

What's new in Version 3.1 ?

Additionality | From Version 3.1 on, no other means than the A/R CDM additionality tool are allowed to give evidence for the projects additionality. In contrast to 3.0 and other standards, CFS v3.1 limits the validity of an additionality check to 10 years. With this, CarbonFix wants to avoid that projects initially certify large project areas and only plant these areas over a long time in the future - while in the meanwhile the common practice within the projects host country changes.

Clear Certification Procedure | Version 3.1 differentiates in its certification procedure between three different types of certification. This differentiation shall increase the efficiency of the costly certification processes. The three types of certifications are

- the "Initial certification" where all criteria are checked by the certifier
- the "Monitoring certification" where existing areas are re-certified
- the "Management Unit certifications", which allows projects to add new areas (Management Units) to their project. Unlike other standards where large areas can be validated without even being planted, CFS has the rule that areas can only be certified when trees are planted. That's why, in contrast to other standards, costs-efficient "Management Unit certifications" are of high importance.

Division of buffer | From 3.1 on, the buffer will be divided into a "buffer pool"(20%) and a "project-specific buffer"(10%). This allows project developers which have insurance on their forest to also sell the credits of their "project-specific buffer". In practice, this is especially interesting for forestation projects in industrialized countries which have the possibility to get insurance on their forests.

Double counting | New in Version 3.1 are also the guidelines to avoid double-counting of projects in industrialised countries.

Certification bodies | CFS v3.1 now accepts certification bodies accredited by the UNFCCC under the scheme of 'Joint Implementation' of the scope AFOLU, as well as from the US accreditation scheme ANSI under the scope of '03. Land Use and Forestry' or '10. Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Use (AFOLU)'.

If you have any further questions about the standard, its criteria or application, please don't hesitate to contact us.

Best wishes
Your CarbonFix Team

Moriz Vohrer
Chairman of the Technical Board
Phone: +49 711 490 39 902
m.vohrer@carbonfix.info