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MARKETS FOR THE FUTURE

Environmental integrity and sustainable development post-2020

As 2020 draws near, urgency for climate action increases with each passing day. The Paris Agreement sets a clear ambition of net zero emissions by midcentury, yet country commitments fall far short.

Markets have an important role to play in bridging that gap. To do so, they must have bulletproof credibility -- in both environmental integrity and sustainable development. Gold Standard has been focused on both since 2003. Today is no exception, as we share two important initiatives to strengthen carbon markets for the Paris era.

Envisioning the voluntary carbon market post-2020:

[The launch of a public consultation of the role and function of voluntary markets, with a focus on the issue of double counting.](#)

Development of SDG Impact tools:

[An open call to participate in working groups to create IT-based tools to standardise measurement and claims on sustainable development impacts for comparability of project performance](#)

We believe these are important steps in mainstreaming credible impact quantification to accelerate progress toward the Paris Agreement and the Sustainable Development Goals. We invite you to join us in shaping these efforts.

Envisioning the role of the voluntary carbon market post-2020: Public Consultation

The Paris Agreement poses a new framework for carbon markets. While the Kyoto Protocol was limited in both coverage and ambition, the Paris Agreement applies to all countries and its ambition introduces global net zero emissions targets.



These changes prompted reflection on how the voluntary carbon market can best contribute to the goals of the Paris Agreement. With support from the German government, Gold Standard convened a working group, including WWF, CDP, WRI, The Nature Conservancy, Carbon Market Watch, ICROA and other standards bodies, to define the nature of voluntary carbon credits, associated claims, and implications on accounting in this new context.

We are pleased to share the output of this working group, a statement on the role and design of the voluntary carbon market to support the goals of the [Paris Agreement for public consultation](#). The working group notes that this statement for consultation does not formally represent the positions of the individual members of the group.

"The role of voluntary carbon credits shifts from an instrument to go beyond compliance targets in the Kyoto era to an instrument to accelerate the global transition towards net zero emissions by helping close the emissions gap, the finance gap and the time gap."

How to get involved

[Review the Working Group statement for consultation>>](#)

The consultation is open through **3 July 2019**. Submit your feedback to owen.hewlett@goldstandard.org



to help ensure credibility + comparability in SDG claims

To ensure market mechanisms effectively channel finance to high-impact projects and contribute to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in a meaningful way, while also stemming the emergence of “SDG washing”, quantification and claims of sustainable development outcomes must be rigorous, credible and yet simple to achieve.

We're therefore developing IT-based SDG Impact Tools that will:

- Ensure SDG impact claims made by projects are accurate and credible
- Standardise impact indicators and quantification approaches to allow for clear comparison of project performance
- Celebrate multiple SDG impacts while minimising the extra burden of MRV
- Provide a user-friendly interface for monitoring, quantification + reporting

We have nearly completed the first phase of this programme and will shortly be publishing guidance – supported by myclimate, Climate Seed, the Swedish Energy Agency, and UN SDSN - to inform impact and indicator identification and tool development.

We are now seeking partners to help deliver the next phase of this SDG Impact Tools Development Programme, forming working groups for various activity types, including community services, renewable energy, land use and more.

[Learn more>>](#)

How to get involved

[More information on the open call for development partners>>](#)

Submit your expressions of interest to platform@goldstandard.org

Deadline for submission: **14th June 2019**, with the intention to commence work (subject to completeness of funding) during Q3 2019 and beyond.

Innovate4Climate

Innovate4Climate is on! Gold Standard invites you to the following events where we'll be discussing the initiatives highlighted in this newsletter and more:



Wednesday 05 June 2019 - 09:30-10:30

Carbon markets and the SDGs: A critical role for sustainable development in Article 6 & beyond

Tuesday 04 June 2019 - 10:45-11:45

Blockchain to scale climate finance and enhance climate actions

Friday 07 June 2019 - 09:30-10:30

Scaling voluntary action across the private sector beyond 2020

[See more at our website>>](#)

If you'd like to arrange a meeting with Gold Standard during Innovate4Climate, please contact owen.hewlett@goldstandard.org



Gold Standard joins UNECE and over 50 standards in signing Declaration on Gender Responsive Standards

At the Palais Nations in Geneva, we were proud to join a diverse group of standards bodies in officially committing to promote greater inclusion of a gendered lens in standardization. To play our part, Gold Standard has embodied these principles in the [Gender Responsive Framework](#) that is central to our standard, Gold Standard for the Global Goals.

[Read the press release>>](#)

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[Innovate 4 Climate >>](#)

Gold Standard is participating in several side events at this year's Innovate4Climate to advocate for strong sustainable development provisions in market mechanisms and support policies and technologies to scale climate action to meet the ambition of the Paris Agreement.

4-7 June 2019

[SBSTA \(SB50\) >>](#)

Gold Standard and its partners in the Climate Ledger Initiative will co-host a side event with the government of Liechtenstein.

17-27 June 2019

[TBLI Conference >>](#)

Triple Bottom Line Investing (TBLI) Conference Europe showcases the latest trends in ESG & Impact Investing.

12-13 June 2019

[IN THE NEWS](#)

[Deutsche Welle highlights Gold Standard in 'offsetting 101' article](#)

DW

[Blockchain's potential in climate policy - Climate Ledger Initiative for GIZ](#)

GIZ

[CPLC Leadership Report](#)

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