




# Gowin PicoRV32 Quick Design **Reference Manual**

IPUG915-1.3E,07/16/2021

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## Revision History

Date	Version	Description
01/16/2020	1.0E	Initial version published.
03/13/2020	1.1E	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● MCU supports GPIO of Wishbone bus interface;</li><li>● MCU supports extended AHB bus interface;</li><li>● MCU supports off-chip SPI-Flash download and startup;</li><li>● MCU supports the read, write and erasure SPI-Flash;</li><li>● MCU supports Hardware Stack Protection and Trap Stack Overflow.</li></ul>
06/01/2020	1.2E	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● MCU software online debugging function supported;</li><li>● MCU core interrupt handling function enhanced;</li><li>● MCU core instructions optimized.</li></ul>
07/16/2021	1.3E	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● The synthesis tool, SynplifyPro, deleted;</li><li>● FPGA software version updated.</li></ul>

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# 1 Reference Design

## 1.1 Software reference design

Gowin\_PicoRV32 provides software programming reference design in Gowin MCU Designer (V1.1 and above) software environment. The following reference design is given at:

[http://cdn.gowinsemi.com.cn/Gowin\\_PicoRV32.zip](http://cdn.gowinsemi.com.cn/Gowin_PicoRV32.zip)

Gowin\_PicoRV32\ref\_design\MCU\_RefDesign\GMD\_RefDesign\gowin\_picorv32

## 1.2 Hardware Reference Design

Gowin\_PicoRV32 provides hardware reference design in Gowin Software (V1.9.8 Beta and above). The following reference design is given at: [http://cdn.gowinsemi.com.cn/Gowin\\_PicoRV32.zip](http://cdn.gowinsemi.com.cn/Gowin_PicoRV32.zip)

Gowin\_PicoRV32\ref\_design\FPGA\_RefDesign\DK\_START\_GW2A18\_V2.0\gowin\_picorv32

# 2 Software Reference Design

## 2.1 Software Environment

GOWIN MCU Designer (V1.1 and above) is given at:

[http://cdn.gowinsemi.com.cn/GMD\\_V1.1.zip](http://cdn.gowinsemi.com.cn/GMD_V1.1.zip)

**Note!**

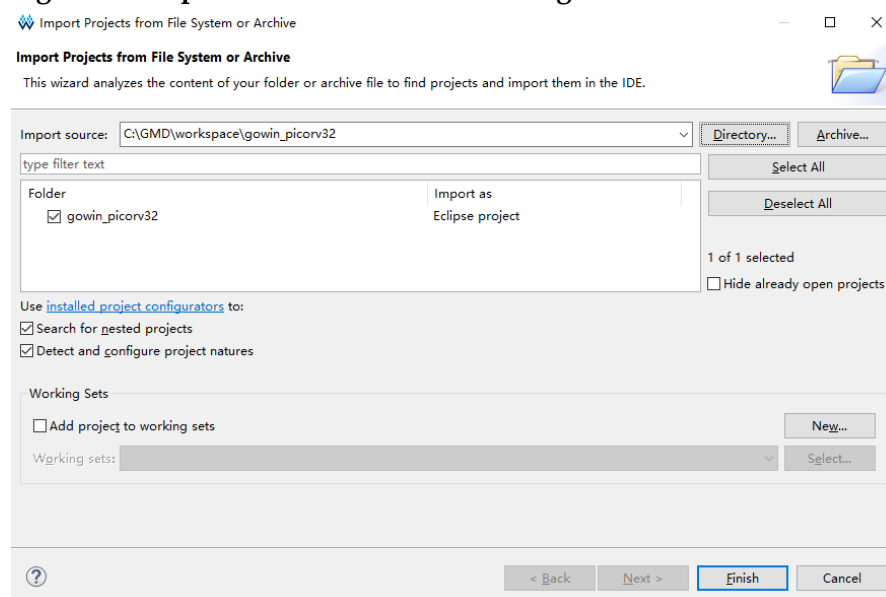
Need a separate license of Gowin MCU Designer and request it to Gowin Technical Support.

## 2.2 Import Software Reference Design

Take reference design in SDK for an instance.

Double click to open GOWIN MCU Designer and select "File > Open Projects from File System..." in the menu bar. Import the software programming reference design gowin\_picorv32 and click "Finish", as shown in Figure 2-1.

**Figure 2-1 Import Software Reference Design**



## 2.3 Software Configuration

Take reference design in SDK for an instance.

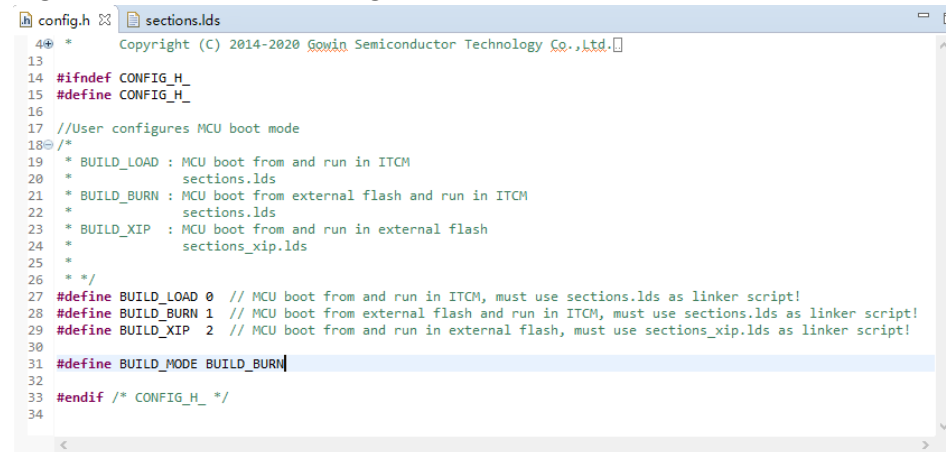


In the ITCM configuration of gowin\_picorv32, configure the start-up and run mode as MCU boot from and run in external Flash and run in ITCM.

### 2.3.1 Boot Mode Configuration

As having configured the start-up and run mode as “MCU boot from external Flash and run in ITCM” in hardware design, define BUILD\_MODE BUILD\_BURN in config.h of gowin\_picorv32 software design, as shown in Figure 2-2.

Figure 2-2 Boot Mode Configuration

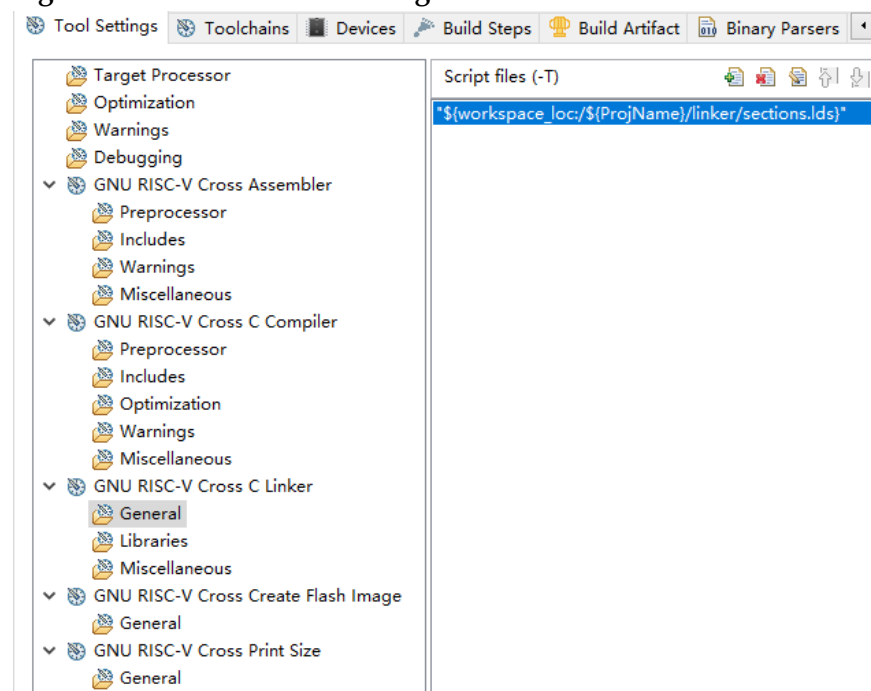


### 2.3.2 Flash linker Configuration

As having configured the start-up and run mode as MCU boot from external Flash and run in ITCM in hardware design, configure sections\_xip.lds as Flash linker in “GNU RISC-V Cross C Linker > General > Script files (-T)”.

The Flash linker configuration is as shown in Figure 2-3.

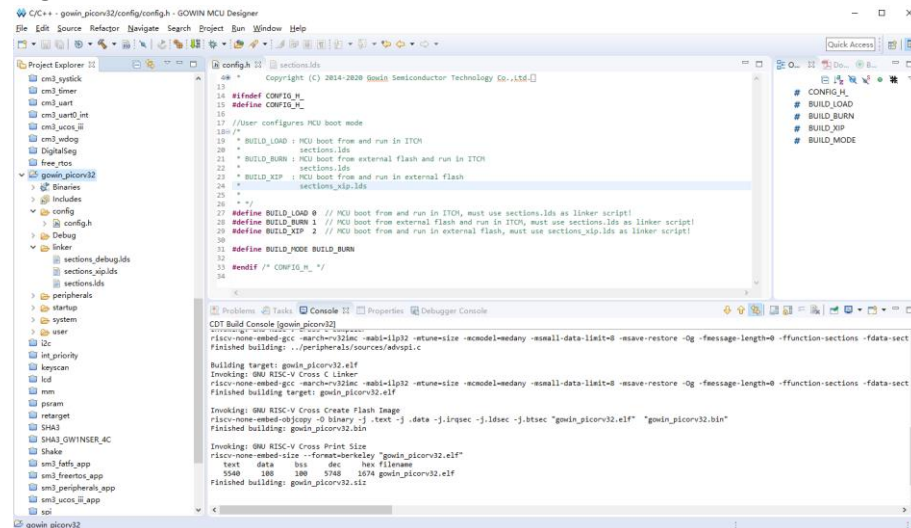
Figure 2-3 FLASH Linker Configuration



## 2.4 Build

Click the "🔧" compile button to compile the software reference design and generate the software design BIN file, as shown in Figure 2-4.

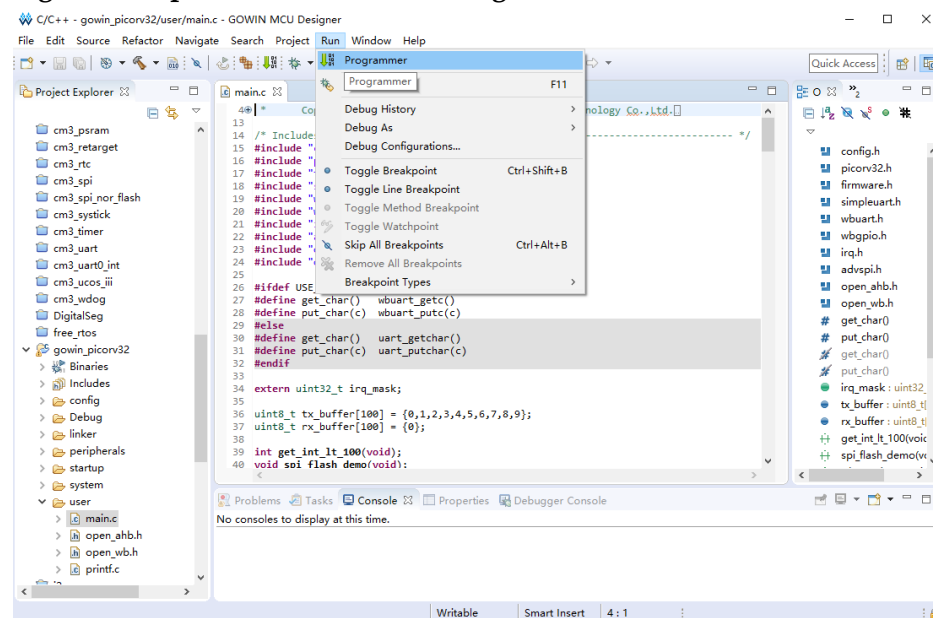
Figure 2-4 Build



## 2.5 Download

Click "Run/Programmer" in the menu bar or "Programmer" (🔧) in the tool bar to open the download tool "Programmer", as shown in Figure 2-5.

Figure 2-5 Open Download Tool "Programmer"



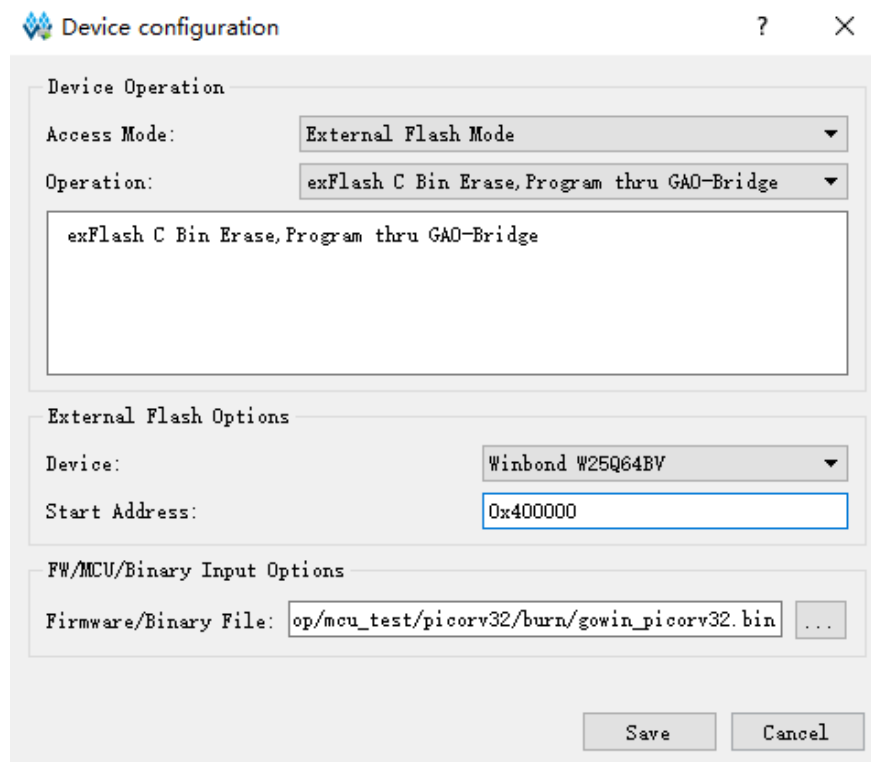
Click "Edit > Configure Device" in the Programmer menu bar or "Configure Device" (🔧) in the toolbar to open the "Device configuration".


- Select "External Flash Mode" from the "Access Mode" drop-down list.
- Select "exFlash C Bin Erase, Program thru GAO-Bridge" or "exFlash C Bin Erase, Program, Verify thru GAO-Bridge" from the "Operation"

drop-down list.

- Import the software design BIN file required in " FW/MCU/Binary Input Options > Firmware/Binary File".
- Select " External Flash Options > Device " according to the on-board Flash type, such as on-board Winbond W25Q64BV of Gowin DK-START-GW2A18 V2.0.
- Configure " External Flash Options > Start Address " as "0x400000".
- Click "Save", as shown in Figure 2-6.

**Figure 2-6 Device Configuration**



After device configuration, click "Program/Configure" (  ) in the Programmer toolbar to complete software design BIN file downloading.

## 2.6 Reference Manual

For Gowin\_PicoRV32 Software Design method, please refer to the following manuals:

- [IPUG911](#), Gowin\_PicoRV32 Software Programming Reference Manual
- [IPUG910](#), Gowin\_PicoRV32 IDE Software Reference Manual
- [IPUG913](#), Gowin\_PicoRV32 Software Programming Reference Manual
- [SUG502](#), Gowin Programmer User Guide.

# 3 Hardware Reference Design

## 3.1 Hardware Environment

DK-START-GW2A18 V2.0: GW2A-LV18PG256C8/I7

## 3.2 Software Environment

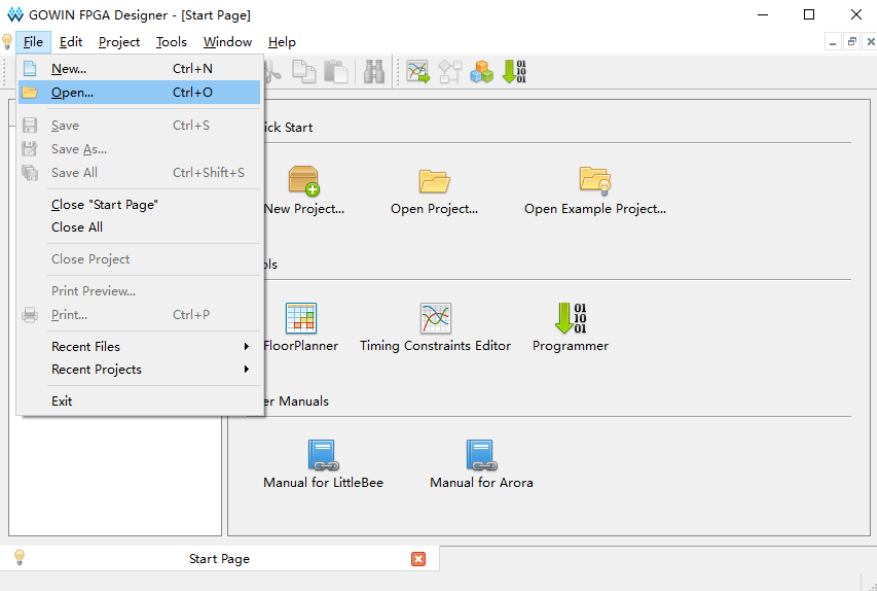
Gowin\_V1.9.8 Beta and above

## 3.3 Import Hardware Reference Design

Take reference design in SDK for an instance.

Double click to open Gowin software, select "File > Open..." to open gowin\_picorv32, as shown in Figure 3-1.

Figure 3-1 Import Hardware Reference Design



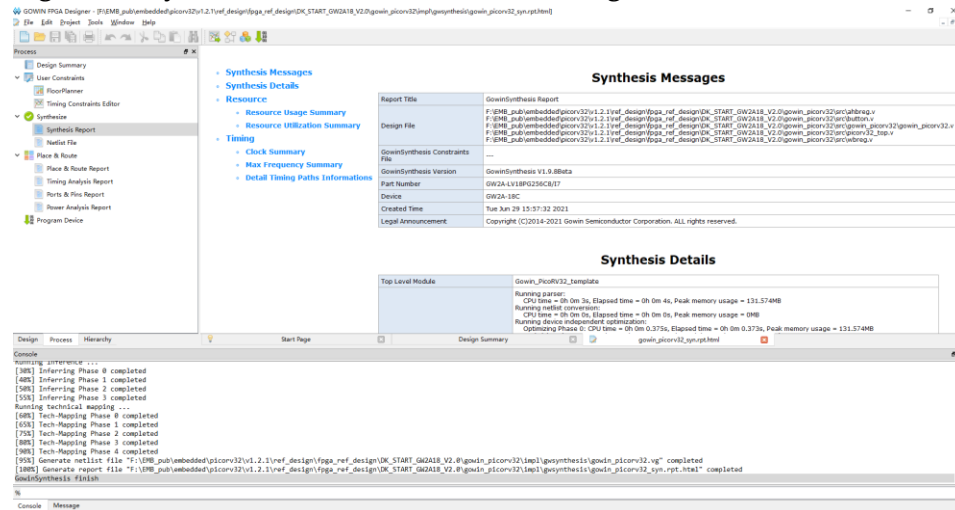
The description of RTL design files of the hardware reference design project is shown in Table 3-1.

**Table 3-1 Hardware Reference Design Examples**

File	Description
gowin_picorv32.v	Gowin_PicoRV32 hardware design generated by IP Core Generator
picorv32_top.v	Gowin_PicoRV32 Top Module instantiation and user design
wbreg.v	Open Wishbone bus extension peripheral example
ahbreg.v	Open AHB bus extension peripheral example
button.v	External interrupt example
picorv32.cst	Physical Constraints

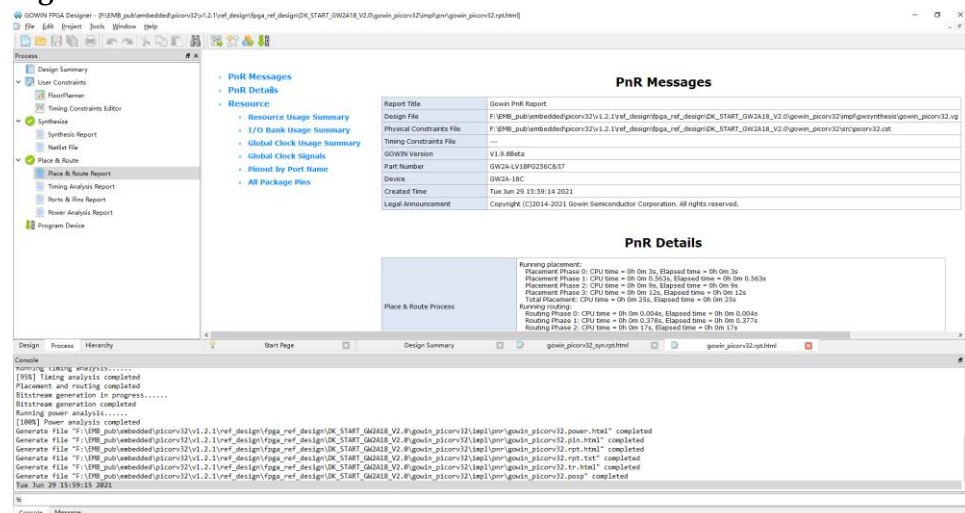
## 3.4 Synthesize

Run the GowinSynthesis<sup>®</sup> and integrate hardware reference design to generate the netlist file, as shown in Figure 3-2.

**Figure 3-2 Synthesis Hardware Reference Design**


## 3.5 Place & Route

Run Place & Route tool to complete the place & route and generate bitstream files, as shown in Figure 3-3.

**Figure 3-3 Place & Route**

## 3.6 Download

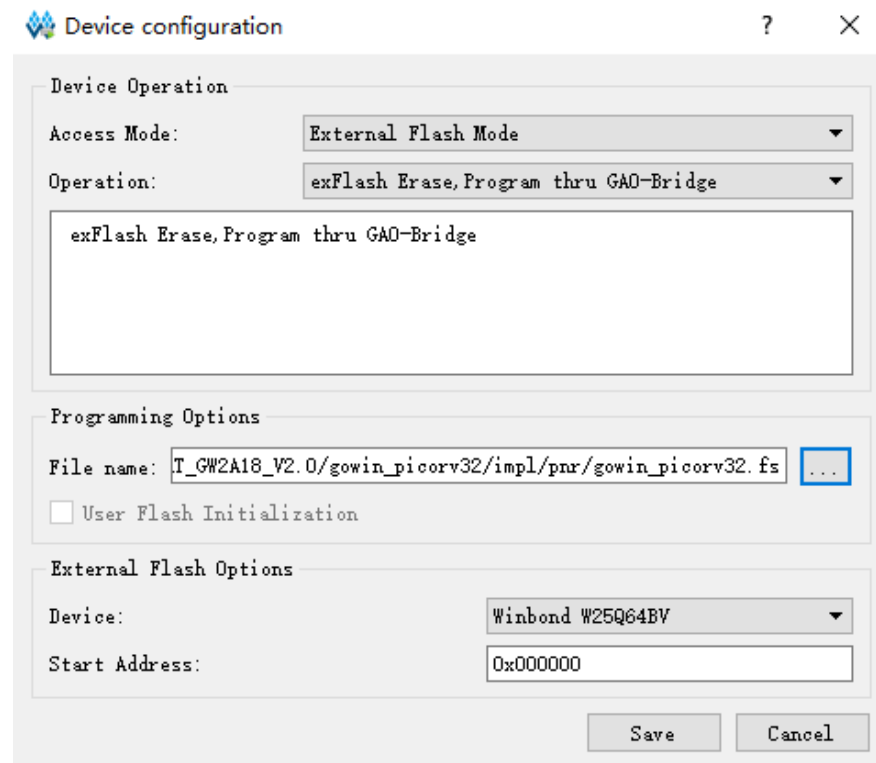
Run the Gowin Software "Programmer" download tool to download the hardware bitstream file.


Click "Edit > Configure Device" in the Programmer menu bar or "Configure Device" () in the toolbar to open the "Device configuration".

Take reference design in SDK DK\_START\_GW2A18\_V2.0 for an instance.

- Select "External Flash Mode" from the "Access Mode" drop-down list.
- Select "exFlash Erase, Program thru GAO-Bridge" or "exFlash Erase, Program, Verify thru GAO-Bridge" from the "Operation" drop-down list.
- Import the file required in "Programming Options > File name".
- Select " External Flash Options > Device " according to the on-board Flash type, such as on-board Winbond W25Q64BV of Gowin DK-START-GW2A18 V2.0.
- Configure " External Flash Options > Start Address" as "0x000000".
- Click "Save", as shown in Figure 3-4.

**Figure 3-4 Device Configuration**



After device configuration, click "Program/Configure" () in the Programmer toolbar to complete hardware design bitstream files downloading.

## 3.7 Reference Manual

Please refer to the following manuals for Gowin\_PicoRV32 hardware design:

- [IPUG914](#), Gowin PicoRV32 Hardware Design Reference Manual
- [SUG100](#), Gowin Software User Guide\_
- [SUG101](#), Gowin Design Constraints Guide
- [SUG502](#), Gowin Programmer User Guide

