

Permanent Carbon Removals

Application Guidelines for Planet2050's Request for Proposals (RFP) – July 2025

Timeline

Call Deadline: **July 22nd, 2025.**

Eligible Project Types

For the purposes of this RFP, Planet2050 is interested in technology-based and hybrid Carbon Dioxide Removal (CDR) approaches - with robust social and environmental safeguards that can store carbon dioxide on a permanent timescale (100 years or beyond).

These include (but not limited to):

- Biochar Carbon Removals
- Enhanced-Rock Weathering (ERW)
- Bioenergy with Carbon Capture and Storage (BECCS)
- Bio-oil Burial (Geological Storage)
- Biomass Burial (Direct Storage)
- Carbonated materials (e.g. construction)
- Other Mineralization types (in-situ, microbial, mine tailings..)

If your project offers a novel, scalable, and verifiable method for permanent carbon removal, we encourage you to apply, even if it falls outside these specific categories.

While this RFP is focusing on Permanent Removals, we invite project developers in other work areas to apply through the same Onboarding Form for consideration on a rolling basis.

Investment Terms

- Single investments up to 2M€ per single project
- Early-stage projects can apply for funding of initial phases (feasibility, certification preparation, etc)
- 3-5 projects to be selected in September-October, 2025
- Pre-financing based on carbon streaming or forward agreements, depending on the financing requirement and conditions. Equity investment can be considered
- Pre-financing usually follows defined milestones
- Direct contracting with Planet2050 as financing partner
- Co-investment alongside other partners is welcome

Eligibility Criteria

Project Stage	• Early-stage projects between their concept and certification phases or • Projects certified aiming to scale and expand their footprint in existing or new countries • All project sizes can be generally considered
First Issuance	• Projects that can issue their first credits within 6 to 24 months
Geography	• There is a clear path and policy in your country of activity regarding carbon rights and international agreements • Your country is not part of the <u>EU sanctioned countries</u>¹ • Projects in countries flagged for grave human rights issues or political instability must demonstrate a credible mitigation strategy, and as such, the jurisdictions will be subject to enhanced risk screening and oversight
Permanence	• Proven at least 100+ years
Eligible Standards	• ICROA-accredited standards²: Verra, Gold Standard, Isometric, Puro.Earth, Carbon Standard International, Riverse, Global Carbon Council • Other standards if they have applicable, recognized CDR methodologies
TRL	• Technology Readiness Level at least 7 (see <u>reference</u>): • It means that at least a prototype is demonstrated in an operational environment • It excludes Direct Air Capture and certain CDR methods still at R&D stage
Transparency	• Adherence to robust digital Monitoring, Reporting and Verification • Willingness to innovate with advanced data integrations and verification
Sustainable sourcing and end-use (matrix) safety	• Ensure compliance and sustainability in sourcing of project inputs (e.g. biomass³, minerals) that aligns with domestic and international best practices (e.g. EU-RED II) • Additionally, all materials must be rigorously screened to ensure they do not pose environmental, agronomic, or human health risks in their intended end-use applications
Implementation model	• Direct relationship to project developers with no or less intermediaries are favored
Abatement cost	• Clear path to scale and optimize cost towards €100 / tCO₂e and below

1. Countries subject to comprehensive EU sanctions, identified for weak governance, or officially designated as high-risk for financial crimes by the European Commission and the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) will be excluded by default. Jurisdictions under sectoral sanctions and increased monitoring will be subject to a case-by-case review to determine the extent of restriction or potential for engagement.

2. Including conditionally endorsed independent programs.

3. For Biochar projects, adherence to sustainable biomass sourcing guidelines from Positive list of permissible biomasses is the minimum requirement.

Eligibility Criteria

Compliance	• Adherence to highest standards of integrity, health and safety, legality⁴, and respect of the environment • demonstrate strong governance, transparent data and chain-of-custody systems • Compliance with local and international regulations and standards (wherever applicable) including third-party verifications • Deliver high-integrity climate impact through additionality, permanence, and safeguards against double counting and reversal • Ensure inclusive community engagement, including fair benefit sharing, respect of Indigenous rights and adherence to FPIC principles when applicable
Documentation	• We invite you to share relevant presentations and pitch documents through the Form upload section as they can support contextual understanding • Short-listed projects will be required to submit proper documentation subject to confidentiality agreement in the second phase

4. This includes compliance with relevant local environmental regulations, soil safety thresholds, and any applicable regional or national standards governing the use of such materials.

Application Steps

- 1 Review the RFP Application Guidelines (this document):** ensure you are well prepared and have understood the eligibility criteria.
- 2 Submit Initial questionnaire online (by July 22nd, 2025):** complete the online Project Onboarding Form. Estimated time: 5-15 minutes. About 30 questions, 50% mandatory. We value complete submissions but understand early-stage projects cannot yet have all answers.
- 3 Initial Screening and Second round (August, 2025):** pre-approved project developers will be invited to a second round of assessment in August 2025, which will include sharing additional data, signing terms & conditions as well as Confidentiality agreements.
- 4 Evaluation & Selection:** Planet2050 will rigorously evaluate all submissions based on eligibility and evaluation criteria outlined in this document.
- 5 Invitation to Pitch & Team Connect:** all project applicants will be informed of the status. Shortlisted ones will be invited to present their project directly to the Planet2050 team. This is a chance to pitch your solution, connect with our team, and get a feel of our shared vision and culture.
- 6 Partnership & Pre-Financing (October, 2025):** successful applicants will enter into agreement with Planet2050 in September-October 2025, initiating the pre-financing phase and project development.

Evaluation Criteria

Planet2050 evaluates project submissions through three core Framework Elements — *Impact Integrity, Operational Viability and Governance*.

They build on and align with globally recognized frameworks, including the **Core Carbon Principles (CCPs)** of the **Integrity Council for the Voluntary Carbon Market (ICVCM)** and the **EU Carbon Removal Certification Framework (CRCF)**'s Quantification, Additionality, Long-term storage, and Sustainability (QU.A.L.ITY) guidelines.

We emphasize criteria such as additionality, Permanence, Quantification and MRV, Governance, Co-benefits and Social safeguards. Projects must also demonstrate compliance with applicable national and international regulations and contribute to durable, high-integrity climate outcomes.

Planet2050 conducts a **preliminary assessment** for early-stage projects because, by their very nature, these initiatives are not yet fully developed and cannot provide complete answers to all standard assessment criteria.

#1: Impact Integrity

Assesses scientific robustness, environmental safeguards, and alignment with high-integrity carbon crediting standards:

- **Permanence:** carbon storage duration, risk mitigation mechanisms (e.g. buffer pools, insurance), post-crediting monitoring. Projects must provide plans for long-term liability provisions.
- **Additionality:** robust demonstration of financial and regulatory additionality, ensuring the activity exceeds legal baselines and would not proceed without carbon finance.
- **Quantification & MRV:** use of conservative, peer-reviewed quantification methodologies, full lifecycle GHG accounting, and third-party verification against recognized standards. Leakage mitigation strategies must be outlined and quantified. MRV systems must include QA/QC protocols, comprehensive indicators, and integration of technology wherever possible and deemed necessary.
- **Beyond Carbon Impacts:** environmental co-benefits (biodiversity, water, soil) and social safeguards (benefit-sharing, etc), with reference to SDG alignment. Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) where required. Ensuring culturally appropriate engagement, ongoing consent, recognition of customary rights along with transparent and equitable benefit-sharing mechanisms that are clearly documented and independently auditable.
- **Systemic Integrity:** double counting safeguards, alignment with long-term net-zero goals, and contribution to innovation and field-wide learning.

#2: Operational Viability

Examines project economics, scalability, and supply chain resilience:

- **Financials:** financial viability through clear projections and KPIs (IRR, NPV..), credible long-term financial plans and transparency. Carbon pricing assumptions explained. Resilience to market fluctuations, including exposure to foreign exchange risks and potential capital controls in the host country. Incorporate post-crediting maintenance plans.
- **Scale-Up Potential:** expand impact via a clear and credible growth trajectory. Plans for modular scaling, geographic replication, or integration with national climate programs. Demonstrated understanding of economies of scale, supply chain model, logistics, and infrastructure feasibility is essential. Evidence of strategic partnerships supporting future expansion is expected.

#3: Governance

Assesses institutional capacity, contextual fit, and procedural transparency:

- **Robustness:** alignment with recognized crediting programs (ICROA-accredited, ICVCM-aligned)
- **Legal & Ownership Framework:** clear legal standing and regulatory compliance, evidenced by required permits (wherever applicable), licenses, and environmental assessments (e.g., EIA). Secure carbon rights ownership and legal tenure or access to land, water, biomass or mineral resources must be clearly documented. Contracts must define roles, responsibilities, financial terms, risk allocation, and dispute resolution mechanisms.

- **Organizational Capacity:** expert team in place with possible external advisers, documented organizational hierarchy, proven legal, technical, and social domains capacity. Past experience in climate science, carbon or conservation project development is valued. Internal control systems must ensure operational oversight, fraud, anti-money laundering and bribe prevention, and procurement integrity.
- **Risk & Adaptive Management:** risk register addressing technical, financial, legal, environmental, climate-related risks and geopolitical risks—including security threats, political violence, carbon credit delivery risks, and potential credit shortfalls. Risk mitigation strategies and contingency plans must be specific and actionable.
- **Supporting policy environment:** existing of favorable, positive policies in the country of implementation. Letters of recognition or agreements with public institutions. A supportive policy environment, clear legal frameworks (e.g., for land use and CO₂ storage), and a stable social context are crucial for long-term success.

Other Criteria

- **Novelty approach:** projects innovating in their approach to project or technology design in existing pathways or developing new ones.
- **Transformative potential through Planet2050's partnership:** we pay attention to the transformative, additional potential of Planet2050's participation as a decision criteria.
- **Possible paths for inseting:** projects having other revenue streams and relations to buyers in value chains related to crops, mineral resources, construction materials, biochar products.

Submission Form

Please sign-up and fill out the [Onboarding Form](#).

You can prepare by looking into the list of questions in the [Form snapshot](#).

Disclaimers

Proper terms of use will be agreed in the second phase of the RFP, the following already applies for the initial application stage.

1. Nature of this Request for Proposal (RFP)

This RFP is an invitation to submit proposals and is not an offer to contract. The issuance of this RFP, the submission of a proposal by a respondent, and the subsequent evaluation of that proposal does not create any contractual or other legal obligation(s) to enter into a contract.

This RFP is intended solely to solicit proposals from qualified parties for entering in a potential partnership agreement with Planet2050 for joint development and/or procurement of Carbon Dioxide Removal (CDR) credits.

2. No Binding Commitment

No legal, binding, or enforceable agreement shall exist between applicants and Planet2050 until and unless a definitive, written contract is formally signed by authorized representatives of both parties. All communications, negotiations, and discussions related to this RFP shall be considered preliminary and non-binding until a definitive contract is signed.

3. Right to Modify or Cancel the RFP

Planet2050 reserves the right, in its sole and absolute discretion, to amend, modify, or withdraw this RFP at any time without prior notice, reject any or all proposals received.

4. Cost of Proposal Preparation

All costs and expenses incurred by respondents in connection with preparing, submitting, or presenting their proposal, or in any subsequent discussions or negotiations, are the sole responsibility of the respondent. Planet2050 will not, under any circumstances, be liable for or reimburse any such cost(s).

6. Confidentiality of Submissions

Proposals and any accompanying documentation submitted in response to this RFP will remain confidential and will not be disclosed to the public or third party outside the own direct contractor(s) of Planet2050, who operate under strict confidentiality agreements with Planet2050. Information that is deemed confidential can be shared by applicants following the second phase of the RFP under Non-Disclosure Agreement (NDA). Applicants are also expected to ensure that their submissions do not infringe on any third party's rights or disclose any confidential information belonging to others. Therefore, please do not include any information in your proposal that you are not prepared to see disclosed.

7. No Obligation to Negotiate

Planet2050 is not obligated to enter into negotiations with any respondent. We reserve the right to select one or more respondents for negotiation, or to select none at all. The selection of a respondent for negotiation does not imply that a contract will be awarded.

Inquiries and Clarifications

For any questions or clarifications regarding the RFP Permanent Carbon Removals, please contact us at: launch@planet2050.earth