

Green Carbon Standards



OWEN CYLKE

**WWF - MACROECONOMICS PROGRAMME
WASHINGTON, D.C. USA**

COMESA - CLIMATE INITIATIVE

**CARE / ICRAF / WWF
LANDSCAPES AND LIVELIHOODS INITIATIVE**

NEPAD – CAADP PARTNERS PLATFORM

Standards – Current Situation and Prospects



PURPOSE

- address the shortcomings of carbon offset projects
- strengthen the credibility of the offset market

CURRENTLY AVAILABLE

- Clean Development Mechanism (CDM)
- Voluntary Carbon Standard (VCS)
- Climate, Community and Biodiversity (CCB) Standards
- Gold Standard (GS)
- Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) Certification

SHORTCOMINGS

- multiple, different standards
- each standard with a slightly different focus
- no uncontested, single industry standard

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- Green Carbon Guidebook – “meta standard”

COMESA – Premises



- **Millennium Development Goals**
 - “poverty reduction and environmental sustainability”
- **Millennium Ecosystem Assessment**
 - “ecosystems and human-well being”
- **Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP)**
 - “sustainable land and water management” CAADP / Pillar One
- **COMESA Climate Initiative**
 - “social and environmental goals”

COMESA – Approach to Standards



- **Integrity and Sustainability of the Offset Market**
 - “sustainable development”
 - “stakeholder consultation”
- **African Stewardship**
 - “social and environmental impacts”
 - “African context and interests explicitly addressed”
- **Watching Brief for Carbon Offsets**
 - “meta standard”
 - “high conservation value”

COMESA – Standards and Carbon Finance



- **Carbon Readiness**

- project design – social and environmental impacts
- project implementation – social and environmental performance

- **Carbon Finance**

- markets – “equitable alignment”
- local negotiations – “fair deal”
- management – “stewardship”
- global negotiations – “fair deal”