TERRA VITA GLOBAL B.V.

# Institutional Framework for De-Risking Carbon Credit Projects

## Carbon value becomes financeable only when the conditions beneath it can withstand institutional challenge over time.

VERSION 1.7 | 24 JULY 2026

*Institutional adoption edition*

> **The decision question.** Can I rely on this project's claimed carbon outcome enough to release capital, underwrite risk, or accept a long-term obligation? Every gate must improve the answer by closing a specific reliance risk or tightening a release condition. The institution is protecting itself from releasing capital against non-delivery, disputed attributes, stranded assets, replacement obligations and reputational exposure.

WHAT YOU NEED TO BELIEVE

**1. Certification is not the whole reliance decision.** It does not, by itself, protect an institution from unresolved rights, delivery, counterparty, claims or continuity risk.

**2. Capital must not move faster than verified evidence.** Forecasts can justify appraisal; physical milestones and current gate evidence govern reliance and release.

**3. Short-term transparency cost is the price of financeable value.** Exposing gaps early protects the institution from paying for them later through rework, delay, disputed credits or reputational harm.

> **The product and first decision.** Terra Vita Hub contains the Carbon Project Risk-Mandate-Evidence Spine. DFIs and capital providers are the primary institutional buyers; insurers and project owners are adjacent users or commissioning partners. The first commercial wedge is a DFI or capital provider deciding whether to release a defined implementation tranche against verified physical milestones in one bounded carbon project—not forecast carbon revenue. The authorised institution decides.

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# Why this framework exists now

**Why Terra Vita exists.** Terra Vita exists to stop institutions from mistaking a crediting-process status, a forecast or a populated data room for a complete reliance decision. The unresolved gap between formal carbon status and institutional reliance is where financial and reputational loss accumulates.

A project can follow a recognised methodology and still leave an institution exposed on rights, field delivery, evidence lineage, exceptions, buyer claims, residual risk and the authority to accept that risk. Terra Vita was built to make those conditions visible, reviewable and governable before the institution relies on the project.

## The cost of continuing without it

- Capital is released against forecast tonnes while rights, delivery capability or evidence controls remain unresolved.
- A methodology, authorization or claims rule changes, but no controlled record shows which evidence remains valid, what reliance must pause or who pays for revalidation.
- Absent or inconsistent field data is replaced by assumption instead of being recorded as a condition, exception or blocking state.
- A buyer or institution makes a claim that outruns verified attributes and inherits the resulting contractual and reputational exposure.

**Why now.** Integrity benchmarks, updated claims guidance, methodology-change procedures and evolving government market-integrity principles are raising expectations for transparency, credible use and change control. Waiting does not preserve optionality: it allows weak evidence, unowned exceptions and disputed reliance to compound inside the portfolio.

**Where Terra Vita sits.** Recognised standards and integrity benchmarks establish project, methodology, validation, verification, credit and market requirements. Terra Vita governs whether evidence, authority, exceptions, residual risks and physical milestones are strong enough for a named institution to rely on a project over time. Terra Vita does not replace standards, certification, issuance or regulators.

**When this framework is the wrong fit.** Do not adopt it if the objective is speed or credit volume regardless of unresolved evidence; if portfolio weaknesses must remain undisclosed; if the institution is unwilling to pause or walk away when a gate fails; or if no authorised institution will own residual-risk decisions. The 90-day route is designed to expose weaknesses before the market, capital provider or public does.

# Institutional decision front sheet

The governed route for institutions deciding whether carbon-project information is strong enough for review, funding and bounded reliance.

| Decision field | Institutional stance |
|---|---|
| **Product** | Terra Vita Hub is the institutional operating layer for carbon-project reliance. It contains the Carbon Project Risk-Mandate-Evidence Spine used to govern reliance, release conditions, reviewer decisions, exceptions and residual risk. |
| **Primary buyer** | DFIs and capital providers. Insurers and project owners are adjacent users or commissioning partners. |
| **First commercial wedge** | A DFI or capital provider deciding whether to release a defined implementation tranche against verified physical milestones in one bounded carbon project—not forecast carbon revenue. |
| **Governed route** | Recommended Gates 0-7 route. Every register, evidence object, reviewer request, exception and capital condition is indexed to a named gate. |
| **Authority boundary** | Terra Vita governs the conditions under which institutions may rely on project information. Terra Vita does not exercise the authority of those institutions. |
| **Adoption value** | A common, auditable route designed to expose risk before deployment, prevent premature reliance, reduce repeated due diligence and preserve each institution's authority. |

**What Terra Vita does not do.** Terra Vita does not select or approve methodologies; provide legal, tax or investment advice; validate or verify; issue, authorize or register credits; approve capital or payments; or guarantee outcomes.

**Rules of engagement.** A blocking condition stops progression. A material change reopens the affected gate and suspends related reliance immediately. Conditional progression is allowed only when exposure, owner, evidence gap, deadline and acceptance authority are explicit. There are no silent exceptions.

## Recommended institutional decision

1. Adopt the Spine as the recommended governed route for carbon-project reliance decisions within the agreed mandate.
2. Permit readiness, assurance or investment language only when its gate, evidence date, reviewer and limitations are recorded.
3. Pilot the route on one bounded project before forecast carbon revenue is used as a financing assumption.

# 1. Carbon Project Risk-Mandate-Evidence Spine

> **The institutional risk route.** The Spine is the recommended eight-gate route inside Terra Vita Hub, linking risk, mandate, evidence and reviewer decisions directly to capital-release conditions. Within a Terra Vita-governed mandate, no capital-release or reliance decision may bypass an open blocker. Forecasts inform appraisal; gate evidence governs reliance. A gate that does not improve the page-one decision does not belong in the core route.

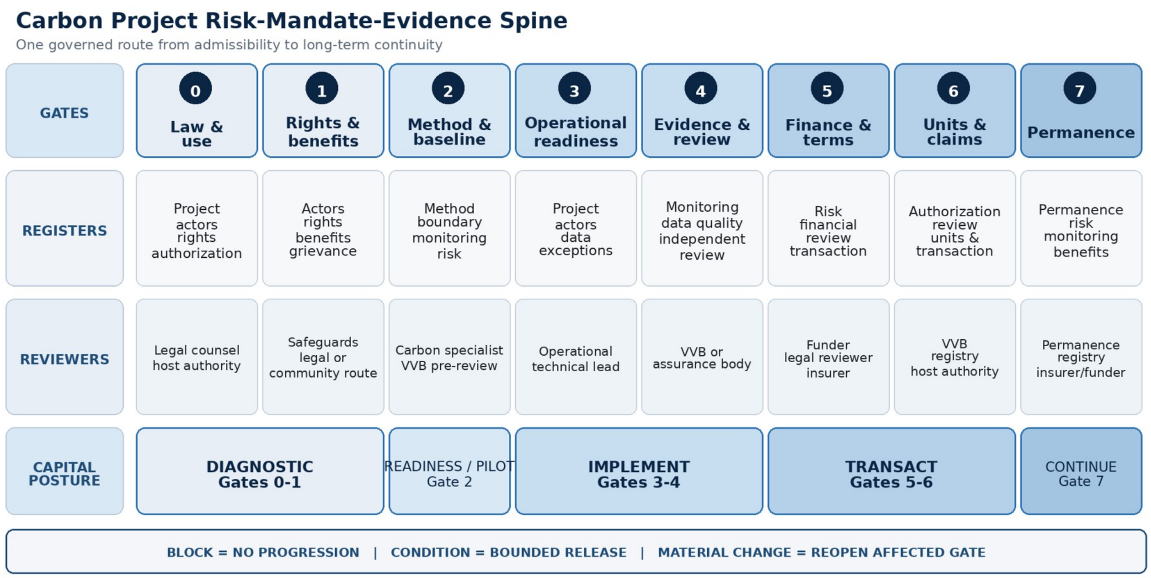


*Figure 1. Governed Spine linking Gates 0-7 to registers, reviewer routes and capital-release posture.*

## 1.1 Eight gates

| Gate | Decision domain | Decisive question | Release posture |
|---|---|---|---|
| **0** | Jurisdictional admissibility | Can the activity and intended carbon use lawfully proceed? | Diagnostic only |
| **1** | Rights, consent and benefits | Are authority, representation and benefit ownership legitimate? | No scale capital if unresolved |
| **2** | Method and baseline | Can the carbon outcome be conservatively defended? | Readiness or pilot capital |
| **3** | Operational readiness | Can the intervention be delivered and maintained? | Milestone-gated implementation |
| **4** | Evidence and verification | Can an independent reviewer reconstruct the claim? | Verification-preparation capital |
| **5** | Financial and transaction | Are downside, timing and obligations bounded? | Conditional transaction exposure |
| **6** | Issuance, sale and claims | Do units and claims fit the intended transaction? | Reliance on verified attributes only |
| **7** | Permanence and continuity | Can long-term duties and reversals be governed? | Reserve, monitoring and response |

### 1.2 What a pass means

> **Pass is not risk-free.** We do not eliminate risk. We expose it so the authorised institution can price it. A Pass does not mean a project is flawless. It means minimum evidence is current, blocking conditions are closed and the named reviewer route has completed its scope. Non-blocking gaps may progress conditionally only when exposure, owner, deadline, evidence need and acceptance authority are recorded. The authorised institution, not Terra Vita, accepts residual risk with open eyes.

### 1.3 Nine risk domains

| Risk domain | Risk scope |
| --- | --- |
| **Jurisdiction and carbon rights** | Law, NDC treatment, ownership, tenure, permits and authorization |
| **Community legitimacy** | Rights holders, representation, consent/FPIC, benefits, grievance and remedy |
| **Methodology integrity** | Applicability, baseline, additionality, leakage, uncertainty and double counting |
| **Operational delivery** | Implementers, inputs, milestones, maintenance, continuity and corrective action |
| **Evidence and MRV** | Boundary, source data, measurements, QA/QC, exceptions and custody |
| **Independent review and issuance** | Reviewer route, sampling, findings, registry actions and identifiers |
| **Permanence and reversal** | Physical risk, prevention, monitoring, buffer, reserve and response |
| **Commercial and counterparty** | Price, delivery, payment, replacement, force majeure and liability |
| **Claims and reputation** | Attributes, authorization, ownership, retirement and permitted external use |

Each live risk entry records source, materiality, owner, mitigation, evidence, reviewer, residual exposure and next review trigger.

## 2. Gate-to-register operating map

The operating map makes the Spine executable. A gate is assessed only when its required registers are current, minimum evidence objects indexed and reviewer route named.

| Gate | Required registers | Minimum evidence objects | Required reviewer route |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **0** | Project; actors and authority; rights; authorization | Entity and mandate; tenure and carbon right; permits; host-country policy; intended use; accounting route | Legal counsel; designated or host-country authority |
| **1** | Actors; rights; stakeholder and benefit; grievance | Rights-holder map; representation mandates; consultation/FPIC; benefit formula; grievance and remedy protocol | Safeguards/social reviewer; legal or community-authority route |
| **2** | Methodology; boundary; monitoring; data quality; risk | Method version and eligibility; baseline; additionality; leakage; uncertainty; monitoring plan; transition rule | Independent carbon specialist; VVB pre-assessment where appropriate |

| Gate | Required registers | Minimum evidence objects | Required reviewer route |
|---|---|---|---|
| 3 | Project; actors; monitoring; data quality; risk and exception | Operating plan and SOPs; pilot results; training; delivery records; maintenance; failures and corrective actions | Operational reviewer; technical carbon lead |
| 4 | Monitoring; data quality; risk and exception; independent review | Source data; calibration; QA/QC; custody; control matrix; sampling pack; evidence index; open findings | VVB or other independent assurance reviewer |
| 5 | Risk; financial obligations; independent review; transaction | Downside cases; timing; budget; reserves; benefit costs; payment security; insurance/guarantee; contract matrix | Funder/investor; legal reviewer; insurer or guarantor |
| 6 | Authorization; independent review; units and transaction | Verification result; registry and unit identifiers; authorization; ownership; transfer/retirement; permitted claim | VVB; registry; host authority; buyer claims reviewer |
| 7 | Permanence; risk; monitoring; financial obligations; benefits | Reversal assessment; buffer and reserve; incident plan; long-term monitoring; succession; insurance; benefit continuity | Permanence specialist; registry; insurer/funder; benefit oversight |

> **Non-negotiable operating rule.** The gate record is the decision index: it points to controlled registers and evidence objects. Every reviewer finding and capital condition returns to that record.

# 3. Consolidated capital-release rules

Capital release is a governance consequence of the maturity shown in Figure 1, not a forecast-volume calculation.

**1. Evidence before exposure.** Forecast tonnes do not substitute for funded obligations; implementation funding follows verified physical milestones.

**2. Separate and bound downside.** Model volume, timing, price, issuance, non-delivery and reversal independently; cap commitments and support retained exposure with reserves or security.

**3. Preserve long-term duties.** Sale or retirement does not end monitoring, benefit, incident-response or continuity obligations.

## 3.1 Contractual minimums

Contracts must allocate methodology and authorization change, verification and issuance delay, replacement exposure, force majeure, data and audit access, benefit entitlements, termination, survival obligations and the reserve supporting each retained risk.

## 3.2 Cost discipline

> **Friction is deliberate.** Upfront governance should be compared with the full cost of failure: rework, disputed credits, delayed capital, replacement exposure, impaired claims and reputational harm.

Default allocation: the project owner funds project evidence and remediation; the commissioning institution funds portfolio governance and review; other costs follow governing rules and contracts. The mandate names the commissioner, payer and revalidation-cost owner. If project economics cannot carry minimum governance, carbon revenue is not a financing answer.

### 3.3 Worked example: Gate 3 delivery evidence

> **Project-neutral illustrative decision only.** The amounts demonstrate the mechanism; they are not a recommended capital structure, live project, endorsement, funding decision or approval.

| Decision element | Illustrative Gate 3 treatment |
|---|---|
| **Decision moment** | A restoration project requests a EUR 500,000 implementation tranche. Its pilot plan, training record and input-custody record are present. |
| **Missing evidence** | The signed delivery record for the latest physical milestone is absent. Delivery capability cannot yet be relied on for the full tranche. |
| **Reliance status** | Gate 3 remains conditional for bounded preparatory activity. Reliance on the claimed delivery milestone is paused; the gap is not replaced by a forecast or management assertion. |
| **Capital posture** | EUR 100,000 may be considered for controlled mobilisation, training and storage. EUR 400,000 is withheld pending closure of the delivery-evidence condition. |
| **Acceptance authority** | The named DFI or investment committee decides whether to accept the bounded EUR 100,000 exposure. Terra Vita records the condition and recommendation; it does not approve capital. |
| **Evidence for gate reissue** | A controlled delivery record showing project and site IDs, date, quantities, sender and receiver, chain of custody, exceptions and corrections, followed by operational reviewer confirmation. Gate 3 is then reviewed and reissued before the withheld tranche is reconsidered. |

The mechanism converts an evidence gap into a bounded decision—not an optimistic assumption or an indefinite review loop.

## 4. Reviewer route and revalidation

Independent challenge is designed into the Spine. Reviewer identity, competence, independence, scope and retained authority are recorded before review begins.

| Reviewer stage | Required action |
|---|---|
| **1. Enter** | The gate owner opens a review only after the internal completeness threshold is met and the decision question is explicit. |
| **2. Receive** | The reviewer receives a version-locked pack: decision statement, evidence index, relevant registers, assumptions, exceptions, change log and residual-risk statement. |
| **3. Challenge** | The reviewer tests the evidence and controls relevant to the asserted gate; review is not expanded or narrowed silently. |
| **4. Escalate** | Findings receive an owner and closure date. A blocking finding suspends progression; an unresolved material exception moves to the authorized institutional or external route. |
| **5. Close** | The result is recorded as not admissible, diagnostic only, conditional, ready for external review, externally verified/issued, or under revalidation, with scope and limitations. |

## 4.1 Revalidation

A material change to law, rights, boundary, method, operating model, representation or benefits, monitoring, registry or verification status, credit attributes, buyer use or permanence reopens the affected gate. A change-impact record separates evidence that remains valid from evidence requiring replacement. Affected reliance is suspended or narrowed immediately. The gate owner assigns work to the contractually designated cost owner; if no allocation exists, progression pauses until the authorised institution allocates it. Reliance resumes only after review and gate reissue.

## 4.2 Incomplete or messy field evidence

> **Absence is an evidence state.** Missing, inconsistent or low-quality field data is never filled by silent assumption. The absence is recorded, its effect on the decision is assessed and the reliance posture changes accordingly.

| Evidence condition | Reliance status | Required route |
|---|---|---|
| **Core evidence absent** | BLOCK | No affected reliance or capital release where evidence is needed to establish rights, boundary, activity, source, physical milestone or another blocking conclusion. Open an evidence request with owner and deadline. |
| **Partial but bounded** | CONDITION | Permit only the explicitly bounded exposure. Record the unknown, alternative corroboration, expiry date and authorised acceptance route. |
| **Conflicting, low-quality or untraceable** | PAUSE | Preserve the original record; quarantine the affected assertion; resolve provenance, reconcile or re-collect. No silent cleaning or retrospective certainty. |
| **Temporary collection constraint** | CONDITION OR BLOCK | Conditional treatment is allowed only if the absence cannot change a blocking conclusion and the reviewer and authorised institution accept the limitation; otherwise progression stops. |
| **Gap persists beyond deadline** | NARROW OR REJECT | Close or narrow the asserted scope, remove the unsupported claim or reject the gate. A missed evidence deadline does not become permanent conditional reliance. |

# 5. Institutional roles and Terra Vita architecture

## 5.1 Retained authority

| Actor | Role in the Spine | Authority retained |
|---|---|---|
| **Project proponent** | Owns design, delivery, records and corrective action | Project representations and contractual duties |
| **Technical/MRV specialist** | Applies the selected method and quantification controls | Technical professional judgement |
| **VVB or assurance body** | Independently challenges the defined scope | Validation or verification judgement |
| **Registry or crediting programme** | Administers registration, issuance and unit lifecycle | Programme decisions and registry actions |
| **Host-country authority** | Applies policy, approval, authorization and accounting | Sovereign authority |

| Actor | Role in the Spine | Authority retained |
|---|---|---|
| **Funder, investor or buyer** | Applies risk appetite and transaction terms | Capital allocation and reliance decision |
| **Terra Vita Global** | Governs the Spine, evidence lineage, review routes and controlled exports | Governance architecture only |

### 5.2 Operating stack

| Component | Institutional function |
|---|---|
| **Terra Vita Hub** | Institutional product containing the governed records, reviewer routes, exceptions, reliance status and release conditions |
| **Risk-Mandate-Evidence Spine** | Recommended gate, mandate, evidence, exception, review and decision index within the Hub |
| **FieldTrace** | Programme-bound field capture with identity, time, place, custody, exception and correction history |
| **Spatial Intelligence** | Versioned boundaries, environmental context, change detection and physical-risk evidence |
| **Funding Spine** | Evidence-conditioned release posture, conditions precedent, residual-risk acceptance and decision history |
| **Terra Vita Academy** | Role competence, assessment and refresher requirements for operators and institutional reviewers |

## 6. Status, assurance and implementation

### 6.1 Defensible status language

| Status | Minimum meaning | Reliance rule |
|---|---|---|
| **Not admissible** | A blocking condition remains open | No progression beyond resolution work |
| **Diagnostic only** | Material questions remain open | Evidence gathering only; no readiness implication |
| **Conditionally ready** | Named conditions remain | Conditions, owners and dates stay visible |
| **Ready for independent review** | Internal submission threshold met | No implication of external approval |
| **Externally verified or issued** | The specified external act occurred | State authority, scope, date, standard and limitations |
| **Under revalidation** | A material change reopened a gate | Suspend affected reliance until closure |

> **Defensible institutional formulation.** Based on the controlled evidence dated [date], the project record is [status] for [named gate and decision]. The statement is limited to the recorded scope, reviewer route, open conditions and residual risks; it is not a guarantee of external approval, issuance, volume, price or investment outcome.

## 6.2 Ninety-day adoption route

The route is time-bounded: its purpose is to expose gaps and reach a named decision, not create an indefinite review cycle.

| Period | Institutional work | Decision output |
|---|---|---|
| **Days 0-30** | Confirm scope; configure gates, blocking conditions, registers, reviewer routes and evidence templates; select a bounded pilot | Approved diagnostic protocol and Gate 0 entry |
| **Days 31-60** | Load rights, actors, method, boundary, safeguards, operating plan and financial assumptions; open exceptions | Gate 0-3 record and corrective-action plan |
| **Days 61-90** | Operate governed field capture; test evidence lineage; run reviewer simulation; assemble pre-assessment pack | Gate 4 decision and scale recommendation |
| **Ongoing** | Monitor legal, technical, operational, registry, claims and permanence changes | Current residual-risk and change-control record |

## 6.3 Institutional CIO questions

| Decision question | Institutional answer |
|---|---|
| **Will the Spine make projects un-investable?** | Only unresolved blocking risk stops progression. Every gate has an exit test; non-blocking gaps can progress conditionally when exposure, owner, evidence need, deadline and acceptance authority are explicit. The authorised institution decides. |
| **Who pays for the friction?** | The commercial mandate allocates project evidence and remediation, portfolio governance, institutional review, external assurance, registry and revalidation costs before work begins. Cost is proportionate to decision exposure; it is not assumed recoverable through credit revenue. |
| **What if a methodology or rule changes?** | The affected gate reopens. Unaffected evidence remains usable; affected reliance is suspended or narrowed; the gate owner applies the agreed cost allocation; and the record is reviewed and reissued before reliance resumes. |
| **Is Terra Vita a shadow regulator?** | No. Terra Vita governs information and reliance conditions and may issue a recommendation. It cannot approve, certify, verify, issue, authorise, allocate capital or accept residual risk. The named institution may accept, challenge or reject the recommendation. |
| **What if field data is absent or messy?** | Absence is recorded as an evidence state, not replaced by assumption. Core missing evidence blocks affected reliance; bounded non-blocking gaps may proceed conditionally with an owner, deadline, corroboration and named acceptance authority. Conflicting data is quarantined and reconciled or re-collected. Persistent gaps narrow or reject the asserted scope. |

# 7. Application across project types

The Spine is project-type neutral. Gates and decision rules remain constant; evidence, monitoring, reviewer and permanence controls adapt to the applicable method and operating context.

| Project type | Risk concentration requiring configuration |
|---|---|
| **Afforestation, reforestation and restoration** | Land and carbon rights; baseline land use; survival; leakage; fire, drought, encroachment and stewardship |
| **Avoided deforestation and jurisdictional forests** | Reference levels; leakage; nesting; government authority; community and Indigenous rights; double counting |
| **Agricultural and soil carbon** | Farmer/parcel identity; practice adoption; sampling; aggregation; discontinuation and attrition |
| **Blue carbon and coastal restoration** | Marine/coastal tenure; hydrology; sediment; sea-level exposure; boundary migration and competing use |
| **Clean cooking and distributed technologies** | Device identity; distribution; baseline fuel; usage/stacking; maintenance; sampling and replacement |
| **Waste, methane and industrial avoidance** | Facility authority; flow baseline; metering; uptime; regulatory additionality and environmental attributes |
| **Engineered removals and storage** | Performance; energy source; measurement; custody chain; durability; storage failure and long-term liability |

## 7.1 Indicative commercial package

> **Indicative, non-binding terms.** All figures are indicative and non-binding. Final scope, price, duration, payment schedule, local technical compensation and third-party costs require legal and commercial review and are fixed only in a signed mandate.

### A. Carbon Project Integrity Diagnostic

| Commercial field | Indicative position |
|---|---|
| **Commissioning party** | DFI, capital provider, programme owner, or a project owner preparing for institutional capital. |
| **Scope** | Desk-based review of a controlled document set: evidence gaps, claim substantiation, budget completeness, carbon/MRV readiness, capital pathway, data-room checklist and gate-entry design. |
| **Duration and outputs** | 10–15 working days after complete intake. Outputs: gate-entry decision, blocker register, residual-risk map, prioritised evidence request and diagnostic report. |
| **Indicative fee and basis** | EUR 10,000 fixed for one bounded, desk-based project diagnostic with a controlled evidence pack and no field deployment or system integration. The fee is revisited if decision exposure, evidence volume, site count, reviewer routes or integration needs exceed the agreed intake assumptions. Recommended EUR 5,000 at commencement and EUR 5,000 on delivery; Terra Vita may credit the fee against a deployment commissioned within 30 days. |

### B. Configured Hub and Spine deployment

| Commercial field | Indicative position |
|---|---|
| **Commissioning party** | DFI, capital provider or programme owner; a project owner where sponsored or accepted by the relying institution. |
| **Scope** | Configure Terra Vita Hub and the Risk-Mandate-Evidence Spine for one bounded project or programme: Gates 0–7, registers, reviewer routes, exceptions, release rules, templates and user onboarding. Major integrations and field deployment are excluded. |
| **Duration and outputs** | Typically 6–10 weeks, subject to evidence volume and complexity. Outputs: configured Hub workspace, Spine, registers, reviewer-room structure, funding/release matrix and adoption pack. |
| **Indicative fee and basis** | EUR 25,000–45,000. Position within the range is driven by decision exposure, evidence volume, number of sites, reviewer complexity and integration scope. Third-party review, integration, travel and field costs are separately scoped and approved. |

### C. Ongoing Assurance and Revalidation Operations

| Commercial field | Indicative position |
|---|---|
| **Commissioning party** | Capital provider, DFI or programme owner; a project owner under a funded institutional mandate. |
| **Scope** | Operate exception and change control, reviewer routes, gate reissue, reliance status and release-condition updates through issuance and permanence. |
| **Duration and outputs** | Ongoing after deployment; cadence and term are agreed in the mandate, typically annually. Outputs: current exception and revalidation records, reviewer packs, residual-risk position, decision history and controlled exports. |
| **Indicative fee and basis** | Preferred: a fixed annual fee agreed after deployment. If the parties explicitly choose a percentage basis, 0.5%–1.0% is calculated on the agreed annual portfolio amount placed under active Hub governance during the service period—not committed capital, capital released, carbon revenue, credits issued or transaction success. The mandate sets any floor, cap and exclusions. |

> **Commercial boundary.** Fees do not buy a funding outcome, credit issuance, legal opinion, land-right certification, validation, verification, insurance or technical forestry. Local technical work and compensation are stated transparently; external costs require separate approval.

## 8. Limitations and institutional conclusion

This framework does not replace project-specific professional advice. Each project must apply the current programme rules, methodology version, host-country requirements and contractual terms relevant to its activity and intended use.

> **Institutional conclusion.** Carbon value becomes financeable only when the conditions beneath it can withstand institutional challenge over time. Terra Vita Hub and its Risk-Mandate-Evidence Spine supply that governed route: rights, evidence, responsibility, independent review, capital discipline and post-issuance continuity.

# Appendix A - Gate evidence checklist

| Gate | Evidence domain | Minimum decision record | Exit test |
|---|---|---|---|
| 0 | Legal and jurisdiction | Entity; mandate; tenure; carbon right; permits; host-country policy; intended use; authorization route | No unresolved legality, ownership or double-counting block |
| 1 | Rights and safeguards | Rights holders; representation; consultation/FPIC; benefit formula; grievance; remedy | Legitimate participation and operational remedy |
| 2 | Method and baseline | Method version; boundary; baseline; additionality; leakage; uncertainty; migration plan | Independent technical challenge completed |
| 3 | Operations | Roles; SOPs; inputs; pilot; training; maintenance; continuity; failures and corrective action | Delivery capability demonstrated |
| 4 | Evidence and verification | Control matrix; source data; QA/QC; calibration; custody; exceptions; pre-assurance requests | Claim can be reconstructed |
| 5 | Finance and transaction | Downside cases; timing; buffers; reserve; benefit costs; payment security; liability | Exposure bounded and obligations funded |
| 6 | Issuance and claims | Unit identifiers; registry; authorization; labels; ownership; transfer; retirement; permitted claim | Attributes fit intended use |
| 7 | Permanence | Risk assessment; prevention; incident plan; buffer; reserve; monitoring; succession; insurance | Long-term obligations operational |

## Appendix A.1 - Evidence-quality tests

| Quality test | Minimum meaning |
|---|---|
| **Attributable** | The responsible actor and authority can be identified. |
| **Authentic** | The evidence source and integrity controls are documented. |
| **Complete** | Required positive, negative and exception evidence is present. |
| **Current** | The evidence remains valid for the decision date. |
| **Consistent** | Identifiers, boundaries, dates and calculations reconcile across systems. |
| **Challengeable** | A reviewer can inspect assumptions, sources and alternative interpretations. |
| **Reconstructable** | The route from field activity to institutional assertion can be replayed. |
| **Controlled** | Access, version, retention and correction history are governed. |

# Appendix B - Core register specification

| Register | Minimum fields |
|---|---|
| **Project** | Project ID; proponent; programme; jurisdiction; activity; status; gate; owner |
| **Actors and authority** | Actor ID; role; mandate; representation; conflict; review scope |
| **Rights** | Parcel/site; tenure; resource right; carbon right; evidence; dispute; expiry |
| **Boundary** | Version; geometry; date; method; source; change reason; reviewer |
| **Stakeholder and benefit** | Group; representation; consultation; consent; formula; eligibility; payment |
| **Grievance and remedy** | Issue; complainant protection; owner; action; status; remedy; closure review |
| **Methodology** | Programme; method; version; applicability; effective date; transition; owner |
| **Monitoring and controls** | Parameter; evidence object; frequency; actor; QA rule; reviewer; retention |
| **Data quality** | Source; calibration; completeness; uncertainty; exception; corrective action |
| **Risk and exception** | Domain; event; materiality; owner; mitigation; residual; trigger; review date |
| **Independent review** | Reviewer; scope; request; evidence supplied; finding; response; closure |
| **Authorization** | Authority; instrument; use; entities; period; conditions; change history |
| **Financial obligations** | Budget; reserve; benefit cost; security; insurance; liability; owner; expiry |
| **Units and transaction** | Unit; vintage; verification; issuance; owner; transfer; retirement; buyer use |
| **Permanence** | Hazard; exposure; prevention; incident; buffer; reserve; response; monitoring |

# Appendix C - Controlled reference register

The sources below provide external integrity and procedural reference points. Each entry records the publishing owner, controlling version or date and stable URL. Terra Vita Global B.V. owns this document; the mandate must assign a named internal reference-control owner before use. Every source must be rechecked immediately before circulation to a DFI, insurer or public institution, and whenever a relevant programme, methodology, claims rule, government principle or link changes. These sources do not replace project-specific programme documents or host-country law.

> **Reference control.** Document owner: Terra Vita Global B.V. | Source review date: 24 July 2026 | Required next check: immediately before external circulation or on material change | Status: provenance and informational reference only. Inclusion does not imply legal, regulatory, programme or institutional endorsement of Terra Vita or this framework.


1. **Integrity Council for the Voluntary Carbon Market - Core Carbon Principles, Assessment Framework and Assessment Procedure.** Source owner: Integrity Council for the Voluntary Carbon Market. Controlling version/date: Version 1.1, January 2024. Governance, tracking, transparency, independent review, emissions impact, sustainable development and programme assessment. Stable URL: https://icvcm.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/CCP-Book-V1.1-FINAL-LowRes-15May24.pdf
2. **UNFCCC - Article 6.2 Reference Manual.** Source owner: UNFCCC secretariat. Controlling version/date: Version 3, April 2025. Authorization, reporting, registry and accounting for cooperative approaches and ITMOs. Stable URL: https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/Article_6.2_Reference_Manual.pdf
3. **Gold Standard - Principles and Requirements.** Source owner: The Gold Standard Foundation. Controlling version/date: Version 2.0, published 12 November 2024; effective 5 December 2024. Programme and project requirements applied by project developers and VVBs for certification. Stable URL: https://globalgoals.goldstandard.org/standards/101_V2.0_PAR_Principles-Requirements.pdf
4. **Verra - Verified Carbon Standard programme details.** Source owner: Verra. Controlling version/date: VCS Program Guide v5.0 and VCS Standard v5.0, issued 16 December 2025; transition notices and corrections current to 9 June 2026. Programme rules, validation and verification requirements, effective dates and transition notices. Stable URL: https://verra.org/programs/verified-carbon-standard/vcs-program-details/
5. **Voluntary Carbon Markets Integrity Initiative - Claims Code of Practice.** Source owner: Voluntary Carbon Markets Integrity Initiative. Controlling version/date: Version 3.1, 18 August 2025. Credible corporate use of high-quality credits and associated claims assurance. Stable URL: https://vcmintegrity.org/topic/claims-code/
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