

GREENHOUSE GAS (GHG) EMISSIONS OFFSETTING

What is it?

A **carbon offset credit** is a transferrable instrument certified by governments or independent certification bodies to represent an **emissions reduction** of one metric tonne of CO₂ (tCO₂eq).

A mechanism used to **offset** the production of **GHG emissions** via the **purchase of carbon credits** in projects that eliminate emissions from the atmosphere or avoid the generation of new emissions.

Carbon Offsetting Principles

01

Calculate the GHG emissions using recognised methods.

02

Reduce GHG emissions first, then offset.

03

Offset with guarantees.

04

Offset with transparency.

Carbon Offsetting Projects

Most common types



Reduction

Projects that reduce emissions by firstly avoiding their release into the atmosphere (e.g. REDD+ projects).



Elimination

Projects that absorb or eliminate carbon from the atmosphere (e.g. solutions based on nature).

A few emissions offset programmes



Voluntary agreements programme. What is it?

A voluntary **GHG emissions offset programme** being promoted by the Regional Government of Catalonia through the **Catalan Office for Climate Change**. This programme offers **tools, support and recognition** to those organisations with installations and/or operations in Catalonia that voluntarily wish to make a commitment to **reducing** their GHG emissions.

How to buy offset credits?

01

Send an e-mail to: compensacionscat@sendeco2.com explaining the requirements and number of tonnes of CO₂ that need to be offset (if known).

02

SendeCO2 will produce a **quote** with:

- Cost of the GHG credits and the transaction costs.
- Value Added Tax (21%): the current cost is €10 per metric tonne, plus a management fee.

03

Once the GHG credits have been **paid** for:

- SendeCO2 issues an invoice and cancels the GHG credits.
- The OCCC will send you the credit purchase and cancellation certificate.

04

You can now **publicise the emissions offset** and use the label issued by the Programme in accordance with the instructions contained in the good practice manual.



To reduce the cost and administrative burden stemming from the purchase of carbon credits for organisations that manage events, we recommend setting up an "offset credits bank" and then event emissions can be offset from this bank throughout the year.