Financing Carbon Dioxide Removal Anssi Kiviniemi, Head of Sustainability, SEB Finland

Agenda

01 Why and what?

02 Role of financial institution?



Corporate journey toward net-zero emissions

Rapid emission reduction and removal of hard-to-abate emissions following science-based trajectory



Carbon dioxide removals are critical to reach net-zero

Limiting warming to 1.5° C requires approx. 6Gt CO₂ of CDR annually by 2050¹

- All of IPCC's (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change) scenarios that meet the goals of the Paris Agreement include removals
- The IPCC considers removals as "unavoidable" to achieve net zero emissions

Carbon removals - an indispensable part of any corporate net-zero strategy

- Science Based Targets initiative is one out of many net-zero standards that require carbon removals to neutralize residual emissions²
- The voluntary carbon market will shift towards carbon removals as companies move to achieve their net zero targets





1. SEB assessment based on IPCC – Assessment Report 6. WGIII. Chapter 12, 2021 and The State of Carbon Dioxide Removal – An independent scientific assessment of Carbon Dioxide Removal 1st Edition, 2023 2. SBTI – Corporate Net-Zero Standard, 2023

Residual emissions by country and sector $^{1}\,$

Billions of tonnes of GHG emissions from energy, industry, transport and agriculture will likely remain in 2050





Performance criteria for evaluating CDR solutions

Building a CDR strategy entails trade-offs – buyers may want to maximize climate impact and minimize greenwashing risks at the best possible price

Feasibility	Climate Change Effectiveness	Side impacts			
Technical: Technological maturity of carbon removal solutions	Effect: Net-effect on climate, considering the likelihood of realizing removals and reversal risks and changes in albedo	Environmental: Negative and positive impacts on e.g. land- use and biodiversity			
Economic: Price and affordability of carbon removals technologies	Timeliness: Ability to remove carbon within the necessary timeframe to materially contribute to mitigating climate change	Economic: Negative and positive Impacts not directly related to removal cost such as diversification opportunities or impact on food prices			
Governance: Incentives and barriers to deployment, including MRV, regulations and public acceptance	Durability:Permanence of carbon storage assuming no premature disturbance	Social: Negative and positive impacts including climate change adaptation, income and energy security of local communities			

All CDR credits should be additional – meaning that revenue from credits are crucial for the viability of removal projects 1. SEB assessment based on WBCSD Removing carbon responsibly 2023

CDR heatmap – analyzing different CDR options¹

Dark red indicates worst performance and dark green indicates best performance

CDR option	Feasibility			Climate Change Effectiveness			Side impacts		
	Technical	Economic	Governance	Effect	Timeliness	Durability	Environment	Economic	Social
Afforestation									
Reforestation									
Soil carbon sequestration									
High- temperature biochar									
BECCS with no agriculture expansion									
BECCS with agriculture expansion ²									
DACCS									
Enhanced weathering									

Different options have its certain drawbacks and benefits.

2. Avoiding agriculture expansion to produce feedstock biomass essential to prevent negative social and environmental impact.

 $^{1.\,\}text{SEB}$ assessment based on WBCSD $\,\text{Removing}$ carbon responsibly 2023 $\,$

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Demand for durable removals expected to vastly outstrip supply

Standards require that only permanent removals can neutralize residual emissions for a valid net-zero claim



Given future supply constraints corporates can act today to secure a portfolio of carbon removals with high climate change effectiveness

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1. Science Based Target initiative – Data from Jan 2019 – March 2024 .2. <u>The Net Zero Tracker, Global Stocktake report, June 2023. Sample consists of 929 companies with net zero targets</u>. Please note that two different surveys are presented on this slide. Conclusion on SBTi approved companies' willingness to use carbon credits fo net zero fulfilment should be done with caution. 3. Durable removals include BECCS, DACCS, enhanced weathering and ocean alkalinity enhancement. Boston Consulting Group – *The Time for Carbon Removal Has Come*. September 2023. Based on BCG Durable CDR Buyer Survey, July 2023, 113 respondents

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Description of hedging process

Step-by-step process that slowly builds up the hedging ratio by buying removals from individual projects either in the primary or secondary market using forward contracts

Build carbon removal portfolio

- To neutralize their hard-to-abate exposure buyers should start building up removal portfolio by accumulating carbon removal credits using forward contracts.
- By starting the process of locking in removals at an early stage the hedger can accumulate the required amount of removals not only to remove the first year's hard-to-abate emissions but also start building up the volume for future years' emissions.
- This not only reduces the overall risk but also provides time and technology diversification as the entire exposure is not hedged at one time using one project/technology.

Start utilising removals

- Starting from the "net-zero year", carbon dioxide rights (CDRs) are retired to neutralize the hard-to-abate emissions for a given year, reducing the size of the removal portfolio by an equivalent amount with the remaining CDRs banked i.e. remain on the balance sheet for future use.
- The retired CDRs will need to be replaced either through CDR deliveries from existing projects or through new projects.
- Managing this replacement risk is very similar to managing a corporate debt profile with attention given to the maturity profile and clustering risk i.e. avoiding the need for larger replacements in any given year.





Indicative market illustration of CDRs

"Who is who" and the different potential market participants on the primary and secondary markets



Carbon Removal Market – Market insights – April 2024



* Two transactions logged in cdr.fyi database: Ørsted, heavily subsidized by Danish state. Volume 2.760 000 tonnes; CO₂ Energie | Regionalwerke AG Baden. Volume 21 800 tonnes. Sold for 10 mm CHF (avg. 458 CHF) according to the climate company (South Pole)



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