



# Carbon Credits:

The business case



## 01. Carbon Credits

An Introduction

02. The business case

<u>03. Panel Discussion</u> *The Future of Carbon Credits in Suriname* 



# 01. Carbon Credits:

An introduction





#### 01. Carbon Credits : An Introduction







01. Carbon Credits : An Introduction







## What are carbon credits?



Equivalent to **1 ton** of carbon dioxide removed from the atmosphere



Linked to combating global warming

1.5C: 50% reduction in 2030 and 100% reduction in 2050 (net zero)



Translated into a reduction at national level





## Where do carbon credits come from?

### 01. Removal/absorption

- **REDD+** : Protecting forests, combating deforestation and forest degradation and sustainable forest management
- Blue Carbon : Protection of coastal and aquatic plants
- Replanting



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### 02. Prevention/reduction

- Renewable energy, more efficient energy use
- Removal of biomass, e.g. biofuel
- Direct capture of greenhouse gases with technology
- Sustainable management of plants in forestry, agriculture and tourism
- GHG Protocol : Improving business processes



SCOPE

BURN DIRECT

Includes fuels you burn directly and applies to your company if you pay the fuel bill or own the asset.

#### FOR EXAMPLE:

- · Gas in company cars · Heating oil and gas
- Fuel to power equipment

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Considered indirect because your company purchases energy, but does not generate it or its emissions.

CO<sub>2</sub>e

#### INCLUDES:

 Electricity Steam

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 Heat Cooling



BEYOND INDIRECT

15 categories that represent upstream and downstream activities throughout the value chain. Typically 90% of an emissions footprint.



Bay

Transportation and distribution

15T Operational Business

waste

Transportation

and distribution

DOWNSTREAM



Fuel and energy -

related activities

Employee

坐

Use of sold

products

 $\left( 0 \right)$ 



Leased





travel

Processing of

sold products



End-of-life of sold products





Investments





# The interest in carbon trade



Government

Companies

**Local communities** 

**Civil society organizations / public** 

Alternative source of income

Business as usual, CSR, aternative source of income

Environmental protection, alternative source of income

Poverty reduction, sustainable development

In addition to carbon trading, there is also climate adaptation







Offset projects





Source: World Bank, BloombergNEF. Note: 'EU ETS' refers to the EU Emissions Trading System.

BloombergNEF

#### **Global Carbon Credit Market Research Report**





Project development Validation & Verification

Registration, issuance & retirement





Project development



- Demonstration of measurable carbon reduction
- Implementation according to a standard:
  - Standard includes determining the amount of carbon
  - Standard includes safeguards, with add-on programs
- Write a Project Design Document (PDD)





## Validation & Verification



- Auditing carbon emissions through a third party
- Transparency important
- Carbon monitoring and reporting via ISO
- Authentication for customer protection
- Independent rating agencies



Registration, issuance & retirement



- Various programs to register under
- Owner, buyer and time of termination of credits are noted
- After registration, the credits are withdrawn from the

market (booking)







### **The Carbon Credits Ecosystem**





# A successfactor : ESG framework



- Carbon release
- Landscape change
- Biodiversity
- Water
- Pollution



- Human rights
- Stakeholder participation
- Benefit sharing system
- Link with sustainable development



- National registration system
- Anti-corruption
- Legislation
- Technical system for monitoring
- Enforcement system





## 02. Carbon Credits: The Business Case





## Bringing billions of farmers into Ecosystem Services Markets

CARBON • BIODIVERSITY • WATER • FOREST MONITORING SOCIO ECONOMICS • FARMING PRACTICES • INCOME CROP YIELDS • SOIL HEALTH • SOCIAL IMPACT DATA

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## **ReSeed P.B.C**

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ReSeed **partners with farmers** and

companies around the world to collect verified ecosystem services data of the highest quality, social impact and transparency.

We turn that data into **nature-based, social impact carbon credits**, channeling climate finance for the transition to climate-smart and regenerative agriculture.

Farmers benefit from new revenue streams & improved crop yields.





#### **Countries with ReSeed Projects**



THE OPPORTUNITY



#### **EXPONENTIALLY GROWING DEMAND**

There is an increasing unmet demand from companies for trusted, high-quality carbon credits with associated ESG and supply chain data



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THE OPPORTUNITY



NOT ENOUGH SUPPLY

The Wall Street Journal projects that by 2030 only 35% of the 2 gigaton demand for CO2 credits will have been met.

A new approach is needed.



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#### **Market Sizing**

### **Total Addressable Market**



Voluntary CO2 Credit Demand Forecast

- Market size in 2023: \$2 billion
- Market size in 2050: \$250 billion
- Only 35% of the demand in 2030 can be met by current methods -Wall St. Journal
- We need to create a product that is a traceable, auditable and trustable solution and which scales to meet market demand.



#### Implications for global trade professionals as EU legislation seeks to limit deforestation

Karen Lobdell Senior Manager / Product Management / Thomson Reuters 8 May 2023 - 6 minute read

New rules from the EU hope to limit the devastating impact of large-scale deforesta wbcsd overview accountable for how their produ

Home / One Planet Business for Biodiversity (OP2B) / News

preliminary deal on a new law on defore Farmers stand to see increase crop yields and profits mandatory for companies to ver with 15-25% return on investment by transitioning to statements that any goods p regenerative farming practices ave not led to deforestation and



marke

Last December, the Members of Europea

Short-term financial investment for farmers can reach nearly USD \$40 per acre, but long-term profits can grow 120%. public and private sector assistance needed to de-risk transition to regenerative practices

BLOOMBERG.COM

A Class-Action Wave Is Coming for ESG Claims

In-house counsel all over the world are bracing for a greenwashing lawsuit...

#### Smallholder farmers could help fix global food systems with the right technology. Here's how

#### 📩 January 31, 2023 by World Economic Forum 🛛 📃 Leave a Comment

Smallholder farmers are the heart of the global food system, producingoverone-third of the food we eat. Yet for many of the world's 600 million smallholder farmers, farming is no longer a sustainable livelihood. Farmers are leaving their communities to pursue alternative livelihoods, adding to the weight of challenges already facing our food systems, like geopolitical conflicts, after-

#### THE OPPORTUNITY

### **Market Demand Beyond Carbon**

- **Regulatory pressure on company ESG claims** ullet
  - EU: Deforestation-free certification
  - **US: SEC Disclosure Rules**
- Legal liability from public equities ESG claims
  - Class action shareholder lawsuits
  - Public backlash to "greenwashing"
- Farmer supply chain stabilization efforts by  $\bullet$ food, apparel and personal care products brands such as Cargill, Unilever, Nike & more
- Global trends recognizing the value of ulletincentivizing regenerative farming practices



### Farmers are losing their farms around the world



ReSeed Farmer Partner, Sandra Braga 's farm vs neighboring farm that was lost

- In Brazil alone, 10% of smallholder farms have been lost in last decade
- 2 billion smallholder farmers globally, more than half women, who live at or below poverty line
- 600 million smallholder farms around the world grow 70% of the food consumed
- Payments for ecosystem services can help them improve their livelihoods and help stop climate change



Only 1% of carbon credits on the market today are sourced from agricultural sources.

1%

(Source: Berkeley Goldman School of Public Policy)

## The barriers to recognizing climate services from smallholder farmers

- Much of the food industry is built on smallholder farmers whose land management and carbon actions are not currently recognized or remunerated.
- Why?
  - Current standards were not designed and focused to attend to the specific needs of smallholders farms.
  - At farmer level they are not economically viable due to the high transaction costs to access → no technical service associated, high certification cost, low applicability, non-recognition of the conservation service provided.
  - Payoff to farmers takes too long.
- The solution is the creation of a certified asset class of carbon reduction services designed to be originated by smallholder farmers which can be sold to customers to help meet internal ESG targets.

# The market needs a Carbon Offset Program which is built around smallholder farmers.

#### There are three core components of a carbon offset program:

- 1. <u>Eligibility definitions and rules</u> for the design and early implementation phase of a project. They can include additionality and baseline methodologies, definitions of accepted project types, and procedures for validating project activities.
- 2. <u>Monitoring, reporting, verification, and certification rules</u> ensure that offset projects perform as they were predicted to during project design. Certification rules are used to confirm the actual GHG reductions that can enter the market once the project is implemented.
- 3. <u>Registration and enforcement systems</u> clarify ownership, enable trading of credits, track credit retirement, and ensure that credits are not double counted through sale to multiple buyers. These systems must include a registry with publicly available information to uniquely identify offset projects and a system to transparently track ownership and ownership transfers of credits.

## What are Carbon Protocols & Standards?

The distinction between protocols, programs, standards, and registries can be confusing since the terms are loosely defined. For example, several offset programs call themselves "standards" (e.g., **Verified Carbon Standard**, **Gold Standard**) and "registries" (e.g., **American Carbon Registry**) though these are offset programs that have the same basic functions and components.

## What is an Offset Project Protocol / Methodology?

Project Protocols / Methodologies cover GHG accounting rules and program requirements for monitoring, reporting, verification, and certification. In other words, they outline the rules and procedures to determine project eligibility, additionality, and baseline and project emissions for a particular project type. The terms "protocol" and "methodology" are often used interchangeably.

#### How does the SFSC fit in?

- ReSeed co-developed and uses the Small Farmer Social Carbon (SFSC) Protocol.
- The SFSC uses only carbon methodologies developed under the existing standards like VCS/Verra, Gold Standard and others recognized by ICROA.

## What is necessary to become a recognized Standard?

Standards can include protocols/methodologies and guidance documents. These standards provide guidance and/or specifications on GHG quantification, monitoring, reporting. Stand-alone standards typically do not have an associated regulatory body that registers projects and also do not typically have registration and enforcement systems to track and ensure legal ownership of offset credits (e.g., ISO 14064-2). The use of a standard alone is therefore not sufficient to guarantee the quality of offset credits.

The Smallholder Farmers Social Carbon protocol is designed to be adopted as an **ICROA**\* certified standard. There are four key criteria:

- a public consultation process
- a governing system
- an independent body to host the standard
- Pilot Projects and credit issuance.

\*The International Carbon Reduction and Offsetting Accreditation (ICROA) is a leading industry Accreditation Programme committed to enhancing integrity in the voluntary carbon market in support of the

### The Smallholder Farmer Social Carbon (SFSC) Protocol: A carbon protocol made for smallholder supply chains which builds on the LESSONS of the CARBON MARKET

- 1. RECOGNIZE the existing environmental services provided by producers as the starting point for onboarding farmers within supply chains.
- 2. PROVIDE the associated services and technologies tailored for the needs of smallholder farmers.

(Make it easier and cheaper for the farmers to manage)

- 3. DECREASE transactional costs. (Through efficiency and scale gains)
- 4. INCREASE farmer engagement from the start & CREATE economic viability for farmer carbon projects.



## Small Farmer Social Carbon (SFSC) Protocol

#### 1) Farmer first - Farmers are the project proponents

#### 2) ReSeed validates using the following methodologies:

REMOVAL CREDITS
Oriented towards measuring the removal of GHG by vegetation, crops and soils.
Verra, Gold Standard, FAO and CDM certified methodologies.

3) Each project is independently verified by a verifier member of the International Accreditation Forum (IAF) including for ISO 14065.



Farmers, Data and Climate Change Action

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## SFSC Protocol Tools

- Additionality Proof: Vulnerability Assessment Index:
  - Modeled on the Sustainable Livelihood Approach (SLA) and Livelihood Vulnerability Index (LVI) by the IPCC and using data collection methods developed by the New Technologies and Traditional Communities Initiative; 0
- Non-Permanence Risk Assessment Tool and Technical Reserve Fund adapted for Smallholders Farmers

#### **Blockchain Technology for Transparency** •

- Blockchain technology operates as the Project Design Document (PDD) and contains primary verified data on the proposed project, the carbon data and management practices as well as the MRV data methods for quantifying the project baseline and verification and shall include all appropriate, relevant and required documentation and materials necessary for the validation of the proposed project.
- Key to reduce barriers to entry, lower costs while increasing accuracy and precision and scale. 0
- Performance-based accounting methodology with EXTERNAL annual verifications
- Marketplace solution to support the ReSeed carbon credits sales.

### The SFSC Protocol brings together the best tools of Verra, CDM and Gold Standard...

	ReSeed	Verra	Gold Standard
Carbon Pool	Aboveground biomass, belowground biomass, litter deadwood and SOIL	Aboveground biomass, belowground biomass, litter deadwood and SOIL	Aboveground biomass, belowground biomass, litter deadwood and SOIL
Methodologies	High Rigor- Conservatism and Performance based - Builds on Verra Carbon Quantification Methodologies. GS also recognized. but improved with continuous ground data	High Rigor	High Rigor
3rd Party Verification	Yes	Yes	Yes
Safeguards	Cancun Safeguards & FAO Concept of decent rural employment	Yes	Yes
Additionality	IPCC Vulnerability Assessment index (adapted to smallholder farm reality) as well as CDM Tool	High - based on CDM Tools	High - Based on CDM Tools
Non Permanence Risk Tool and technical reserve fund	Adapted from GD tool focus on smallholder farm main issue - assess the probability of the risk and the consequence of the risk → natural, internal, external risk.	Yes	Yes

### The SFSC Protocol brings together the best tools of Verra, CDM and Gold Standard and <u>applies them to the reality of smallholder farmers</u>.

	ReSeed	Verra	Gold Standard
Farmer Payments System	Included in Business Model	There is no associated service or tool offered	There is no associated service or tool offered
Transaction costs per farmer	Low	High	High
Applicability for Smallholder farmers globally	Protocol is designed to be used globally	The standard can be applied globally, but the transition costs involved become a barrier to be implemented and scalability.	The standard can be applied globally, but the transition costs involved become a barrier to be implemented and scalability.
On-the-ground technical Support	Included in Business Model	There is no associated service or tool offered	There is no associated service or tool offered
Ease of Scalability	Continuous aggregation of farmers through the year in qualified regions	Limited scalability	Limited scalability

### The Solution:

Implement the Smallholder Farmer Social Carbon (SFSC) Protocol to meet climate and other ESG goals while providing farmers with needed income

#### The SFSC combines two critical *interdependent* goals for stopping climate change:

- 1. **STOP NEW EMISSIONS** by rewarding the stewards of the world's land. Assist them in protecting the carbon sinks they manage (and for enhancing global food security, biodiversity, access to clean water, and the mitigation of global inequality).
- 2. **REMOVE OUR OLD EMISSIONS** by continually quantifying the improvements farmers make to their soil by measuring the additional carbon and providing commensurate addition payments for Removal credits. This will incentivize farmers to work to drawdown additional carbon, leading to increasing payments and farmer loyalty.

Paying farmers in a timely manner to actively partner in achieving these goals ensures ongoing performance and positive socio-economic outcomes.

Removal credits ARR and VM 042 Reforestation and crop practices - soil and new vegetation carbon pools

Avoidance Credits -VM 007 Existing carbon stocks from vegetation carbon pools feature\_id feature\_name latitude -16.0708 longitude -47.876 geometry O que é plantado nessa área específica? Insira o código da área de roçado específico Este ponto é primeiro ponto

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Image © 2022 Maxar Technologies

#### Google Earth

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## **How ReSeed Works**

Blockchain-based social impact carbon credits that provide transparency, immutable data and geographic validation

Carbon



Farmer enters data through mobile app

SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS

Farmers get paid when credits are sold

Al Verification of carbon & calculation via satellite imagery

Carbon Credits are sold through existing marketplaces **CONFIDENTIAL** 

**YESEED** Farmers, Data and Climate Change Action

www.reseed.farm

## **Required Associated Services**

- Technical Team and Local Partner —> support the project proponent to obtain necessary information and apply the tools associated to the ReSEED Carbon Project Lifetime.
- Legal Advice: -> support the project proponent with the documents necessary to proof ownership , due diligence, carbon credits selling agreements.
- **On-the-Ground Technical Support to Farmers** —> financed through carbon credits sales as part of the revenue sharing model.
- Continuous Monitoring -> data collection on farmer land use as part of the ReSeed package.
- Continuous Measurement —> Insights on Social impacts against SDGs and company ESG targets.
- Risk Analytics —> the incorporated Vulnerability Assessment Index allows the company to analyze where are the vulnerabilities in its supply chains as well as make comparison between regions, anticipate risks and make strategic decisions on where investment is needed.

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## Farmer Blended income model: Example: Carbon income from Cacau model

**Carbon income increases farmer revenue by 20-60% per year** and funds investment pools for increased farmer yields. The result: higher quality cacau, farmer loyalty and resilience.

- 1) Immediate payment upfront that is larger than other programs.
- 2) As their carbon increases from investment in carbon removal actions, they get additional funds from removal credits.
- 3) As they improve their land their product yield and quality go up.

#### Average Annual Carbon income per hectare of Shaded Cacau



## 03. Panel discussion: The Future of Carbon Credits in Suriname





## Thank

## you.









