



THE INTEGRITY COUNCIL
FOR THE VOLUNTARY CARBON MARKET

Decision
on the eligibility
of an applicant carbon-crediting program
Decision number:
GB/P-GS/2024-3

NAME OF PROGRAM: Gold Standard

1. The Governing Board considered the Draft Assessment Report and the recommendation from the Standards Oversight Committee for a draft Decision and decides to:
 - a) Approve the carbon-crediting program as CCP-Eligible.¹

¹ Note: In accordance with Section 2.17 of the Assessment Procedure, where the Integrity Council identifies issues that require changes to the carbon-crediting program's program documents, or other carbon-crediting program processes in order to meet the CCPs and the criteria and requirements of the Assessment Framework, the Secretariat will notify the carbon-crediting program of the required changes. These may be classified as minor changes, such that approval is not subject to completion of those changes.

Rationale for Decision

In accordance with the Assessment Procedure, the Integrity Council has considered the Application by the carbon-crediting program, Gold Standard and the draft Assessment Report for adherence to part I of the Assessment Framework.²

Following a thorough review of the application, additional information was sought from and provided by the Program in order to determine adherence with the requirements. After assessing the supplemental information, Gold Standard was found to satisfy the requirements of the Assessment Framework.

Per paragraph 2.17 of the Assessment Procedure, Gold Standard is requested to implement minor changes relating to four Assessment Framework requirements. The Program is requested to:

1. On requirement 1.1 a) 4: Formalise its anti-money laundering procedures into a single cohesive document;
2. On requirement 2.1. a) 1: Update its registry procedures and functionality to require the identification of the entity on whose behalf credits are retired for all credits;
3. On requirement 2.1 a) 2): Update its registry procedures and functionality to require the identification of the purpose of retirement for all credits;
4. On requirement 5.2 a)5): Publish a comprehensive set of guidelines to complement and clarify the application of existing requirements in relation to the assessment of overall uncertainty.

Minor changes 2. and 3. above were resolved on 11 March 2024.

Remaining minor changes 1. and 4. do not affect the assessment of Gold Standard as a CCP-Eligible program, therefore approval is not subject to completion of those changes.

The implementation of minor changes will be subject to ICVCM oversight where not already completed.

The Governing Board has considered the draft Assessment Report and the recommendation for decision by the Standards Oversight Committee and decides to approve the carbon-crediting program as CCP-Eligible.

Decision Timeline

Date of Application Submission	10 October 2023
Date of Completeness Check	12 December 2023
Date Assessment complete	14 March 2024

Date of Standards Oversight Committee Recommendation for Decision	19 March 2024
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Date of Board Decision	28 March 2024
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² See Part I of the [Assessment Framework](#). The carbon-crediting program application can be found [here](#).

