



Runner-Up 2022;
Finalist 2023

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“Best UK Offset Supplier
2021, 2022 & 2023”



Gold Standard



Do's and Don'ts Of Carbon Offsetting



Introduction

The Two Markets





RECs

Mandatory/ Cap & Trade

- Steel Production
- Glass Production
- Concrete Production
- Heavy Industry
- Air Freight

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 Tree
Wilder™

Voluntary Market

- All other businesses
- This is the market for Highland Carbon
- Companies ARE actively reducing their footprints
- Can offset the remaining UK emissions via UK or international projects

UK Voluntary Market

- Woodland Carbon Code and Peatland Code
- Third-party inspected, verified, certified and validated by Soil Association and Organic Growers & Farmers Assoc
- The ONLY nature-based solutions recognised by UK & devolved Governments, Nature Scot, Forestry Commission, etc



We have planted circa 4 million trees to date



Appendix A: Photographs

Photograph 1: Example of haggling with bare peat and microerosion



Photograph 2: Example of haggling with areas of bare peat and microerosion



Photograph 3: Example of peat cutting with draining effect



Photograph 4: Area of bare peat and microerosion

BEFORE: drained, barren and lifeless landscapes



AFTER: thriving habitats





UK Bundling

- Offsetting credits from projects that also achieve other outcomes such as
 - Biodiversity and landscape conservation benefits
 - Community benefits such as enhanced water quality, flood mitigation and wellbeing
 - Educational outputs
 - In our case, circa £20-23 per tCO₂e

Biodiversity

Community

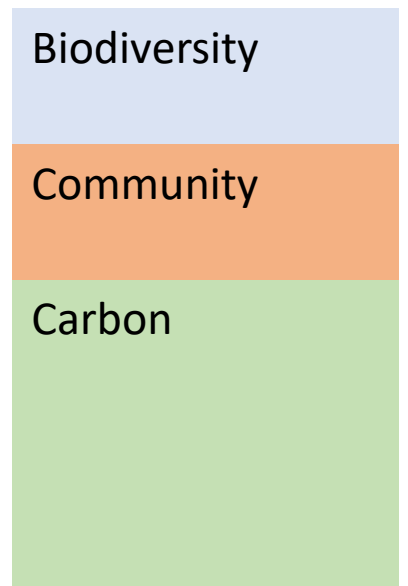
Carbon



Example, Traquair Forest Project, Highland Carbon

UK Stacking

- A combination of separate units, from separate projects, which achieve a range of outcomes
- Carbon offsetting transaction
- Biodiversity Net Gain credits from habitat rewilding activity (river re-wiggling, meadow restoration, etc)
- Measurable Community Outcomes
- £30+ per tonne



UK / International Stacking

- Achieve Claims of Net Zero
- Achieve Claims of Nature Positive
- Achieve Claims of Climate Positive
- With us, circa £25 per tonne
- Or offset alone circa £18-23 per tonne

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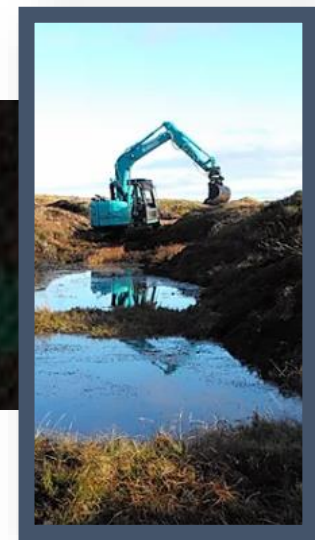
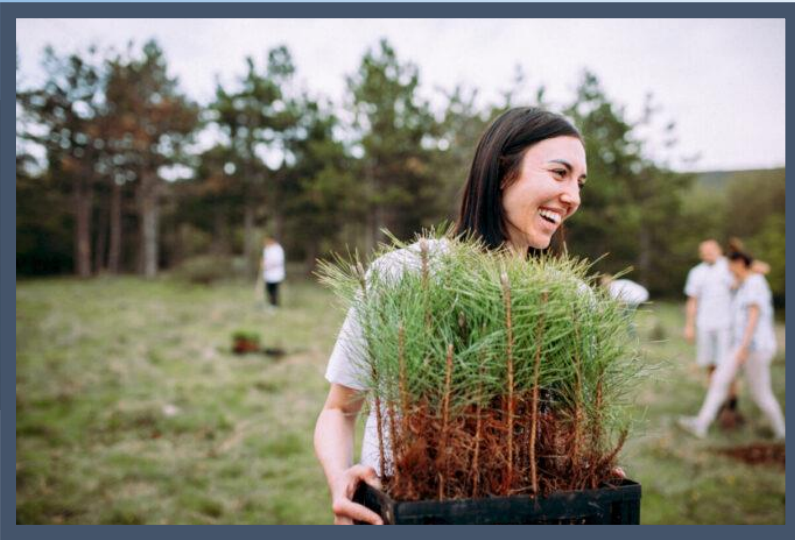
Do's

- Review the Co-benefits to nature, communities, etc
- Only traceable offsets that are recorded on a commodity exchange
- Only utilise official, recognised frameworks
- Robust Broker Code of Ethics



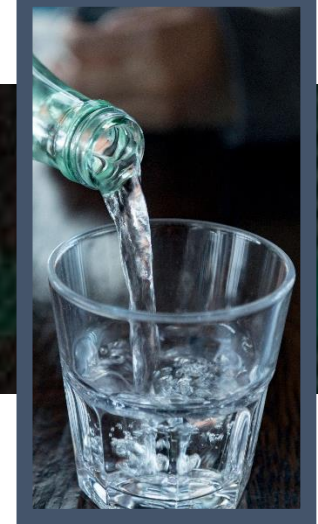
Code of Ethics

- Rule out certain sectors: oil & gas, tobacco, weapons, etc
- Clients reducing carbon footprints, or offering green solutions
- Protect the rights of tenant farmers; no clearances
- Promote public access to wild lands for rambling, cycling, etc
- Ensure food security; no planting on arable farmland
- Transparent with all parties on price points and margins



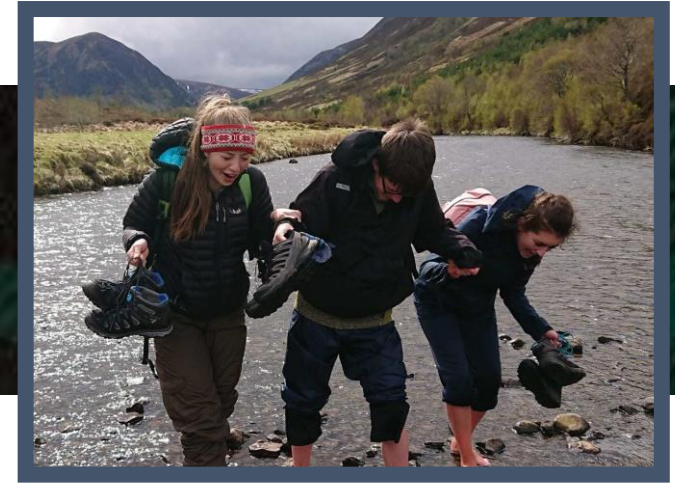
Green Employment in Remote Communities

- £15 million in local economic development to date
- Currently benefiting 60 foresters, 12 tree nursery workers, 20 deer fencing installers, 10 ecologists, 3 forestry managers, 2 forestry designers, 2 GIS operators, 1 drone operator, 6 digger operators, 4 hydrologists and more



Enhancing Community Wellbeing

- Spectacular landscapes with improved aesthetics
- Quality ecotourism experiences as lands are rewilded
- Enhanced quality of rivers and drinking water
- Reduced risk of extreme flooding events



Educational Impacts

- Mentoring 'Fuel Change' apprentices allied to the Net Zero Accelerator
- Highlands and Outdoor Wilderness Learning, funding for ecology education
- University of the Highlands and Islands, Sustainable 'Food Forest' Field Station

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Public Access



Don'ts

- Don't sponsor a Tree (unless tied to formal offsets)
- Don't use developers who mark their own homework
- Don't buy units outside of recognised frameworks; that don't count towards the UN goals
- Don't assume charities offer highest quality, greatest efficiency or best sustainability outcomes

Guidance

- Ask about the quality of the project impacts
- Ask the Broker about their profit margin
- Ask if projects are recognised by the UN
- Ask if official, third-party certificates supplied
- Ask if a report can be provided from a commodity exchange
- Ask for a menu of options with a range of prices
- Ask what claims you can make (Net Zero, Carbon Neutral, etc)

Risk Examples

- Additionality & biodiversity: afforestation versus sustainable forestry
- Governance Risks: UK versus China, North Korea, Colombia
- Public Access: community benefit or closed, private property
- Exploitation: have people been cleared from the land?
- Communications: is the project authentic enough to resonate with customers or will there be push-back regarding green-washing?

Definitions

- Carbon neutral: applies to a particular aspect, such as production
- Net Zero: applies to whole company, Scopes 1-3
- Nature Positive: restoring nature (additionality)
- Climate Positive: going beyond Net Zero

what are the scopes of carbon emissions?



scope 1

GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

Scope 1 emissions are direct greenhouse (GHG) emissions that occur from sources that are controlled or owned by an organization (e.g., emissions associated with fuel combustion in boilers, furnaces, vehicles).

SOURCE: EPA.GOV

SCOPE 1
Direct Emissions from Reporting Company

scope 2

GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

Scope 2 emissions are indirect GHG emissions associated with the purchase of electricity, steam, heat, or cooling and are a result of the organization's energy use.

SOURCE: EPA.GOV

SCOPE 2
Indirect Emissions from Upstream Activities

scope 3

GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

Scope 3 emissions are all indirect emissions (not included in scope 2) that occur in the value chain of the reporting company, including both upstream and downstream emissions.

SOURCE: EPA.GOV

SCOPE 3
Indirect Emissions from

Upstream Activities
Purchased Goods & Services
Capital Goods
Fuel & Energy Related Activities
Transportation & Distribution
Waste Generated in Operations
Business Travel
Employee Commuting
Leased Assets
and...

Downstream Activities
Transportation & Distribution
Processing of Sold Products
Use of Sold Products
End-of-Life Treatment of Sold Products
Leased Assets
Franchises
Investments