Anthesis 💥

Invest for Impact

by supporting farmers in their transition to regenerative agriculture.

At Anthesis we are using our decades of combined experience to develop and deliver credible climate projects for businesses and organisations. Following globally reputable monitoring, reporting and verification (MRV) frameworks to provide high-quality carbon offsets. We help the world's leading organisations to get offsetting right. We utilise 20+ years of carbon finance expertise to avoid reputational risks and to ensure our global clients feel confident when considering carbon offsets.



Supporting farmers on their sustainable journey

AgriCarbon[™] is our flagship carbon farming programme in South Africa that rewards farmers for sustainable land management practices.

Regenerative agriculture is an effective way to reduce **greenhouse gases** by turning soil into carbon sinks and removing CO2 from the atmosphere.



We help the world's leading organisations to get offsetting right.

Offsetting is supported by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and, the Science-Based Targets Initiative (SBTi) which validate it as a hugely important part of an organisation's climate strategy. Taking immediate action through offsetting can enable your company to reduce residual carbon, meet its Net Zero targets and reach the goals set out by the Paris Agreement.

Our systematic approach entails the crucial role of carbon offsets within a Net Zero pathway, which is as follow:

- Avoid unnecessary emissions
- Reduce what cannot be avoided
- Offset what cannot be reduced

After emission avoidance and reductions, the next step is tackling the emissions that cannot be reduced or avoided – which means carbon offsetting. Anthesis supports companies to offset their carbon impact, with guaranteed carbon reductions, through a range of technology-based, and nature-based programmes within the Voluntary Carbon Market. We provide options for both Reduction / Avoidance Credits, as well as Carbon Removal Credits.

We are one of the world's leading experts in the development of soil carbon and nature-based projects.

The credits that our clients purchase from us genuinely contribute to a reduction in carbon. All our projects are verified by independent, internationally recognised bodies, who confirm that our projects meet the precisely defined audit requirements of the carbon standards.



What is regenerative agriculture?

Regenerative agriculture is a holistic farming approach that aims to improve soil health, enhance biodiversity, and promote ecological resilience while also producing food.

The basic principle of regenerative agriculture is to work with the natural systems rather than against them.

A variety of farming management practices work together to build healthy soils, reduce erosion, and promote plant and animal diversity - such as reduced soil tillage, diversified crop rotations, improved soil coverage (like cover cropping or intercropping), reduced synthetic fertiliser use or usage of organic fertiliser sources and the integration of livestock. By building healthy soils, regenerative agriculture can help sequester carbon from the atmosphere, thereby contributing to efforts to mitigate climate change.

The farmers who have had the greatest impact on the programme to date have been those who have reduced their tillage, improved the variety in their cropping rotation and increased the amount of time live roots stay present in their lands.



CONVENTIONAL FARMING	REGENERATIVE FARMING PRACTICES
Conventional synthetic fertiliser application; high volumes.	Reduction of synthetic fertilisers, conversion to organic fertilisers, optimisation of fertiliser application.
Conventional irrigation and water management practices.	Optimisation of water usage and associated energy consumption.
Conventional tillage and high soil disturbance practices, low level soil cover.	Reduction in soil disturbance practices moving towards minimum/no-tillage alongside permanent organic soil cover.
Monoculture cropping systems.	Diversified cropping systems which include multi-species cover crops, as well as intercropping and rotational cropping systems, that maintain an adequate soil cover.
Conventional grazing practices.	Stocking rate optimisation, multi-species integration, rotational grazing practices and livestock manure management.
High agrochemical and fossil fuel usage, poor soil biological health status and biomass burning.	Fossil fuel usage reduction, reduction in biomass burning and less agrochemical usage.

High quality soil carbon removals at scale

The programme rewards farmers for adopting improved agricultural land management practices, which limit emissions and restore organic carbon to the soil. This additional income incentivises farmers to continue to adopt regenerative agriculture practices and helps to finance the transition. Farmers use these funds to invest in new machinery, technology and management practices necessary to implement regenerative agriculture practices and to mitigate short-term yield losses.



These removal carbon credits provide companies with a reliable method to offset their unavoidable emissions, achieve their net-zero goals and fund other climate initiatives.

By supporting regenerative agriculture, companies can help mitigate the impacts of climate change. Regenerative Agriculture has great potential to positively influence the future of our planet, creating healthy soils, replenishing our water supplies and improving biodiversity.

The vision for AgriCarbon[™] is to continue to push the boundaries for quality and integrity, which earns the trust of farmers and the carbon credit buyers within the carbon markets.

This means going above and beyond the requirements of the Verra Standard and methodologies that ensure the essential components such as additionality, permanence, risks and uncertainty determination. This is supported by the highest scientific rigour with a robust soil sampling and measurement protocol.





AgriCarbon[™] is South Africa's leading carbon farming programme offering verified, high-quality soil carbon removals at scale, while supporting farmers on their sustainable land management journey.

CLIMATE & ENVIRONMENT

Carbon sequestration:

Regenerative agriculture practices such as cover cropping, diversified crop rotation, reduced tillage, and livestock integration can increase the amount of carbon stored in the soil. This helps to remove the amount of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere and mitigate climate change.

Biodiversity:

Enhanced by creating suitable habitats for beneficial insects, birds, and other wildlife. This can help to restore ecosystem function and resilience.

Water conservation:

Soil water-holding capacity is improved, reducing the need for irrigation, and promoting water conservation.

Reduced chemical inputs:

Regenerative agriculture relies on natural inputs and reduces or eliminates the use of synthetic fertilizers and pesticides.



Food security:

Regenerative agriculture practices can improve soil health, crop yields, and diversity, which can increase food security for local communities.

Economic benefits:

Carbon credits generated from regenerative agriculture can provide additional income for farmers and land managers, while also incentivising sustainable land management practices.

Community resilience:

Regenerative agriculture practices can enhance ecosystem services, such as water conservation and soil health, which can improve community resilience to climate change and other environmental stresses.



Nutrient-dense food:

Food grown on regenerative farms can have higher levels of vitamins, minerals and antioxidants due to improved soil health, which leads to more nutrient-dense crops.

Reduced exposure to toxins:

The use of natural inputs reduces or eliminates the use of synthetic fertilisers and pesticides decreasing the amount of toxic chemicals that farmers and farm workers are exposed to, as well as the amount of chemical residues in ecosystems and the food that consumers eat.



Why soil carbon removals vs, other (offset) options?

1. Contribution to SBTi's and Net Zero:

Carbon removals are a key component of the strategy to achieve Science-Based Targets and Net Zero emissions. By incorporating these removal strategies into their emission reduction plans, companies and countries can demonstrate their commitment to addressing climate change in a comprehensive and responsible manner.

4. Scalability and accessibility:

Soil carbon removal techniques can be implemented across various landscapes, including farmland, grasslands, and forests, making them widely applicable and accessible to different regions and communities.

2. Permanent storage:

Carbon stored in soils can remain sequestered for up to 100 years, providing a more durable solution compared to other activities such as renewables or REDD+.

3. Multiple benefits:

Enhancing soil carbon not only helps mitigate climate change but also improves soil health, fertility, and water retention. It supports agricultural productivity, biodiversity, and ecosystem resilience and improves food security.

5. Benefits to farmers:

The programme improves economic sustainability for participating farmers ensuring both food security and employment security.

6. Co-benefits for rural communities:

It can also provide economic opportunities for rural communities, promote sustainable agriculture practices, and strengthen local resilience.

It's important to note that soil carbon removals should not be seen as a standalone solution but as part of a comprehensive approach to address climate change, combining emission reduction efforts, renewable energy adoption, and other nature-based solutions.

Carbon Project Development Status



AgriCarbon PD1 (Verra #2554) is a certified SCS Kingfisher Mark B for Carbon Offset Project.

Certification by SCS, as represented by the SCS Kingfisher, is a visual expression of proven commitment to sustainability through environmental stewardship, responsible resource management, and protection of people and communities.

Validation of carbon offset project plans, and verification of the actual carbon tonnage avoided or sequestered by these projects, confirms the accuracy of greenhouse gas (GHG) avoidance or sequestration claims. Carbon credits derived from offset projects can be traded on international carbon markets.



Enrolment Window 1

- Farmers: In 2021, 29 dairy farmers enrolled with a total of 40 000 hectares.
- **Provinces:** The following provinces were included Eastern Cape, KwaZulu Natal and the Western Cape.
- Data: Data processing of 380 fields took place, consisting of 70 000 unique data points.
- Soil Samples: 3 000 soil samples were collected.

Validation and verification started in 2022 and was completed in March 2023. We are currently requesting registration and issuance with Verra.

Enrolment Window 2

- **Farmers:** In 2022, 90 row crop and livestock farmers enrolled with a total of 163 000 hectares.
- Provinces: The following provinces were included Eastern Cape, Free State, Gauteng, KwaZulu Natal, Limpopo, Mpumalanga, North West and the Western Cape.
- Data: Data processing of 7 480 fields took place, consisting of >800 000 unique data points.
- Soil Samples: 2 000 soil samples were collected.

Enrolment Window 3

Applications for Window 3 to open in 2025.



Collaboration for Impact

Current AgriCarbon Partnerships:



Underpinning the AgriCarbon[™] programme's success are partnerships with agricultural consultancies, research organisations, monitoring & evaluation service providers who work closely with our farmers to support their sustainability journey while increasing yields and decreasing inputs.





About Anthesis

From the Greek word 'anthesis', referencing the lifecycle stage of a plant when it is most productive, Anthesis exists to guide our clients as they transition to decarbonised and more sustainable futures.

With world-class expertise in science-based advisory, market-leading digital solutions, the development of high-quality carbon removal projects and purpose consulting, strategy and communication, Anthesis is uniquely positioned to manage risk and find value for our clients in their transformation journeys.

In South Africa, our mission is to focus, almost entirely, on local carbon offset project development and the sale of carbon credits. We aim to harness the carbon markets for Africa by increasing the development of carbon credit projects across various sectors with a focus on nature-based solutions, such as our flagship AgriCarbon™ programme.

Our core offering includes:

- Carbon Project Development
- South African Carbon Tax and Carbon Advisory
- Carbon Offsetting





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