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Peatland Programme Vision

The IUCN UK Peatland Programme has a vision for healthy, wildlife-rich peatlands in the UK, that provide multiple benefits for people.

**VALUED
PEATLANDS**

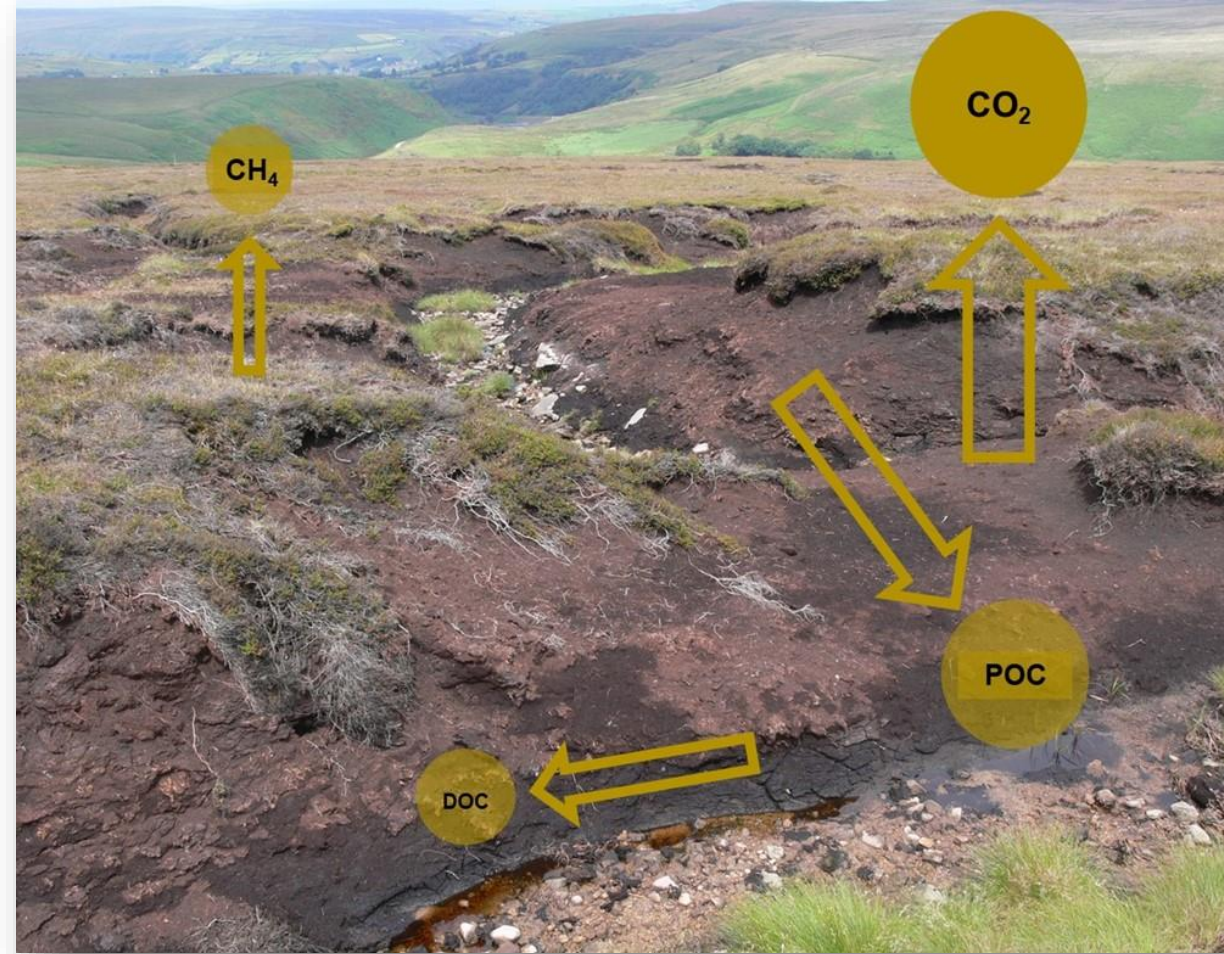
**STRONG
PARTNERSHIPS**

**ACTION
THROUGH
KNOWLEDGE
EXCHANGE**

Greenhouse gas fluxes

Intact peatland

Degraded peatland







Funding commitment gap

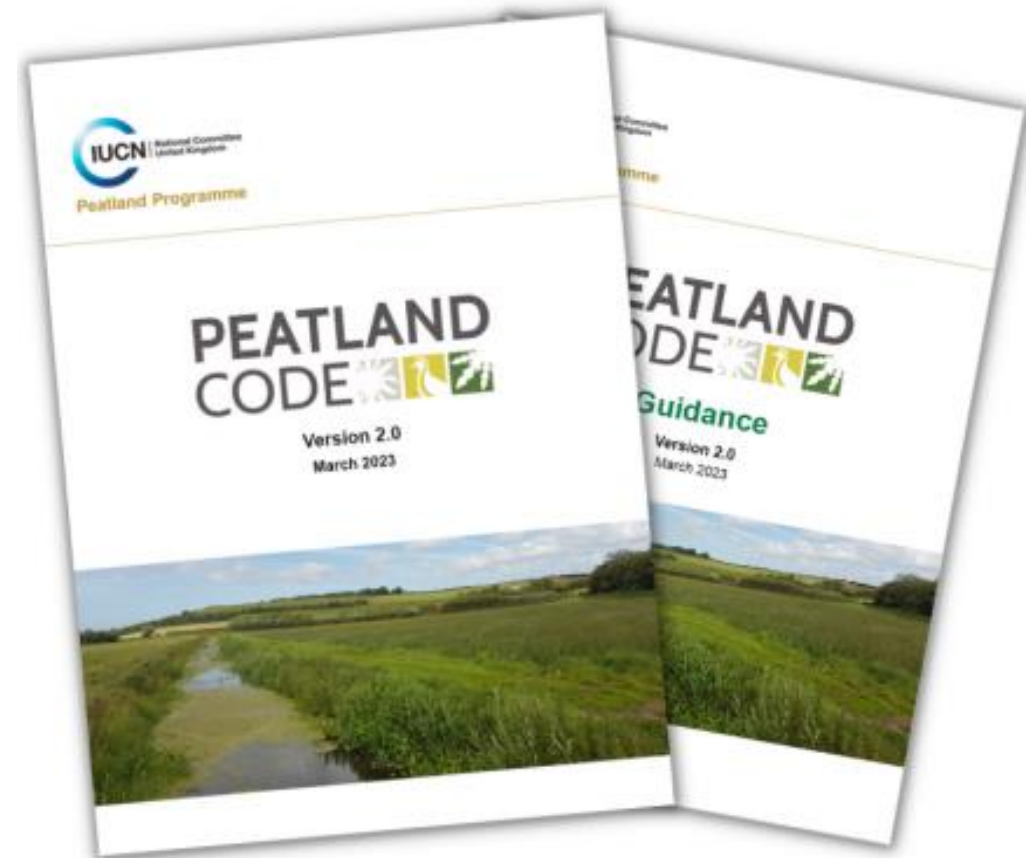
- Almost 3million ha of peatland (as currently mapped) in the UK— estimates c.**80%** in damaged state (2020)
- Public funding gap of **£560 million** to restore the UK's degraded peatland (GFI, eftec, & Rayment Consulting, 2021)

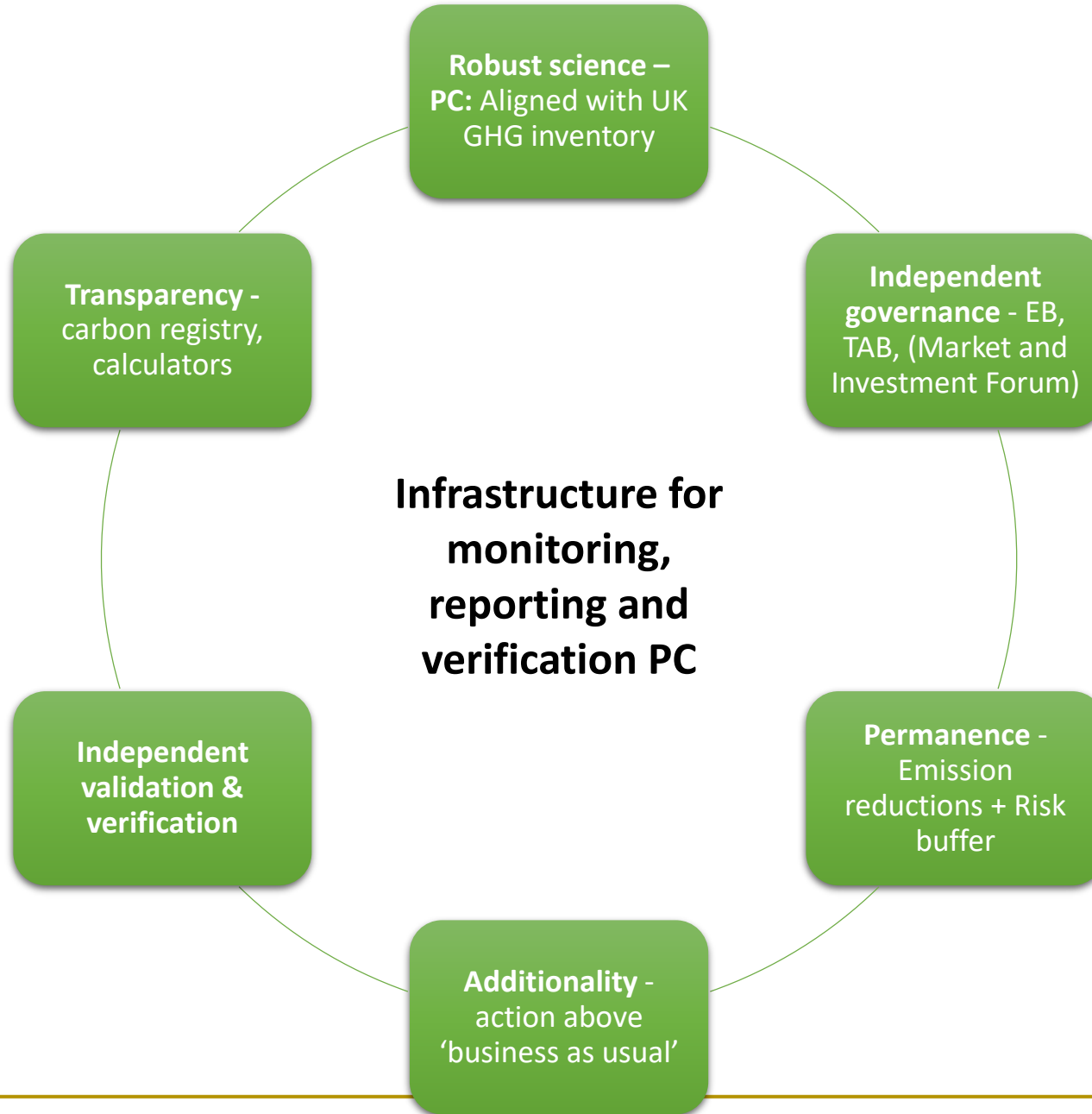
What is the Peatland Code?

Only UK govt-backed, **domestic** voluntary carbon market standard for peatland restoration launched in 2015

- help companies to become carbon neutral/negative
- helps the UK to meet national GHG targets
- PC: restoration and/or rewetting

PC purpose is to underpin market trust and confidence





Eligible Peatland Types

Bog

Minimum peat depth of 30cm
Duration between 30-100years



Fen

Minimum peat depth of 45cm
Duration between 30-100years
Water table measurements are required



Carbon unit types

PIU

Pending Issuance Unit: an expected emission reduction in the future

No offset claim can be made on this

Legal contract between buyer and seller needed

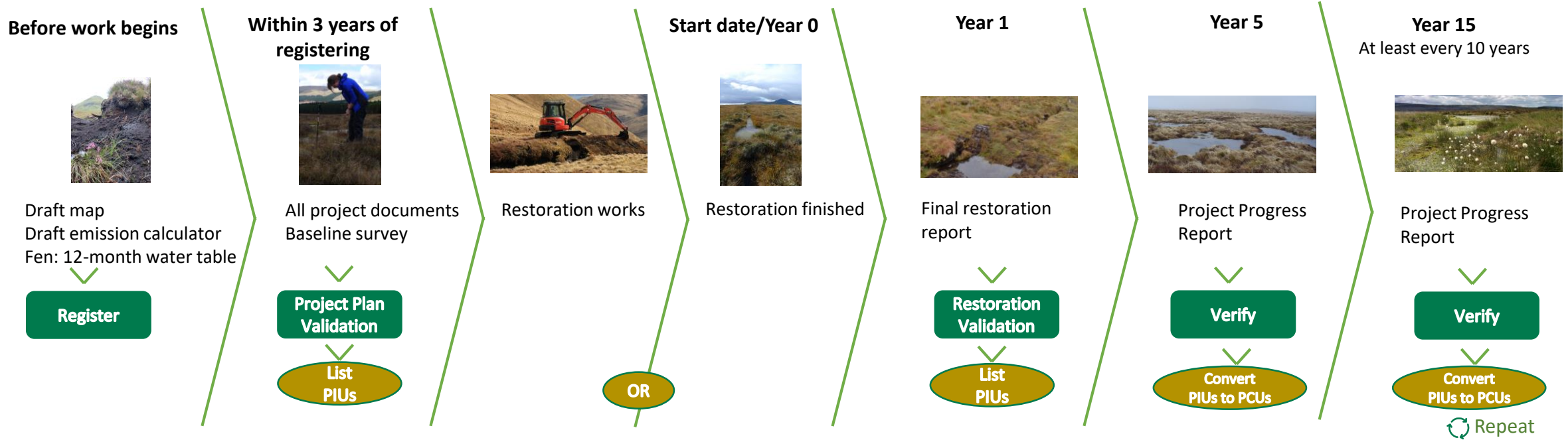
PCU

Peatland Carbon Unit: a verified emission reduction that has taken place in the past

Offset claim can be made on this

No legal contract needed

Project timeline

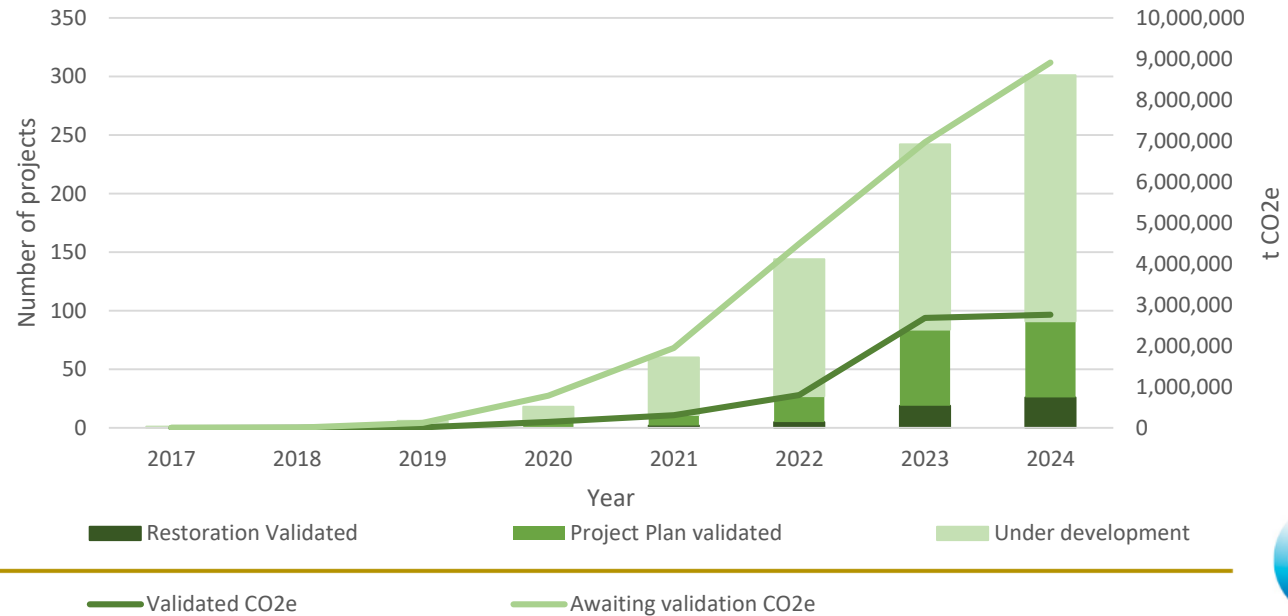


Growth over time

- 301 Projects registered
- 91 validated
- 40,681 ha of peatland restoration
- 8.9 Million tCO₂e expected emission reductions over lifetime off all projects



Total expected tCO₂e emission reductions over all project lifetimes





Carbon finance examples

- “Restore your own” credits (~Insetting)
- Restore your land and sell PIUs upfront
- Restore your land and wait to sell
 - More and more landowners are waiting for a better price or in case needed against own emissions

Intermediaries

- Project developers – fill in all PC documents, manage the project over the whole/part of duration, potentially find a buyer
- Brokers- find a buyer, help with contracts
- Who to trust? “Useful Project Design Contacts” on our website or contact us

Selling carbon units

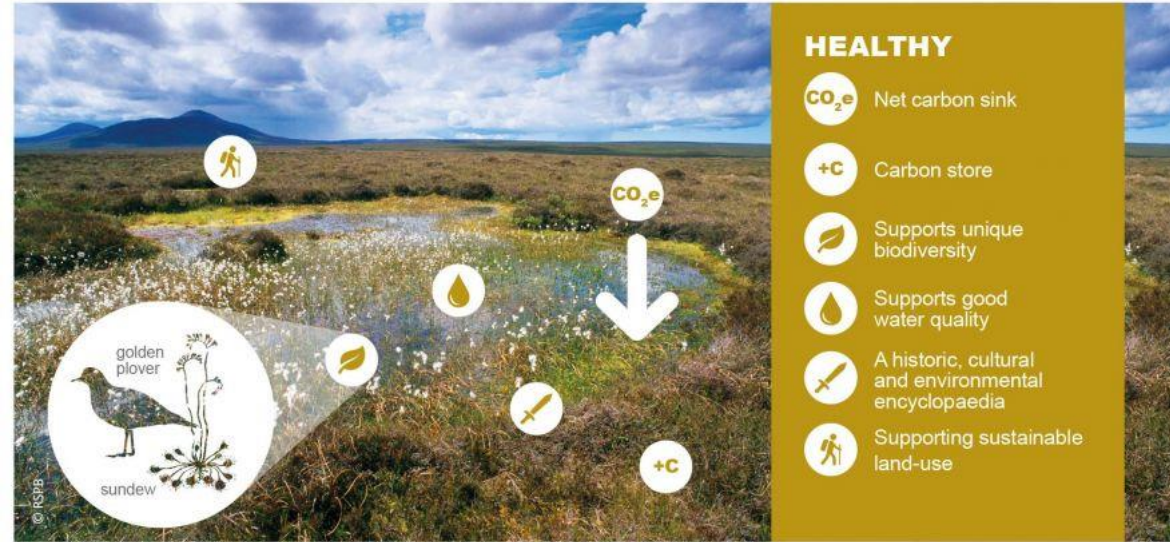
- **How much money can be made?**
- Average price in 2022 was **£24/PIU** with a spread of £25 (UK carbon price index)
- **What affects price?**
- Location & access
- Type of project
- Vintage of units (& PIU vs PCU)
- Stage of project
- Benefits wider than carbon
- ‘Security’ of ownership/ delivery



Why buy peatland carbon credits?

Not just an offset

ECOSYSTEM SERVICES IN A HEALTHY PEATLAND



IMPACT ON ECOSYSTEM SERVICES IN A DAMAGED PEATLAND



Future Developments PC

V2.1 Dec 2024/Jan 2025

Biodiversity Credits

FIRNS funding, PC and WCC. Currently piloting.

**Standard buyer-seller
contract**

FIRNS funding, PC and WCC. Finished March 2025

ICROA/ICVCM

International Carbon Reduction and Offset Alliance
Integrity Council for Voluntary Carbon Markets

Forest to Bog

Exploring how this can be included within the
code.

Paludiculture

Exploring how this can be included within the
code.

Get in Touch



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