

SYNERGY PORTFOLIO

The Synergy Portfolio is a collection of projects from British Columbia and Uganda that have been completed to various high quality standards. All of the projects within this portfolio have benefits that extend beyond their climate benefits and into the communities they reside within.



Great Bear Forest Carbon Project



An Improved Forest Management initiative, which generates emission reductions by protecting forest areas that were previously designated, sanctioned or approved for commercial logging. It is a landmark project for balancing human well-being and ecological integrity through carbon finance, and is the first carbon project in North America on traditional territory with unextinguished aboriginal rights and title. Funds from the sales of these carbon offsets go towards creating jobs within First Nations Communities. The project has enabled up to 1,000,000 tCO₂e to be sequestered each year for 25 years.

Project video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XMn2V8T7Ppk>

Other Benefits

The First Nations groups living in the Great Bear Forest project area own the carbon offsets this project has created. Revenue generated from all sales goes directly to the communities and facilitates long-term economic stability in these remote regions.

Funds from the sales of these carbon offsets go towards creating jobs within First Nations Communities in areas such as environmental stewardship and support community development, youth programs, and seniors' centres.

Uganda Efficient Wood Cook Stoves



This project has enabled the increased distribution of efficient wood burning cook stoves in Uganda to households and institutions. More than 95% of Ugandans use wood burning stoves to cook. Open fire cook stoves in developing countries have been found to be a significant source of black carbon — accelerating climate change. The project reduces particulate matter released from traditional stoves, reduces fuel wood consumption by more than 50%, and enables the capture of ~20,000 tCO₂e per year. The new stoves also prevent premature deaths from excessive soot inhalation.

Other Benefits

Transitioning to the new highly efficient cook stoves reduces greenhouse gas emissions and the amount of particulate matter that is released into the atmosphere. UN studies show that worldwide indoor air pollution from cook stoves causes approximately 1.5 million premature deaths per year and debilitating illness for tens of millions more – most of them women and children. The new cook stoves greatly improve indoor air quality, which positively impacts respiratory health, birth weights and mortality rates.

Quadra Island Forestland Conservation Project



An effort between the Provincial Government of BC, local First Nations communities, Offsetters, and other stakeholders to conserve 418 hectares of forestland previously designated for logging. The government had been in negotiations to conserve the parkland for 20 years. This carbon offset project was the tipping point that saved the forest. The project has enabled ~90,000 tCO₂e to be sequestered over 25 years.

Other Benefits

The conservation of the project area has also established a safe corridor between two existing parks that allows for wildlife mobility, and preserved 10 known Aboriginal heritage sites and an Aboriginal portage route that dated back thousands of years. The area is managed by BC Parks and accessible to the public for hiking, camping, kayaking and other recreational activities.