

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.

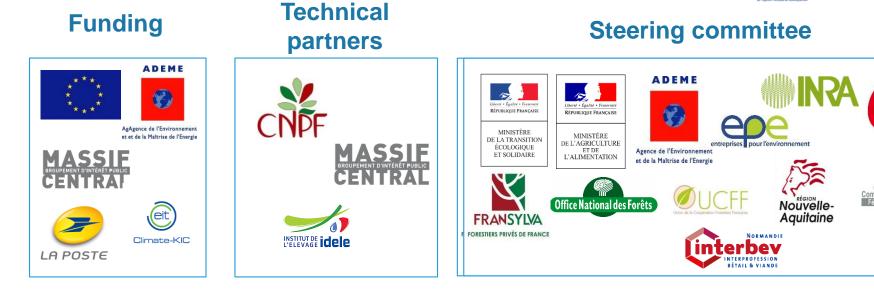
A national standard with a bottom-up approach

• 2010-2015 – Incentive from the research clubs



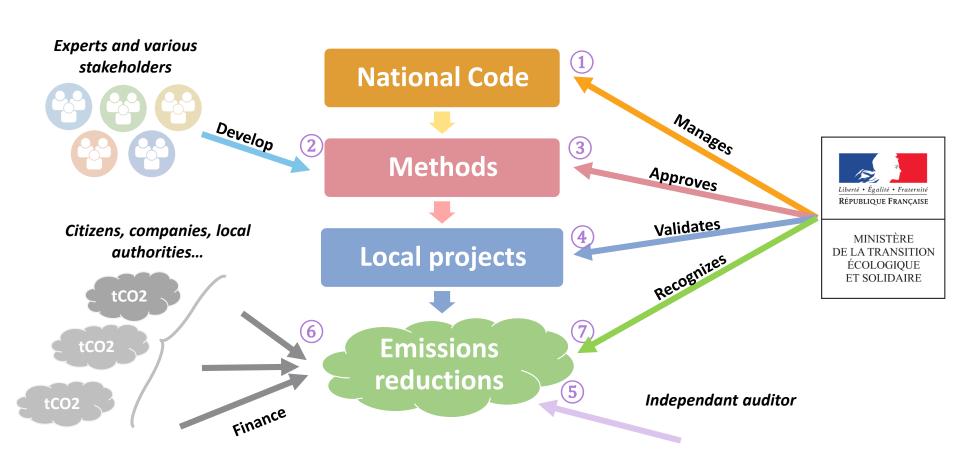
• 2016-2018 : The VOCAL project led by





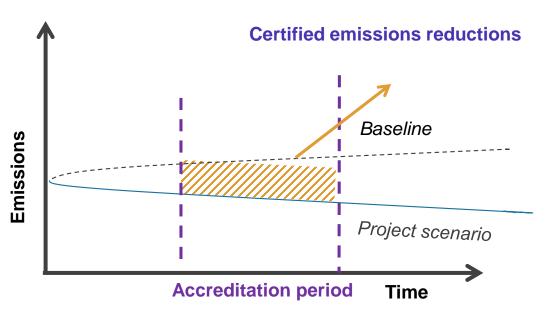
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General principle of the standard



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)

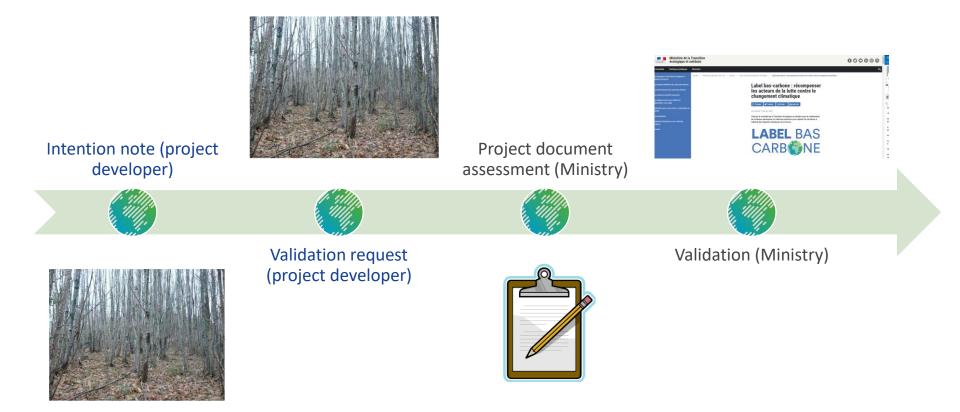
 Carbon Agri : livestock
Integrates all emissions reductions levers on a livestock farm

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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