#### **Exceeding carbon removal**

from where your food comes from





Research Project

Climate focused donors supporting environmental reset research in agriculture

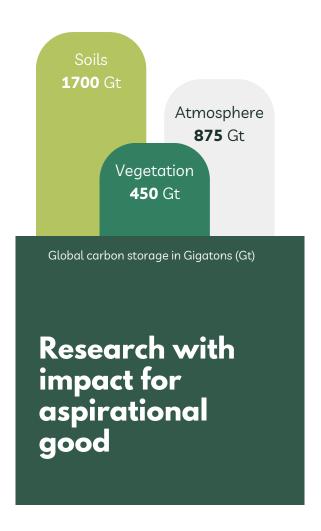
Together, we multiply the impact to every tonne of carbon removed from the atmosphere. We are piloting a mechanism for connecting farmers that generate high integrity carbon removals with attached sustainability legacy to an act of accelerating climate action, For Good.

### Applied research For*Good* of climate and people

The For Good process is a flagship initiative of the Soil CQuest research program, designed to pioneer alternatives to traditional carbon removals. Our goal is to retire carbon removals, or For Good Carbon Units™ (FGCU) that carry research verifiable attached cobenefits, offering a new pathway for impact-driven climate and sustainability outcomes through mechanisms other than transactional offsets.

Backed by a robust governance framework and specialised in-house expertise, our research implements an ACCU soil carbon project retirement mechanism as an innovative approach to generating long-term atmospheric carbon removal. Through applied research and targeted pilots, we aim to implement a novel activity increasing atmospheric carbon retained in soil - the legacy potential of the FGCU.

We recognise agriculture plays a key role in mitigating the adverse affects of climate change and advancing sustainable food systems. By scaling agricultural-based carbon sequestration, we believe it is possible to not only reduce global greenhouse gas concentrations by 2050 but also begin to reverse the legacy of historical emissions - delivering enduring positive environmental and social impact.



Reset our climate, support the solution

We put farmers front-and-centre as active participants in researching agricultural practices that result in genuine, high integrity atmospheric carbon removal, identifying attached societal, environmental, and intrinsic legacy outcomes. With these sponsored research activities, we explore a mechanism for the community to engage and 'make haste', giving opportunity for farmers to commercialise atmospheric carbon storage,

#### A novel pathway for co-benefitted carbon credits generated by farmers

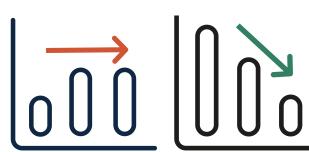
With the financial support of aligned sponsors, we can accelerate the drawdown of atmospheric carbon to agricultural soils to combat climate change.

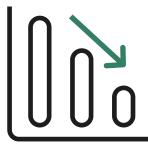
#### Traditional pathway Carbon removal is used to

offset or inset current emissions to reach net zero

#### ForGood pathway Unlike traditional pathways,

ForGood only draws down





### **Accelerated Impact**

All pathways for carbon units are vital and contribute to climate action. However, we create faster positive climate impact by addressing historical emissions whilst stimulating support for on-ground action that generates sustainable and enduring outcomes across Australian agriculture.

Typical market mechanisms of offsetting, trading or selling can tie up carbon units in 'business as usual' emissions transactions and outcomes. Ordinarily, companies can still purchase carbon units to offset their emissions without addressing the real impact of historical emissions. This approach risks falling short of what is needed to achieve net negative emissions and reverse impact of historical carbon emissions.

For Good provides that alternative pathway for carbon units with attached co-benefits, that accelerates their retirement in Australian registries. It is the clearest expression and most accelerated verifiable action we can create, leaving lasting positive legacy on the land through co-benefits arising out of our actions.



A new model of enhancing carbon removal through co-benefits

For Good cosoil Equest

High integrity Australian Carbon Credit Unit (ACCU) Category 2

e.g., Aboriginal Carbon Foundation's Core-Benefits Verification Framework (CBVF), Accounting For Nature, Reef Credits, Land to Market (EOV) Certification, Biodiversity Credits.

#### Category 3

e.g., Sustainability outcomes: cultural or societal, ethical, structural, environmental, or intrinsic e.g. improving biodiversity & habitat, water quality, food democratisation.



Together, we are driven to exceed removal of historical emissions through co-benefits

Each unit is generated by projects that are involved in additional action through established and accredited schemes, frameworks or certifications with a number of environmental, societal, cultural and intrinsic co-benefits that are traceable and impactful.

## The ForGood Framework

### The framework for holistically driven climate impact

At the core of each For Good Carbon Unit is an Australian Carbon Credit Unit (ACCU) generated by an eligible-offsets land sector project. ACCUs are underpinned by a globally recognised standard of highest integrity. We call this threshold **Category 1.** 

Attached to each ACCU is at least one observable co-benefit produced on the same project where carbon removals (ACCUs) occur. Co-benefits make up **Category 2** or **3** embodying additional: social, environmental, or intrinsic legacy outcomes.

**Category 2** is observable under an independent verifiable framework.

**Category 3** produces additionally layered sustainability legacy outcomes.

### The Process

#### The applied process involved in the research

Donors actively demonstrate their commitment to improving the environment or community through sponsoring research into activities that result in high impact carbon removal with enduring legacy.

#### STEP 1

### Identify & investigate agricultural operations generating verified carbon removals and

#### STEP 2

## **Report & assess** if operations meet the criteria for For*Good* projects.

#### STEP 3

## **Donors support**For *Good* research projects, enabling acquisition of Australian Carbon Credit Units.

#### STEP 4

#### Reset actions by carbon units being retired through Australian National Registry of Emissions Units.

#### STEP 5

#### Further research measures and evaluates the impact of climatepositive actions.



co-benefits.









#### **Donor impact**

Donors play a crucial role enabling high impact soil carbon research for the most pressing climate challenges of our time whilst concurrently supporting legacy attached to environmental, social, cultural, agricultural, human and animal health and economic outcomes.

Your donation will support our research projects, particularly For*Good*. With your financial support, we will also seek your participation in social research associated with the For*Good* project.



## Governance & Leadership

SoilCQuest 2031 Ltd is an independently funded, not-for-profit, CSIRO approved research institute registered as a deductible gift recipient with the ACNC. We bring farmers and scientists together to increase soil carbon and reduce emissions for profitable and resilient farms.

This project is endorsed by the SoilCQuest Board and is congruent to SoilCQuest's principal constitutional purpose, aligned with our Research Strategy. It was founded on a vision to create meaningful and lasting impact that leaves a legacy for future generations.

SoilCQuest's independent Research Committee approved the research project, and has continued oversight during its term. The Committee interrogates all For*Good* Carbon Units against Category 1-3 thresholds, through pre-print reports of individual projects generating For*Good* Carbon Units.

This research project was founded with an esteemed Working Group. The Working Group provided industry and community values as well as specialist feedback for the fundamentals and applications of the For*Good* research project. Their input was pivotal to the development of what For*Good* represents in this resultant research project.

#### The role of SoilCQuest in ForGood

SoilCQuest undertakes the ForGood initiative to explore incentives and rewards for carbon removal through the implementation and commercialisation of research and Australian Carbon Credit Unit (ACCU) retirement mechanisms that do not involve traditional offsetting. This project specifies ACCUs that are associated with verifiable co-benefits for aspirational acceleration of the abatement of historical global emissions.

SoilCQuest acquires high integrity carbon units\* that represent genuine carbon removal. Each of these units is generated by projects that participate in additional schemes, frameworks or certifications with any number of environmental, societal, cultural, intrinsic co-benefits that are traceable and verifiable at project scale. This process is purely for aspirational good and not associated with SoilCQuest's or any other organisation's responsibilities to hold carbon units to account for scope emissions. This differentiates the place of FGCUs from CO2-e transacted in traditional markets in a transition to net zero. Here, ACCUs are used directly for the offset of historical emissions.

SoilCQuest facilitates the retirement of ACCUs through the Australian National Registry of Emissions Units (ANREU) account, accelerating the reversal of historical emissions in our atmosphere in a transaction not associated with organisational targets.

\* as specified in the SoilCQuest High-integrity carbon removal characterisation (2025) document

