



EU Carbon Removals and Carbon Farming Certification Framework (CRCF)

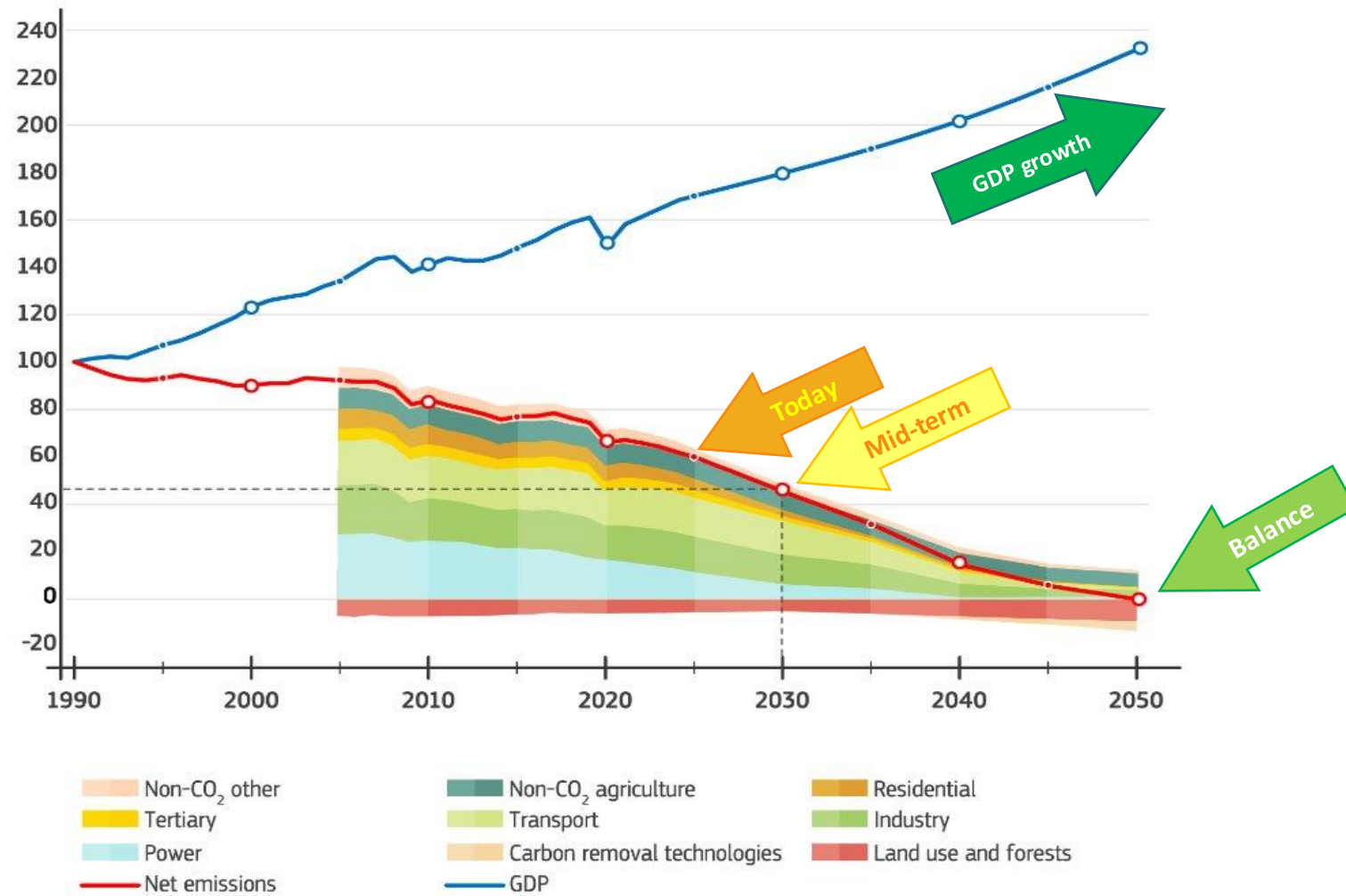
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European Commission

Land economy and carbon removals, DG CLIMA

9 September 2025

The EU's pathway to climate neutrality and growth



Rationale for CRCF

3 KEY PROBLEMS

- Many stakeholders **do not trust** voluntary carbon removal certification
- It is difficult to **assess and compare** the quality of different carbon removals
- Carbon removal operators face **Monitoring, Reporting, Verification (MRV) barriers**



2 minute read · January 31, 2023 10:59 PM GMT+1 · Last Updated 11 hours ago

Investor group bans carbon removal from CO2 reduction plans

Reuters

LONDON, Jan 31 (Reuters) - An investor group committed to climate change and controlling \$11 trillion in assets has banned members from counting carbon removal schemes towards their emissions reduction targets before 2030, amid increasing scrutiny of the fast-growing market for carbon offsets.

The Carbon Removal and Carbon Farming (CRCF) certification framework



Official Journal
of the European Union

EN
L series

2024/3012

6.12.2024

REGULATION (EU) 2024/3012 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL

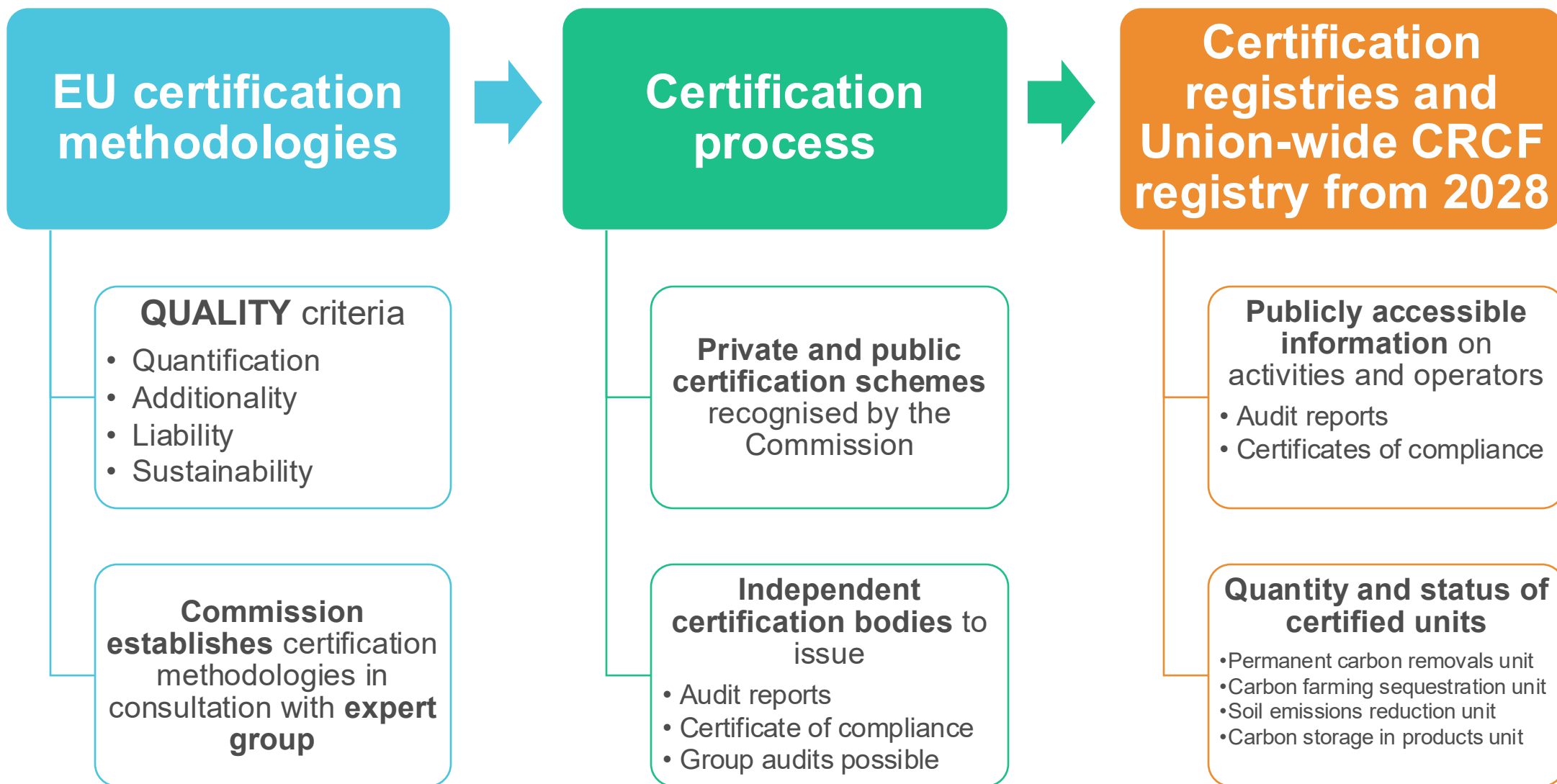
of 27 November 2024

establishing a Union certification framework for permanent carbon removals, carbon farming and carbon storage in products

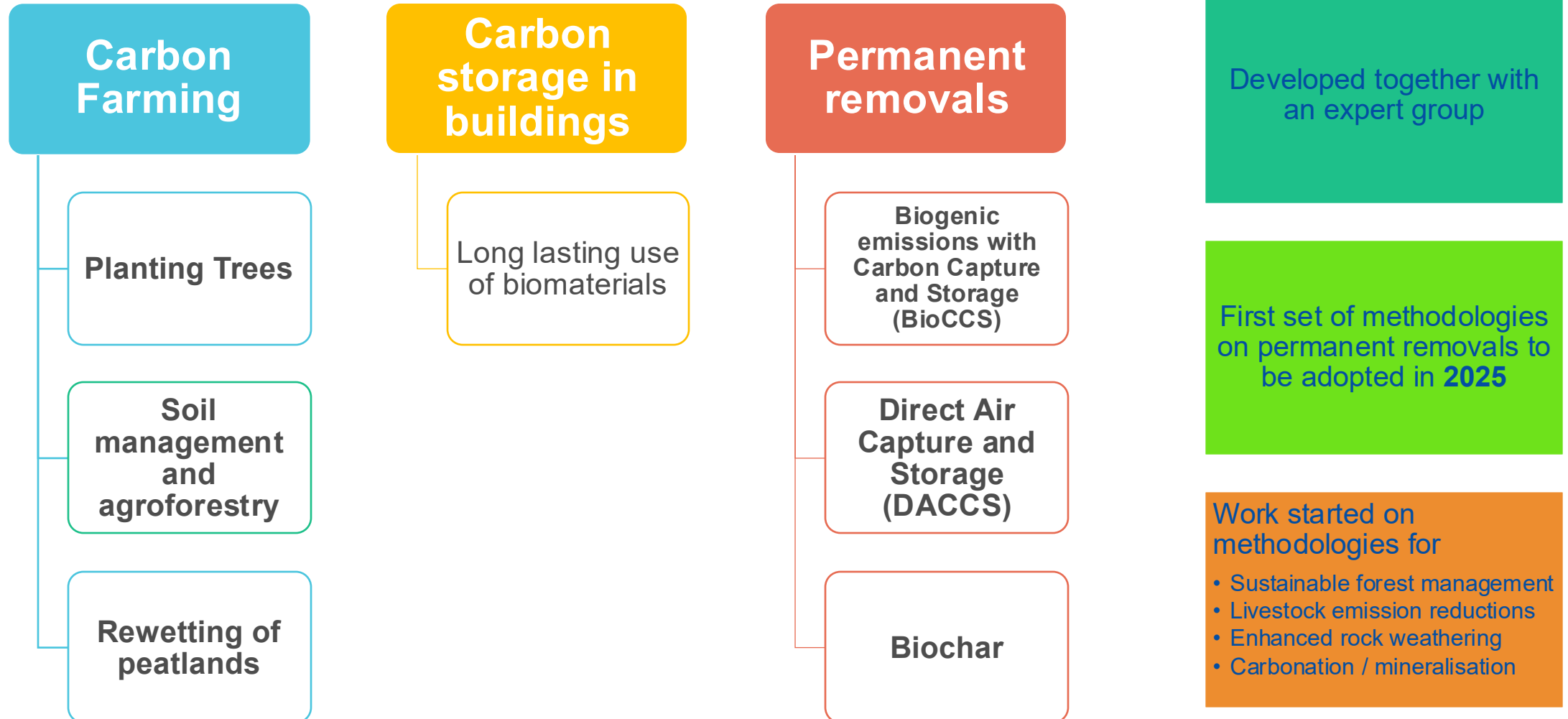


The first EU-wide **voluntary** framework for certifying carbon removals, carbon farming and carbon storage in products across Europe

The three pillars of the CRCF regulation



CRCF certification methodologies



CRCF: carbon farming methodologies



Agricultural soils & agro-forestry



Planting of trees



Peatland rewetting

Main elements of peatland rewetting/restoring methodology

Eligibility (emission reductions): open list	Activity timeline	Quantification	Sustainability
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Rewetting of organic soils + enhancing peatland specific biodiversity• Hydrological improvement: increasing water table, adjusting the pumping regime• Paludiculture, re-establishment of peat-forming vegetation• Restrictions: peat extraction or peat burning	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Activity period: 10 years (renewable)• Certification period: Max 5y	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Net soil emission reduction benefit (deducting any GHG associated emissions)• Use of calibrated proxies (e.g. GEST): water and vegetation monitoring• Uncertainty factor: implications on the actual units certified• Activity and monitoring plans by operators	<p>Very important aspect of CRCF</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mandatory co-benefits for biodiversity and soil health/avoidance of land degradation• Voluntary co-benefits: reduction of wildfire risk, evaporative cooling, increased water retention, drinking water improvement...

Next steps

2024

- Entry into force of CRCF [Regulation - EU - 2024/3012 - EN - EUR-Lex](#)

2025

- Adoption of rules for certification schemes, registries, and verification by independent third parties
- Proposal of first certification methodologies on permanent carbon removals

2026

- Recognition of certification schemes
- Proposal of next certification methodologies, including Sustainable Forest Management and Carbon Storage in Buildings
- CRCF review (possible inclusion of livestock emission reductions)

2028

- Start of EU registry

More information

- [DG CLIMA website on Carbon Removals and Carbon Farming](#)
- CRCF Regulation: [pdf](#)
- Frequently Asked Questions on CRCF: [a8abe1c4-a3c6-4c94-be0e-4b76f7fd0308_en \(europa.eu\)](#)
- Expert Group on Carbon Removals: [Carbon Removals and Carbon Farming - European Commission](#)
- Contact (CRCF general): CLIMA-CR-EXPERTGROUP@ec.europa.eu