

**LESSON 3:
HOW TO PLAN
A PROJECT DESIGN FOR PRELIMINARY REVIEW**



PRELIMINARY REVIEW BY SUSTAINCERT

The Gold Standard has implemented a unique Preliminary Review process the purpose is to enable project developers to assess their project's initial eligibility before pursuing certification. The outcome of the Preliminary Review is not a certification but rather the granting of a Listed status on the Gold Standard registry. This provides assurance to the project developer to proceed with the project.

Required Documentation for Submission

- ✓ Stakeholder Consultation Report
- ✓ Key Project Information
- ✓ Estimation of climate and sustainable development impacts
- ✓ Monitoring Plan
- ✓ Signed GS4GG Cover Letter
- ✓ Signed Gold Standard Terms & Conditions

In addition, the Project Developer must pay the **Preliminary Review Fee**.



LESSON 3: SUMMARY

Objective:

- Achieve “Preliminary Design Approval” and
- Obtain Listed Status in the GS Impact Registry

By this stage you must:

1. Open registry account and pay annual registry fee
2. Upload documents:
 - a) Key Project Information
 - b) Preliminary review request form
 - c) Completed Stakeholder Consultation Report (SCR)
 - d) Signed GS Cover Letter
 - e) Signed GS Terms & Conditions
3. Request Preliminary Review
4. Receive approval of Preliminary Review by SustainCERT



WHAT IS A GOLD STANDARD PROJECT LISTED STATUS?

The Gold Standard Project Listed status refers to the recognition and inclusion of a project within the Gold Standard registry or portfolio.

When a project achieves Gold Standard Project Listed status, it means that it has successfully met the rigorous criteria and requirements set by the Gold Standard organization. These criteria typically include demonstrating additionality, environmental integrity, sustainable development benefits, stakeholder engagement, and adherence to specific project guidelines and methodologies.

[Gold Standard featured projects | The Gold Standard](#)

[GSF Registry \(goldstandard.org\)](#)

(*) Listed does not mean the project will have to accepted as design certified later, and a project can be rejected at the time of design certification.



How To Request A Preliminary Review On Sc Platform

To submit the correct documentation to start a preliminary review process, there are a series of 9 steps that need to be done prior to initiating.

Steps

1. Confirm a Gold Standard Registry Account has been opened and the account is active
 - I. Registration Requirements
 - II. Impact Registry
2. Confirm an SC Platform Account is open and login name and password are available
 - I. Opening a SC Account
 - II. Link to software
3. Log in once an SC Platform Account is opened and add a new project to the SC Platform
4. Communicate here, going forward, with the SustainCERT certification team
5. Book a preliminary review
6. Look for your invoice. Once a review date is confirmed by our certification team, you will get an invoice by email (*How is an invoice generated by SustainCERT*). After a review is booked in the SC Platform, the invoice is triggered 30 days prior to the review date. Thus, if the review date is less than 30 days from the booking date, the invoice will be issued right away. The review is technically not allowed to commence until the payment is received and the documentation is in good order.
7. Pay your invoice. You will receive an invoice with the due date after the preliminary review booking is confirmed. SustainCERT is paid with a wire transfer
8. Upload your documents for preliminary review.
9. Project Developers book a subsequent review for a date in the future, in the SC Platform, assuming the normal cycle.

(*) Project listing and GS validation both need to be completed first.