



PLANETAIR CANADA-TREES PORTFOLIO



Location: Canada and multiple countries

Portfolio Type: Mixed Portfolio - Gold Standard Credits and Canadian projects

The Planetair Canada-Trees Portfolio has two components. The first component of the portfolio allows you to offset all your greenhouse gases through certified Gold Standard credits. In this way, you are assured that your offsetting is real, quantified and verified.

Through the second component of the portfolio, you contribute to reforestation projects in Canada that capture greenhouse gases in the atmosphere and mitigate the impact of climate change.

COMPONENT 1 - GOLD STANDARD-CERTIFIED PROJECTS

Each tonne of greenhouse gases you wish to offset is compensated through a certified Gold Standard credit included in the Planetair Global Portfolio. This portfolio is made up of Gold Standard-certified projects, ensuring that your GHG emissions are compensated in a real, additional, transparent, and verified manner. Gold Standard



carbon credits are the best credits available on the market for voluntary offsetting of GHG emissions.

The credits originate from various types of projects (wind, solar, energy recovery, etc.). The climate benefits of these projects are immediate, unlike those of trees, which can take up to 70 years to capture a ton of carbon. With the climate crisis accelerating, we do not have the luxury of waiting all these years to offset the greenhouse gases we emit today.

To be certified, the projects must be audited by independent evaluators against the stringent Gold Standard requirements. The Gold Standard requires projects to contribute to at least three UN Sustainable Development Goals, including Goal 13, which pertains to the fight against climate change.



A table showing various Gold Standard projects to which Planetair has recently contributed can be consulted at the end of this brochure.

COMPONENT 2 - TREE PLANTING IN CANADA FUND

In January 2023, Planetair partnered with the Nature Conservancy of Canada (NCC) to create a fund for the reforestation and revegetation of protected natural areas. This fund, managed by NCC, is intended to finance NCC's tree and other plant planting activities across Canada (Canada Component).



In addition to the pandemic, two crises are shaking the world at present: the massive decline in biodiversity and climate change. Either way, conserving natural sites is part of the solution. Part of long-term conservation work involves planting trees and other plants, as this is one of the most suitable solutions for ensuring better protection of biodiversity and combating climate change. Trees not only help to increase the area of green space, but also provide many services to humans and wildlife. Trees purify air and water, capture and store carbon, control flooding, provide habitats for many species, and provide many other ecological services.

Planetair has chosen to partner with the Nature Conservancy of Canada (NCC) because of the rigor of its work and its unique expertise. Since 1962, NCC has protected more than 400,000 hectares (more than 1 million acres) of forest habitat, an area larger than Calgary, Montreal, Toronto, and Winnipeg combined. NCC works in a wide variety of forests with distinct characteristics and needs.

The funds raised make it possible to carry out plantations on NCC land. These lands are subject to legal protection ensuring their conservation in perpetuity. Biologists and other specialists carry out surveys and analyses in the field and develop reforestation/revegetation plans adapted to the specific environments. Plantations often take place in degraded areas, which have difficulty regenerating themselves. For example, NCC restores the banks of watercourses that erode over time due to waves caused by boats, or wastelands that struggle to renew themselves naturally. It is a rigorous work that requires the use of species adapted to each environment of intervention.

NCC then monitors the plantation over the years and makes the necessary corrections to maximize the benefits for the host ecosystem.

Among other recent initiatives, NCC planted more than 1,000 trees in a former orchard integrated into the Carillon nature reserve in Saint-André-d'Argenteuil (Québec). The main purpose of the planting was to counter the expansion of common buckthorn, an invasive exotic plant, which had colonized the site and prevented the growth of small trees and the creation of a forest. NCC intervened to speed up the reforestation process and prevent the buckthorn from reproducing and colonizing other natural environments.

In September 2022, NCC reforested plots of land in the Elizabeth Walsh Nature Reserve on Prince Edward Island. Located in King County, southeast of Souris, the nature reserve protects 15 hectares of Wabanaki (Acadian) forest, including 60 to 80-year-old aspen. Although the Wabanaki Forest covers most of the Maritimes, it is difficult to find



concentrations of old trees. Protecting and restoring intact forests, such as in Howe Sound, provide important habitat for a wide range of plant and animal species. The addition of forest restoration projects, focused on creating diverse, high-value Abenaki (Acadian) forests, contributes the long-term needs of humans and wildlife. The Howe Sound Protected Area allows for better long-term management of the area and reduces the risk of habitat fragmentation for the species found there.



Planetair donates 25% of your contribution to the Nature Conservancy of Canada Plantation Fund, whose activities lead to CO₂ capture and the mitigation of the impact of climate change on wildlife and plant species.



ABOUT PLANETAIR

Planetair is a climate protection programme set up by the Unisfera International Centre, a non-profit organization created in 2002. Our mission is to promote sustainable development and contribute to the fight against climate change. Our funding comes from the advisory services we provide as well as from grants and carbon contributions.



Planetair's compliance with the commitments we make to you are audited every year by chartered professional accountants (CPA). Their most recent audit report can be downloaded from our home page: planetair.ca.

Moreover, Planetair is the only carbon credit supplier recommended by *Protégez-Vous* (*Protect Yourself*), the consumer protection magazine. A link to their report is posted on our home page as well (available in French only).

ProtégezVous.

Question? Comment? Write to us at info@planetair.ca

Thank you for your support!

Some of the Gold Standard projects to which Planetair has contributed

Project/technology/country	Climate solution
<p data-bbox="354 383 709 412">Efficient Cooking Ovens Project</p> <p data-bbox="415 423 648 451">Home energy efficiency</p> <p data-bbox="478 459 588 487">Nepal/Asia</p> 	<p data-bbox="884 383 1885 488">Problem: Nepal is a mountainous country with difficult topographical and socio-economic conditions. A quarter of its population lives below the poverty line. Besides economic poverty, this population lacks modern energy services for cooking and depends on inefficient and unhealthy open fire stoves.</p> <p data-bbox="884 534 1885 680">Solution: This project distributes modern and improved stoves to socially marginalized groups in southeastern Nepal in the districts of Rautahat, Sarlahi and Mahottari. The stoves provide a clean cooking solution for households in these communities, improving health, reducing greenhouse gas emissions, conserving local forests, and promoting gender equality.</p> <p data-bbox="884 725 1885 907">Thus, in addition to reducing emissions, the stoves allow complete combustion of the fuel, minimizing air pollution, for healthier cooking that protects the health of the inhabitants. More efficient, the stoves also require up to 50% less wood fuel, alleviating deforestation pressures on nearby ecosystems and reducing the time needed to collect wood. The project also creates jobs for local men and women, who are trained by the project promoter in the installation and construction of the stoves.</p>

Efficient Cookstoves Project

Uganda/Africa



Problem: Eighty-five percent of Ugandans rely on wood and charcoal for cooking. These fuels are burned using inefficient technologies, causing environmental challenges (deforestation, greenhouse gas emissions), health-related challenges (air quality in homes) and economic challenges (cost of firewood and / or time for collecting wood).

Solution: To address these issues, the project is supporting the manufacture and distribution of more efficient cooking stoves. These were not available in Uganda before the start of the project. The use of efficient stoves reduces consumption of firewood, which in turn limits deforestation, greenhouse gas emissions and fumes harmful to the health of the occupants.

Efficient Cookstoves and Drinking Water Project

Kenya/Africa



Problem: In Kenya's rural areas, more than 65% of the population does not have access to drinking water and households frequently use wood and charcoal to cook their food and purify their water thereby causing environmental challenges (deforestation, greenhouse gas emissions), sanitary challenges (air quality in homes) and economic challenges (cost of firewood and/or time for collecting wood).

Solution: To address these issues, the project subsidizes the production, and distribution to low-income families, of efficient stoves. The use of efficient stoves reduces the consumption of firewood by about 50%. The project also supports the installation of water treatment systems at communal water sources, which saves families the trouble of boiling water to purify their drinking water.

Efficient Cookstoves and Drinking Water Project

Rwanda/Africa



Problem: In Rwanda, households frequently use wood and charcoal to cook their food and purify their water, thus causing environmental challenges (deforestation, greenhouse gas emissions), health challenges (air quality in homes) and economic challenges (cost of firewood and/or time for wood collection).

Solution: To address these problems, the project is supporting the rehabilitation of water wells to provide safe drinking water to Rwandan communities, thus removing the need to harvest and burn wood to boil and purify water. The project also subsidizes the production and distribution of efficient stoves for low-income families. Efficient stoves reduce the consumption of firewood by about 50%.

Solar Energy Project

Thailand/Asia



Problem: Thailand is one of the largest consumers of energy in Southeast Asia and the second largest importer of oil in the region. Fossil fuels represent around 80% of the country's total energy demand.

Solution: To address this problem, the project is supporting Thailand's energy transition. The project finances 10 solar photovoltaic plants in the provinces of Kanchanaburi and Suphanburi; the agricultural center of Thailand. This project reduces GHG emissions, reduces Thailand's dependence on imported fossil fuels, and stimulates economic growth in the country and the region. In addition to meeting the energy demand of people in central Thailand, the project improves local infrastructure and provides employment for skilled and unskilled workers from adjacent communities for the manufacture, installation, operation, and maintenance of equipment.

Wind Energy Project

New Caledonia/Oceania



Problem: The Pacific Islands face increasing environmental and socio-economic pressures, heightened by climate change. The UN recognizes small island states as being particularly vulnerable to climate change. Hard hit by natural climate variability and extreme tropical weather events, they are significantly vulnerable to future regional climate changes as well as sea level rise.

Solution: Beyond replacing the use of fossil fuels with renewable energies, the project helps strengthen civil society and Kanak indigenous rights, by supporting local and regional initiatives focusing on employment, young people, and community. As New Caledonia is in a region prone to hurricanes, the entire wind farm can be folded up in a short time in the event of an extreme weather warning. The project serves as a demonstration project in the South Pacific and is an example of environmentally friendly development made in collaboration with local tribes.

Wind Energy Project

Taiwan/Asia



Problem: Despite its privileged coastal and windy location, Taiwan still depends substantially on its coal resources to fuel its economy.

Solution: The project consists in the deployment of wind turbines on the West coast of the island. In addition to its positive impact on the climate, the project creates local jobs. The project also contributes to the development of sustainable tourism through guided tours on sustainable energy development.

Landfill Gas to Energy Project

Turkey



Problem: Organic matter (i.e. food, paper, etc.) in landfills decompose and release methane gas (a very potent greenhouse gas) into the atmosphere contributing to climate change.

Solution: The project aims at avoiding greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from an existing landfill by collecting biogas to generate electricity. In addition to the direct avoidance of GHG emissions, further indirect emission reductions are achieved through the CO₂-neutral replacement of fossil fuels used for power generation. The activity includes the installation of a landfill gas extraction system, an enclosed flare as well as a biogas driven genset for electricity production. The biogas power project is built near the Molu village of Koca in the province of Kayseri in Turkey.

Wastewater Treatment Project

Thailand/Asia



Problem: The wastewater treatment facility uses fossil fuels to operate. The former operation of the plant also led to unpleasant smells, impacting people in the surrounding communities.

Solution: Thanks to the project, methane generated by the process is now captured, preventing it from contributing to climate change. In addition, it is used to generate energy and thus limits the need to resort to additional fossil fuels. Moreover, the project generates jobs for the local population, and it supports social and educational activities in the community.