**ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR GRID CONNECTED RENEWABLE ENERGY GENERATION PROJECTS (VER AND CER):**

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## Introduction

This document introduces requirements for new Grid Connected Renewable Electricity projects seeking Design Certification under Gold Standard for the Global Goals (GS4GG). Specifically, the requirements affect the eligibility of such projects to seek the issuance of GS-VERs or GS-CERs, though projects may apply for Certification under other pathways (for example Gold Standard Renewable Energy Labels.

## Scope & Applicability

All Grid Connected Renewable Electricity projects shall apply the following Eligibility Requirements. The Eligibility Requirements define which Grid Connected Renewable Electricity projects shall be deemed ineligible for the issuance of either of the following Gold Standard Emission Reduction certificate types:

* Gold Standard Verified Emission Reductions (GS-VERs)
* Gold Standard labels for Certified Emission Reductions (GS-CERs)

Eligibility is checked at Preliminary Review stage. Projects that are found to be ineligible are not able to issue GS-VERs or GS-CER labels but may proceed under other certification pathways.

## Eligibility Requirements

A project located in a Least Developed Country (LDC), Small Island Developing State (SIDS) or a Land Locked Developing Country (LLDC) as of the date of submission to Preliminary Review, shall be exempt from any eligibility test. All other projects shall apply both of the following eligibility tests:

**Eligibility Test 1** – Any grid connected Renewable Energy project located in an Upper Middle and Higher Income Country[[1]](#footnote-1) (as classified by World Bank) shall be deemed ineligible for the issuance of GS-VERs or GS-CERs.

**Eligibility Test 2** – A project located in a country where the penetration level of the implemented Renewable Electricity Technology is greater than 3.5% of the total grid installed capacity, on the date of submission to Preliminary Review, shall be deemed ineligible for the issuance of GS-VERs or GS-CERs.

Where exceptional circumstances exist[[2]](#footnote-2) a project may seek an exception to Eligibility Test 1 and 2. Such an exception will be judged on a case by case basis and entirely at the discretion of Gold Standard. All such requests shall be accompanied at a minimum by an Investment Analysis that demonstrates additionality as per the CDM Requirements and a demonstration of Ongoing Financial Need.

1. <https://datahelpdesk.worldbank.org/knowledgebase/articles/906519> [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. For example where the renewable energy serves impoverished beneficiaries at preferential rates, or it is an innovative technology. Exceptional circumstances are at defined at the discretion of Gold Standard. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)