

A woman wearing a dark hat, a red cardigan over a light-colored patterned blouse, and a red skirt is cooking over a traditional wood-burning stove. She is holding a long-handled spoon and stirring a pot. Steam is rising from the pot. In the foreground, there is a large metal pot with a lid that has a circular vent. The background shows a rustic wooden structure, possibly a chicken coop.

Gold Standard®



GOLD STANDARD
Market Report

H1 2017

Gold Standard®

Climate Security & Sustainable Development

Gold Standard works to catalyse more ambitious action for climate security and sustainable development. Our robust standard, Gold Standard for the Global Goals, enables activities that protect the climate and empower local communities to maximise, quantify, and verify their impacts.

Gold Standard was established in 2003 by WWF and other international NGOs as a best practice standard to ensure projects that reduced carbon emissions under the UN's Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) also delivered on the dual mandate to foster sustainable development. Now with more than 80 NGO supporters and 1400+ projects in over 70 countries, Gold Standard projects have created billions of dollars of shared value from climate and development action worldwide.

✉ help@goldstandard.org
☎ +41 (0) 22 788 7080
🐦 @cdmgoldstandard

Chemin de Balxert 7-9
1219 Châtelaine
International Environment House 2
SWITZERLAND

INTRODUCTION

About this report

This Gold Standard Market Report comes on the heels of the publication of our new standard, [Gold Standard for the Global Goals](#) which aims to further accelerate and track progress toward climate security and the Sustainable Development Goals.

This new tool arrives at an opportune moment, as reports recently issued are warning that we as a society are not moving fast enough. Experts say that we have three years to stop the most dangerous effects of climate change and have any chance of keeping warming below 2°C.

“Should emissions continue to rise beyond 2020, or even remain level, the temperature goals set in Paris become almost unattainable.”

Former UN climate chief Christiana Figueres

[Read the statement>>](#)

“Implementation [of the SDGs] has begun, but the clock is ticking. This report shows that the rate of progress in many areas is far slower than needed to meet the targets by 2030.”

UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres

[Read the report>>](#)

Those of you in the Gold Standard ecosystem know that Gold Standard certified and verified emission reductions have long served as a way to make a direct positive impact on the climate and a broad set of development benefits. In this report you’ll see that demand for these credits remains steady. But we realise that we need to accelerate this trajectory.

In the coming months, we look forward to releasing our Corporate Climate Leadership guidelines developed with WWF and CDP, which places contributions to climate finance, including the purchase of carbon credits, as a core pillar of a corporate climate strategy.

A note on changes to this report

After analysing the downloads of this report along with input from our project developer survey, we have decided to move to a twice-yearly publication reporting. Because the report is used primarily by those already familiar with the market, we will focus content on the data and analysis. We will continue to feature editorial content and project profiles in other publications. Those who are interested in quarterly reporting on issuances, retirements and more detailed projection data can contact Sandra Genée, Director of Partnerships and Business Development for more information on this and other opportunities to engage with the Gold Standard network.



GOLD STANDARD *Market Report*

This section of the report provides our up-to-date supply and demand data for H1 2017. For historical data, please refer to previous editions of this [report>>](#). The report also provides our project issuance projections for Q3 2017.

“Retirements were higher in both quarters of 2017 than any quarter of last year - and higher than all but one quarter in 2015, when we began publishing these reports.”

GOLD STANDARD

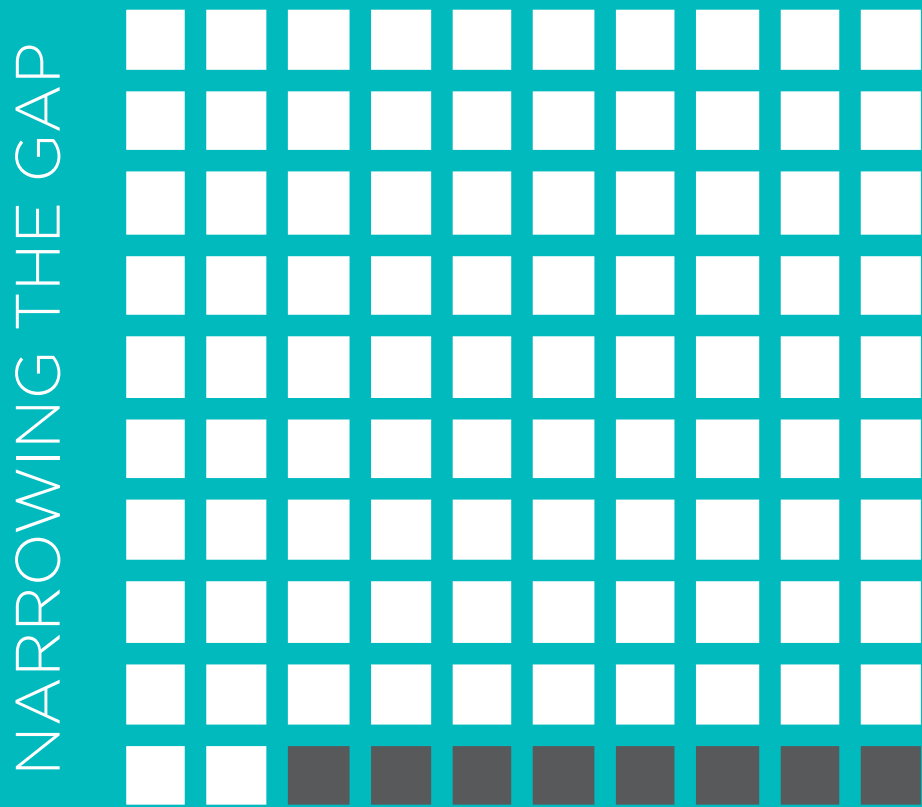
H1 2017 issuances + retirements

The Gold Standard pipeline remained strong in the first half of 2017. Retirements were higher in both quarters of 2017 than any quarter last year – and higher than all but one quarter in 2015, when we began publishing these reports.

Just as importantly, we’re observing the gap between supply and demand narrowing. In the first half of last year, supply was 33% higher than demand, while H1 of 2017 it was only 8%. This trend, if it continues, signals healthier market dynamics, and hopefully a lead indicator of prices inching back to more sustainable levels.

We anticipate that the introduction of the Gold Standard Renewable Energy Label will trigger a shift of large scale renewable energy projects to the renewable energy market, thus decreasing future supply of those credits in the market to further support a balance of supply and demand.

4.4 million GS VERs retired in H1 2017



4.8 million GS VERs issued in H1 2017

H1 2017 Issuances + Retirements by quarter

Table 1 shows how many emission reductions were issued in H1 2017, as well as retirements for voluntary units in the same period. In total, 90 projects issued 6.2 million carbon credits or validated CO2 certificates in H1 2017.

Table 1

	Q1 2017	Q2 2017
Issued CERs	713,702	735,781
Issued VERs	2,577,072	2,177,109
Validated CO2 Certificates (A/R)	7,189	25,837
Total Issuances	3,297,963	2,938,727
Retirements of Voluntary Credits	2,343,486	2,038,188

H1 2017 Issuances + Retirements comparison

Table 2 compares how many emission reductions were issued in H1 2017 to H1 2016. Voluntary retirements increased by 13.74% in the first half of 2017 compared to the same period in 2016.

Table 2

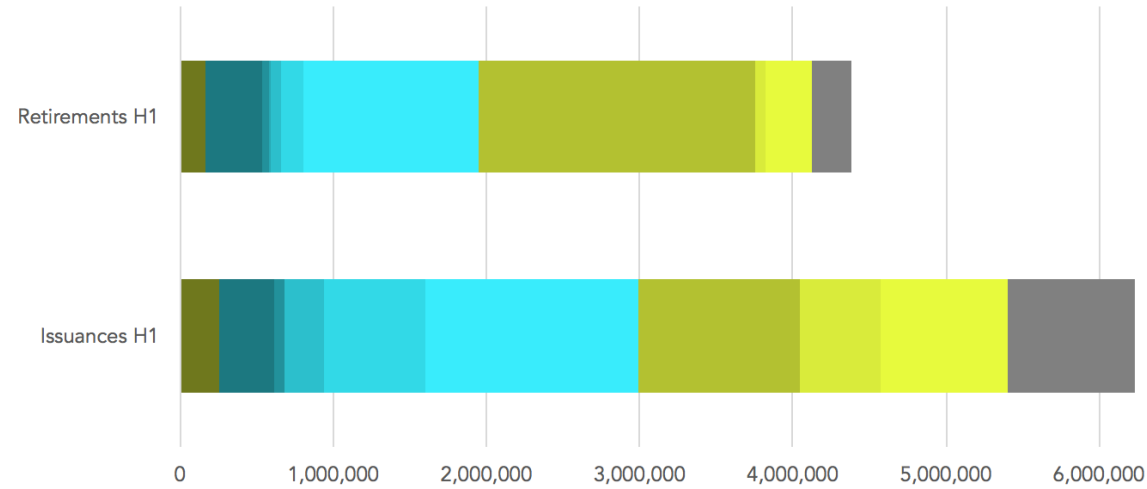
	H1 2016	H1 2017
Issued CERs	1,316,406	1,449,483
Issued VERs	5,746,952	4,754,181
Validated CO2 Certificates (A/R)	119,866	33,026
Total Issuances	7,183,224	6,236,690
Retirements of Voluntary Credits	3,852,283	4,381,674

“ Voluntary retirements increased by 13.74% in the first half of 2017 compared to the same period in 2016. ”

H1 2017 issuance + retirement volumes by project type

Figure 2 tracks the issuance and retirement volumes by project type for H1 2017. The retirements in this figure represent retirements from voluntary units only, while the issuances represent both voluntary units and Certified Emissions Reductions.

Figure 2



	Issuances H1	Retirements H1
A/R	250,071	159,383
Biogas	364,186	377,999
Biomass	69,793	37,564
Geothermal	0	21,020
Hydro	249,310	63,662
Solar	666,788	146,384
Wind	1,395,098	1,138,929
Cookstove	1,046,156	1,805,921
EE - Agriculture	0	8,103
EE - Other	533,709	58,940
Water Purification	827,977	302,960
Waste Management	833,602	260,809

H1 2017 retirement volumes by location

Table 3 provides some insight into which regions retired credits from which countries in H1 2017.

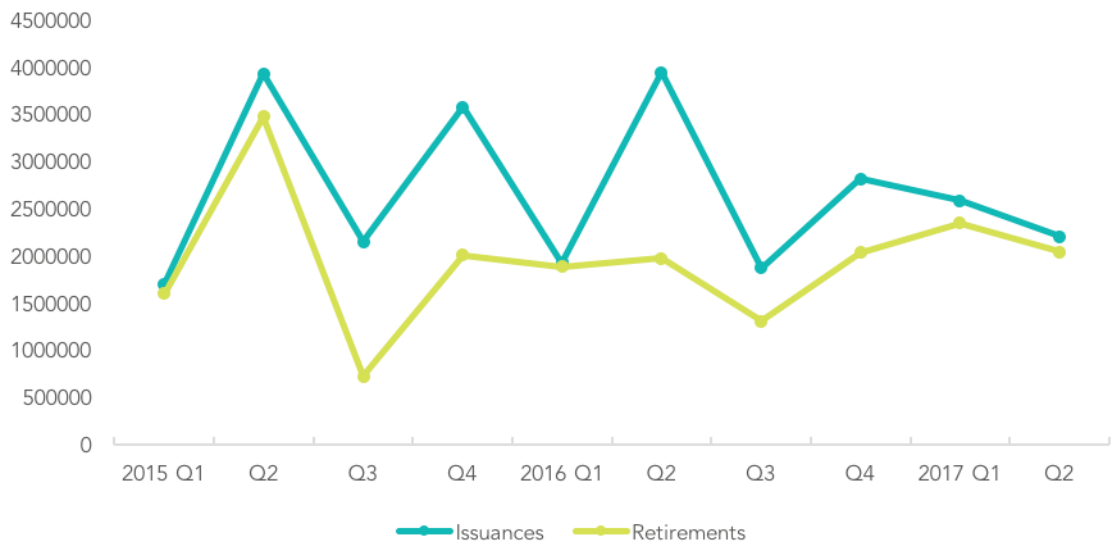
Table 3

From ▼ To ►	Africa	America	Asia	Europe	Oceania	Grand Total
Africa	107,429	116,230	7,463	1,279,915	1,400	1,512,437
America		56,168		408,703		464,871
Asia		113,122	23,169	2,212,923	26,252	2,375,466
Oceania				8,751	20,149	28,900
Grand Total	107,429	285,520	30,632	3,910,292	47,801	4,381,674

H1 2017 issuance + retirement trends

Figure 3 tracks the issuance and retirement volumes of voluntary units by quarter since 2015.

Figure 3





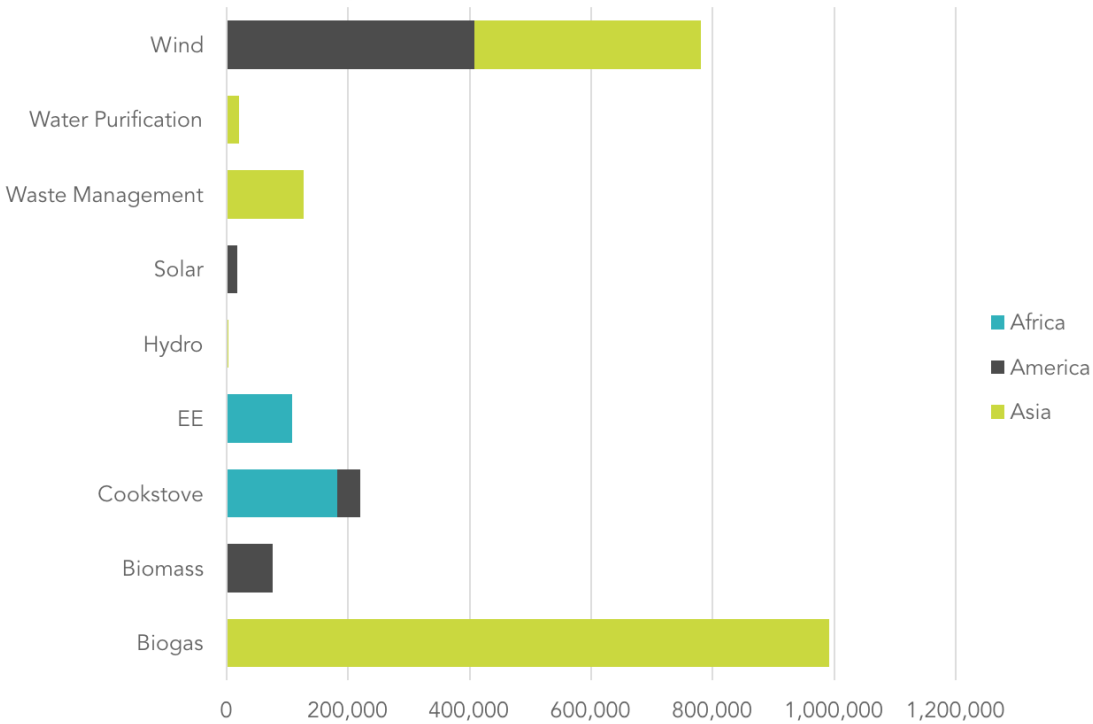
We hope you find this data of value, we would like to evolve and improve this report over time and welcome your comments or suggestions.

Please send any feedback to help@goldstandard.org

Gold Standard projections for Q3 2017

Figure 4 provides a visual breakdown of issuance projections for Q3 2017 by project type and location. As we projected in our last report for Q1 2017, the majority of our issuances portfolio will continue to be represented by biogas and wind projects based in Asia. Table 4 provides the issuance projections for Q3 2017 sorted by project and issuance location and project type.

Figure 4



Projected projects for Q3 2017

Table 4

Project Type ▼ Region ►	Africa	America	Asia	Grand Total
Biogas			991,811	991,811
Biomass		75,345		75,345
Cookstove	181,953	37,999		219,952
EE	107,233			107,233
Hydro			3,134	3,134
Solar		17,832		17,832
Waste Management			127,082	127,082
Water Purification			19,969	19,969
Wind		407,929	372,218	780,147
Grand Total	289,186	539,105	1,514,214	2,342,505

