

CO₂


Reduce, seek alternatives and offset what can't yet be reduced.

Carbon Dioxide (CO₂) is one of several Green House Gasses responsible for global warming and the resulting alarming changes to our climate. The average American is responsible for emitting 21 tons of carbon every year. The US is responsible for 25% of all Green House Gas emissions. Until now, individuals, small businesses and institutions have had no reliable and verifiable way to offset their annual emissions of carbon.



www.gaviotasoffsets.org
www.marioninstitute.org



MOHAWK windpower 

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GAVIOTAS
Marion Institute
Carbon Offset Initiative



The Gaviotas/Marion Institute Carbon Offset Initiative

offers a unique opportunity to offset carbon emissions through a particular project with a twenty-three year track record of sustainable rain forest regeneration utilizing a systemic approach to rural development. Since 1984, the eco-village known as Las Gaviotas in Eastern Colombia has reforested 24,000 acres of fully canopied poly-culture rain forest. The resulting profusion of biodiversity, 253 species at last count, is a profound acknowledgement from nature that the systemic approach to sustainability works extremely well.

Las Gaviotas is a research center devoted to sustainable and innovative development whereby well paid jobs are provided to local people who plant the trees and harvest the mature forest for resin, cashew, bio-diesel from Palm trees and the Jatropha plant, and excellent drinking water pumped from the local aquifer using wind driven pumps.

The tropical location of Las Gaviotas makes it ideal for sequestering carbon. Because of the length of the growing season, up to three times more carbon can be sequestered per unit of land per year than in higher latitudes. In the tropics, the net cooling effect is increased through the reduction of surface soil temperatures once a forest canopy is established. This leads to a 10% increase in rainfall through the process known as transpiration and condensation further enhancing the growing conditions and efficiency.

The Gaviotas carbon offset opportunity is offered at \$7/ton. Be sure to convert pounds into tons by dividing your total pounds of CO₂ emissions by 2,000. Then multiply that number by \$7 to arrive at your annual carbon offset donation.

90% of all donations made to the Marion Institute* in support of the Gaviotas/Marion Institute Carbon Offset Initiative will be spent to implement the planting regimen and in support of the other systemic programs at Las Gaviotas.

Once a year, ZERI will issue a report verifying the progress of the ongoing implementation of the tree-planting program.

10% of these donations will remain with the Marion Institute to cover the cost of administering the program. Once costs are covered, the remaining funds will be devoted to the ZERI Learning Initiative of the Marion Institute which is devoted to the training of K-12 teachers in how to teach systemic sustainability to school children in the US.



Visit www.gaviotasoffsets.org to learn more and to calculate your carbon footprint.

Visit www.marioninstitute.org to donate in support of this program and offset your carbon emissions.

*The Marion Institute is a 501 (C) (3) charitable organization. All donations are tax deductible to the fullest extent of the law.

