

Challenges and Opportunities for Urban Forest Carbon Projects

Presentation for the Latin American
and Caribbean Carbon Forum

Rio de Janeiro
29 August 2013



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Climate Action Reserve:



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- Not for profit organization
 - Mission: to promote the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions by pioneering credible market-based policies and solutions
- Reputation for integrity and experience in providing standardized offset protocols and registry services
- Serve voluntary and compliance carbon offset markets
- Accredited offset project registry (OPR) under the California Cap-and-Trade Program

Reserve Protocols



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- Urban Forestry
- Forestry (Reforestation, Improved Forest Management, Avoided Conversion)
- Livestock Methane Capture
- Ozone Depleting Substances (US)
- Landfill Gas Capture
- Organic Waste Digestion
- Coal Mine Methane
- Nitric Acid Production
- Organic Waste Composting
- Rice Cultivation
- Nitrogen Management
- International: Mexico Livestock and Landfill; Article 5 ODS

Compliance
Eligible

Protocols Under Development: Mexico Forestry and Grassland Soil Carbon



Urban Forest Protocol Versions

- Version 1.0 of the protocol adopted on August 12, 2008
 - Tree planting activities above performance standard
 - Open to municipalities, educational institutions and utilities
 - Carbon stored in project trees minus emissions from tree maintenance
 - 100-year crediting period and permanence requirement
- Version 1.1 released on March 10, 2010
 - Programmatic updates only
- Version 2.0 currently under development, expected completion in spring 2014

City of Santa Monica, California



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- Project Details:
 - Add 1,000 new trees to city forest
 - Locations owned by city
 - Supports citywide goals:
 - Carbon footprint
 - Air and water quality
 - Open space
 - Aesthetics



Current Challenges



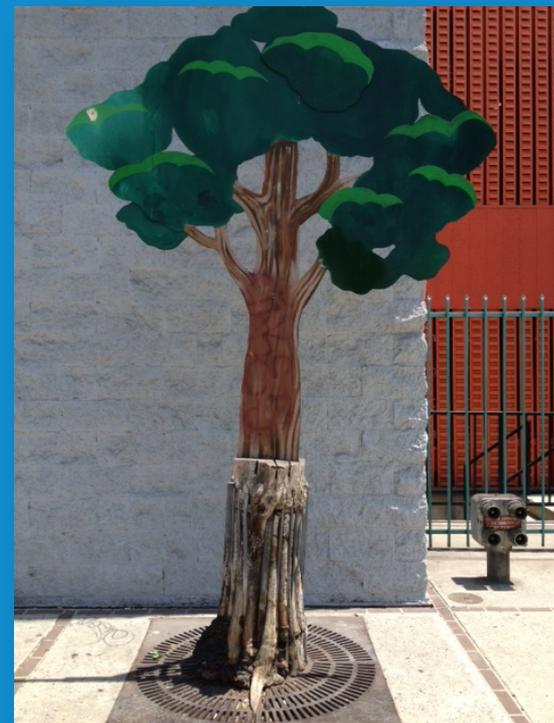
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Challenges:

- Urban tree planting and maintenance is expensive
- Additional investment required for carbon projects
- High performance standards
- Only credit for growth of project trees

Key factors for project success:

- Project size
- Inventory, monitoring and verification costs
- Carbon offset price
- Project design

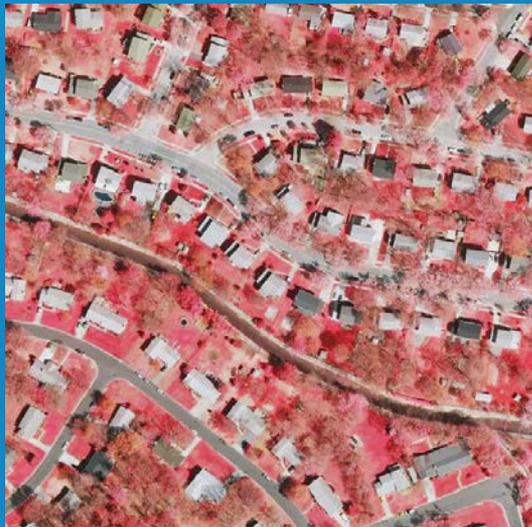


Future Opportunities

- Expand opportunity for engagement
- Broaden scope of project activities
- Develop new tools and approaches
- Improve efficiency of project development, monitoring and verification



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Thank You

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