



THE INTEGRITY COUNCIL
FOR THE VOLUNTARY CARBON MARKET

Decision
on the eligibility
of an applicant carbon-crediting program
GB_P-GCC_2026-10

NAME OF PROGRAM: GLOBAL CARBON COUNCIL (GCC)

1. The Governing Board considered the Final Assessment Report and the recommendation from the Standards Oversight Committee for a draft Decision and decides to:
 - a) Approve the carbon-crediting program as CCP-Eligible.¹
where the following conditions are met:
 - *For mitigation activities that are registered with GCC 2.0 and the Standard on ICVCM Eligibility of Projects and Issuances v1.1 or later and;*
 - *Where mitigation activities registered with the Standard on ICVCM Eligibility of Projects and Issuances v1.1 or later only issue ACCs that comply with this Standard*

¹ Note: In accordance with Section 2.17 of the Assessment Procedure, where the Integrity Council identifies issues that require changes to the carbon-crediting program's program documents, or other carbon-crediting program processes in order to meet the CCPs and the criteria and requirements of the Assessment Framework, the Secretariat will notify the carbon-crediting program of the required changes. These may be classified as minor changes, such that approval is not subject to completion of those changes.

Rationale for Decision

In accordance with the Assessment Procedure, the Integrity Council has considered the Application by the carbon-crediting program, Global Carbon Council (GCC) with GCC 2.0 (updated framework) and the Standard on ICVCM Eligibility of Projects and Issuances v1.1 and related documentation and the draft Assessment Report for adherence to part I and to CORSIA requirements of part II of the Assessment Framework.²

Following a thorough review of the application and supporting documentation, additional information was sought from and provided by the Program in order to determine adherence with the requirements.

During the assessment and clarification process, the Program has introduced amendments to its rules in order to align with the requirements of the Assessment Framework. These include the following:

1. On requirement 1.2 a) 2): GCC revised its Grievance and Appeal Procedure to:
 - Remove grievance fees for Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities (IPLCs) and Civil Society Organisations (CSOs);
 - Clarify that CSOs are eligible for fee waivers;
 - Remove requirements that could create procedural barriers to access (e.g. prima facie legitimacy tests);
 - Introduce explicit provisions on the handling, protection, and disclosure of confidential information submitted during the grievance process.
2. On requirement 3.1 a) 3): GCC has:
 - Published the GCC Non-Permanence Risk Assessment Tool and the AFOLU Non-Permanence Risk Assessment Tool, to assess non-permanence risk and to determine the threshold of buffer deduction;
 - Introduced provisions that ensured the buffer deduction shall be reported publicly via the GCC Transaction Registry;
 - Published the GCC NBS Carbon Loss Event Notification Form, which project proponents are required to provide information on any occurrence that has resulted in a Carbon Loss Event;
 - Introduced provisions stating that GCC shall conduct an assessment of the carbon loss event and report findings in GCC NBS Carbon Loss Event Assessment Report;
 - Introduced provisions to ensure completed PMRs, are made publicly available on the GCC Project Portal and GCC S&P Registry.
3. On requirement 5.2 a) 2): GCC clarified the Global Warming Potential (GWP) values used for calculating CO₂-equivalent emissions by referencing the IPCC AR5 values in footnote 25 of the GCC Project Standard (v4.0 and v5.0). In addition, GCC published a new Global Warming Potential Information Note v1.0 (2025) listing the applicable GWP values and indicating that it will be updated as standards evolve.
4. On requirement 5.2 a) 4): GCC clarified and strengthened requirements in the GCC Project Standard v5.0 to ensure that baseline and legal requirements are reassessed at renewal of the crediting period for all projects
5. On requirement 5.2 a) 5): GCC has:

² See Part I of the [Assessment Framework](#). The carbon-crediting program application can be found [here](#).

- Revised uncertainty requirements in the updated Project Standard v5.0;
 - Revised the Standard for Development of Methodologies v4.1, introducing Section 4.11 on Uncertainty Management which details Program-level requirements for uncertainty management which apply to all GCC methodologies.
6. On requirement 5.2 a) 6): GCC has published the methodological Tool for 'Addressing Uncertainty in Estimates of GHG Emission Reductions and Removals'.
 7. On Requirement 6.1 a) 2): GCC strengthened requirements to prevent double issuance by requiring project owners to disclose any registration or issuance of credits from other programmes. This disclosure is now explicitly required in the Project Submission Form (PSF) and Project Monitoring Report (PMR) templates. In addition, Verification Report templates and the Validation and Verification Standard v4.0 require Validation and Verification Bodies (VVBs) to check public registries (e.g., Climate Action Data Trust and S&P Global Meta Registry) to confirm that the same emission reductions have not been issued elsewhere.
 8. On Requirement 6.2 a): GCC strengthened provisions in the GCC Program Framework v4.0 and Registry Terms and Conditions to ensure that once carbon credits are retired or cancelled, they cannot be transferred, traded, retired again, or otherwise reused within the GCC registry. The registry assigns unique serial numbers to each credit, maintains a public record of issuance, transfers, retirement, and cancellation, and automatically disables retired or cancelled units, preventing further transactions.
 9. On Requirement 7.1 a) 2): GCC updated the Project Standard (v6.0) to remove the reference to a separate NbS safeguards standard and clarified that all projects, including NbS, must follow the single Environmental and Social Safeguard Standard (v4.1), with mandatory submission of safeguard assessment forms during project registration and verification.
 10. On requirement 7.1 b)1): GCC has revised and published the Project Standard v6.0.

During the Category Assessment, ICVCM will review in detail how specific methodologies implement uncertainty management and conservativeness.

After assessing the supplemental information and the amendments introduced, GCC was found to satisfy the requirements of the Assessment Framework.

GCC is recommended for approval as a CCP-Eligible program where the following conditions are met:

- For mitigation activities that are registered with GCC 2.0 and the Standard on ICVCM Eligibility of Projects and Issuances v1.1 or later and;
- Where mitigation activities registered with the Standard on ICVCM Eligibility of Projects and Issuances v1.1 or later only issue ACCs that comply with this Standard.

The following minor changes must be made to align with ICVCM rules and procedures:

- In line with the Tagging Manual and Terms and Conditions, GCC will not levy issuance fees for CCP labelling.
- GCC will not provide indicative CCP labelling of projects at registration.
- GCC will update relevant CCP labelling information to refer to CCP and not CCP

Decision Timeline

Date of Application Submission	30 October 2024
Date of Completeness Check	06 November 2024
Date Assessment Complete	29 January 2026
Date of Standards Oversight Committee Recommendation for Decision	03 March 2026
Date of Board Decision	30 April 2026