

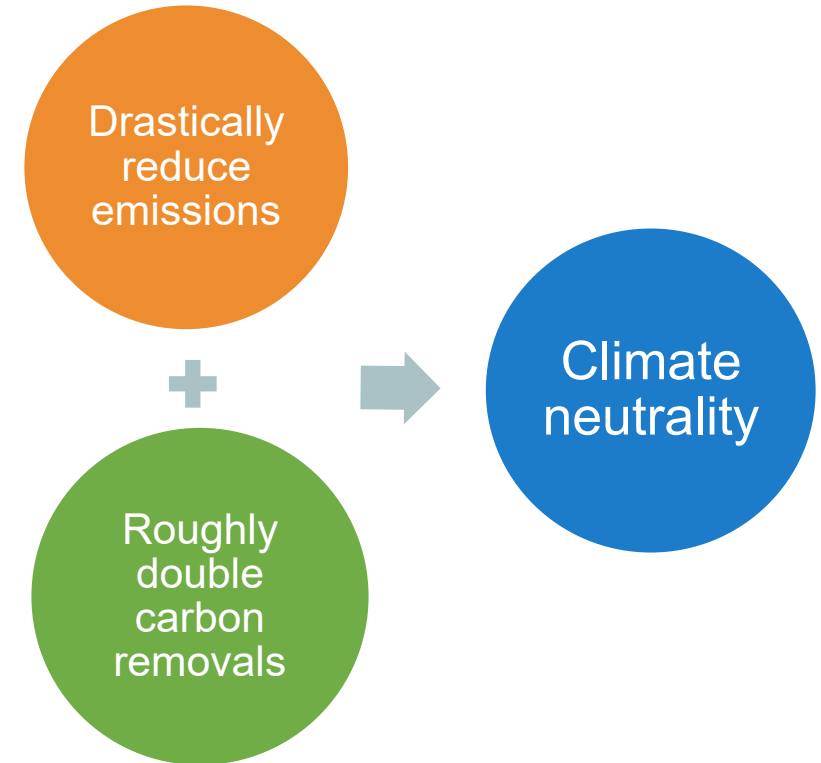
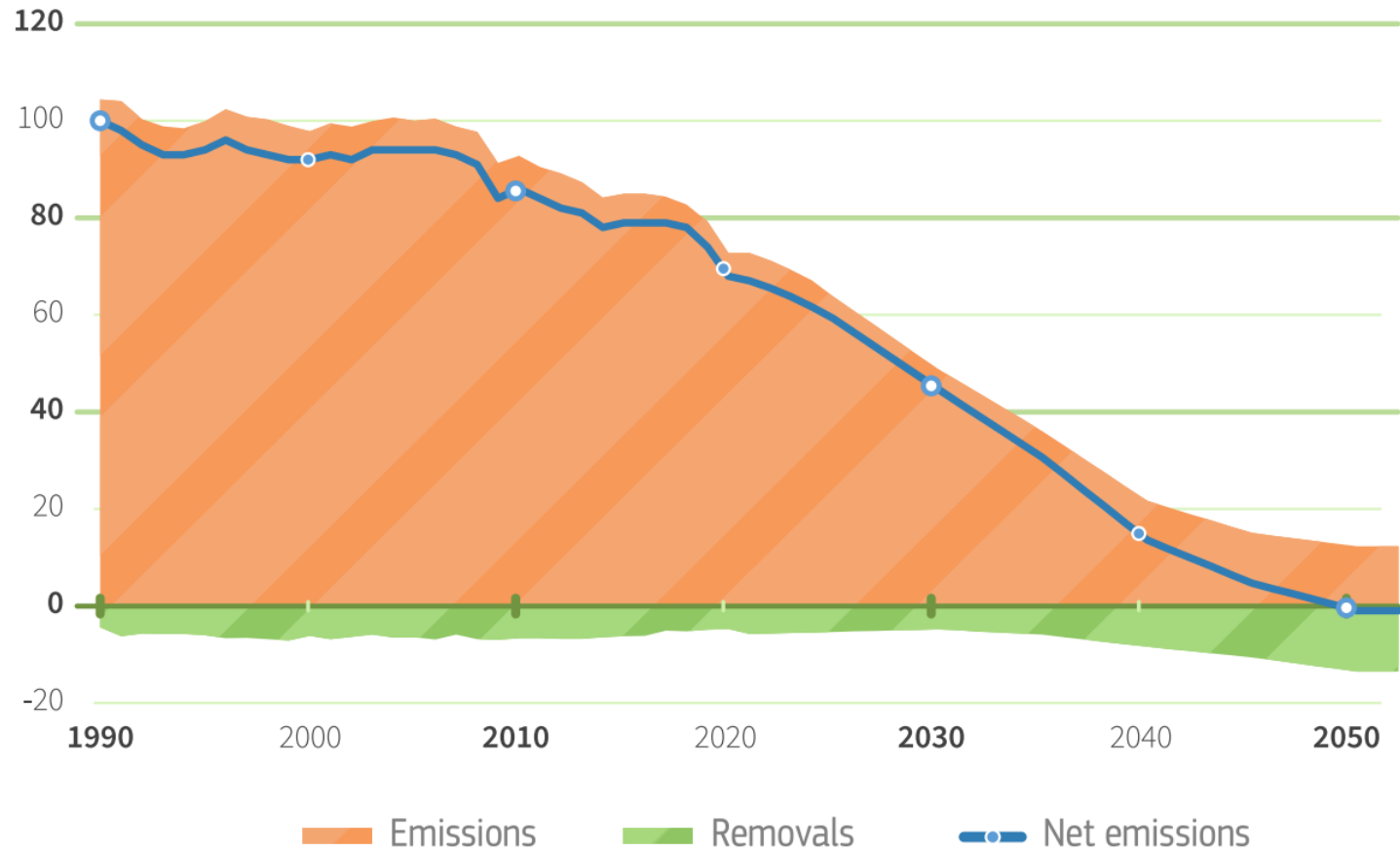


Framework for the voluntary certification of carbon removals in the EU

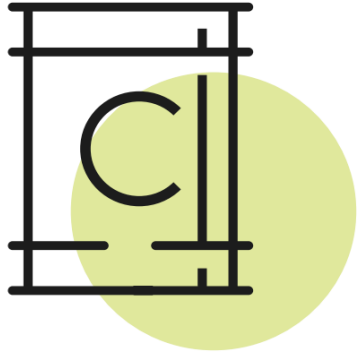
*Christian HOLZLEITNER, Head of Unit,
European Commission, DG CLIMA, Unit C3*

7 February 2023

Towards climate neutrality



Carbon removal activities



PERMANENT STORAGE

E.g. Bioenergy with Carbon Capture and Storage (BECCS), Direct Air Carbon Capture and Storage (DACCS)

Industrial leadership for climate-neutral technologies

At least 5 MtCO₂ removed in 2030, and up to 200 MtCO₂ in 2050

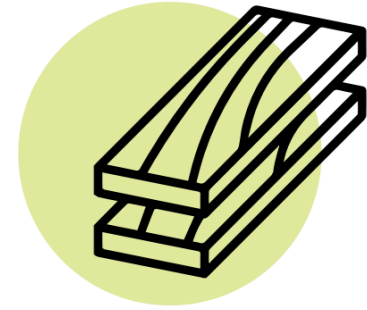


CARBON FARMING

*Soil and forest activities in the scope of the LULUCF Regulation, including:
Peatland restoration,
agroforestry, sustainable forest management, soil carbon sequestration,*

Strong synergies with biodiversity

Contribute to LULUCF target of -310 MtCO₂ removals in 2030 and climate-positive bio-economy in 2050



CARBON STORAGE IN LONG-LASTING PRODUCTS

E.g. wood-based construction materials and other carbon-storing construction products

New European Bauhaus

Starting up carbon farming

Benefits



Increased carbon removals



Additional income for land managers

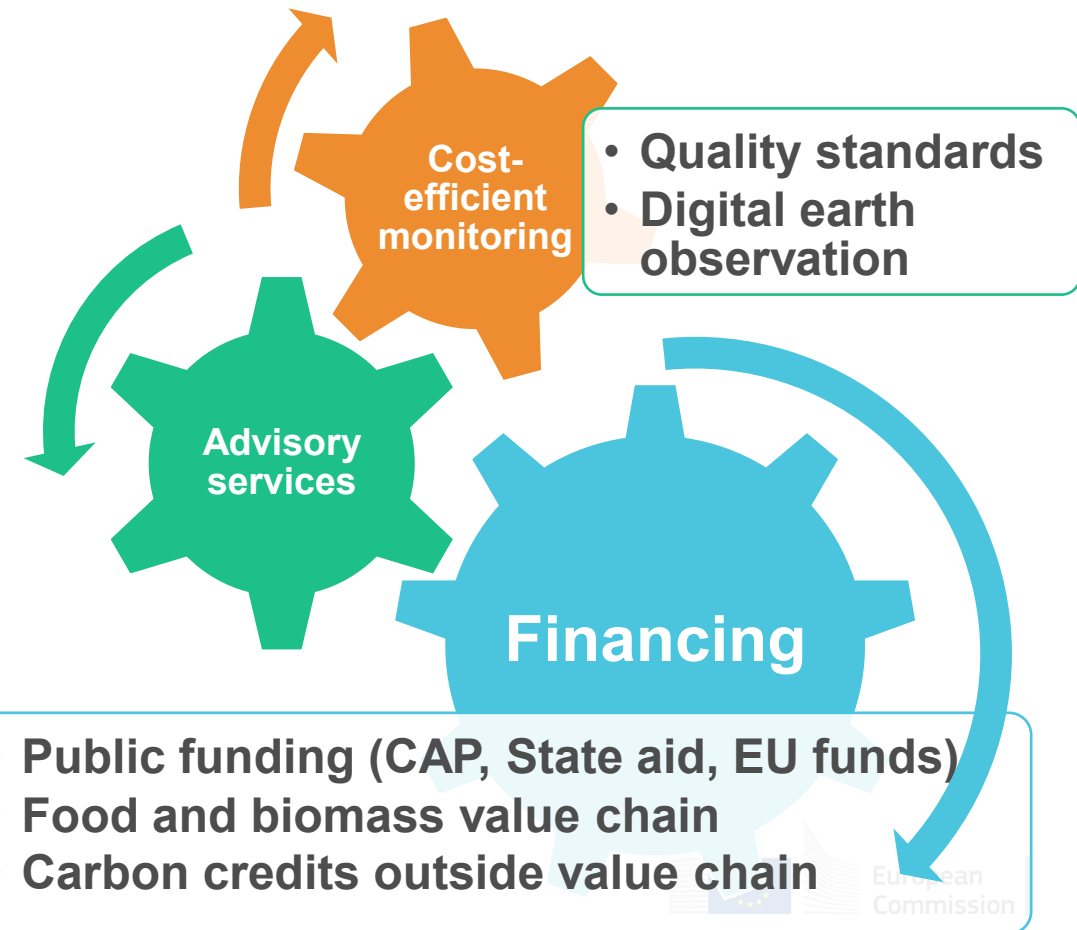


More biodiversity and nature



Increased climate resilience of farm and forest land

Challenges



Starting up industrial carbon removals

Permanent storage



Bioenergy with carbon capture and storage e.g. Stockholm Exergi's project financed by Innovation Fund



Direct air capture and storage

Storage in long-lasting products



Use of long-lasting wood-based construction products and other carbon-storing building materials

Challenges

First-of-a-kind projects

Sustainable sourcing of feedstock and energy

Public-private financing

Framework for the voluntary certification of carbon removals in the EU

No regret option

- Certify the benefits, costs, and risks of different carbon removals
- **First steppingstone** towards comprehensive 2040 policy on carbon removals

Enable early financial support

- Support carbon removals with **highest climate and sustainability benefits**
- Contribute to Member States' **LULUCF** and **NRL** targets
- Harmonized criteria for **public and private financing**
- Public support
 - *New Innovation Fund*
 - *New state aid for carbon farming*

Fight greenwashing

- **Corporate Sustainability Reporting**
 - Sustainable Reporting Standards on Climate - [Download \(efrag.org\)](https://efrag.org)
 - *Delegated act to be adopted mid-2023*
- **Green Claims**
 - *Commission proposal planned for March 2023*

Proposed regulation on the voluntary certification of carbon removals in the EU

Principles in the framework

QU.A.L.I.TY criteria

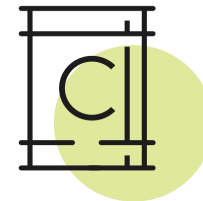
- **Q**uantification
- **A**dditionality
- **L**ong-term storage
- **S**ustainabil-**ITY**

Credible certification

- **Third-party** verification
- **Reliable** certification schemes
- **Public** registries



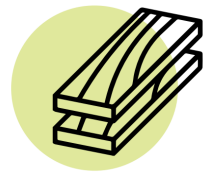
Tailored certification methodologies – to be developed together with expert group



PERMANENT STORAGE



CARBON FARMING



CARBON STORAGE IN LONG-LASTING PRODUCTS

QU.A.L.I.TY criteria for all carbon removals



QUANTIFICATION

- Carbon removal activities are measured accurately and deliver unambiguous benefits for the climate
- Taking account of emissions increases
- Based on international standards like GHG Protocol



ADDITIONALITY

- Carbon removal activities go beyond standard market practices and legal obligations of the individual operator
- Highly representative standardized baseline preferred – if sufficient data available
- Otherwise project-specific baseline



LONG-TERM STORAGE

- Certificates clearly account for duration of carbon storage
- Rules for permanent storage building on the CCS Directive
- Temporary certificates for carbon farming are possible but validity of certificate expires at the end of the monitoring period



SUSTAINABILITY

- Carbon removal activities shall not harm the environment
- Methodologies for certification of co-benefits such as biodiversity

Developing a post-2030 EU carbon removal policy

GST + 6 months

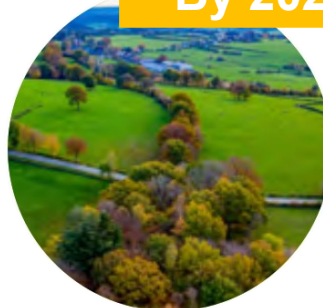


Climate Law

- Proposal of 2040 target

(GST = Global Stock Take)

By 2025



Carbon farming

- *Art 17(2) new LULUCF Reg*
Assess options to ensure that land sector is well on track for climate neutrality
- Including implementation of Articles 6.2 and 6.4 PA

By 2026



Permanent storage

- *Art. 30 new ETS Directive*
Assess inclusion of permanent storage in ETS

By 2025



Carbon storage products

- *Art 17(3) new LULUCF Reg*
Assess inclusion in scope of LULUCF Regulation

Where can I find more information on carbon removal certification?

- Proposal: https://climate.ec.europa.eu/document/fad4a049-ff98-476f-b626-b46c6afdded3_en
- Impact Assessment: https://climate.ec.europa.eu/document/ab53e63b-4b85-4d28-ac67-6bd742506bae_en
- Press release: [Commission proposes certification of carbon removals \(europa.eu\)](#)
- Q&A: https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/qanda_22_7159
- Factsheet: https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/fs_22_7161
- [Expert group on carbon removals \(europa.eu\)](#)

More resources related to carbon removals

- More information on Sustainable Carbon Cycles: https://ec.europa.eu/clima/eu-action/forests-and-agriculture/sustainable-carbon-cycles_en
- Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive: [EUR-Lex - 32022L2464 - EN - EUR-Lex \(europa.eu\)](#)
- Draft European Sustainability Reporting Standards – Climate Change: [Download \(efrag.org\)](#)
- New State Aid Guidelines for Agriculture and Forestry: [State aid \(europa.eu\)](#)
- [Innovation Fund \(europa.eu\)](#)
- LIFE programme: [Climate change mitigation and adaptation \(europa.eu\)](#)
- [Soil Mission \(europa.eu\)](#)