



Ocean CDR policy in Europe

Actionable Vision 2025-2027

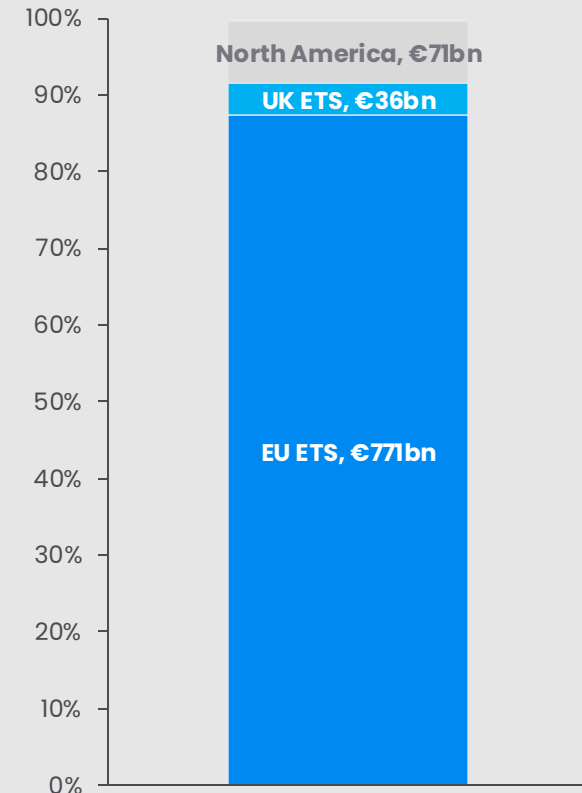
May 2025



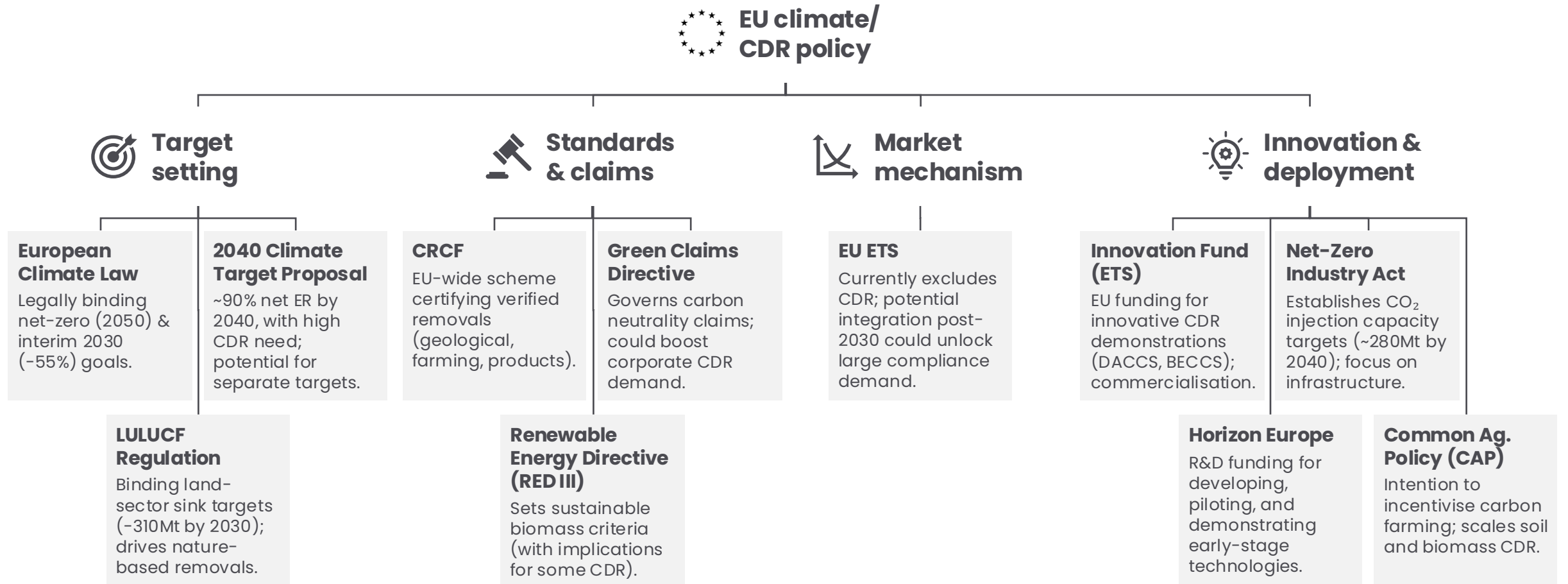
To scale CDR to the volumes needed we need to mandate demand – for this the best place is Europe

- > We see **three core building blocks** that are needed as part of a comprehensive CDR policy regime:
 1. **Support supply**
 2. **Drive demand**
 3. **Develop governance & standards**
- > Of these '**drive demand**' is mission critical
- > Voluntary action has given the sector its start (e.g. Microsoft and Frontier). It's now abundantly clear that **voluntary demand alone is failing to scale CDR** to the required levels in time (e.g. SBTi CNZS 2.0)
- > The central focus must now be on **mandating demand to build a ramp to net zero**
- > **Europe presents the world's primary opportunity to mandate CDR demand** (largest carbon compliance market and comprehensive climate policy)

Over 90% of the world's compliance markets for carbon are in Europe



The European Union leads globally on comprehensive climate and carbon removal policies



Long-term goal: Integration of ocean CDR into the EU ETS, via CRCF and EU R&D funding



Objectives

1

Establish a process and timeline for validating OAE and DOCCS under the CRCF, setting a precedent for other ocean CDR methods

2

Allocate dedicated EU R&D funding to ocean CDR under the next r&d framework programme

3

(Ultimately) **Prepare ocean CDR methods for EU ETS integration**, maximising scale while protecting climate integrity

CRCF

EU R&D funding

EU ETS integration

Feedback loop via which R&D funding priorities help to inform CRCF outcomes

EU Carbon Removal and Carbon Farming (CRCF) certification framework

Overview

- > Adopted in November 2024
- > A voluntary certification scheme, with intended use cases spanning across both the **VCM** and the **EU's own NDC**
- > Methodologies within the scheme are being developed by the **European Commission**, supported by the **EU Expert Group on Carbon Removals**
- > Methodologies must adhere to **QU.A.L.ITY criteria**: Quantification, Additionality, Long-term storage, and Sustainability
- > The framework will be operated by **recognised certification schemes** and will feature a **unique, transparent EU registry**
- > The current process is due to be complete by **2028**

'Batches' of methodologies being developed

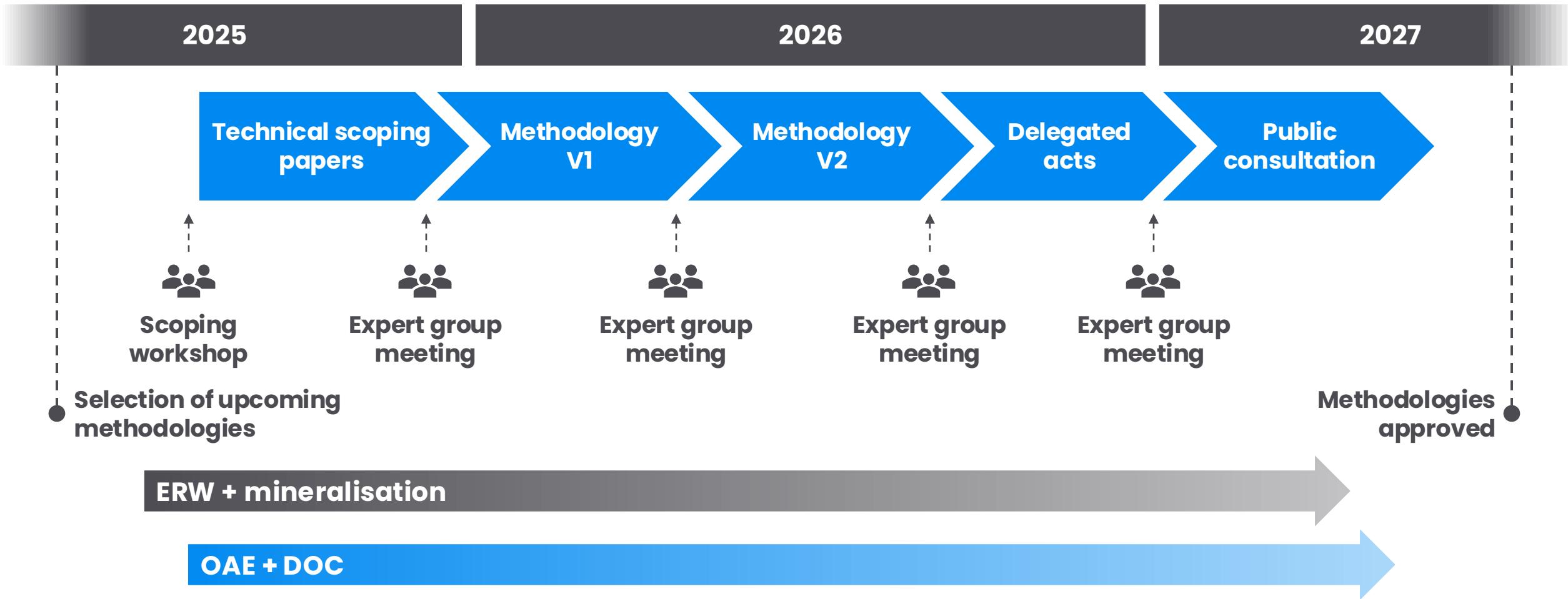
Current batch



Upcoming batch



CRCF methodologies development timeline



CRCF | Key questions around ocean CDR

Carbon Gap



Coverage of oCDR methods

Can all the viable oCDR methods be covered with proposed methodologies?



Sustainability criteria

'Do no significant harm' principle and consideration of co-benefits



Upstream and downstream activities

Associated emissions and sustainability criteria



MRV and uncertainty

Measurement is preferred where possible

Which models (and associated parameters/ datasets) are suitable?

How can we account for/mitigate uncertainties?



Liability

What does a viable liability framework look like for oCDR methods in case of reversal?



Permanence

Conditions to guarantee permanence (of several centuries)