

Scope 3 Standard Program version 1

Standardizing and Certifying Value Chain Projects

September 30, 2026



Scope 3
Standard Program

AgreenaCarbon Project, Europe (Verra Project 4022).

AGENDA

- Overview of Scope 3 emissions
- Introduction to the Scope 3 Standard (S3S) Program
- Version 1 – what was released and what's coming soon
- S3S project lifecycle
- Program development roadmap
- Q&A

About Verra

Verra is a **global mission-driven nonprofit organization** that is committed to helping reduce greenhouse gas emissions, improve livelihoods, and protect natural resources by working with the private and public sectors.

We support climate action and sustainable development with **standards programs and tools** that credibly, transparently, and robustly assess environmental and social impacts and catalyze funding for sustaining and scaling up projects that verifiably deliver these benefits.



**Verified Carbon
Standard**



**Jurisdictional
& Nested REDD+**



**Scope 3
Standard**



**Climate, Community
& Biodiversity Standards**



SD VISTa



**Plastic Waste
Reduction Standard**

S3S Program Team



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Luca Carbonara

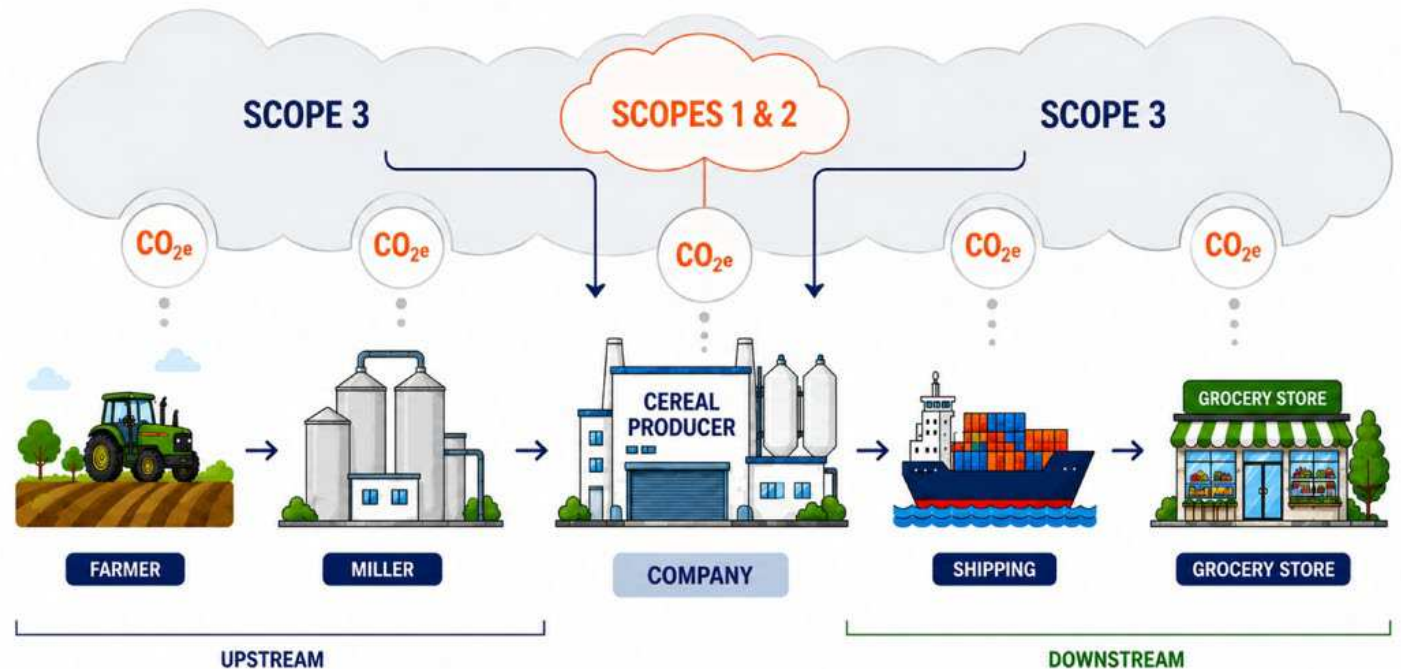
*Senior Program Officer,
Supply Chain
Innovation*

What are Scope 3 emissions?

Photo by Lisa Murray. Bale Mountains Eco-Region REDD+ Project, Ethiopia
(Verra Project 1340).

Scope 3 emissions

- Emissions from a company's activities, but outside company's direct ownership or control
- **~75-90%** of a company's total emissions footprint
- **Over 10,000** of the world's largest publicly-traded companies have Scope 3 targets covering 40% of global market capitalization



Growing demand for credible Scope 3 climate action



Paris Agreement

Mobilizing private-sector investment is essential to 1.5°C goal



Regulatory Pressure

Governments are raising the bar on Scope 3 reporting and disclosure



Voluntary Target Setting

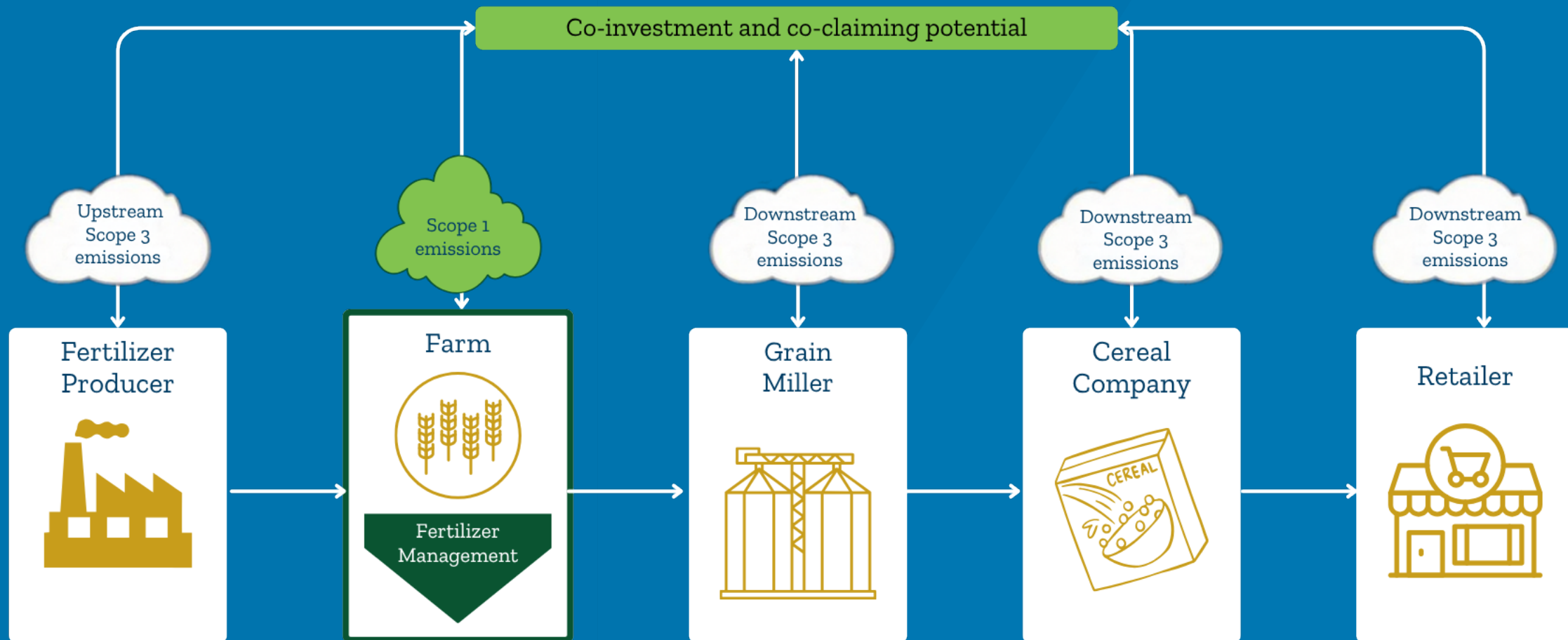
SBTi Corporate Net-Zero Standard V2.0, ISO Net Zero Standard, internal company targets



Investor Expectations

ESG frameworks and institutional investors demand credible Scope 3 strategies backed by verifiable data

Scope 3 enables co-investment and co-claiming



What's missing?



Standardization

Limited standardized quantification methods for value chain projects



Transparency

Limited transparency into methods, traceability, assurance and claims



Infrastructure

Siloed (or no) tracking of impacts of value chain projects



Assurance

Variable assurance on methods and claims

Scope 3 Standard Program

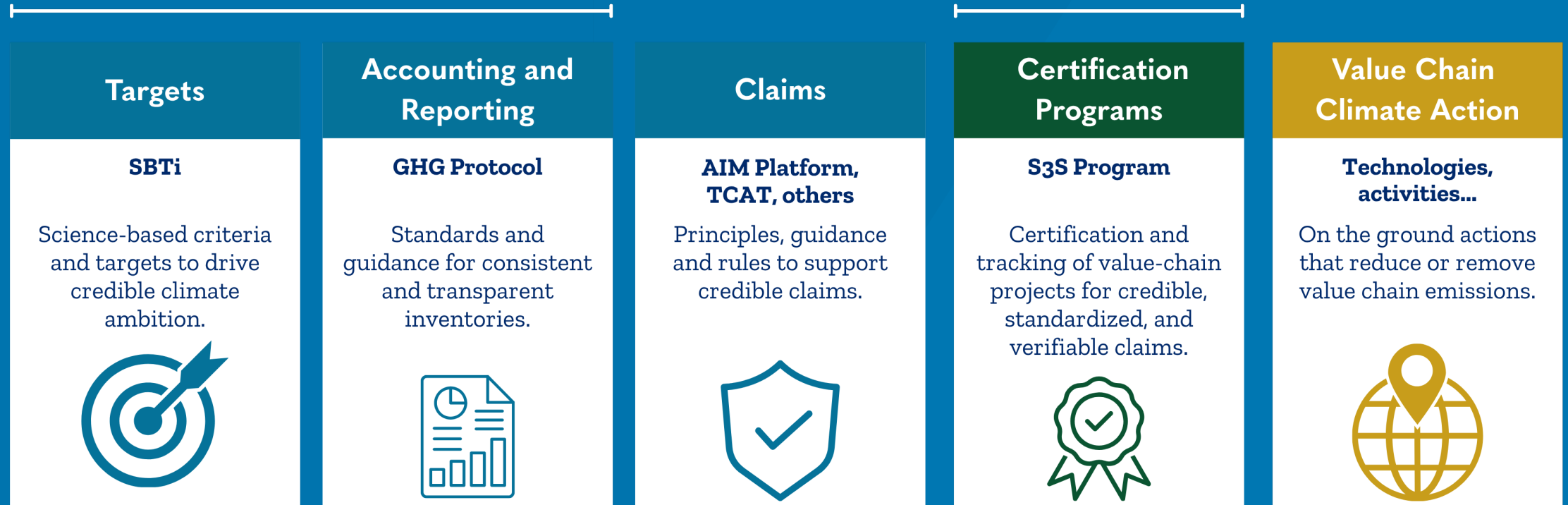
A certification program for value chain projects

Photo by Lisa Murray. Bale Mountains Eco-Region REDD+ Project,
Ethiopia (Verra Project 1340).

S3S Program in context

Framework that is currently
endorsed by SBTi

Connects **action** with
accounting and targets



Built on proven VCS infrastructure



Standardized Methodologies

Science-based GHG quantification adapted from VCS



Third-Party Auditing

Validation/verification bodies (VVBs) validate project design and verify outcomes



Registry Tracking

Scope 3 Units (S3Us) and reportable S3Us issued and tracked publicly on the Verra Registry



Transparent Reporting

Unit attributes enable credible Scope 3 inventory integration

What is an S3S Project?



Real Action

Projects must perform better than the baseline scenario (analogous to common practice)



Value Chain Product

Projects must affect the emissions footprint of a good or service in a value chain



Boundary

Audited data is limited to the project boundary – leakage is quantified and reported as a unit attribute

Verification Options

Level of Assurance*

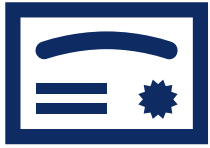
- **Reasonable Level of Assurance***
 - Lower verification risk
 - More extensive evidence gathering
 - Test controls and data management systems effectiveness
- **Limited Level of Assurance***
 - [Comparably] higher verification risk
 - Less extensive evidence gathering
 - Greater reliance on established controls and data management systems

**per ISO 14064-3*

Verification Scope

- **Full scope**
 - Full monitoring report
 - Wholistic VVB assessment of program implementation, compliance with all programmatic rules, quantification, etc.
- **Focused scope**
 - Sub-set data in the monitoring report
 - VVB assessment focuses on quantification of GHG outcomes and impacted products
 - No major changes to the project allowed (no PD deviations, new instances, etc.)

What Scope 3 Units (S3Us) represent



Data

Verified GHG data attributed to an amount of a specified impacted product



Reductions or Removals

Each unit is based on 1tCO₂e reduced or removed compared to baseline emissions



Emissions

Units include emissions-only data – analogous to an emission factor



Project Proponent

S3Us are issued to the project proponent only – non-transferable

Facilitating Co-claiming



Reportable S3Us

- Issued in S3S Program Version 2
- Derived from S3Us: same data, unit labels and unit attributes
- Issued to reporting companies with a verified value chain association (not transferable)
- Issuances to multiple companies enables co-investment and co-claiming across value chain tiers
- Tracked on the public Verra Registry



Version I

What was released

What is coming soon

Requirements

Released | 15 September 2026



Scope 3 Standard, v1.0

Core requirements for developing projects and for validating, monitoring, and verifying their GHG outcomes



S3S Program Stakeholder Engagement and Safeguards, Requirements v1.0

Stakeholder engagement, land and resource rights, grievance mechanisms, benefit-sharing, and ESG safeguards



S3S Program Definitions, v1.0

Defines all terms used across S3S Program documents



S3S Program fees

- Verra Program Fee Schedule, v1.2: USD 1,500 listing fee
- S3S Program Fee Schedule Options: v1.1 proposals, open for feedback

Coming soon

- S3S Program Methodology Adaptation Requirements, v1.0 (2026)
- Rules for removals, reversals, and carbon stock data (2026)
- Fees for registration, verification, and issuance, published with future updates to version 1

All program documents: verra.org › Scope 3 Standard › Program Details

Procedural

Released | 15 September 2026



S3S Program Registration and Issuance Process, v1.0

Procedures and rules for taking a project from registry account opening to the issuance of Scope 3 Units (S3Us)

Enabled now

- Opening a Verra Registry account
- Pipeline listing
- 30-day public comment period

Included for reference, enabled later

- Registration and validation
- Verification approval
- S3U issuance

Coming soon

- S3S Program Guide, v1.0 (2027)

All program documents: verra.org › Scope 3 Standard › Program Details

Methodologies

Adapted from VCS or CDM methodologies, or newly developed, for value chain contexts

Available now | Released 15 September 2026



S3S-VM0042

Improved Agricultural Land Management

- Adapts VCS VM0042, v2.2
- Cropland and grazing management, degraded land restoration, enhanced weathering

Agriculture



S3S-VM0043

CO₂ Utilization in Concrete Production

- Adapts VCS VM0043, v1.1

Manufacturing

Construction

In development



Electrification and Fossil Fuel Switch in Manufacturing

Manufacturing

VM0045 Improved Forest Management

Forestry

VM0041 Enteric Methane Reduction

Agriculture

VM0047 Afforestation, Reforestation and Revegetation

Forestry

Templates

Released | 15 September 2026



S3S Listing Project Description Template, v1.0

Describes the project and demonstrates conformance with version 1 of the S3S Program



S3S Listing Representation, v1.0

Deed of representation executed by the project proponent when applying for listing



Digital-first: Verra Project Hub

- Templates are available exclusively through the Verra Project Hub
- All project documents are submitted electronically
- The Project Hub integrates with the Verra Registry for documentation, digital quantification, and review

Coming soon

- Remaining templates for registration, monitoring, validation, verification, and issuance (2027)
- S3S Program Attribution and Distribution Tool, v1.0 (2026)

All program documents: verra.org › Scope 3 Standard › Program Details

Lifecycle Stages of an S3S Project

A photograph of a person with a backpack walking on a fallen tree trunk in a forest. The person is wearing a yellow shirt, grey shorts, and a backpack. The forest is lush with green trees and foliage. The image is overlaid with a green geometric shape on the right side.

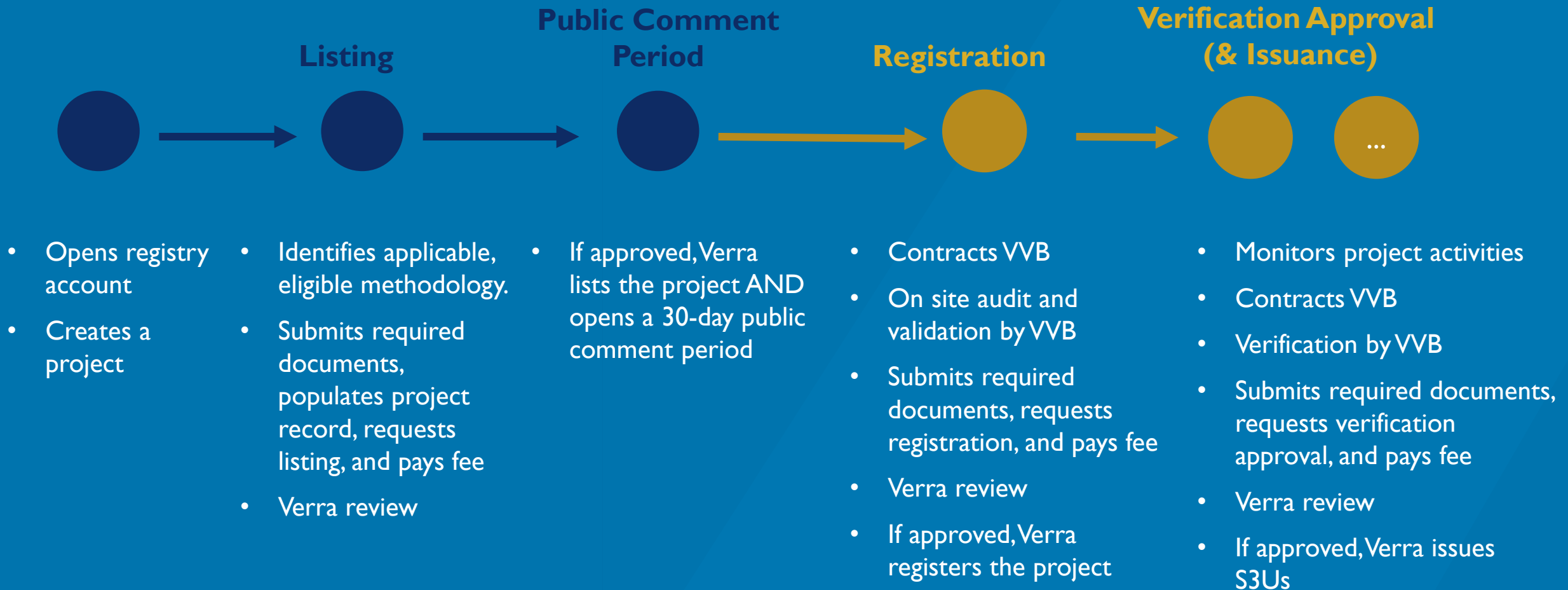
Photo courtesy of Keneco. Mindanao Tree Planting Program for our Climate and Communities (MinTrees), Philippines (Verra Project 2412)

Basic Lifecycle Stages of a Project



- Opens registry account
- Creates a project
- Identifies applicable, eligible methodology.
- Submits required documents, populates project record, requests listing, and pays fee
- Verra review
- If approved, Verra lists the project AND opens a 30-day public comment period

Basic Lifecycle Stages of an S3S Project



S3S Program Development Roadmap

S3S Program version I and beyond



Photo courtesy of FUNDAECO. REDD+ Project for Caribbean Guatemala: The Conservation Coast (Verra Project 1622).

Coming soon...

2026

- Additional requirements for:
 - Removals
 - Reversals
 - Carbon stock data
- Attribution and Distribution Tool
- Methodology-related:
 - Adaptation Requirements
 - Digitized calculators

2027

- Program and integration guidance
- Methodology-related
 - New methodologies
 - Digitized calculators
 - Development resources
- Templates enabling:
 - Registration
 - Verification approval (and thus, issuance)
 - Issuing period renewal
 - Other programmatic processes
- Value chain association rules

How To Get Involved + Questions



Sponsor Program Development

Accelerate and shape program development

Plus perks and bonuses

Sponsorship packages available on request, email: scope3@verra.org



Feedback

Provide constructive feedback on published documents via:



List a Project!

Listing is available now via the Verra Project Hub



Stay Connected

Subscribe to Verra's stakeholder newsletter

