P07 — Third-Party Anchoring

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Third-Party Anchoring
“Your claim is only as strong as its external anchor.”
Digital Layer

Definition

Every sovereign climate claim must be anchored to at least one authoritative external source: a national government dataset (IDEAM, INPE/PRODES, SENAMHI, CONAF), a multilateral intergovernmental platform (GFW, Climate TRACE, EDGAR, Copernicus/ESA), or a certified third-party verifier accredited under an international standard (Verra, Gold Standard, CBAM-accredited VVB). Internal data alone, however well-documented, does not constitute sovereign climate data.

Rationale

Self-reported data without external anchor has zero credibility in investment due diligence, green bond verification, or regulatory audit. Anchoring to a sovereign or intergovernmental dataset transfers the burden of proof from the organisation to the global data infrastructure. For LATAM: IDEAM (Colombia), INPE/PRODES (Brazil), SENAMHI (Peru/Bolivia), and CONAF (Chile) are the authoritative national anchors for forest and climate data.

Implementation Steps

1. Identify the authoritative external source for each reported metric type (forest: GFW/IDEAM; emissions: Climate TRACE/EDGAR; energy: IEA/national grid operator).
2. Cross-reference your data against the external anchor at least quarterly.
3. Document discrepancies between your data and the anchor, with explanation.
4. For carbon credits: work only with verifiers accredited under Verra, Gold Standard, or a national carbon market standard.
5. For CBAM compliance: obtain third-party verification from an EU-accredited VVB.

Compliance Checklist

	Criterion	What it means
?	**External anchor identified per metric**	Each metric type has a named authoritative external source.

	Criterion	What it means
?	**Quarterly cross-reference performed**	Last reconciliation date recorded with discrepancy log.
?	**Verifier accreditation confirmed**	Any third-party verifier's accreditation status has been checked.
?	**CBAM VVB in place (if applicable)**	EU-accredited VVB identified for CBAM-relevant goods.

Regulatory References

- CBAM Regulation EU 2023/956 — Art. 10(3) (Accredited VVB requirement)
- Verra VCS Standard v4.1 — Section 4.2 (Validation and Verification)
- GFW GLAD-L Alert Methodology (Hansen et al. 2013, updated 2024)

Recommended Tools and Platforms

Global Forest Watch API Climate TRACE API EDGAR REST API Copernicus CDS API IDEAM Colombia INPE PRODES

Keywords

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