



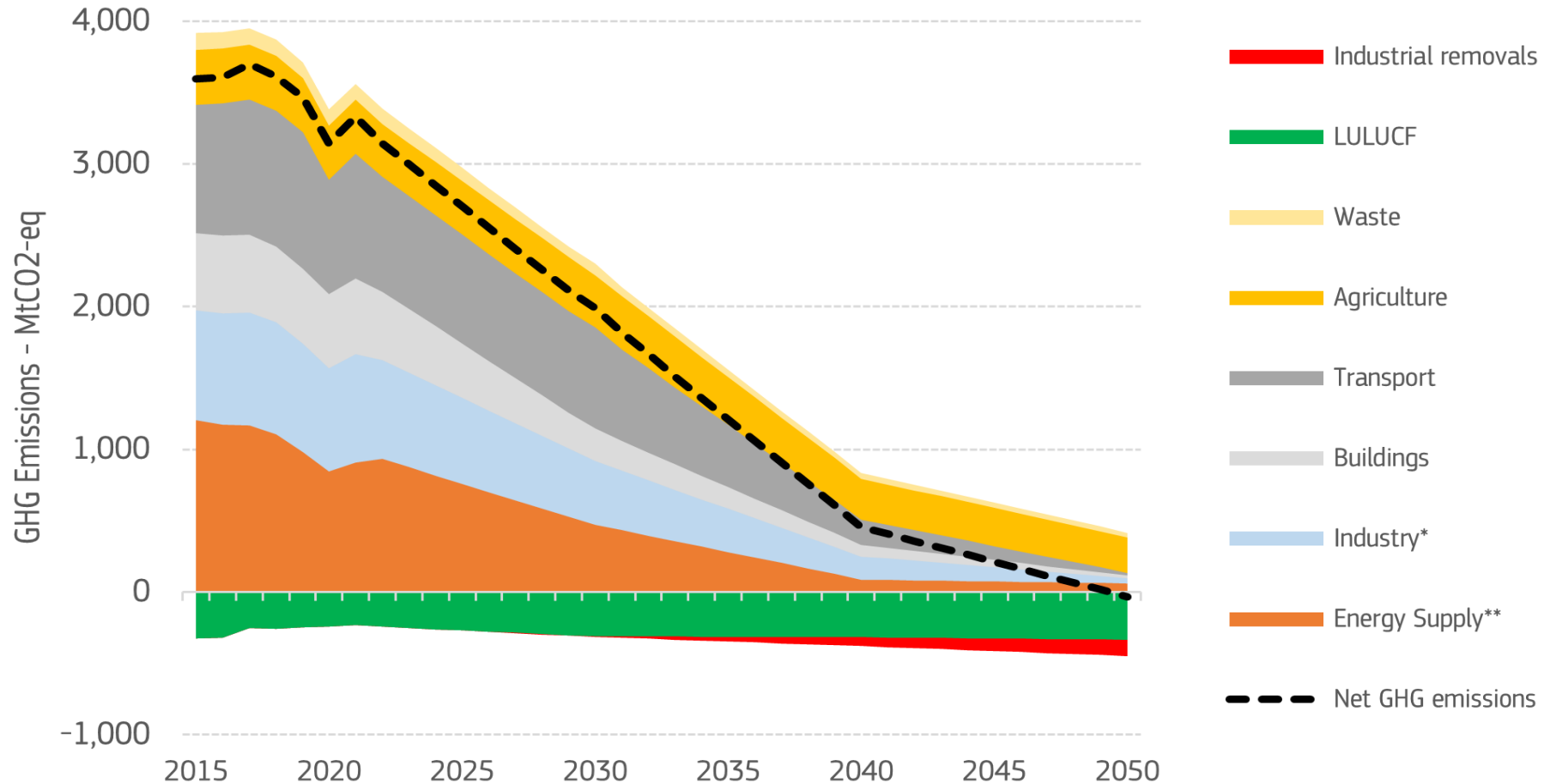
EU policy on carbon removals

Giulio Volpi, European Commission

DG CLIMA, Unit C3 Carbon Removals and Land Economy

Pathway to EU climate neutrality by 2050

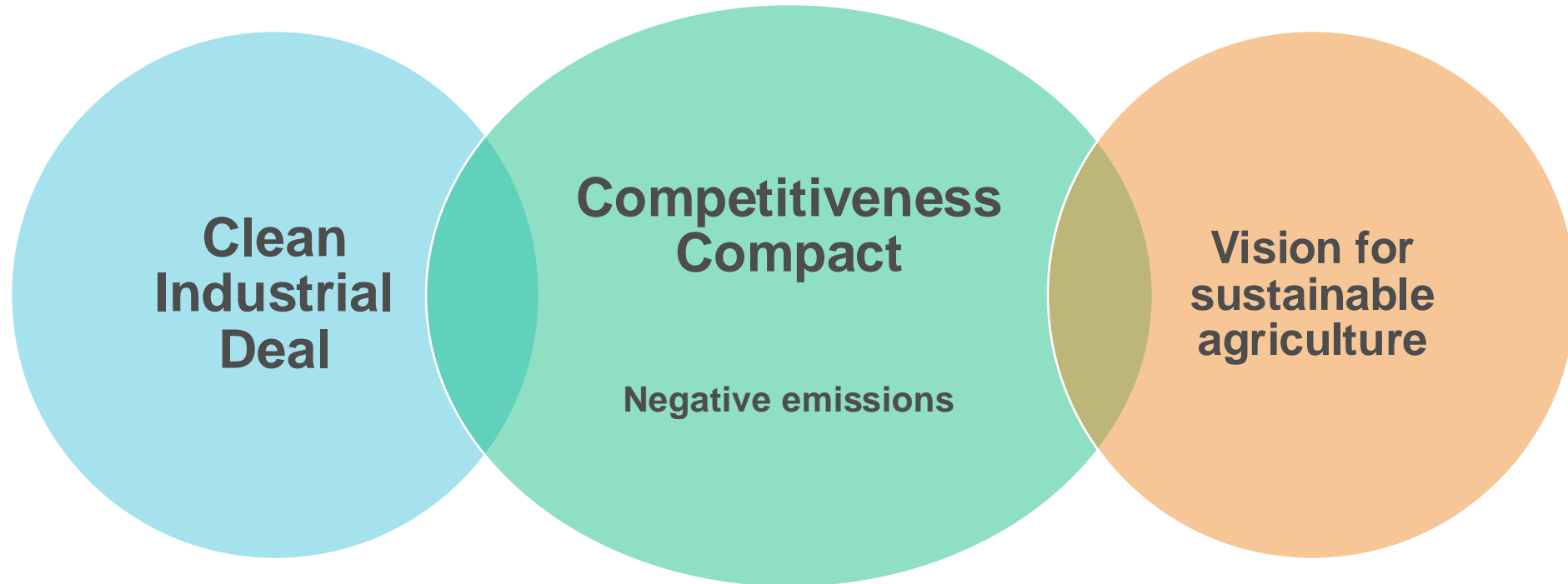
Historical and projected sectoral greenhouse gas emissions in the period 2015-2050



*Excluding non-BECCS industrial removals

**Including bioenergy with carbon capture and storage (BECCS)

Three key new EU policy strategies



Regulation on Carbon Removals and Carbon Farming (CRCF) (EU)2024/301

CRCF criteria

- QU.A.L.I.TY**
criteria
- QUantification
 - Additionality
 - Liability
 - Sustainabil-**ITY**

- Third-party**
verification
criteria
- Certification schemes
 - Certification **bodies**
 - CRCF **Registry**

Operationalization of CRCF criteria

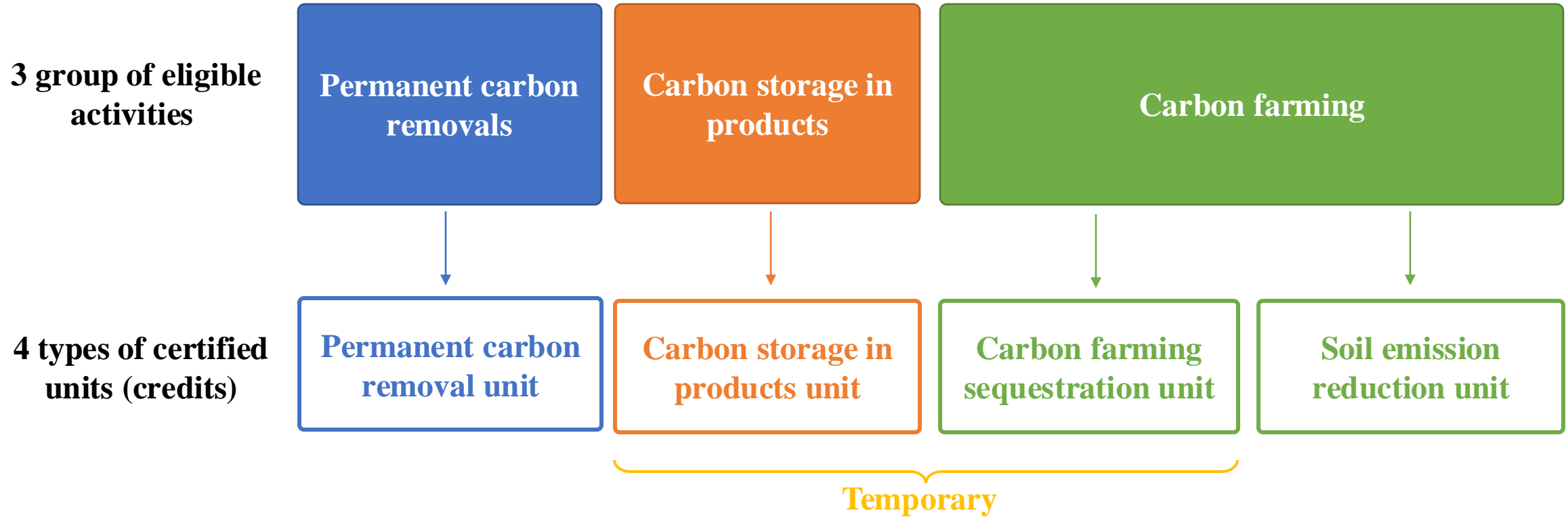
EU Certification Methodologies

EU Delegated Acts adopted by COM, previous consultation with EU Expert Group on Carbon Removals

CRCF Verification Rules

EU implementing act proposed by COM, approved by the EU Climate Change Committee

Scope of the CRCF Regulation



How does CRCF work?

- Use certified units for **climate claims**
- Accredit & control **certification bodies**
- Carry out **certification & re-certification audits**
- Issue **certificates** of compliance

Buyers
(public or private)

National accreditation bodies

Certification bodies (auditors)



Commission

Certification schemes

Operators

Approves

Appoint & supervise

Oversee certification

Audit

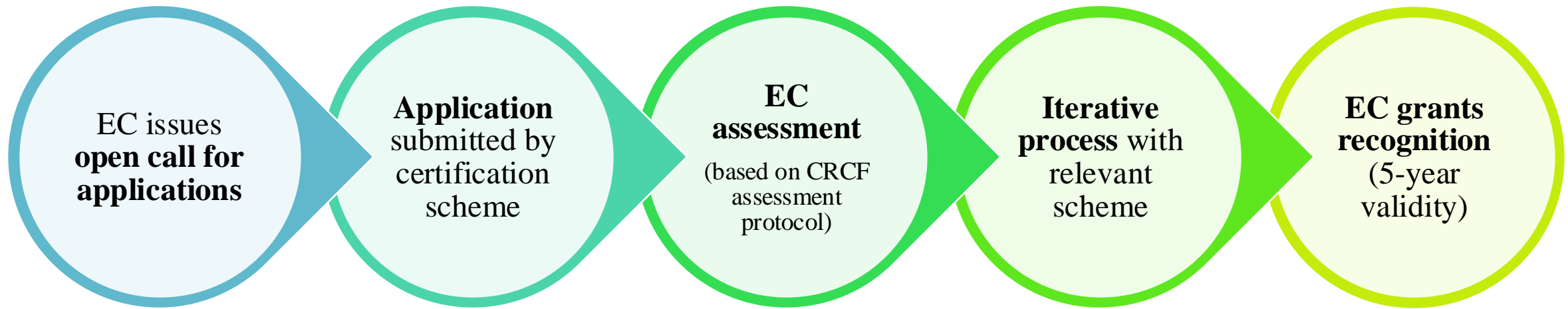
- Adopts **certification methodologies**, supported by expert group
- **Recognises certification schemes** (e.g. public or private entities tasked to implement/control the certification process)
- By 2028: manages **CRCF Registry**

- Manage the **scheme** (including internal monitoring)
- Appoint and supervise **certification bodies**
- Register **activities**
- Manages certification **registries**
- Issue certified **units**

- Carry out **the carbon removal activity**
- **Monitor and report** compliance with the quality criteria and related EU certification methodologies
- Owns the **certified units**

Process for the EU recognition of CRCF certification schemes

(indicative, based on the Renewable Energy Directive system*)



* See DG ENER webpage on voluntary schemes under the EU renewable Energy Directive https://energy.ec.europa.eu/topics/renewable-energy/bioenergy/voluntary-schemes_en

Service study VERTA

Rules on CRCF verification and registries - technical assistance

December 2023- February 2025

1

Review and analysis of current initiatives and their approaches/rules

- 1.1 Technical rules on the verification and certification process
- 1.2 Technical rules on the operation of certification schemes
- 1.3 Technical rules on the operation of certification registries

2

Develop technical options papers

- 2.1 Technical options papers
- 2.2 Scoping paper for a Union registry for carbon removals

3

Consultation of relevant stakeholders and experts

- 3.1 Stakeholder workshop
- 3.2 Online public consultation
- 3.3 Reporting Stakeholder views

4

Final recommendations



https://climate.ec.europa.eu/news-your-voice/events/verta-webinar-recommendations-third-party-verification-rules-under-crcf-regulation-2025-02-13_en

Final report on:
Verification rules under the CRCF Regulation

**CRCF VERification Technical Assistance
(VERTA project)**

Service request 2023/07
Framework reference: CLIMA.A4/FRA/2019/0011

Guidehouse
February 2025



Final report on:
Scoping of the CRCF registry and minimum requirements for certification scheme registries

**CRCF VERification Technical Assistance
(VERTA project)**

Service request 2023/07
Framework reference: CLIMA.A4/FRA/2019/0011

Guidehouse
February 2025

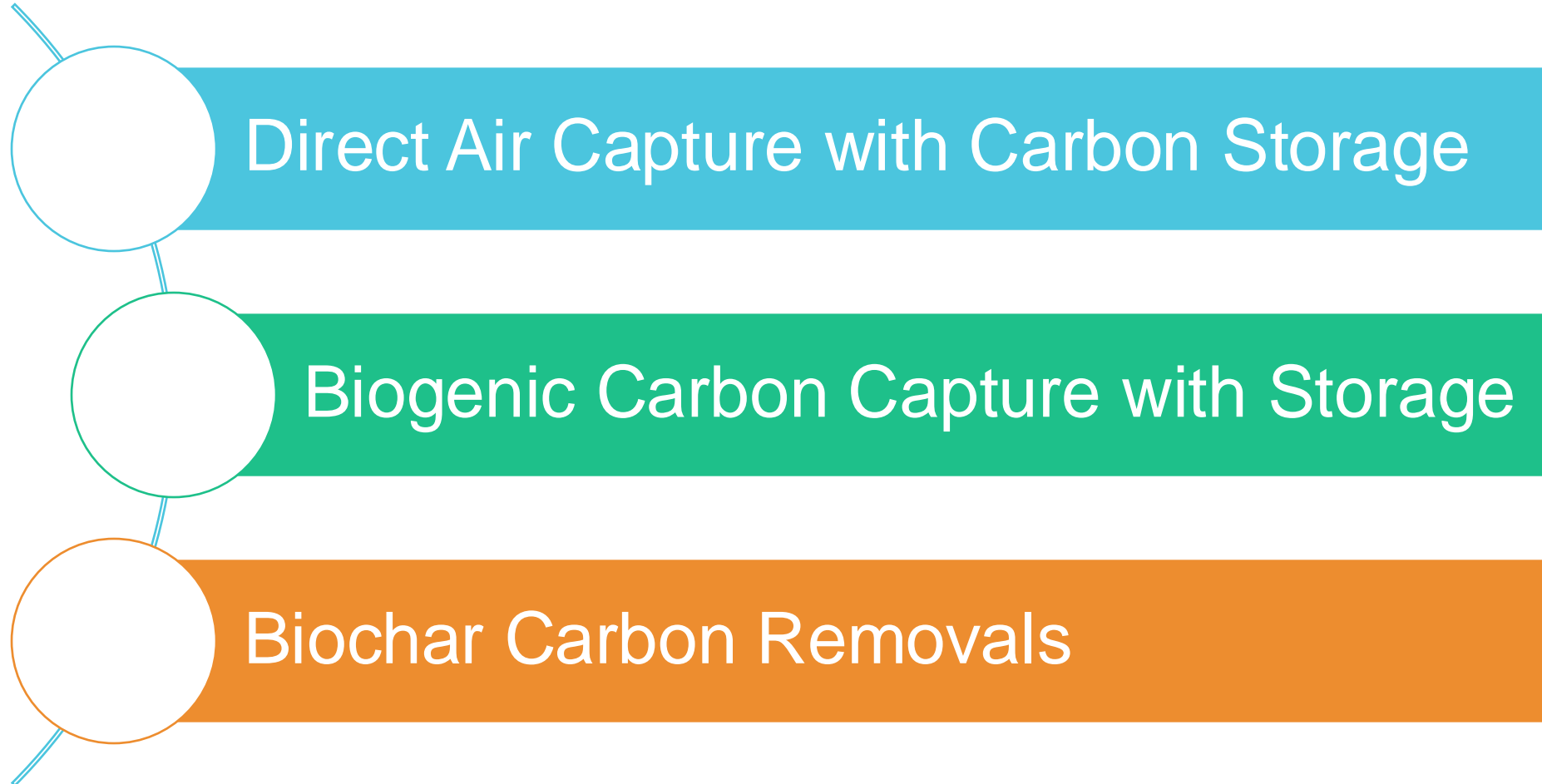


Implementing Act on third party verification under CRCF – indicative timetable*



* https://commission.europa.eu/law/law-making-process/adopting-eu-law/implementing-and-delegated-acts_en

CRCF delegated Act on permanent carbon removals



Key issues identified from EG feedback

Eligibility

New bioenergy plants

Quantification

Double counting with ETS, ILUC for agricultural feedstocks, neutrality of forest biomass

Additionality

No major issue reported

Permanent Storage

Demonstrating the permanence of storage and monitoring requirement for biochar

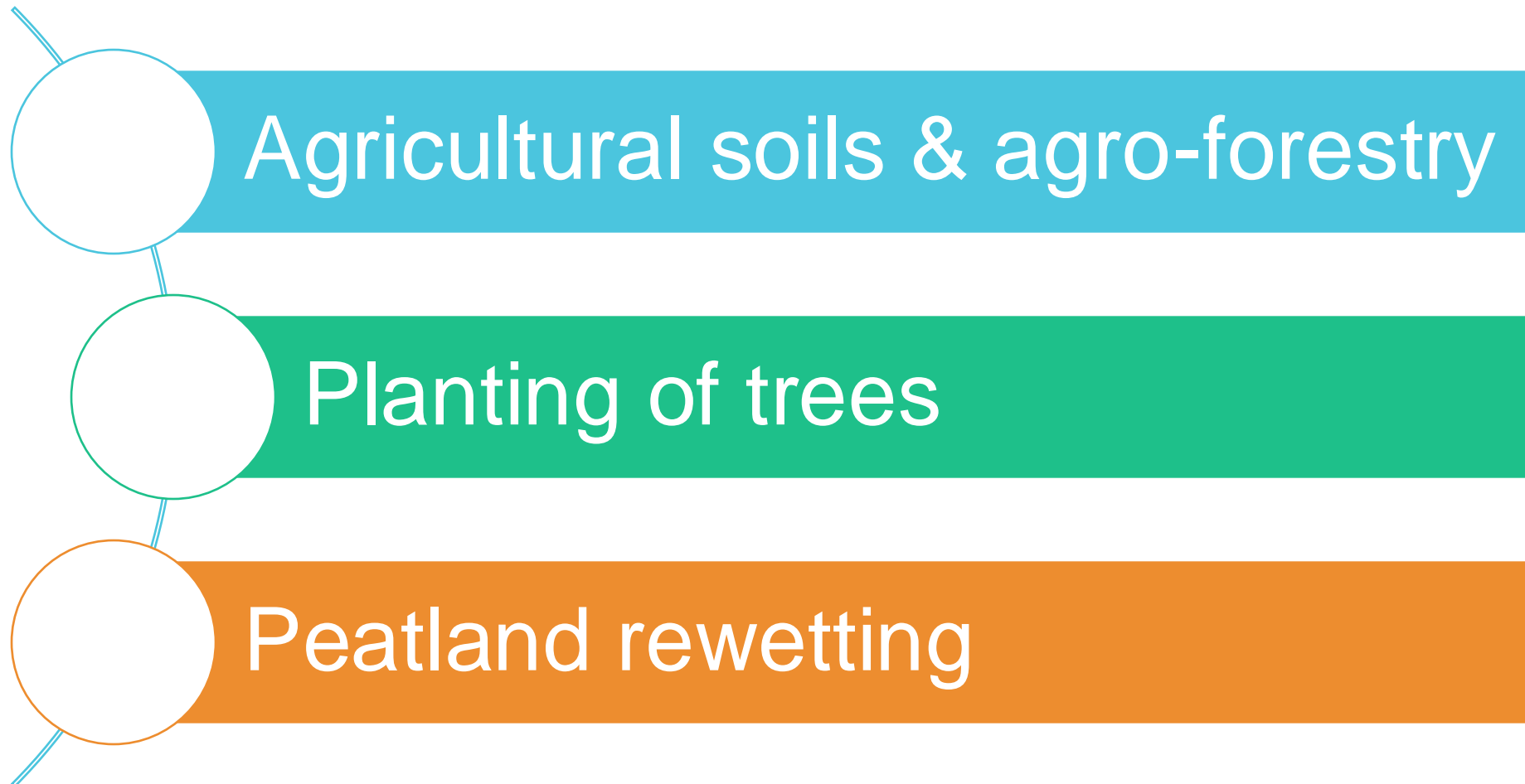
Sustainability

Sustainability of biomass

Indicative timetable for CRCF delegated Act on permanent carbon removals – 2025



CRCF delegated Act on carbon farming



Key issues identified from EG feedback

Eligibility

Farm vs parcel boundaries
Planting trees on cropland/grassland

Quantification

Baselines
Soil carbon pool when planting trees

Additionality

Ongoing work on additionality tests and combined financing

Liability

Ongoing work on risk assessment tool to define size of the buffer

Sustainability

Demonstration of co-benefits

Indicative timetable for CRCF delegated Act on carbon farming – 2025

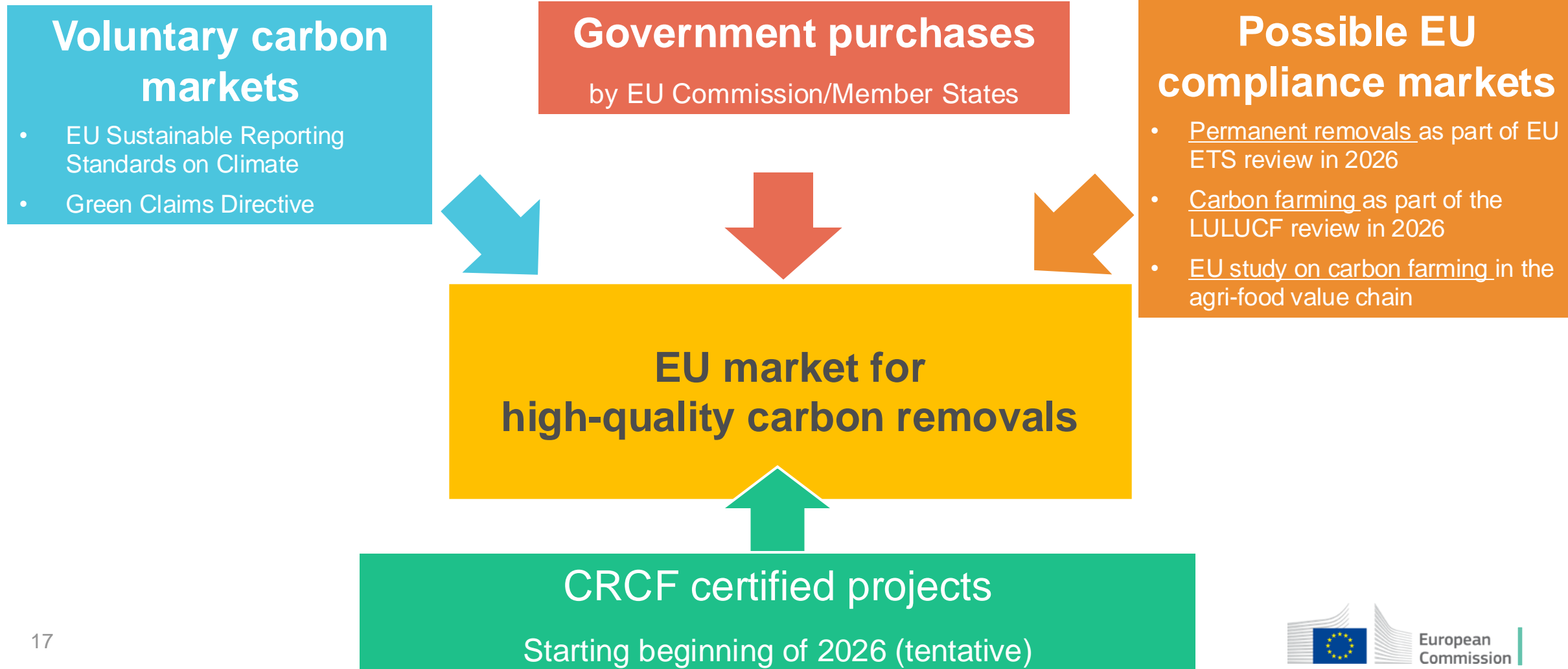


8/5: Agri
13/5: Peatland
15/5: Planting trees
Online / webstreamed
9:30-12:30

In parallel: working on methodologies for

- *Sustainable Forest Management*
- *Livestock management*

Towards an EU market for carbon removals



https://climate.ec.europa.eu/eu-action/carbon-removals-and-carbon-farming_en

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EU Expert Group on carbon removals

Carbon farming in the agri-food value chain

Stay Informed

[Sign up to our dedicated newsletter](#) to receive regular updates on carbon removals and carbon farming.

Carbon Removals and Carbon Farming in a nutshell



Carbon removals

Innovative approaches to capturing CO₂, directly from the atmosphere and from biogenic emission sources, before storing it in reservoirs such as geological formations, forests, soil or products for the long term.



Carbon farming

Climate-friendly practices implemented by farmers and foresters to enhance carbon sequestration and storage in forests and soils, as well as reduce greenhouse gas emissions from soils.

EU Carbon Removals and Carbon Farming Certification (CRCF) Regulation

The [Carbon Removals and Carbon Farming \(CRCF\) Regulation](#) (EU/2024/3012) was published in the Official Journal of the EU on 6 December 2024, creating the first EU-wide voluntary framework for certifying carbon removals, carbon farming and carbon storage in products across Europe. By establishing EU quality criteria and laying down monitoring and reporting processes, the CRCF

More information:

- [DG CLIMA website on Carbon Removals and Carbon Farming](#)
- CRCF Regulation: [pdf](#)
- Frequently Asked Questions on CRCF: [a8abe1c4-a3c6-4c94-be0e-4b76f7fd0308_en \(europa.eu\)](#)
- Expert Group on Carbon Removals: [Carbon Removals and Carbon Farming - European Commission](#)
- EU Implementing Acts: [https://commission.europa.eu/law/law-making-process/adopting-eu-law/implementing-and-delegated-acts_en](#)
- Any questions? Write to: CLIMA-CR-EXPERTGROUP at ec.europa.eu

Thank you

Contact: Giulio.volpi@ec.europa.eu



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