



Carbon offsetting:

Examples of practices and challenges

Net Zero

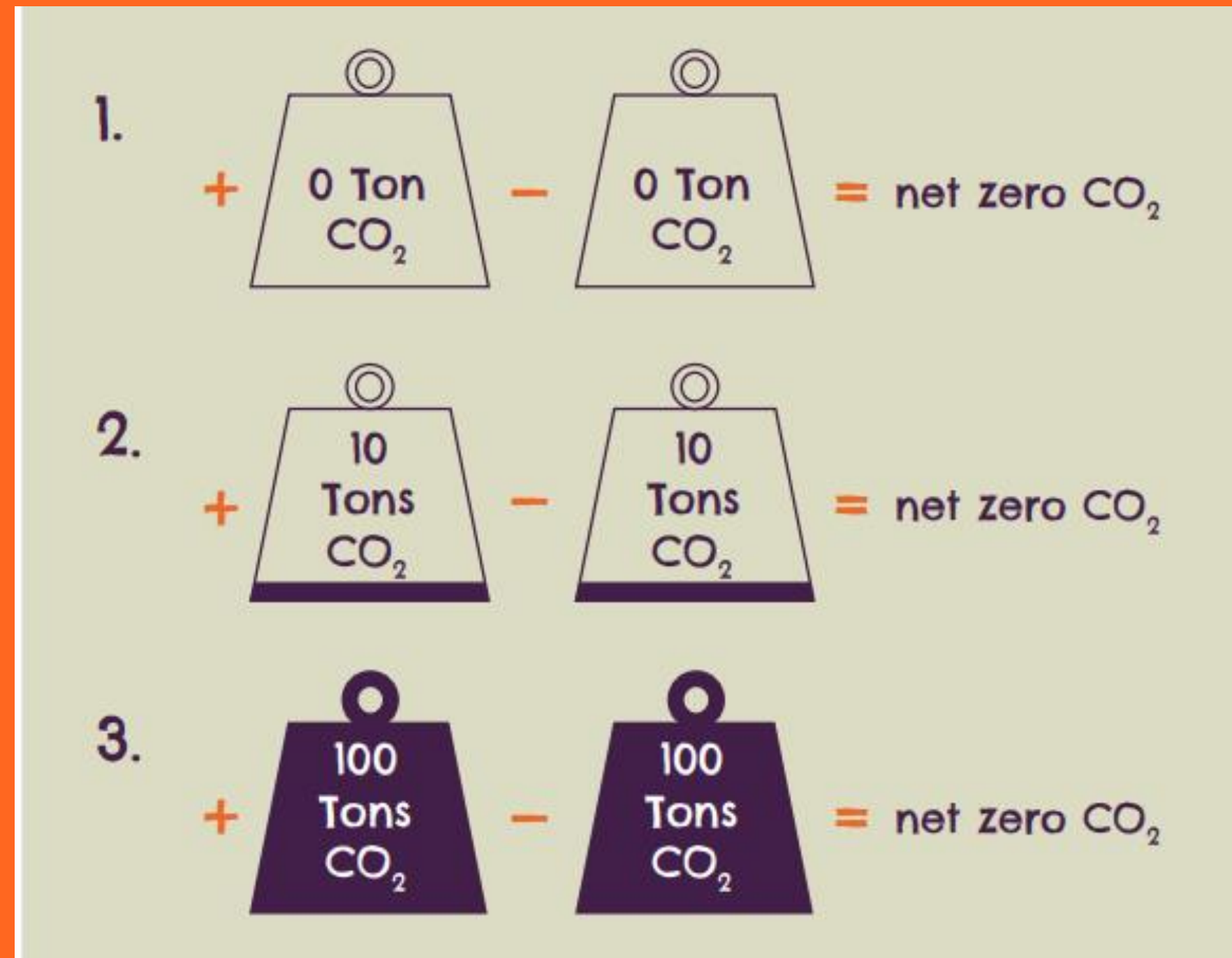
A balance between anthropogenic CO2 emissions and removals (Paris Agreement)

- Reduction efforts + removals of residual emissions (via carbon sinks)

Concept of carbon neutrality applicable at state level, as the result of collective state efforts. A company or product cannot be carbon neutral !



Net Zero



What is carbon offsetting ?

The idea that emissions from human activities can be 'cancelled out' by projects that are meant to reduce or store carbon.

These projects generate carbon credits that are traded in carbon markets.

Criteria (soil carbon sequestration):
Additionality, permanence, rigorous measurement, reporting and verification (MRV), safeguards

CHALLENGES (1/2):

- Scientific limits: impermanence, reversibility, uncertainties re measurement etc.
- Lack of additionality
- No equivalence between emissions reductions and removals
- They don't deliver real emissions reductions delaying urgently needed climate action to stay within 1.5°C-2°C threshold

CHALLENGES (2/2):



- They allow business as usual and greenwashing (New Climate Institute)
- Dangerous for human rights (land grabs, intimidations etc.) and biodiversity
- Not enough land on the planet to plant trees (competition w/food production) ex. Shell



CCFD — Terre Solidaire analysis of corporate net zero strategies

- TotalEnergies, Nespresso et AirFrance
- Massive use of offsets vs very little emissions reductions
- Ofsetting allows business as usual and masks expansion of activities while companies claim to be carbon neutral

Dangers for human rights & biodiversity:

- Plantation of a 40.000 ha forest in the Republic of Congo, local populations have not been consulted to this date.
- Acacias: fast-growing monoculture, non-native to the region.



Voluntary carbon markets:

- ✓ Unregulated
- ✓ Double-counting risks
- ✓ Unsuccessful in achieving absolute emissions reductions at global level
- ✓ No benefits for local communities
- ✓ Delay urgent climate action



Recommendations:

- ✓ Emissions reductions should be your priority
- ✓ Minimize residual emissions
- ✓ Companies must report actual emissions reductions (not net)
- ✓ Set separate targets and accounting for emissions reductions (all 3 scopes) and removals
- ✓ Offsetting in any form should not be allowed
- ✓ Protect human rights and biodiversity

Thanks for listening!

