



BCR TOOL

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS (SDG)

BIOCARBON REGISTRY

Version 1.0 | July 13, 2023

BIOCARBON REGISTRY

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1 Introduction

The potential of projects is enormous in terms of fostering climate action targets and linking positive impacts to other SDGs. Additionally, it serves as a vehicle not only to reduce gaps linked to SDGs; but also, to reinforce good practices and complying with procedures under the BCR program. The program ensures that project activities and provisions are in place for social and environmental safeguards, aligning with the "no net harm" principle.

The Sustainable Development Goals are a call for action by countries and organizations. They recognize that ending poverty must go hand-in-hand with strategies that build economic growth and address a range of social needs including education, health, social protection, and job opportunities, while tackling climate change and environmental protection.

At BioCarbon Registry, we prioritize sustainable development in all aspects of our program, including carbon and biodiversity standards. Our main goal is to support local transformation and reduce gaps in the development of GHG projects and biodiversity initiatives. As such, this tool aims to complement and reinforce the guidelines related to Sustainable Development Goals and their identification by projects.

This SDG Tool aims to orientate and support the SDG contribution analysis made by project holders who intend to register and certify projects following the set of rules of the BCR program. Projects following the general conditions established in the BCR Standard and applicable methodology shall follow the indications described in this document and the tool (excel file) to ensure alignment and facilitate the accomplishment of BCR requirements.

This tool is available at <https://biocarbonregistry.com/en/sdg/>.

2 Objectives

The objectives of this tool are:

- (a) Reinforce the provisions in place by the BCR program to align climate mitigation action with the contribution to the sustainable agenda.
- (b) Provide technical elements to orient GHG projects in identifying SDGs contribution, considering guidelines and conditions at the BCR program.
- (c) Facilitate a clear understanding of requirements related to SDG for the program and reduce the risk of misinterpretation.

3 Version

This document constitutes Version 1.0. July 13, 2023, which includes Excel version 2.0.

This version of the document may be adjusted periodically. Intended users should ensure that they are using the updated version.

4 General terms

The following general terms apply to this Tool:

- (a) "Shall" is used to indicate that the requirement shall be met.
- (b) "Should" is used to suggest that, among several possibilities, a course of action recommended as particularly appropriate.
- (c) "May" is used to indicate that it is permitted.

5 Scope and applicability

This document is intended to be adopted by all intended users¹ such as the project holders, since provides the set of requirements necessary to demonstrate SDGs contribution by projects, safeguarding compliance with the provisions referred in section 17 of the BCR STANDARD.

BIOCARBON REGISTRY request to project holders recognize how their project activities are linked to targets in terms of well-being and quality of life, such as food security, healthy living, education, gender equality, access to water and energy, economic growth, and sustainable use of ecosystems and peaceful societies.

To demonstrate compliance with this requirement, project holders shall use the present tool to highlight the project's contribution to the Sustainable Development Goals, applicable to the project activities, following general rules and conditions established by the See BCR STANDARD and applicable methodology. Conformity Assessment Bodies (CABs) shall follow the manual of validation and verification and consider this tool as an important element during their assessment.

6 The sustainable development goals

The 17 sustainable development goals allow us to have clear goals to focus on when measuring the potential impact of project actions. For example, GHG projects that are carried out together with indigenous communities or other minority groups have exceptional potential to promote, in addition to goal 13 "climate action", other SDGs such as:

¹ Intended user: "individual or organization identified by those reporting GHG-related information as being the one who relies on that information to make decisions" (ISO 14064-2:2019(en), 3.3.1)

Reduce inequalities, no poverty, good health and well-being, quality education, life on land and other linked to the project's scope of action.



Figure 1. Sustainable development goals. Source: United Nation's Website². March 2023

Each of the 17 SDGs goals pursue specific targets. For instance, targets for SDG 13 "Climate Action" are related to³:

- 13.1 Strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and natural disasters in all countries
- 13.2 Integrate climate change measures into national policies, strategies and planning
- 13.3 Improve education, awareness-raising and human and institutional capacity on climate change mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction and early warning
- 13.A Implement the commitment undertaken by developed-country parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change to a goal of mobilizing jointly \$100 billion annually by 2020 from all sources to address the needs of developing countries in the context of meaningful mitigation actions and transparency on implementation and fully operationalize the Green Climate Fund through its capitalization as soon as possible.
- 13.B Promote mechanisms for raising capacity for effective climate change-related planning and management in the least developed countries and small island developing States, including focusing on women, youth, and local and marginalized communities.

² <https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/>

³ Source United Nations: <https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/climate-change/>

7 The GHG Project's activities and their link to contribution to SDG

The GHG project contributes directly to SDG 13: Climate Action by reducing GHG emissions and has the potential to contribute to several SDGs through the development of its activities and additionality, such as:

- (a) The project should contribute to SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy by promoting and adopting sustainable practices and using renewable energy,
- (b) If the project implements sustainable practices in strategic ecosystems, it should contribute to SDG 15: Life of Terrestrial Ecosystems,
- (c) In addition to other contributions to agendas that are particularly challenging in the context of developing countries, such as Zero Hunger, SDG 3: Health and well-being, and Goal 1: End poverty in all its forms everywhere.

In relation to the climate change adaptation agenda, a GHG project can have an adaptation dimension by implementing measures that help communities and ecosystems to cope or prevent the impacts of climate change. Therefore, promoting resilience to climate impacts. These interconnections strengthen global efforts to address climate change and promote sustainable development in a more comprehensive and responsible approach.

8 Project's contribution to SDG

Sustainable Development has become a fundamental objective in the quest for a more equitable and prosperous future for all. In this context, contributing to Sustainable Development and achieving goals in different scenarios are becoming increasingly important.

Committed to this cause, BCR not only recognizes the need to move towards sustainable development but is also actively engaged in facilitating this transition. As part of its commitment, the BCR provides tools and resources to project holders so that they can tangibly demonstrate their contribution to Sustainable Development. These tools allow them to identify and monitor the contribution that projects make to the SDGs in areas such as climate change mitigation, promotion of sustainable practices, and meeting targets in key areas such as poverty reduction and environmental protection.

With a comprehensive approach, BCR seeks to promote the adoption of sustainable practices in the projects it registers and certifies, foster the contribution to the SDGs, and, in a cross-cutting manner, support the mitigation agenda and generate social effects that favor the gender agenda. Project holders shall demonstrate the contribution of the project, determining for example, whether the project activities contribute to actions such as to:

- (a) reduce the proportion of men, women, and children of all ages living in poverty in all dimensions according to national definitions;
- (b) ensure that all men and women, particularly the poor and vulnerable, have equal rights to economic resources and access to essential services, ownership, and control of land and other property;
- (c) improve agricultural productivity and the income of small-scale food producers, women, indigenous peoples, family farmers, livestock, and fishers;
- (d) ensure the sustainability of food production systems and implement resilient agricultural practices that increase productivity and production, contribute to the maintenance of ecosystems, and strengthen adaptive capacity;
- (e) achieve universal sanitary coverage, including protection from financial risks, access to quality essential health services, and access to safe, effective, affordable, and quality medicines and vaccines for all;
- (f) reduce the number of deaths and illnesses caused by hazardous chemicals and by pollution and contamination of air, water, and soil;
- (g) ensure the full and active participation of women and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision-making in political, economic, and public life;
- (h) give women equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to ownership and control of land and other property, financial services, inheritance, and natural resources;
- (i) support the efficient use of water resources and ensure the sustainability of freshwater extraction and supply to address water scarcity;
- (j) provide full and productive employment and decent work for all women and men, including young people and persons with disabilities, and equal pay for work of fair value;
- (k) protect labor rights and promote a safe and secure working environment for all workers, including migrant workers, migrant women, and persons in precarious employment;
- (l) promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and significantly increase the industry's contribution to work and gross domestic product under national circumstances.

9 SDG targets and indicators

The Inter-Agency and Expert Group on SDG Indicators (IAEG-SDGs) has developed for each SDG, targets and indicators which represent a guide part of the 2030 Agenda. The 17

Sustainable Development Goals are defined in a list of 169 SDG Targets. Progress towards these Targets is agreed to be tracked by 232 unique Indicators⁴.

Compliance of these targets is fundamental for sustainable development and aims to trigger action in all engaged sectors. It is essential that project holders analyze in their local context how the activities carried out by the GHG project add to the efforts to achieve the goals and indicators of the SDGs. The project holder shall interpret the project activities through the lens of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and this tool serve as an orientation to do so.

10 Structure of the SDG tool

According to the requirements of the BCR standard, the project holder shall demonstrate the project's contribution to the Sustainable Development Goals. In order to identify and report this contribution, the project holder shall use this tool.

The "SDG Tool" is a comprehensive tool to assist project holders in identifying and documenting the contribution of their activities within a project. It consists of This guide, which describes the use of the SDG Tool Excel file, and also the guide on how the project holder shall include and explain in detail in the project document the regional or local context and the contribution of the project activities.

This tool guides users through the process of identifying the specific activities and their corresponding contribution, ensuring alignment with project objectives and the relevant Sustainable Development Goals.

Furthermore, the tool enables project holder to determine the appropriate units for measurement to monitoring and follow up on the activities and link the evidence of compliance with those activities. In addition, project holders shall include a full description of the activities, their contributions, and relevant regional and local context, considering the guidelines established in this document as is described in the following figure.

Section 9 provides details across each of the 3 main phases (Project Document (PD), Excel tool).

⁴ Access to the Global indicator framework for the Sustainable Development Goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development:
https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/indicators/Global%20Indicator%20Framework%20after%20refinement_Eng.pdf

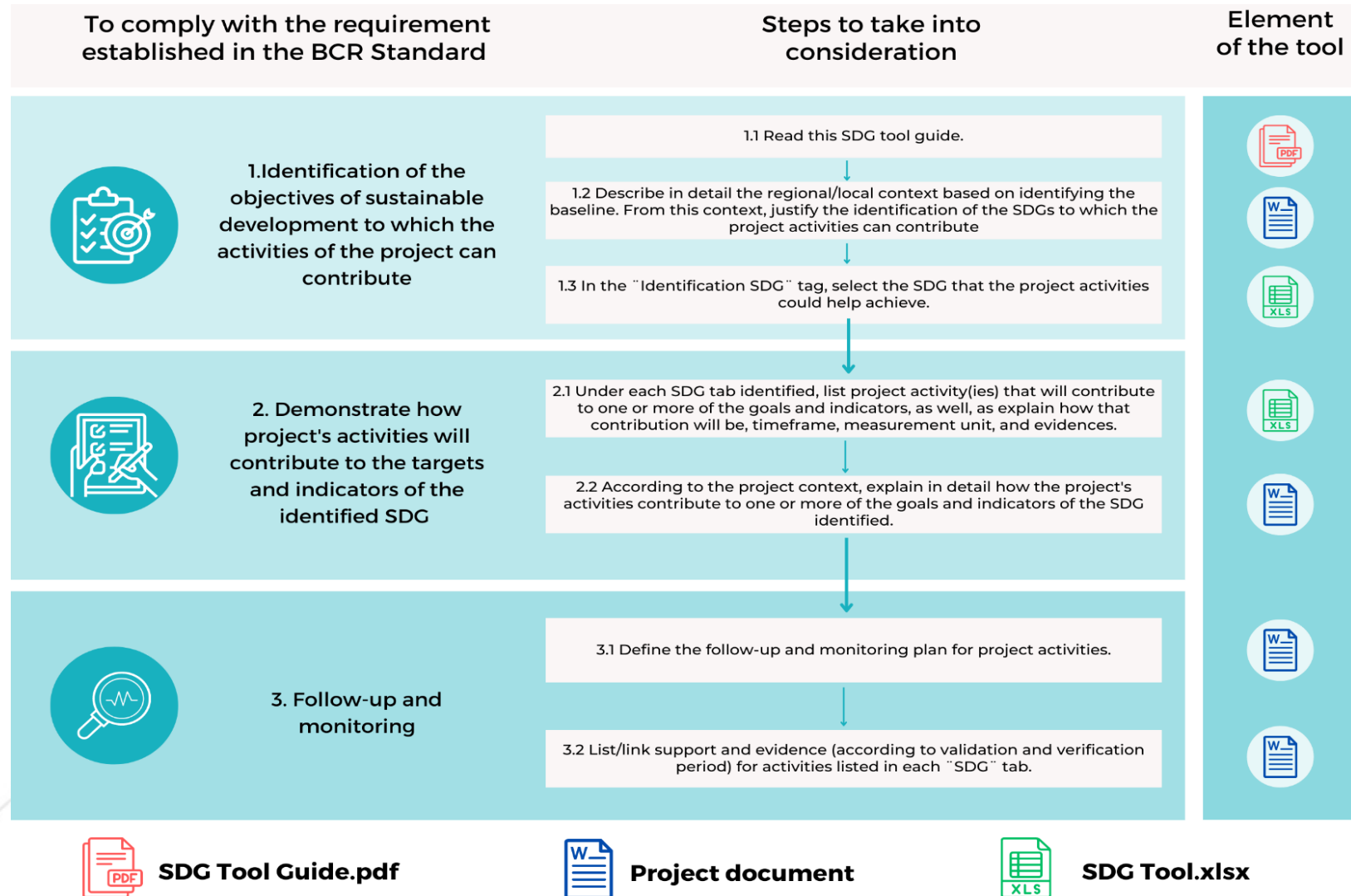


Figure 2. Workflow steps to take into consideration

11 Use of the BCR tool

11.1 Identify the SDG target link to the GHG project's activities

The project holder shall use the SDG Tool Excel file in its updated version. Within the file, find “**SDG Identification**” tab where the project holder may list and identify the relevant Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) according to their project's activities and local context. In addition, there are 17 tabs, each corresponding to a goal, that list the targets and indicators at the global level (Used those as informative references).

In the “Project Contribution” column, select 'Yes' from the drop-down list, if the activities of your project contribute to the selected objective according to your criteria and based on the development of the baseline carried out in the PD.

If the answer is 'yes', in the 'Project contribution summary' column, briefly describe the project's contribution to the relevant SDG, this information should be detail described in the Project Document (PD).





Project name				
Project ID				
Project holder				
Sector:				
Type of project				
How to use this sheet?				
1. Carefully read each of the listed SDGs. In the column “Target and Indicators” you will find the links to the tabs of the corresponding SDG in which the targets and indicators of the said objective are listed at a global level. 2. In the “Project Contribution” column, select 'Yes' from the drop-down list, if the activities of your project contribute to the selected objective according to your own criteria and based on the development of the baseline carried out in the PDD. 3. If the answer is 'yes', in the 'Project contribution summary' column, briefly describe the project's contribution to the relevant SDG.				
Selection of SDGs applicable to the project				
Sustainable Development Goals	Targets and Indicators	Project contribution	Project contribution summary	
 End poverty in all its forms everywhere	SDG 1	Yes		
 End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture	SDG 2			
 Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages	SDG 3			
<div> Start SDG Identification SDG 1 SDG 2 SDG 3 SDG 4 SDG 5 SDG 6 SDG 7 SDG 8 SDG 9 </div>				

Figure 3. SDG Identification tag, excel file

11.2 Recognize the project's activities that contribute specifically to any or some SDG'S targets previously identified.

The Excel file has a tab for each SDG where you will find the Global targets and indicators as well as a project level to narrow the regional or local context of the project. Here the project holder will identify the project's activities that contribute specifically.

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Figure 4. Recognize project activities that contribute per each SDG tag, excel file

In the column "Project activity" project holder shall indicate the project activities that boost to achieving the corresponding goal. You are free to choose one or several goals according to the project context.

In the column "Contribution" project holder shall describe how the previously outlined activity provides specific benefits linked to your context, considering the global SDG indicator as support.

In the "Timeframe" column, select from the drop-down list: "Permanent" if the activity you described is carried out continuously throughout the project lifespan or "Temporary" if the activity occurs only during a specific phase or certain time of the project.

In the 'Activity unit of measurement' column, define a unit of measurement that makes sense, and which will make it possible to evaluate the implementation of these activities and their contribution to the targets.


How to use this sheet?			
This is a summary sheet that will be useful in providing evidence of project activities and their contributions to the CABs.			
1. The columns are automatically filled with the information you previously specified in the "ODS Identification" tab and the corresponding "ODS".			
2. Update the list or link with the necessary evidence to demonstrate the development of the identified activities according to each Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) listed. According to the current verification period			
			
Summary of applicable contributions to the SDGs			
SDG	The expected contribution of project activities	Activities that contribute	Evidence compilation (most current Verification Period)
SDG 1	o		
SDG 5	o		
SDG 6	o		
SDG 13	o		

Figure 6. Summary of contribution to SDG, excel file.

12 Monitoring and Verification

BioCarbon Registry SDG tool is part of the Conformity Assessment Body (CAB) validation and verification process based on the requirements established in the BCR Standard and the Validation and Verification Manual.
https://biocarbonregistry.com/procedures/BCR_Validation-and-Verification-Manual.pdf

Out of the presented evidence, CABs shall ensure projects SDG commitment in short and long term, according to the activities time frame and pre-established verification periods.

13 References

Global indicator framework for the Sustainable Development Goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/indicators/Global%20Indicator%20Framework%20after%202020%20review_Eng.pdf

United Nations Organization (UN). Sustainable Development Goals
<https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/>

Paris Agreement 2015
https://unfccc.int/files/meetings/paris_nov_2015/application/pdf/paris_agreement_english_.pdf

Validation and Verification Manual Green House Projects, 2023
https://biocarbonregistry.com/procedures/BCR_Validation-and-Verification-Manual.pdf

History of document

Type of document Guideline

BCR SDG Tool

Version	Date	Nature of the document
Version 1.0	July 13, 2023	The first version of the SDG Tool guide. Version 2.0 of the Excel complementary tool.