



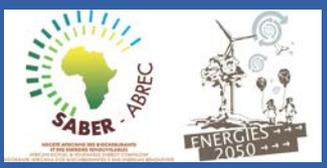
# ethiCarbon afrique®

For the energy transition in a resilient and united Africa



SABER-ABREC & ENERGIES 2050 initiative

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## Energy, a « rare » element essential to the development of the African continent

Africa has a treasure trove of natural and human resources, especially in the energy field. Nevertheless, the continent still faces significant energy poverty characterized by unequal access and frequent power outages, supply cuts, and an energy price far too expensive (sometimes the world's most expensive!) with regard to the populations' average standard of living.

To overcome that paradox, a genuine energy revolution is more than ever needed to ensure equal access to high quality energy services. This revolution must convey the continent to adopt renewable energy on a large scale and to embark on a trajectory of energy efficiency and sobriety. Meanwhile, the issue of adaptation to the ill effects of climate change, essential to African countries that are particularly vulnerable to this threat, must be addressed with the focused attention it deserves.



### ethiCarbon Afrique®: an initiative against so-called ill fates

Initiated by Africans and friends-partners heavily involved in Africa for decades, ethiCarbon Afrique®'s purpose is to contribute to this African energy revolution.

Ultimately, the following fourfold objective is to:

1. Contribute to eradicate energy poverty by providing each household with access to quality, sustainable energy services, and at an acceptable economic cost
2. Contribute to develop energy independence for all the continent's countries with, when necessary, appropriate regional approaches
3. Contribute to initiate an industrial revolution for green technologies to meet with the present and future energetic needs of people as well as businesses while being designed, manufactured and marketed locally
4. Contribute to a low-carbon and resilient development of African countries while contributing to global efforts to reduce greenhouse gases by focusing on renewable resources rather than fossil resources

To accomplish this, the initiative is based on 3 pillars:

- Develop a strategy of energy sobriety whenever it is possible
- Create the conditions for increasing energy efficiency in production as well as in the various uses
- Develop the use of renewable energies in order to ultimately contribute to making Africa a 100% renewable energy continent



## *An adventure in the service of Africa: a carbon solidarity initiative launched by an internationally recognized non-profit association and a benchmark African financial institution, and a portfolio of exemplary projects in Africa*

A meeting between two men deeply concerned about the state of our planet and the future of the African continent

The meeting between two keen men, with an active field presence, and who both share concerns about the future of our small planet and work in the fields of renewable energies and energy transition in Africa and worldwide for decades, has given birth to

ethiCarbon Afrique® initiative. This initiative, initiated by the founders of the association ENERGIES 2050 and of the African Biofuel and Renewable Energy Company (SABER-ABREC) aims to address the energy emergency the African continent faces.

ethiCarbon Afrique® builds on the heritage of SABER-ABREC, an unique financial institution whose identity is deeply rooted in Africa. Based in Lomé (Togo), its main activity focuses on investment and promotion of green energy and energy efficiency and has 15 African states in its capital. The initiative also builds on the vision and the activities of ENERGIES 2050 which implements innovative actions in more than twenty countries, demonstrating, day by day, that an alternative path of development is possible. A path dedicated to the forthcoming of a collectively built society, a more human, plural and solidarity based one, supporting peace and respectful of the common goods of mankind.



ethiCarbon®, an innovative international initiative as a starting point

ethiCarbon Afrique® takes up the approach and calculator of ethiCarbon®, an international initiative ENERGIES 2050 launched in 2012.

Compared to existing initiatives of “carbon offset”, ethiCarbon® has the distinctive feature of not focusing only on the reduction of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. Indeed, it gives as much importance to adaptation and solidarity actions, as well as social involvement of all stakeholders in the long term.

ethiCarbon® offers a comprehensive approach including:

- The implementation of specific projects in order to reduce GHG emissions
- The implementation of adaptation projects aiming at a better resilience of our societies and territories in front of present and future effects of climate change
- Accompanying changes of behaviour through a panel of activities based on solidarity and a social and responsible involvement in the long term (including training, awareness and capacity building)



ethiCarbon® builds on an unique carbon calculator, specifically developed in accordance with international rules and standards that allows everyone to estimate GHG emissions associated with

one's activities and to balance them by supporting carbon solidarity activities that will be implemented as part of the initiative.

SABER-ABREC provides the initiative ethiCarbon Afrique® with the impressive portfolio of renewable energy projects, completed or in progress, of FRAED (Regional Facility for Access to Sustainable Energy) a fund it has created. These projects have been financially secured through different mechanisms – whether classical funding or crowdfunding - set up by SABER-ABREC within the last years. The uncertainty rate is thus almost zero.

A portfolio of exemplary projects brought out by the African Biofuel and Renewable Energy Company (SABER-ABREC)



## Major actors on the carbon markets among early partners

In order to provide users with tons of carbon that were certified using recognized methodologies, founding partners of ethiCarbon Afrique® work with Aera Group (formerly ecosur afrique). The latter has the record of carbon credits projects registered in Africa (25 projects). The company serves more than 40 carbon credit projects in 17 countries for a total of 30 million tons of CO2 traded. Aera Group was a pioneer: it recorded the first projects under the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) of 9 African countries (Senegal, Ivory Coast, Burundi, Mauritius, Ghana, DRC, Togo, Sierra Leone and Madagascar).

Aera Group will supply ethiCarbon Afrique® initiative with quality real African carbon credits, in a transparent manner and in real-time, as users will acquire carbon credits produced by FRAED projects or by the forthcoming projects realised through non-profit organization ENERGIES 2050 or SABER-ABREC.

The credits are from a catalogue of existing projects or pre-ordered from projects about to deliver. Aera Group has accounts on the different registries (Markit/APX/UNFCCC). This allows the firm to perform removal/cancellation of carbon credits purchased by users ethiCarbon Afrique® and ensure that double counting cannot exist.



© Aera Group



© Aera Group

The first projects selected to supply the ethiCarbon Afrique® initiative in certified carbon credits are:

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

Two adaptation projects have also been selected for the ethiCarbon Afrique® initiative:

- An improved cook stoves programme in Democratic Republic of the Congo
- An improved cook stoves programme in Ghana

To learn more, visit: <http://ethicarbon-afrique.org/en/projects/>

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

A proven, transparent,  
measurable and verifiable  
methodology

The projects used by FRAED or Aera Group are realised without using the carbon mechanisms even though according to international rules, they fully meet with the “additionality<sup>1</sup>” criteria in their implementation countries. These projects, individually or collectively, represent a volume of “carbon credits” with a significant potential economic value. They are valued through ethiCarbon Afrique® in partnership with the traditional carbon certification actors, through a stepwise transparent, measurable and verifiable process.

**Step 1 - Calculating the carbon “value”** of existing projects through a transparent process in accordance with international rules (UNFCCC methodologies carbon or voluntary carbon methodology)

**Step 2 - Introduction of a “dematerialised carbon unit”** for a given amount of CO<sub>2</sub> while remaining within the limits of the total measured volume of carbon generated by actual existing or future projects

**Step 3 - Sale on the platform ethiCarbon Afrique® of “dematerialised carbon units”** at a fixed price in order to raise funds to implement mitigation and adaptation projects

**Step 4 - Design and implementation of new projects.** The collected funds are used to finance or complete the financing of new projects, including mitigation, adaptation and carbon solidarity projects

## ethiCarbon Afrique®, an initiative 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 organisations that have a legal obligation to reduce their GHG emissions. ethiCarbon Afrique® is for all concerned actors:



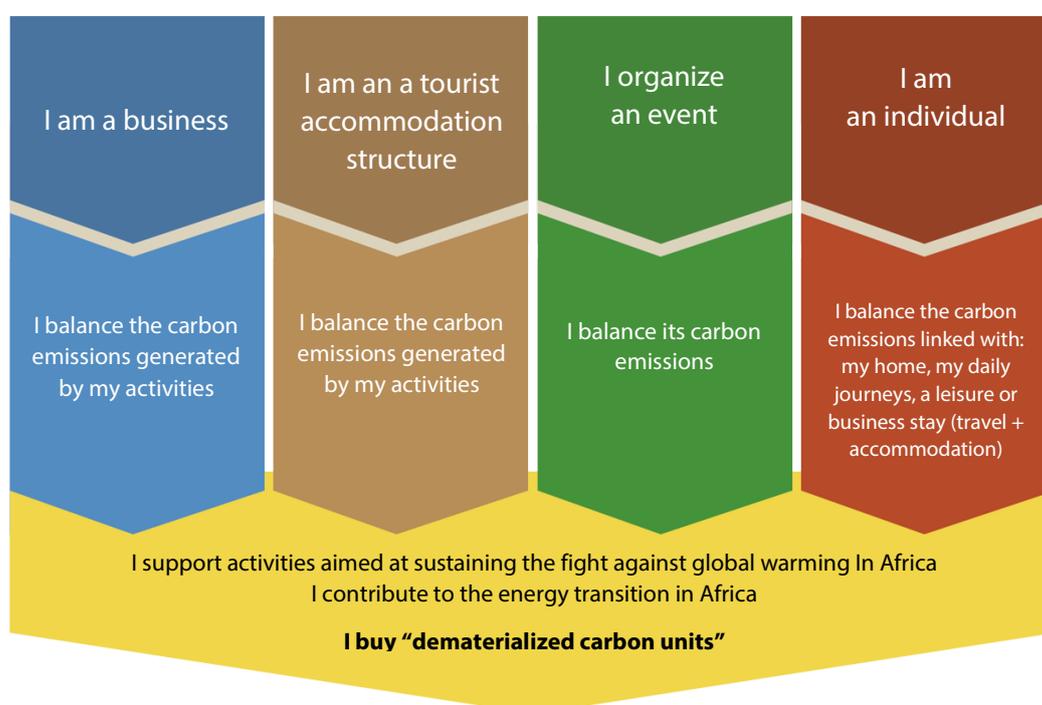
- Actors with legal obligations regarding their carbon emissions that need to buy tons of real, traceable and certified carbon in order to fulfil their obligations
- Actors with no legal obligation that have a voluntary approach (individuals, financial institutions, businesses, local governments, non-profit organizations, hotel managers, business travellers, etc.) willing to limit the social and environmental impact of their activities (trips, events, holidays, etc.)
- Citizens or professionals willing to support the implementation of concrete adaptation and solidarity projects in Africa

<sup>1</sup> A project is considered as "additional" when it generates an effective reduction of emissions for the activity concerned compared with what would have occurred in the absence of this project.

## ethiCarbon Afrique<sup>®</sup>, how does it work?

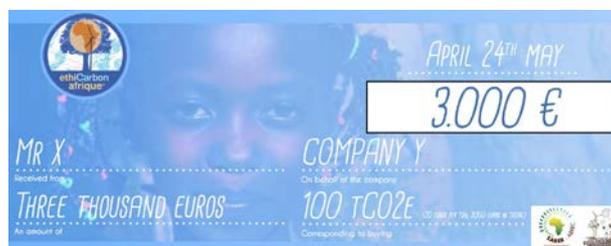
The entry point of the initiative for the users is a calculator. First of all, the user chooses the kind of activity for which he or she wants to calculate their emissions. A citizen may, for example, be willing to know how much GHG emissions produce his/her home, or his/her latest holidays abroad. A 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. ethiCarbon Afrique<sup>®</sup> is compatible with public or private institutional funding, funding through crowdfunding platforms or direct donations via online payment platform.



## How is established the carbon price in ethiCarbon Afrique<sup>®</sup>?

ethiCarbon Afrique<sup>®</sup> 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<sup>®</sup> gives a chance to everyone to have a responsible and supportive approach based on the level of carbon footprint of one of his activities, 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 markets, in order to fund concrete adaptation and mitigation projects.**



# Transparency and guarantee in donation usage

## A requirement of transparency

The whole system is based on methodologies that 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 transparency is to avoid any double counting and any possible suspicion.

The entire chain of diagnosis, fundraising and implementation of projects or activities is transparent and meet the Measurement, Reporting, and Verification (MRV) criteria as formulated in the context of implementation of the United Nations Framework Convention of Climate Change (UNFCCC).

ethiCarbon Afrique® builds on the main methodologies of mandatory carbon markets (methodologies covered under the UNFCCC) and the voluntary market (VCS Verified Carbon Standard, Gold Standard).

The chain is virtuous and respect transparency and the highest standards of audit.

Transparency applies to:

1. All funds collected
2. Methodologies used
3. The use of funds raised/mobilized for a given project

Apart from the specific fee charged for the operation of the initiative (dedicated staff, update of ethiCarbon® calculator, communication actions, projects analysis, etc.) – in accordance with standard practice – the funds will be fully used equally for the implementation of concrete and measurable mitigation and adaptation projects, in a permanent spirit of solidarity.

## The governance council, an independent entity which guarantees the ethics of the initiative

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 member of this council are distinguished African and international women and men of high integrity, known and respected for their ethical messages.



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### The partners :

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