

1. Global Carbon Council

The Global Carbon Council (GCC), promoted by Gulf Organization for Research and Development (GORD), is the first and only voluntary global GHG program based in the Middle East & North Africa (MENA) region. GCC Program is accredited under Carbon Offsetting and Reduction Scheme for International Aviation (CORSA) of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) and the International Carbon Reduction and Offsetting Alliance (ICROA) of the International Emission Trading Authority (IETA). GCC contributes to a vision of sustainable and low-carbon economic development and helps to catalyze climate actions on the ground. GCC ensures that project construction and operations cause no-net-harm to the environment and society, and contribute to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals according to host-country priorities. The entire governance structure, system, and documentation framework to achieve these objectives are collectively called the GCC Program. The framework for GCC Program is defined in [GCC Program Framework](#) document.

GHG emission-reduction projects from the entire world are eligible under the GCC Program, although it puts special emphasis on low-carbon development in the MENA region, which has been largely underrepresented in carbon markets.

The GCC Program has been designed based on international best practices such as: assuring transparency through stakeholder involvement; establishing an institutional structure for developing standards (e.g., baseline and monitoring methodologies); developing robust project cycles including transparent and simplified project registration and carbon-credit issuance procedures, an international carbon registry, stringent approval of project and emission-reduction verifiers, provisions to ensure and evaluate sustainable-development aspects of projects; and a platform for allowing results based finance of projects.

The GCC Program institutional structure allows for developing standards (e.g., baseline and monitoring methodologies) and for transparent and simplified project registration followed by carbon-credit issuance. It also offers an international carbon credit registry allowing for results-based financing of projects.

2. GCC Regulatory Committee

The Regulatory Committee is composed of eight members, who possess expertise in carbon markets, project evaluation/development, accreditation matters, and climate change finance and policies. The Committee members voluntarily contribute in their personal capacity to the decision-making processes as per [GCC Program Process](#) document. The term of service for each member is for two years and may be renewed based on his/her willingness to continue as well as performance assessment by GCC Operations Team. GCC Program ensures that each Committee member brings a unique perspective and expertise to support the decision-making process.

GCC Regulatory committee will follow the [GCC Work Plan](#) in its work in 2023.

3. Key Tasks of GCC Regulatory Committee

The Regulatory Committee reviews and approves GCC standards, baseline and monitoring methodologies, processes, rules & requirements, and guidelines. The GCC documents are available [here](#).

- The Regulatory Committee makes decisions on the approval or rejection of methodologies developed through top-down and bottom-up approaches. Steering Committee decides based on the draft recommendations made by GCC Operations Team, their independent analysis, as well as external experts' inputs (where necessary).
- The Regulatory Committee considers draft recommendations regarding the establishment, revision, or withdrawal of methodologies, guidelines, and clarifications from GCC project activities.

4. Regulatory Committee Members

Each member of the Regulatory Committee:

- is appointed by GCC based on his/her qualifications, skills, expertise, and experience;
- is familiar with the GCC rules and requirements;
- declares no- conflict of interest for the standard he/she is assigned to, and the conflict of interest may be related to any external role in GCC methodology development or related project development or verification or buying of GCC carbon credits;
- has recognized experience and/or knowledge relevant to the GCC project activity cycle;
- demonstrates the relevant working experience of at least three years on methodological issues related to project-based mechanisms;
- demonstrates technical/scientific expertise, in the following areas:
 - (a) Baseline and monitoring methodologies;
 - (b) Implementation of GCC project activities, including the development of project design documents, validation, monitoring, and verification;
- contributes to the committee's work on methodologies, standards, processes, guidelines, and rules & requirements;
- can communicate effectively in English, both in writing and verbally; and,
- has excellent drafting skills, strong operational and analytical skills, and ability to work as a member of a team.

5. Key functions of Regulatory Committee Members

Regulatory Committee member performs the following functions.

- Review new baseline and monitoring methodologies of GCC, developed via top-down approach, with inputs from external experts (where necessary), and provide comments and/or recommendations.
- Review the new rules and procedures of GCC and provide comments or recommendations.
- Assessments of bottom-up submissions relating to new methodologies, revision of methodologies and deviations from methodologies/monitoring plans.
- Assessment and consideration of clarifications on methodologies.
- Consider revisions of regulatory documents including standards, processes, rules & requirements, and guidelines and make recommendations to the Committee.
- Identify and prioritize the work on top-down development of methodologies for sectors with high mitigation potential.
- Taking strategic decisions on improvements of methodologies, GCC framework, and other relevant regulatory documents to align them with international requirements.
- Evaluating GCC Program's compliance with the code of best practices to which the Program is subscribed to.

6. Process of Consideration of Documents by Regulatory Committee

Where required by [GCC Program Process](#), GCC Operation Team will assign specific cases to regulatory committee members for their comments, along with GCC Operation Team's recommendation and public inputs (where applicable). The member's feedback will be distributed to the entire committee electronically for their final consideration. GCC Operations Team may organize (if required) electronic meetings to facilitate the consideration. GCC will also organize in-person meetings in Doha, Qatar (maximum 2 meetings in a year) to discuss plans and strategic issues related to projects, standards, and program framework. The decision on cases shall be made within the stipulated timeline as per the [GCC Program Process](#). In case an electronic or physical meeting is of help, GCC Operations Team shall make a presentation on various issues to the Committee and provide recommendations with justification.