



# The French Low-Carbon Standard « Label Bas-Carbone »

ENRD Thematic Group on 'Bioeconomy and Climate Action in rural areas'

February 19th – Brussels



### Institute for Climate Economics (I4CE)

- Non profit association
- Initiative from



• A think tank that provides public and private decisionmakers with independent expertise on economic and financial issues related to the energy and ecological transition.

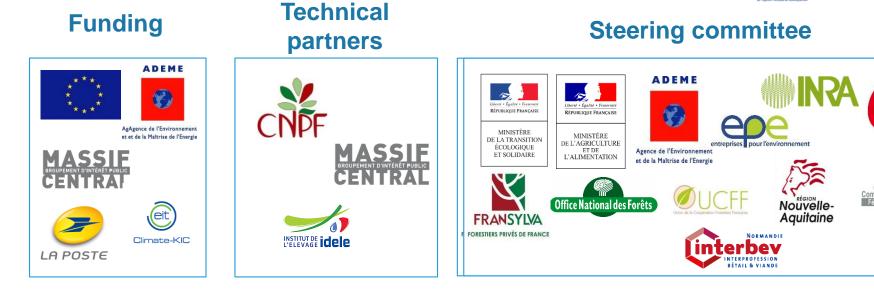
### A national standard with a bottom-up approach

• 2010-2015 – Incentive from the research clubs



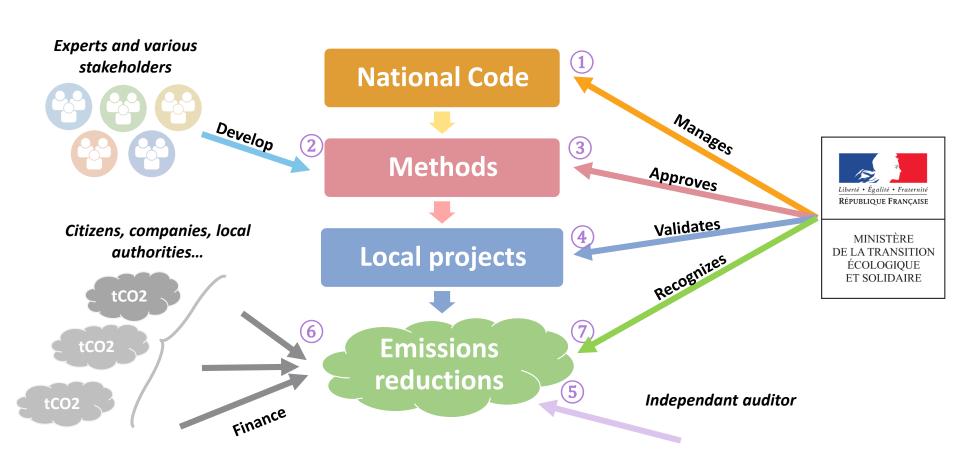
• 2016-2018 : The VOCAL project led by





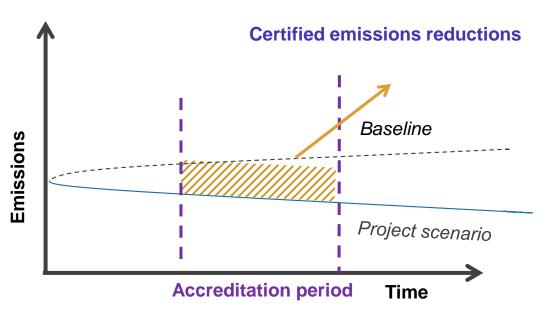
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### General principle of the standard



# Quantify and value emissions reduction/carbon sequestration

• What is a carbon project?



- Baseline : without new practices ; follows the trend; strictly follows regulation.
- Project scenario: with new practices (afforestation, optimisation of nitrogen fertilisation, hedges planting...)
- Carbon projects basic quality criteria
  - > Additionnality
  - Emissions and sequestration monitoring
- I4CE Institut de l'économie pour le climat

- > Third party verification
- Traceability through a registry
- Non-permanance risk management

### First focus on forestry and agriculture

#### APPROVED

#### Forestry (CNPF)

- Afforestation
- Restauration of degraded forests
  - Strom
  - > Wild fires
  - Forest die-back
- Conversion of coppice forest to high forest

#### Agriculture (IDELE)

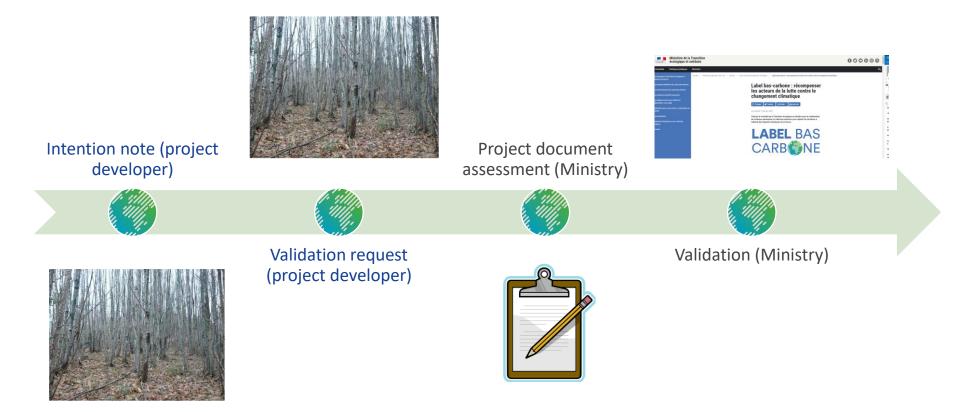
 Carbon Agri : livestock
Integrates all emissions reductions levers on a livestock farm

#### IN DEVELOPMENT

#### Forestry (CNPF)

- Carbon storage in agricultural soils
  - Cropland and grassland
  - Agroforestry and hedges
- Building
  - > Energy refurbishment
  - Re-use of construction materials
- Forestry
  - > Mangrove restauration
- Other practices in discussion
  - Continuous cover forestry
  - > Methanization
  - > Arboriculture

### Certification process (1/2)



### Certification process (2/2)

#### **Project implementation**







### Forestry methodologies in a few words

Inclusion of forest removals, carbon stocks in HWP and substitution effects

- Forest removals and HWP carbon stocks : ex-ante emissions reductions
  - Look-up tables
- Substitution effects : indirect emissions reductions
  - Outside project perimeter
  - Are not the direct consequence of the project

#### **Inclusion of non-carbon impacts**

- Avoid negative impacts
  - Afforestation authorization
  - Biodiversity diagnosis
  - No tillage and forest residues harvest...
- Positive impacts bonuses
  - Biodiversity, water, soil conservation, employment etc.

#### Other carbon accounting specificities

- Emissions reductions accounted for 30 years
- Discount rate applied according the the project risk level (non-permanence issues)

Where are we and what are the next steps ?

- **Today :** 13 projects validated
- Disseminate the tool : information sessions and documents
- Help with the development of new methods
- Get intermediairies/agregators involved :
  - Collective project documents
  - > Auditor selection
  - Connection with buyers
  - Stakeholders from forestry and agriculture sectors, local authorities...



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Thank you for your attention !

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