

METHODOLOGY OVERVIEW

Sector and Sub-Sector Taxonomy

How AlliedOffsets classifies projects from every registry into one consistent set of sectors

OCTOBER 2026 | PREPARED BY ALLIEDOFFSETS

Overview

Carbon registries categorize projects with their own sector and sub-sector labels, which vary widely in detail and terminology. To let users search, filter and compare projects consistently, AlliedOffsets maps every registry's classifications onto one standardized sector taxonomy. The taxonomy covers established project types and the fast-growing range of carbon removal approaches.

Data Sources

Source type	How it is used
Public carbon registries	The sector and sub-sector labels each registry publishes for its projects, along with project names and descriptions.
AlliedOffsets research	An expert-maintained mapping from registry classifications to the standardized taxonomy.

Our Approach

1	Capture registry classifications Each project's sector and sub-sector labels are collected as published and cleaned for consistency.
2	Map to the standard taxonomy Each combination of registry sector and sub-sector is mapped to a standardized sector.
3	Correct known mislabeling Where registry labels are known to be unreliable for certain project types, other project information is used to assign the correct sector.
4	Review new classifications New registry labels are flagged and classified by our analysts, rather than guessed automatically.
5	Validate before publishing Every project's sector is checked against the taxonomy before data is published.

Key Principles

One consistent view	Projects can be compared across registries using the same categories.
Expert review	New classifications are reviewed by analysts rather than assigned automatically.
Removal-aware	The taxonomy separates carbon removal approaches so that this growing segment can be analyzed in its own right.

Quality Assurance

- All projects are validated against the taxonomy before publication.
- The taxonomy is extended as new project types emerge.

Interpreting the Results

- Standardized sectors may differ from a registry's own label, because they are designed for cross-registry comparison.

Limitations

- Projects using newly introduced registry labels may briefly appear unclassified until reviewed.
- Each project is assigned a single standardized sector, so projects spanning several activities are represented by their primary sector.
- Projects with no sector information from the registry are not classified.

WHAT YOU GET

A standardized sector for each project, used consistently for filtering, comparison and reporting across the AlliedOffsets platform. Sectors include Agriculture; Forestry and Land Use; Renewable Energy; Energy Efficiency and Fuel Switching; Household Devices; Waste Disposal; Chemical Processes and Industrial Manufacturing; and carbon removal categories including Biochar, BECCS, Direct Air Capture, Enhanced Rock Weathering, Ocean Alkalinity Enhancement, Carbon Capture and Artificial Upwelling and Downwelling.