

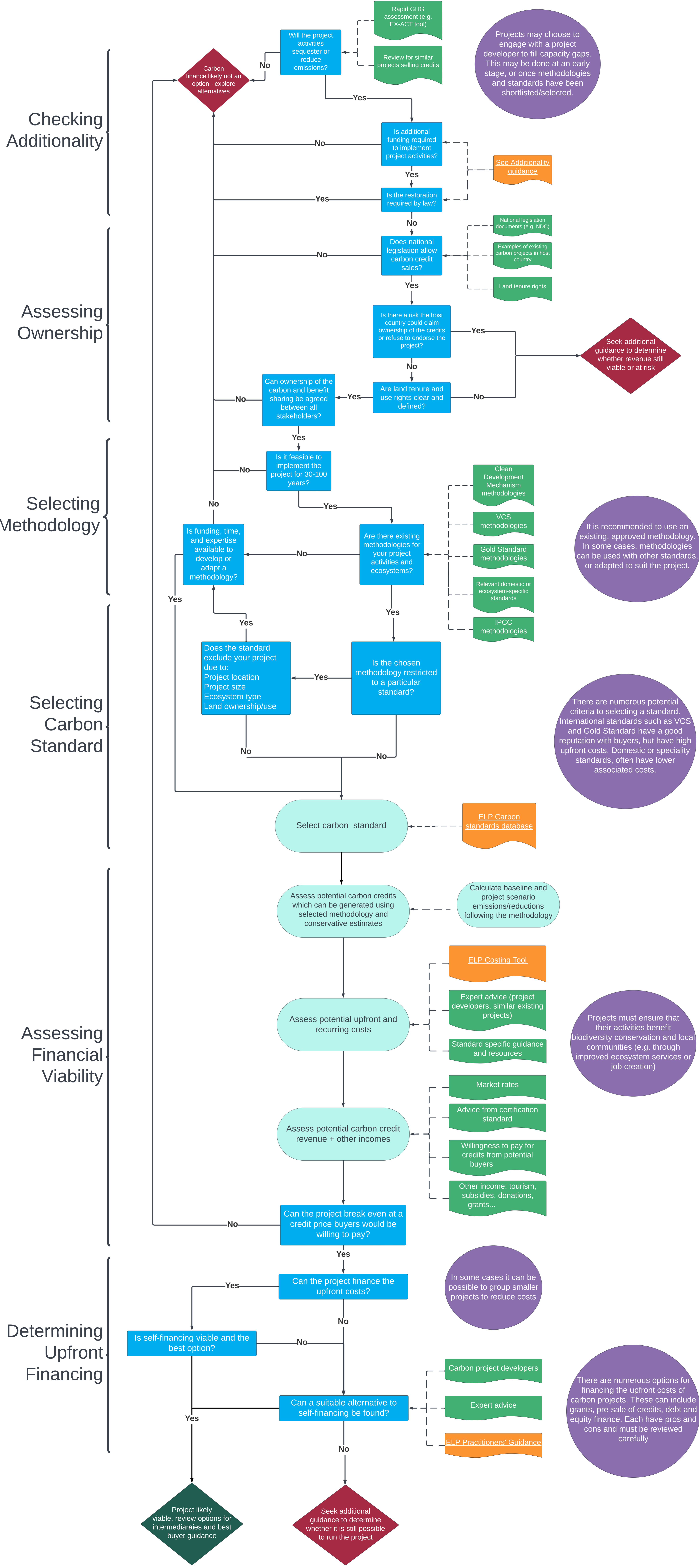
# Engaging with voluntary carbon markets: Decision tree for ecosystem restoration projects

This decision tree is aimed at ecosystem restoration projects interested in understanding their options for carbon financing in the voluntary carbon market.

This tree is structured to guide a restoration project through key decisions up to the stage of deciding to implement a project. Zoom in to navigate the tree.

Disclaimer: Project outcomes can vary considerably depending on their characteristics, this is not a definitive guide but should highlight key questions and resources to help projects avoid pitfalls and select appropriate paths when navigating markets.

This output is part of the ELP funded 'Understanding Voluntary Carbon markets'. [Additional outputs and resources can be accessed here.](#)



It is recommended to use an existing, approved methodology. In some cases, methodologies can be used with other standards, or adapted to suit the project.

There are numerous potential criteria to selecting a standard. International standards such as VCS and Gold Standard have a good reputation with buyers, but have high upfront costs. Domestic or speciality standards, often have lower associated costs.

Projects must ensure that their activities benefit biodiversity conservation and local communities (e.g. through improved ecosystem services or job creation)

There are numerous options for financing the upfront costs of carbon projects. These can include grants, pre-sale of credits, debt and equity finance. Each have pros and cons and must be reviewed carefully

### Key

- Question
- Action
- [Resource produced by this project](#)
- Resource
- Additional context
- Decision