



## PLANETAIR QUÉBECOISEAUX PORTFOLIO



Location: Canada (Québec) and other countries

Portfolio Type: Mixed Portfolio - Gold Standard projects and projects in Quebec

Our Planetair QuébecOiseaux Portfolio stands out due to its two distinct components, designed to support your climate commitment in a rigorous and credible manner.

**The first component** of our portfolio allows you to offset all your greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions through Gold Standard certified carbon offset projects. The Gold Standard is globally recognized for its stringent criteria and effectiveness in reducing GHG emissions, ensuring the high quality of the projects. Each tonne of GHG offset by these projects is traceable through a unique certificate, ensuring integrity, reliability, efficiency, and credibility of the offset.

**The second component** of our portfolio allows you to also support projects based in Quebec that are beneficial for the climate and bird conservation. This climate

contribution is in addition to the carbon offsetting provided by the first component of the portfolio.

These projects are implemented by our partner, QuébecOiseaux, and contribute particularly to reducing anthropogenic threats and protecting the habitat of over 300 bird species, specifically targeting species in precarious situations (e.g., the Least Bittern, the Chimney Swift, the Wood Thrush, and the Golden-winged Warbler).

Thus, with your contribution, Planetair can support both Gold Standard certified projects and efforts to monitor and protect birds in Quebec.

In recognition of your commitment to combatting climate change, Planetair will send a carbon offset certificate to you. The certificate will specify the number of tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>e that your contribution has helped to reduce.<sup>1</sup>

Below, you will find a detailed description of the two components of the portfolio.

## **COMPONENT 1 - GOLD STANDARD-CERTIFIED PROJECTS**

By contributing to the first component of our portfolio, you offset 100% of your GHG emissions by supporting Gold Standard certified climate projects. This internationally renowned certification guarantees real, measured, transparent, additional, and verified neutralization of GHG emissions. It stands as the benchmark in voluntary GHG offsetting.

We select innovative projects such as solar and wind energy generation, improved domestic stoves, and optimized waste management. These projects serve as highly effective mechanisms for carbon offsetting by preventing GHG emissions at their source. For example, using solar or wind energy to generate electricity decreases our reliance on fossil fuels, such as coal and oil, which are significant sources of GHG emissions. Additionally, advanced waste management techniques, like the recovery and reuse of organic waste to generate energy, significantly reduce methane emissions, a notably potent greenhouse gas.

Unlike tree planting projects that take time to sequester carbon and only do so for a limited period, the Gold Standard projects we select have an immediate positive impact on the climate, making them particularly suitable in response to the urgency of the climate crisis.

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<sup>1</sup> The certificate is solely intended to recognize your contribution: it has no monetary value and cannot be traded or sold.

Furthermore, Gold Standard projects must contribute to at least three UN Sustainable Development Goals, including not only enhancing climate action (Goal 13) but also promoting other goals such as sustainable energy (Goal 7) and responsible consumption (Goal 12), thereby amplifying their positive impacts.



For an overview of recent Gold Standard projects supported by Planetair, please refer to the table located at the end of this brochure.

## COMPONENT 2 - BIRD CONSERVATION PROJECTS

The second component of our portfolio is dedicated to bird preservation projects in Quebec. Your contribution is directly invested in initiatives to monitor bird populations, reduce anthropogenic threats, and protect natural habitats. We allocate 25% of your contribution to our partner, QuébecOiseaux, for these projects. Several of QuébecOiseaux's conservation activities also mitigate the impact of climate change on birdlife and biodiversity in general. QuébecOiseaux has been a leader in the development of birdwatching as a hobby since 1981, as well as in the monitoring and protection of birds and their habitats.

Here are some examples of projects led by QuébecOiseaux:

### **eBird Québec Monitoring Program**

The eBird program plays a crucial role in bird protection by allowing both amateur and professional observers to contribute to a vast database on the distribution and abundance of bird species. As the coordinator of the program in Quebec, QuébecOiseaux facilitates this initiative, encouraging ornithologists to submit their observations and participate in targeted surveys. This collaboration improves the understanding of bird populations, identifies trends in their decline or expansion, and guides conservation efforts to ensure the preservation of these valuable inhabitants of our environment.

### **Species at Risk Monitoring Program (SOS-POP)**

The Species at Risk Monitoring Program is vital for the protection of threatened bird species in Quebec. As the coordinator of this program, QuébecOiseaux orchestrates monitoring efforts to collect essential data on the distribution, numbers, and trends of these vulnerable species. With the active participation of passionate observers, the program enhances understanding of the factors threatening these birds, targets conservation actions, and implements appropriate protective measures to ensure their long-term survival.

### **Reducing Anthropogenic Threats**

QuébecOiseaux actively engages in reducing threats to birds, particularly by raising public awareness about dangers such as predation by cats, window collisions, and light pollution. The organization promotes responsible pet cat management practices, such as keeping cats indoors or using anti-predation collars. Additionally, QuébecOiseaux educates building owners on ways to reduce bird collisions with windows by using films or bird-safe glass. Finally, the organization works to reduce light pollution by collaborating with municipalities to promote the installation of low-light-emission fixtures and the adoption of outdoor lighting regulations.

### **Protection of Nesting Sites for Endangered Bird Species**

QuébecOiseaux implements a series of initiatives to safeguard species such as the Least Bittern, Chimney Swift, Wood Thrush, and Golden-winged Warbler. For the Least Bittern, QuébecOiseaux partners with other organizations to protect crucial wetlands where the bird nests and feeds. Regarding the Chimney Swift, the organization undertakes initiatives to identify and protect its nesting sites, often located in chimneys and urban structures. Educational campaigns are also launched to raise public awareness of the importance of preserving swift populations. For the Wood Thrush, a declining forest bird species, QuébecOiseaux works with landowners, land managers, and municipalities to promote sustainable forest management practices that support this species' nesting habitat. Lastly, for the Golden-winged Warbler, the organization is

involved in protecting and restoring shrubland habitats, which are essential for its survival.

### **Creating Bird Sanctuaries**

QuébecOiseaux also aims to encourage the conversion of gardens into bird sanctuaries by implementing a Bird-Friendly Garden certification. This certification will recognize residential properties that implement bird-friendly practices, such as using native plant species, reducing pesticide use, etc. In collaboration with municipalities, garden centers, and local conservation organizations, QuébecOiseaux aims to promote this certification and provide resources and guidance to garden owners interested in transforming their spaces into welcoming havens for birdlife. This program will thus encourage the creation of a network of certified bird-friendly gardens, increasing available habitats and supporting bird populations in urban and suburban areas of Quebec.

### **ABOUT QUÉBECOISEAUX**

Founded in 1981, QuébecOiseaux is a non-profit organization that brings together and represents individuals and organizations interested in the study, observation, and protection of Quebec's birds. QuébecOiseaux includes birdwatching clubs and societies, individual members, and affiliated organizations.

The mission of QuébecOiseaux is to foster the development of birdwatching as a hobby, promote the study of birds, and ensure their protection and the conservation of their habitats. As a leading representative of all ornithologists in Quebec, QuébecOiseaux plays a key role in matters relating to birds.

For more information on the programs and activities of the organization, please visit: [www.quebecoiseaux.org](http://www.quebecoiseaux.org).

## ABOUT PLANETAIR

Planetair is a climate change initiative launched in 2005 by the UNISFÉRA International Centre, a non-profit organization (unisfera.org). Today, the initiative is managed by the Planetair Centre (planetair.ca), also a non-profit organization. Our mission is to promote sustainable development and play a significant role in combating climate change, both from mitigation and adaptation perspectives. We are funded through grants and the contributions we receive, as well as from advisory services we offer.

Each year, our commitments to our contributors are audited by certified professional accountants (CPA). The most recent audit report is always available for consultation on our website: planetair.ca.

# ProtégezVous.

We are honored to share that Planetair is the only organization recommended by Protégez-Vous, the leading consumer protection magazine, in the field of greenhouse gas offsetting. You can find the link to the analysis conducted by Protégez-Vous on our homepage.

## Questions and Comments

For any questions or comments, we invite you to contact us at the following address: info@planetair.ca.

Your support is essential to the achievement of our mission, and we express our sincere gratitude for your commitment to our cause!

## ABOUT 1% FOR THE PLANET

Planetair is proud to be a beneficiary member of the 1% for the Planet network.



## A MOVEMENT LAUNCHED BY PIONEERS


1% for the Planet is a philanthropic initiative, founded in 2002 in the United States by Yvon Chouinard, founder and owner of Patagonia, and Craig Mathews, former owner of Blue Ribbon Flies.

These two visionaries, already committed to philanthropy by dedicating more than 1% of their respective sales to environmental causes, aimed to create a network that could bring together philanthropic businesses under an easily identifiable brand and a simple message.



Their main argument to encourage other businesses to join the movement is to demonstrate that it is possible to be both commercially prosperous and engaged in philanthropic actions.



This philanthropic effort has gained considerable momentum, now uniting over 6,000 members in nearly 91 countries. Since its inception, more than 350 million dollars have been allocated to environmental initiatives, demonstrating the positive impact and global reach of this initiative.



## SOME OF THE GOLD STANDARD PROJECTS TO WHICH PLANETAIR HAS CONTRIBUTED

Project/technology/country	Climate solution
<p data-bbox="354 375 709 443"><b>Efficient Cooking Ovens Project</b> Nepal/Asia</p> 	<p data-bbox="884 375 1864 516"><b>Issue:</b> Nepal, a country characterized by its mountains and challenging topographical conditions, faces significant socio-economic challenges. Nearly a quarter of its population lives below the poverty line. Besides economic poverty, many residents lack access to modern energy services for cooking, forcing them to use inefficient and health-harming open fire stoves.</p> <p data-bbox="884 565 1864 748"><b>Climate Solution:</b> This domestic energy efficiency project aims to provide modern and improved stoves to socially marginalized groups in Southeast Nepal, in the districts of Rautahat, Sarlahi, and Mahottari. These new stoves offer a clean cooking alternative for households in these communities, thus improving the health of residents, reducing greenhouse gas emissions, preserving local forests, and promoting gender equality.</p> <p data-bbox="884 797 1885 1013">In addition to reducing emissions, these stoves allow for the complete combustion of fuel, thereby minimizing air pollution and ensuring healthier cooking for residents. Their increased efficiency also leads to up to a 50% reduction in wood consumption, which helps alleviate pressure on nearby forest ecosystems and reduces the time needed for wood collection. Furthermore, the project, made possible through carbon financing, generates employment opportunities for men and women in the region, who are trained by project promoters in the installation and construction of these stoves.</p>



Project/technology/country	Climate solution
<p data-bbox="380 285 680 354"><b>Cururos Wind Park Project</b> Chile/South America</p> 	<p data-bbox="884 285 1860 354"><b>Issue:</b> In Chile, a significant portion of electricity is produced from fossil fuels, leading to substantial greenhouse gas emissions.</p> <p data-bbox="884 399 1885 618"><b>Climate Solution:</b> The Cururos project involves the establishment of two wind farms in the Coquimbo region of Chile, with a total installed capacity of 109.6 MW and an average annual production of 290 GWh. These wind farms are integrated into the Central Interconnected System (SIC). By substituting fossil electricity in the grid, the project, made possible through carbon financing, has the potential to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by approximately 173,819 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>e per year, which equates to 1,390,550 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>e over the 7-year accreditation period (renewable).</p>
<p data-bbox="264 813 800 881"><b>Efficient Cookstoves and Drinking Water Project</b> Kenya, Uganda, and Rwanda/Africa</p> 	<p data-bbox="884 813 1871 995"><b>Issue:</b> In rural areas of Kenya, Uganda, and Rwanda, a large portion of the population faces a lack of access to clean water. To cope with this reality, residents resort to using wood and charcoal for cooking and water purification. This practice leads to various environmental challenges such as deforestation and greenhouse gas emissions, as well as health issues related to indoor air quality, not to mention economic impacts such as the cost of wood and the time needed for its collection.</p> <p data-bbox="884 1040 1885 1260"><b>Climate Solution:</b> To address these challenges, the projects support the production and distribution of efficient stoves for low-income families. These stoves help reduce firewood consumption by up to 50%. Some of these projects go further by funding the rehabilitation of water boreholes to provide clean water to communities, as well as the installation of water treatment systems at communal water sources. These measures, made possible through carbon financing, save families from having to boil water to make it potable.</p>

Project/technology/country	Climate solution
<p data-bbox="415 284 644 311"><b>Solar Energy Projects</b></p> <p data-bbox="369 321 690 349">India and Turkey/Europe and Asia</p> 	<p data-bbox="884 284 1829 386"><b>Issue</b> In India and Turkey, a significant portion of electricity is produced from fossil fuels, thereby generating substantial amounts of greenhouse gases. Despite this, this method of electricity production remains the least expensive in these countries.</p> <p data-bbox="884 435 1885 537"><b>Climate Solution:</b> Solar park projects offer an alternative by substituting solar energy for fossil fuels. This transition, made possible through carbon financing, helps reduce the greenhouse gas emissions associated with electricity production in these densely populated countries.</p>
<p data-bbox="415 766 644 794"><b>Wind Energy Projects</b></p> <p data-bbox="369 803 690 831">India and Turkey/Europe and Asia</p> 	<p data-bbox="884 766 1860 868"><b>Issue:</b> In India and Turkey, a significant portion of electricity is produced from fossil fuels, leading to substantial greenhouse gas emissions. Despite its environmental impact, this method of electricity production remains the least expensive in these countries.</p> <p data-bbox="884 917 1885 1019"><b>Climate Solution:</b> Wind park projects offer an alternative by substituting wind energy for fossil fuels. This transition, made possible through carbon financing, helps reduce the greenhouse gas emissions associated with electricity production in these densely populated countries.</p>

Project/technology/country	Climate solution
<p data-bbox="365 285 699 354"><b>Landfill Gas to Energy Project</b> Turkey/Europe/Asia</p> 	<p data-bbox="884 285 1881 354"><b>Issue:</b> In Turkey, the decomposition of organic matter (food, paper, etc.) in landfills releases methane, a very potent greenhouse gas, thereby contributing to climate change.</p> <p data-bbox="884 399 1881 656"><b>Climate Solution:</b> This project aims to prevent greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from an existing landfill site by capturing biogas to generate electricity. In addition to the direct reduction of GHG emissions, other indirect reductions are achieved through the substitution of fossil fuels used for electricity production. Activities include the installation of a landfill gas extraction system, a closed flare, and a biogas-powered generator for electricity production. This biogas power plant project, made possible through carbon financing, is located near the village of Molu de Koca, in the province of Kayseri.</p>
<p data-bbox="365 753 699 821"><b>Wastewater Treatment Project</b> Thailand/Asia</p> 	<p data-bbox="884 753 1881 821"><b>Issue:</b> Until recently, residents of the surrounding villages were troubled by the odors emanating from the wastewater treatment ponds of the starch factory, which uses fossil fuels.</p> <p data-bbox="884 867 1881 1052"><b>Climate Solution:</b> Thanks to this project, the methane generated by starch processing is now captured, thus preventing its contribution to climate change. Additionally, this capture allows for the production of energy, thereby reducing the need to purchase fossil fuels. Furthermore, the project, made possible through carbon financing, has created jobs for the local population and supports social and educational initiatives within the community.</p>