



# TRAINING ON USING THE VCS and VCS/CCB TEMPLATES

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# Agenda

1. Aim and context for the training
2. VCS Templates
3. VCS/CCB Templates
4. Questions



Photo: FUNDAECO / REDD Conservation Coast Project

# Poll #1

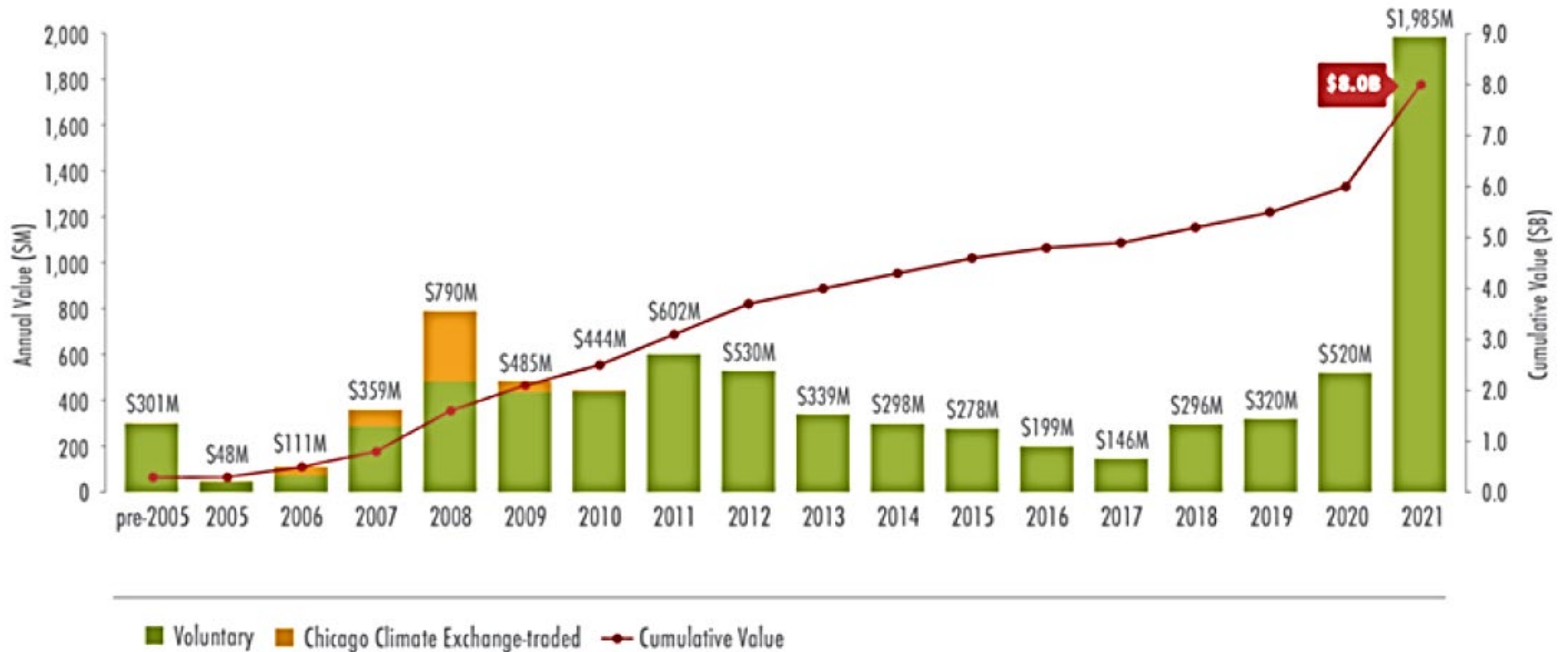
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# Context

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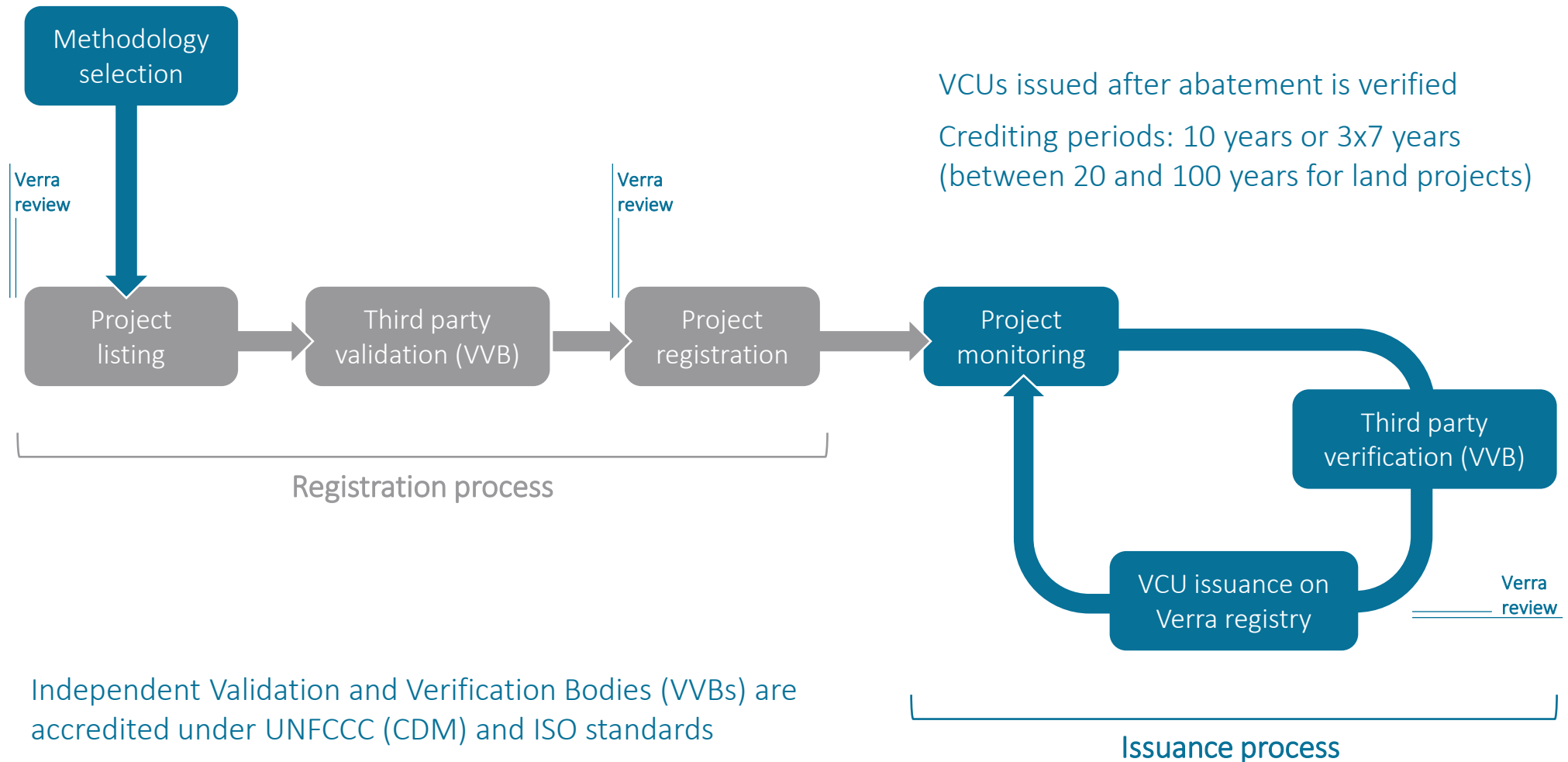
# Voluntary Carbon Market Size by Value of Traded Carbon Credits



# Request types

<b>Project Status Request</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>
Pipeline listing requested (under development)	299	804
Pipeline listing requested (under development)	92	418
Registration and Verification approval requested	49	203
Registration requested	99	200
Verification approval requested	466	589

# VCS project cycle: Verified Carbon Standard





# Poll #2

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# VCS Templates

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# Where to find VCS requirements & templates

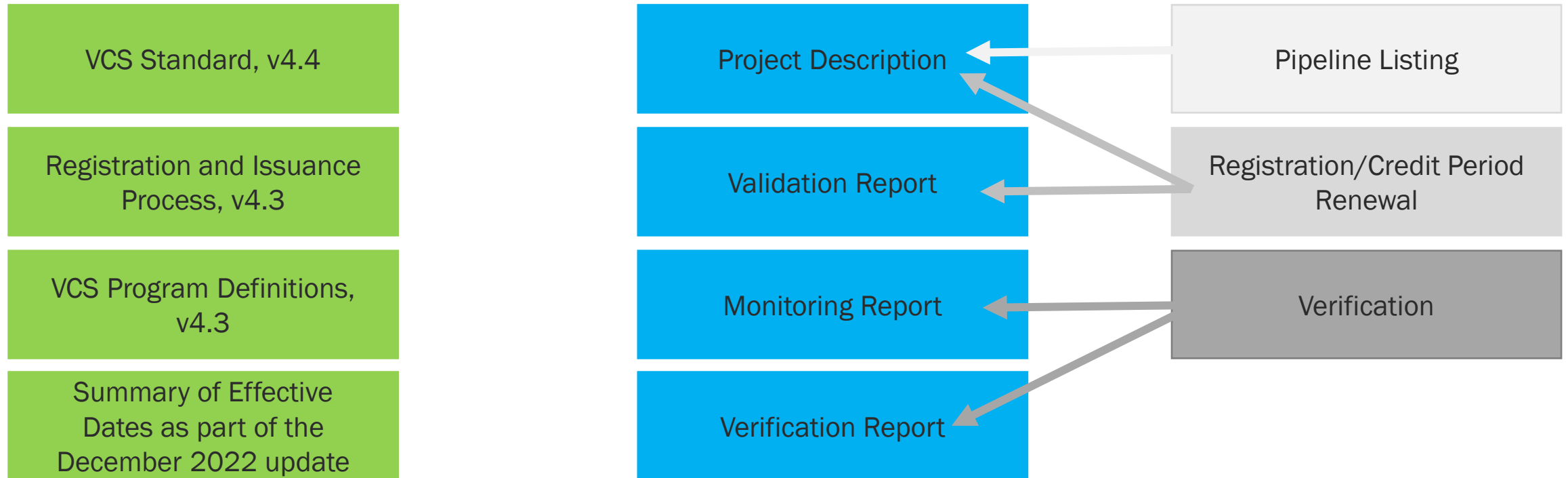
## **RULES AND REQUIREMENTS**

The VCS Program rules define the standards and processes that all projects must follow in order to be certified and are set out in a suite of documents: Requirements, Procedural, Templates, and Guidance.

These documents are updated periodically. Please check this page to ensure you are using the latest version of a given document.

<b>Requirements</b>	+
<b>Procedural</b>	+
<b>Templates and Forms</b>	+
<b>Guidance</b>	+

# Important documents to know:

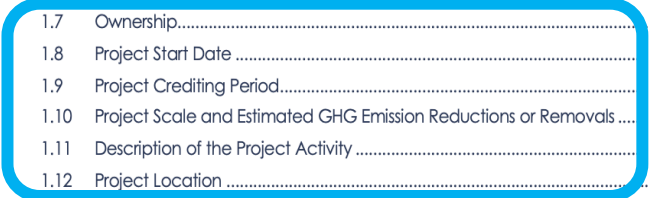


# How templates relate to the standard

<b>1 INTRODUCTION</b>	<b>2</b>
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VCS Standard, v4.4

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1.3 Project Eligibility	5
1.4 Project Design	6
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1.6 Other Entities Involved in the Project	6
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Project Description

# Searching for rules and requirements

## Non-AFOLU Projects

- 3.8.1 Non-AFOLU projects shall complete validation within **two years** of the project start date. Additional time is granted for non-AFOLU projects to complete validation where they are applying a new VCS methodology. Specifically, projects using a new VCS methodology and completing validation within two years of the approval of the methodology by Verra may complete validation within four years of the project start date.

# VCS Project Description Template: Completeness and Accuracy

## VCS PROJECT DESCRIPTION TEMPLATE

This template is for the design of projects using the VCS Program.

### Instructions for Completing the Project Description

**TITLE PAGE:** Complete all items in the box on the title page using Arial or Century Gothic 10.5 point, black, regular (non-italic) font. This box must appear on the title page of the final document. Project descriptions may also feature the project title and preparers' name, logo and contact information more prominently on the title page, using the format below (Arial or Century Gothic 24 point and Arial or Century Gothic 12 point, black, regular font).

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** Instructions for completing the project description template are under the section headings in this template. Adhere to all instructions, as set out in the *VCS Standard*. Instructions relate back to the rules and requirements set out in the *VCS Standard* and accompanying VCS Program documents. The preparer will need to refer to these documents in order to complete the template. |

*Note: The instructions in this template are to serve as a guide and do not necessarily represent an exhaustive list of the information the preparer must provide under each section of the template.*

Unless applying a merited deviation, please complete all sections using Arial or Franklin Gothic Book 10.5 point, black, regular (non-italic) font. Where a section is not applicable, explain why the section is not applicable (i.e., do not delete the section from the final document and do not only write "not applicable"). Submit the project description as a non-editable PDF.

Delete all instructions, including this introductory text, from the final document.

# VCS Project Description Template: Project Details

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# VCS Project Description Template: Safeguards

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# VCS Project Description Template: Safeguards


**4 QUANTIFICATION OF GHG EMISSION REDUCTIONS AND REMOVALS ..... 16**






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4.4 Net GHG Emission Reductions and Removals ..... 17



Year	Estimated baseline emissions or removals (tCO <sub>2</sub> e)	Estimated project emissions or removals (tCO <sub>2</sub> e)	Estimated leakage emissions (tCO <sub>2</sub> e)	Estimated net GHG emission reductions or removals (tCO <sub>2</sub> e)
Year A (DD-Month-YYYY- -DD-Month-YYYY)				
Year B				
Year C				
Year...				
<b>Total</b>				

# VCS Project Description Template: Safeguards

**5 MONITORING** .....

5.1 Data and Parameters Available at Validation .....

5.2 Data and Parameters Monitored .....

5.3 Monitoring Plan .....

**APPENDIX** .....

## 5.1 Data and Parameters Available at Validation

Complete the table below for all data and parameters that are determined or available at validation, and remain fixed throughout the project crediting period (copy the table as necessary for each data/parameter). Data and parameters monitored during the operation of the project are included in Section 5.2 (Data and Parameters Monitored) below.

<b>Data / Parameter</b>	
<b>Data unit</b>	Indicate the unit of measure
<b>Description</b>	Provide a brief description of the data/parameter
<b>Source of data</b>	Indicate the source(s) of data
<b>Value applied</b>	Provide the value applied
<b>Justification of choice of data or description of measurement methods and procedures applied</b>	Justify the choice of data source, providing references where applicable. Where values are based on measurement, include a description of the measurement methods and procedures applied (e.g., what standards or protocols have been followed), indicate the responsible person/entity that undertook the measurement, the date of the measurement and the measurement results. More detailed information may be provided in an appendix.
<b>Purpose of Data</b>	Indicate one of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Determination of baseline scenario (AFOLU projects only)</li> <li>• Calculation of baseline emissions</li> <li>• Calculation of project emissions</li> <li>• Calculation of leakage</li> </ul>
<b>Comments</b>	Provide any additional comments

# Tips for success



Photo: FUNDAECO / REDD Conservation Coast Project

# VCS/CCB Templates

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# Where to find the templates

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PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS

**RULES AND REQUIREMENTS**

SECTORAL SCOPES

METHODOLOGIES

VALIDATION AND VERIFICATION

VERRA REGISTRY

THE VCS IN COMPLIANCE MARKETS

GOVERNANCE AND DEVELOPMENT

COMPLAINTS AND APPEALS POLICY

## RULES AND REQUIREMENTS

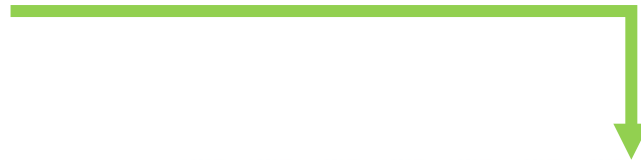
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<b>Procedural</b>	+
<b>Templates and Forms</b>	+
<b>Guidance</b>	+

# VCS/CCB Joint Template

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## 2.1.8 Stakeholder Identification (G1.5)



# The CCB Standards

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B3. Offsite Biodiversity Impacts .....	45
B4. Biodiversity Impact Monitoring.....	46
GL3. Exceptional Biodiversity Benefits .....	47



# Section 1.1: Unique Project Benefits

Outcome or Impact Estimated by the End of Project Lifetime	Section Reference
1)	
2)	
3)	
4)	
5)	

- Benefits uncaptured by the standardized table in the next section should be summarized here.
- These should be quantifiable outcomes/impacts and the sections corresponding to further details about these sections should be mentioned in the “Section reference” column.
- These should be aligned with the project’s ‘theory of change’ in Section 2.1.11 of the CCB & VCS Project Description.

# Section 1.2: Standardized Benefit Metrics

Category	Metric	Estimated by the End of Project Lifetime	Section Reference
GHG emission reductions or removals	Net estimated emission removals in the project area, measured against the without-project scenario		
	Net estimated emission reductions in the project area, measured against the without-project scenario		
Forest <sup>1</sup> cover	For REDD <sup>2</sup> projects: Estimated number of hectares of reduced forest loss in the project area measured against the without-project scenario		
	For ARR <sup>3</sup> projects: Estimated number of hectares of forest cover increased in the project area measured against the without-project scenario		

- This section captures the quantifiable information that is common across all CCB projects.
- The project may insert “not applicable” where the metric does not apply and “data not available” where the metric does apply but there are no means of quantification.

# Section 2.1.8 & 2.1.9: Stakeholder Identification and Description

- Section 2.1.8 should include the process used to identify stakeholders affected by the project.

## 2.1.8 Stakeholder Identification (G1.5)

- Stakeholder identification and analysis should include an assessment of rights, interests, and relevance to the project for each stakeholder group.
- Grouped Projects: Such projects should identify communities that may join the project in this section. More information in G1.10- G1.13

# Section 2.1.11: Project Activities and Theory of Change

Activity description	Expected climate, community, and/or biodiversity			Relevance to project's objectives
	Outputs (short term)	Outcomes (medium term)	Impacts (long term)	



## Section 2.3: Stakeholder Engagement

- Refer to the *Climate Community and Biodiversity Standard v3.1*, G3 for details.
- **Access**: projects need to demonstrate that project documents are accessible by stakeholders, information related to the project has been disseminated to communities and informational meetings are held and publicized.  
**Sections 2.3.1, 2.3.2 & 2.3.3.**
- **Site Visit**: projects need to ensure that the stakeholders have information about the validation and verification and the auditor's site visit.  
**Sections 2.3.5, & 2.3.6**

# Section 2.3: Stakeholder Engagement

- **Consultations**: the influence of stakeholders on project design, and their constant participation through inputs and comments should be ensured through effective consultation methods.  
**Sections 2.3.7, 2.3.8, 2.3.9 & 2.3.10**
- **Grievance Redressal**: the project should have an effective grievance redressal procedure, and this should be publicized and accessible.  
**Sections 2.3.12 and 2.3.13.**

## Section 2.5: Legal Status and Property Rights

- The project needs to demonstrate that all **property rights are recognized, respected, and supported**.
- A detailed description of **free, prior, and informed consent** obtained from those whose property rights are affected by the project through a transparent, agreed process should be provided in the document. Any deeds or legal documents related to it can be attached in the Appendix.
- A fair description of how property rights holders have not been removed or relocated involuntarily/forcefully and if relocated, **fair compensation** is provided.
- Any ongoing disputes over property that are unaffected by the project activities should be listed.
- All **national and local laws** that are being complied with should be listed.
- The project should list that it has **approval from the relevant authorities** for conducting the project activities.



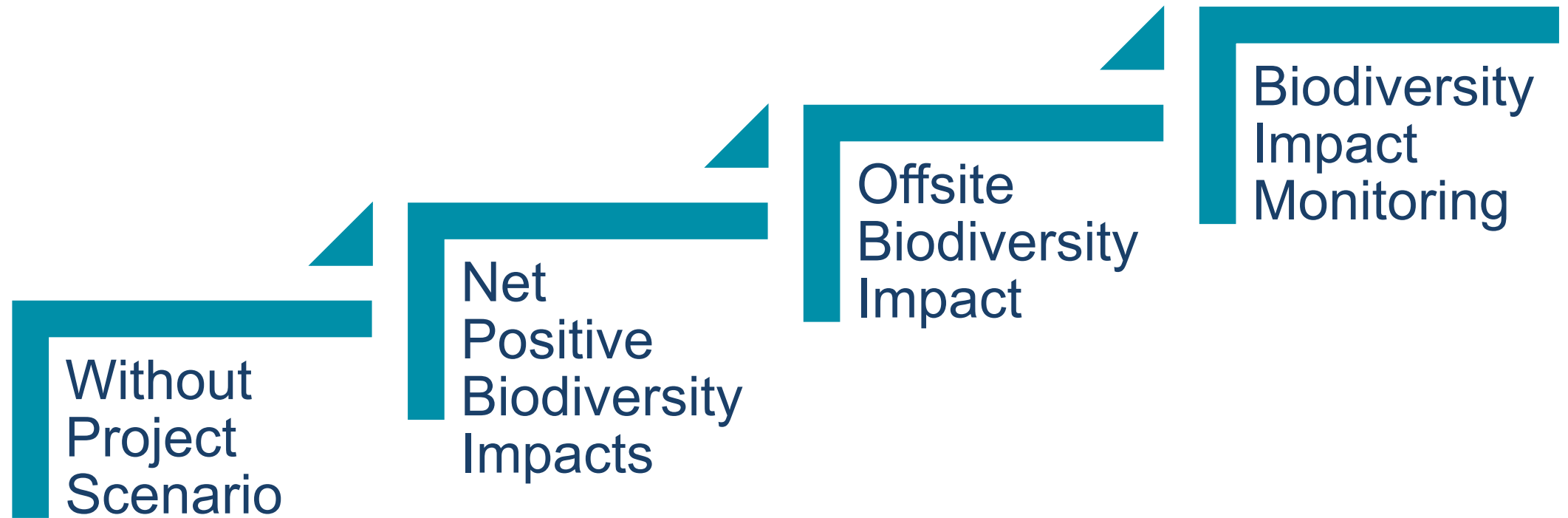
# Section 3: Climate

- Same as the VCS template.

# Section 4: Community



# Section 5: Biodiversity



# CCB Gold Level

## Climate Gold

- Section 3.4
- CCB Standard GL1: Support to assist communities and/or biodiversity in adapting to impact of climate change

## Community Gold

- Section 4.5
- CCB Standard GL2: The project is smallholder/community-led and implemented on land that they own or manage and/or is explicitly pro-poor in terms of targeting benefits to globally poorer communities.

## Biodiversity Gold

- Section 5.5
- CCB Standard GL3: Conserve biodiversity at sites of global significance selected based on the Key Biodiversity Area (KBA) framework of vulnerability and irreplaceability

# Request Denials

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# Denials as part of the streamlined review process

- **Document quality is poor, incorrect, or incomplete:**
  - Clear and obvious errors in GHG ERR calculations or applications of the methodology
  - Clear and obvious noncompliance with the requirements of the respective Verra standard program
  - Ineligibility within the scope of the program, project activity, or applied methodology
  - Pervasive reporting errors or widespread noncompliance with program template instructions
- **Unresolved findings** raised in a project review report that have not been satisfactorily addressed after three rounds.
- **No VVB response within 60 days**

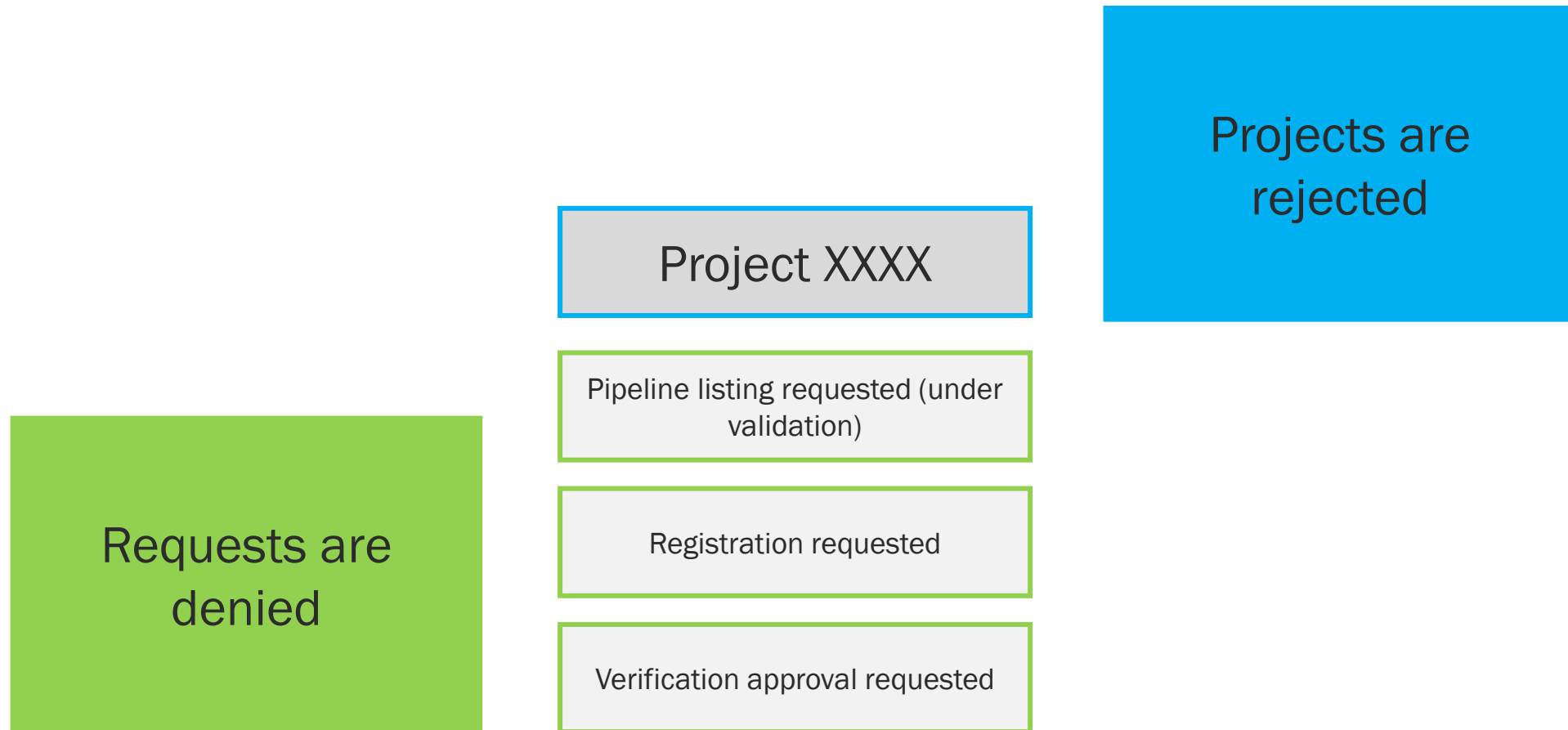
Registration Requested

Verra conducts review and determines that the quality of project documentation unsatisfactory

Verra denies the review request

[3 months to 1 year later]  
Registration Requested

# Denials vs Rejections



# Poll #3

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Thank You



Photo: FUNDAECO / REDD Conservation Coast Project

Please email [info@verra.org](mailto:info@verra.org) should you have any questions.