Checklist for Additionality

Additionality is the foundation for transparent and trustworthy carbon offset projects. In simple terms, additionality asks if emission reductions (and the project creating them) would have occurred anyway, as business-as-usual. If the answer is yes, then the project is not considered "additional." For example, if a city has already budgeted for planting 1,000 trees this fall, then the emission reductions from these trees cannot be considered additional. In this scenario, additionality begins with the 1,001st tree they plant.

Urban Offsets asks our partner cities and communities a series of questions to determine additionality:

Satisfaction of Legal Requirement	Are you or your organization bound by law, regulation, or court order to plant trees in the same manner as a carbon offsetting project?
Identify Implementation Barriers	Do implementation barriers (budget, staffing, capacity, lack of know how, local resistance, etc.) limit your ability to plant more trees than your current baseline?
Accounting for Leakage	Are you willing to sign an agreement that states your current organization will not decrease its efforts to pursue and obtain baseline tree planting funds?
Business-as-usual Scenario	Do you have historical data for the number of trees you have planted in the past 10 years?
Proof of Planting Program	Can you demonstrate that these reductions and removals were above the calculated baseline?

Answering yes to the above questions…

…Shows your community's efforts in ensuring additionality is satisfied for your carbon offset tree planting project. While additionality is the most fundamental principle of carbon offsets, there are other aspects to consider before all requirements of an offset project can be met. We can help you identify risks and opportunities within the principles of transparency and trust to attract buyers that invest in your project and your community.

For more information, check **www.urbanoffsets.co** or email **info@urbanoffsets.co**.

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