

ethiCarbon Afrique®, why?

Africa has an amazing amount of natural and human resources, including in the energy field. However, the continent faces a significant energy poverty characterized by inequality in the access to energy, regular power or supply cuts, and an energy price which is far too high (sometimes the highest in the world!) compared to the standards of living of the population.

These realities drew the attention of two keen men, with an active field presence, who both share concerns about the future of our small planet and work in the fields of renewable energies and energy transition from decades: the founders of NGO ENERGIES 2050 and of African Biofuel and Renewable Energy Company (SABER-ABREC). In regard to this situation, they created together ethiCarbon Afrique®. While the consequences of climate change are expected to be disastrous, in particular in Africa where countries are very vulnerable to these changes, this initiative aims to be part of a genuine African energy revolution, based on renewable energies, energy efficiency and energy for all.

Compared to the existing "carbon compensation" initiatives, ethiCarbon Afrique® has a distinctive feature: being not exclusively aimed at greenhouse gases (GHG) reduction. Instead, it gives an equal importance to adaptation and solidarity actions, and stresses the necessity of a community involvement of all actors on the long run.

How does it work?

The entry point of the initiative for the users is a calculator. First of all, the user chooses the kind of activity for which he or she wants to calculate their emissions.

A citizen may, for example, be willing to know how much GHG emissions produces his/her home, or their latest holidays abroad.

A professional could wish to calculate the emissions that were produced during an event he/she organized, or those that were produced during a business trip; a hotel manager could want to evaluate the emissions of his/her hotel for the whole year or just an overnight stay, etc.

After evaluating his/her emissions with the calculator, the user is prompted to reduce their GHG emissions and to make a donation corresponding with the amount of emissions (or a donation of their choice) that will be used to support the implementation of concrete projects in Africa.

For whom?

The tons of carbon on sale through ethiCarbon Afrique® are certified and, thus, can be used both by ordinary citizens and corporate organizations who are willing to be involved in an ethical approach, and by organizations that have a legal obligation to reduce their GHG emissions.



How is defined the price of carbon?

ethiCarbon Afrique®'s approach is based on the concept of “dematerialized carbon unit“, which gives a flexible value to the carbon with regard to its economic, social, environmental and ethical performance. ethiCarbon Afrique® gives a chance to everyone to have a responsible and supportive approach based on the level of the carbon footprint of one of his activity, as close as possible to the realities of each user's everyday life.

The price set is an “ethical and solidarity” price (currently 30€/ton) which differs deliberately from the prices observed on the regulated carbon market, in order to fund concrete adaptation and mitigation projects.

Which projects are funded through ethiCarbon Afrique®?

The initiative works with a two-step process. In order to provide certified carbon tons to the users in accordance with recognized methodologies, the partners-founders of ethiCarbon Afrique® collaborate with Aera Group (formerly ecosur afrique). Aera Group holds the record of carbon credits projects registered in the African continent.



Among them, the first projects chosen for ethiCarbon Afrique® initiative, which fed it with certified CO₂ tons, are:

- A run-of-river small hydropower plant in Madagascar
- A solar photovoltaic power plant in Mauritius
- An effluent treatment plant for a sugar distillery in Uganda

Two projects focusing on adaptation and resilience have also been chosen for ethiCarbon Afrique® initiative:

- Improved cook stoves programme in Democratic Republic of the Congo
- Improved cool stoves programme in Ghana

To find out more, please visit:

<http://ethicarbon-afrique.org/en/projects/>

The money collected through the initiative is then shared equally between mitigation and adaptation projects. They include **renewable energy, energy efficiency, adaptation, social action aimed to vulnerable population, including women, projects**. All are realized in Africa and are selected by the board of ethiCarbon Afrique®.

Transparency and guarantee of donation use

The whole system is based on the main methodologies of the Mandatory Carbon Markets (methodologies under the auspices of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change - UNFCCC) and of the Voluntary Markets (VCS Verified Carbon Standard, Gold Standard). These methodologies are transparent, internationally recognized, and independent of both SABER-ABREC and ENERGIES 2050, on the substance as well as on the form. The purpose of this is to avoid any double-counting and any possible suspicion.

The chain is virtuous and respect the highest audit standards.

Apart from the operating costs of the initiative, the money collected through ethiCarbon Afrique® will be fully used to fund equally mitigation and adaptation projects that are concrete and measurable, in a permanent spirit of solidarity.

ethiCarbon Afrique® benefits from the inputs of a governance council which acts as guarantor of the initiative's objectives, the methodologies implemented, and the reality of the renewable energy, energy efficiency and carbon solidarity projects on the ground. The members of this council are distinguished African and international women and men of high integrity, known and reputed for their ethical messages.

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