



The Cochabamba Project and ArBolivia

ESC carbon credits

The carbon credits that the club supplies to members are bought from the Cochabamba Project (a UK based ethical investment company), and they are certified credits from trees planted in Bolivia by the ArBolivia project.

ArBolivia

[The ArBolivia project](#) aims to promote reforestation and fair trade. The initiative is being implemented in Cochabamba, Santa Cruz, Northern La Paz and Beni, and seeks practical solutions to increased deforestation, climate change and poverty.

“Since 2007 our team of around 900 families have planted over 1,500,000 trees, across communities scattered along a 500 mile corridor beneath the foothills of the Andes on the south western edge of the Amazon basin.

Our aim is to establish a community- based commercial forestry enterprise that will improve the livelihoods of subsistence farmers and reduce further deforestation along the most vulnerable part of the Amazon – the “agricultural frontier”.

However, commercial forestry is only part of a holistic land management plan, which is applied at individual farm level, at community level and across the whole region. Given an average of more than 60 acres per smallholding, the combined area under management is close to 60,000 acres.

The carbon revenues from our commercial tree lots therefore supports a much wider range of farm activities. Buying our carbon credits supports these additional activities and is an investment in the livelihoods of poor farmers and their communities. It also helps to prevent further deforestation, so there is a substantive carbon benefit that goes way beyond that reflected in the carbon credit.

Our trees are doubly certified as VERs under the Plan Vivo Standard (Phase 1) and the Gold Standard (Phase 2). This reflects the quality of the credits and the additional community and biodiversity benefits. please contact us to find out more.”



Our assessment process

We chose our carbon credit supplier from a shortlist after a careful assessment process. We had a Gateway criterion:

*Any project MUST be certified by an accepted certification body. This would ensure that any carbon offset is **real, measurable, additional, monitored, legal.***

All the proposals that we assessed met this criterion. We then scored projects on the following criteria:

- 1. Projects should enhance sustainable development (ie be doing the right thing for the future of the planet, rather than only capturing carbon cheaply)*
- 2. Projects should provide benefits to the community in which they are located*
- 3. Projects should resonate with Eagle membership e.g. (but not exclusive) relates to a*
- 4. mountainous region, doesn't disfigure the mountain landscape, etc.*
- 5. Cost structure and overall investment attractive to Eagle officers. Is it good value for the club and members?*

The Cochabamba project was chosen as the highest scoring supplier from those we assessed.



*Steve Wright
Climate Care SC
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