

# The Qazaq Green Certification Program Qazaq Green Certificate

## Qazaq Green Certification Program standard

### Requirements for the impacts of a greenhouse gas project on the environment and society Version 1.0

#### Introduction

1. These requirements are developed for application within the framework of the Qazaq Green Certification Program standard (hereinafter referred to as the QGCP Standard) and apply to the stages of development of project design document for a greenhouse gas project.
2. Requirements for environmental and social impacts apply to all greenhouse gas projects implemented in accordance with the QGCP Standard.
3. Greenhouse gas projects implemented in accordance with the QGCP Standard must have positive impacts on the environment and society, contribute to the achievement of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
4. Greenhouse gas projects implemented in accordance with the QGCP Standard should be guided by best practices in the field of environmental protection, protection of the rights and interests of society in order to:
  - ensure that projects do not cause harm and are carried out in compliance with the rules and regulations of international law, national and local laws;
  - identify risks and impacts on the environment and society, as well as the contribution of the project to achieving sustainable development;
  - provide information on how negative impacts on the environment and society will be prevented, reduced, mitigated or compensated, and how appropriate mechanisms will be monitored, managed and applied;
  - ensure that the rights of affected communities and other stakeholders are recognized and fully and effectively involved and consulted;
  - Develop and maintain mechanisms for ongoing communication and grievance redress, as well as the ability of affected communities to benefit from the project.

5. The QGCP standard does not require a mandatory environmental impact assessment of greenhouse gas projects, unless it is provided for by the environmental legislation of the Republic of Kazakhstan or the requirements of other organizations, in particular international, foreign, Kazakh financial institutions. At the same time, QGCP does not certify greenhouse gas reductions for projects that do not comply with mandatory international and Kazakh environmental assessment requirements.

6. Greenhouse gas project developers should include in their project design document descriptions of the project's impact on the environment and society, including the welfare of affected communities, based on their assessment.

7. Information on environmental and social impacts referred to in paragraph 6 should include:

1. description of the activities of the project on greenhouse gases and the geographical region of its implementation;
2. review of applicable legislation, rules and procedures and government agencies that regulate the relevant requirements;
3. a description of how the public concerned (affected communities and other stakeholders) is identified, if necessary, including a plan for conducting public consultations and information;
4. information on the risks and environmental impacts of the greenhouse gas project, including factors such as air quality, water quality, soil quality, waste management, conservation of flora and fauna, natural habitats, climate mitigation and adaptation to change climate, etc.;
5. a brief description of the process for identifying risks/impacts on affected communities;
6. information on the risks and impacts of the greenhouse gas project on society, including factors such as tenure and use of land and natural resources, access to natural resources, food security, land and other conflicts, economic development and jobs, cultural heritage, resettlement of people, etc.

8. The risks and impacts of greenhouse gas projects on the environment and society can be identified, assessed and managed by project developers through appropriate voluntary mechanisms and standards, including international standards mechanisms such as the World Bank Environmental and Social Safeguard Statements, the Climate Alliance Standard Community and Biodiversity (CCBA), Social Carbon Standard for Assessing, Monitoring and Reporting Environmental and Community Impacts.

9. Information about the risks and environmental impacts of a greenhouse gas project is based on the results of their assessment, which should:



- identify each type of risk/impact;
- classify the given risk/impact as positive, negative or neutral and justify the risk category;
- describe how any negative impact will be prevented, reduced, mitigated or offset;
- describe in detail how risks and impacts will be monitored, how often and by whom;
- describe how the positive impact contributes to the achievement of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

10. Information about the risks and impacts of a greenhouse gas project on society is based on the results of their assessment, which should:

- identify each risk/impact;
- classify risks/impacts as positive, negative or neutral and justify the risk category;
- provide details of the stakeholder consultation process (e.g. minutes of meetings, list of participants), including documentation of stakeholder comments and suggestions and how they are taken into account;
- provide evidence of the absence of resettlement of people (voluntary or involuntary) as a result of the project, if possible;
- describe how any negative impacts of the project will be prevented, mitigated, mitigated or offset;
- describe in detail how risks/impacts will be monitored, how often and by whom;
- describe a mechanism for ongoing communication with affected communities and grievance redress mechanisms, if possible;
- describe how the positive impact contributes to the achievement of the sustainable development goals.

11. Developers of projects on greenhouse gases indicate in the reports on greenhouse gases all negative impacts on the environment and society or statements received by them about the negative impact on the environment and society, as well as appropriate measures to prevent, reduce, mitigate or compensate for these negative impacts. They also confirm that as a result of the project implementation, negative impacts on the environment and society were not identified or eliminated.

12. QGCP has the right to refuse registration of a greenhouse gas project, certification of greenhouse gas emission reductions, issuance of certified greenhouse gas emission reductions, if negative impacts on the environment and society are identified that cannot be eliminated or compensated, or represent a potential significant risk of future negative impact on the environment and society.