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Building the Seagrass Credit Market for the Mediterranean

Market Consultation

February 2026



Plan Bleu



obsam
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Comune di
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Biodiversity, Blue Carbon & Coastal Resilience—Delivered with Integrity



Seagrasses are keystone habitats that store carbon, sustain fisheries, protect coasts, and support local economies.



ARTEMIS connects science, policy, and business to scale validated restoration and effective management across the Mediterranean.



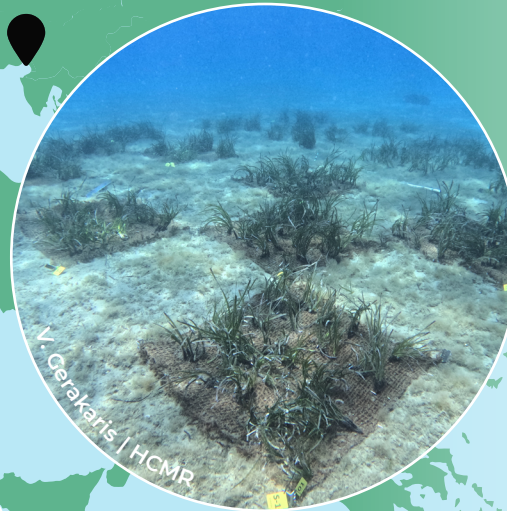
We propose a bundled Seagrass credit linked to demand: verified outcomes in biodiversity, carbon, additional ecosystem services.



Building the scene to accelerate the market. Next step: standardize the credit and operationalize the market (issuance, registry, first transactions).



MRV (Monitoring, Reporting, Verification) and governance frameworks already under development.



Sustainability
& Disclosure*

Blue carbon

State of
Eco-
systems

Multi-
Dimensional
Value of the
Artemis Credit

Water
quality*

Coastal
protection*

Support to
fisheries*

*Under development



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Why Posidonia matters — and why the market fails today



Risk & Loss

Degradation of seagrass meadows threatens carbon stocks, coastal protection, and fisheries productivity.



Investment Gap

Ecosystem services are underpriced or not monetized → persistent investment gap.



Mitigation

Companies are starting to integrate nature risk mitigation activities within their strategies.



Verified Credit Mechanism

Solution: a verified, tradable unit that captures biodiversity gains, carbon stock/flux, and cobenefits from restoration and management.



Outcomes & Reporting

The seagrass Credits delivers verified, decision-useful data to meet compliance and investor expectations.

Market frameworks



The Taskforce on Nature-related Financial Disclosures



Corporate sustainability reporting - Finance



EU Taxonomy / Sustainable Finance

What Companies must Evidence:

Requires identification and disclosure of nature-related dependencies, impacts, risks, and responses.

Mandates biodiversity and ecosystem reporting for EU large companies.

Push for proof of contribution and safeguards for sustainable finance.

What the Credit Provides:

Metrics, Verification, Registry proof, Governance & Credible outcomes



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Credit Technical Sheet



Unit: 1 credit = verified bundle of biodiversity, blue carbon, and ecosystem services outcomes linked to a determined area of Posidonia restoration/management over a defined period.



Eligibility: sites with robust baseline and clear additionality (no sufficient alternative funding; beyond legal requirements).



Indicators:

- **Ecosystem:** Extent and Condition
- **Blue Carbon:** Biomass & sediment carbon stock/flux.
- **Co-benefits:** Other ecosystems services in monetary values.

MRV: field protocols; QA/QC steps; frequency (e.g., annual core indicators); independent verification; natural capital accounting.



Permanence: buffer pool/insurance; risk assessment (storms, warming, human disturbance); response plans.



Leakage: spatial planning & stakeholder agreements to avoid displacement of pressure.



Safeguards: Do-No-Significant-Harm; social license; stakeholder engagement.



Registry: unique serials, issuance & retirement rules; public-facing summaries and audit trail.



Instruments: ex-post performance credits; forwards/offers with milestone gates.



Valuation: monetary valuation to provide transparency and market signals.



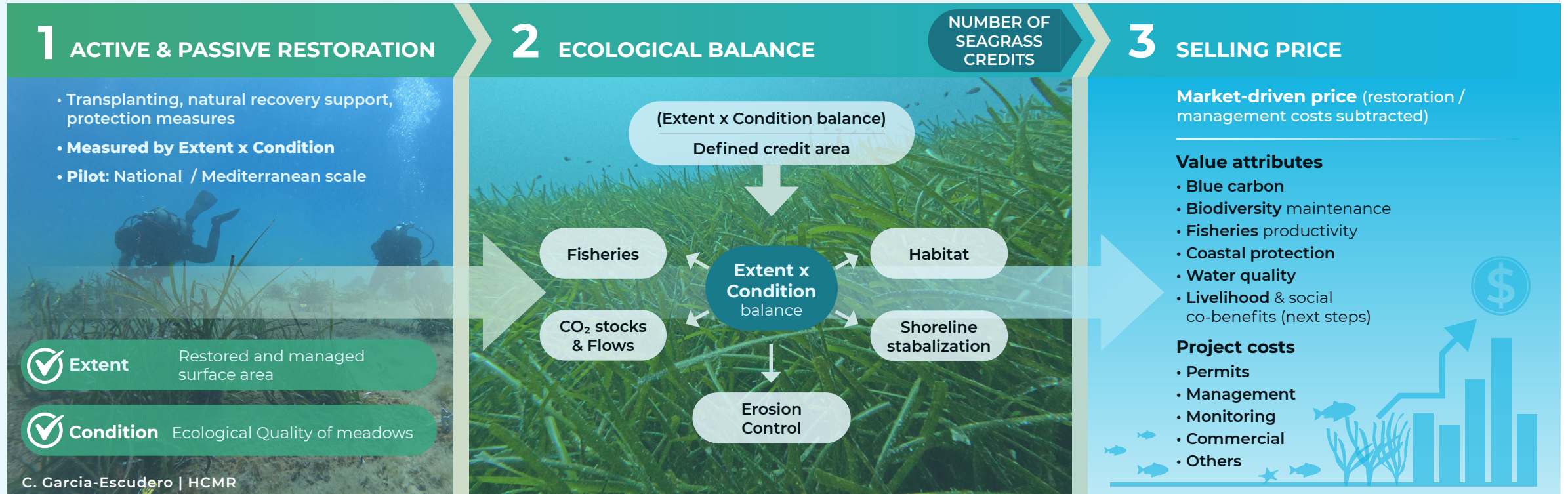
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Seagrass Credit Workflow - from restoration to market value



Who is it for? Auditable, stackable benefits – Compliance, risk mitigation, and reputational value



Corporates
CSRD compliance /
TNFD risk mitigation



Investors
Nature-positive
auditable assets



Public agencies
Cost-effective
ecosystem recovery



Brands
Credible ESG &
reputational value



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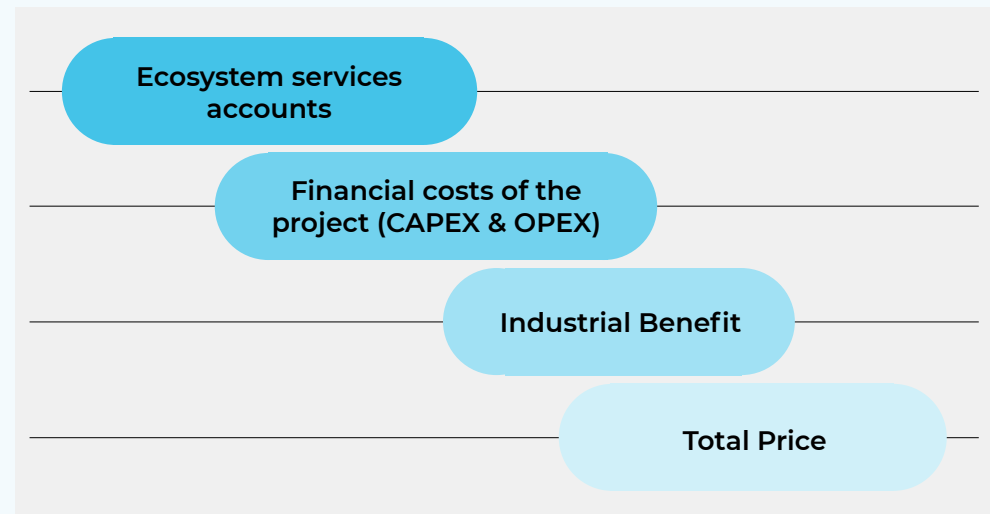
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Pricing & Market Scenarios

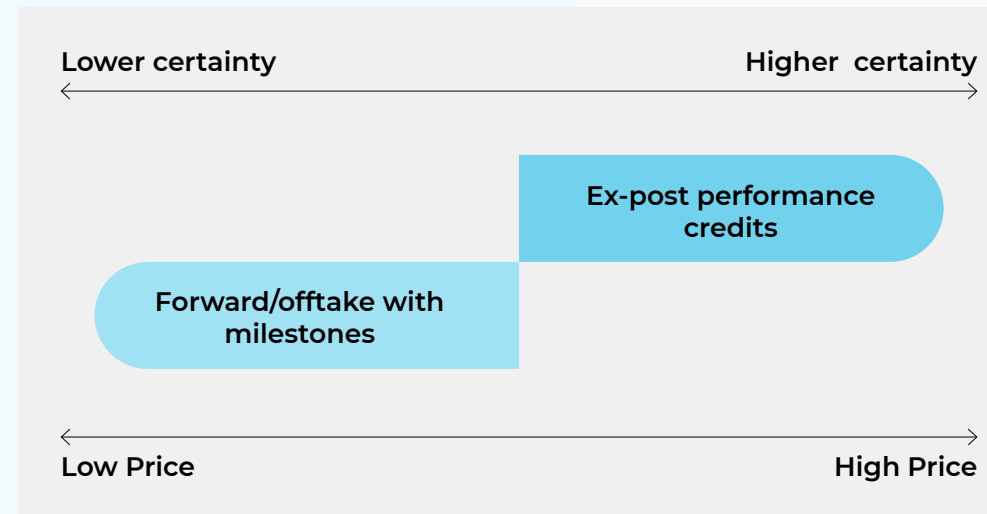
- **Cost drivers:** MRV intensity, restoration complexity, site risk, permanence buffer, verification costs, governance/registry overheads.
- **Demand drivers:** compliance needs (CSRD/TNFD), sector exposure, nature risk mitigation, brand value, scarcity/premium of Mediterranean *Posidonia*.
- **Contract types:**
 - **Ex-post performance credits:** higher certainty → higher price.
 - **Forward/offtake with milestones:** discount vs ex-post, de-risking via guarantees and staged issuance.
- **Bundled vs unbundled:** bundled premium for multi-outcome delivery; unbundled skews to either biodiversity or carbon KPIs



Cost-to-price estimation components



Ex-post vs forward pricing comparison

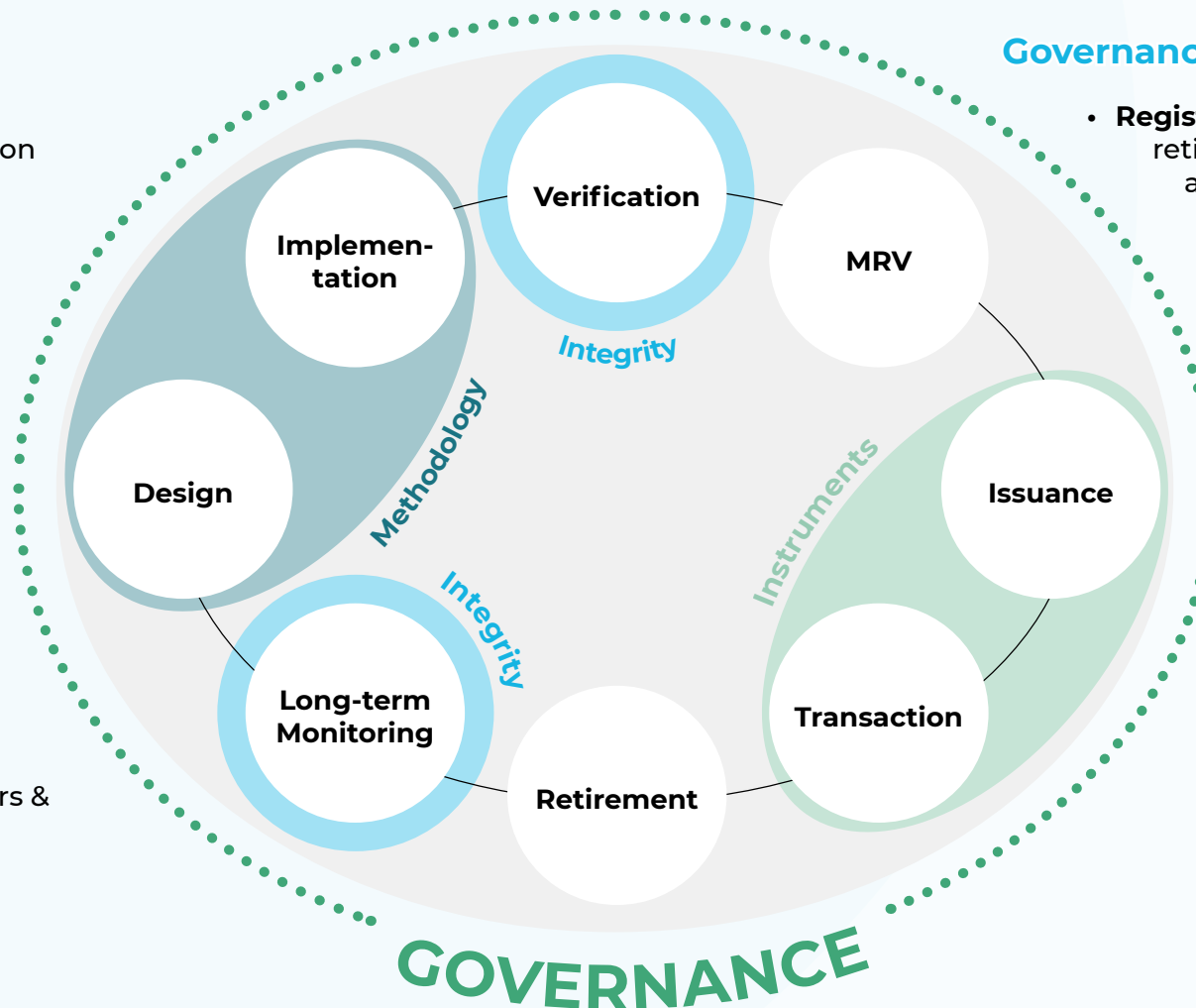




MRV system & Governance Model

MRV System

- **Methodology:** robust baselines and counterfactuals; biodiversity and carbon indicators; co-benefit documentation (qualitative)
- **MRV:** natural capital accounting, field monitoring + remote sensing; QA/QC;
- **Integrity:** additionality, no leakage, permanence (buffer/insurance), Do-No-Significant-Harm safeguards.
- **Governance:** single registry, serial numbers, issuance/retirement rules, grievance & dispute resolution (on-going).
- **Instruments:** bundled credits; performance-based (ex-post) or forward/offtake with milestone triggers & guarantees



Governance Model

- **Registry functions:** issuance, serials, transfers, retirement, public summaries, verifier attestations.
- **Decision bodies:** technical committee (methodology/MRV), governance committee (appeals, disputes), community/stakeholder panel.
- **Audit & transparency:** annual reports, open methodology updates, incident logs (reversals, disputes, corrective actions).
- **Data access:** buyer dashboards; evidence packs for assurance and reporting (TNFD/CSRD).



Risk & Opportunities Management Framework

Sector		Dependencies & Impacts	Opportunities Enabled by the ARTEMIS credit
	Fisheries & Aquaculture	Strong dependency on habitat quality; impacts via gear/pressure; material risks if meadows decline.	Safeguard nursery habitats, stabilize stocks; align with local authorities/guilds; offtake tied to zones of influence.
	Tourism & Real Estate	Dependency on water clarity/beach stability; impacts via coastal construction; reputational & physical risks.	Coastal protection, water clarity, premium sustainability positioning; license to operate and brand differentiation.
	Ports & Infrastructure	Physical/logistical dependency on stable coasts; construction/traffic impacts; permitting & social risks.	Manage residual impacts; support “no net loss” commitments; reduce social/regulatory risk.
	Energy & Utilities	Dependency on resilient coastal corridors; impacts from marine works; regulatory & financing risks.	Align with EU Taxonomy; hedge nature-related risks; long-term resilience of coastal assets.
	Consumer Brands	Indirect dependencies through supply chains and reputational capital; risks from scrutiny on nature claims	TNFD-ready disclosure; credible storytelling backed by verified datasets; customer engagement.
	Public Administration	Strong dependency on regulatory ecosystem services; impacts related to public infrastructures and society as a whole.	Adaptation and mitigation to nature-related risks, and quantification/valuation of marine Natural Capital.



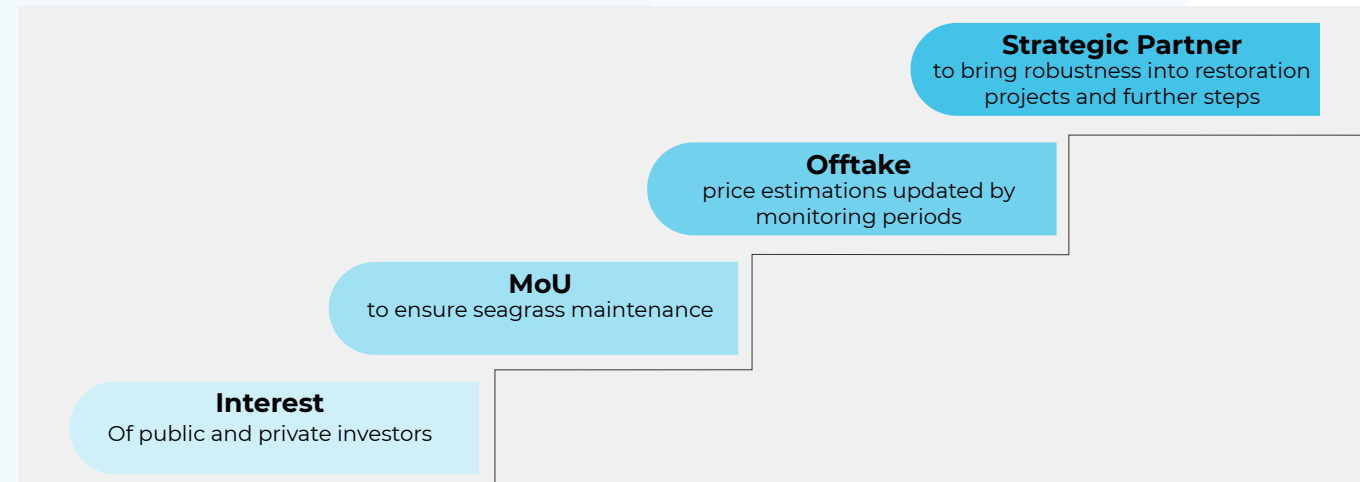
MoU Term Sheet & additional opportunities

Sections

- **Purpose:** co-design and pilot the Seagrass Credit.
- **Scope & Activities:** working groups, methodology input, MRV pilots, data-sharing protocols.
- **Timeline:** 3–6 months initial period, renewals by mutual consent.
- **Roles & Responsibilities:** ARTEMIS (coordination, technical lead); Partner (requirements, potential offtake interest, data contribution).
- **Data & IP:** ownership, confidentiality, permitted uses, publication rules.
- **Brand & Communications:** shared guidelines; review periods.
- **Governance:** steering committee; decision-making; dispute resolution.
- **Non-binding commercial terms:** intent to explore offtake; no purchase obligation unless otherwise agreed.

Partnership Options

- **Purpose: Co-design MoU (3–6 months):** technical working groups, MRV pilots, unit definition, quality assurance.
- **Offtake/Forward:** future purchase with milestone-based issuance; discounted price vs ex-post, with guarantees and buffers.
- **Blended Finance:** catalytic capital + strategic philanthropy to de-risk scale-up of MRV and restoration.
- **Brand & Communications:** licensed use of ARTEMIS Posidonia Credit seal and co-storytelling.
- **Data & Research Access:** privileged datasets; joint publications/case studies (as agreed).





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From pilots to a Mediterranean-wide market (next steps)

2024-2025

- **Methodology v1**
- **MRV pilots**
 - Risk mitigation: adaptive design, buffers/insurance, continuous regulatory alignment, diversified demand

2026-2027

- **Registry MVP, first issuance & transactions**
- **First MoUs/offtakes**
- **Geographic expansion**
- **Refinement to methodology v2**
 - Proposal: sign MoUs to co-design and pilot the credit; align technical and commercial requirements.
 - Immediate next step: schedule a technical alignment session (buyers' needs: bundled/unbundled emphasis, reporting requirements, timelines).

2028-2030

- **Regional scaling**
- **Integration into corporate reporting & sustainable finance flows**
 - Use of funds: MRV (equipment, fieldwork, verification), restoration & management, registry development, governance & assurance.

ARTEMIS scheme: Shifting funding channels



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Let's build the Seagrass Credit market together



Scan me!

- **We want to hear your thoughts!**
- **Motivation:** What would motivate you to invest in restoration via the ARTEMIS Seagrass credit?
- **Value:** What kind of value would you ideally want to derive from such an investment (e.g. strategic, reputational, operational, compliance-related)?
- **Assurance:** What assurances would you need to see in a mechanism of this type?
- **Deterrents:** What would deter you from investing in the ARTEMIS Seagrass credit?
- **We kindly ask interviewees to respond to a brief questionnaire to help us shape the ARTEMIS Seagrass credit in line with market needs.**