Criteria 4 Returns Carbon Quick Scan

The slides outline the 4R selection criteria for rapid and preliminary carbon feasibility assessment in landscapes, determining whether it merits progression to the formal feasibility phase.

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ACCELERATING LANDSCAPE **REGENERATION AT SCALE**

Description and instructions

- The Carbon Quick Scan is a qualitative exercise to gain insight into the attractiveness of different carbon project opportunities.
- It is used before conducting a detailed feasibility assessment. The Carbon Quick Scan includes eight criteria important for the successful development of carbon projects. However, criteria can be extended individually; if, for example, very specific criteria need to be considered, they can be added to the list and examined further.
- One can use the table format as a template and fill in the assessment of the criteria as bullet points or text.
- The final scoring of the opportunity is done by assigning one of three levels to each criteria: low, medium, high. Let's assume that high/mid/low are ranks, where high is the highest rank, and low is the lowest rank. We can now calculate the mode and the median of the ranked data series.
- For our application, it is better to choose the median. We do the following:
    1. Assign numbers to the ranks (i.e., low = 1, mid = 2; high = 3).
    2. Order the data in ranks (e.g., 11223333).
    3. Rank the data and select the number at the mid-point. In the case of 8 criteria, the mid-point is the average of values at positions 4 and 5 (i.e., if the ranked data is '1 1 1 2 3 3 3 3' the median is 2.5).

<u>Determining the end score</u>:

If median <1.5, the end score is 'low';
If median >=1.5 and <2.5, the end score is 'mid';
If median >=2.5, the end score is 'high'.

Criteria	Description	score
Host country acceptance	Enabling national carbon trading policy: Check if country does not exclude voluntary carbon markets	
Land tenure & use rights	The site has clear policy and agreements on land tenure and use rights: - Who owns and who uses the land? - Are these formally agreed? - Are there conflicts about land tenure & use rights? - Are carbon rights defined (ownership of carbon)?	
Stakeholder acceptance	Description of relevant actors and their position in relation to the project - Are actors receptive to work with us? - Can we show added value to their interests? How? - Are there partner organizations we can work with?	
Suitable project proponent	Capacity to initiate, design, implement and maintain carbon project - Is there a known proponent already or easy to find an interested proponent to drive the project?	

Criteria	Description	score
Carbon Potential	Quantify the carbon impact of the project (project - baseline scenario). Information required: - Size of the project area (ha) - Vegetation types, status, area and distribution (include vegetation map) - Carbon stocks in the vegetation types - Anthropogenic threats and drivers of degradation/deforestation - Historical deforestation and forest degradation rates - Project interventions	
Additionality	When investigating additionality in a carbon project, you want to ensure that the emissions reductions or removals claimed wouldn't have occurred without the project. Here are some questions to ask: What would have happened in the absence of the project? Is there evidence to support the claim that the project is additional to business-as-usual activities? Does the project use technologies that are not already standard in the industry or region? Are there technological advancements or innovations involved in the project? Would the project be economically viable without revenue from carbon credits? How much of the project's funding is dependent on carbon credit revenue? Were there financial barriers that the carbon finance helped overcome? Does the project comply with existing regulations or standards, or does it go beyond them? Are there any regulatory requirements that necessitated the implementation of the project? Would the project have happened anyway due to market forces or consumer demand?	
Permanence	How can permanence of the project be guaranteed? Will the project be able to successfully manage the drivers of land conversion & degradation?	
Business case is satisfactory	Costs (interventions, transactions with standards, MRV) – benefits (carbon revenues) analysis - Are the net profits of the project positive (higher revenues than costs)? - If needed, can additional sources of funding be identified?	

Scoring carbon project opportunities

Score: Low, Medium, High	Description
Low	The landscape is rated not suitable as a carbon finance landscape at this point
Medium	The landscape has some potential as a carbon financing learning landscape, but we have more concerns than certainty regarding the criteria or the landscape is outright rated unsuitable for some key criteria we consider critical.
High	Suitable and we recommend selecting this landscape for further exploration and testing of carbon financing