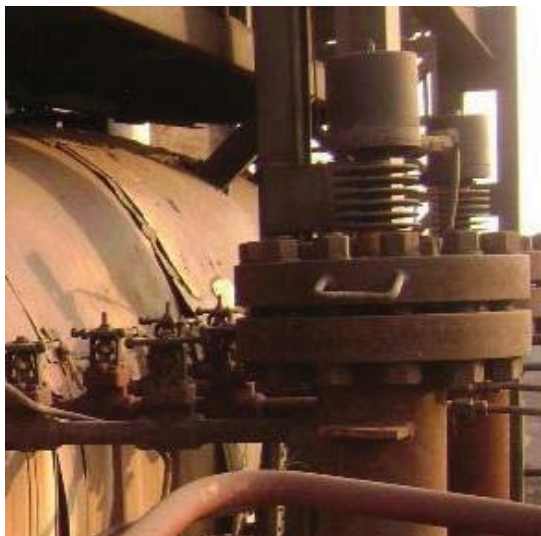


Methane Capture Projects



Sterksel Biogas Project

This project sees the construction of biogas facilities at five farms in the Netherlands. The project reduces methane emissions to the atmosphere and displaces fossil fuels used to heat local buildings. The project will generate emission reductions of an estimated 35,000 tCO₂ equivalent between 2006 and 2007, verified and certified to the Voluntary Carbon Standard.

Technology partner

ARA Carbon Finance

Country

The Netherlands

About your project

The project is located in the Southern Netherlands, an area with a long history of pig and dairy farming. The animal waste is typically held in large open lagoons before being applied to agricultural land.

The process results in large volumes of methane being released into the atmosphere. Methane is a potent greenhouse gas and has a global warming affect 21 times that of CO₂. Led by the agricultural research station attached to one of the farms, the five farms in the project have adopted a new approach. They have installed anaerobic digesters and Combined Heat and Power (CHP) plants to utilise the methane.

The animal manure is fed directly into the digesters, where the methane is captured and used to run the CHP plants. These range in capacity from 0.3 to 3.5 MW and are used to generate electricity for the local grid and heat for local buildings. As a further benefit of the project, the digested manure at the end of the process is a much higher quality fertiliser than produced in the open lagoon practice. Although a great example of industrial ecology, this system is neither common practice nor the cheapest way to dispose of manure. However, carbon finance allows such projects to become financially viable and this is where funds raised by The CarbonNeutral Company's climate change programmes play their part.



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Balance is all

It's a fact of modern life that almost everything we do – flying, driving, even making a cup of tea – involves burning fossil fuels like oil, gas and coal. This in turn contributes CO₂ to the atmosphere and adds to global warming, the big issue now facing our generation.

All our gifts and packages recognise this by giving you a chance to balance out some of that CO₂. So for every kilo of CO₂ you produce, we invest in projects around the world that save equivalent amounts of CO₂.

These projects also benefit local communities directly in a variety of ways. Our solar and hydro schemes for example help stimulate local economies, improve health and create work, while our forestry projects recreate native woodland and valuable wildlife habitats. These are just some of the ways we're making moves on climate change.

Visit www.CarbonNeutral.com for the full story.



John Marks