

# Update

## BOKU CO<sub>2</sub> Offsetting System Summer 2018



Dear supporters of the BOKU climate projects,

There are many good news about the BOKU CO<sub>2</sub> Offsetting System. Two of the four climate projects are already fully financed for the next 30 years. Because of that delightful development, one project could get extended and a new one already is in development. If the project that you supported is one of the fully financed ones, we would be happy if your next donations go to a project which still needs support. If you have any questions or need consulting just contact us.

### Relevant political development:

In 2015 the UN agreed on a very ambitious, global and binding climate declaration (Paris Agreement), which now gets implemented step by step.

- The **Green Climate Fund** (<https://www.greenclimate.fund/home>), an international fund for emission reduction and climate change mitigation currently has a budget of 3,5 Mrd. \$. At the moment 74 climate projection and mitigation projects get financed. By 2020 100 Mrd. \$ should be available for such purposes every year. Austria ensured to pay 0,5 Mrd. \$ till 2020.
- The government presented the **Austrian Climate and Energy Strategy** (<https://mission2030.info/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/Klima-Energiestrategie.pdf>) in the beginning of the year. Experts say that the measures are to less engaged to reach the Austrian contribution to the 2° Target. Clear time frames and financial informations are missing.
- The price for compulsory CO<sub>2</sub> certificates rised significantly in the first half of 2018 (because of the planned reduction of the amount of tradable certificates). With a current price of 18€ per ton CO<sub>2</sub> e it is three times higher than last year. The BOKU climate projects can compete with this prices, and they are additionally creating many co-benefits to local communities and supporting to the Sustainable Development Goals.
- On the voluntary carbon market 64 Mio. t CO<sub>2</sub> e at a total price of 191 Mio. Euro were traded last year (<https://www.cbd.int/financial/2017docs/carbonmarket2017.pdf>). It is estimated that this market will grow and therefor more climate protection projects will be developed. In the first hand the quality of such projects has to be proofed. CO<sub>2</sub> emissions should be avoided and reduced wherever it is possible and offsetting should only be an option in the last step.

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News regarding the BOKU projects:

### **Ethiopia: Reforestation of local forests in North Gondar 1+2 (fully financed and successfully extended)**

The original project is fully financed, much earlier than expected, because of the numerous donations it



received. The local community and partners already had the wish to extend the project by enlarging the area in 2016. This year it happened. Because of the success in the original area where planned CO<sub>2</sub> savings of 5.250 t over 30 years are going to happen, a follow-up project was developed, which will bind 11.200t CO<sub>2</sub> e on an additional area of 50 ha (over 25 years). The main driver was the local community: their living conditions had improved very much and they see the positive impacts of the project in their daily lives. Besides the climate effects, local needs for wood,

livestock feed, etc. and incomes through „non-timber forest products“ like honey, seeds and pitch can be fulfilled. Furthermore biodiversity increases and soil and water is protected. A local farmer told us a beautiful story: the little creek in the area carried water for 3 months more, than it used to the previous years. As a reward the local communities decided to invest their part of the project money in solar powered lightning and also to renovate the local school building.



#### CO<sub>2</sub>-offsetting goal:

- 5250 + 11200 t CO<sub>2</sub> e
- area 30ha + 50 ha

#### Next steps:

- development of participatory methods for forest monitoring
- development of a decentralized tree nursery system

#### **BOKU CO<sub>2</sub>-offsetting system**



### Ethiopia: Decentralized organic waste treatment in Addis Abeba

Another compost preparation plant (at EiABC campus) was activated recently. People visited workshops and trainings to get the knowledge how to make this high quality product out of organic waste. The produced compost is already used for soil improvement and local urban agriculture. The cooperation with educational institutions (also 6



universities) gets further improved and the knowledge about sustainable waste management gets integrated in the educational programs of this partners. The project is promoted on specific platforms



and was also presented at the International Urban Farming Conference (Sept. 17) in Berlin. The goal is to spread the knowledge and the positive effect compost has on the soil fertility also in other regions. The amounts of produced compost are rising month by month and therefore new preparation plants will be built soon.

#### CO<sub>2</sub>-offsetting goal:

- 200 t CO<sub>2</sub>/year

#### Next steps:

- starting of the production at the new plant (Bahir Dar University)
- training of trainers for small local compost production plants
- production of vermicompost

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Nepal: Afforestation, forest protection, agro-forestry and efficient cooking stoves



The recently built tree nursery is producing seedlings from now on. The different Stakeholder of the forest users are working very motivated. A management committee, which tries to manage the planning, planting and choosing of the areas for afforestation was founded recently. Field tests and research (5 Master

theses) go on in the meanwhile and scientists from BOKU visit the project on a regular basis (Oct. 2017, Apr. 2018). The research deals with the socioeconomic situation, satellite data are analysed and soil samples are tested in the laboratory.

Furthermore 50 persons took part in a training regarding sustainable forestry, forest fire protection and reproduction of seedlings.



### CO<sub>2</sub>-offsetting goal:

- 17730 t CO<sub>2</sub> e
- area: 131 ha

### Next steps:

- further afforestation in the designated areas
- monitoring of the tree nursery
- analysing field data

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### Costa Rica: afforestation and agro-forestry in San Miguel (fully financed)

Also this project raised enough money to be fully financed for the next 30 years. The planting of the trees goes fast and former banana plantations are transitioned into secondary forests. Locals planted about 3300 trees since the rainy season. This is about the half of the 15 ha area, which will be completely afforested in 2018. The soil was



fertilized with N:P:K in the first step because of missing nutrients. The tropical management office „La



Gamba“ is also in charge of the project, together with scientists from the University of Vienna. The trees are growing fast and healthy (see the picture above: this tree is only 2 years old) and there are barely no losses. Also the problem with a specific ant species could get under control.

#### CO<sub>2</sub>-offsetting goal:

- 4388 t CO<sub>2</sub> e
- area: 15 ha

#### Next steps:

- afforestation of the whole area
- taking care of the young trees

For more detailed information you are warmly invited to visit our homepage: [www.boku.ac.at/co2-kompensation.html](http://www.boku.ac.at/co2-kompensation.html). The new climate project will be presented there soon. We want to thank you for your support. Since the beginning of the BOKU-offsetting system 550.000 € were donated. Every ton of compensated CO<sub>2</sub> helps to realize new climate projects.

We wish you a beautiful end of summer 2018.  
Your BOKU offsetting team.

#### **BOKU CO<sub>2</sub>-offsetting system**

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