A new model for enhancing farmer and donor engagement

soilCquest 2031

Research Project

ForGood soilCquest

ForGood merges social research into SoilCQuest activity for increasing atmospheric carbon storage; piloting a mechanism for connecting farmers that generate high integrity carbon credits with attached sustainability legacy, to community in the act of accelerating climate action, ForGood.

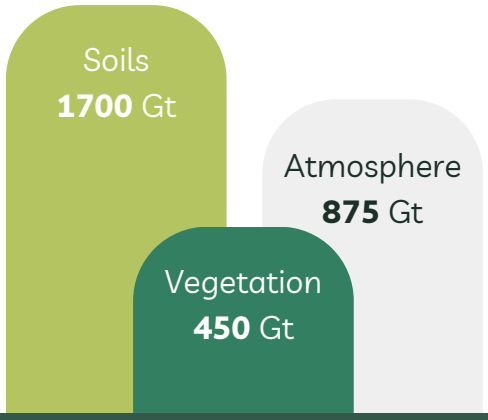
Applied research ForGood of farmers and climate resilience

The ForGood initiative is a dedicated process established to facilitate the retirement of carbon units with verified attached co-benefits, use alternatives to traditional offsetting, and unlock new commercial opportunities through strategic support.

Our research is supported by specialised internal capacity and a sound governance framework. *The ACCU soil carbon project retirement mechanism method with co-benefits for increased atmospheric carbon storage and retention* explores the novelty and legacy of the ForGood Carbon Unit™ (or FGCU) through applied secondary research and pilots.

We believe that agriculture has a direct and significant role in shaping the future of sustainability, agriculture, and actions through reducing atmospheric greenhouse gas emissions with both permanence and legacy.

By harnessing the power of agriculture, we believe we can sequester enough greenhouse gases by 2050 to reduce global temperatures and reverse the historical carbon emissions in our atmosphere.



Global carbon storage in Gigatons (Gt)

Research with impact for aspirational good

ForGood

Together, we are grounded in resetting the climate

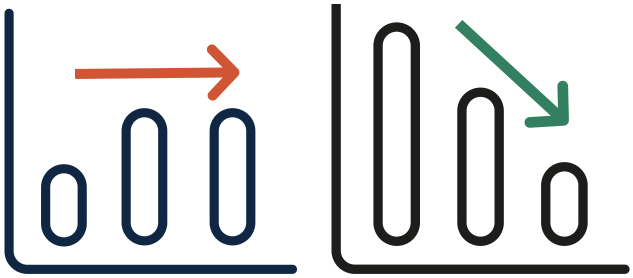
We put farmers front-and-centre as active participants, generating agricultural acts that result in genuine, high integrity atmospheric carbon removal that has attached societal, environmental, and intrinsic legacy outcomes. We explore a new model that allows us to 'make haste', giving opportunity for farmers to commercialise atmospheric carbon storage through sponsored research activities.

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

Our motivation is doing the right thing at a time when it's needed most - accelerating actions that reverse historical atmospheric greenhouse gas emissions through sustainable agriculture.

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 carbon



Accelerated Impact

All pathways for carbon units are vital and contribute to climate action and transition of the climate economy. We want faster positive climate impact, addressing historical emissions whilst stimulating on-ground action that generates sustainable, regenerative and enduring outcomes across Australian agriculture.

Typical market mechanisms of offsetting, trading or selling can tie up carbon units in 'business as usual' emissions outcomes. Companies can still purchase carbon units to offset their emissions without addressing true impact of historical emissions. This approach can limit the potential impact and the urgent need for a strong trajectory to net negative emissions and drawdown of historical emissions.

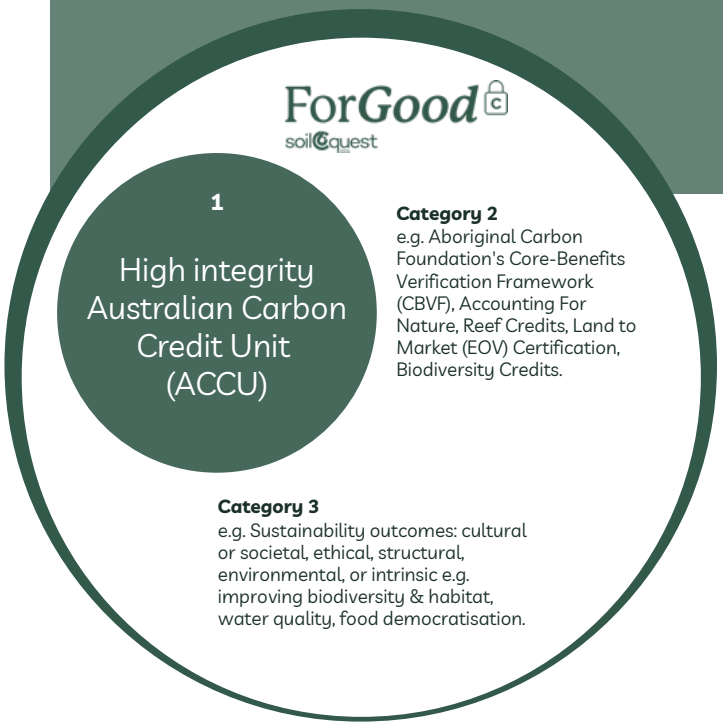
For*Good* provides a clear and credible alternative pathway for carbon units with attached co-benefits, accelerating their retirement with Australian registries. It represents our most direct and most accelerated verifiable action to date. Meanwhile, delivering a lasting legacy on the land through co-benefits arising out of agriculture.

ForGood

A new model of enhancing **carbon removal** through **co-benefits**

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.

ForGood

The Process

Pilot project pathway

Steps involved for a landholder to participate in the applied research.

STEP 1

Expression of interest
Landholder submits an EOI to SoilCQuest, who then composes a pre-print project report.

STEP 2

EOI Review
The pre-print project report is assessed by the SoilCQuest Research Committee.

STEP 3

Donor support
A tax deductible donation for the research funding is sought.

STEP 4

Verification & abatement
The endorsed pre-print report is used to create FGCUs and acquisition of the applicant's ACCUs via ANREU account transfer.

STEP 5

Further research
Research activities are conducted with the landholder and donor to measure, monitor, and evaluate the project.

The applied process involved in the research

Project participants generating carbon units, demonstrate their commitment to improving the environment or community through dedicated activities that result in co-benefit and additional outcomes.

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 For*Good*

SoilCQuest undertakes the For*Good* 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