Market-Ready Professional Program

Certified Carbon Sequestration & Carbon Trading Professional (CCSCTP)

Outcome Expected

Candidates become job-ready (MRV/ ESG/ Carbon analyst roles) and Business-ready (carbon project developer / advisory / trading support), with hands-on tools, real datasets, field exposure, and India-specific legal orientation (Indian Carbon Market / Carbon Credit Trading Scheme + corporate disclosure expectations)

SHIVEENA FOUNDATION
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CERTIFIED CARBON SEQUESTRATION & CARBON TRADING PROFESSIONAL (CCSCTP)

SHIVEENA FOUNDATION:

MARKET-READY PROFESSIONAL PROGRAMME

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INTRODUCTION

The SHIVEENA Foundation's Market-Ready Professional Programme in Certified Carbon Sequestration & Carbon Trading is tailored to address the pressing need for skilled professionals in India's expanding carbon market sector. This comprehensive programme equips participants with both technical expertise and practical knowledge, covering roles such as MRV/ESG/Carbon Analyst, as well as business functions like carbon project development, advisory, and trading support. The curriculum integrates hands-on training using real datasets, field visits, live industry sessions, and a strong emphasis on India-specific legal frameworks. Through this approach, candidates become both job-ready and business-ready, prepared to contribute effectively to the carbon economy. The hybrid structure of the programme bridges the gap between academic learning and industry requirements, fostering a new generation of professionals who can drive sustainable change within India's carbon market landscape.

1. PROGRAMME DURATION, STRUCTURE, AND TIMING

RECOMMENDED FORMAT (MOST EMPLOYABLE AND PRACTICAL)

The programme is structured over six weeks, comprising 120 contact hours and an additional 30 hours dedicated to a guided capstone project, totalling approximately 150 hours. The hybrid mode of delivery combines classroom sessions, laboratory exercises, fieldwork, and live industry sessions. Each batch consists of 20 to 30 participants, with an ideal batch size of 25.

The schedule is designed to accommodate working professionals. Sessions run Monday to Friday, from 7:00 pm to 9:30 pm, resulting in 12.5 hours per week. On Saturdays, a five-hour session takes place from 10:30 am to 3:30 pm, bringing the total to 17.5 hours per week. Over six weeks, this amounts to 105 hours. In addition, there are two full-day field visits totalling 15 hours, bringing the contact hours to 120. The capstone project is allotted 30 hours and is team-based.

ALTERNATE FORMAT (CORPORATE AND FULL-TIME)

For corporate participants or those preferring an intensive schedule, the programme offers a three-week format. This includes 120 hours of instruction and capstone work, with sessions held Monday to Saturday and lasting seven to eight hours each day.

2. CANDIDATE PREREQUISITES (ENTRY REQUIREMENTS)

The minimum entry requirements for candidates are a graduation or diploma in any stream, proficiency in Excel or Google Sheets (particularly with formulas and tables), possession of a laptop (at least i5 processor and 8GB RAM), internet connectivity, and basic presentation skills.

While not compulsory, candidates with backgrounds in environment, agriculture, forestry, engineering, finance, ESG, energy, mining, or sustainability are preferred. Familiarity with basic statistics and report writing is also beneficial.

A pre-course diagnostic assessment (60 minutes, online) covering Excel, basic carbon terminology, and aptitude for field/data work is conducted. This diagnostic helps stream candidates into extra support sessions if required.

3. TRAINER ELIGIBILITY (FACULTY STANDARDS)

The lead faculty or Programme Director should possess eight to twelve years of experience in carbon markets, MRV, ESG, or decarbonisation consulting. Essential competencies include demonstrated work in GHG inventory, carbon project development, and registry or verification coordination, alongside strong command of ISO and GHG Protocol methodologies, particularly ISO 14064 for MRV.

Specialist trainers, who serve as guest lecturers or module owners, should bring expertise in MRV and verification, legal and policy matters related to India’s Energy Conservation Act amendments and carbon trading, carbon market practices, nature-based sequestration, and data or GIS tools relevant to sequestration MRV.

4. LEGAL & REGULATORY BACKBONE

The programme provides explicit training on India's Carbon Credit Trading Scheme (CCTS) 2023, including the roles of relevant institutions and the legal basis under the Energy Conservation (Amendment) Act, 2022. Candidates are introduced to evolving aspects of India's carbon market design, sectoral targets, and government-approved crediting methodologies, which are incorporated into practical casework.

The curriculum also covers the corporate reporting context (SEBI BRSR/BRSR Core) and its relationship to measurable sustainability data, as well as the basics of international cooperation, specifically Paris Agreement Article 6, to provide candidates with a conceptual understanding of international market architecture.

5. COURSE OUTLINE (6 WEEKS): THEORY, LAB, FIELD, AND CASEWORK

WEEK 1: CARBON BASICS AND ACCOUNTING FOUNDATIONS (18–20 HOURS)

- Theory: Covers climate and GHG fundamentals, CO_2e concepts, removals versus reductions, Scopes 1–3 logic, boundaries, base year, and data controls. It also addresses corporate inventory structures aligned to global standards and the integration of ISO/GHG thinking into MRV.
- Lab/Tools: Participants build a corporate GHG inventory template using Excel, focusing on emission factor selection logic and quality assurance checks.
- Mini-case Study: Application of concepts to a manufacturing MSME or agro-processing unit in India.

WEEK 2: CARBON SEQUESTRATION SCIENCE (NATURE-BASED AND INDUSTRIAL) (18–20 HOURS)

- Theory: Explores sequestration types such as forestry, agroforestry, soil carbon, blue carbon (mangroves), mine reclamation, and biochar. Concepts of permanence, leakage, and additionality are discussed, with a focus on common challenges faced by projects.
- Field Methods (Hands-On Demo): Includes biomass estimation workflow (plot selection, DBH, height, sampling, and GPS tagging) and soil sampling basics with chain of custody concepts.
- Case Studies: Features mangrove afforestation/reforestation, agroforestry in rural clusters, and mine closure afforestation.

WEEK 3: CARBON PROJECT DEVELOPMENT (METHODOLOGIES AND DOCUMENTATION) (18–20 HOURS)

- Theory: Details the carbon project lifecycle from feasibility to sale or retirement, including methodology selection following VCS or Gold Standard logic.
- Workshop: Participants draft a Project Concept Note (PCN) and Monitoring Plan, incorporating stakeholder safeguards, SDG co-benefits, and grievance mechanisms.
- Deliverable: Each team submits a PCN and monitoring framework.

WEEK 4: MRV, VERIFICATION READINESS, AND AUDIT DISCIPLINE (18–20 HOURS)

- Theory: Focuses on data systems, evidence packs, sampling, uncertainty, and QA/QC. The verification approach and assurance mindset are discussed, including key auditor expectations.
- Lab: Participants build a verification dossier using templates for evidence logs, calculation workbooks, and change logs. A mock verification interview and non-conformity handling exercise are also included.

WEEK 5: CARBON MARKETS AND TRADING (INDIA AND GLOBAL) (18–20 HOURS)

- India Market Orientation: Covers the CCTS, Indian Carbon Market governance structure, and operational logic. The distinction between compliance mechanisms and voluntary markets is explained, with a focus on avoiding double counting.
- Trading and Commercial: Discusses credit quality due diligence, claims risk, contracts (including ERPA basics), pricing drivers, portfolio building, buyer criteria, retirement evidence, and reputational risk management.
- Simulation: Features a mock exchange with bids, asks, delivery terms, and dispute resolution scenarios.

WEEK 6: LAW, REPORTING, BUSINESS SETUP, AND CAREERS (20+ HOURS INCLUDING CAPSTONE SHOWCASE)

- Legal and Compliance: Provides references to India's EC Amendment Act, CCTS notifications, and the latest updates. It also covers SEBI BRSR/BRSR Core implications for ESG roles and data integrity, as well as aspects of contracting, client proposals, and anti-greenwashing practices.
- Business Readiness: Guides participants through setting up a small carbon advisory practice, including service catalogues, pricing, proposal templates, and delivery governance. Roles such as Carbon Analyst, MRV Associate, ESG Analyst, Project Developer, and Carbon Trading Support are mapped out.
- Capstone Demo Day: Each team presents a "client-ready" dossier as their capstone project.

6. PRACTICAL EXPOSURE PLAN (COMPULSORY)

- Field Visit 1 (Nature-Based): Participants engage in plot measurement demos, geo-tagging, and following photo evidence protocols. They draft baseline narratives and note leakage and permanence risks.
- Field Visit 2 (Industrial/Energy): Includes mapping energy consumption, capturing activity data, boundary setting, and developing a reduction project concept (e.g., efficiency, fuel switch, renewable energy integration).
- Live Industry Sessions (Virtual or In-Person): Sessions feature experts in registry/standard workflows (issuance and retirement evidence) and verification methodology, offering insights into validation and verification processes.

7. CAPSTONE PROJECT: DEVELOPING MARKET-READY CANDIDATES

Each candidate team is required to submit a comprehensive, job- or business-ready portfolio. This includes a corporate GHG inventory (covering scopes, assumptions, and QA log), a sequestration project concept note with a monitoring plan, an MRV calculation workbook with evidence pack structure, and a commercial package comprising a buyer pitch, risk disclosure, and draft term sheet outline. The package also features a 10-slide investor or client presentation.

8. ASSESSMENT & CERTIFICATION

Assessment is carried out through weekly quizzes (20%), lab work and submissions (30%), field evaluation and practical viva (20%), and the capstone dossier with presentation (30%). Upon successful completion, participants receive a certificate titled “Certified Carbon Sequestration & Carbon Trading Professional (CCSCTP) – SHIVEENA Foundation.” It is important to note that this is a professional training certificate and does not serve as a government licence or verifier accreditation.

9. COMPANY PREREQUISITES FOR INTERNSHIPS, CASE STUDIES, AND HOSTED PROJECTS

To partner with SHIVEENA Foundation as an industry host, companies must provide a single point of contact (such as an operations, ESG, or plant head), access to twelve months of relevant data (energy bills, fuel logs, production, or land records for nature-based projects), necessary site access and safety inductions, and adherence to PPE rules. Willingness to sign a non-disclosure agreement (NDA) for candidate projects is required, and companies may optionally agree to allow anonymised learning outputs.

10. INFRASTRUCTURE REQUIREMENTS FOR TRAINING DELIVERY

- Classroom: A 30-seater training room equipped with a projector, whiteboard, audio system, and stable internet connection.
- Lab: Provision for 25 laptops (bring your own device is acceptable), printer or scanner, and shared cloud folder structure.
- Software: Access to Excel/Sheets, QGIS (open source), basic remote-sensing datasets, and standard calculation templates.
- Field Equipment: Includes GPS devices or mobile GPS, DBH tape, measuring tape, clinometer (optional), soil sampling kits, and PPE such as helmets and safety shoes where required.

11. INDICATIVE BUDGET & PROFITABILITY (PER BATCH/SESSION)

COST PER BATCH (FOR 25 CANDIDATES)

Item	Cost (₹)
Lead Faculty Honorarium	2,50,000
Guest Speakers (3)	50,000
Teaching Assistants (2)	60,000
Field Visits (2)	1,20,000
Lab/Field Kits & Consumables	40,000
Software/Tools/Cloud/GIS	60,000
Venue + Utilities + Internet	75,000
Refreshments	75,000
Admin + Marketing + Outreach	1,00,000
Printing/Certificates/LMS	30,000
Contingency (10%)	86,000
Total Estimated Batch Cost	9,46,000

REVENUE & PROFITABILITY (RECOMMENDED PRICING)

- Option A (Most Balanced): Fee of ₹55,000 per candidate. For a batch of 25, total revenue is ₹13,75,000, with an estimated profit of ₹4,29,000 per batch and a per-candidate profit of ₹17,160. The break-even point is approximately 18 candidates.
- Option B (Premium with Higher Placement Support): Fee of ₹65,000 per candidate. For a batch of 25, profit per batch is about ₹6,79,000 and profit per candidate is ₹27,160.
- Option C (Access Pricing): Fee of ₹45,000 per candidate. Profitability improves only at higher batch sizes (about 25–30 candidates).

12. ENHANCING PLACEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

To make placements more effective, the programme includes a “Carbon Portfolio Day” where ESG consultants, EPC firms, renewable developers, auditors, and major industries are invited. The initiative encourages signing three to five Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) with ESG or climate consulting firms (for internships), afforestation or blue-carbon project implementers (for field access), industrial associations or MSME clusters (for data cases), verification or assurance professionals (for mock audits), and legal or policy mentors specialising in India’s CCTS and ICM updates.