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LEGACY Gray Dawes Projects – April 2021





Corriechuillie – New Native Woodland:

Country		Scotland	
Location		Grantown on Spey, Moray	
UK grid reference		NJ070210	
Project completion date		Planted	
Total gross planted area (hectares)		17.17	
Anticipated CO2 capture (tonnes)		5,950	
Approximate trees planted		27,472	
Species planted		Scots Pine, Alder, Aspen, Birch, & Rowan	
Meets UK Forestry Standard	Yes	Woodland Carbon Code status	Validated



Narrative

The objective was to take less-productive land out of agriculture to create an area of woodland for conservation and biodiversity.

The woodland will create excellent habitat for Woodland Grouse. Both Capercaillie and Blackgrouse are found within the vicinity and potentially will benefit from the scheme.

The scheme was designed with native low density on the southern and northern edges, native upland birch in patches around the perimeter and a core of native Scots pine (with broadleaves).

This will provide visual and ecological diversity and help to substantially retain views from the public road and reduce predation on the breeding waders.



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Gameshope Loch – Peatland Restoration:

Country	Scotland
Location	Scottish Borders, nr. Moffat
UK grid reference	NT130165
Project completion date	March 2021
Total restoration area (hectares)	48.3
Anticipated CO ₂ e Avoided (tonnes)	11,336
Peatland Code status	Validated

Narrative:

The peatland restoration at Gameshope loch is part of a wider, multi-site project to tackle degraded peatlands across the Talla and Gameshope estate. This land is owned and managed by the Borders Forest Trust, who are committed to restoring it for nature, by planting trees and scrub, and also helping blanket bogs and mire habitats to recover.

A combination of bare peat re-vegetation, hagg re-profiling and gully blocking will allow the water table to rise and peat-forming plant species to re-colonise the area. These plants lock up carbon when they die and become stored, partially decomposed, as layers of peat below the growing layer of mosses.

By restoring the peatlands, this project will not only reduce greenhouse gas emissions from the degraded mires, it will also allow the landscape to store more water and support a greater diversity of wildlife, including iconic species like black grouse and hen harriers.

Another key aim of this project is education, with the Borders Forest Trust hoping to host site visits from academics, policy makers and conservation bodies, to raise awareness about peatland restoration and demonstrate effective techniques for driving recovery.





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Helen's Wood – New Native Woodland:

Country		England	
Location		Widdrington, Northumberland	
UK grid reference		NZ240 955	
Project completion date		March 2021	
Total gross planted area (hectares)		9.7	
Anticipated CO ₂ capture (tonnes)		7,272	
Approximate trees planted		24,250	
Species planted		Birch, Alder, Sycamore, Willow and other b	roadleaves
Meets UK Forestry Standard	Yes	Woodland Carbon Code status	Validated





Narrative

The vision for Helen's Wood is to create a new native woodland that supports local biodiversity and improves woodland habitat connectivity in the surrounding area. It is located just to the north of the town of Widdrington.

The woodland creation project has been planted on former grazing pasture ground, and its links together with existing woodlands that surround it.

In addition to ecological benefits the woodland will also sequester over 7,272 tonnes of CO_2e during it's growing lifetime, and bind the soil beneath its canopy, protecting it from erosion during heavy rain events, which are predicated to become more frequent as the climate warms during the coming decades.

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Project Summary

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Forestal el Arriero Sustainable Forestry, Uruguay

Project type: Agricultural, forestry and landscapes Region: Latin America Standards: VCS

Description:This project represents the conversion of land in the east of Uruguay previously under extensive grazing by beef cattle to high quality and high value timber production, expected to be used for long-lived products and so ensuring continued carbon storage. Forests are replanted after felling, providing continuous rotations of carbon capture. The projects contribute to sustainable development in Uruguay, mainly through (1) increased employment and quality of employment; (2) rural development (decentralization); (3) improved national balance of payments through exports and value-added activity in country; (4) biodiversity preservation and (5) improvement and preservation of soil quality. Although established on former grazing land there has not been any displacement of grazing activity. Planting is planned and laid out to protect habitat connectivity. Forestry is expected to employ more than twice as many people in the region as the displaced grazing, and also create conditions for investment in downstream timber industries.







Project Summary

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Conservation Coast Forest Conservation REDD+, Guatemala Project type: Agricultural, forestry and landscapes

Region: Latin America Standards: VCS, CCBA

Description: The project area is located in Department of Izabal in the Caribbean coast region of Guatemala, in the Sarstun-Motagua reference region proposed by the national level REDD+ program. Belonging to the biologically diverse Mesoamerican Biological Corridor, forests in the project area are important nationally and internationally for the ecosystem services they provide. The project is the world's largest grouped forest-based carbon project; hundreds of diverse landowners (including governmental, NGO, private and community) have joined to protect 675 parcels of forest making up a total of 59,341 hectares. A truly landscape-scale and community-based project. Activities on the ground to develop sustainable livelihoods include working with local farmers on technical assistance, agriculture inputs and route to market for a variety of sustainably produced commodities such as spices and jungle leaves, as well as developing this beautiful coastline into a thriving eco-tourism hub. The project is critical to local water supply, as municipal water comes from the watershed protected by our project. In addition, protecting forests along coastlines also can help in coastal defence and disaster risk reduction for local communities.

This project protects a critical migratory corridor for biodiversity, including hundreds of bird species, connecting North and South America.





Project Summary

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Over 90% of the carbon is in the underlying peat soils. The project has prevented the release of over 37 million tonnes CO₂e



Katingan Peatland and Forest Conservation REDD+, Indonesia

Project type: Agricultural, forestry and landscapes Region: Indonesia Standards: VCS and CCB

Description: The project protects and restores over 140,000 hectares of peatland ecosystems by helping local people build sustainable sources of income through agriculture, agro-forestry, eco-tourism and aquaculture. This prevents the conversion of the area to industrial plantations of acacia, a tree which is commonly used for flooring. Conversion through forest clearance, draining and burning of the underlying peat would release the large carbon and methane stored by the area, as well as destroy the rich biodiversity. Carbon finance funds activities helping residents to make a living from non-timber forest products like rattan, honey, coconut and jelutong, fire prevention, eco-tourism, canal management and sustainable fisheries.

Sustainable Development Goals: In addition to delivering emissions reductions to take climate action (SDG 13), the project delivers several other benefits including:

- Decent Work and Economic Growth: A community development programme runs across 34 villages and includes tree nurseries, an agroecology school and microfinance loans.
- Clean Water and Sanitation: Conservation activities improve the supply, consistency and quality of drinking water available.
- Gender Equality: Financial empowerment increases social mobility for women and inclusion in decision making processes.

