



ARR Common Application Questions

Contents

Background	3
Afforestation, Reforestation, and Revegetation (ARR) Common Application Questions.....	4
Project Developer Information.....	4
Commercial Proposal	4
Project Overview	4
Implementation	6
Additionality	7
Carbon Estimates	7
Leakage.....	8
Durability	8
Carbon Inventory and MRV	9
Social & Community Benefits	9
Ecological Integrity & Biodiversity Benefits	10

Background

Related documents

[Document Guide](#)

Introduction to the ARR Common App

The **Afforestation, Reforestation, and Revegetation (ARR) Common Application** and accompanying Document Guide is a standardized information-request template designed to help project developers provide the **minimum** necessary information for buyers to efficiently begin assessing projects. Developed in collaboration with leading buyers, this tool streamlines data collection in the voluntary carbon market (VCM), reducing redundancy and improving efficiency.

While individual companies, including Beyond members, may add specific questions to address their own diligence priorities and commercial needs, the Common Application establishes a baseline framework for project information requests. The first edition is focused on Afforestation, Reforestation, and Revegetation (ARR) projects.

This tool is intended for internal use by Beyond and its members but is also made available as an open-source resource for other companies looking to align their processes with best practices. It is designed to be used in conjunction with an accompanying [Document Guide](#), which outlines additional documentation developers should be prepared to share with buyers.

Beyond has also partnered with Symbiosis to ensure alignment with its previously published [Reforestation & Agroforestry RFP](#), reinforcing a unified signal to the market and reducing the fragmentation of buyer requirements.

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Afforestation, Reforestation, and Revegetation (ARR) Common Application Questions

Project Developer Information

1. What is the name of your organization?
2. Please provide a description of your organization and relevant experience in developing ARR carbon projects.
3. Please disclose any open or past legal action taken against the Project Developer, and/or Project Owner/Proponent, and/or a key Project Implementation Partner.

Commercial Proposal

4. Please identify possible commercial structures. Multiple options may be selected.
 - a. Payment upon delivery
 - b. Pre-payment
 - c. Options available
 - d. Right of first refusals
 - e. Fixed pricing
 - f. Unit contingent and/or min/max volumes
 - g. Others
5. What is the first year of credit delivery?
6. What is the target average price per ton assuming general pay on delivery terms?
7. What volume discounts do you anticipate offering?
8. What is the target average price per ton with some prepayments prior to first delivery?
9. What is the projected total volume available by year for each year between 2025 - 2040?
10. What additional project benefit labels are available? Select all that apply.
 - a. CCB
 - b. CCB Gold (for at least one indicator)
 - c. SD Vista
 - d. SOCIALCARBON
 - e. W+
 - f. Others:

Project Overview

11. What is the name of your project?
12. What is your organization's role in the project?
13. Please provide an overview of the project's governance structure, including the roles and responsibilities of all organizations involved in project design, implementation, registration, and ongoing monitoring (e.g., project developers, owners and operators, landowners, community members, implementation partners, measurement and

verification providers, consulting firms and technical partners.) Please indicate which partners/consultants are not yet identified and/or under contract. - Please reference the document guide and explain which, if any, of these questions are answered in your supplementary submission such as feasibility studies, implementation plans, or project design documents. Questions which are not directly answered in those documents should be addressed here.

14. Please provide a summary of the project such as the project history, initial need for the project intervention (i.e. the baseline scenario), what solution is being implemented by the project to address the need, and describe the intended outcomes.
15. In what country is your project located?
16. In what jurisdiction (i.e. nearest city, state) is your project located?
17. What is the project ID, if available?
18. What registry are you using, or planning to use, to issue credits for this project?
19. Which methodology (including version) are you using to issue credits for this project?
20. What are your planned activities (intervention type) for the project? Select all that apply.
 - a. Active reforestation / restoration
 - b. Passive reforestation / restoration (assisted natural regeneration)
 - c. Afforestation
 - d. Agroforestry
 - e. Silvopasture
21. What description best fits your project's goals and main activities?
 - i. Mixed-use project: dedicated long-term restoration-only areas + working lands areas (i.e. timber and/or agroforestry)
 - ii. Working lands only: smallholder + commercial landowners
 - iii. Working lands only: smallholder landowners only
 - iv. Other []
22. What is the landownership profile most representative of your project area(s)? Select all that apply.
 - a. Privately owned
 - b. Publicly owned
 - c. Communal ownership
 - d. Indigenous ownership
 - e. Indigenous customary territory
 - f. Other, please describe
23. What is the stage of the project?
 - i. Project is registered and has previously issued credits
 - ii. Project is registered, no credits issued to date
 - iii. Project is pending validation
 - iv. Draft PDD available
 - v. Feasibility study available

- vi. Other: []
- 24. Please describe the historical context and current land ownership status and tenure characteristics of the land involved in the project.
- 25. Beyond formal land rights, describe any informal land tenure characteristics involved in the project.
- 26. What are the most important highlights you want to share about your project? What makes your project unique or differentiated? Are there innovations or novel approaches you are using to increase project quality, impact, or scale?
- 27. Please reference the document guide to ensure you upload a Project Financial Model, providing insight into project costs, and revenue use/share information. While this is not a required document at this time, it is highly encouraged for suppliers to support initial assessments. Note this will be a requirement by Beyond member companies who perform their own diligence.

Implementation

- 28. How is the project currently financed? What are existing finance gaps?
- 29. Please describe the project development activities and progress to date, including any implementation. Please touch on the stage of activities, inclusive of feasibility analysis, stakeholder engagement, land enrollment, legal rights (i.e. securing carbon rights to the project outcomes) and project financing.
 - a. Yes, the project has started implementation
 - b. No, the project has not started implementation
 - c. [Overview text box]: Max of 200 words
- 30. Are you working with an implementation partner? If so, please provide a brief description of the organization and their experience in the project area.
- 31. Please explain how your implementation plan may change as the project scales (if applicable.)
- 32. How are project design decisions and ongoing activity implementation decisions made? If relevant, note how the local community is involved in the process.
- 33. What is the status of the land acquisition and/or landowner enrollment?
 - a. Contracts signed for all of the planned project area
 - b. Contracts signed for some of the planned project area
 - c. Contract in negotiation for all of the planned project area
 - d. Contract in negotiation for some of the planned project area
 - e. Contract terms in development/design pending stakeholder consultation
 - f. Verbal discussions underway for some or all of the planned project area
 - g. Other: []
- 34. What is your land access strategy?
 - a. Land acquisition by project developer or partners from individual private landowners

- b. Land acquisition by project developer or partners from a collective of landowners or a community, and or organization
 - c. Land-based (i.e. lease) agreements between project developers and individual private landowners
 - d. Land-based agreements (i.e. lease) between project developers and a collective of landowners or communities
 - e. Project developer is (are) the landowner (s)
 - f. Other
35. How have you secured carbon rights? If applicable, can you confirm that all the land ownership associated with the project is granted under statute, regulation, or decree by a competent authority of the country in which your project is being developed? (Please refer to the document guide for file uploads on carbon rights)
36. If your project includes an active reforestation component, please describe your overall restoration/reforestation supply chain, focusing on the sources and collection process of germplasm used for seedling production.

Additionality

37. How is the baseline constructed? Please include a summary of the methods/tools and data inputs and assumptions, and where there is greatest uncertainty and how this was mitigated and/or accounted for. If assumptions are made, provide specific justification.
38. Describe the historical and current land-uses in the region, including but not limited to the project area. Include any cultural, political, biophysical, or economic factors that have prevented assisted-or-natural reforestation/restoration.
39. Please explain how this project is additional based on the type of analysis performed. If applicable, describe the specific ways the project went above and beyond methodology requirements and why.
40. If your project involves restoring degraded agricultural or natural ecosystems, please describe your methodology for defining, identifying, and monitoring degraded lands.
41. Describe the regulatory and policy context of the project area, including the existence of any regulations, policies (including government subsidies), or laws that mandate, support, or promote any activities related to restoration, reforestation, or revegetation in the project area.
42. If your project is or will generate other revenue streams, please describe how your project is additional even with non-carbon revenue, including the role of these other revenue streams in the long-term durability of the project.

Carbon Estimates

43. Please describe how you estimated project removals, including data inputs, assumptions, data sources, parameterization, and variables with highest uncertainty and how uncertainty is accounted for. Please identify how conservativeness (i.e. additional

discounts) is applied. Please also indicate whether pilot and/or locally collected data has been used to validate the estimated project removals.

44. Reference the Document Guide to upload a shapefile that corresponds with the area used to perform credit yield assessments. Please indicate which carbon pools are being considered for crediting in your project and commercial offer.
- a. Aboveground biomass (AGB) only
 - b. AGB + belowground biomass (BGB)
 - c. AGB + BGB + soil carbon (SOC)
 - d. AGB + BGB + SOC + any additional carbon pools
45. Please identify what project emissions are accounted for in credit yield estimates.

Leakage

46. Please provide a short description of the prior and current land use, including information about what kind of agricultural production and specific crops were recently grown in the project area, if applicable. If the project area is not productive for agriculture, describe why this is the case (i.e., is it due to ecological degradation, naturally poor soils, or due to any political, economic, or cultural reasons.)
47. What are leakage risks associated with the project? How is leakage monitored, accounted for, and mitigated?

Durability

48. How will carbon stocks be maintained during the credit period? Please also describe natural and anthropogenic risks of reversals and any mitigation strategies.
49. What mechanisms are in place to maintain carbon stock persisting **after the crediting period ends** (i.e. legal agreements, project design, livelihoods value add)? Are local stakeholders engaged in post-crediting monitoring?
50. Where applicable, what is the land use agreement length (in years) with landowners? What are landowners' responsibilities and commitments? Please see Document Guide for information on uploading template contracts.
51. Will you be able to share executed agreements with the buyer under NDA, if requested?
52. What is the anticipated duration (in years) of *post-crediting* monitoring period?
53. How does the project consider future climate change scenarios in its planting design and post-planting management? If this is a mangrove project, how does the project account for sea level rise projections?
54. What reversal compensation mechanisms are applicable to the project?
- a. Registry buffer pool contribution
 - b. Project has an internal buffer pool set aside from market trading, in addition to registry buffer pool
 - c. Other, please describe

Carbon Inventory and MRV

55. Please provide a brief description of your carbon inventory methodology (remote sensing and field based, as applicable), carbon stocks monitoring methodology and, reporting and verification (MRV) plan and provide supplementary documents as described in the Document Guide.

Social & Community Benefits

56. Please briefly summarize the most relevant socioeconomic and demographic characteristics of the project area, including impacted stakeholders, potential marginalized communities, migration trends, in habitation of IPLCs in or near the project area, presence of any relevant rural or urban communities that could be positively or negatively affected by the project.
57. Describe the initial stakeholder engagement process undertaken by the project to date. Suggested information to include: how stakeholders were identified, the frequency, timeline, and format of outreach and direct engagement (meetings/conversations), demographic of stakeholders that received outreach and why it is representative of the project impact area, number of stakeholders consulted compared with target (i.e. 60 of 100 community members attended a meeting), topics covered (i.e. meeting agenda, presentation list). Specific ways/tactics the project worked to ensure diverse input, and what accommodations, if any, were made for marginalized groups/voices.
58. Please provide a description of the benefit sharing plan, including: (a) who are the beneficiaries, types of benefits , and how benefit allocation were determined, (b) the amount and payment structure of any monetary benefits, and (c) whether and how beneficiaries have agreed and to this benefit sharing plan and what evidence you have to support that.
59. How does the project continually engage with stakeholders (including those directly and indirectly impacted) to learn what's working, what's not working, and create safe conditions for feedback and grievances? How do you intend to verify and report benefit sharing outcomes with buyers/investors?
60. Do you currently have or plan on having a third party engaged to audit or verify the benefit sharing agreement and any other socio-economic impact or benefits of the project?
61. In what ways do women and historically underrepresented groups have a decision making and/or leadership role within the project?
62. What is the highest level of government awareness of the project? How will the working relationships with said-level-of-government (s) ensure project success?
 - a. Local
 - b. Regional/subnational (i.e. state)
 - c. National
 - d. None currently

Ecological Integrity & Biodiversity Benefits

63. What is the species composition for plantings in the project? Please list top 10 species, indicate whether native or non-native, or invasive, and include approximate composition.
64. Is the project located in a high ecological conservation value area (e.g. threatened species habitat, biome with high levels of biodiversity, important watersheds, national reserves, etc.)? If so, please provide a brief overview of why the area is a high ecological conservation value area. Include any references to relevant studies.
65. Identify the biodiversity benefits this project provides
 - a. endangered or threatened species protection
 - b. ecosystem resilience
 - c. improved soil health
 - d. improved water quality
 - e. wildlife habitat protection and/or restoration
66. Is there a biodiversity action plan in place? If so, please upload the document.
67. What are additional biodiversity outcomes associated with the project? Please identify those that will be actively monitored, measured, and/or reported on as applicable.
68. Have you established any partnerships with researchers, institutions, or NGOs to support your ecological restoration goals or any science & technology research (including the social sciences)? If so, please provide a brief description, including the partners you are working with (i.e. universities, labs, etc.)

(End of Questionnaire)