



The Qazaq Green Certification Programme Qazaq Green Certificate

Qazaq Green Certification Programme standard

Requirements, guidelines and rules for developing projects and issuing certified emission reduction units

Version 1.0

1. Managing the Qazaq Green Certification Program

The operator of the Qazaq Green Certificate Certification Programme (QGCP) is the Qazaq Green RES Association (hereinafter referred to as the Association). The Association was established in 2018 to support the development of renewable energy sources in Kazakhstan, bringing together investors, developers, equipment manufacturers, international financial institutions and universities. On October 7, 2021, the association was renamed the Qazaq Green RES Association in order to promote the principles of a green economy and contribute to the achievement of carbon neutrality.

The Association is accredited by the Ministry of Energy of the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources of the Republic of Kazakhstan, the National Chamber of Entrepreneurs of the Republic of Kazakhstan "Atameken". The organization is one of the key expert centers for the development of renewable energy in Kazakhstan for both government agencies and the business community.



2. General requirements of the Qazaq Green Certification Program

1. This certification programme is designed and operates to encourage voluntary action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and implement the Carbon Neutrality Strategy of the Republic of Kazakhstan until 2060. It allows you to confirm the reductions in emissions and removals of greenhouse gases achieved within the framework of projects implemented on the basis of the requirements, rules, policies and guidelines of the Qazaq Green Certification Programme Standard.

2. Participation in the Qazaq Green Certification Programme is based on voluntary compliance with the requirements, guidelines, rules, policies (QGCP Standard) and methodologies approved for the implementation of the QGCP.

3. The official languages of the Qazaq Green Certification Programme are Kazakh, Russian and English. All project documentation, statements on the results of validation and verification of projects and other information are provided by QGCP participants in two languages (Kazakh and English or Russian and English).

4. The QGCP standard applies the following definitions of terms, including definitions of these terms under the legislation of the Republic of Kazakhstan and the Standard ISO 14064-2 Greenhouse gases — Part 2: Specification with guidance at the project level for quantification, monitoring and reporting of greenhouse gas emission reductions or removal enhancements "(hereinafter - Standard ISO 14064-2), Standard ISO 14064-3" Greenhouse gases. Part 3. Requirements and guidance for validation and verification of greenhouse gas claims", ISO 14065 "Greenhouse gases. Requirements for Greenhouse Gas Validation and Verification Bodies Used for Accreditation or Other Forms of Recognition", ISO/IEC 17029 Standard "Conformity Assessment. General principles and requirements for validation and verification bodies", including the following definitions:

- greenhouse gas baseline - the quantitative value of greenhouse gas emissions and / or removals of greenhouse gases that would be observed in the absence of the proposed reduction in emissions or increase in removals of greenhouse gases within the project. Used as a baseline against which the reduction in greenhouse gas emissions and/or the increase in absorption/removal of greenhouse gases is determined;
- baseline scenario - a hypothetical baseline scenario that describes the conditions that arise in the absence of a greenhouse gas project;
- validation - the process of evaluating how acceptable the assumptions, constraints and methods used in the application to obtain information about the results of future activities;
- validator - a competent person of a validation body accredited by the QGCP and responsible for conducting validation, providing a statement on its results.
- verification - the process of evaluating a statement containing factual data and information on greenhouse gases in order to determine the reliability of these data and the compliance of the submitted information on greenhouse gases with the verification criteria.



- greenhouse gas emissions - the total mass of greenhouse gases emitted into the atmosphere over a certain period of time;
- certified Emission Reduction or Removal Unit (CQG) – a unit of greenhouse gas emission reduction verified by a Qazaq Green certificate and equal to one ton of carbon dioxide equivalent. This term refers to a voluntary certification system for reducing emissions or increasing removals of greenhouse gases and does not apply to carbon units subject to state regulation in the field of emissions and removals of greenhouse gases in accordance with Article 299 of the Environmental Code of the Republic of Kazakhstan;
- affected GHG source, sink or reservoir means a source, sink or reservoir of greenhouse gases that has been affected by a project activity as a result of changes in market demand, the terms of supply of related products or services, or physical movement. Affected sources, sinks or reservoirs of greenhouse gases do not, as a rule, relate to the site (site) of the project;
- source of greenhouse gases - a material object or process that releases into the atmosphere;
- controlled source, sink or reservoir of greenhouse gases - a source, sink or reservoir of greenhouse gases, which operates under the control of a greenhouse gas project developer through financial, political, managerial or other instruments. A controlled source, sink or reservoir of greenhouse gases is usually located at the site (site) of the project;
- conflict of interest - a situation in which, due to the presence of other activities or relationships, impartiality in the performance of work is discredited or may be discredited;
- greenhouse gas emission factor - a coefficient linking data on the activity of greenhouse gases with the value of greenhouse gas emissions;
- GHG absorption/removal coefficient - a coefficient linking data on greenhouse gas activity with the value of GHG absorption/removal;
- additionality criteria - reductions in greenhouse gas emissions and absorption/removal are additional if they exceed those that would have occurred in the absence of the project activity and under the standard business scenario;
- monitoring - continuous or periodic collection of data on emissions and removals/removals of greenhouse gases or other related data on greenhouse gases;
- greenhouse gas reservoir - a component other than the atmosphere that is capable of accumulating, storing and releasing greenhouse gases;
- uncertainty - a parameter associated with the result of a quantitative assessment and characterizing the spread of values that can reasonably be correlated to a quantitative value;
- project realisation report - a document intended to provide information on emissions, removals / accumulations of greenhouse gases certified in accordance with the QGCP Standard;
- greenhouse gas - gaseous components of the atmosphere of natural and (or) anthropogenic origin, absorbing thermal infrared radiation and (or) being its source. Greenhouse gases include carbon dioxide (CO₂), methane (CH₄), nitrous oxide (N₂O),



hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), perfluorocarbons (PFCs), sulfur hexafluoride (SF₆) and nitrogen trifluoride (NF₃);

- crediting period - the period of time during which the design documentation of a greenhouse gas project is valid and during which a greenhouse gas project can reduce emissions, increase absorption of greenhouse gases that are certified according to the QGCP Standard.
- greenhouse gas sink - a material object or process that absorbs / removes greenhouse gases from the atmosphere;
- absorption/removal of greenhouse gases - absorption/removal of greenhouse gases from the atmosphere using a greenhouse gas absorber;
- global warming potential - a coefficient that establishes the degree of impact of the emissivity of one mass unit of a specific greenhouse gas relative to the emissivity of one mass unit of carbon dioxide (CO₂) over a given period of time;
- GHG project - an activity or activities that change the greenhouse gas baseline and result in a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions or an increase in greenhouse gas absorption/removal. Activities may include technologies used to modify greenhouse gas baseline conditions;
- project design document of a project on greenhouse gases - a document that describes the project activities, provides information on compliance with the requirements for projects of the QGCP Standard; identifies emission sources, sinks/accumulators of greenhouse gases, establishes the territorial and temporal boundaries of the project, describes the baseline scenario, determines how greenhouse gas emissions will be quantified and what methods, assumptions and data will be used for this, and also provides detailed information on procedures for monitoring, reporting and reviewing the project;
- developer (initiator) of the project - an individual or organization that exercises full control over the greenhouse gas project and is responsible for it;
- certified GHG Emission Reduction means a reduction in GHG emissions certified based on the standard of the Qazaq Green Certification Programme or other similar certification system. This term does not apply to carbon offsets and offset units subject to the regulation of the rules approved by the authorized body of the Republic of Kazakhstan in the field of environmental protection;
- reduction of greenhouse gas emissions - a quantified reduction in greenhouse gas emissions between the baseline scenario and the project to reduce greenhouse gas emissions;
- level of assurance - the degree of confidence in the statement on greenhouse gases;
- materiality level - the value of the maximum allowable amount of distortion in reporting on greenhouse gases, the presence of which does not affect the verification statement;
- carbon leakage - an increase in greenhouse gas emissions or a decrease in greenhouse gas removals outside the project, which occurs due to the implementation of project activities;
- carbon dioxide equivalent (CO₂eq) - a unit for comparing the emissivity of greenhouse gases by the corresponding amount of carbon dioxide.



5. Based on the results of the implementation of greenhouse gas projects in accordance with the QGCP Standard, the reductions in emissions, absorption / removal of greenhouse gases achieved in relation to the baseline of greenhouse gases are certified.
 6. The Qazaq Green certification programme covers projects that result in a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions or an increase in greenhouse gas absorption prior to the date of registration not later than 2 years.
 7. QGCP certifies emission reductions, absorption/removal enhancements for the following greenhouse gases: carbon dioxide CO₂, methane CH₄, nitrous oxide (N₂O), hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), perfluorocarbons (PFCs), sulfur hexafluoride (SF₆) and nitrogen trifluoride (NF₃), verified by accredited QGCP verification bodies.
 8. Developers (initiators) of greenhouse gas projects implemented in accordance with the QGCP Standard quantify and provide information on all emission reductions, removals/removals of greenhouse gases in metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent (ton CO₂-eq).
 9. The unit of exchange for the QGCP is the certified reduction or absorption/removal ton (CQG) expressed in metric tons of CO₂-eq.
 10. QGCP certifies emission reductions, increased absorption/removal of greenhouse gases, which are the result of the declared project activity, presented in accordance with the requirements of the Standard, approved by the methodology within the QGCP Standard and quantifiable and verifiable.
 11. The QGCP standard is reviewed as needed, but at least every 10 years.
 12. The grounds for making changes and additions to the QGCP Standard or its adoption in a new edition include significant changes in the best practices for accounting and quantification of emissions, removals / removals of greenhouse gases, the legislation of the Republic of Kazakhstan on greenhouse gas regulation.
 13. The QGCP standard and its constituent documents, amendments and additions to them, are published for public comment no later than 1 month before the planned date of their approval. QGCP provides responses to all incoming comments and makes them publicly available along with the approved version of the QGCP Standard and its constituent documents.
 14. The QGCP standard and its documents are publicly available and are published on the Qazaq Green Certification Programme website.
 15. In case of objections, complaints regarding decisions made under the Qazaq Green Certification Program, the developer (initiator) of the greenhouse gas project or an interested party may send a written request on this issue to:
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16. In a written appeal regarding objections, complaints about the work of the Qazaq Green Certification Program, the following is indicated:

- description of the essence of objections, complaints with reference to the requirements of the QGCP Standard and/or the QGCP methodology;
- additional documentation provided for consideration in the process of consideration of this application;
- Applicant's full name, contact details and organization name.

17. The QGCP Management appoints a representative to study and further consider the written request, which should not be involved in the resolution of the issue that is the reason for the written request.

18. Based on the results of consideration of the written request, QGCP management provides a written response by e-mail to the applicant with a detailed description of the decision on this issue within 30 days from the date of receipt of the written request.

19. If the applicant is not satisfied with the results of consideration of the initial appeal, then he/she may appeal this decision by sending a new written appeal, which is considered by a commission of three representatives of the QGCP, including a member of the Board of Directors of the Qazaq Green RES Association.

20. The decision of the commission is made within 30 days from the date of receipt of a new written request and is provided to the applicant in writing. Any decision made by the committee is final.

21. Participation in the Qazaq Green Certification Programme is based on the prevention of conflicts of interest between developers (initiators) of greenhouse gas projects and its officials and employees, as well as with officials and employees of the validator and verifier.



3. The procedure for implementing greenhouse gas projects in accordance with the QGCP Standard

22. The QGCP certifies emission reductions, GHG absorption/removal enhancements from GHG projects subject to the following criteria:

- the project reduces direct and/or indirect emissions and/or increases absorption/removal of greenhouse gases at a facility owned or operated by the project developer (initiator) or for which the right to receive certified greenhouse gas emission reductions, removals/removals has been transferred from the owner to the developer (initiator) of the project in accordance with the terms of the agreement between them;
- the GHG project complies with the additionality criteria and other requirements of the Qazaq Green Certification Program;
- the GHG project is not implemented at a facility that is subject to the mandatory requirements of carbon quota legislation;
- Reducing emissions and/or increasing absorption/removal of greenhouse gases has not been used to meet legal obligations, such as carbon caps and/or carbon taxation.

3.1. Standard Procedure for Registration and Implementation of Greenhouse Gas Projects

23. The standard procedure for registration and implementation of greenhouse gas projects under the QGCP Standard includes the implementation of the steps specified in paragraphs 24-69 of this document.

24. The first step in the GHG project certification procedure is its QGCP registration.

25. The developer (initiator) of the project develops project design document for registration based on the methodologies approved by the QGCP standard or international methodologies adopted in the voluntary VER+, Gold Standard or within the UNFCCC Clean Development Mechanism;

Methodology development procedure by the developer (initiator) of the project and its approval by QGCP

26. In the absence of an approved QGCP methodology corresponding to the one declared for registration of a greenhouse gas project, the developer may propose for approval its own new methodology for the project.

27. If the developer (initiator) of the project develops its own new methodology for the project, this methodology must meet the following requirements:

- The methodology must be scientifically based and validated by a validation and verification body accredited by the QGCP;
- A methodology validation statement must be submitted to the QGCP for review and approval.



28. QGCP conducts an examination of the new methodology presented by the developer (initiator) of the project for the validity of the scientific approach in determining:

- Greenhouse gas baseline;
- Emissions, removals of greenhouse gases of the project on greenhouse gases
- Carbon leaks from the GHG project;
- GHG monitoring parameters.

29. The term for consideration and approval of the new methodology proposed by the developer (initiator) of the project is no more than 90 days.

30. Methodologies submitted for QGCP approval should include the uncertainty assessment methods relevant to the GHG project and its baseline.

31. The QGCP defines the start date for all GHG projects as the date on which the project began to reduce emissions, increase GHG removals/removals from the GHG baseline.

32. Approved QGCP methodologies may set minimum implementation times for specific types of GHG projects under which they may be registered for implementation under the QGCP Standard.

Registration of a greenhouse gas project

33. The developer (initiator) of a greenhouse gas project submits an application for registration of a greenhouse gas project by filling out a standard form posted on the QGCP Internet resource.

34. The QGCP reviews the GHG project registration application for completeness and compliance with the requirements of the QGCP Standard.

35. QGCP has the right to request from the developer (initiator) of the greenhouse gas project, along with the application, to provide title documents confirming the right to carry out project activities on the land plot specified in the application for registration of the greenhouse gas project, to quantify greenhouse gas emissions on it.

36. Consideration of applications for registration of a greenhouse gas project is carried out on a paid basis at rates published on the QGCP Internet resource.

37. Based on the results of the verification of the application for registration of a greenhouse gas project, the QGCP makes one of the following decisions:

- include the project in the list of greenhouse gas projects with its subsequent transition to the stage of selection by the project developer of a validation and verification body accredited by QGCP;
- request clarifications, additional information and making necessary corrections to the application for registration of a greenhouse gas project;



- refuse to register the project for reasons of non-compliance with the requirements of the QGCP Standard.

38. If the QGCP decides to request clarifications, additional information and make the necessary corrections, then the developer (initiator) of the greenhouse gas project may re-apply for registration of the greenhouse gas project, taking into account the substance of the QGCP request.

39. If the conclusion is positive, QGCP officially notifies the developer (project initiator) about the registration of the project under the QGCP Standard and changes the status of the project on the site to "Registered".

40. A greenhouse gas project is included in the list of registered QGCP projects when such a decision is made by the QGCP, and after such a decision is made, information about the project and the application submitted by the developer (initiator) of the project is published on the QGCP Internet resource.

41. A project included in the QGCP List of Registered Greenhouse Gas Projects may be carried out in accordance with the requirements of the QGCP Standard.

42. QGCP has the right to make a decision to include the project in the list of registered greenhouse gas projects or refuse to register the project at any stage of consideration of the application for registration of the greenhouse gas project, including the results of consultations with stakeholders, collection and study of information about the project on greenhouse gases.

Selection and approval of the validation and verification body

43. If the QGCP decides to include the list of registered greenhouse gas projects, the project developer (initiator) selects a validation and verification body from the list of QGCP-accredited validators / verifiers published on the QGCP Internet resource to validate the project documentation and project approvals on greenhouse gases. emissions for the first 10 years of certified QGC units reported in the GHG report.

44. The selected Validation and Verification Body provides the QGCP with a self-assessment of the absence of a conflict of interest for the given GHG project.

45. QGCP agrees with the developer (initiator) of the GHG project on the choice of validation and verification body based on the consideration of the information provided on the self-assessment of the absence of a conflict of interest prior to registration and provision of validation and verification services.

Development of project documentation, its validation and approval

46. The developer (initiator) of the project develops the project design document and submits it to the QGCP, according to the form approved by the QGCP Standard;



47. Project design document is developed by the developer (initiator) of the project on the basis of methodologies approved by the QGCP standard or international methodologies adopted in the voluntary VER+, Gold Standard or within the framework of the UNFCCC Clean Development Mechanism;

48. The developed documentation must be agreed with the interested parties through a public discussion of the project;

49. The developed project design document must be validated by a validation body accredited under the QGCP Standard.

50. The fee for validation services is set by agreement between the developer (initiator) of the greenhouse gas project and the validation body.

51. GHG project developers provide QGCP with documentary evidence that no other entity can claim to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from project activities, i.e., that no other entity can claim ownership of greenhouse gas emission reductions that are certified under the QGCP Standard

52. The developer (initiator) of the project sends the following documents to the QGCP for review and approval of the project documentation:

- project documentation;
- Validation statement of the validation and verification body;
- results of project coordination with interested parties;
- proof of ownership of greenhouse gas emission reductions;
- statement of consent to the publication of documentation regarding the project on the QGCP website.

53. QGCP, when reviewing documents, publishes all submitted documents on the QGCP Internet resource with the status "Under consideration".

54. The term for consideration by the QGCP of the documents specified in paragraph 52 is 30 business days.

55. If the conclusion is positive, QGCP officially notifies the developer (project initiator) of the approval of the project design document within the QGCP Standard and changes its status on the Internet resource to "Approved".

56. In case of a negative conclusion, QGCP sends its comments to the project design document for revision to the project developer



57. An adverse opinion may be issued by the QGCP on the following grounds:

- Incompleteness of the provided data;
- No validation statement;
- Identification of project double counting in other GHG emission reduction/removal certification systems

58. The finalized package of documents is considered within 20 days, after which a conclusion is issued.

59. A project to reduce greenhouse gas emissions is registered for 10 years, after which it can be re-validated and extended for another 10 years. A project that increases greenhouse gas absorption is registered for 20 years, after which it can be re-validated and extended for another 20 years. The procedure for extending greenhouse gas projects is carried out in the same way as for the initial registration of greenhouse gas projects.

60. The developer (initiator) of a greenhouse gas project cannot unilaterally make changes to the approved design documentation of a greenhouse gas project.

61. Deviations from the requirements of the QGCP methodology for a particular project or other changes in the approved design documentation for the project on greenhouse gases, including new sources, sinks, reservoirs of greenhouse gases, should be described in the project realisation report.

Earning Certified Emission Reduction or Removal (CQG) Units

62. To obtain certified emission reduction or removal units (CQG), the developer (initiator) of the project draws up a report on greenhouse gases in accordance with the approved form published on the QGCP Internet resource.

63. The project developer independently determines for what period a GHG report is compiled, followed by certification of each prepared GHG report by a verification body accredited and agreed by QGCP.

64. The developer (initiator) of the project on greenhouse gases during one 10-year period of release of QGC units is guided by one design documentation of the project on greenhouse gases, approved for the entire period of release of project units.



65. Payment for verification services is established by agreement between the developer (initiator) of the greenhouse gas project and the verification body.

66. Verification of the GHG report should be carried out with a reasonable level of assurance.

67. The developer (initiator) of a greenhouse gas project submits to the QGCP to obtain units of certified greenhouse gas emission reductions or removals in the QGCP Registry, submits a project realisation report to the QGCP for consideration, together with an application and a verification report issued by an accredited verification body.

68. QGCP reviews the documents specified in paragraph 67 of this document within 30 days and makes one of the following decisions:

- Approve the submitted GHG report;
- Approve the submitted GHG project report, subject to the requested corrections or clarifications;
- Reject the submitted GHG report.

69. If a decision is made to approve a GHG report, the approved report, application and verification report are placed in the QGCP Register.

70. The report on greenhouse gases may not be approved if an incomplete package of documents is provided, errors in the calculations presented in the report.

71. The QGCP formally sends a written notification to the project developer (initiator) about the approval of the GHG report and the release of certified emission reduction or removal (CQG) units in the amount specified in the GHG report.

72. Ownership of all certified emission reduction or absorption (CQG) units issued under the project belongs to the project developer (initiator).

73. Receipt of CQG units of certified greenhouse gas emission reduction or absorption, other types of operations with them are carried out through the QGCP Registry.

74. Each developer (initiator) of a GHG project opens an account in the QGCP Registry to receive CQG certified greenhouse gas emission reduction or removal units and conduct other types of transactions with them.

75. QGCP issues to the account of the developer (initiator) of a greenhouse gas project in the QGCP Registry units of certified greenhouse gas emission reductions or removals CQG in the amount of emission reductions, increase in greenhouse gas removals / removals, confirmed by a verified and approved report on greenhouse gases.



76. Each CQG certified greenhouse gas emission or removal unit issued must have a unique serial number to identify it.

77. Issued units of certified emission reductions or removals (CQG) are published on the QGCP website.

78. Further operations with the issued CQG certified greenhouse gas emission reduction or removal units are carried out at the discretion of the developer in accordance with the Operational Procedures and Rules for the use of the QGCP Registry with payment for its services at the approved tariffs for the use of the QGCP Registry.

3.2. Programme approach and cumulative projects

79. The QGCP standard provides for the possibility of combining several objects, land plots, industrial sites into one greenhouse gas project, carried out on the terms of an aggregate project or a programme approach to project development.

80. Specific requirements for overall projects and a programme approach to project development are included in Appendix 1 of this QGCP Standard.

3.3. Application of the Additionality Criteria to Greenhouse Gas Projects

81. Project activities certified under the QGCP Standard must meet the additionality criteria. Validation of its compliance with the additionality criteria is carried out by the developers (initiators) of greenhouse gas projects with the determination that the reductions in emissions and/or increases in removals from project activities will be additional to the reductions/absorptions that occurred in the absence of project activities or as a result of existing incentive measures for development carbon market.

82. The developer (initiator) of a GHG project establishes compliance with the additionality criteria based on the application of one of the tests that establish that the GHG project exceeds:

- 1) performance standard defined in the approved QGCP methodology;
- 2) the requirements of the legislation of the Republic of Kazakhstan, go beyond the usual practice and overcome at least one of the three implementation barriers: institutional, financial or technological.

83. If the first test option is selected for compliance with the additionality criteria specified in subparagraph 1) of paragraph 81 of this document, the developer (initiator) of the greenhouse gas



project conducts the appropriate test in accordance with the applicable approved QGCP methodology.

84. If the second test option is selected for compliance with the additionality criteria specified in subparagraph 2 of paragraph 81 of this document, the developer (initiator) of the greenhouse gas project conducts an appropriate three-level test for:

- a) the project exceeds the requirements of the legislation;
- b) exceeding the standard business scenario;
- c) overcoming at least one of the barriers to its implementation (financial, technological, institutional).

85. Developers (initiators) of greenhouse gas projects conduct a three-level test for compliance with the additionality criteria in accordance with Annex 2 to this document.

3.4. Achievement of projects on greenhouse gases of the Sustainable Development Goals of the project

86. Developers (initiators) of greenhouse gas projects consider and disclose in the project design document the negative impacts of project activities on the environment and society, protective measures to prevent, mitigate or compensate for them, positive impacts of project activities, including those related to contribution to the achievement of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

87. Greenhouse gas projects should be carried out in compliance with the requirements of international law and national legislation on the environment and human rights. The QGCP may suspend the issuance of certified GHG emission or removal units for GHG projects found to be non-compliant for the period of non-compliance.



Annex 1. Aggregate project and programme approach to project development

The QGCP establishes separate requirements for integrated GHG projects involving multiple facilities, land, or industrial sites to be implemented under a cumulative project or programme project development approach. This allows for greater efficiency in scaling up project activities while maintaining the applicability of accounting and data quality guidelines for the development of draft QGCP Standards and QGCP methodologies.

Aggregate project

1. The project developer proposing the cumulative project develops project design document for the project on greenhouse gases, covering all objects, land plots, industrial sites of the project and establishing the boundaries of the project, the greenhouse gas baseline, assesses compliance with the additionality criteria for the entire cumulative project.
2. After the validation of the project design document of the project on greenhouse gases, the developer (initiator) of the overall project cannot add new facilities, land plots, industrial sites to it.
3. QGCP registers the aggregate project under one account.
4. The management of the aggregate project is carried out by one developer (initiator) of the project.
5. One QGCP methodology applies to the entire aggregate project.
6. The start date of the aggregate project corresponds to the earliest date of commencement of the project activities at the facility, land plot, production site, combined into the aggregate project.
7. Negative environmental impacts are determined separately for each facility, land plot, industrial site, integrated into the aggregate project, if the QGCP methodology does not provide for their determination as a whole for the aggregate project.
8. Consultations with affected communities, if they are provided for by the QGCP methodology, are held separately for each facility, land plot, industrial site, combined into an aggregate project, if the approved QGCP methodology does not provide for their determination as a whole for the overall project.



9. Reports on greenhouse gases of the aggregate project must include monitoring data and on the reduction of emissions, absorption / removal of greenhouse gases for each object, land plot, industrial site separately.

10. If the developer (initiator) of the project expects the addition of new facilities, land plots, industrial sites to the joint project after the validation of the project design document, then it should be registered as a project implemented under the programme approach.

Programme approach to project development

11. A programme approach to the development of a greenhouse gas project is applied in cases where the involvement of all project participants or facilities, land plots, industrial sites is not possible at the time of the validation of the design documentation of the overall greenhouse gas project.

12. QGCP registers a programme development approach GHG project under one account.

13. The management of a greenhouse gas project implemented on the terms of a programme approach to development is carried out by one developer (initiator) of the project.

14. One QGCP methodology applies to the entire GHG project under a programme development approach.

15. A single start date for a greenhouse gas project implemented under a programme approach to development is determined by the earliest date of implementation among the facilities, land plots, industrial sites included in the project design document for a greenhouse gas project at the time of its validation.

16. For each object, land plot, industrial site of a greenhouse gas project implemented on the terms of a programme approach to development, the start date for the implementation of project activities is determined separately.

17. All new facilities, land, industrial sites of a GHG project implemented under a programme development approach, which were not included in the original validated GHG project design documentation, are subject to separate validation.



18. For facilities, land plots, industrial sites simultaneously included in the greenhouse gas project implemented on the terms of a programme approach to development, validation and verification are carried out according to one time schedule.

19. All facilities, land plots, industrial sites participating in a GHG project with a programme development approach must have a site-specific implementation start date that coincides with or comes after the established project start date.

20. For facilities, land plots, industrial sites simultaneously included in a greenhouse gas project implemented under a programme approach to development, a single crediting period is applied.

21. In the event of an extension of the crediting period at any facility, land, industrial site of a greenhouse gas project implemented under a programme development approach, the project developer shall submit an updated project design document for the greenhouse gas project.

22. If the approved QGCP methodology applied by a GHG project implemented under a programme development approach is not suitable for the proposed new facilities, land, industrial sites, then they cannot be included in the combined project.

23. The project design document for a greenhouse gas project implemented under a programme approach to development determines the territorial and temporal boundaries for assessing greenhouse gas emissions, removals/removals, a baseline scenario and a monitoring plan for the entire project as a whole.

24. The developer (initiator) of the project includes in the project design document of the project on greenhouse gases, implemented on the terms of the programme approach to development, a description of the project management system indicating:

- the reasons why all the proposed project participants, facilities, land plots, industrial sites could not be included in the initial approval of the design documentation for the greenhouse gas project;
- clear distribution of roles and responsibilities of personnel involved in the process of accession of new facilities, land plots, industrial sites;
- criteria that will be applied to attract new facilities, land plots, industrial sites;
- procedures to avoid double counting so that no facility, land, industrial site is or will be registered with the QGCP as part of another project;
- the process of control of records and documentation for each object, land plot, industrial site provided to the validator and verifier.



25. All facilities, land plots, industrial sites participating in a greenhouse gas project with a programme development approach must:

- comply with all project requirements defined by the QGCP Standard and the applicable approved QGCP methodology.
- be a registered project developer no later than 5 years after the single project start date;
- be available to visit the site during the inspection and any subsequent inspection when a site visit is required;
- be described in a single GHG project summary project document with a programme development approach, which is considered to be a supplement to the GHG project design document;
- provide information required for the GHG report during audits by the verification body;
- consider environmental impacts if such an analysis has not been carried out for the entire project with a programme approach to development and it applies equally to each object, land plot, industrial site of the project;
- conduct consultations with affected communities, unless comments have been requested for the entire project with a programme development approach and apply equally to each site.

26. If a GHG project is implemented under a programme approach to development, the developer (initiator) of the project develops and submits to the QGCP, together with the project design document for the GHG project, a consolidated project document that includes the following information:

- well-defined territorial boundaries to identify each object, land plot, industrial site of the project;
- description of project activities carried out at the facility, land plot, industrial site;
- contact details of the organization/individual responsible for the operation of each facility, land plot, industrial site;
- date of commencement of project activities for the object, land plot, industrial site of the project and confirmation that it does not precede or will not precede the single date of commencement of the project;
- information on how an object, land plot, industrial site complies with the requirements for projects of the QGCP Standard and the applicable approved QGCP methodology;
- calculation of greenhouse gas baselines and estimated reductions in emissions, absorption/removal of greenhouse gases for each facility, land plot, industrial site of the project.



Annex 2. Requirements for demonstration of compliance with the criteria of additionality based on a three-level test

The QGCP establishes requirements for demonstration against the additionality criteria, aimed at ensuring that the certified reductions in emissions, removals/removals of greenhouse gases exceed the reductions in emissions, removals/removals of greenhouse gases that would occur in accordance with the requirements of the current legislation of the Republic of Kazakhstan, the application of measures incentives on the carbon market.

1. Developers (proponents) of GHG projects must demonstrate to the QGCP that the certifiable reductions in emissions, increases in greenhouse gas absorption/removal exceed their usual level as a result of project activities.
2. An additionality test is established for a GHG project based on:
 - exceeding the performance standard defined in the approved QGCP methodology;
 - carrying out a three-level test for compliance with the additionality criteria.

Three-level test for compliance with the criteria of additionality

This three-tier test helps determine whether the reduction in greenhouse gas emissions exceeds its normal level for a greenhouse gas project. This does not mean that the project activity does not bring financial or other benefits, in addition to reducing greenhouse gas emissions; the purpose of the test is to determine whether the reduction in emissions, increase in greenhouse gas absorption/removal was a significant indicator.

The test requires projects to demonstrate that they exceed applicable and currently applied laws and regulations; exceed the generally accepted practice in the relevant industry sector and geographic region; and face at least one of three barriers to implementation (financial, technological or institutional).

QGCP recognizes a GHG project as having passed the three-tier additionality test if it passes the requirements to exceed legal requirements, standard business conduct, and overcomes at least one of the three barriers to project implementation.

Project developers can use the table below to self-assess compliance with the additionality criteria.

EXCEEDING LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

Is there a law, a by-law, in force at the time of the start of the project, which regulates the project activity or provides for the reduction of emissions, increase in the absorption / removal of greenhouse gases from the project activity?

YES = FAIL NO = PASS

EXCEEDING STANDARD BUSINESS SCENARIO

Is this project activity, technology or practice widespread in the relevant region or sector?



	YES = FAIL NO = PASS
OVERCOMING ONE OF THE IMPLEMENTATION BARRIERS	CHOOSE ONE OF THREE:
Financial Barriers	Does the GHG project face financial barriers that can be overcome by offsetting emission reductions, increased GHG absorption/removal, or is carbon financing expected to drive project implementation? Are carbon market incentives a core element of project implementation or a key element in maintaining the economic viability of a project once it has been implemented? YES = PASS NO = FAIL
Technological	Does the project face significant technology barriers, such as R&D risk, unresolved market gaps, lack of trained personnel and supporting infrastructure to implement technology, or lack of knowledge of practices, and are carbon market incentives a key element in overcoming these barriers? YES = PASS NO = FAIL
Institutional	Does the project face significant organizational, cultural or social barriers to its implementation. Is stimulating the carbon market a key element in overcoming these barriers? YES = PASS NO = FAIL