

How the Rainforest Alliance Can Help You Realize the Benefits of Carbon Markets: Credible and Transparent Carbon Auditing of Farm and Forestlands

As companies, individuals, and organizations choose to offset their greenhouse gas emissions voluntarily, the market for carbon credits is growing exponentially. Market analysts forecast that transactions in the voluntary carbon market could reach US\$4 billion by 2010 and predict carbon will become the biggest commodity market in the world. Because forests provide a cost-effective means of storing carbon, forestry projects now comprise over a third of the voluntary market.

To reliably enter the voluntary carbon market, forest owners must first satisfy international standards. The Rainforest Alliance, an international conservation organization and recognized leader in sustainable forestry and sustainable agriculture certification, now provides credible third-party auditing to assess whether your forest or farm-lands meet voluntary carbon standards.

The Rainforest Alliance is the leading certifier for the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) standards for responsible forestry. The Rainforest Alliance also serves as the secretariat for the Sustainable Agriculture Network (SAN), which developed standards for farmers to achieve Rainforest Alliance Certified™ seal of approval.



What types of projects are eligible for Rainforest Alliance carbon audits?

The Rainforest Alliance audits farm and forest projects that demonstrably sequester significant volumes of carbon. They include the following...

- Projects that conserve forests or reduce emissions that otherwise result from deforestation and/or degradation (REDD).
- Improved agro-, natural, or planted forest management projects that store greater amounts of carbon than historical practices.
- Reforestation: replanting forests on land that has been recently forested.
- Afforestation: planting forests on historic cropland or grassland.

Which carbon standards does the Rainforest Alliance employ?

The Rainforest Alliance will *validate* projects to the following standards:

- Climate, Community, and Biodiversity Alliance (CCBA)
- Plan Vivo
- Voluntary Carbon Standard (VCS)

The Rainforest Alliance will *verify* carbon credits to the following standards:

- Chicago Climate Exchange (CCX)
- Plan Vivo
- Voluntary Carbon Standard

The Rainforest Alliance is accredited by the American National Standards Institute to ISO 14065:2007, Greenhouse gases — *Requirements for greenhouse gas validation and verification bodies for use in accreditation or other forms of recognition.*

The Rainforest Alliance will seek accreditation for other standards that meet our rigorous criteria for ecological and social benefits.

The Rainforest Alliance works to conserve biodiversity and ensure sustainable livelihoods by transforming land-use practices, business practices and consumer behavior.

www.rainforest-alliance.org



Why choose the Rainforest Alliance?

As an international conservation organization that works in more than 60 countries around the world, the Rainforest Alliance...

- Brings more than 15 years of forest auditing experience to our carbon auditing services.
- Provides carbon auditing services to Forest Stewardship Council-certified, Rainforest Alliance Certified and non-certified landowners.
- Helps you realize ecological and social benefits from your carbon project.
- Promotes successful carbon projects on our Web site, www.rainforest-alliance.org, in the media and through our broad network of partner companies.



For more information and help choosing the standard that best meets your needs, please contact:

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