

UK Government Quality AssuranceScheme for Carbon Offsets

ICAO Carbon Markets Workshop
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Danny Jowers

What is offsetting?

Department for **Transport**

- 1. Who has heard of offsetting?
- 2. Who has purchased offsets?
- 3. Who believes they understand offsetting fully?



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This is offsetting

"Use of carbon credits to balance an equivalent quantity of CO₂, calculated to have been emitted as a result of a defined activity"

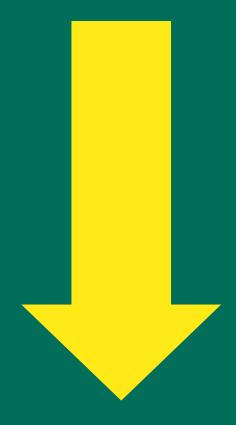
What is the role of offsetting?

Department for **Transport**

- Part of hierarchy of actions by individuals:
 - 1. Calculate
 - 2. Avoid
 - 3. Reduce

Then

4. Offset



Need for Quality Assurance



- Address consumer confusion
- Inform consumers about role of offsetting
- Enable consumers to make choices
- Increase consumer confidence

Scheme Requirements



Kyoto Compliant Credits

Accurate Marketing Approved Emissions Factors

Consumer Clear &

Information Transparent **Pricing**

Approved Offset

Phased Approach



- Scheme could recognise credits under different standard, if satisfied:
 - Additionality
 - Transparency
 - Independent Verification
 - Permanence
 - Leakage

Next Phase



- Challenge to industry
- Facilitate common industry standard
- Industry Panel

Summary



- Offsetting has important role
- Credibility fundamental
- Independent assurance essential



Danny Jowers UK Department for Transport

daniel.jowers@dft.gsi.gov.uk