Carbonfund.org Foundation

Environmental Solutions

2017 ANNUAL REPORT
Letter from Our President

Dear Friends,

As Carbonfund.org Foundation approaches its 15th anniversary, we are proud to look back at the impact and the progress we have made to foster a better climate and support cutting-edge technologies once thought impossible to deploy.

Fifteen years ago, there was barely a wind industry and the solar industry was tiny. Landfill methane, truck stop electrification and other projects were rare, at best. It has taken a generation of leaders, like you, to change the course of history.

Today, more people are employed in the wind industry than coal industry. Same goes for solar. Literally thousands of companies have pledged to buy all their power from renewables. Millions of acres of at-risk forest land are being re-planted or preserved.

The projects exist. And it is far more affordable to be carbon neutral than almost anyone thought possible. That’s the good news.

Sadly, our global carbon emissions continue to rise and America has abandoned its leadership role on the environment and climate change. The vast effects of climate change are visible daily as every year gets warmer and our CO2 levels are now above 400 parts per million (ppm) vs just 270 ppm in the pre-industrial era. Oceans are no longer going to rise, but are rising, and the best case scenarios for climate change are several degrees warmer temperatures, no longer holding climate change at bay.

There is hope. While we have done some irreversible damage to our planet, we all can and must still act. The technologies exist. The projects exist. And both are affordable. We can make the shift to 100% renewable energy by 2050 and a carbon neutral world before that.

The means exist and the will exists among most of the world’s population and countries. With a concerted effort, we can still beat this thing.

Carbonfund.org is dedicated to solving climate change and will continue educating the public, spurring direct action and investing in projects and technologies that get us closer and closer to this critical goal. Our supporters have made this possible for fifteen years and with you, we are making a difference today, for tomorrow.

Eric M. Carlson
President
Our Mission: Toward a ZeroCarbon™ world

Carbonfund.org is leading the fight against global warming, making it easy and affordable for any individual, business or organization to reduce and offset their climate impact and hasten the transition to a clean energy future.

Carbonfund.org achieves its goals through:
- Environmental education
- Carbon offsets and reductions
- Public outreach

Reduce What You Can, Offset What You Can’t™

We encourage everyone to continually strive to reduce their carbon footprint through sensible energy reductions combined with cost-effective carbon offsets to eliminate their overall carbon footprint.

Carbonfund.org supports third-party validated and verified renewable energy, energy efficiency and forestry projects globally that reduce carbon dioxide emissions and the threat of climate change.

Carbonfund.org’s partners are non-profits and for-profits, large and small, religious and secular, but they all share a common goal of fighting climate change and being part of the environmental solution toward a clean energy, low carbon future.

Carbonfund.org’s partners are reducing the threat of climate change for our and future generations.

Carbonfund.org Historical Facts:
Over 25 billion pounds of CO₂! That is the amount of carbon emissions that Carbonfund.org has reduced with your support over the past fifteen years. This is equivalent to removing over 2.5 million cars from the road for a year, or to the carbon dioxide sequestered by almost 300 million tree seedlings grown for 10 years.
Our Featured Carbon Reduction Projects

Avoided Deforestation and Forest Conservation Projects — Brazil

In the world’s largest rainforest, the Purus, Russas, Valparaiso and Envira Amazonia Projects were established by Carbonfund.org’s subsidiary CarbonCo to protect almost 750,000 acres of rainforest from slash-and-burn agriculture and cattle ranches. These Projects will provide essential ecosystem services such as: erosion control; water cycling, filtration and storage; nutrient recycling; habitat for thousands of native Amazonian animal and plant species; and prevent millions of tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions.

To date, Carbonfund.org has overseen the forest carbon inventories and regional deforestation modeling, co-authored over 2,000 pages of project documents, designed and implemented community and biodiversity impact monitoring plans, and advised on local social projects and programs to mitigate deforestation for these Projects. Such local projects and programs include: offering thousands of local community members free agricultural extension courses; establishing an onsite health center with regular doctor and dentist visits; working on granting official land title to local communities to help strengthen land tenure; and improving local schools.

In 2017, our Purus Project achieved its fifth verification to the Verified Carbon Standard (VCS) and to the Climate, Community, & Biodiversity Standard (CCBS) with Gold Distinction. This Gold Distinction was earned for exceptional biodiversity benefits. Also in 2017, our Envira Amazonia Project achieved its second verification to the VCS and CCBS with Triple Gold Distinction for exceptional community and biodiversity benefits, along with exceptional climate change adaptation measures. Furthermore our Russas and Valparaiso Projects, in 2017, achieved their second verification to the VCS and CCBS with Gold Distinction for exceptional community benefits.

Avoided deforestation projects are critical because about 20 percent of global climate change is attributed to deforestation, which reduces the Earth’s capacity to absorb carbon dioxide. Moreover, fallen trees decompose and release methane, a heat-trapping gas about 23 times more potent than CO₂.

New Bedford Landfill Gas-to-Energy Project

Carbonfund.org provided financial support to the New Bedford Landfill Gas-to-Energy Project throughout 2017. This Project is a landfill gas-to-energy plant which produces approximately 3.3 megawatt hours of clean electricity each year. This landfill gas, which includes methane and carbon dioxide, is collected from the landfill to fuel four reciprocating internal combustion engine-generators.

With support from Carbonfund.org, this Project not only produces power for the regional electricity grid, but also reduces the amount of methane gas released into our atmosphere. The landfill, in addition to reducing greenhouse gas emissions, which benefits the world, directly serves the communities from the Town of Dartmouth and the City of New Bedford. Carbonfund.org has supported this Project for more than a decade.
Our Featured Carbon Reduction Projects (continued)

Wind Projects

In 2016 and 2017, Carbonfund.org supported thousands of megawatt hours of wind-powered renewable energy from numerous wind projects including: the Beethoven Wind in Southeastern South Dakota; the Bobcat Bluff Wind Project in Archer County, Texas; the Champion (Roscoe) Wind Farm located in Nolan, Mitchell and Scurry counties, Texas; the Rolling Thunder Wind Farm (now known as Titan Wind) located in Hand County, South Dakota; the Meridian Way Wind Farm located in Cloud County, Iowa; and the Prairie Breeze Wind Farm located in Antelope and Boone counties, Nebraska.

These wind projects allow for multiple land uses, such as the continuation of growing crops and ranching. The Projects will also help diversify local tax revenues, generate alternative incomes for local farmers, and create numerous jobs throughout the construction stage and ongoing operations.

Cameroon, Haiti and Tanzania Tree Planting Projects

Carbonfund.org has financially supported tree planting projects throughout Haiti, particularly in the municipalities most impacted by the devastating earthquake in 2010, along with tree planting projects in the United States, Cameroon, and Tanzania for several years. Such tree planting projects not only sequester carbon dioxide, but also mitigate the runoff of top soil and help to improve agricultural opportunities for local communities. Since January 2010, Carbonfund.org has funded the planting of more than one million trees in Cameroon, Haiti, the United States, and Tanzania.

Through this initiative, farmers are trained in agroforestry and sustainable agriculture techniques, and then supplied seeds and the tools needed to harvest their crops. For instance, Haitian communities have already received nearly one million seedlings and with our support, the program aims to establish a central nursery, an office, a training center and to expand the program to many more rural communities.

Similar to the Haiti initiative, local Tanzanian farmers are trained in agroforestry and sustainable agriculture techniques, and then supplied seeds and the tools needed to harvest their crops. Communities throughout Tanzania have received more than 1.3 million seeds and 6 workshops on tree planting and environmental conservation were conducted. Carbonfund.org has also supported tree planting throughout the United States, including in the states of California, Florida and Maryland.

Panama Reforestation Project

The Panama Reforestation Project, with ongoing financial support from Carbonfund.org, will be able to continue meeting its ambitious goal of reforesting nearly 25,000 acres of abandoned cattle pastures. The Project has planted 30 different native tree species and has sequestered more than 110,000 metric tons of carbon dioxide. In addition, the Project has reestablished critical wildlife habitat with recent sightings of ocelots and Central American spider monkeys. Additional ecosystem services provided by this Project include: reduced erosion and improved top soil quality; and protection of downstream watersheds, including a coastal mangrove forest which helps to reduce the impact of tropical storms.

While mitigating the release of greenhouse gases and restoring biodiversity, the Project also provides a host of community benefits such as: reversing the trend of rural-to-urban migration, providing alternative income for local communities through training opportunities for nursery operations, project management, and fire prevention, in tandem with health and literacy programs.
CARBONFREE® BUSINESS PARTNERS

A special thanks to all of the 2,000+ businesses who have supported Carbonfund.org since our inception by actively reducing the impacts of climate change through external emissions reductions, including:

Consumers insist that their preferred businesses reduce their carbon impact.

Our partnerships provide businesses an opportunity to actively court the growing number of eco-conscious consumers.

Our Carbonfree® program provides our partners a way to differentiate their brands, reduce environmental impacts and communicate sustainability leadership.
CARBONFREE® CERTIFIED PRODUCTS

The Carbonfree® Product Certification label increases awareness of product-related emissions and of companies that are taking responsibility for their products’ carbon footprint while helping to hasten a market transformation to a low carbon future.

Our Carbonfree® Products and Partners:

Carbonfree® Product Certification is a meaningful, transparent way for our partners to provide environmentally-friendly, carbon neutral products to customers.

By determining a product’s carbon footprint, reducing it where possible and offsetting the remaining emissions through our third-party validated and verified carbon reduction projects, these businesses demonstrate true leadership and corporate environmental responsibility.

Our partner businesses span industries from batteries to beverages to flooring and electronics and so much more.
Camp Quinebarge

In 2017, Carbonfund.org Foundation continued to expand its efforts to solve climate change and achieve a ZeroCarbon™ world through Camp Quinebarge, in Moultonborough, New Hampshire.

Camp Quinebarge is a traditional co-ed overnight summer camp which has been hosting generations of children ages 7 through 15 since 1936.

A ready-made environmental education center, Camp Quinebarge sits on over 65 acres of idyllic woodland and 1,250 feet of frontage on pristine Lake Kanasatka, in the heart of New Hampshire’s mountain and lakes region.

Camp Quinebarge harkens to a time of kids being kids, without the distractions of modern life, exploring the natural world around them, developing friendships that will last forever, telling stories, singing songs and playing games in a safe, fun and nurturing environment that cherishes people and place.

Through the ongoing management of Camp Quinebarge, Carbonfund.org has continued the legacy and tradition of preserving and enjoying our treasured natural landscapes.

Like many summer camps, we are technology-free. Our campers enjoy traditional camp experiences with environmentally-friendly programs and eco-tips woven into daily cabin life and group activities. By experiencing the natural environment with their lifelong peers, we seek to inspire future stewards of our environment.

Carbonfund.org and Camp Quinebarge are proud to provide a Camp for Kids program. By doing so, we are able to bring children, who are otherwise not able to attend, to experience mountains, lakes and forests for the first time.

To learn more, visit www.CampQuinebarge.com
CarbonCo, LLC

CarbonCo, LLC ("CarbonCo"), the wholly-owned subsidiary of the Carbonfund.org Foundation, was founded in 2011 and is one of the world’s leading developers of Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation (REDD+) projects.

REDD+ projects are forest conservation projects that generate carbon offset credits by mitigating deforestation. Revenue is used to implement local projects and programs to increase the life quality of local communities and to preserve a tremendous amount of biodiversity.

CarbonCo manages only the project development portion of Carbonfund.org’s work, focusing on project opportunities in Brazil and Indonesia and the advisory services necessary to help these conservation projects reach certification.

This experience throughout 2017 included continuing to advise the 34,000-hectare Purus Project, which was the first-ever REDD+ project in the State of Acre to achieve dual validation and verification to the Verified Carbon Standard (VCS) and the Climate, Community and Biodiversity Standard (CCBS) with Gold Distinction. This Gold Distinction was awarded due to the Purus Project’s exceptional biodiversity, which includes the identification of two endangered tree species. In addition, the Project’s motion-sensitive wildlife cameras photographed numerous rare and threatened species including jaguars, tapirs, giant anteaters, and short-eared dogs. The second wildlife camera study at the Purus Project began in 2018.

In addition, CarbonCo continued to advise the Russas and Valparaiso Projects, with the collective aim to conserve more than 70,000 hectares in the Jurúá-Valparaiso River Basins of Acre, Brazil. The Russas and Valparaiso Projects achieved its second verification to the VCS and CCBS with Gold Distinction in 2017.

The fourth project undertaken by CarbonCo is the Envira Amazonia Project. The Envira Amazonia Project, which achieved its second verification in 2017 to the VCS and CCBS, is one of the largest REDD+ projects in the world and is one of only a handful of forestry projects to be verified as Triple Gold Distinction for exceptional climate, community and biodiversity benefits.

Collectively, these four CarbonCo projects protect approximately 1,175 square miles which is nearly the same area as the cities of Los Angeles, New York, and Chicago combined.

Also in 2017, CarbonCo initiated a consulting engagement with a regional aquarium to assist with their assessment of potential avoided deforestation activities, in conjunction with local fishermen, in the State of Amazonas, Brazil.

To learn more, please visit: www.CarbonCoLLC.com.