

The Experience of our Company

The Uganda Carbon Bureau was registered in April 2006, and is the only full-service carbon finance company in Uganda. It is now Africa's largest and most experienced carbon team and is able to support all organisations in Uganda wanting to learn about, and to access, carbon finance.

The Bureau provides professional support to project developers, carbon credit buyers, development agencies, financiers and the public with all aspects of project funding and carbon asset development in the voluntary and compliance carbon markets. The Bureau has advised many organisations about carbon finance opportunities.

The Bureau's founder permanently resides in Uganda where he has worked for the past 14 years. He has had a continuous involvement with the development of Uganda's participation in the carbon markets. He led the technical team in the Ministry of Water, Lands & Environment that undertook the internationally acclaimed reform of Uganda's forest sector, and has also worked as an EU-funded adviser with the Private Sector Foundation Uganda and the Uganda Wildlife Authority (UWA).

He initiated the Bushenyi 'Plan Vivo' carbon finance scheme in western Uganda with CARE, as the first voluntary carbon project for smallholder tree farmers in Uganda. This is today supervised by ECOTRUST. The Bureau is now involved in a wide range of projects across the energy, forestry and allied fields involving either emissions reductions or carbon sequestration.

The Bureau also runs a carbon footprint offset service, and organises the supply of carbon credits from Ugandan projects for use by companies, organisations, individuals and event managers in their achievement of a '**carbon neutral**' status. The first such company (Classic Africa Safaris) was certified by the Bureau in 2009, and carbon offset credits were purchased for them from the Bushenyi Plan Vivo project. The Danish and Irish embassies have recently become 'carbon neutral'. The German development agency DED has supported this aspect of the Bureau's work.

The Bureau's largest activity is the creation of a regional CDM Programme of Activities (PoA) hub in Uganda that covers East Africa and neighbouring countries. This is aimed at providing affordable and speedy carbon market access to a very large number of projects, on a fair trade and open-access basis. It already has the following PoAs in development:

- An improved cookstoves PoA for East Africa (Improved Cook Stoves for East Africa - ICSEA) was the world's first multi-country PoA to enter validation, for which support from GIZ, DFID, CARE Denmark and the Nordic Climate Facility has been received. This PoA will shortly complete its registration.
- The KfW development bank is supporting the Bureau's establishment of a PoA (Sustainable Promotion of East African Renewables - SPEAR) for hydro and other renewable energy projects that will cover 6 countries of East Africa. The project is in advanced validation.
- Another regional PoA for biogas (African Clean Energy Switch - ACES-Biogas) is also in validation. The Bureau is partnering with the Dutch NGO Hivos, and Dutch Government funding is supporting the venture. This PoA is in advanced validation.

- A regional wastewater PoA for municipal and industrial waste (Wastewater Emission Reductions for the East African Region - WEREAR) is being prepared with support from the Danish B2B programme. NIRAS A/S is providing technical support.
- A forestry PoA, (Forestry for East African Development and Emission Reductions) FEADER) is currently in preparation with multiple supporters.

Many of the applicant projects for these PoAs are supported with business advice and introductions to potential financiers.

All the Bureau's PoAs are intended as partnerships with the East African Development Bank (EADB) as an equity investor in the respective Coordinating/Managing Entity companies that are registered to run the separate PoAs. This creates a solid link between the companies and the host governments who are shareholders in the EADB.

The Climate Technology Initiative-Private Financing Advisory Network (CTI-PFAN) uses the Bureau as its Uganda country partner, and the hydro-power project coached by the Bureau won at the 2010 Africa Forum for Clean Energy Financing in Johannesburg. In 2012 the Bureau was again involved in this important programme that showcases African clean energy businesses by coaching three more projects. This work is expanding.

The Bureau has been involved in several significant forestry projects. One involves carbon finance on a CDM PoA basis for a EU and Norad-funded scheme involving mostly small growers with some 10,000 ha planted. Others have involved tree planting and avoided deforestation, and a scheme for a major REDD and eco-tourism initiative for Mabira forest. The Bureau was a peer reviewer for the forestry toolkit on avoided deforestation (REDD) that was accredited by the Voluntary Carbon Standard during 2010, and is implementing an early REDD project with a local partner.

Strong international links have been built up with leading carbon buyers, consultancy companies and climate change specialists. The Bureau has a particularly close relationship with Uganda's main donors and international NGOs involved in the climate change and carbon finance fields. As a result of this, the German agency GIZ has used the Bureau to deliver a range of project and information services.

The Bureau attends the annual UNFCCC conferences, and is called upon to speak at many domestic and international meetings on carbon market developments and climate change. The Bureau participates in the annual Carbon Expo meetings in Europe, and the Africa Carbon Forum meetings.

The Bureau provides information about climate change and the carbon markets to a wide audience, and prepared briefing packs for every Ugandan Member of Parliament prior to the 2007 Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting. The Bureau supported the creation of the Parliamentary Forum on Climate Change, and still has close links with the Forum. In 2010 the Bureau registered the Carbon Foundation for East Africa to promote further educational work across the region, and the launch of the "Climate Sense" public news-sheet in association with the Forum and the donor community. GTZ sponsored the launch edition.

Many climate change and carbon briefings are given to the Ugandan business community, environmental professionals, civil servants, NGOs, diplomatic missions, youth groups and the general public. The Bureau is consulted frequently by visiting delegations, carbon

consultants, researchers, journalists and financiers.

The Bureau has an Investment Licence issued by the Uganda Investment Authority. A Danish-funded B2B link has been established with a leading Danish engineering/CDM partner for further PoA developments.

The Bureau is located in the tranquil Lubowa estate on the Entebbe side of Kampala, and is easily accessible from the international airport.

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