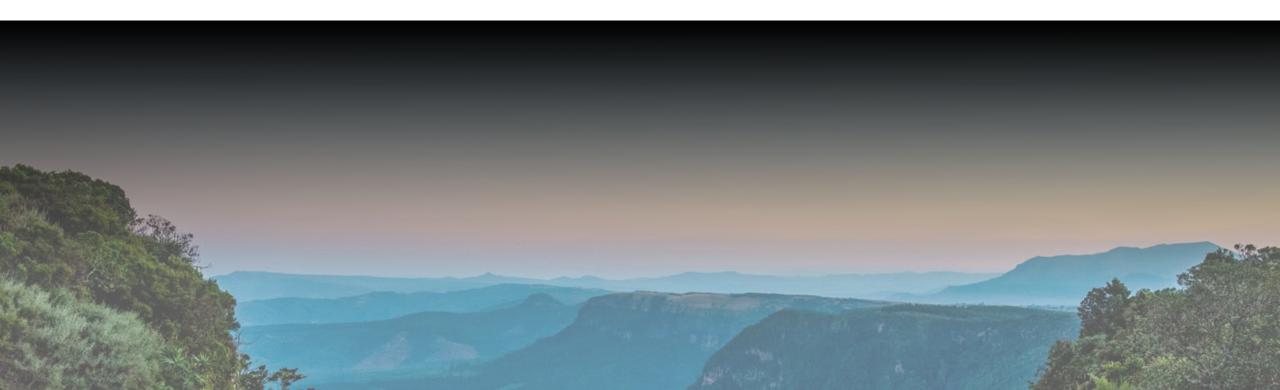


Carbon Dioxide Removal (CDR) Applicant User Guide

Microsoft Sustainability Procurement & Investments



Welcome

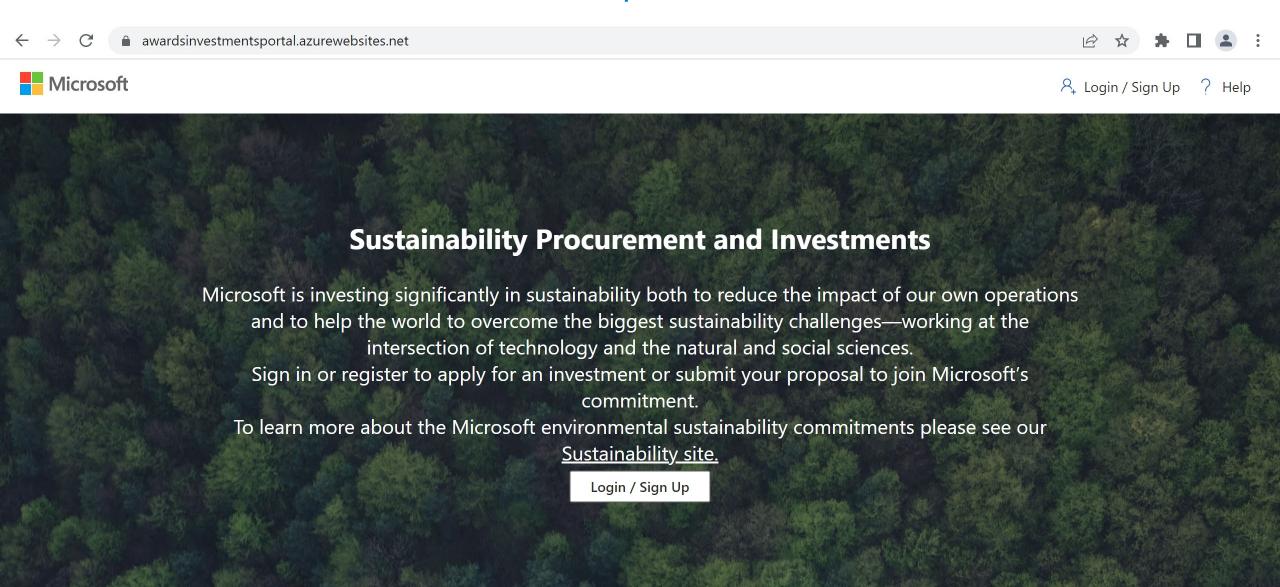


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Where to begin

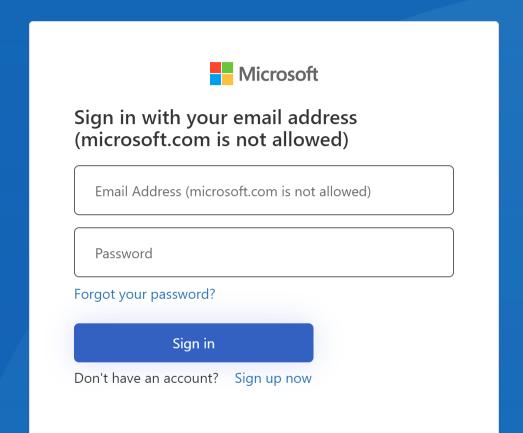
Go to <u>Awards & Investments (awardsinvestmentsportal.azurewebsites.net)</u>



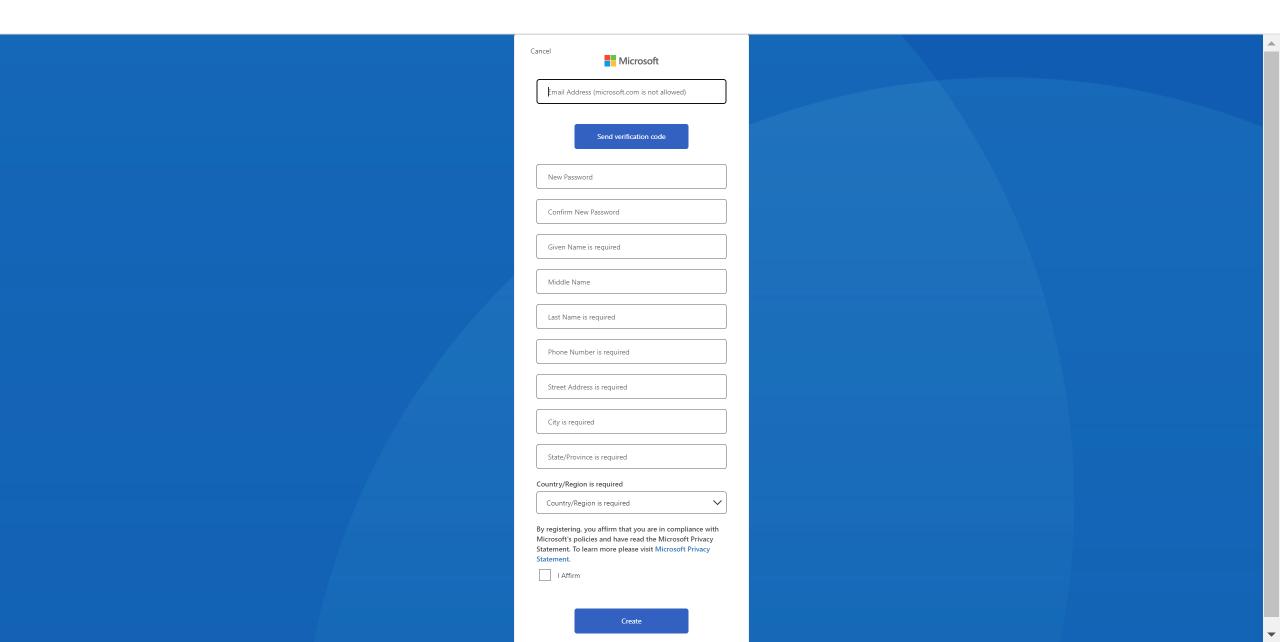
Login/Set-up

Select **Login / Sign Up** from the **Sustainability Procurement and Investments** home screen. The page below will appear.

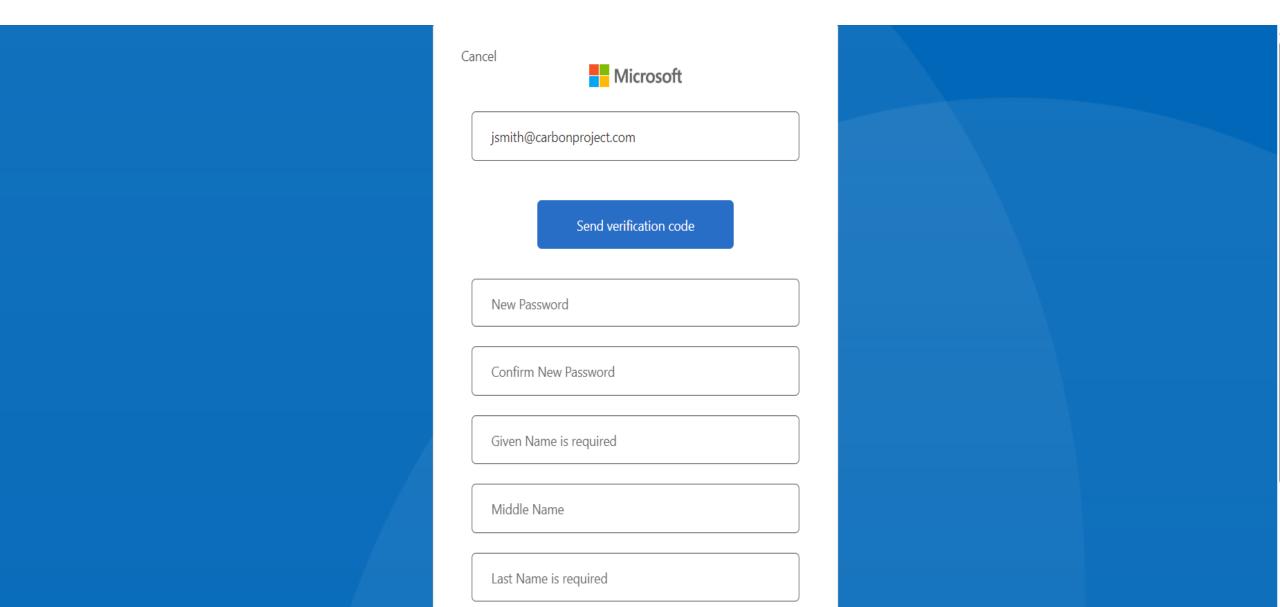
- To create a new account, select Sign up now.
- Applicants who have already created accounts can enter their mail address and password and select Sign In.
 (skip to slide 12)



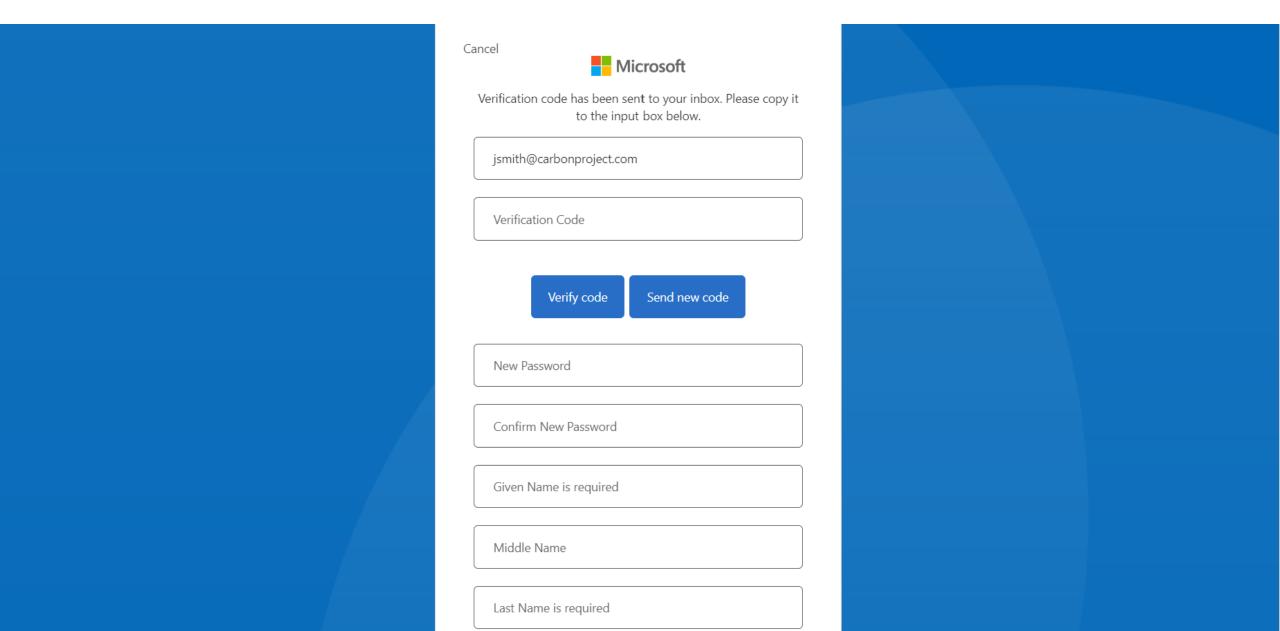
Select **Sign Up Now**. The account registration page will appear:



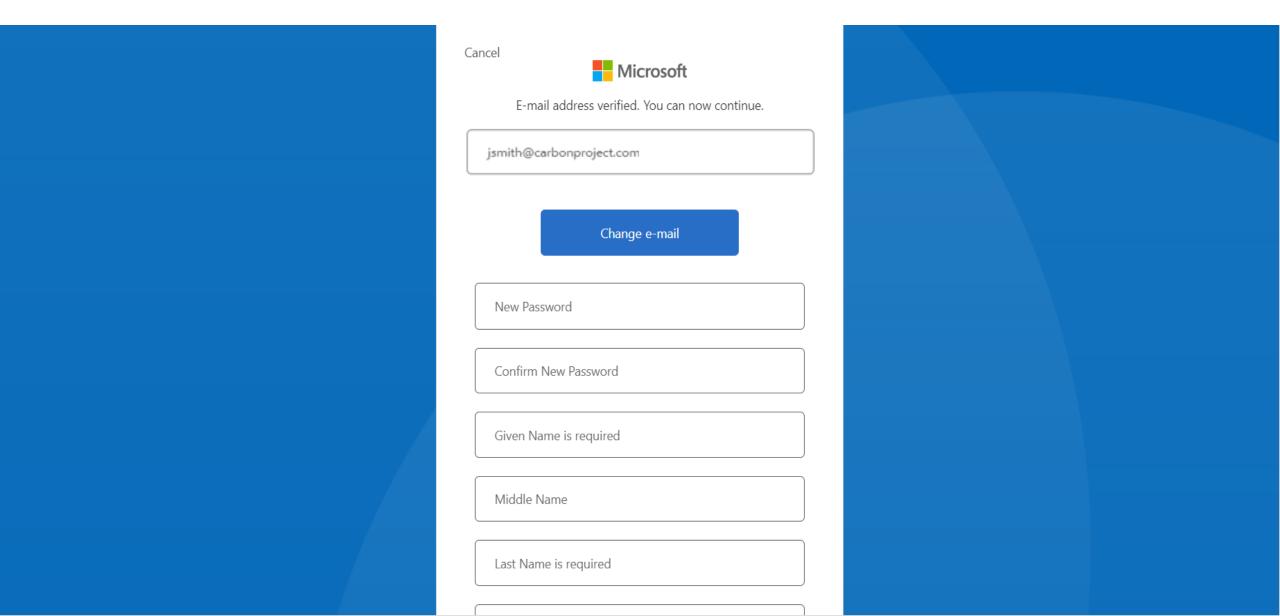
Enter the email address and select **Send verification code**.



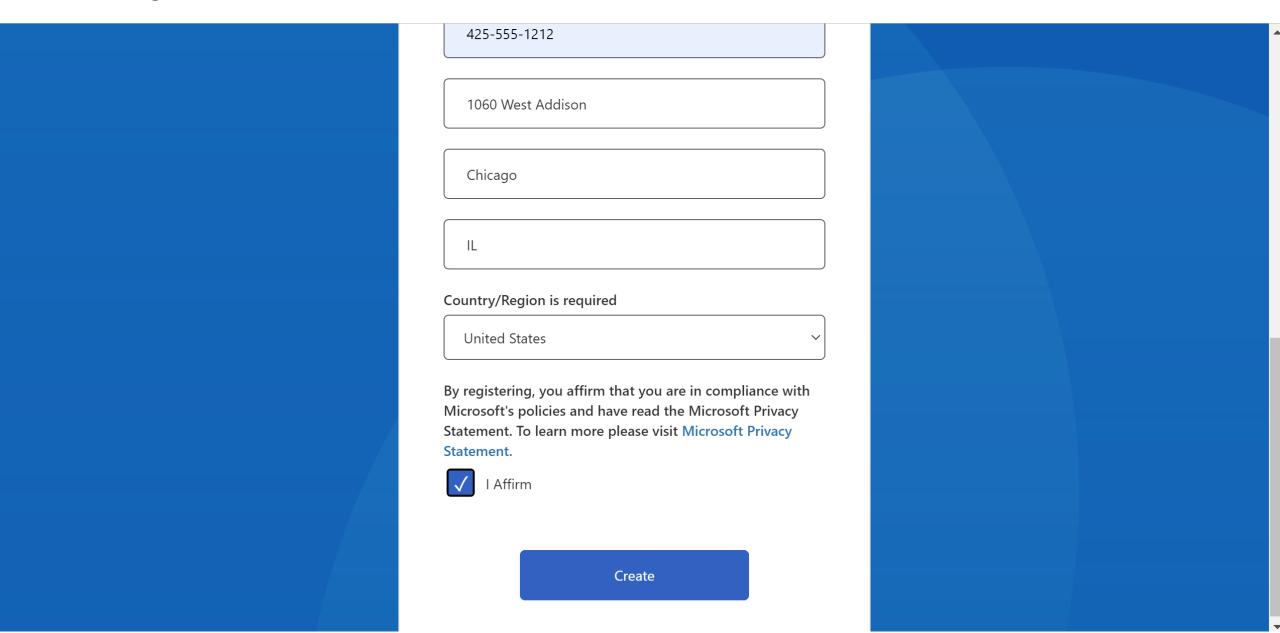
Check your email for a message from Microsoft Sustainability Procurement and Investments. Enter the code from the email in the Verification Code field and select **Verify Code**



The verified email address will be the one Microsoft uses to communicate about the application. Complete the account registration by providing a password, name, phone, city, state/region, and country:



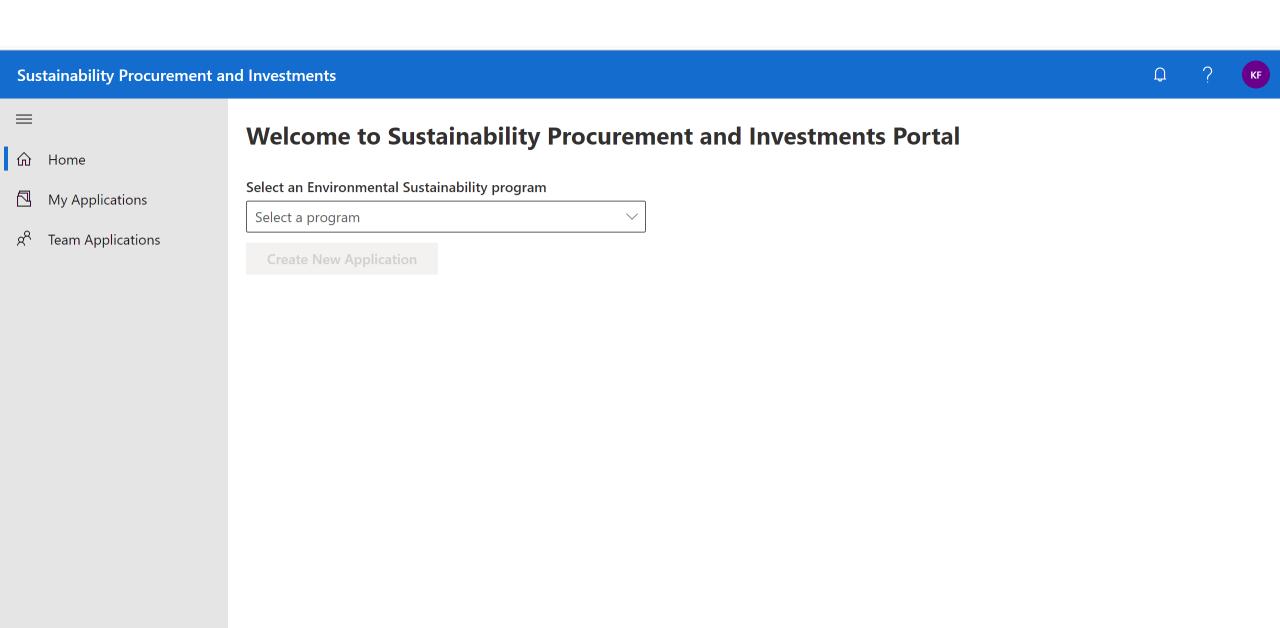
Next, read the Microsoft Privacy Statement (see link), check the box next to **I Affirm**, and select **Create** to complete account registration.



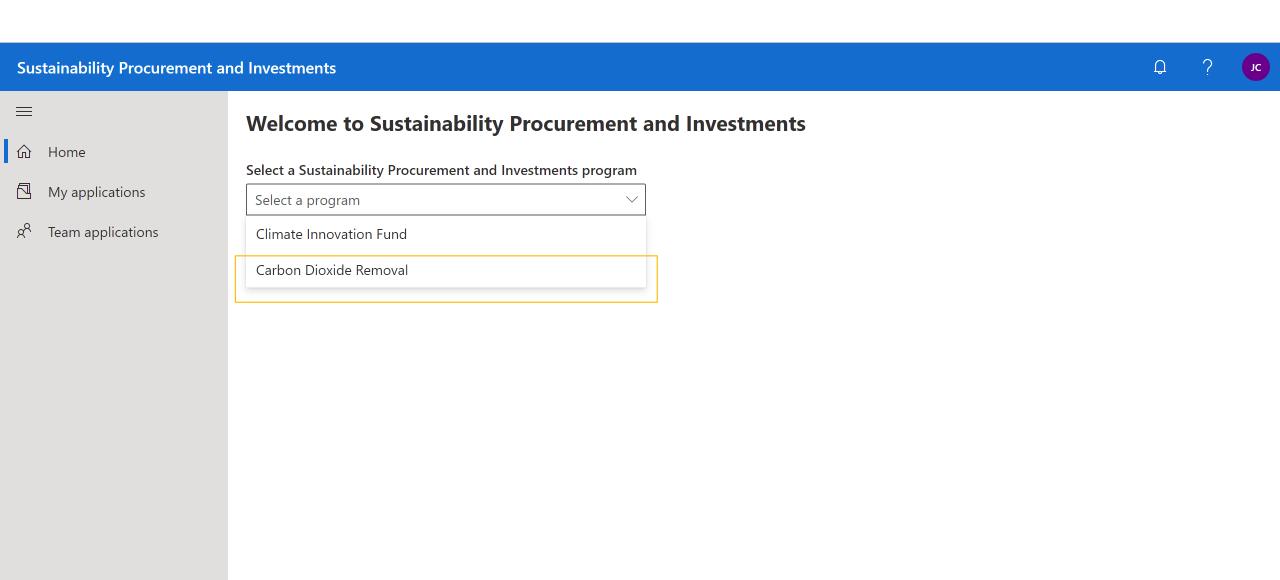
Account Creation Notes:

- All fields are required, except Middle Name.
- The account you create can be used to apply for Carbon Dioxide Removal purchases as well as the Climate Innovation Fund.
- Accounts with *@microsoft.com email addresses **cannot** be used for the Climate Innovation Fund or Carbon Dioxide Removal applications.

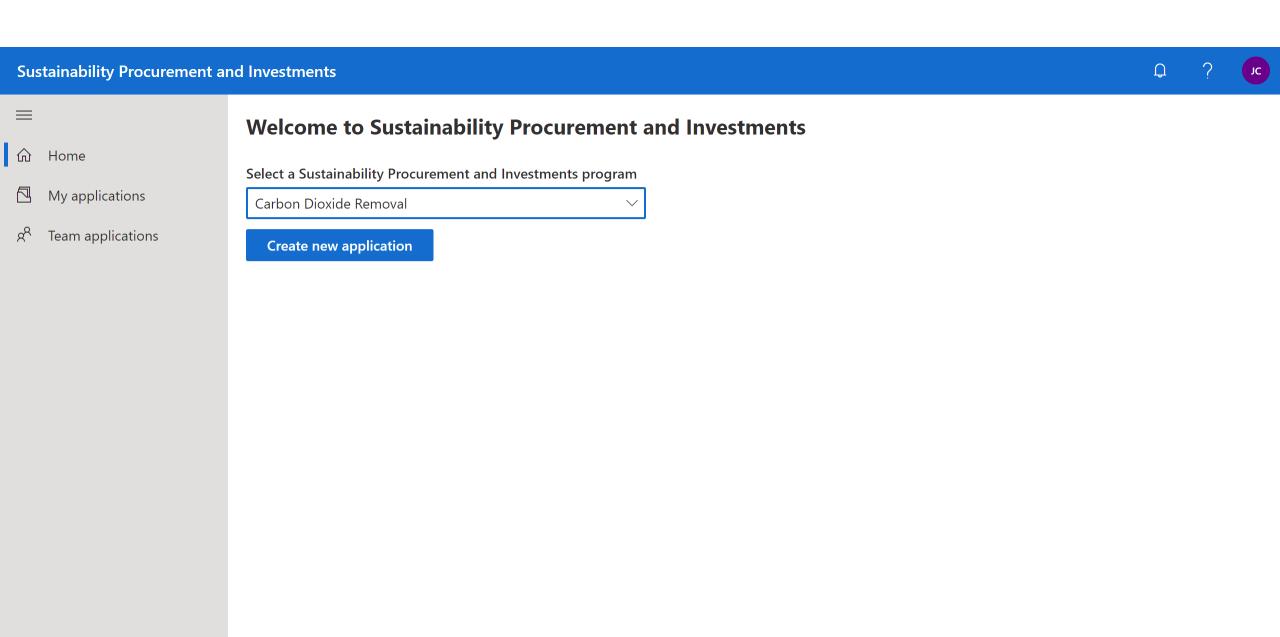
After creating an account and logging in, the **Sustainability Procurement and Investments Portal** home page appears:



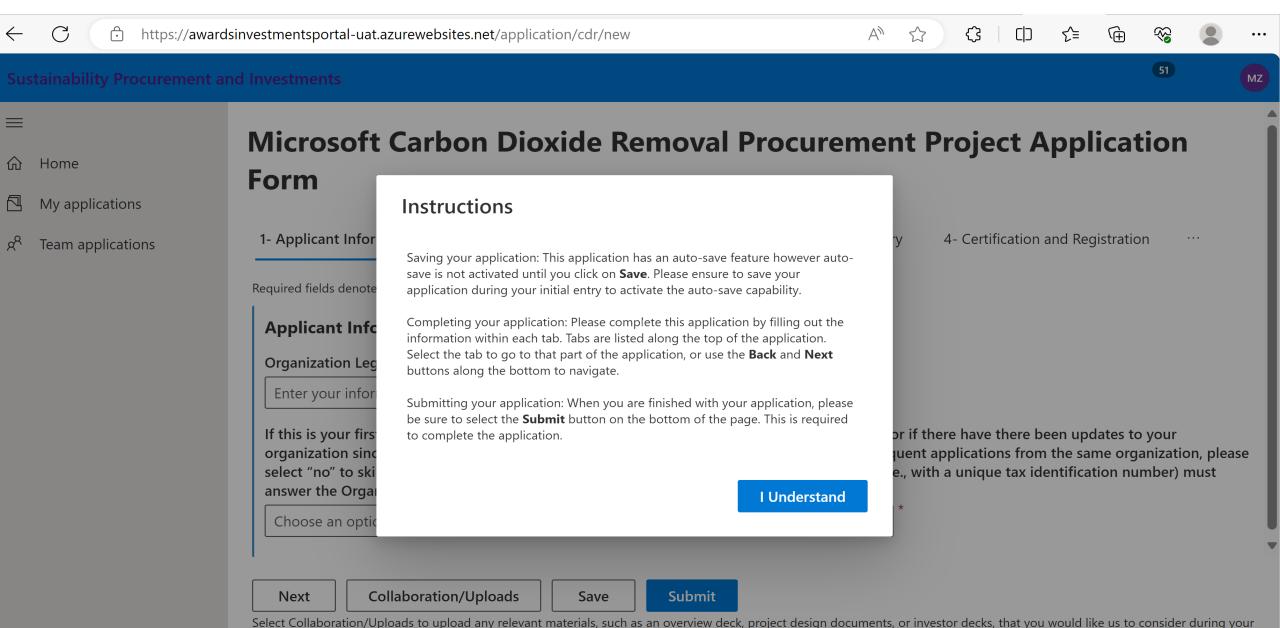
Select **Carbon Dioxide Removal** from the program drop-down.



Then, select **Create new application**.



The first time a user creates a new CDR application, an Instructions dialog appears. The applicant must read the message and select "I Understand" to continue:









Home

My applications

Team applications

Microsoft Carbon Dioxide Removal Procurement Project Application Form

1- Applicant Information

2- General Project Information

3- Volume, Pricing, and Delivery

4- Certification and Registration

Required fields denoted by * must be filled before submitting the application

Applicant Information

Organization Legal Name

Enter your information here

If this is your first application for Microsoft's carbon dioxide removal FY25 procurement cycle, or if there have there been updates to your organization since your last proposal, please select "yes" to answer a few questions. For subsequent applications from the same organization, please select "no" to skip this section and proceed with the application. Each applying organization (i.e., with a unique tax identification number) must answer the Organization Questions section at least once.

Choose an option

Next

Collaboration/Uploads

Save

Submit

Application contents

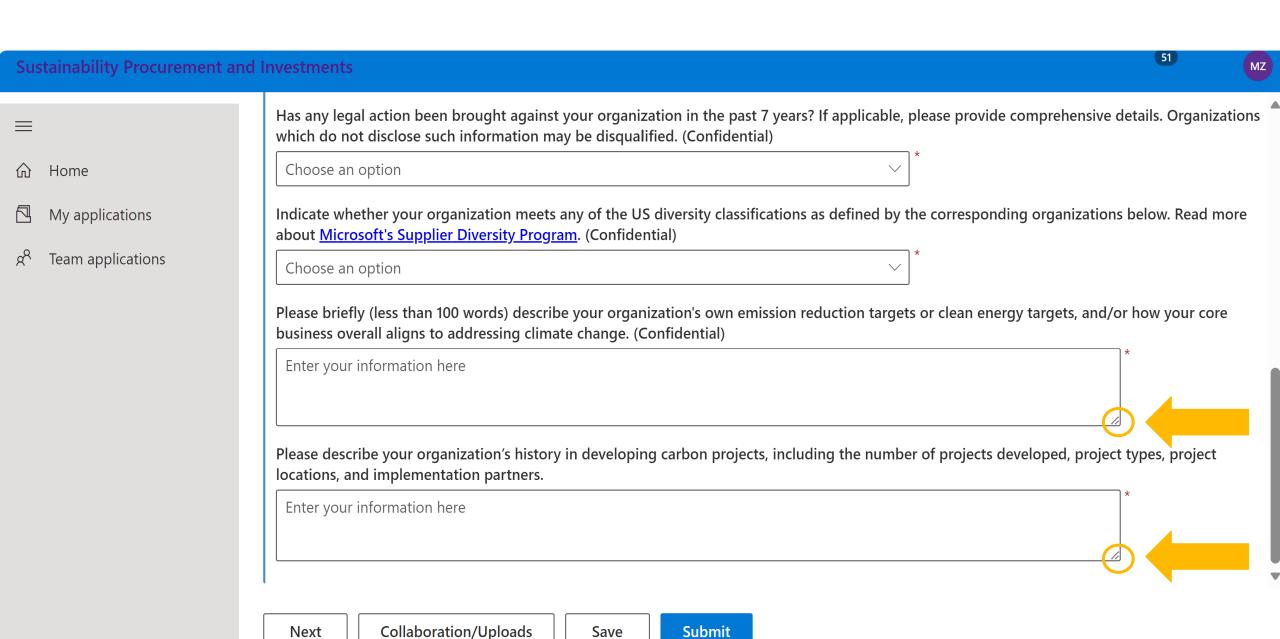
The submission form includes **7 sections**:

- 1. Applicant Information
- 2. General Project Information
- 3. Volume, Pricing, and Delivery
- 4. Certification and Registration
- 5. Durability and Reversals
- 6. Conditional Questions (dependent on CDR Removal Type selected in section 2, General Project Information)
- 7. Additional Questions

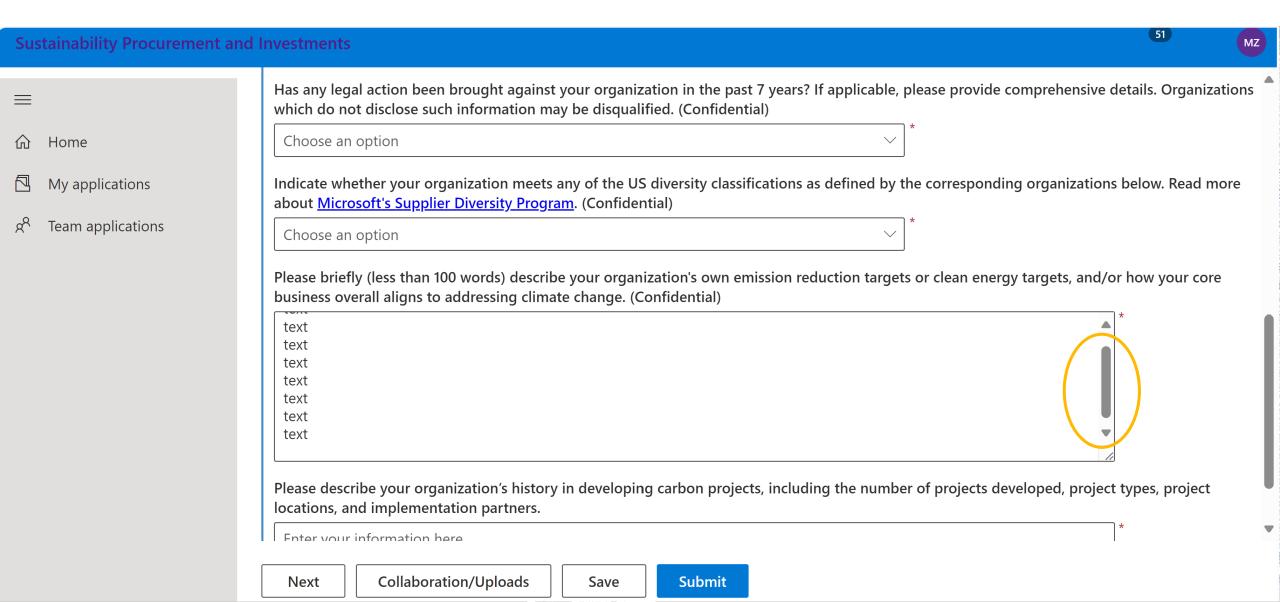
How to save and submit an application

- Save the application at any time, without losing progress, if the application can't be completed in one sitting, by selecting the Save button at the bottom of the window.
- All required fields (marked with a red asterisk*) must be completed to submit the application.
- Submit the application by selecting the **Submit** button at the bottom of the window. Once an
 application is submitted, the status of the application changes from 'Draft' to 'In Review'. No
 information changes can be made unless the Microsoft reviewer changes the application status from 'In
 Review' to 'Action Required'.
- After an application is submitted, applicants may still add files, add team members, send messages, and monitor activity on the application via the Collaborations/Upload panel.

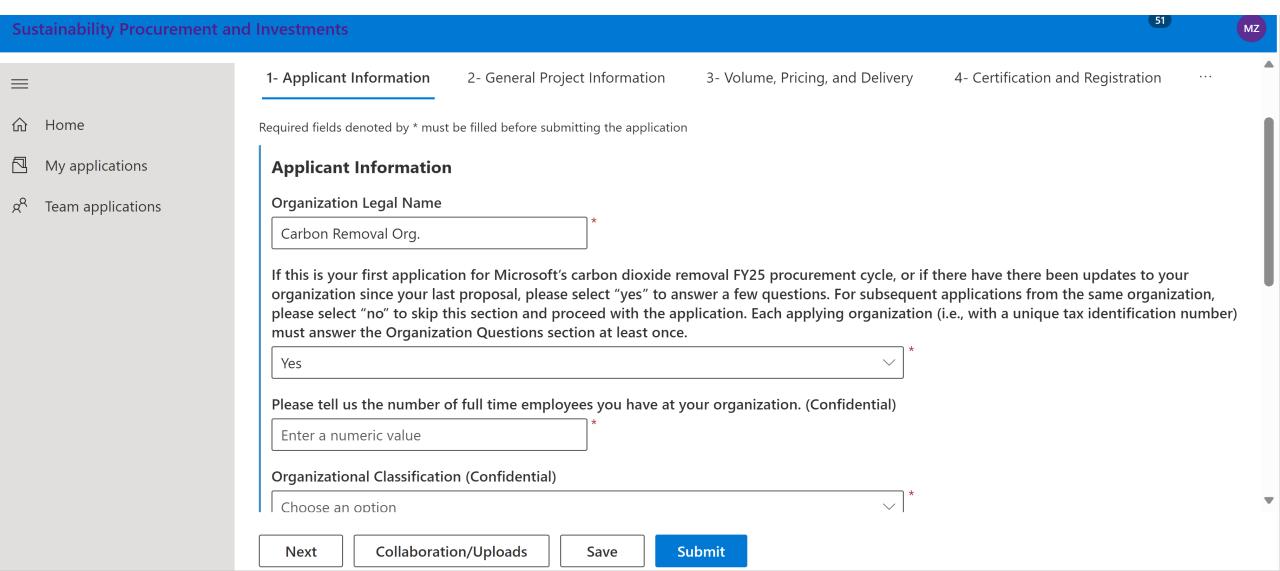
The large text entry fields throughout the application can be expanded by dragging the corner handle down:



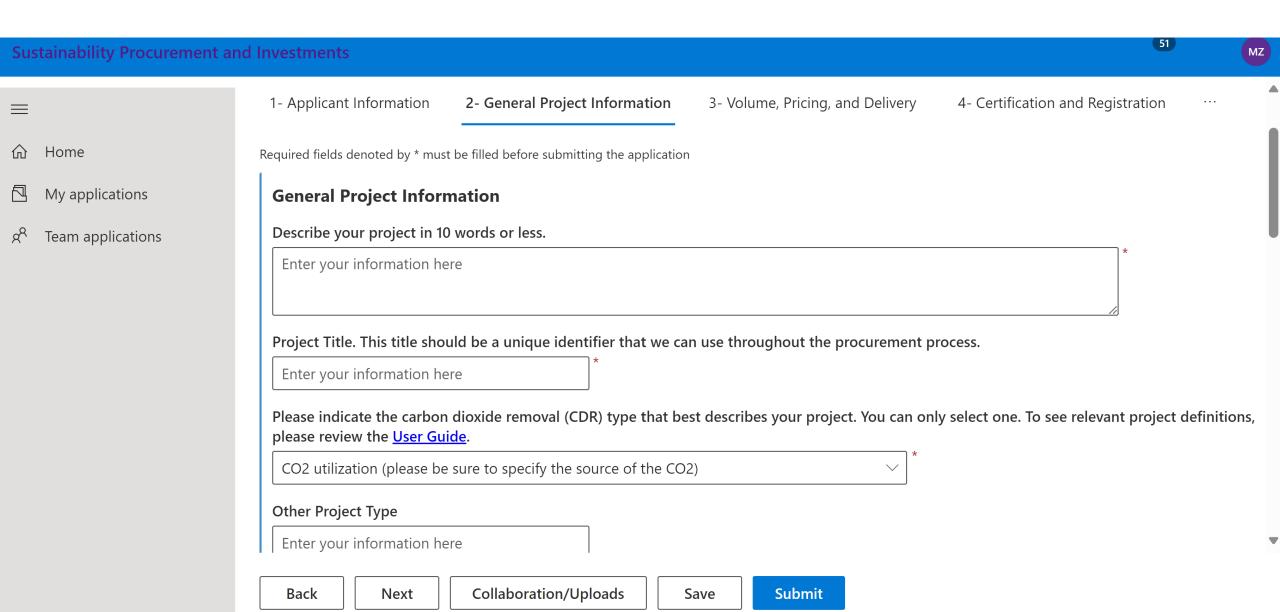
Note larger text field and scrollbar if the content exceeds the new visible space. You can shrink the size of the field, too, if desired, by dragging the corner handle up.



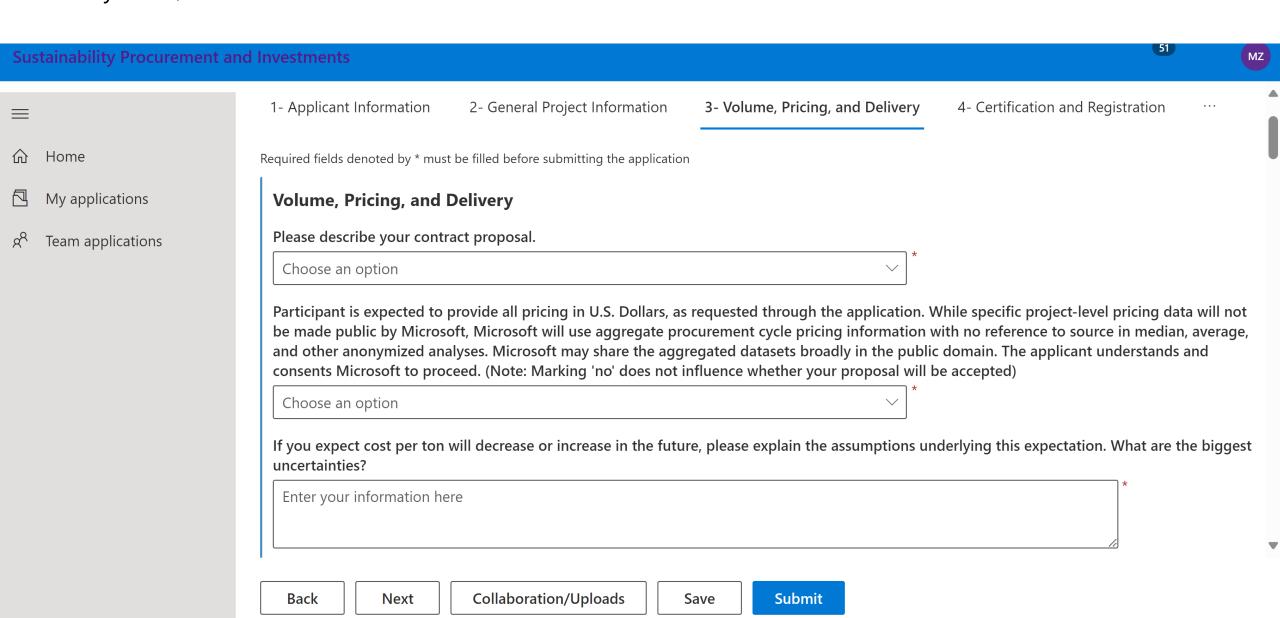
The first part of the application (**Applicant Information**) includes items like the legal name of the organization, number of employees, organization classification, ownership info, any recent or pending legal issues, diversity info, etc. You will not have to enter this information again if you submit more than one application in the same fiscal year.



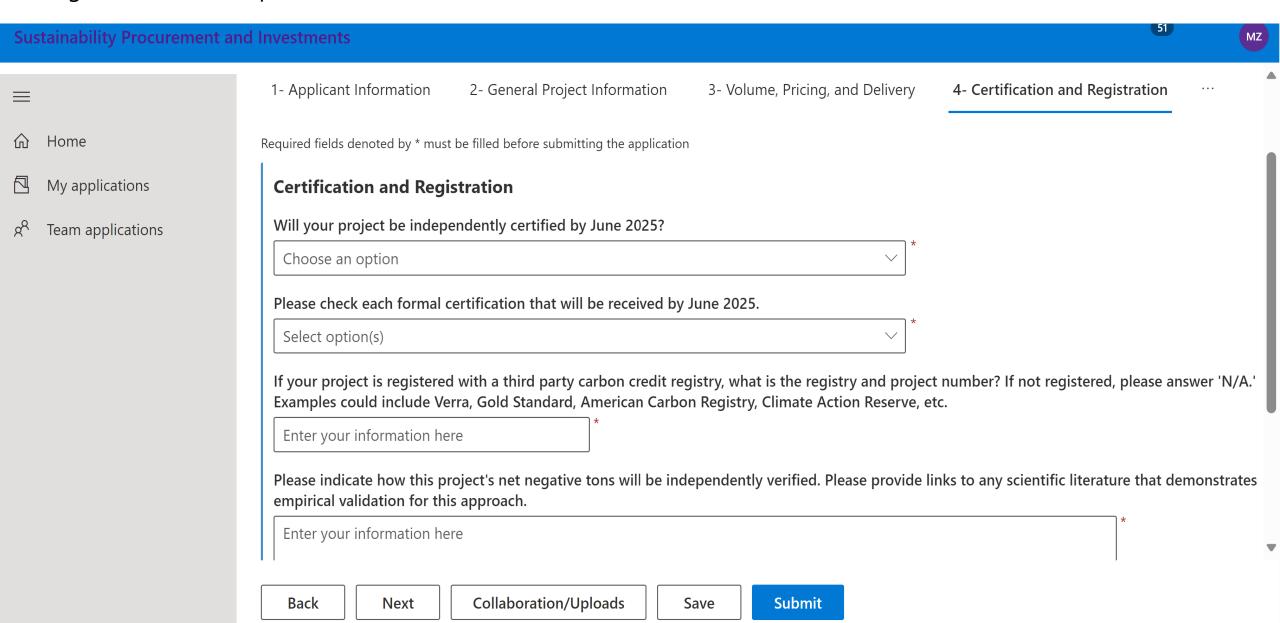
The second part of the application (**General Project Information**) includes the project description, title, CDR type, summary, governance structure, history, start date, and location.



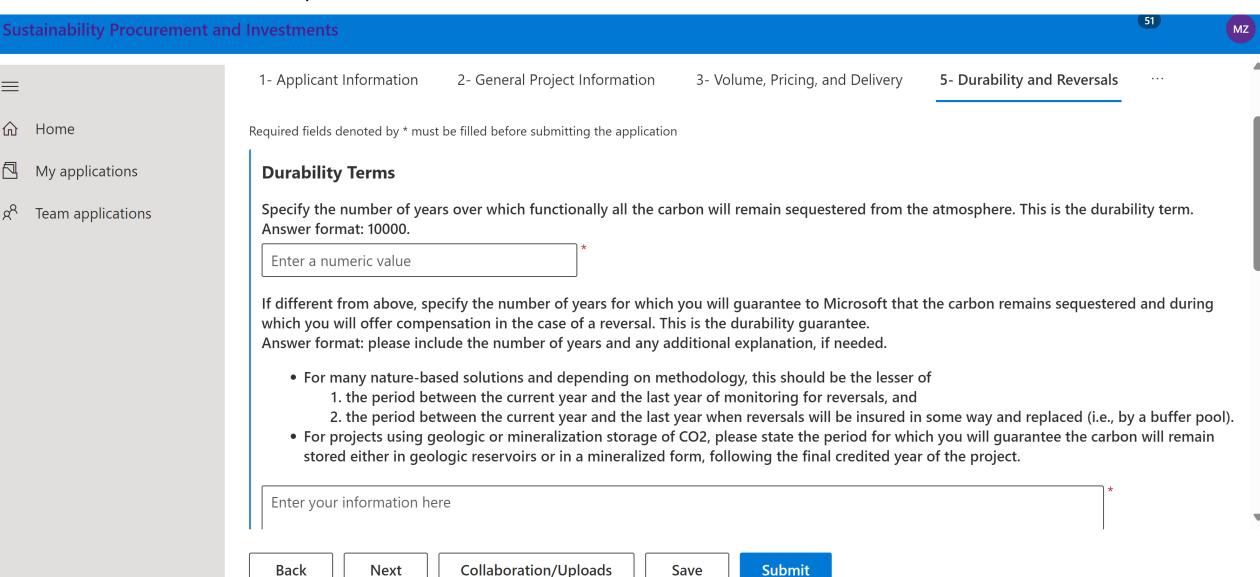
The third part of the application (**Volume, Pricing, and Delivery**) includes specific amounts of carbon dioxide the project removes, how much removal is being offered to Microsoft vs. to the rest of the market, pricing per fiscal year, discounts, delivery terms, and how these numbers were determined.



The fourth part of the application (**Certification and Registration**) includes information on the project's certification, registration, and independent verification.

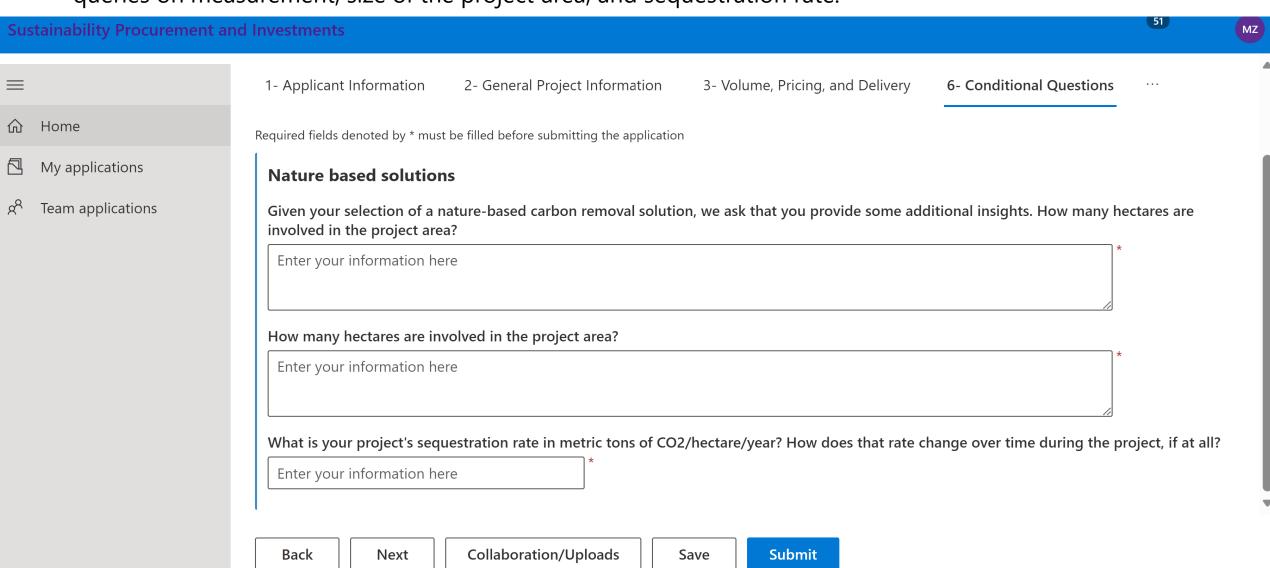


The fifth part of the application (**Durability and Reversals**) includes information such as the project's known or anticipated challenges, how the project will be monitored, and how it will compensate for any shortcomings regarding the amount and/or term of sequestration.

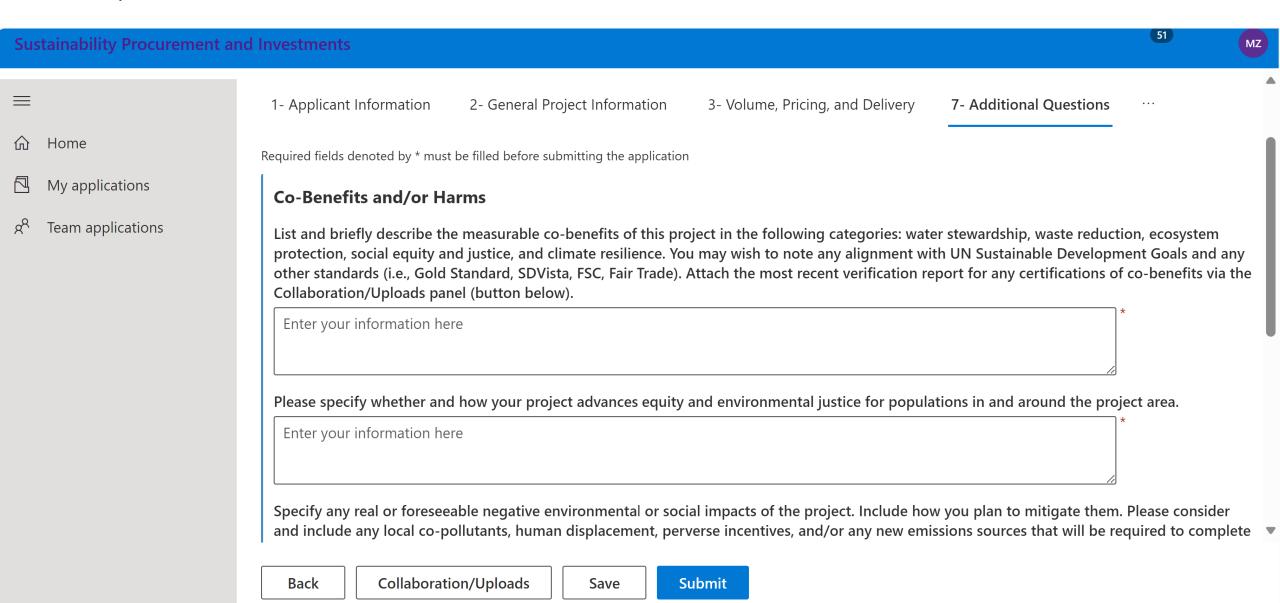


The sixth part of the application (**Conditional Questions**) is dependent on the CDR type specified in part two, General Project Information.

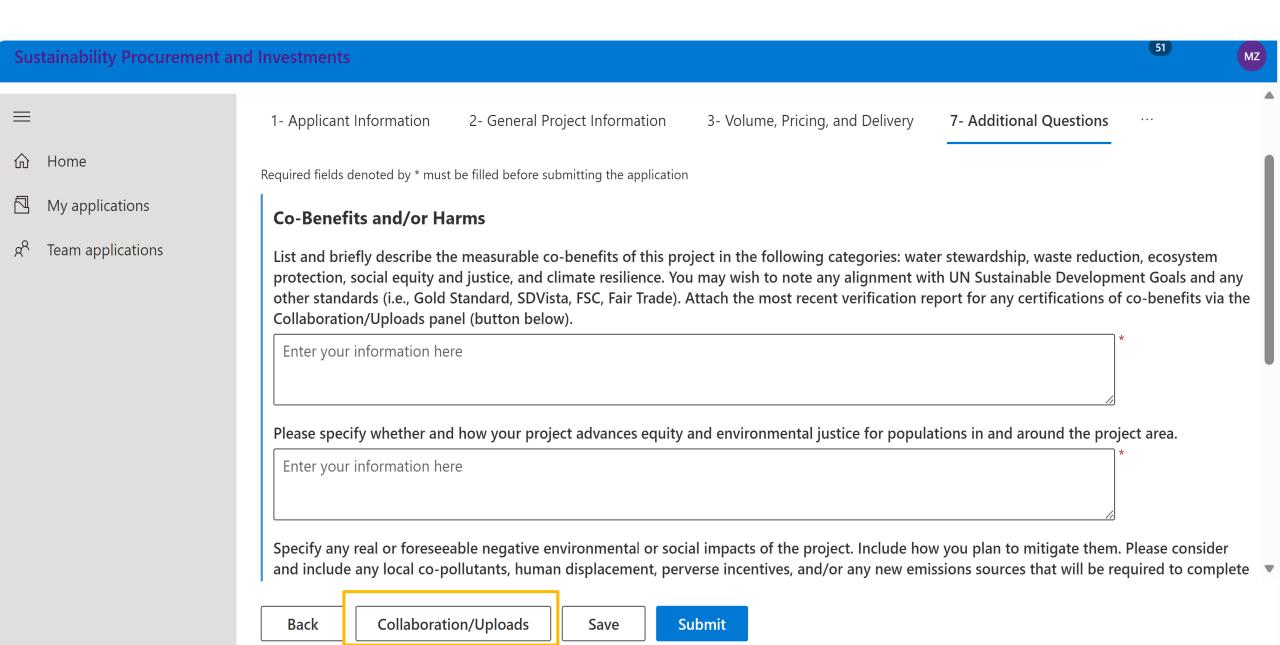
Example: If the CDR type specified in part two is a Nature-based solution (Forestry, Coastal Blue Carbon, and Soil improvement that results in additional carbon storage), the **Conditional Questions** include additional queries on measurement, size of the project area, and sequestration rate.



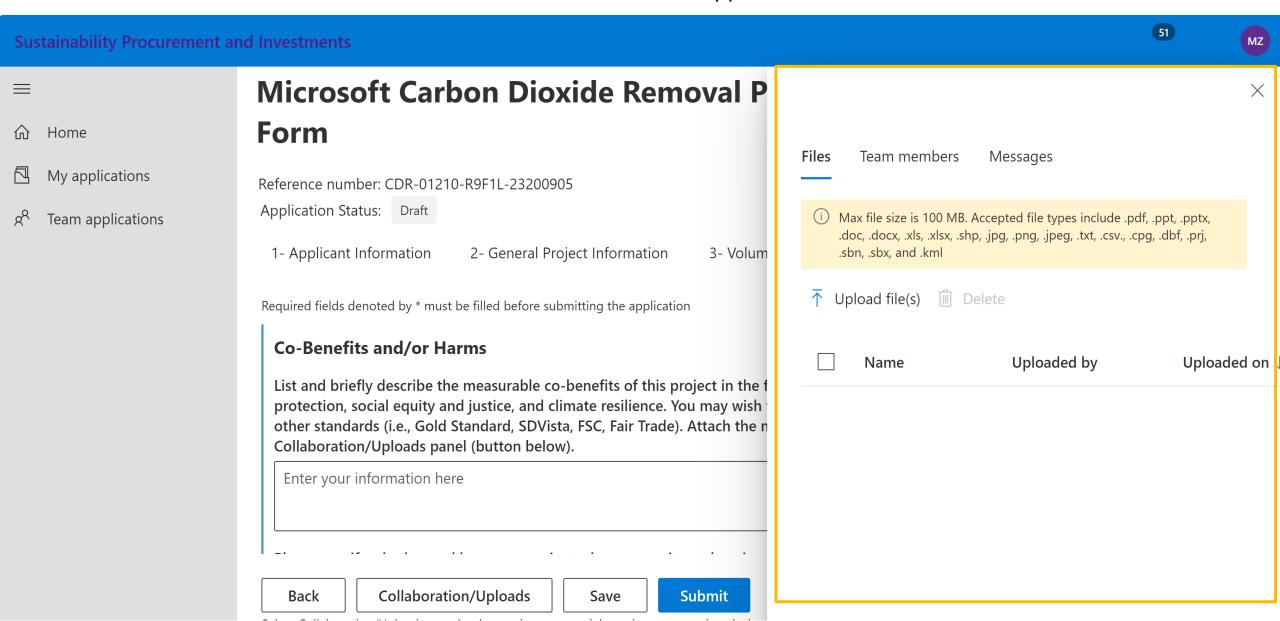
The seventh part of the application (**Additional Questions**) enables applicants to call out co-benefits (e.g. equity and environmental justice), possible harms, and any other information the applicant wants Microsoft to be aware of during the review process.



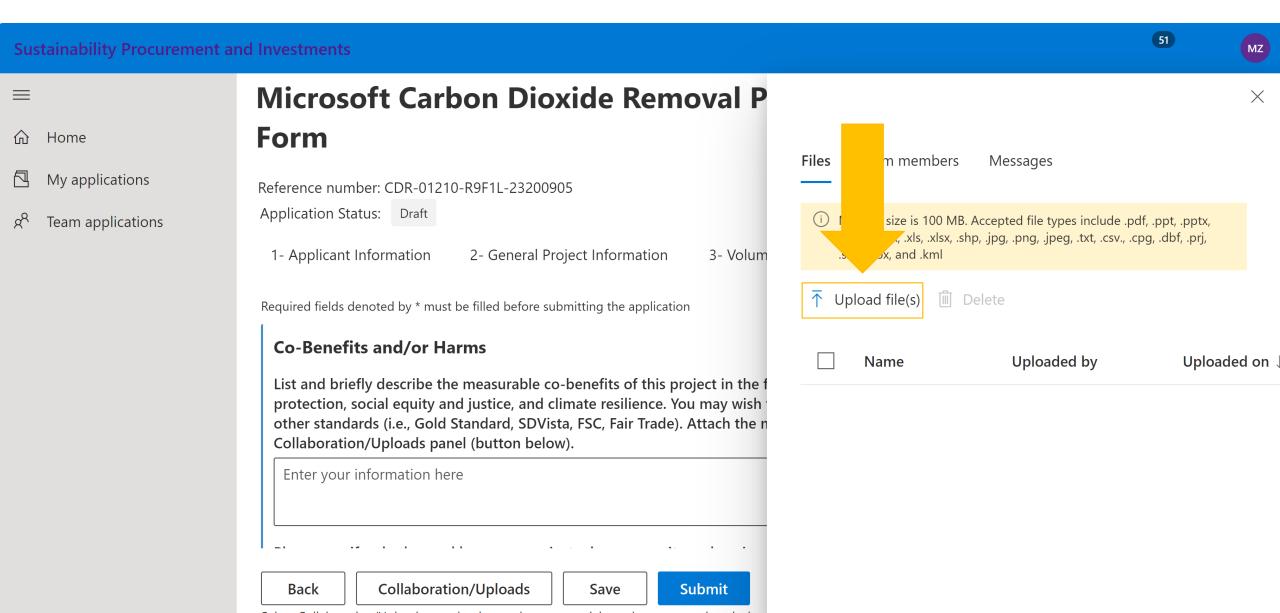
After the application has been saved, the applicant can utilize the **Collaborations/Uploads**:



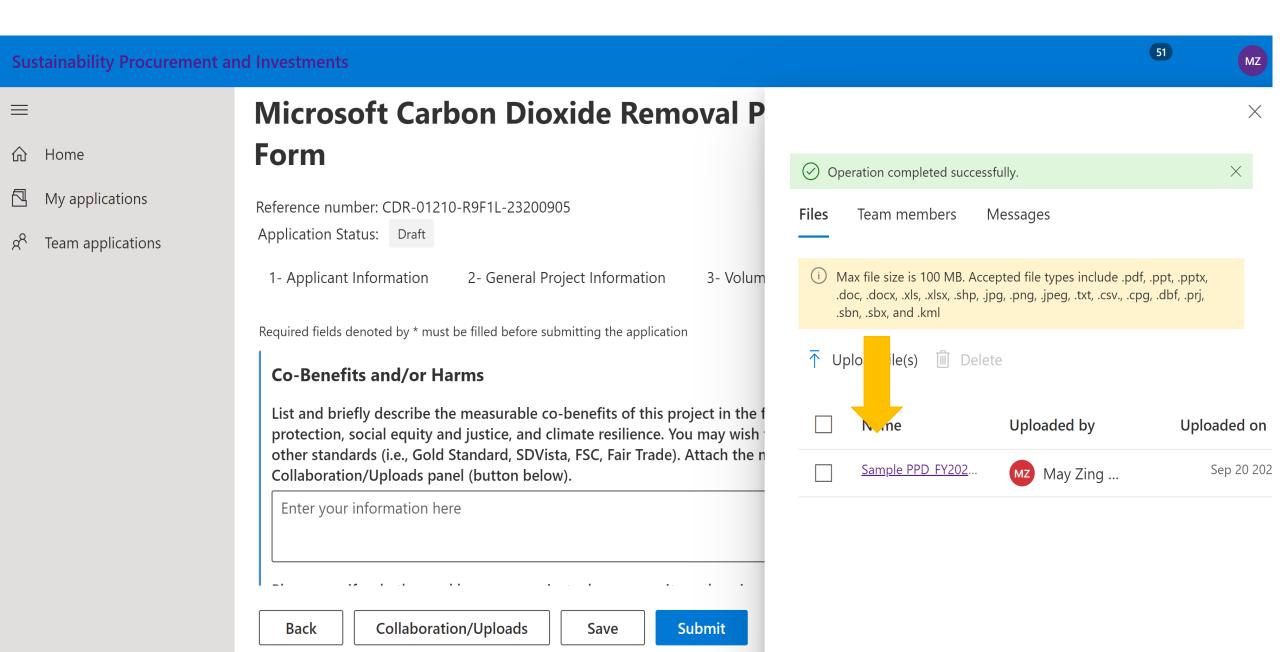
The **Collaborations/Uploads** panel is where applicants can send/receive application-specific messages, upload files, add/remove team members, and see a list of actions taken on the application:



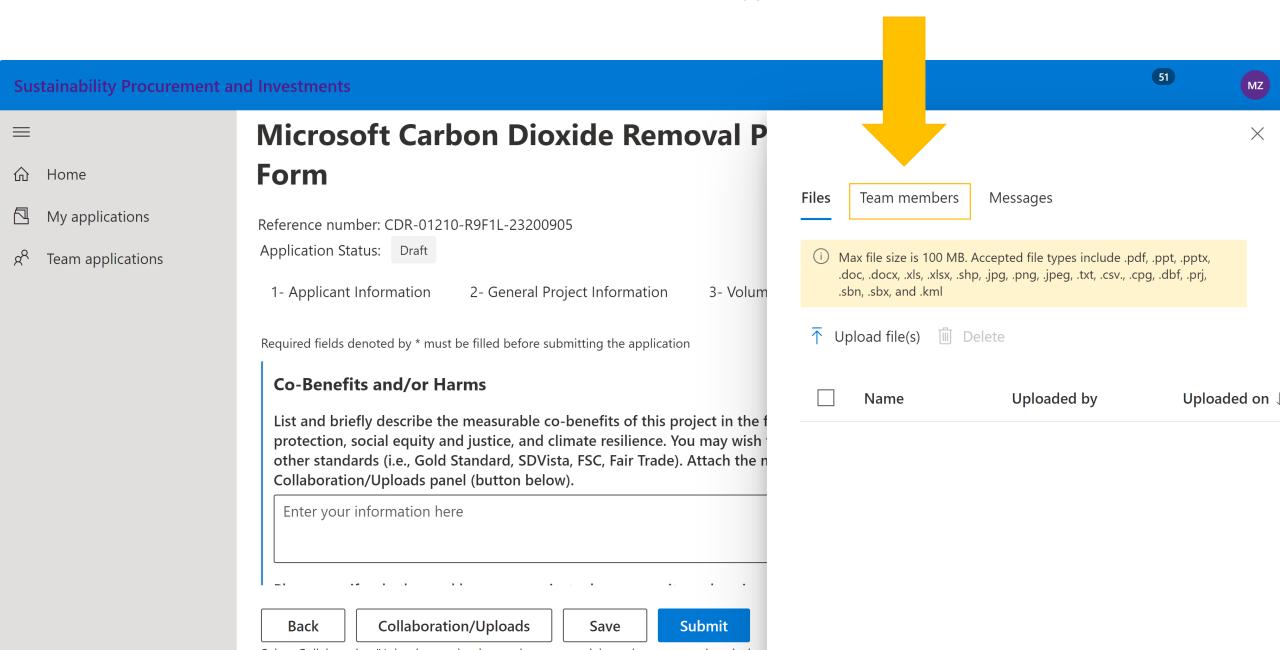
From the **Files** tab, select Upload file(s) to **add new files** to the application:



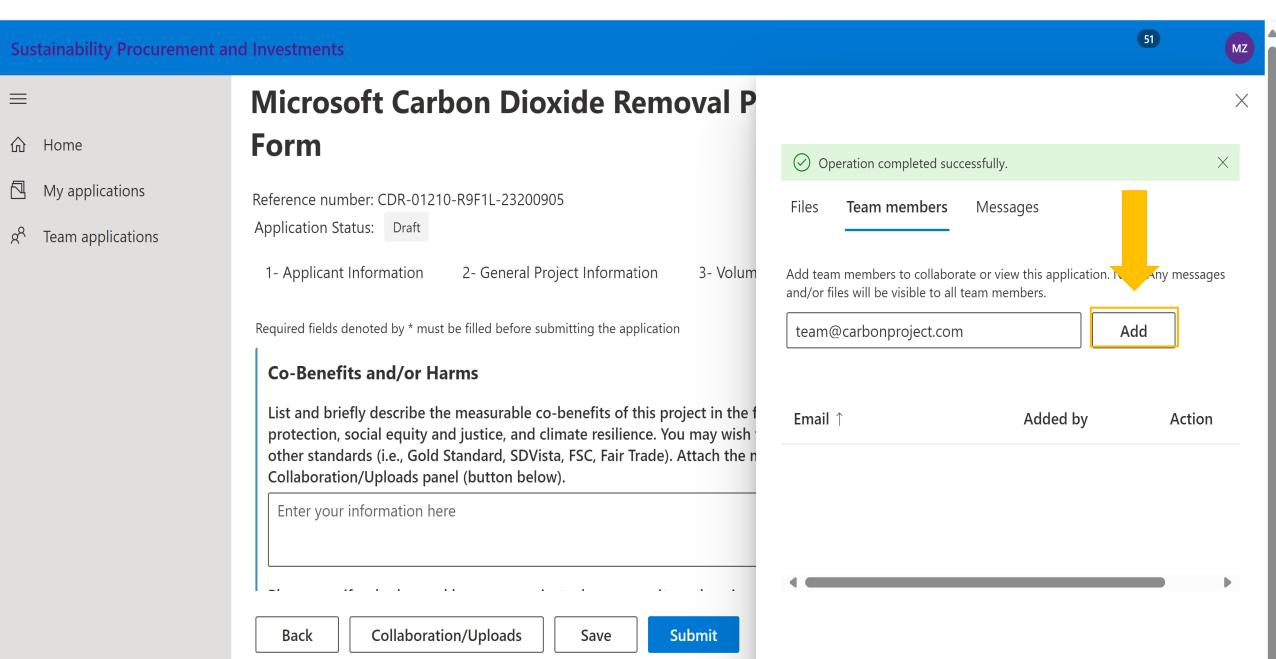
All files included with the application will appear here. Applicants may add as many files as needed.



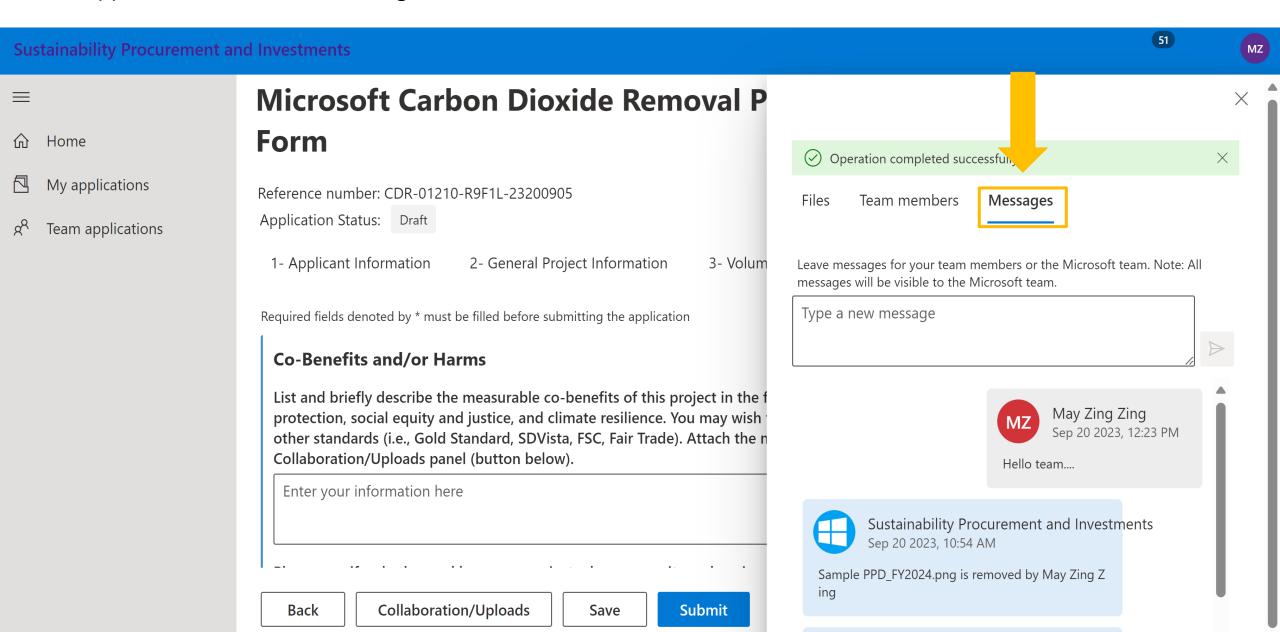
Select **Team Members** to add/remove team members' access to the application:



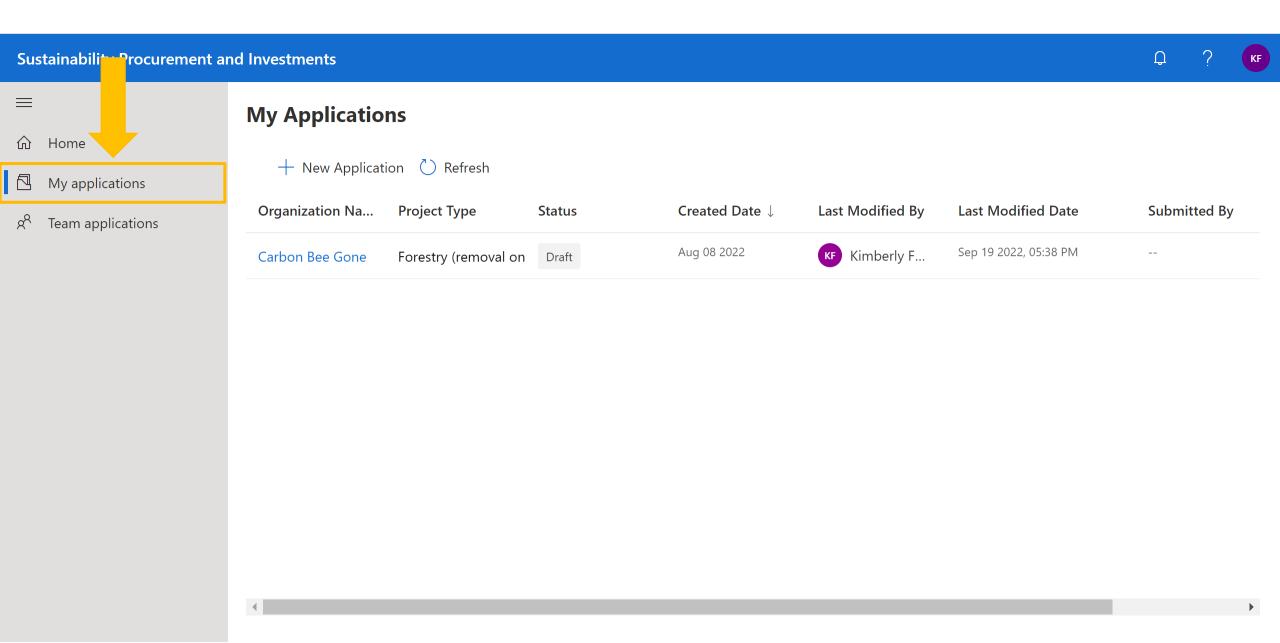
Type the name of the team member and select Add to give them access to the application:



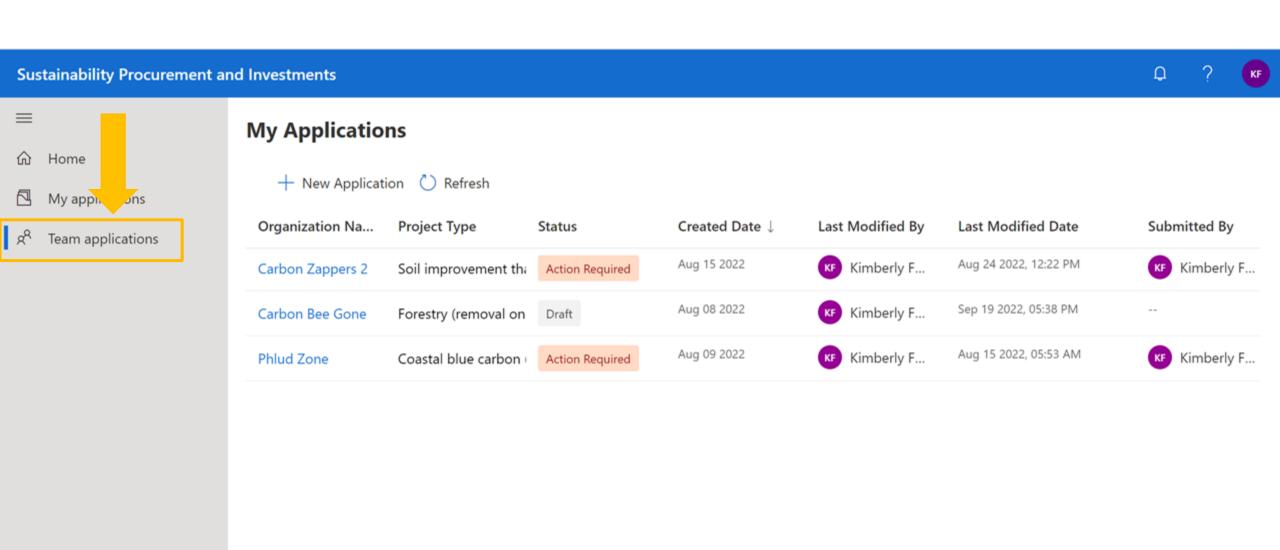
Select **Messages** to communicate with team members and Microsoft, as well as see a complete list of actions taken on the application, in reverse chronological order:



Select **My Applications** to display a sortable list of your applications and their status:



Select **Team Applications** to display a list of applications someone else owns, but you have been added as a team member:



Project types and their definitions

Forestry:

Afforestation: Planting forests in new areas where they did not previously exist.

Reforestation: Replanting trees where forests once existed.

<u>Improved Forest Management (IFM)</u>: Forest management techniques that increase carbon storage in forests and in wood products, such as extending harvest rotations or protecting against pest and disease infestation.

Agroforestry: The practice of integrating trees and shrubs into agricultural landscapes.

Silvopasture: The practice of integrating trees, forage, and grazing animals into a mutually beneficial agroforestry system.

Soil Carbon: Soil carbon CDR involves adoption of new conservation and/or regenerative agricultural management practices that increase the amount of carbon stored in soil.

<u>Coastal Blue Carbon:</u> The protection, restoration, and/or establishment of mangroves, salt marshes, and seagrass meadows to promote carbon storage in coastal environments.

<u>Direct Air Capture and Storage (DACS)</u>: Engineered processes by which CO2 is captured from ambient air and results in a concentrated stream of CO2 that can be stored geologically, incorporated into products, or mineralized.

Carbon Dioxide Mineralization (terrestrial): Reacting certain rocks and minerals with CO2 to form carbonate minerals.

Enhanced rock weathering: ERW in croplands involves spreading crushed silicate rocks onto agricultural fields. As these silicates dissolve, they catalyze the conversion of CO2 into bicarbonate. This dissolved inorganic carbon drains through waterways to the ocean (a carbon sink).

Ocean Alkalinity Enhancement: Addition of alkaline sources such as lime to the oceans to convert dissolved CO2 into bicarbonate.

<u>Biomass Conversion with Carbon Removal and Storage (BiCRS):</u> Harvesting biomass for the primary purpose of removing CO2 from the atmosphere and geologically storing or incorporating it into long-lived products. For a more specific type of BiCRS, see BECCS.

<u>Bioenergy with Carbon Capture and Storage (BECCS):</u> Utilizing biomass to produce electricity, heat, fuels, or other bioenergy products while simultaneously capturing and storing any attendant CO2 emissions. For a broader definition, see BiCRS.

<u>Biochar:</u> Biomass that is pyrolyzed (heated in the absence of oxygen) to produce a carbonaceous material that is recalcitrant to the natural decomposition process and is commonly used as a soil amendment.

CO2 Utilization: The conversion of captured CO2 into commercial products that store CO2 over various timescales.

Helpful Links

- Procurement Cycle Cover Letter
- Guidance document
- Criteria for high quality carbon dioxide removal
- Frequently asked questions
- Microsoft Supplier Diversity Program



Thank you!

If you have any questions about this user guide, please contact mscdr@microsoft.com

