

# REDD Offset Workgroup & Climate Action Reserve Reference Level Concepts



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Technical Workshop on National  
Reference Levels for REDD+



# ROW Reference Level Concepts

- Scope Recommendations:
  - Initial crediting should include **both** reduced emissions from deforestation and forest degradation
  - Crediting of activities that lead to increased forest carbon stocks should be optional initially, but jurisdictions should not be precluded from including the “+” if they are already addressing deforestation and degradation



# ROW Reference Level Concepts

- California Regulation Distinguishes Between:
  - **“Reference Level”**: Projection of BAU forest carbon trends for a jurisdiction
  - **“Crediting Baseline”**: Reference point for determining creditable reductions
- These may be the same or different – to be negotiated

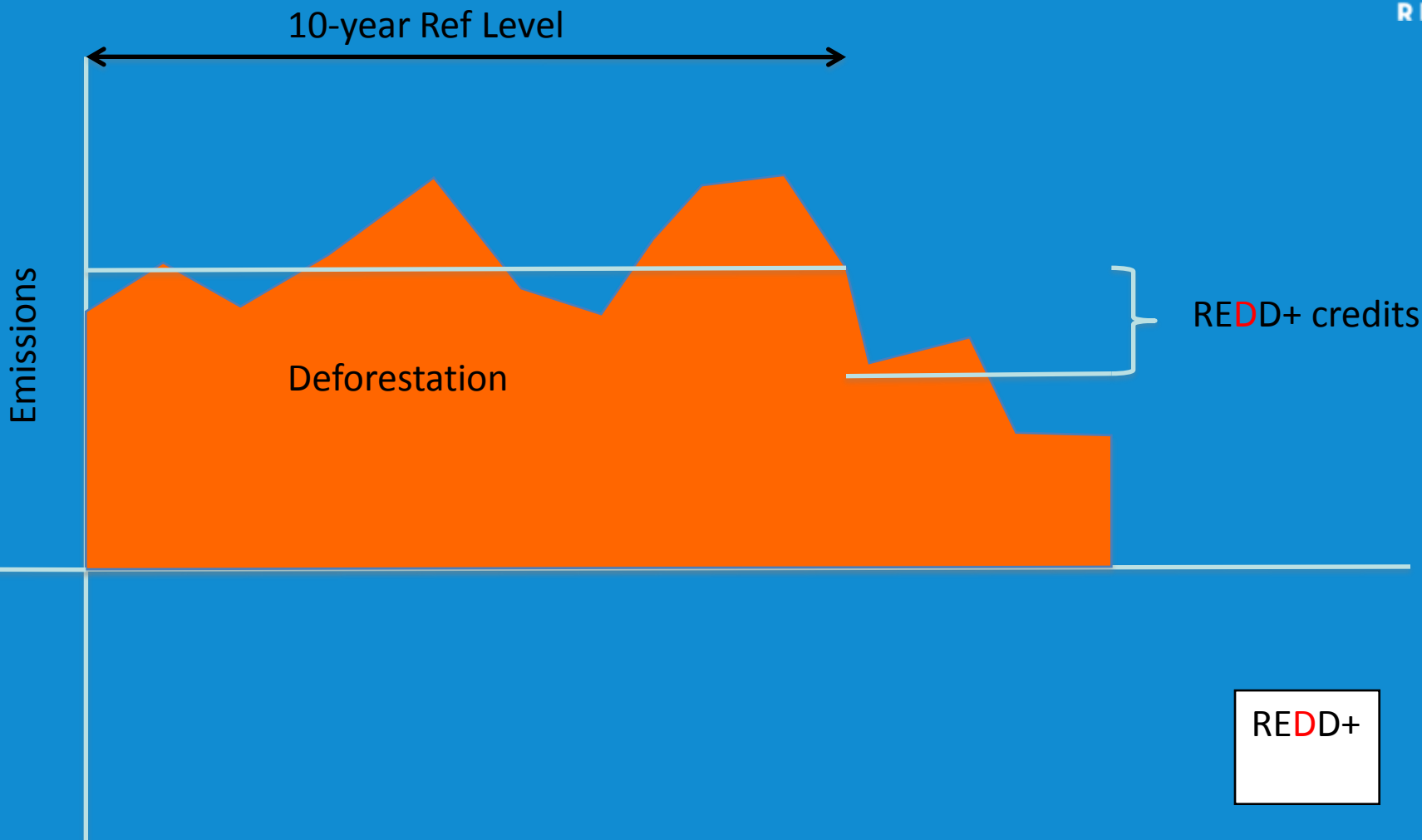


# ROW Reference Level Concepts

- Reference Level Determined By:
  - Projection from historical data over 1996-2005 (at least 5 data points); or
  - Allocation from national level, if national program exists with subnational allocations; or
  - “Stock-flow” method if jurisdiction is part of a consortium of states for which an aggregate historical projection has been made
    - Allocates rate of emissions based on historical rate for the consortium and existing stocks

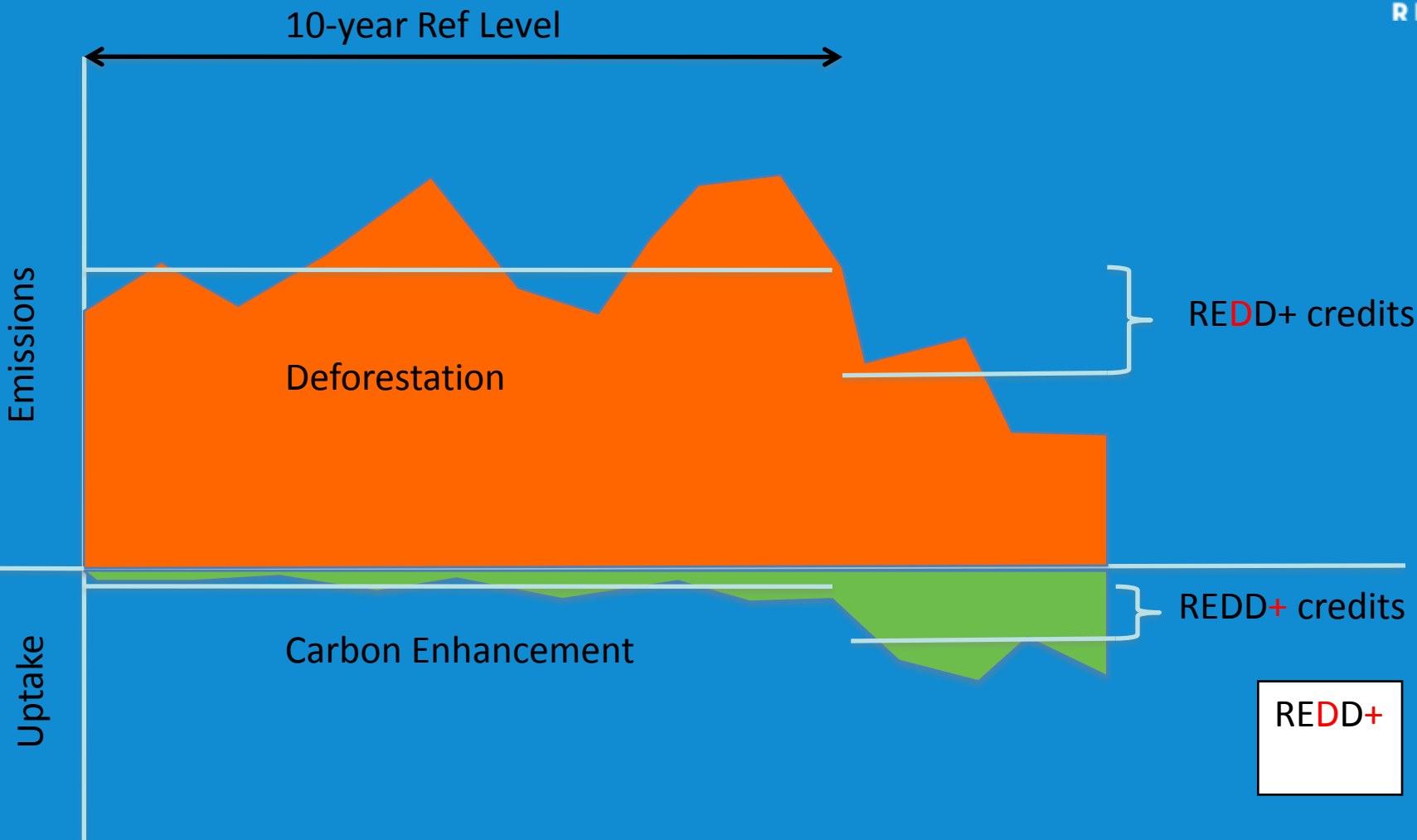


# ROW Reference Level Concepts



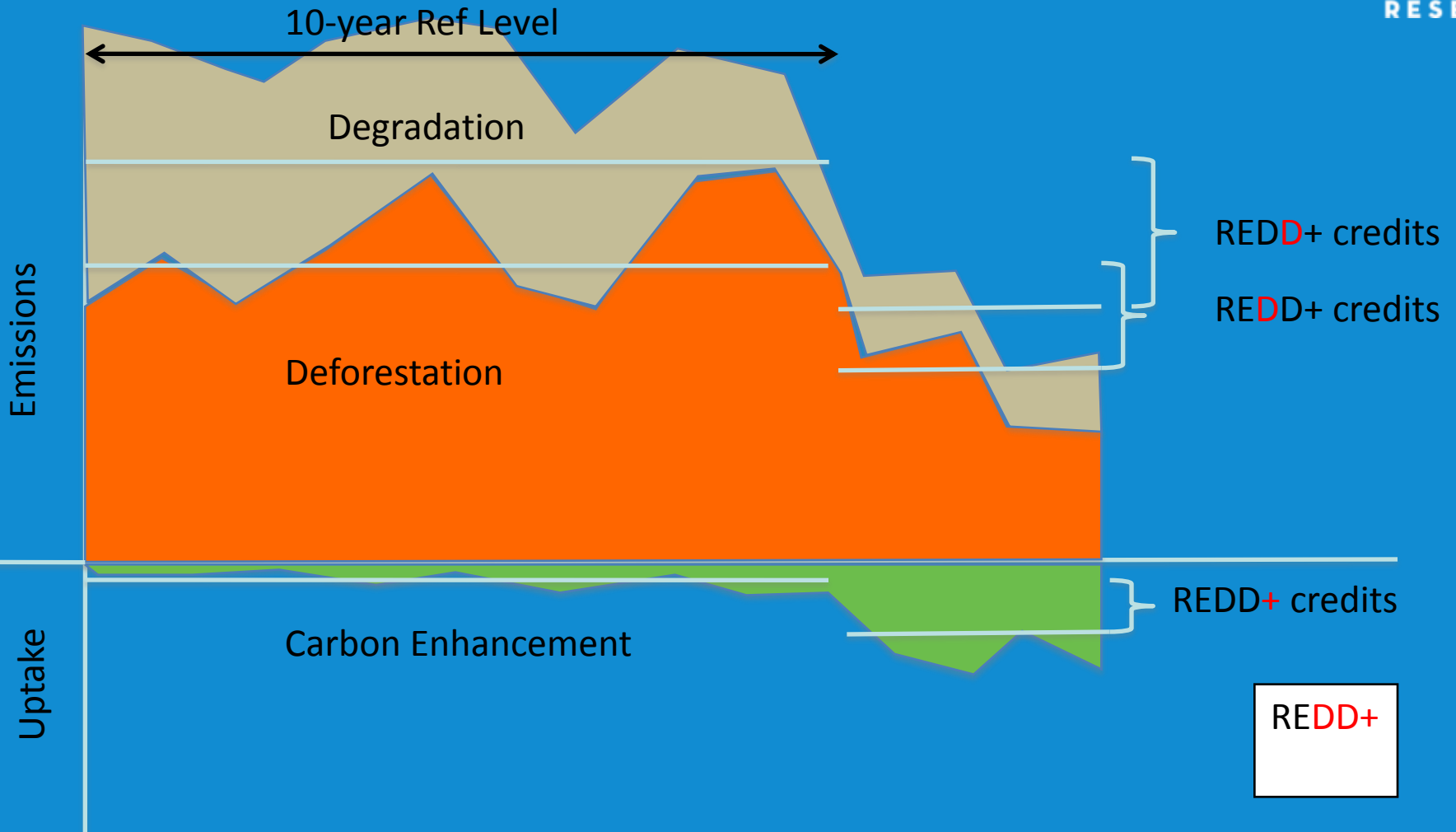


# ROW Reference Level Concepts





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# CAR Mexico Project Baselines

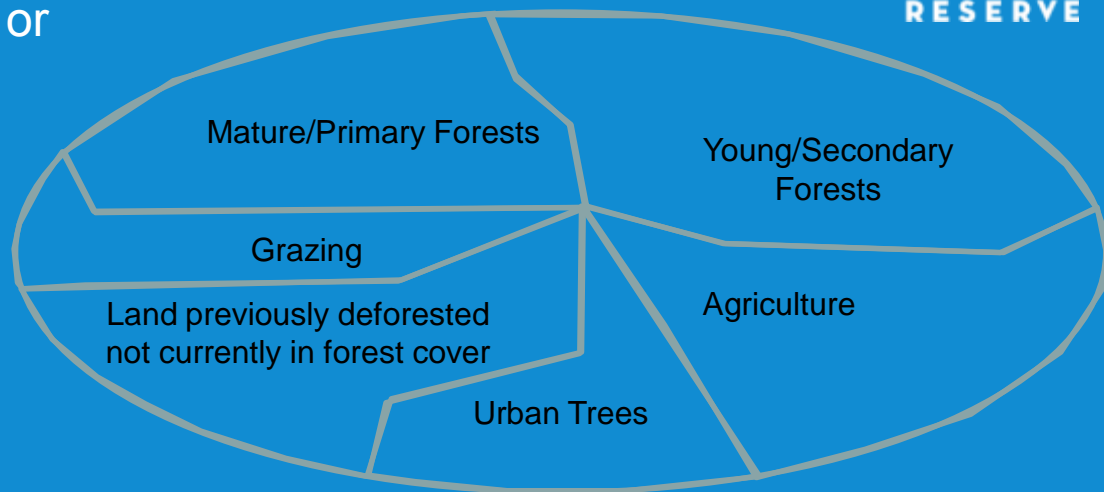
## Step 1. Developing a Territorial Inventory



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Project area defined by a “territory,” or collection of different landscapes resulting from environmental and human-related factors within a management boundary such as an ownership

Any forested landscape, or landscape planned for forest cover in a project, is an eligible landscape



Inventory Example

| Land Use                | CO2e Tonnes/Hectare (Trees) | Hectares      | Total Tonnes CO2e (Trees) |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------|---------------------------|
| Mature/Primary Forests  | 180                         | 2,000         | 360,000                   |
| Young/Secondary Forests | 100                         | 3,000         | 300,000                   |
| Grazing                 | 35                          | 1,000         | 35,000                    |
| Agriculture             | 30                          | 2,000         | 60,000                    |
| Urban Trees             | 10                          | 1,000         | 10,000                    |
| Deforested landscapes   | 30                          | 2,000         | 60,000                    |
| <b>Average/Sum</b>      | <b>75</b>                   | <b>11,000</b> | <b>825,000</b>            |



# CAR Mexico Project Baselines

## Step 2. Trend Analysis

- Regional trends (stocks) published by Reserve for Assessment Areas
  - Assessment Areas are ecological boundaries (forest communities) and political boundaries (municipalities and states) defined by CONAFOR (Unidades de manejo forestal)
  - Trends based on re-measurement of national inventory plots over time
- Trends extended for crediting period (20 years)

## Step 3. Trend Application to Project Inventories

- Standardized guidance for analysis of deforestation and sequestration conducted and applied at project level to calibrate Assessment Area trend to project



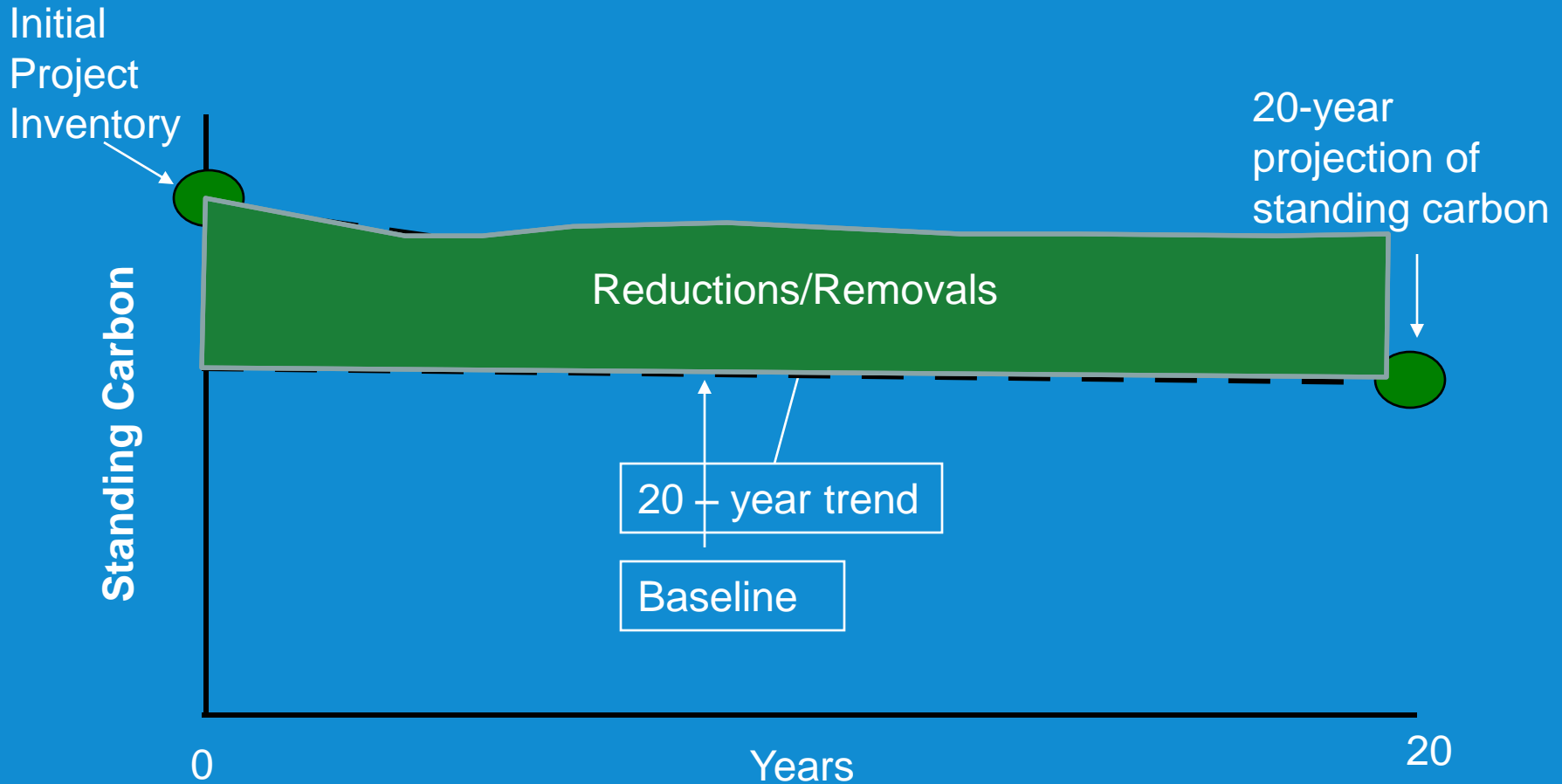
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# Project Baseline

## Step 4. Finalizing the Baseline



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- In this scenario, the project will generate credits for both avoided emissions and sequestration



# Forest Project Activities

- ‘Territorial’ baseline enables a variety activities that increase sequestration or decrease emissions to be included with one baseline approach
  - Reforestation
  - Improved forest management
  - Avoided deforestation
  - Avoided degradation
  - Trees in agroforestry
  - Urban forests