in Q2 2025—strengthens leakage accounting requirements and provides detailed guidance for identifying and addressing leakage at methodology level. These requirements will be implemented systematically across all new and existing methodologies. A summary is presented below.

Leakage is defined as anthropogenic GHG emissions occurring outside the activity boundary that are attributable to the activity [5.9.1]. Methodologies **must include provisions to identify potential leakage sources** and **require activities to minimize leakage using appropriate methods**, potentially including discounting credited volumes [5.8.6 -a,b]. Activity developers **must list and address all potential leakage sources, justifying any exclusions** [5.8.6 -a,b]. Furthermore, methodologies **must include provisions for robust monitoring, reporting, and independent third-party verification of identified leakage sources** [5.8.6 -d] and **require consideration of relevant leakage information from the host Party's DNA** [5.8.6 -f]. Methodologies **should also incorporate life cycle analysis of products or materials when relevant** [5.8.6 -e].
Potential sources of leakage include the continued use of baseline equipment elsewhere, the utilization of resources with competing uses, shifts in pre-project activities, the diversion of production processes outside the boundary, and changes in upstream and downstream processes [5.9.2].
Approaches to avoid, minimize, or address leakage that methodologies may include are [5.9.3]:

- **Discounting credited volumes**
- **Scrapping of baseline equipment**
- **Applying higher-level elements** such as standardized baselines
- **Nesting** within higher-level crediting programmes
- **Upscaling implementation** to broader levels

The methodology's approach to leakage can be informed by tools developed by the A6.4 Supervisory Body or Gold Standard, or by the methodology developer's own considered approach. For certain activity types, **monitoring at a jurisdictional level and using a standardized baseline is crucial for accurate leakage accounting.** The standard also notes that the implications of activities outside national borders and

transboundary activities will be further assessed regarding potential leakage.

Q9.b) What is the minimum scale of leakage that that would trigger the Programme's applicable provisions or procedures? (Quantify if possible)

A. Information reflecting the current state of the programme and its documentation (i.e., as of the time that this form was completed):

There is no specific minimum scale of leakage defined that would automatically trigger the Programme's applicable provisions or procedures. The extent and significance of leakage in Gold Standard projects varies depending on the project type, technology deployed, and local context. These factors are carefully considered at the methodology level to establish appropriate measures to address the monitoring, assessment and accounting of leakage.

The Gold Standard Programme addresses leakage assessment and accounting through the requirements outlined in the applied baseline and monitoring methodology(ies) and related documents.
Key provisions and procedures related to leakage include:

- **Methodology Dependence (section 5.9, Requirements for methodology development):** The primary requirements and procedures for assessing and accounting for leakage are defined within the baseline and monitoring methodology(ies) selected and applied by the project. These methodologies:
    - Establish criteria for the selection of relevant GHG sources, sinks, and reservoirs, and leakage.
    - Provide criteria and procedures for quantifying GHG emissions and/or removals, including those related to leakage
    - Define assumptions and specify quantification methods and monitoring requirements considering potential leakage.
    - Include methods for estimating uncertainty relevant to the project and baseline scenario and underlying parameters, which may encompass leakage-related aspects.
    - Provide guidance on calculating leakage.
- **Project Boundary:** The VVB must assess whether all main GHG emission sources within and outside the project boundary have been properly identified and justified according to the methodology, including potential leakage sources and associated risks [para 7.12.7, 7.14.1 Validation and Verification Standard].
- **Monitoring Plan:** The project's Monitoring & Reporting Plan must comply with the applied methodology(ies) and related documents. If the methodology requires monitoring of leakage, the monitoring plan should include the relevant parameters [section 7.15, 7.14.1, Validation and Verification Standard].
- **Validation:** During validation, the VVB evaluates whether the selected methodology adequately addresses potential leakage for the project type and context. For Programmes of Activities (PoAs) and Voluntary Project Activities (VPAs), the VVB checks if the real case VPA-DD clearly defines both the inclusion criteria and VPA boundary—including all relevant GHG sources that could contribute to leakage—according to the applied methodologies [7.15.2, 7.14.1, 12.13.2, Validation and Verification Standard]
- **Verification:** During verification, the VVB reviews monitoring plan implementation and emission reduction accuracy, including leakage. They verify that all emissions calculations follow the registered plan and methodologies, and that parameter monitoring complies with requirements. For PoAs and

VPAs, they ensure monitoring reports align with certified designs and account for leakage according to methodology [9.4.5, 17.4.8, Validation and Verification Standard].

- **Design Changes:** If there are changes to the project design, the VVB assesses whether these changes have any material impact on the applicability of the applied methodologies, which includes the assessment and accounting of leakage [8.4.4, Validation and Verification Standard].
- **Methodology Revision:** Revisions to approved methodologies can be initiated if there are issues related to, among other things, calculating leakage [Appendix, Procedure for Development, Revision, Clarification of Methodologies and Methodological Tools].

In summary, the Gold Standard Programme mandates that projects follow the specific guidelines for leakage assessment and accounting as prescribed in their chosen and approved methodologies. VVBs are responsible for verifying the correct application of these methodological requirements throughout the project cycle, from validation to verification.

B. Any planned/forthcoming changes, including their expected timelines (*if none, "N/A"*):
N/A

Q10.a) Are measures in place to assess and mitigate incidences of material leakage of emissions that may result from the implementation of an offset project or programme? (*Paragraph 3.6*)	☒ YES

Summarize and provide evidence of the policies and procedures referred to above:

A. Information reflecting the current state of the programme and its documentation (i.e., as of the time that this form was completed):
Gold Standard and CDM methodologies – eligible under GS4GG rigorously define and identify all potential sources of leakage that projects must address when certifying emissions reductions. When leakage is detected, projects are required to make thorough quantitative adjustments to their emission reductions calculations following strict methodological guidelines to ensure environmental integrity.
For example
CDM methodology ACM0002 for grid-connected electricity generation from renewable sources requires assessment of leakage from:

- Construction emissions from transportation of equipment
- Upstream emissions from fossil fuel use in manufacturing of renewable energy equipment
- Changes in water reservoir emissions for hydroelectric projects

The methodology provides specific calculation approaches for each leakage source. For example, construction-related leakage is calculated using a standardized formula based on equipment weight and transport distance, while reservoir emissions require continuous monitoring of methane levels if the power density is below 4 W/m^2.

Gold Standard methodology - **Sustainable Management of Mangroves,** the methodology requires assessment of leakage from:

- Wood collection activities (firewood, charcoal production)

- Timber harvesting operations
- Agricultural activities (crop and shrimp cultivation)
- Livestock grazing displacement

The methodology provides specific calculation approaches for each leakage source. For wood collection, timber harvesting, and agricultural activities, calculations are based on the area of original activity within project boundaries and estimated displacement percentages. For livestock grazing, calculations consider the number of displaced animals and grazing capacity of new areas.
Conservative default values are provided when specific displacement locations are unknown, using national average forest carbon stocks. All leakage emissions are deducted from carbon removals in the first year of the crediting period.
Additionally, the methodology requires assessment of underlying drivers of mangrove loss and implementation of mitigation measures. While not classified as leakage, emissions from site preparation activities like vegetation burning are also accounted for in the overall project emissions calculations.

B. Any planned/forthcoming changes, including their expected timelines (*if none, "N/A"*):

The Requirements for methodology development—public consultation draft, to be published in Q2 2025— strengthens leakage accounting, monitoring and reporting requirements and provides detailed guidance for identifying and addressing leakage at methodology level as explained under Q9a, above.

Q10.b). Are procedures in place requiring and supporting activities to monitor identified leakage? (*Paragraph 3.6.3*)	☒ YES

Summarize and provide evidence of the policies and procedures referred to above:

A. Information reflecting the current state of the programme and its documentation (i.e., as of the time that this form was completed):
Wherever applicable, methodologies give provisions to monitor the identified leakage and account for the attributable emission. Please refer to the example provided for Q 10.a.

B. Any planned/forthcoming changes, including their expected timelines (*if none, "N/A"*):

The Requirements for methodology development—public consultation draft, to be published in Q2 2025— strengthens leakage accounting requirements and provides detailed guidance for identifying and addressing leakage at methodology level as explained under Q9a, above.

Q11. Are procedures in place requiring activities to deduct from their accounting emissions from any identified leakage that reduces the mitigation benefits of the activities? (*Paragraph 3.6.4*)	☒ YES

Summarize and provide evidence of the policies and procedures referred to above:

A. Information reflecting the current state of the programme and its documentation (i.e., as of the time that this form was completed):
Methodology include requirements for identification, monitoring and accounting for leakage and all methodologies consider leakage emissions in ER calculations wherever applicable. The methodologies provide clear instructions to account for identified leakage emissions. Please refer to the example in Q10a. above

B. Any planned/forthcoming changes, including their expected timelines (*if none, "N/A"*):
The Requirements for methodology development**—public consultation draft, final draft is to be published in Q2 202**5—strengthens leakage accounting requirements and provides detailed guidance for identifying and addressing leakage at methodology level as explained under Q9a, above.

Q12. Are provisions in place requiring activities that pose a risk of leakage when implemented at the project level to be implemented at a national level, or on an interim basis on a subnational level, in order to mitigate the risk of leakage? (*Paragraph 3.6.2*)	☒ YES

Summarize and provide evidence of the policies and procedures referred to above:

A. Information reflecting the current state of the programme and its documentation (i.e., as of the time that this form was completed):
Most Gold Standard projects, particularly those with potential leakage risks, operate within boundaries smaller than the national level—often at sub-national scales. The methodologies inherently include approaches to assess and discount emissions for leakage within the project boundary. The program effectively addresses leakage concerns through its **integrated methodological requirements, flexibility in project design, the principle of conservativeness, and rigorous independent oversight**. This comprehensive framework ensures appropriate assessment and accounting of leakage within the defined project boundary, whether sub-national or national, thereby addressing key leakage concerns in carbon offsetting projects.

B. Any planned/forthcoming changes, including their expected timelines: (*if none, "N/A"*):
The Requirements for methodology development**—public consultation draft, final draft to be published in Q2 2025**—strengthens leakage accounting requirements and provides detailed guidance for identifying and addressing leakage at methodology level as explained under Q9a, above. The document notes that for certain activity types, **monitoring at a jurisdictional level and using a standardised baseline (or equivalent) is crucial to accurately quantify and account for leakage [para 5.9.5].**

Q13. List all activity types supported by the programme that involve replacing equipment or other physical systems such that these comprise the activity's baseline:
Equipment replacement projects are relevant across a multitude of sectors, including energy generation, industrial processes, and transportation, offering tangible opportunities for emissions mitigation. The following activity types may involve equipment or system replacement as part of their baseline and be eligible for certification provided a CDM and Gold Standard methodologies, is available:

- Energy Efficiency: Clean cooking devices, lighting systems, HVAC equipment, and industrial equipment (motors, pumps, compressors)
- Renewable Energy: Solar water heaters, biomass boilers replacing fossil fuel systems, geothermal heat pumps
- Industrial Processes: Furnaces, kilns, waste heat recovery systems, and industrial chillers
- Transportation: Vehicle fleets (conventional to electric/hybrid), marine vessel engines
- Refrigeration and Cooling: Commercial refrigeration systems, industrial cooling towers and chillers

[restrictions apply under GS4GG – no activity leading to prolonged use of fossil fuel can be credited]

- Agriculture: Tractors, harvesters, and irrigation systems
- Power Generation: Conventional power plants being replaced by renewable energy systems [restrictions apply under GS4GG]

Several Gold Standard methodologies are available for projects where the baseline is the replacement of existing equipment. The Methodology for Metered & Measured Energy Cooking Devices (MMECD) is specifically designed for cookstoves with direct fuel monitoring, where the baseline is the metered fuel consumption of the replaced traditional stove. The Reduced Emissions from Cooking and Heating – Technologies and Practices to Displace Decentralized Thermal Energy Consumption (TPDDTEC) methodology covers a wide range of clean cooking technologies, with the baseline based on the estimated emissions from the traditional cooking practices and equipment being replaced. The Gold Standard Simplified Methodology for Clean and Efficient Cookstoves, an adaptation of CDM's AMS-II.G, focuses on replacing traditional cookstoves with improved biomass stoves, using the emissions from the original stoves as the baseline. Furthermore, the Gold Standard approves the use of certain CDM methodologies, which can be applied to equipment replacement projects that align with Gold Standard's requirements.

For the activity types listed above, does the programme have procedures ensuring that *(select all that apply)*: (*Paragraph 3.6.4*)	
(a) the baseline equipment is demonstrably decommissioned, destroyed, or scrapped, or otherwise demonstrated to no longer be in use,	☐ YES
(b) emissions from equipment disposal are discretely assessed, mitigated where possible, and deducted from the verified results of the activity,	☐ YES
(c) where procedures enable the baseline equipment to potentially be re-sold or otherwise remain in use, equivalent procedures for assessment, mitigation, and accounting deductions apply to emissions resulting from its continued use.	☒ YES

Summarize and provide evidence of the policies and procedures referred to in a) through c) above:

A. Information reflecting the current state of the programme and its documentation (i.e., as of the time that this form was completed):

The Gold Standard methodology does not have standardized procedures for ensuring and verifying the decommissioning, destruction, or scrapping of baseline equipment. While various sector-specific methodologies exist, they focus primarily on emission reduction calculations and leakage accounting.

This approach reflects the methodology's emphasis on operational emission reductions rather than equipment disposal. While decommissioning is a requirement, the explicit verification procedures is not outlined means that the focus remains on baseline emission calculations and accounting for potential continued use of displaced equipment.

The primary accounting focuses on the avoided operational emissions due to the replacement due to the complexity of standardizing disposal emission factors across diverse equipment types and disposal methods.

When baseline equipment may be resold or remain in use, the methodologies include provisions to account for emissions from its continued operation. In addition, several CDM methodologies and tools used under Gold Standard are relevant for establishing baselines in equipment replacement projects. TOOL09, "Determining the

baseline efficiency of thermal or electric energy generation systems," provides procedures to calculate the efficiency of existing energy generation systems—such as power plants or industrial boilers—which serve as the baseline when replaced with more efficient ones. TOOL10, "Tool to determine the remaining lifetime of equipment," is crucial for defining a project's crediting period by estimating how long the replaced equipment would have continued operating.

B. Any planned/forthcoming changes, including their expected timelines (*if none, "N/A"*):
The Requirements for methodology development—public consultation draft, final draft to be published in Q2 2025—strengthens leakage accounting requirements. Gold standard is also addressing the issues related to account of end of life management via relevant procedures in all of its methodologies that are under development as outlined in the draft document [para 5.9.1. e, para 5.9.2.a, b, c, d & e] with requirements for identification and addressal using appropriate method [para 5.9.4]. The revision to existing methodology will also be informed by the Draft Standard: Addressing leakage in mechanism methodologies, under development with A6.4 mechanism, as it evolves in coming months.

PART 5: *Double counting*: Avoidance of Double Counting, Issuance and Claiming; Only counted once towards a mitigation obligation

Criteria: Avoidance of Double Counting, Issuance and Claiming and Are only counted once towards a mitigation obligation

Q1. Does the Programme have measures in place …	
a) …to ensure the transparent transfer of units between registries, if applicable?*(Paragraph 3.7.1 and 3.7.5)*	☐ YES
b) …to ensure that only one unit is issued for one tonne of mitigation? *(Paragraph 3.7.1 and 3.7.5)*	☒ YES
c) …to ensure that one unit is issued or transferred to, or owned or cancelled by, only one entity at any given time? *(Paragraphs 3.7.2 and 3.7.6)*	☒ YES
d) …to discourage and prohibit the double-selling of units, which occurs when one or more entities sell the same unit more than once? *(Paragraph 3.7.7)*	☒ YES

Summarize and provide evidence of the policies and procedures referred to in a) through d):

A. Information reflecting the current state of the programme and its documentation (i.e., as of the time that this form was completed):
Gold Standard ensures its consistency with this requirement in the following way:

- Gold Standard does not currently permit the transfer of GSVERs to registries other than the Gold Standard Impact Registry.
- Gold Standard's GHG Emissions Reductions and Sequestration Product Requirements include provisions related to double counting, including double issuance and double use.
  In Paragraph 14.1.2 (page 19), it is stated that projects shall not be included in any other voluntary or compliance standard or programme, unless explicitly approved by Gold Standard in the context of dual

certification. In the context of dual certification (which includes Gold Standard labelling of CDM credits), mechanisms are in place to ensure that projects claim emission reduction or removal units of a given vintage only once and under one standard.

As noted above, GSVERs cannot be transferred from the Gold Standard Impact Registry. GSVERs cannot be duplicated, and can only exist in one registry account at a time. Moreover, functionality in the Gold Standard Impact Registry ensures that once a GSVER is cancelled or retired, this action cannot be reversed to allow for double use. Use of the Registry is governed by Gold Standard's Registry App Terms of Use, which include provisions related to the transfer (Section 8) and the retirement (Section 9) of units.

In Section 9 of these Terms of Use, it is stated that the retirement of GSVERs is permanent, with account holders required to acknowledge that following retirement, neither the account holder nor any third party has any further rights to take the benefit of such units nor the underlying environmental benefits corresponding to such units. Account holders must also procure all relevant third parties to enter into such agreements as necessary to ensure that no party has any further right to take the benefit of such units nor their underlying environmental benefit (see paragraph 9.2).

The full contents of these requirements can be found in paragraphs 14.1.2 of Gold Standard's GHG Emissions Reductions & Sequestration Product Requirements and Gold Standard's Registry App Terms of Use.

B. Any planned/forthcoming changes, including their expected timelines (*if none, "N/A"*):
Gold Standard is exploring rule updates that would allow, in certain cases and with Gold Standard's express consent, for the transfer of GS-VERs to registries administered by national authorities engaged in cooperative approaches under Article 6. If taken forward, this is likely to be implemented in the first half of 2025, and Gold Standard would submit a material change notification to ICAO.

Q2. Does the Programme have procedures in place…	
a) …requiring mitigation from emissions units used by operators under the CORSIA to be appropriately accounted for by the host country when claiming achievement of its target(s) / pledges(s) / mitigation contributions / mitigation commitments, in line with the relevant and applicable international provisions? *(Paragraph 3.7.10.1)*	☒ YES
b) …that provide for the use of any other method(s) to avoid double-claiming? (*Paragraph 3.7.10.2*)	☐ YES

Summarize and provide evidence of the policies and procedures referred to in a) and b):

A. Information reflecting the current state of the programme and its documentation (i.e., as of the time that this form was completed):
Gold Standard has adopted and implemented specific requirements for credits authorised for use under Article 6 of the Paris Agreement.

As outlined in Paragraph 14.3.2(ii) of the Product Requirements linked to below, these must be followed for any GS VERs with a vintage of 2021 or later to be eligible for use towards compliance obligations under CORSIA, to

ensure the avoidance of double claiming with a Nationally Determined Contribution.

Gold Standard's Article 6 requirements include requirements for the authorization of ITMOs (Section 1.3 of Annex A to our Product Requirements) as well as procedures in place to monitor that governments are appropriately accounting for mitigation authorized for use towards CORSIA (Section 1.4 of Annex A). The Article 6 Requirements will be updated in the coming month to align with the latest CMA Decision related to Article 6.2, adopted at COP29.

The full contents of these requirements can be found in Paragraphs 14.3.2(ii), 14.3.4 as well as Annex A to Gold Standard's GHG Emissions Reductions & Sequestration Product Requirements , complemented by the below supporting documents:

- Article 6 Authorisation Checklist
- Guidance on the Eligibility of Gold Standard VERs for Use Under CORSIA's First Phase

B. Any planned/forthcoming changes, including their expected timelines (*if none, "N/A"*):
Gold Standard will make changes as required to ensure continued alignment with any future Decisions adopted by the CMA. This applies for all below responses related to Article 6 of the Paris Agreement.

Q3. Does the Programme have procedures in place for the following: (*Paragraph 3.7.8*)	
a) to obtain, or require activity proponents to obtain and provide to the programme, written attestation from the host country's national focal point or focal point's designee?	☒ YES
b) for host country attestations to be obtained and made publicly available prior to the use of units from the host country in the CORSIA?	☒ YES

Summarize and provide evidence of the policies and procedures referred to in a) and b):

A. Information reflecting the current state of the programme and its documentation (i.e., as of the time that this form was completed):
Gold Standard ensures its consistency with this requirement in the following way:

Under Gold Standard's Article 6 Requirements, activity proponents are required to submit to Gold Standard a written authorisation of ITMOs, which explicitly authorises the activity's emission reductions or removals for use as ITMOs. This is provided for at Section 1.3 of Annex A to our Product Requirements.

Under planned forthcoming changes to these Requirements (submitted as a supporting document), Gold Standard (a) will ensure that such written authorisations include all information required by the latest CMA Decision related to Article 6.2 that was adopted at COP29; and (b) also requires evidence that the host country has either submitted the authorization to the UNFCCC for recording on the CARP, or has taken steps to track the authorization on the registry it uses for Article 6 tracking.

Gold Standard publishes Authorisations of ITMOs on the Gold Standard Impact Registry, at the time that credits

are labelled to indicate their authorization. This is provided for in paragraph 1.2.3 of Annex A to our Product Requirements, which states that authorisations provided by the project developer shall be made public on the Impact Registry.

The full contents of these requirements can be found in paragraphs 1.2.3 and Section 1.3 of Annex A to Gold Standard's GHG Emissions Reductions & Sequestration Product Requirements .

B. Any planned/forthcoming changes, including their expected timelines (*if none, "N/A"*):
N/A

Q4. Does the Programme have procedures in place in place to guide the contents of host-country attestations? (*Paragraph 3.7.9*)	☒ YES
If YES, do the Programme's procedures on the contents of host-country attestations facilitate countries to identify each of the following:	
(i) the national point of contact,	☒ YES
(ii) authorized unit vintages,	☒ YES
(iii) authorized activity types, if applicable,	☒ YES
(iv) the CORSIA compliance period for which the units are authorized,	☒ YES
(v) the expected timing and processes for applying and reporting adjustments that are informed by the host country's specified definition of "first transfer";	☒ YES
(vi) the country's chosen accounting method consistent with the relevant provision of 2/CMA.3 Annex I "Guidance on cooperative approaches referred to in Article 6, paragraph 2, of the Paris Agreement.	☒ YES

Summarize and provide evidence of the policies and procedures referred to above:

A. Information reflecting the current state of the programme and its documentation (i.e., as of the time that this form was completed):
Gold Standard ensures its consistency with this requirement in the following way:

Under Section 1.3 of Gold Standard's Article 6 Requirements, Gold Standard reviews written authorisations of ITMOs provided by host countries to activity proponents, to ensure that they fulfil certain minimum requirements. These are outlined in paragraph 1.3.2 in the Article 6 Requirements (p28).

As part of this, Gold Standard will, as part of its forthcoming update (shared as a supporting document) ensure that authorisations of ITMOs include all information required in Section B of the latest CMA decision related to Article 6.2 adopted at COP29, which includes the authorized unit vintages, authorized activity types (if applicable), and the specification of first transfer.

Gold Standard also requires authorisations to include an official email address for the designated Government Authority (Para 1.3.2(h) of our Article 6 Requirements), while Para 1.3.3 notes that host countries may choose to include in their authorization any restrictions related to the CORSIA compliance period for which ITMOs are authorized. In accordance with Para 1.3.4, Gold Standard will consider an authorization for use towards

international mitigation purposes, or other international mitigation purposes, to deem the associated GSVERs eligible for use towards any compliance period under CORSIA, unless otherwise specified in the Host Country's authorization.

Under Section 1.4 of the same Requirements, Gold Standard monitors reporting by governments that have provided authorisations, to ensure that reporting is fulfilled correctly. This includes (para 1.4.2, p30) reviewing Initial Reports submitted by Governments, in which governments are required to identify their chosen accounting method for the application of corresponding adjustments.

The full contents of these requirements can be found in Annex A to Gold Standard's GHG Emissions Reductions & Sequestration Product Requirements , including notably Sections 1.3 and 1.4.

B. Any planned/forthcoming changes, including their expected timelines (*if none, "N/A"*):
N/A

Q5. Does the Programme have procedures in place…	
a) …requiring host country attestations to confirm the use of the applicable approach(es) referred to in Question 2 above?	☒ YES
b) …requiring host country attestations to specify and describe the steps taken to prevent double-claiming (in line with these approaches / requirements)?	☒ YES

Summarize and provide evidence of the policies and procedures referred to in a) and b):

A. Information reflecting the current state of the programme and its documentation (i.e., as of the time that this form was completed):

Gold Standard ensures its consistency with this requirement in the following way:

Under Section 1.3 of Gold Standard's Article 6 Requirements, Gold Standard reviews written authorisations of ITMOs provided by host countries to activity proponents, to ensure that they fulfil certain minimum requirements. These are outlined in paragraph 1.3.2 in the Article 6 Requirements (p28).

As part of this, Gold Standard requires that in their authorisations of ITMOs, Host Countries declare that they will report on the authorisation of the Project's emission reductions or removals in a transparent manner in accordance with the Host Country's reporting requirements under the Relevant Paris Requirements, and that they will account for the project's emission reductions and removals as ITMOs under Article 6 of the Paris Agreement by applying corresponding adjustments in accordance with Relevant Paris Requirements.

The full contents of these requirements can be found in Section 1.3 of Annex A to Gold Standard's GHG Emissions Reductions & Sequestration Product Requirements .

B. Any planned/forthcoming changes, including their expected timelines (*if none, "N/A"*):

N/A

Q6. Please provide any additional information about the programme's measures to require and demonstrate that host countries of emissions reduction activities agree to account for any offset units issued as a result of those activities, such that double claiming does not occur between the airline and the host country of the emissions reduction activity.

A. Information reflecting the current state of the programme and its documentation (i.e., as of the time that this form was completed):

As highlighted above, Gold Standard will in the coming months enhance its Article 6 Requirements, including to ensure consistency with recent decisions by the CMA at COP29. A copy of the planned changes has been submitted as a supporting document. As part of this, Gold Standard will require evidence of either of the below prior to labelling GS VERs as associated with an Article 6 authorisation (a prerequisite for eligibility for CORSIA Phases 1 and 2):

i. That the Authorisation of ITMOs has been submitted to, and is publicly available on, the UNFCCC's Centralized Accounting and Reporting Platform, or;

ii. That the Host Country has recorded the Authorisation of ITMOs on the registry it is using for the purpose of tracking under Article 6.2.

In addition, the planned update will include targeted amendments to ensure alignment with the CMA Decision adopted at COP29 related to Article 6.2. This includes ensuring that all authorisations of ITMOs include all elements required in 'Section B – Content of the authorization' of that CMA Decision.

B. Any planned/forthcoming changes, including their expected timelines (*if none, "N/A"*):

N/A

Q7. Does the Programme have measures in place to…	
a) make publicly available <u>any national government decisions</u> related to accounting for units used in ICAO, including decisions related to the contents of host country attestations described in paragraph 3.7.8 of Appendix A? *(Paragraph 3.7.11)*	☒ YES
b) update information pertaining to host country attestation as often as necessary to avoid double-claiming? *(Paragraph 3.7.11)*	☒ YES

Summarize and provide evidence of the policies and procedures referred to in a) and b):

A. Information reflecting the current state of the programme and its documentation (i.e., as of the time that this form was completed):

Gold Standard publishes Authorisations of ITMOs on the Gold Standard Impact Registry, at the time that credits are labelled to indicate their authorization. This is provided for in paragraph 1.2.3 of Annex A to our Product Requirements, which states that authorisations provided by the project developer shall be made public on the Impact Registry.

Gold Standard's Article 6 Requirements also provide for the updating of information pertaining to host country attestations. In paragraph 1.2.5 of the Article 6 Requirements, Gold Standard requires project developers to notify any material changes to the host country's authorization of ITMOs. Following a review, Gold Standard shall, if required, revised the labelling of the affected GS VERs and, if the material change means that the host country will no longer apply its corresponding adjustment, will as necessary take steps towards the avoidance of double claiming.

The full contents of these requirements can be found in Annex A to Gold Standard's GHG Emissions Reductions & Sequestration Product Requirements , with paragraphs 1.2.5, 1.2.6, 1.2.7 and Section 1.4 most relevant.

B. Any planned/forthcoming changes, including their expected timelines (*if none, "N/A"*):
N/A

Q8.a) Does the Programme have procedures in place to compare countries' accounting for emissions units in national emissions reports against the volumes of eligible units issued by the programme and used under the CORSIA which the host country's national reporting focal point or designee otherwise attested to its intention to not double claim? (*Paragraph 3.7.12*)	☒ YES
Q8.b). Do the procedures referred to above… *(Paragraph 3.2.12)*	
(i) …specify the relevant accounting information in each report submitted in accordance with Section IV of Annex I to Decision 2/CMA.3?	☒ YES
(ii) …specify the expected timing and processes by which the programme will compare the host country's reported information on authorizations in its national reports with the information provided by the country in its attestation ?	☒ YES
iii) …require publication of all host-country attestations and related documentation generated by the emissions unit programme (e.g., results from the comparison)?	☒ YES

Summarize and provide evidence of the policies and procedures referred to above:

A. Information reflecting the current state of the programme and its documentation (i.e., as of the time that this form was completed):
Under Section 1.4 of Gold Standard's Article 6 Requirements, Gold Standard monitors reporting by governments that have provided authorisations, to ensure that host countries fulfil all reporting obligations under relevant Paris Agreement Requirements, as these relate to the authorization of GSVERs. This includes reviews of Initial Reports, Annual Information, and Regular Information under Biennial Transparency Reports, with reference to relevant CMA Decisions.

Under paragraph 1.4.4, Gold Standard will verify that the host country has applied and reported a corresponding adjustment for GSVERs authorized as ITMOs, ensuring that these are fully accounted for in a traceable way, and that the quantity of ITMOs first transfers is consistent with the quantity for which the host country has applied a corresponding adjustment.

Section 1.4 includes timelines for when Gold Standard will conduct reviews to ensure the above-referenced

reports have been submitted correctly, as well as timelines for the temporary removal of Article 6 labels, if Gold Standard cannot verify that authorisations have been fully reflected in host country reports.

Under paragraph 1.4.6 of Section 4, it is noted that where Gold Standard identifies that a host country has applied relevant corresponding adjustments in their Biennial Transparency Report and otherwise fulfilled participation responsibilities, Gold Standard will either publish or link to this evidence as part of the activity's certification documents.

The full contents of these requirements can be found in Annex A to Gold Standard's GHG Emissions Reductions & Sequestration Product Requirements , with Sections 1.4 and 1.6 most relevant.

B. Any planned/forthcoming changes, including their expected timelines (*if none, "N/A"*):
N/A

Q9. Would the Programme be willing and able, upon request, to report to ICAO's relevant bodies, as requested, performance information related to, *inter alia*, any material instances of and programme responses to country-level double claiming; the nature of, and any changes to, the number, scale, and/or scope of host country attestations; any relevant changes to related programme measures? (*Paragraph 3.7.13*)	☒ YES

Summarize and provide evidence of the policies and procedures referred to above:

A. Information reflecting the current state of the programme and its documentation (i.e., as of the time that this form was completed):
Section 1.5 of Gold Standard's Article 6 Requirements outlines steps that Gold Standard will take in cases where a host country does not apply a corresponding adjustment, including steps to ensure the avoidance of double claiming in the event that GSVERs are used for compliance with CORSIA. In paragraph 1.5.6, it is specified that in cases where affected GSVERs have been retired for the purpose of complying with CORSIA, this evidence will be shared with ICAO.

Gold Standard would be happy to provide evidence to ICAO in any format that may be specified in the future.

The full contents of these requirements can be found in Section 1.5 of Annex A to Gold Standard's GHG Emissions Reductions & Sequestration Product Requirements .

B. Any planned/forthcoming changes, including their expected timelines (*if none, "N/A"*):
N/A

Q10. Does the Programme have procedures in place for the programme, or proponents of the activities it supports, to compensate for, replace, or otherwise reconcile double claimed mitigation associated with units used under the CORSIA which the host country's national	☒ YES

accounting focal point or designee otherwise attested to its intention to not double claim, including in the instance that the attestation is withdrawn.? (*Paragraph 3.7.14*)	

Summarize and provide evidence of the policies and procedures referred to above:

A. Information reflecting the current state of the programme and its documentation (i.e., as of the time that this form was completed):

Gold Standard ensures its consistency with this requirement in the following way:

For GS VERs to be identified as eligible for use under the first or later phases of CORSIA, an activity proponent must provide one of the following, in addition to evidence of authorisation of ITMOs:

1. Evidence of the application of a corresponding adjustment by the host country in its biennial Transparency Report, that is traceable to the relevant GSVERs.
2. A guarantee (through a Deed of Undertaking) that in the event that GSVERs are used for CORSIA and the host country does not apply a corresponding adjustment, the activity proponent will replace the affected GSVERs with other units eligible for the same CORSIA compliance phase.

The above requirements are provided for in paragraph 1.2.1 of Gold Standard's Article 6 Requirements.

In addition, Gold Standard's Article 6 Requirements outline, in Section 1.5, procedures that are followed in the event that a host country does not apply a corresponding adjustment. This includes specific requirements that apply in cases where GSVERs have been retired for use towards CORSIA.

The document by which an activity proponent can provide a guarantee to replace GSVERs in the event of double claiming is the Deed of Undertaking Regarding GS VERs eligible for the First Phase of CORSIA (which can be updated to also cover Phase 2, following approval).

Activity proponents providing this Deed of Undertaking must also provide evidence that they hold an Approved Insurance Policy, to support them to meet their obligations under the Deed of Undertaking. Guidance for this is provided in Eligibility of Gold Standard VERs for Use Under CORSIA's First Phase. This guidance document lists the insurance policies currently approved by Gold Standard, which may be added to over time (see paragraph B below, regarding planned/forthcoming changes).

The full contents of these requirements can be found in Annex A to Gold Standard's GHG Emissions Reductions & Sequestration Product Requirements , in particular paragraph 1.2.1 and Section 1.5, complemented by the below supporting documents:

- Deed of Undertaking Regarding GS VERs eligible for the First Phase of CORSIA
- Guidance on the Eligibility of Gold Standard VERs for Use Under CORSIA's First Phase

B. Any planned/forthcoming changes, including their expected timelines (*if none, "N/A"*):

Gold Standard is establishing a process for private insurance companies to submit insurance policies for review and approval for use by project developers seeking to label GSVERs as eligible for CORSIA's first phase (and later

phases). These policies are intended to support project developers to meet their obligations to replace any double claimed units, in the event that a host country does not apply a corresponding adjustment following an authorization of ITMOs. Policies will be reviewed on the basis of defined criteria, which reflect but go beyond those identified by TAB in its Autumn 2024 Decision. Further information on Gold Standard's steps is available here.

This does not represent a change to our current approach, but rather its implementation. The first assessments of private insurance policies are expected during 2025.

PART 6: Programme comments

Are there any additional comments the programme wishes to make to support the information provided in this form?
Click or tap here to enter text.

Programme Application Form, Appendix B

Programme Assessment Scope

CONTENTS: With this document, programmes may define which of their activities they are submitting for assessment by the TAB. The two sheets are described below:

Sheet A) Activities the programme describes in this form, which will be assessed by ICAO's TAB
Sheet B) List of all methodologies / protocols that support activities described under Sheet A

SHEET A: DESCRIBED ACTIVITIES *(Here, list activities supported by the programme that are described in this form and submitted for assessment be TAB, whether or not these acitvities are currently within the programme's Scope of Eligibility for the 2024-2026 assessment cycle)*

Sector	Supported activity type(s)	Implementation level(s)	Geography(ies)
SS (Sectoral Scope) 1: Energy industries (renewable/non-renewable sources)	**TA (Technical Area) 1.1. Thermal energy generation:**		
	Power and heat generation from non-renewable energy sources and biomass, including construction of new plants, capacity increases, plant retrofitting, energy efficiency and fuel switching;	Project level and Programme of activities	Global
	District heating systems and power grids, including construction of new grids and systems, extension of existing grids and systems and interconnection of grids and systems.	Project level and Programme of activities	Global
	TA 1.2. Renewables:		
	Power and heat generation from renewable energy sources, including construction of new plants, capacity increases, plant retrofitting, energy efficiency and fuel switching.	Project level and Programme of activities	Global
SS 2: Energy distribution	**TA 2.1. Energy distribution:**		
	Energy efficiency measures in power transmission and distribution.	Project level and Programme of activities	Global
SS 3: Energy demand	**TA 3.1. Energy demand:**		
	Demand-side energy efficiency measures in diverse sectors, such as pumping systems, lighting systems, household appliances and buildings.	Project level and Programme of activities	Global
SS 4: Manufacturing industries	**TA 4.1. Cement and lime production:**		
	Cement production, in particular fuel switching and use of alternative raw materials.	Project level and Programme of activities	Global
SS 5: Chemical industry	**TA 5.1. Chemical industry:**		
	Production of chemicals processed and manufactured materials, such as biodiesel, charcoal, upgraded biogas, ammonia, urea, CO2-based chemicals and hydrogen.	Project level and Programme of activities	Global
	TA 5.2. Caprolactam, nitric and adipic acid:		
	Management and abatement of N2O emissions from caprolactam, nitric and adipic acid plants.	Project level and Programme of activities	Global
SS 6: Construction	**TA 6.1. Construction**		
	Construction of buildings, such as using less GHG-intensive construction techniques and materials. This does not cover energy efficiency in buildings. Those types of activities are covered under the new sectoral scope 3-Energy Demand. No methodology has been approved so far and the sectoral technical knowledge is only indicative.	Project level and Programme of activities	Global
SS 7: Transport	**TA 7.1. Transport:**		
	Introduction of modal shifts, fuel switches and less GHG-intensive transport modes in the transport of freight and passengers.	Project level and Programme of activities	Global
	TA 8.1. Mining/mineral production:		

SS 8: Mining/mineral production	Management of mine methane;	Project level and Programme of activities	Global
	Capture and use of waste gas.	Project level and Programme of activities	Global
SS 9: Metal production	**TA 9.1. Aluminum and magnesium production:**		
	Management of PFC emissions in aluminium	Not eligible	Not eligible
	TA 9.2. Iron, steel and ferro- alloy production:		
	Management of CO2 emissions in iron production;	Project level and Programme of activities	Global
	Waste gas recovery and use in iron and steel	Project level and Programme of activities	Global
SS 10: Fugitive emissions from fuels (solid, oil and gas)	**TA 10.1. Fugitive emissions from oil and gas:**		
	Management of leakage, venting and flaring of natural gas and associated petroleum gas in oil and gas facilities.	Project level and Programme of activities	Global
SS 11: Fugitive emissions from production and consumption of halocarbons and sulphur hexafluoride	**TA 11.1. Emissions of fluorinated gases:**		
	Mitigation of HFC emissions used as refrigerant and	Not eligible	Not eligible
	Mitigation of SF6 emissions used as insulating gas in	Not eligible	Not eligible
	Mitigation of fluorinated gases emissions used in	Not eligible	Not eligible
	TA 11.2. Refrigerant gas production:		
	Production of refrigerant gas HCFC- 22.	Not eligible	Not eligible
SS 12: Solvents use	**TA 12.1. Chemical industry:**		
	Projects involving the use of solvents.	Project level and Programme of activities	Global
SS 13: Waste handling and disposal	**TA 13.1. Solid waste and wastewater:**		
	Solid waste disposal in landfills;	Project level and Programme of activities	Global
	Alternative methods of solid waste management, such	Project level and Programme of activities	Global
	Wastewater treatment systems;	Project level and Programme of activities	Global
	Biogas management.	Project level and Programme of activities	Global
	TA 13.2. Manure:		
	Manure management systems;	Project level and Programme of activities	Global
	Biogas management.	Project level and Programme of activities	Global
SS 14: Afforestation and reforestation	**TA 14.1. Afforestation and reforestation:**		
	Afforestation and reforestation projects.	Project level and Programme of activities	Global
SS 15: Agriculture	**TA 15.1. Agriculture:**		
	Management of agricultural operations to reduce emissions;	Project level and Programme of activities	Global
	Management of fertilizer application.	Project level and Programme of activities	Global
SS 16: Carbon capture and storage of CO2 in geological formation	**TA 16.1. Carbon Capture and Storage:**		
	Activities related to CO2 capture and storage in geological reservoirs.	Project level and Programme of activities	Global
	TA 17.1. Other activities involving removals:		
	[Processes to remove GHGs from the atmosphere through anthropogenic activities and durably store them.]	Project level and Programme of activities	Global

SS 17: Other activities involving removals	[This sectoral scope covers anthropogenic activities removing CO2 from the atmosphere and durably storing it in geological, terrestrial, or ocean reservoirs, or in products. It includes existing and potential anthropogenic enhancement of biological, geochemical or chemical CO2 sinks, but excludes natural CO2 uptake not directly caused by human activities.]	Project level and Programme of activities	Global

SHEET B: METHODOLOGIES / PROTOCOLS LIST *(Here, list all methodologies / protocols that support activities described in Sheet A)*

Methodology name	Unique Methodology / Protocol Identifier	Applicable methodology version(s)	Date of entry into force of most recent version	Prior versions of the methodology that are credited by the Programme (if applicable)	Greenhouse / other gases addressed in methodology	Web link to methodology
e.g. "Methodology to XYZ…"	e.g.,ABC-123-V.20-XXX	e.g., V2.0	01/01/2018			
ACM0001 Flaring or use of landfill gas	ACM0001	V 19	14/06/2019	NA	CO2, CH4	https://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/JPYB4DYQUXQPZLBDVPHA87479EMY9M
Grid-connected electricity generation from renewable sources	ACM0002	V21	02/11/2022	V 20	CO2	https://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/HF3LP6O41YY0JIP1DK6ZRJO9RSCX3S
ACM0003 Partial substitution of fossil fuels with alternative fuels or less carbon intensive fuels in cement manufacture	ACM0003	V 9	14/12/2020	NA	CO2, CH4	http://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/DPP1VND7USZ0IGEPCABT2DF8JCPGG3
Increasing the Blend in Cement Production	ACM0005	V7.1.0	02/03/2012	Not included before	CO2	https://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/1AG8O523O2UQD01BAID55YT2LZZ6R0
Electricity and heat generation from biomass residues	ACM0006	V16	11/03/2022	V 15	CO2, CH4	https://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/2IE2L3F73E90999CBVWXZ8WL40J819
ACM0007 Conversion from single cycle to combined cycle power generation	ACM0007	V 6.1	11/05/2012	NA	CO2	http://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/UVVSD3V6CADRJXKIKGUCFWRH3SRTKA
ACM0009 Fuel switching from coal or petroleum fuels to natural gas	ACM0009	V 5	28/11/2014	NA	CO2	http://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/CMUDOOMI7G7SYSDFXA75EIITKEVA4P
ACM0010 GHG emission reductions from manure management systems	ACM0010	V 8	04/10/2013	NA	CO2, CH4, N2O	http://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/99QRTE6N5QJEBOV2XP374B25SSIXBB
ACM0012 Waste energy recovery	ACM0012	V 6	27/11/2015	NA	CO2	http://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/FXBXLVGFF4DLI5WC1PKFW7KBRW62QB
ACM0014 Treatment of wastewater	ACM0014	V 8	14/06/2019	NA	CO2	https://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/PPKHX1MHNHF6DYVE6SFD2GBPFU92Y2
ACM0015 Emission reductions from raw materials in clinker production	ACM0015	V 4	01/06/2014	NA	CO2	http://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/A8IL4OR2H1FWNDYYOJXCMCAA2JA9FV
ACM0016 Mass Rapid Transit Projects	ACM0016	V 5	27/05/2021	NA	CO2, CH4	https://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/PPZC6A7B2DFBT0MC46OK0AROF64FKE
Production of biodiesel	ACM0017	V4	11/03/2022	V 3.1.0	CO2	https://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/PNBR5ULFIDLY3TMXUKGBP2ZRXRDTV2
Electricity generation from biomass residues in power-only plants	ACM0018	V6	11/03/2022	V 5	CO2, CH4	https://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/4HISH6FQZNGKPAHOA6YVN9DJ5J97T3
ACM0020 Co-firing of biomass residues for heat generation and/or electricity generation in grid connected power plants	ACM0020	V 1	29/09/2011	NA	CO2	http://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/EPA4CIV61YIQ7EHB8C1T41SRJ5NMGK
ACM0022 Alternative waste treatment processes	ACM0022	V 3	09/09/2021	NA	CO2, CH4	https://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/AUR5PLW743TS0OOCWRS55XXT86WV4J
ACM0023 Introduction of an efficiency improvement technology in a boiler	ACM0023	V 1	04/10/2013	NA	CO2	http://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/JW18PCU5MLZGRQB5QYE6JOM2EUOUDR
ACM0024 Natural gas substitution by biogenic methane produced from the anaerobic digestion of organic waste	ACM0024	V 1	21/02/2014	NA	CO2	http://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/GYN18E8XAL36LNBS2TZ9SCTE3RTG9C
AM0007 Analysis of the least-cost fuel option for seasonally-operating biomass cogeneration plants	AM0007	V 1	13/06/2004	NA	CO2	http://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/K1KJFCAOTST4BJOQM39CB445SF5ZP2
AM0017 Steam system efficiency improvements by replacing steam traps and returning condensate	AM0017	V 2	21/06/2005	NA	CO2	http://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/E8B6YV4LXC0UFS254Q070PF37XPTNG
AM0018 Baseline methodology for steam optimization systems	AM0018	V 4	22/07/2016	NA	CO2	http://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/7JODLE9VO380HKU4MYXUJ6D4TMG746
AM0019 Renewable energy project activities replacing part of the electricity production of one single fossil-fuel-fired power plant that stands alone or supplies electricity to a grid, excluding biomass projects	AM0019	V 2	18/05/2006	NA	CO2, CH4	http://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/7FFSYZXS2CQHL2051XI5QBASYNZ2RF
AM0020 Baseline methodology for water pumping efficiency improvements	AM0020	V 2	02/11/2007	NA	CO2	http://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/TH0MTJC0KYJYYMQLL9B71Q9QJHOPZ9
AM0026 Methodology for zero-emissions grid-connected electricity generation from renewable sources in Chile or in countries with merit order based dispatch grid	AM0026	V 3	02/11/2007	NA	CO2, CH4	http://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/OOI7OYUFZOXN07H7EDBA9GVHJ4GK20
AM0027 Substitution of CO2 from fossil or mineral origin by CO2 from renewable sources in the production of inorganic compounds	AM0027	V 3	09/09/2021	NA	CO2	https://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/J9LSA5SCVRH7079JYKCU4YDXJVXJO2
AM0031 Bus rapid transit projects	AM0031	V 8	27/05/2021	NA	CO2, CH4	https://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/1VLGJFP1MDLVVGDQ50IMY6U3W8QUL4
Fuel switch from fossil fuels to biomass residues in heat generation equipment	AM0036	V7	11/03/2022	V 6	CO2, CH4	https://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/NEZL55M3ISPDD9I4HSLVTVQOABXQZP
AM0038 Methodology for improved electrical energy efficiency of an existing submerged electric arc furnace used for the production of SiMn	AM0038	V 3	03/06/2011	NA	CO2	http://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/0BTZ9QTVHLGOI61SIJ3ESTZVOSWJLO
AM0044 Energy efficiency improvement projects: boiler rehabilitation or replacement in industrial and district heating sectors	AM0044	V 2	23/11/2012	NA	CO2	http://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/3HZ4USHZ2W449HMAXZN420E5PJB1QF
AM0046 Distribution of efficient light bulbs to households	AM0046	V 2	02/11/2007	NA	CO2	http://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/5SI1IXDIZBL6OAKIB3JFUFAQ86MBEE
AM0048 New cogeneration facilities supplying electricity and/or steam to multiple customers and displacing grid/off-grid steam and electricity generation with more carbon-intensive fuels	AM0048	V 5	04/11/2016	NA	CO2	http://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/8IOZJL79AXAI87YTBSAUWV0318QLEN
AM0049 Methodology for gas based energy generation in an industrial facility	AM0049	V 3	27/02/2009	NA	CO2	http://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/ASGAC1E1P2OK7R912UPB3RAQ5FHS8B
AM0052 Increased electricity generation from existing hydropower stations through Decision Support System optimization	AM0052	V 3	22/07/2016	NA	CO2	http://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/AMLV2QZ2G46OK2E2QAMRST5LYG4CPY
AM0053 Biogenic methane injection to a natural gas distribution grid	AM0053	V 4	13/09/2012	NA	CO2	http://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/FKDGZEEEQC4XNUT326116FS0S8USP1
AM0055 Recovery and utilization of waste gas in refinery or gas plant	AM0055	V 2.1	03/06/2011	NA	CO2	http://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/MEIVWRXTD1E4MS7K9NLTQ452RQQ2OT
AM0056 Efficiency improvement by boiler replacement or rehabilitation and optional fuel switch in fossil fuel-fired steam boiler systems	AM0056	V 1	26/07/2007	NA	CO2	http://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/YB7UE3UB2II2INU9Y1CBJYRANZRXER
AM0057 Avoided emissions from biomass wastes through use as feed stock in pulp and paper production or in bio-oil production	AM0057	V 3.0.1	13/08/2010	NA	CH4	http://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/9YGTI34RIUKP67M87C4J5OOQ4KOGPP
AM0058 Introduction of a district heating system	AM0058	V 5	22/07/2016	NA	CO2	http://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/QEI1HZXZDIUXMM1JQDY1P9RVSOQ2Q3
Reduction in GHGs emission from primary aluminium smelters	AM0059	V2	22/07/2016	Not included before	CO2	https://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/CHNLRVLNEAM438MR5400YQDS3CPC50
AM0060 Power saving through replacement by energy efficient chillers	AM0060	V 2	22/07/2016	NA	CO2	http://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/VL1F8D744ZJO9R1DGM2K0S4CRTRMEF
AM0063 Recovery of CO2 from tail gas in industrial facilities to substitute the use of fossil fuels for production of CO2	AM0063	V 1.2.0	29/11/2007	NA	CO2	http://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/NT2ICQVYYXJ1YGSOPV8FLULKNSN74C
Capture and utilisation or destruction of mine methane (excluding coal mines) or non mine methane	AM0064	V3.0.0	02/03/2012	Not included before	CH4	https://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/QLL3A0UOVTRHNMH4WO7A2GCROW8CQ9
AM0066 GHG emission reductions through waste heat utilisation for pre-heating of raw materials in sponge iron manufacturing process	AM0066	V 2	05/12/2008	NA	CO2	http://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/599ZU6S09VXPM7X5B80T9SL61GKM20
AM0068 Methodology for improved energy efficiency by modifying ferroalloy production facility	AM0068	V 1	15/05/2008	NA	CO2	http://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/VUJ7B2WM7G0VJADXC5G9QMAE9QW1Q8
AM0069 Biogenic methane use as feedstock and fuel for town gas production	AM0069	V 2	18/12/2009	NA	CO2	http://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/4ZGGL8ZWUVFS1EFF9N6OCAHUXUJQ7T
AM0070 Manufacturing of energy efficient domestic refrigerators	AM0070	V 3.1.0	08/04/2010	NA	CO2	http://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/R66P8LFQUC30O9F2GX9Z9CTMN9B8W5
AM0072 Fossil Fuel Displacement by Geothermal Resources for Space Heating	AM0072	V 3	31/05/2013	NA	CO2	http://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/TMGAEU1XHW6BFN1CDFCTWV9VUGVI19
AM0073 GHG emission reductions through multi-site manure collection and treatment in a central plant	AM0073	V 1	27/11/2008	NA	CO2	http://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/2N19WQ6DCXNYRNJVZQQOHG7TK0Q2D8
AM0075 Methodology for collection, processing and supply of biogas to end-users for production of heat	AM0075	V 1	12/02/2009	NA	CO2	http://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/42ES7QLLGWLEVXR5RTYFFWXQWGMBBC
AM0076 Methodology for implementation of fossil fuel trigeneration systems in existing industrial facilities	AM0076	V 2	24/07/2015	NA	CO2	http://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/KU3NV20QERK3YGLMR6JQN0KQCXH38D
AM0080 Mitigation of greenhouse gases emissions with treatment of wastewater in aerobic wastewater treatment plants	AM0080	V 1	27/05/2009	NA	CO2	http://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/6DITU9V0SFOR7EUYEBBVRHCAO2RD3Q
AM0081 Flare or vent reduction at coke plants through the conversion of their waste gas into dimethyl ether for use as a fuel	AM0081	V 1	27/05/2009	NA	CO2	http://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/06975K2Y497O2WJR8T4SULQQI173DV

AM0082 Use of charcoal from planted renewable biomass in the iron ore reduction process through the establishment of a new iron ore reduction system	AM0082	V 2	29/11/2018	NA	CO2, CH4, N2O	https://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/HU5YD6760LN38RYZKVKOEKXUZ8XVR6
AM0083 Avoidance of landfill gas emissions by in-situ aeration of landfills	AM0083	V 1.0.1	16/07/2009	NA	CO2	http://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/BBO6PAWNGE2ALB067H08TYVPOMSQ7P
AM0084 Installation of cogeneration system supplying electricity and chilled water to new and existing consumers	AM0084	V 3	24/07/2015	NA	CO2	http://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/AHSSRS41KEYKYZREKDOV8INMVRDNECIC
AM0086 Installation of zero energy water purifier for safe drinking water application	AM0086	V 5	28/03/2019	NA	CO2	http://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/RWE3YECZOXIZZ1OZBK9CRPNX0Y2RUS
AM0088 Air separation using cryogenic energy recovered from the vaporization of LNG	AM0088	V 1	29/07/2010	NA	CO2	http://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/BOT1457B4DM4ROLR4RW5HK9Z252LFO
Production of diesel using a mixed feedstock of gasoil and vegetable oil	AM0089	V3	11/03/2022	V 2	CO2	https://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/6Q44ZBNZZ9LZ7UMDYA46ZPA1LO5KYX
AM0090 Modal shift in transportation of cargo from road transportation to water or rail transportation	AM0090	V 1.1.0	17/09/2010	NA	CO2	http://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/4DOIK2WYP8P3AGAVJKTDCHYSNXJ4QP
AM0091 Energy efficiency technologies and fuel switching in new buildings	AM0091	V 4	29/11/2018	NA	CO2, CH4	https://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/FOL1B0TNMH9OH4OPGF6NI6CVP43412
AM0094 Distribution of biomass based stove and/or heater for household or institutional use	AM0094	V 2.0	23/11/2012	NA	CO2	http://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/SNDLYZ32U7OZ2ICXJF3WHGFCFKVGS0
AM0095 Waste gas based combined cycle power plant in a Greenfield iron and steel plant	AM0095	V 1	29/09/2011	NA	CO2	http://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/J7N7ID00ROY7XERKVOIOA3G41LAU1V
AM0098 Utilization of ammonia-plant off gas for steam generation	AM0098	V 1	29/09/2011	NA	CO2, CH4	http://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/ONV6M8SV6SGXVDRF5NBNFF0510TJS
AM0100 Integrated Solar Combined Cycle (ISCC) projects	AM0100	V 1	25/11/2011	NA	CO2	http://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/BE57OOGMZYDMCP9IPTVJHP93BVK4UO
AM0101 High speed passenger rail systems	AM0101	V 2	24/07/2015	NA	CO2, CH4	http://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/DU42CLZRFTEERYLAB4SZ87ERW84ZUT
AM0103 Renewable energy power generation in isolated grids	AM0103	V 4	28/11/2019	NA	CO2	https://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/AZCWWMVZUR0D3J548RVSKPR97CSGC
AM0105 Energy efficiency in data centres through dynamic power management	AM0105	V 1	20/07/2012	NA	CO2	http://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/OW112TOSAHFGS1U7SUG7Z7IC3BHD7P
AM0106 Energy efficiency improvements of a lime production facility through installation of new kilns	AM0106	V 2	13/09/2012	NA	CO2	http://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/PGRZYPRGOA4MOLYYFVB632P1KUALC9
AM0109 Introduction of hot supply of Direct Reduced Iron in Electric Arc Furnaces	AM0109	V 1	13/09/2012	NA	CO2	http://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/XSLUMT677WX1YOI9VUJBXSGERHQWO
AM0110 Modal shift in transportation of liquid fuels	AM0110	V 2	16/04/2015	NA	CO2	http://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/DLZLK5MAYJGJO4DWVS31WVV59ODKS3
AM0113 Distribution of compact fluorescent lamps (CFL) and light-emitting diode (LED) lamps to households	AM0113	V 3	08/09/2022	V 2	CO2	http://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/MW18NEOFU1PBMYXECFT1RBYPS0VWVL
AM0114 Shift from electrolytic to catalytic process for recycling of chlorine from hydrogen chloride gas in isocyanate plants	AM0114	V 1	01/06/2014	NA	CO2	http://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/2OB1K4PY36P8EE0DNDC6LOXRFDZTZU
AM0116 Electric taxiing systems for airplanes	AM0116	V 2	13/05/2016	NA	CO2	http://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/DH4MTDYSSTCNEZIO1UO61M0O5OLHU2
AM0117 Introduction of a new district cooling system	AM0117	V 2	14/06/2019	NA	CO2	https://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/EQEGREXNSR6V0FAPOPR7D0ERU5DOOX
Energy-efficient refrigerators and air-conditioners	AM0120	V1	01/11/2017	Not included before	CO2	https://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/3USXGBIS5R8UI5FXVG90SIYCDD9W9P1
Recovery of methane-rich vapours from hydrocarbon storage tanks	AM0122	V2	08/09/2022	Not included before	CH4	https://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/I5TDVSV44QOQ0LRWUU1SRDYZPC5FOV
Renewable energy generation for captive use	AM0123	V1	27/09/2023	Not included before	CO2	https://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/T0UCOSLLYB1LDTVD8GCTJZKACTGUTO
Hydrogen production from electrolysis of water	AM0124	V1	27/09/2023	Not included before	CO2	https://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/X31VJK2BR9OCAKQMET9BRS2PXSKKX
Electricity generation by the user+B1:H90	AMS-I.A.	V19	08/09/2022	V 17	CO2	https://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/1TIFADHWTMIW2STAL778RLEFJ6AWBB
Mechanical energy for the user with or without electrical energy	AMS-I.B.	V13	08/09/2022	V 12	CO2	https://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/MYQXBSP3I7O9CLL577COJXPT18AVFL
Thermal energy production with or without electricity	AMS-I.C.	V22	11/03/2022	V 21	CO2	https://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/XABBE3C3POJYWZU7F7BZWMD0DJJKBUUW
AMS-I.D.: Grid connected renewable electricity generation	AMS-I.D.	V 18	28/11/2014	NA	CO_2	http://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/W3TIN27KKWCK7L8WTXFQQOFQQH4SBK
Switch from Non-Renewable Biomass for Thermal Applications by the User	AMS-I.E.	V13	08/09/2022	V 12	CO2	https://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/JB9I7XDIJ3298CLGZ1279ZMBZY4NPO
Renewable electricity generation for captive use and mini-grid	AMS-I.F.	V5	08/09/2022	V 3	CO2	https://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/XKCRT4QOGUUWXXZMQRXUGESDWON4S1M
AMS-I.G.: Plant oil production and use for energy generation in stationary applications	AMS-I.G.	V 2	28/11/2014	NA	CO_2	http://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/OS1W06R22A2YEIGG34LT3XNNC4ZDT
AMS-I.H.: Biodiesel production and use for energy generation in stationary applications	AMS-I.H.	V 3	01/03/2018	V 2	CO_2	http://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/1Y7EKSS8MH3YFD50NIYGB62WOR56WH
Biogas/biomass thermal applications for households/small users	AMS-I.I.	V6	11/03/2022	V 5	CO2	https://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/NI6OBJ8Y4UBHWQWRA4COBZ3OMO69HS
AMS-I.J.: Solar water heating systems (SWH)	AMS-I.J.	V 2	31/08/2018	NA	CO_2	https://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/7FWC9VI1SEMP2EOCF44OUZH9XHLSW
AMS-I.K.: Solar cookers for households	AMS-I.K.	V 1	02/03/2012	NA	CO_2	http://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/5EU71AEXA0RKXWNJ6NHVROP71DD8R
AMS-I.L.: Electrification of rural communities using renewable energy	AMS-I.L.	V 5	08/09/2022	V 4	CO_2	http://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/CCZKY3FSL1T288NEGDRSCKSOCY0WVA
AMS-I.M.: Solar power for domestic aircraft at-gate operations	AMS-I.M.	V 1	13/05/2016	NA	CO2	https://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/QTUAKT70WU4F77BOSUR662E3LV40XL
Supply side energy efficiency improvements – transmission and distribution	AMS-II.A.	V10	31/07/2009	Not included before	CO2	https://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/1UOYHTF4NZL03NMG817XU5TLK88HKM
AMS-II.B. Supply side energy efficiency improvements – generation	AMS-II.B.	V 9	10/08/2007	NA	CO_2	http://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/69MEFLV8HH6L8RAFQRAZ3XEF2BYTMG
AMS-II.C. Demand-side energy efficiency activities for specific technologies	AMS-II.C.	V 15	13/05/2016	NA	CO2	http://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/7Y44EN2RTD02AI78JYWCGAR8W64XP
AMS-II.D. Energy efficiency and fuel switching measures for industrial facilities	AMS-II.D.	V 13	04/10/2013	NA	CO2	http://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/M4UNVAQ7Y1QZBCUWFBVZBKT3546LM
AMS-II.E. Energy efficiency and fuel switching measures for buildings	AMS-II.E.	V 12	05/10/2020	NA	CO2, CH4	https://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/6R5OGZ6R2HF1HN3GDQOJ02TZRXA03R
AMS-II.F. Energy efficiency and fuel switching measures for agricultural facilities and activities	AMS-II.F.	V 10	16/03/2012	NA	CO2	http://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/J8IGP7UXNB82DGLWTKENW64IZ5D8HD
Energy Efficiency Measures in Thermal Applications of Non-Renewable Biomass	AMS-II.G.	V13	08/09/2022	V 12	CO2	https://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/GNFWB3Y6GM4WPXFRRZSWS9WR9B8JO
AMS-II.H. Energy efficiency measures through centralization of utility provisions of an industrial facility	AMS-II.H.	V 3	29/04/2011	NA	CO2	http://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/LM7W0MFKXMP1F31EWWVUQMGZ73MNKN
AMS-II.I. Efficient utilization of waste energy in industrial facilities	AMS-II.I.	V 1	16/05/2008	NA	CO2	http://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/OBBCTATQZSOA6UUJSYIVAVJ3GZY8W2Y
AMS-II.J. Demand-side activities for efficient lighting technologies	AMS-II.J.	V 7	13/05/2016	NA	CO2	http://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/GIF3094709KR4YEEJXX72UY9RL6Y4
AMS-II.K.Installation of co-generation or tri-generation systems supplying energy to commercial building	AMS-II.K.	V2.0	25/05/2012	NA	CO2	https://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/B5P8IP575KC8VG133CZJJG7B6J4WHY
AMS-II.L Demand-side activities for efficient outdoor and street lighting technologies	AMS-II.L.	V 2	04/10/2013	NA	CO2	http://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/JXH8OI21V4PIQTL2WJLG6KJP5BTY3H
AMS-II.M Demand-side energy efficiency activities for installation of low-flow hot water savings devices	AMS-II.M.	V 2	04/10/2013	NA	CO2	http://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/748XBKQYSN13E836NPOURH64BHOSSJ
AMS-II.N. Demand-side energy efficiency activities for installation of energy efficient lighting and/or controls in buildings	AMS-II.N.	V 2	04/10/2013	NA	CO2	http://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/SZ3FA8WFAPJFEXH9XDTDO8EI93W9YQ
AMS-II.O. Dissemination of energy efficient household appliances	AMS-II.O.	V 1	02/03/2012	NA	CO2	http://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/DE5DPQDNA9ETZ5IB6HL0ZT2B8KZ3S
AMS-II.P. Energy efficient pump-set for agriculture use	AMS-II.P.	V 1	20/07/2012	NA	CO2	http://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/RI4FUJR4R2RPM0ZI9K6KO1GUT29XAK
AMS-II.Q. Energy efficiency and/or energy supply projects in commercial buildings	AMS-II.Q.	V 1	20/07/2012	NA	CO2	http://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/YCL1T3NURPHKSHBSR8TIHC2T543HTQ
AMS-II.R. Energy efficiency space heating measures for residential buildings	AMS-II.R.	V 1	31/05/2013	NA	CO2	http://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/9SD9BGO4446JYU1PEV6Z4CYUOSRF3QU

AMS-II.S. Energy efficiency in motor systems	AMS-II.S.	V 1	28/11/2014	NA	CO_2	http://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/F5Z29X6OE65C3D2QWXDZ5AYCCBQ8UL
Emission reduction through reactive power compensation in power distribution network	AMS-II.T.	V2	28/03/2019	Not included before	CO_2	https://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/XBVCZF1M3XJBZYEK8AIKAUMGWZV1V7
AMS-III.A. Urea offset by inoculant application in soybean-corn rotations on acidic soils on existing cropland	AMS-III.A.	V 3	28/11/2014	NA	CO_2	http://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/5G3VVUHIXHA0OYIBYJKX7JV02LEUHH
AMS-III.AA. Transportation Energy Efficiency Activities using Retrofit Technologies	AMS-III.AA.	V 1	28/05/2009	NA	CO_2	http://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/4N6Q5WI36PVIUDBJT6M7DBM4I6R5D6
AMS-III.AC. Electricity and/or heat generation using fuel cell	AMS-III.AC.	V 1	28/05/2009	NA	CO_2	http://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/OL84HV9C0HNUXAC6X1H2JYLZYD4OH6
AMS-III.AD. Emission reductions in hydraulic lime production	AMS-III.AD.	V 1	28/05/2009	NA	CO_2	http://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/GSUXXH5XG6MQNGF20HQOKFEOL4LL6X
AMS-III.AE. Energy efficiency and renewable energy measures in new residential buildings	AMS-III.AE.	V 2	28/11/2018	NA	CO_2	https://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/FUO73IQ9LLOKEQF2EL3BX8BFP38LJB
AMS-III.AF. Avoidance of methane emissions through excavating and composting of partially decayed municipal solid waste (MSW)	AMS-III.AF.	V 1	16/10/2009	NA	CH_4	http://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/CM36WBKIHLSRAOKAAYDB3N81CQT683
AMS-III.AG. Switching from high carbon intensive grid electricity to low carbon intensive fossil fuel	AMS-III.AG.	V 3	24/07/2015	NA	CO_2	http://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/F29GYOO69Q8XNGWI65BNI1FX64914A
AMS-III.AH. Shift from high carbon intensive fuel mix ratio to low carbon intensive fuel mix ratio	AMS-III.AH.	V 3	04/05/2017	NA	CO_2	https://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/LPV6TEXQMQK5JQJ7YZAL97QBIXLXMO
AMS-III.AI. Emission reductions through recovery of spent sulphuric acid	AMS-III.AI.	V 1	25/03/2010	NA	CO_2	http://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/ZIKHGNKPYQWDQAB1UMUMAOB5HN8Y7G
Recovery and recycling of materials from solid wastes	AMS-III.AJ.	V9	08/09/2022	V 8	CO_2, CH_4	https://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/LOWIXM9S6DVO7DGXB21DPVLE8N3VB9
AMS-III.AK. Biodiesel production and use for transport applications	AMS-III.AK.	V 3	01/03/2018	V 2	CO_2	http://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/LNFDO5DUYAJHKH8DJCRNHTZB9E7P1C
AMS-III.AL. Conversion from single cycle to combined cycle power generation	AMS-III.AL.	V 1	29/07/2010	NA	CO_2	http://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/29K4OPZIHAHWEX1L3GM57RXUQTF1J6
AMS-III.AO. Methane recovery through controlled anaerobic digestion	AMS-III.AO.	V 1	26/11/2010	NA	CH_4	http://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/F5U41CTG7ENWK9RSSL5BV1LUPDG76W
AMS-III.AP. Transport energy efficiency activities using post - fit Idling Stop device	AMS-III.AP.	V 2	04/03/2011	NA	CO_2	http://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/O9M70WPT45KZ55V39IW0BLMGE1ZEPT
AMS-III.AQ. Introduction of Bio-CNG in transportation applications	AMS-III.AQ.	V 2	01/06/2014	NA	CO_2	http://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/O9M70WPT45KZ55V39IW0BLMGE1ZEPT
Substituting fossil fuel based lighting with LED lighting systems	AMS-III.AR.	V8	08/09/2022	V 7	CO_2	https://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/S3RZMK6KR289WKK0VB1ETT6K73Y3DR
AMS-III.AS. Switch from fossil fuel to biomass in existing manufacturing facilities for non-energy applications	AMS-III.AS.	V 2	28/11/2014	NA	CO_2	http://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/QZLJ9GEQYIAMWGOXCLO8W2AQ6GA7ZE
AMS-III.AT. Transportation energy efficiency activities installing digital tachograph systems to commercial freight transport fleets	AMS-III.AT.	V 2	16/03/2012	NA	CO_2	http://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/I7N1Y6OK4U68VD89IPLPXT8WEBTAFH
AMS-III.AU. Methane emission reduction by adjusted water management practice in rice	AMS-III.AU.	V4	28/11/2014	NA	CO_2	https://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/D14KAKRJEW4OTHEA4YJICOHM26M6BM
AMS-III.AV. Low greenhouse gas emitting water purification systems	AMS-III.AV.	V 8	12/06/2020	NA	CO_2	https://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/DKCLAOGT0S146VR70ZADDFGOVD61JK
Electrification of rural communities by grid extension	AMS-III.AW.	V2	08/09/2022	V 1	CO_2	https://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/ALA9GZ61SKFD1KAJAAQ6V4LHQNT81P
Introduction of LNG buses to existing and new bus routes	AMS-III.AY.	V2	08/09/2022	V 1	CO_2	https://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/V6BCAMOAFY7X06BWQEVH50AF43XPUW
AMS-III.BA Recovery and recycling of materials from E-waste	AMS-III.BA.	V 3	09/10/2021	NA	CO_2	https://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/TO0E8JPL9361FDB1IPF0TUPS0WJXV3
Electrification of communities through grid extension or construction of new mini-grids	AMS-III.BB.	V3	08/09/2022	Not included before	CO_2	https://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/IC7N1SOAI2PJE4BXC9UJJL7ZRBAG0Q
Emission reductions through improved efficiency of vehicle fleets	AMS-III.BC.	V3	08/09/2022	V 2	CO_2	https://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/IUZLXKKWBF54STZY8R4QLNIBV4OZBA
AMS-III.BD GHG emission reduction due to supply of molten metal instead of ingots for aluminium castings	AMS-III.BD.	V 1	20/07/2012	NA	CO_2	http://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/TM2SA154ZUNU2R6PAIMAQVE76MF5R7
AMS-III.BE Avoidance of methane and nitrous oxide emissions from sugarcane pre-harvest open burning through mulching	AMS-III.BE.	V1.0	23/11/2012	NA	CH_4, N_2O	https://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/EO0133GH79SZ4W9DNZK3E34ZTABRRD
AMS-III.BF Reduction of N2O emissions from use of Nitrogen Use Efficient (NUE) seeds that require less fertilizer application	AMS-III.BF.	V2.0	28/11/2014	NA	N_2O	https://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/OTVXR8XN35SRHTBO426YXJ140MTKXZ
Emission reduction through sustainable charcoal production and consumption	AMS-III.BG.	V4	08/09/2022	V 3	CH_4, CO_2	https://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/S4V8CI7HHKADRWTLKZO6CRK3LHAGEQ
AMS-III.BH Displacement of production of brick and cement by manufacture and installation of gypsum concrete wall panels	AMS-III.BH.	V 1	04/10/2013	NA	CO_2	http://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/YZBSIH9BCH894GDSD4BP2FMNMI9FU6
AMS-III.BK Strategic feed supplementation in smallholder dairy sector to increase productivity	AMS-III.BK.	V2.0	29/10/2021	NA	CO_2	https://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/V2AIKU3OM6H40CHX1QKYDLPE1CXTO5
Integrated methodology for electrification of communities	AMS-III.BL.	V2	08/09/2022	Not included before	CO_2	https://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/2QRIZO0JEEVD3UILMX1A8N9KZXVUIG
Lightweight two and three wheeled personal transportation	AMS-III.BM.	V2	08/09/2022	V1.0	CO_2	https://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/FJZET7CRTF87VRD7716EZGVS42Z9QM
AMS-III.BN Efficient operation of public transportation	AMS-III.BN.	V1.0	28/03/2019	NA	CO_2	https://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/OHJSUDNRODDND71KA41IO2FDV9AGWX
AMS-III.BO Trip avoidance through equipment improvement of freight transport	AMS-III.BO.	V1.0	12/09/2019	NA	CO_2	https://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/D8BY5DZHPFSY6822TRH93VRTST4DTC
AMS-III.BP Emission reduction by shore-side electricity supply system	AMS-III.BP.	V1.0	12/06/2020	NA	CO_2	https://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/D5ZHSKFHO9IGSWI9PD8CE8JL1SQDRB
Hydrogen fuel cell vehicles	AMS-III.BQ.	V1	24/03/2023	Not included before	CO_2	https://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/1UVWTII4VIOMSJ9FOX222DW8PCKSXS
Emission reductions by electric and hybrid vehicles	AMS-III.C.	V16	08/09/2022	V 15	CO_2	https://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/HLOH5R7J6M96A23TFECTQ1BVIE24CK
AMS-III.D. Methane recovery in animal manure management systems	AMS-III.D.	V 21	22/09/2017	V 20	CH_4	http://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/H9DVSB24O7GEZQYLYNWUX23YS6G4RC
AMS-III.E. Avoidance of methane production from decay of biomass through controlled combustion, gasification or mechanical/thermal treatment	AMS-III.E.	V 17	28/11/2014	NA	CH_4	http://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/AZB89EQ3FIRUIN1Q80MS80RXCLA2TS
AMS-III.F. Avoidance of methane emissions through controlled biological treatment of biomass	AMS-III.F.	V 12	04/11/2016	NA	CH_4	http://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/NZ83KB7YHBIA7HL2U1PCNAOCHPUQYX
AMS-III.G. Landfill methane recovery	AMS-III.G.	V 10	14/06/2019	NA	CH_4	https://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/0KHNES8D09H134V3TZDQ47C3LQL3H2
AMS-III.H. Methane recovery in wastewater treatment	AMS-III.H.	V 19	14/06/2019	NA	CH_4	https://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/K7FDTJ4FL3432I1UKRNKLDCUFAMBX7
AMS-III.I. Avoidance of methane production in wastewater treatment through replacement of anaerobic systems by aerobic systems	AMS-III.I.	V 8	31/07/2009	NA	CH_4	http://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/Z5A2LR9Q7XS906TDS4XDC8MKORZ63R
AMS-III.J. Avoidance of fossil fuel combustion for carbon dioxide production to be used as raw material for industrial processes	AMS-III.J.	V 3	10/08/2007	NA	CO_2	http://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/QC0971YNOM62MVYSBSKU2SI532W67D
AMS-III.K. Avoidance of methane release from charcoal production by shifting from traditional open-ended methods to mechanized charcoaling process	AMS-III.K.	V 5	09/12/2011	NA	CH_4	http://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/5S7G7PZRR5A01LTMMIQMLVN2BSHCIR
AMS-III.L. Avoidance of methane production from biomass decay through controlled pyrolysis	AMS-III.L.	V 2	10/08/2007	NA	CH_4	http://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/72XV0Z89701S2D87UBPFD57WE5AFP5
AMS-III.M. Reduction in consumption of electricity by recovering soda from paper manufacturing process	AMS-III.M.	V 2	10/08/2007	NA	CO_2	http://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/58LVBF3H4GKSFFKCHSH0HBEBNJLZM3
AMS-III.O. Hydrogen production using methane extracted from biogas	AMS-III.O.	V 2	24/07/2015	NA	CO_2	http://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/XC2DTEAI88T9TTB3HK42GWRFOQ63GD
AMS-III.P. Recovery and utilization of waste gas in refinery facilities	AMS-III.P.	V 1	19/10/2007	NA	CO_2	http://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/18GIT3IDBVR7RUAI0ORD3ID4WHWWAD
AMS-III.Q. Waste Energy Recovery (gas/heat/pressure) Projects	AMS-III.Q.	V 6.1	16/04/2015	NA	CO_2	http://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/RGPW18XV4FJH1FTTGS2LSD3BWNKNAA
Methane recovery from livestock and manure management at households and small farms	AMS-III.R.	V5	24/03/2023	V 4	CH_4	https://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/Q8EMKMK67G1XIUKJFED8EVFL2VH1SN
AMS-III.S. Introduction of low-emission vehicles/technologies to commercial vehicle fleets	AMS-III.S.	V 4	07/12/2012	NA	CO_2	http://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/CAEL7OU5NIMXWM9E4RU2C4MV9WHXJN
AMS-III.T. Plant oil production and use for transport applications	AMS-III.T.	V 3	28/11/2014	NA	CO_2	http://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/BHJJAG6KCN60INVXCKXWOXRRX9UKTG

AMS-III.U. Cable Cars for Mass Rapid Transit System (MRTS)	AMS-III.U.	V 2		24/07/2015	NA	CO2	http://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/I7O8EX3R0PA22GNGBJMH2FHCOIL03L
AMS-III.V. Decrease of coke consumption in blast furnace by installing dust/sludge recycling system in steel works	AMS-III.V.	V 1		26/09/2008	NA	CO2	http://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/QSGY2G2GS87QSIXXMPCWN69ZBOL2B0
Methane capture and destruction in non-hydrocarbon mining activities	AMS-III.W.	V2		09/12/2011	Not included before	CH4	https://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/SO649307UOAXFNTE8I8933UA6OA5SK
AMS-III.X. Energy Efficiency and HFC-134a Recovery in Residential Refrigerators	AMS-III.X.	V2.0		01/10/2010	NA	CO2	https://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/983EQY2RSIYT5Q1KN4FIWHU2FL3MHP
AMS-III.Y. Methane avoidance through separation of solids from wastewater or manure treatment systems	AMS-III.Y.	V 4		04/11/2016	NA	CH4	http://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/IR1ULTHWQKPQO992O3UJTTLELME23L
AMS-III.Z. Fuel Switch, process improvement and energy efficiency in brick manufacture	AMS-III.Z.	V 6		24/07/2015	NA	CO2	http://cdm.unfccc.int/methodologies/DB/VLZZ1DVT1QI3KHZKSM6QECOAKNSCXZ
Gold Standard A/R GHG Emissions Reduction & Sequestration Methodology	NA	V1.0 -2.1		16/05/2024	NA	CO2	https://globalgoals.goldstandard.org/403-luf-ar-methodology-ghgs-emission-reduction-and-sequestration-methodology/
Gold Standard Agriculture Smallholder Dairy Methodology	NA	V1.0		22/06/2017	NA	CO2, CH4, N2O	https://globalgoals.goldstandard.org/401-13-gs-agr-sdm-gold-standard-agriculture-smallholder-dairy-methodology/
Gold Standard Technologies and Practices to Displace Decentralized Thermal Energy Consumption and Reduced emissions from cooking and heating – Technologies and Practices to displace Decentralised Thermal Energy Consumption (TPDDTEC)	NA	V1-4.0		07/10/2021	v3.1	CO_2, CH_4, N_2O	https://globalgoals.goldstandard.org/407-ee-ics-technologies-and-practices-to-displace-decentrilized-thermal-energy-tpddtec-consumption/
Reducing Vessel Emissions Through the Use of Advanced Hull Coatings	NA	V2.0	14/06/17		V1.0	CO_2	https://globalgoals.goldstandard.org/401-13-er-ahc-reducing-vessel-emissions-through-the-use-of-advanced-hull-coatings-version-2-0/
Suppressed Demand Methodology Micro-scale Electrification and Energization	NA	V1.0		14/05/2013	NA	CO_2	https://globalgoals.goldstandard.org/401-13-er-sdmsee-suppressed-demand-methodology-micro-scale-electrification-and-energization/
Suppressed Demand Small-scale Methodology for Low GHG Food Preservation	NA	V1.0		14/05/2013	NA	CO_2	https://globalgoals.goldstandard.org/401-13-er-sdss-fp-suppressed-demand-small-scale-methodology-for-low-ghg-food-preservation/
Suppressed Demand Small--scale Methodology for Energy Use for the Processing of Agricultural Products	NA	V1.0	14/06/17		NA	CO_2	https://globalgoals.goldstandard.org/401-13-er-sdss-pap-suppressed-demand-small-%c2%adscale-methodology-for-energy-use-for-the-processing-of-agricultural-products/
The Gold Standard Simplified Methodology for Efficient Cookstoves	NA	V1.0 - V3.0		08/07/2022	NA	CO_2	https://globalgoals.goldstandard.org/401-13-er-ms-cs-microscale-methodology-for-improved-cookstoves/
Emission Reductions from Safe Drinking Water Supply	NA	V1		03/05/2021	NA	CO2	https://globalgoals.goldstandard.org/429-ee-sws-emission-reductions-from-safe-drinking-water-supply/
Methane emissions reduction from enteric fermentation in beef cattle through application of feed supplements	NA	V1.0	18/07/23		Not included before	CH4	https://globalgoals.goldstandard.org/438-luf-agr-methane-emissions-reduction-from-enteric-fermentation-in-beef-cattle-through-application-of-feed-supplements/
Reducing Methane Emissions from Enteric Fermentation in Dairy Cows through Application of Feed Supplements	NA	V0.9.1	28/03/2019				https://globalgoals.goldstandard.org/404-luf-agr-livestock-enteric-fermentation-in-dairy-cows-through-application-of-feed-supplements/
Methodology for animal waste management and biogas application	NA	V1.0 - V1,1	25/02/2023		1	CO2, CH4, N2O	https://globalgoals.goldstandard.org/433-ee-ics-methodology-for-animal-waste-management-and-biogas-application/
Methane emission reduction by adjusted water management practice in rice cultivation	NA	V1.0		06/07/2023	Not included before	CH4	https://globalgoals.goldstandard.org/437-luf-agr-methane-emission-reduction-awm-practice-in-rice/
Two and three wheeled personal transportation	NA	V1.0		13/01/2023	Not included before	CO2	https://globalgoals.goldstandard.org/434-ee-two-and-three-wheeled-personal-transportation/
Methodology for collection of macroalgae to avoid emissions from decomposition	NA	V1.0		19/05/2023	Not included before	CH4	https://globalgoals.goldstandard.org/436-wm-methodology-for-collection-of-macroalgae-to-avoid-emissions-from-decomposition/
Soil Organic Carbon Framework Methodology	NA	V1.0	28/02/2020				
Soil Organic Carbon Activity Module: Increasing Soil Carbon Through Improved Tillage Practices	NA	V1.0		28/02/2020	Not included before	CO2	https://globalgoals.goldstandard.org/402-1-luf-agr-am-soc-module-improved-tillage/
Soil Organic Carbon activity module for zero tillage	NA	V2.0	20/02/2024				https://globalgoals.goldstandard.org/402-4-luf-agr-am-soc-module-zero-tillage/
Soil Organic Carbon Activity Module – Biostimulants for soil revitalisation	NA	V1.0		11/01/2023	NA		https://globalgoals.goldstandard.org/402-3-luf-agr-am-soc-module-biostimulants-for-soil-[illegible]
Soil Organic Carbon Activity Module for enhancing carbon stocks in managed Pasture	NA	V1.0	14/08/2024		NA		https://globalgoals.goldstandard.org/402-5-luf-agr-am-soc-module-managed-pastures/
Soil Organic Carbon Activity Module for Application of organic soil improvers from pulp and paper mill sludges	NA	V1.0		03/07/2022	NA		https://globalgoals.goldstandard.org/402-2-luf-agr-am-soc-activity-module-application-
Soil Organic Carbon Activity Module for Cover crops	NA	V1.0		10/02/2024			
Reducing Methane Emissions from Enteric Fermentation in Dairy Cows Through Application Of Feed Supplements	NA	V0.9.1		28/03/2019	Not included before	CO2	https://globalgoals.goldstandard.org/404-luf-agr-livestock-enteric-fermentation-in-dairy-cows-through-application-of-feed-supplements/
Methodology for Metered & Measured Energy Cooking Devices	NA	V1.2		13/12/2022	V1.0	CO2, CH4, N2O	https://globalgoals.goldstandard.org/430_ee_ics_methodology-for-metered-measured-energy-cooking-devices/
The Gold Standard Simplified Methodology For Clean And Efficient Cookstoves	NA	V3.0		08/07/2022	V1.0	CO2, CH4, N2O	https://globalgoals.goldstandard.org/408-ee-ics-simplified-methodology-for-efficient-cookstoves/
Retrofit Energy Efficiency Measures in Shipping	NA	V 2.1		13/12/2021	V2.0	CO2, CH4 (only LNG)	https://globalgoals.goldstandard.org/422-ee-shipping-retrofit-energy-efficiency-measures-in-shipping/
Sustainable Management of Mangroves		V1.0	22/08/2024		V1.0	CO2, CH4, N2O	https://globalgoals.goldstandard.org/439-fs-emission-reduction-by-shore-side-or-off-shore-electricity-supply-system/
Emission reduction by shore-side or off-shore electricity supply system	NA	V1.0	31/01/2024			CO2, CH4, N2O	https://globalgoals.goldstandard.org/418-re-suppressed-demand-methodology-micro-scale-electrification-and-energization/
Reduction in methane emissions from landfills through decentralised organic waste processing	NA	V1.0	05/01/2024		V1.0	CO2, CH4, N2O	https://globalgoals.goldstandard.org/441-wmh-reduction-in-methane-emissions-from-landfills-through-decentralised-organic-waste-processing/
Methodology for Marine Fuels and Biobunkers	NA	V1.0	09/04/2024		V1.0	CO2, CH4, N2O	https://globalgoals.goldstandard.org/442-ee-methodology-for-marine-fuels-and-biobunkers/
Retrofit Energy Efficiency Measures in Shipping	NA	V2.1	13/12/2021		V1.0-2.0	CO2, CH4, N2O	https://globalgoals.goldstandard.org/422-ee-shipping-retrofit-energy-efficiency-measures-in-shipping/
Methodology for Biomass Fermentation with Carbon Capture and Geologic storage		V1.0	01/09/2024			CO2, CH4, N2O	https://globalgoals.goldstandard.org/440-ccs-methodology-for-biomass-fermentation-with-carbon-capture-and-geologic-storage/
Carbon Sequestration through Accelerated Carbonation of Concrete Aggregate		V1.0		03/07/2022		CO2, CH4, N2O	https://globalgoals.goldstandard.org/432-cdr-carbon-sequestration-through-accelerated-carbonation-of-concrete-aggregate/

Programme Application Form, Appendix C

Programme Exclusions Scope

CONTENTS: With this document, programmes may define which of their activities they are **excluding** from TAB's assessment.The two sheets are described below:

Sheet A) Activities the programme describes in this form will be **excluded** from assessment by ICAO's TAB
Sheet B) List of all methodologies / protocols that support activities described under Sheet A

SHEET A: EXCLUDED ACTIVITIES *(Here, list activities supported by the programme that the programme wishes to* ***exclude*** *from TAB's assessment, whether or not these were previously excluded from the programme's Scope of Eligibility for the 2024-2026 compliance period)*

Sector	Project/programme type(s)	Implementation level(s)	Geography(ies)
e.g. Waste, Energy	e.g., Landfill methane capture; Coal mine methane capture;	e.g., Project-level only; Programmes of activities; Sector-sca	e.g., Global; Non-Annex I-only; Country X only

SHEET B: EXCLUDED METHODOLOGIES *(Here, list all methodologi*

Methodology name	**Unique Methodology / Protocol Identifier**
e.g. "Methodology to XYZ…"	e.g., ABC-123-V.20-XXX

es / protocols that support activities described in Sheet A)

Applicable methodology version(s)	**Date of entry into force of most recent version**	**Prior versions of the methodology that are credited by the Programme** (if applicable)
e.g., V2.0	01/01/2018	

Greenhouse / other gases addressed in methodology	Web link to methodology

Emissions Unit Programme Registry Attestation

(Version 3, January 2023)

PART A. Applicability and Instructions

1. Relevance and definitions:

1.1. These terms are relevant to emissions unit programmes and their designated registries:

1.1.1. ***CORSIA Eligible Emissions Unit Programme:*** emissions unit programme approved by the ICAO Council as eligible to supply emissions units under the CORSIA.

1.1.2. ***CORSIA Eligible Emissions Unit Programme-designated registry:*** registry designated by a CORSIA Eligible Emissions Unit Programme to provide its registry services and approved by the ICAO Council as reflected in the programme's listing contained in the ICAO Document titled "*CORSIA Eligible Emissions Units*".

1.1.3. ***Material change:*** any update to the procedures of an emissions unit programme or its designated registry that would alter the functions that are addressed in the Emissions Unit Criteria (EUC), related guidelines, or the contents of this attestation. This includes changes that would alter responses to questions in the application form that the programme has submitted to the ICAO Secretariat or contradict the confirmation of the registry's adherence to the requirements contained in this attestation.

1.1.4. ***Cancel:*** the permanent removal and single use of a CORSIA Eligible Emissions Unit within a CORSIA Eligible Emissions Unit Programme designated registry such that the same emissions unit may not be used more than once. This is sometimes also referred to as "retirement", "cancelled", "cancelling" or "cancellation".

1.1.5. ***Business day:*** defined by the CORSIA Eligible Emissions Unit Programme registry when responding to formal instruction from a duly authorized representative of the owner of an account capable of holding and cancelling CORSIA Eligible Emission Units.

1.2. References to "Annex 16, Volume IV" throughout this document refer to Annex 16 to the Convention on International Civil Aviation — *Environmental Protection,* Volume IV — *Carbon Offsetting and reduction Scheme for International Aviation (CORSIA)*, containing the Standards and Recommended Practices (SARPs) for CORSIA implementation. Reference to "ETM, Volume IV" throughout this document refer to Environmental Technical Manual (Doc 9501), Volume IV — *Procedures for demonstrating compliance with the Carbon Offsetting and Reduction Scheme for International Aviation (CORSIA)*, containing the guidance on the process to implement CORSIA SARPs.

2. Programme - registry relationship:

2.1. The ICAO Council's Technical Advisory Body (TAB) conducts its assessment of emissions unit programme eligibility including an assessment of the programme's provisions and procedures governing the programme registry, as represented by the programme. The ICAO Council determines CORSIA eligible emissions units upon recommendations by TAB and

consistent with the EUC. The programme registry is not separately or independently considered throughout this process. The TAB may periodically review and report to the ICAO Council regarding the continued consistency of programme's registry and its administration with terms contained in this document's Part B.

2.2. The provision of registry services under the CORSIA by a CORSIA Eligible Emissions Unit Programme registry is fully subject to the terms, conditions and limitations to the programme's scope of eligibility. Such terms include, *inter alia*, the programme's commitment to administer any and all provisions and procedures governing the programme registry in the manner represented by the programme in the application form and additional information provided to TAB during the assessment process.

2.3. A CORSIA Eligible Emissions Unit Programme registry can provide registry services to aeroplane operators prior to the programme's and programme registry's demonstration of the registry's consistency with the registry requirements contained in this attestation. However, the programme registry can only claim to support and can only provide for aeroplane operators to fulfill the provisions in Annex 16, Volume IV and ETM, Volume IV involving emissions unit cancellation-, reporting-, and verification-related actions after its consistency with the registry requirements contained in this attestation is demonstrated by the programme in accordance with Part A, Paragraph 3 of this document, and the signed attestation is published on the CORSIA website in addition to the ICAO document "*CORSIA Eligible Emissions Units*".

3. Submitting an "*Emissions Unit Programme Registry Attestation*":

3.1. Both the administrator or authorized representative ("Programme Representative") of an emissions unit programme ("Programme"), and the administrator or authorized representative ("Registry Representative") of the registry designated by the Programme ("Programme Registry") will review and attest to their acceptance (as signed in Section 8 of this attestation) of all terms contained herein.

3.2. The Programme will electronically submit to the ICAO Secretariat a unique, dual-signed attestation for each and every Programme Registry that will provide its registry services to the Programme under the CORSIA:

3.2.1. If the Programme is determined to be eligible by a decision of the ICAO Council taken in 2020, the Programme will submit the signed attestation(s) to the ICAO Secretariat no later than one year after the Programme is determined to be eligible by the ICAO Council.

3.2.2. From 2021, the Programme should submit the signed attestation(s) to the ICAO Secretariat at the time of applying for assessment by the TAB. If the Programme is determined to be eligible by a decision of the ICAO Council after 31 December 2020, the Programme will submit the signed attestation(s) to the ICAO Secretariat no later than 180 days after the Programme is determined to be eligible by the ICAO Council.

3.3. As soon as possible upon receiving a signed attestation from the Programme, the ICAO Secretariat will:

3.3.1. Forward the signed attestation to the TAB; and

3.3.2. If the Programme is determined to be eligible by a decision of the ICAO Council, publicly post the signed attestation on the CORSIA website in addition to the ICAO document "*CORSIA Eligible Emissions Units*".

PART B: Emissions Unit Programme Registry Attestation

4. Programme application materials. As the Registry Representative, I certify items 4.1 to 4.4:

4.1. I have read and fully comprehend the following information:

4.1.1. The instructions and terms of this attestation;

4.1.2. The contents of the ICAO document "*CORSIA Emissions Unit Eligibility Criteria*";

4.1.3. The contents of the most recent version of the application form that the Programme has provided to the ICAO Secretariat; and

4.1.4. The terms, conditions and limitations to the Programme's scope of eligibility and further action(s) requested to the Programme by the ICAO Council, as presented to the Programme upon relevant decision of the ICAO Council on the Programme's eligibility[1] for the 2024-2026 compliance period (First Phase).

4.2. The Programme's representation of its provisions and procedures governing the Programme Registry, and of Programme Registry functionality, as contained in the most recent version of the application form that the Programme has provided to the ICAO Secretariat, is true, accurate, and complete, to the best of my knowledge;

4.3. The Programme Registry will notify the Programme of any material changes to the Programme Registry, to enable the Programme to maintain consistency with relevant criteria and guidelines throughout its assessment by TAB and up to an eligibility decision by the ICAO Council; and, if applicable, continuing on from the effective date of an affirmative eligibility decision by the ICAO Council, the Programme Registry will notify the Programme of any material changes to the Programme Registry, such that the Programme can maintain consistency with relevant criteria and guidelines;

4.4. The Programme Registry and Registry Representative will not publicly disseminate, communicate, or otherwise disclose the nature, content, or status of communications between the Programme, the Programme Registry, and/or the ICAO Secretariat, related to the status of the Programme's provision of programme and registry services under the CORSIA, unless the Programme has received prior notice from the ICAO Secretariat that such information has been and/or can be publicly disclosed.

5. Scope of Programme responsibilities under the CORSIA. As the Registry Representative, I acknowledge items 5.1 to 5.2:

5.1. The scope of the Programme assessment by the TAB, through which the TAB will develop recommendations on the list of eligible emissions unit programmes (and potentially project types) for use under the CORSIA, which will then be considered by the ICAO Council for an eligibility decision, including the Programme's responsibilities throughout this process; and

[1] Only applicable when the Programme submits the signed "*Emissions Unit Programme Registry Attestation*" to the ICAO Secretariat after the Programme is determined to be eligible by a decision of the ICAO Council.

5.2. The scope and limitations of the ICAO Secretariat's responsibilities related to the assessment process.

6. Programme - Registry relationship. As the Registry Representative, I understand and accept items 6.1 to 6.2:

6.1. The Programme Registry's provision of registry services under the CORSIA is subject to the terms, conditions and limitations to the Programme's scope of eligibility, as presented to the Programme upon relevant decision of the ICAO Council on the Programme's eligibility; and

6.2. Only after the Programme and the ICAO Secretariat have completed all steps in Part A, Section 3 of this attestation, can the Programme Registry facilitate and identify emissions unit cancellations specifically for CORSIA use, and support any related reporting and verification activities. The Programme Registry will not promote itself as being capable of providing registry services for the described purpose until such time.

7. Scope of Programme Registry responsibilities under the CORSIA. As the Registry Representative, I certify items 7.1 to 7.12:

7.1. The Programme Registry is capable of fully meeting the objectives of any and all Programme provisions and procedures related to the Programme Registry that the Programme is required to have in place:

7.1.1. In the manner represented by the Programme in the application form that the Programme has provided to the ICAO Secretariat; and

7.1.2. As acknowledged by the Programme in the signed "Programme acceptance to terms of eligibility for inclusion in the ICAO document "*CORSIA Eligible Emissions Units*"[2].

7.2. The Programme Registry will not deny a CORSIA participant's request for a registry account solely on the basis of the country in which the requestor is headquartered or based;

7.3. The Programme Registry will identify (in the case of applicants to be assessed to determine their eligibility) / identifies (when the Programme is determined to be eligible by a decision of the ICAO Council) CORSIA Eligible Emissions Units as defined in the ICAO document "*CORSIA Eligible Emissions Units*"[3]. This will be/is done consistent with the capabilities described by the Programme in its communications with ICAO, and any further requirements decided by the ICAO Council for CORSIA Eligible Emissions Unit Programme-designated Registry.

7.4. The Programme Registry will, upon request of the CORSIA participant account holder or participant's designee, designate the participant's cancellation of emissions units for the purpose of reconciling offsetting requirements under the CORSIA, including by compliance cycle;

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[2] Only applicable when the Programme submits the signed "*Emissions Unit Programme Registry Attestation*" to the ICAO Secretariat after the Programme is determined to be eligible by a decision of the ICAO Council.

[3] As prescribed in the ICAO Document *"CORSIA Eligible Emissions Units",* the programme must provide for and implement its registry system to identify its CORSIA eligible emissions units as defined in the document.

7.5. The Programme Registry will, within 1 – 3 business days of receipt of formal instruction from a duly authorized representative of the owner of an account capable of holding and cancelling CORSIA Eligible Emission Units within the registry, and barring system downtime that is scheduled in advance or beyond the control of the registry administrator, make visible on the Programme Registry's public website the account owners cancellations of CORSIA Eligible Emission Units as instructed. Such cancellation information will include all fields that are specified for this purpose in Annex 16, Volume IV, and ETM, Volume IV;

7.6. The Programme Registry will, upon request of the CORSIA participant account holder or participant's designee, generate report(s) containing the information specified for this purpose in Annex 16, Volume IV, and ETM, Volume IV;

7.7. The Programme Registry will maintain robust security practices that ensure the integrity of, and authenticated and secure access to, the registry data of CORSIA participant account holders or participants' designees, and transaction events carried out by a user; and disclose documentation of such practices upon request. The Programme Registry will utilize appropriate method(s) to authenticate the identity of each user accessing an account; grant each user access only to the information and functions that a user is entitled to; and utilize appropriate method(s) to ensure that each event initiated by a user (i.e. transfer of units between accounts; cancellation/retirement of a unit, update of data, etc.) is an intentional transaction event confirmed by the user. Such security features will meet and be periodically updated in accordance with industry best practice;

7.8. The Programme Registry will, upon identifying any breach of Programme Registry data security or integrity that affects a CORSIA participant account holder or participant's designee, notify the CORSIA participant account holder or their designee, and notify the Programme, which will inform and engage with the ICAO Secretariat on the matter in the same manner as required for material deviations from the Programme's application form;

7.9. The Programme Registry will ensure the irreversibility of emissions unit cancellations and the designation of the purpose of emissions units cancellations, as per the requirements contained in Annex 16, Volume IV, and ETM, Volume IV. Without prejudice to the aforementioned, such requirement would not prevent a Programme Registry from utilizing secure, time-bound and auditable methods for correcting unintentional user-entry errors;

7.10. The Programme Registry will ensure that all cancellation information on its website is presented in a user-friendly format; is available at no cost and with no credentials required; is capable of being searched based on data fields; and can be downloaded in a machine-readable format, e.g., .xlsx;

7.11. The Programme Registry will retain documents and data relevant to CORSIA Eligible Emissions Units and cancellations on an ongoing basis and for at least three years beyond the end date of the latest compliance period in which the emissions unit programme is determined to be eligible; and consistent with the Programme's long-term planning, including plans for possible dissolution;

7.12. The Programme Registry will append a document to the end of the signed attestation describing how it will ensure its ability to implement the requirements of this document. This will include references to existing registry functionalities that already meet the

requirements of this document and/or description of business practices and procedures that ensure the Programme Registry's ability to implement the requirements in this document prior to identifying any emissions unit cancellations specifically for CORSIA use and supporting any related reporting and verification activities.

8. **Accuracy and completeness of information.** The signatures below certify that the information provided is true and correct in all material respects on the date as of which such information is dated or certified and does not omit any material fact necessary in order to make such information not misleading. Representatives are duly authorized for official correspondence on behalf of their organization.

Programme Representative Signature	Registry Representative Signature
	
Programme Representative Name Margaret Kim	Registry Representative Name Keith Black
Gold Standard for the Global Goals (GS4GG)	Gold Standard Impact Registry
Programme Name	Registry Name
21st march 2025	21st march 2025
Date	Date

Instructions for Registry Representative: Please append a document on the next page of this attestation describing your Registry's ability to implement the requirements of this document, including references to existing registry functionalities that meet the requirements of this document and/or description of business practices and procedures that ensure the Programme Registry's ability to implement the requirements of this document prior to identifying any emissions unit cancellations specifically for CORSIA use and supporting any related reporting and verification activities.

ATTACHMENT A: PROGRAMME REGISTRY ATTESTATION DISCLOSURE FORM

PART 1: INSTRUCTIONS FOR REGISTRY REPRESENTATIVE

The following information request corresponds to the registry representative's certification of its adherence to items 7.1 to 7.11 of the *Emissions Unit Programme Registry Attestation* "Scope of Programme Registry responsibilities under the CORSIA".

In accordance with item 7.12 of the *Emissions Unit Programme Registry Attestation,* registry administrators are to complete and append this form to the signed *Attestation* describing how the Registry will ensure its ability to implement the requirements of the *Attestation*. This includes references to existing registry functionalities that already meet the requirements of the *Attestation* and/or descriptions of business practices and procedures that ensure the Programme Registry's ability to implement the requirements in the *Attestation*.

For further guidance regarding the format and approaches for providing summary information and evidence of system functionalities and/or procedures in this form, refer to instructions for "**Form Completion**" in the *Application Form for Emissions Unit Programmes*[4].

PART 2: PROGRAMME AND REGISTRY REPRESENTATIVE INFORMATION

1. Programme Representative Information

A. Programme Information

Programme name: Gold Standard for the Global Goals (GS4GG)

Administering Organization[5]: The Gold Standard Foundation

Official mailing address: Chemin de Balexert 7-9, 1219 Châtelaine, International Environment House 2, Geneva, Switzerland

Telephone #: +41 (0) 22 788 7080

Official web address: www.goldstandard.org

B. Programme Administrator Information (i.e., individual contact person)

Full name and title: Vikash Talyan, Senior Director

Employer / Company (*if not programme*): Click or tap here to enter text.

E-mail address: vikash.talyan@goldstandard.org Telephone #: +16083599634

C. Programme Representative Information (if different from Programme Administrator)

[4] https://www.icao.int/environmental-protection/CORSIA/Pages/TAB.aspx

[5] **Please complete**, even if the name of the business, government agency, organization, or other entity that administers the Emissions Unit Programme is the same as *"Programme Name"*.

Full name and title: Margaret Kim, Chief Executive Officer

Employer / Company (*if not Programme*): Click or tap here to enter text.

E-mail address: margaret.kim@goldstandard.org Telephone #: +41 (0) 22 788 7080

2. Registry Representative Information[6]

A. Registry Information

Registry / system name: Gold Standard Impact Registry

Administering Organization: The Gold Standard Foundation

Official mailing address: Chemin de Balexert 7-9, 1219 Châtelaine, International Environment House 2, Geneva, Switzerland

Telephone #: +41 (0) 22 788 7080

Official web address: www.goldstandard.org

B. Registry Administrator Information (i.e., individual contact person)

Full name and title: Keith Black, Technical Director

Employer / Company (*if not Registry Administering Organization*): Click or tap here to enter text.

E-mail address: keith.black@goldstandard.org Telephone #: +41 (0) 22 788 7080

C. Programme Representative Information (if different from Registry Administrator)

Full name and title: Click or tap here to enter text.

Employer / Company (*if not Registry Administering Organization*): Click or tap here to enter text.

E-mail address: Click or tap here to enter text. Telephone #: Click or tap here to enter text.

[6] **Please complete this section**, even if the business, government agency, organization, or other entity that administers the Emissions Unit Programme Registry is the same as the organization described in **Part 2. "*1. Programme Representative Information*"**.

PART 3: EVIDENCE OF ADHERENCE TO SCOPE OF REGISTRY RESPONSIBILITIES

7.1	Does the Programme Registry fully meet the objectives of any and all Programme provisions and procedures related to the Programme Registry that the Programme is required to have in place in the manner represented by the Programme in the application form that the Programme has provided to the ICAO Secretariat and, if applicable[7], as acknowledged by the Programme in the signed "Programme acceptance to terms of eligibility for inclusion in the ICAO document "*CORSIA Eligible Emissions Units"*?	☒ YES
	Describe how the Registry ensures its ability to implement these provisions:	
	The Gold Standard Impact Registry meets the objectives, provisions and procedures as outlined in the programme's re-assessment application provided to the ICAO Secretariat. The Registry can mark issued GS-VERs that are CORSIA Eligible Emissions Units as "CORSIA Eligible". CORSIA Participants can then retire/cancel eligible units specifically for the purpose of using these Eligible Units under CORSIA. Participants can report on their cancellations.	
	In the field below, provide link(s) to any web-based evidence of existing registry functionalities and/or of documents demonstrating business practices and procedures for the Programme Registry's implementation of these provisions. Alternatively, or in addition, confirm that such evidence is included as an attachment to this *Emissions Unit Programme Registry Attestation.*	
	Please see the section titled "CORSIA Eligibility" in the document "Labelling of Credits and Projects in the Gold Standard Impact Registry", located here. Please also see Section 3, Labelling, in the document "Eligibility of Gold Standard VERs for Use Under CORSIA's First Phase", located here. Also please see the annexed document "Registry Attestation Supporting Evidence_GSF".	

7.2	Will the Programme Registry ensure that a CORSIA participant's request for a registry account will not be denied solely on the basis of the country in which the requestor is headquartered or based?	☒ YES
	Describe how the Registry does or will implement this provision:	
	Gold Standard Impact Registry account applications are welcome from applicants located in any country.	
	In the field below, provide link(s) to any web-based evidence of existing registry functionalities and/or of documents demonstrating business practices and procedures for the Programme Registry's implementation of these provisions. Alternatively, or in addition, confirm that such evidence is included as an attachment to this *Emissions Unit Programme Registry Attestation.*	
	Thee process for opening an account is detailed here: https://goldstandardhelp.freshdesk.com/support/solutions/articles/44002455549-how-do-i-open-a-gold-standard-registry-account.	

[7] Only applicable when the Programme submits the signed "*Emissions Unit Programme Registry Attestation*" to the ICAO Secretariat after the Programme is determined to be eligible by a decision of the ICAO Council.

7.3	Will the Programme Registry (in the case of applicants to be assessed to determine their eligibility)/Does the Programme Registry (when the Programme is determined to be eligible by a decision of the ICAO Council) identify / label its CORSIA eligible emissions units as defined in the ICAO Document "*CORSIA Eligible Emissions Units*"?	☒ YES
	Describe how the Registry does or will implements this provision:	
	The Registry can identify issued GS-VERs that are CORSIA Eligible Emissions Units as "CORSIA Eligible" with the application of an 'Eligibility' label. Designated Units can be identified as being eligible for each of the CORSIA phases: Pilot Phase and Phase 1. If approved for Phase 2 by the ICAO Council, the registry shall also be able to make Phase 2 credits as being eligible.	
	In the field below, provide link(s) to any web-based evidence of existing registry functionalities and/or of documents demonstrating business practices and procedures for the Programme Registry's implementation of these provisions. Alternatively, or in addition, confirm that such evidence is included as an attachment to this *Emissions Unit Programme Registry Attestation.*	
	Please see the section titled "CORSIA Eligibility" in the document "Labelling of Credits and Projects in the Gold Standard Impact Registry", located here. Please also see Section 3, Labelling, in the document "Eligibility of Gold Standard VERs for Use Under CORSIA's First Phase", located here. Also please see the annexed document "Registry Attestation Supporting Evidence_GSF"	

7.4	Will the Programme Registry, upon request of the CORSIA participant account holder or participant's designee, designate the participant's cancellation of emissions units for the purpose of reconciling offsetting requirements under the CORSIA, including by compliance cycle?	☒ YES
	Describe how the Registry does or will implement these provisions:	
	The CORSIA participant account holder, or participant's designee, can designate retirements made in the GSF Impact Registry for the purpose of reconciling offsetting requirements under CORSIA. When retiring GS-VERs that have been identified as *CORSIA Eligible Emissions* Units, the account holder can specify the Aeroplane Operator as the *Using Entity* and select the *Use Case* "CORSIA". The Use Case allows the selection of the compliance cycle the credits are being used for. Credits that have not been designated as being CORSIA eligible for a compliance cycle cannot be retired for use under CORSIA.	
	In the field below, provide link(s) to any web-based evidence of existing registry functionalities and/or of documents demonstrating business practices and procedures for the Programme Registry's implementation of these provisions. Alternatively, or in addition, confirm that such evidence is included as an attachment to this *Emissions Unit Programme Registry Attestation.*	
	Please see document "Registry Attestation Supporting Evidence_GSF".	

7.5	a. Will the Programme Registry, within 1 – 3 business days of receipt of formal instruction from a duly authorized representative of the owner of an account capable of holding and cancelling CORSIA Eligible Emission Units within the registry, and barring	☒ YES

	system downtime that is scheduled in advance or beyond the control of the registry administrator, make visible on the Programme Registry's public website the account owner's cancellations of CORSIA Eligible Emission Units as instructed.	
	b. Will such cancellation information (row a) include all fields that are specified for this purpose in Annex 16, Volume IV, and ETM, Volume IV?	☒ YES
	Describe how the Registry does or will implement these provisions:	
	Retirement/Cancellation information is published publicly on the Gold Standard Impact Registry public pages; this includes fields specified in Annex 16, Volume IV. This information is published for the retirements of all GS-VERs and does not need to be specifically requested to be published by the authorized representative	
	In the field below, provide link(s) to any web-based evidence of existing registry functionalities and/or of documents demonstrating business practices and procedures for the Programme Registry's implementation of these provisions. Alternatively, or in addition, confirm that such evidence is included as an attachment to this *Emissions Unit Programme Registry Attestation.*	
	The public retirement page, where exports can be made, is located here. Please also see the document "Registry Attestation Supporting Evidence_GSF".	

7.6	Will the Programme Registry, upon request of the CORSIA participant account holder or participant's designee, generate report(s) containing the information specified for this purpose in Annex 16, Volume IV, and ETM, Volume IV?	☒ YES
	Describe how the Registry does or will implement this provision:	
	The participant account holder or participant's designee can generate a report using the export functionality on the public reporting page referenced in 7.5.	
	In the field below, provide link(s) to any web-based evidence of existing registry functionalities and/or of documents demonstrating business practices and procedures for the Programme Registry's implementation of these provisions. Alternatively, or in addition, confirm that such evidence is included as an attachment to this *Emissions Unit Programme Registry Attestation.*	
	Please see the supplied file "Q14 Example_GSF Registry Retired Credits Export.csv" for a sample report showing the information currently included in the registry export showing retired/cancelled units, which was submitted with the re-assessment. As previously mentioned in the re-assessment form, additional fields will be added. Please also see the document "Registry Attestation Supporting Evidence_GSF".	

7.7	a. Does the Programme Registry maintain robust security practices that ensure the integrity of, and authenticated and secure access to, the registry data of CORSIA participant account holders or participants' designees, and transaction events carried out by a user?	☒ YES
	b. Does the Programme Registry disclose documentation of such practices (row a) upon request?	☒ YES

	c. Does the Programme Registry utilize appropriate method(s) to authenticate the identity of each user accessing an account?	☒ YES
	d. Does the Programme Registry grant each user access only to the information and functions that a user is entitled to?	☒ YES
	e. Does the Programme Registry utilize appropriate method(s) to ensure that each event initiated by a user (i.e. transfer of units between accounts; cancellation/retirement of a unit, update of data, etc.) is an intentional transaction event confirmed by the user?	☒ YES
	f. Do such security features (rows a – e) meet and undergo periodic updates in accordance with industry best practice?	☒ YES
	Describe how the Registry implements each provision in rows a – f:	
	a) Gold Standard has implemented robust security procedures to ensure the registry's security. This includes an audit trail, maintaining records detailing user access and system communications. All transactions within the registry are tracked for security and auditing purposes. Furthermore, the program enforces Multi-Factor Authentication (MFA) for all accounts with administrative access. b) Information with regards to security practices may be disclosed upon request. c) User authentication for signing up and logging into the registry is managed using Auth0 authentication and authorization platform. Gold Standard checks the identity of users by requesting and validating personal identification of users, and only upon authorisation by Gold Standard Impact Registry account holder's account manager. d) Yes. users cannot access information that they are not entitled to. There is a limited range of user functionality in the registry: a user can perform transactions only in the account(s) that they have been entitled to access. "Read only" user access is not available/granted. e) All transactions (transfers or retirements) need to be confirmed by the user at the time of the transaction to ensure the action is intentional. To perform a transaction, a user must locate the credits to be transacted in their account and click an "Actions" button, followed by either a transfer or retire option. A dialogue box appears where additional details need to be entered, before confirming the transaction. Transfers need to be accepted by a counterparty and can be cancelled by a user, if required, in the period before their counterparty accepts. If required by the account holder, "second user approval" can be enabled for their account. f) Security features and processes are kept under review to ensure accordance with best practice, along with auth0's own system updates	
	In the field below, provide link(s) to any web-based evidence of existing registry functionalities and/or of documents demonstrating business practices and procedures for the Programme Registry's implementation of these provisions. Alternatively, or in addition, confirm that such evidence is included as an attachment to this *Emissions Unit Programme Registry Attestation.*	
	Please refer to the annexed letter from the CEO of Algorithmic Intelligence Pte Ltd., our development partner responsible for the technological infrastructure maintenance, support and enhancement of the Gold Standard Impact Registry. This letter outlines the security policies and	

	practices of the corporation, including the application of regular security audits with respect to the Gold Standard Impact Registry. Also see a letter from the COO of Abilene Advisors, contracted by Gold Standard to assist on matters related to information security. The letter includes reference to Gold Standard's intent to achieve compliance with ISO/IEC 27001:2022 and Abilene Advisors' commitment to support this. Both documents are considered business-confidential and therefore should be treated accordingly. Please also see the document "Registry Attestation Supporting Evidence_GSF".

7.8	a. Will the Programme Registry, upon identifying any breach of Programme Registry data security or integrity that affects a CORSIA participant account holder or participant's designee, notify the CORSIA participant account holder or their designee?	☒ YES
	b. Will the Programme Registry, upon identifying any breach of Programme Registry data security or integrity that affects a CORSIA participant account holder or participant's designee, notify the Programme, which will inform and engage with the ICAO Secretariat on the matter in the same manner as required for material deviations from the Programme's application form?	☒ YES
	Describe how the Registry does or will implement each provision in rows a and b:	
	Any breach of data security or integrity would be reported to any affected account holder. This is also as required under data protection laws. The registry / programme would also notify the ICAO secretariat of any breach of CORSIA participants' data.	
	In the field below, provide link(s) to any web-based evidence of existing registry functionalities and/or of documents demonstrating business practices and procedures for the Programme Registry's implementation of these provisions. Alternatively, or in addition, confirm that such evidence is included as an attachment to this *Emissions Unit Programme Registry Attestation.*	
	Please see Switzerland's Federal Act on Data Protection https://www.fedlex.admin.ch/eli/cc/2022/491/en	

7.9	Does the Programme Registry ensure the irreversibility of emissions unit cancellations and the designation of the purpose of emissions units cancellations, as per the requirements contained in Annex 16, Volume IV, and ETM, Volume IV[8]?	☒ YES
	Describe how the Registry implements these provisions:	
	The retirement / cancellation of credits in the Gold Standard Impact Registry is final and irreversible.	
	In the field below, provide link(s) to any web-based evidence of existing registry functionalities and/or of documents demonstrating business practices and procedures for the Programme Registry's implementation of these provisions. Alternatively, or in addition, confirm that such evidence is included as an attachment to this *Emissions Unit Programme Registry Attestation.*	

[8] Without prejudice to the aforementioned, such requirement would not prevent a Programme Registry from utilizing secure, time-bound and auditable methods for correcting unintentional user-entry errors.

	The Gold Standard Impact Registry Terms of Use state in Section 9.3 that "any instruction by the Account Holder to the Gold Standard Impact Registry to retire Units in accordance with this Clause 9 | is irrevocable, and the Account Holder acknowledges that any such instruction will not be reversed".

7.10	a. Does the Programme Registry ensure that all cancellation information on its website is presented in a user-friendly format?	☒ YES
	b. Does the Programme Registry ensure that all cancellation information on its website is available at no cost and with no credentials required?	☒ YES
	c. Does the Programme Registry ensure that all cancellation information on its website is capable of being searched based on data fields?	☒ YES
	d. Does the Programme Registry ensure that all cancellation information on its website can be downloaded in a machine-readable format, e.g., .xlsx?	☒ YES
	Describe how the Registry implements each provision in rows a – d:	
	a) The retirement information is displayed in a straightforward table format on the public retirement page of the Gold Standard Impact Registry. b) All retirement information is displayed on a publicly facing page of the Gold Standard Impact Registry with no login, or fee, required. c) The public facing page has search and filtering functionality available. d) The retirement/cancellation information can be downloaded in .csv format.	
	In the field below, provide link(s) to any web-based evidence of existing registry functionalities and/or of documents demonstrating business practices and procedures for the Programme Registry's implementation of these provisions. Alternatively, or in addition, confirm that such evidence is included as an attachment to this *Emissions Unit Programme Registry Attestation.*	
	Please see https://registry.goldstandard.org/credit-blocks	

7.11	a. Will the Programme Registry retain documents and data relevant to CORSIA Eligible Emissions Units and cancellations on an ongoing basis and for at least three years beyond the end date of the latest compliance period in which the emissions unit programme is determined to be eligible?	☒ YES
	b. Will the Programme Registry retain documents and data relevant to CORSIA Eligible Emissions Units and cancellations consistent with the Programme's long-term planning, including plans for possible dissolution?	☒ YES
	Describe how the Registry does or will implement each provision in rows a and b:	
	Documents and data for all Gold Standard projects, including those relevant to CORSIA Eligible Emissions Units, is retained in perpetuity.	
	In the field below, provide link(s) to any web-based evidence of existing registry functionalities and/or of documents demonstrating business practices and procedures for the Programme	

	Registry's implementation of these provisions. Alternatively, or in addition, confirm that such evidence is included as an attachment to this *Emissions Unit Programme Registry Attestation.*
	Please see the annexed document Standards Dissolution Plan.