

Terms of Reference

ICVCM Data and Infrastructure Providers Network

The Integrity Council for the Voluntary Carbon Market (Integrity Council or ICVCM) is an independent governance body for the voluntary carbon market (VCM). Its purpose is to ensure that the VCM accelerates progress toward the objective of combatting climate change. To achieve this, the Integrity Council has established a global threshold standard for carbon credit quality, drawing on the best available science and expertise available, with a view to ensuring that high-quality carbon credits efficiently mobilise finance towards urgent climate action. The ICVCM's 10 Core Carbon Principles provide a credible, rigorous, and readily accessible means of identifying high-quality carbon credits.

These Terms of Reference outline the objective of the ICVCM's Data and Infrastructure Providers Network and the requirements for participation in it.

1. Objective of the Network

The objective of the network is to engage interested data and infrastructure providers in a transparent and fair manner to enable those data and infrastructure providers to support and engage in the work of the ICVCM according to their specialist areas and areas of mutual interest with the ICVCM. Specific engagement with ICVCM on a particular matter is implemented through appropriate legal agreements.

2. Participation criteria

Any organisation identifying as a data or infrastructure provider working on carbon markets may apply to join the network at any time.

The ICVCM will review applications to determine the following criteria, as a minimum, are met. ICVCM has sole discretion as to whether to approve any application to join the network.

- **Relevance of Data/infrastructure/operations of the applicant:** Applicants should be operating in the market for data and intelligence and infrastructure that relates to carbon markets, including compliance, international, domestic and voluntary markets. As examples, organisations working on transaction data, ratings and market trends and on infrastructure such as exchanges may be interested in participating.
- **Best practice and compliance with laws:** Applicants are required to evidence how they operate at best practice and ensure and maintain high standards of data accuracy and reliability and ensure data protection and confidentiality in accordance with applicable laws.
- **Alignment with the ICVCM mission:** Applicants are required to explain how their operations are aligned to the ICVCM mission.
- **Meet the due diligence requirements:** Applicant organizations will be subject to due diligence and the due diligence process must have revealed no material concerns, in the sole discretion of the ICVCM (e.g., related to appropriate bribery and money laundering controls, ensuring no child labour, no unavoidable conflict of interest, reputational risk etc.)



3. Application process

- Interested applicant entities should email info@icvcm.org with the subject line Expression of interest in data and infrastructure provider network.
- Following receipt of sufficient information, from the applicant entity, ICVCM will consider the application against the participation criteria.
- Successful applicants will be invited to enter into a standard form confidentiality agreement with the ICVCM.
- Successful applicants may be invited to enter into an ICVCM logo use agreement, at the sole discretion of the ICVCM, noting that ICVCM logo use agreements are not limited to this network and are at the sole discretion of the ICVCM at all times.
- Successful applicants will be required to agree to comply with antitrust requirements and confidentiality obligations when engaging in the network.

4. The network

- ICVCM will list the names of all successful applicants to the network on its webpages and network participants will be entitled to refer to their participation in the network.
- ICVCM will convene meetings of the network at regular intervals to discuss overarching trends, insights, and feedback on carbon markets while ensuring that convenings comply with all relevant legal, including antitrust and confidentiality requirements.
- When seeking specific data and other information, ICVCM will endeavour to work with existing network participants, through execution of appropriate legal agreements.

5. These terms of reference

- These terms of reference do not create any binding obligation between the ICVCM and any applicant or participant of the network and may be revised from time to time in the sole discretion of the ICVCM.
- ICVCM reserves the right to terminate the participation of any network participant in the network, and/or terminate the network for any reason, at any time.