

« Because everyone has a role to play, each one of us has the power and the obligation to get involved »

Yann Arthus-Bertrand

## One year of offsetting with Action Carbone

On the 11 octobre 2006, Yann Arthus-Bertrand officially launched the Action Carbone programme following the viewing of Al Gore's film by Members of Parliament. The team has grown and now consists of nine people, of diverse backgrounds, allowing us to offer areas of expertise to our business partners, ranging from the production of the Carbon Report to financing of innovate projects linked to sustainable development.

With regards other commitments, Action Carbone contributes to various organisations : notably one led by ADEME regards the development of a charter of good voluntary practice, and also one regards linked to the energy and climate issues of the "Grenelle de l'Environnement" which takes place at the end of October.

After a successful first year, Action Carbone plans to establish itself further as one of the major European players of voluntary off-setting.

The Action Carbone team



### Zoom Projet

## Producing green coal in Senegal

Following discussions a few weeks ago, Action Carbone has decided to fund a project by the NGO Pro Natura International of Saint Louis, in the north of Senegal.

The project involves producing green coal, using agricultural waste and another type of renewable biomass, (typha), with the aid of a process called pyrolyse. This domestic fuel to be used instead of coal will avoid the equivalent of around 5,000 tonnes of carbon emissions each year.

**Environmental Benefits:** wood resources will be preserved, and the substitute fuel is an abundant renewable energy source. The technology used in this project represents good practice and could be potentially more widespread over the medium and long term.

**Economic and Social Benefits:** As well as an increase in buying power of the participating populations, (green coal is nearly half as expensive as coal from wood), the work load is greatly reduced, especially for women, who are usually responsible for wood collecting.

Project details can be found at [www.actioncarbone.org](http://www.actioncarbone.org)

### Action Carbone and you

## Meeting up!

In order to meet the public and those involved in sustainable development, we have decided to confirm we will be present at the important environmental events. In a few weeks, come and visit us at the **Pollutec** event in Paris (27-30 November). In addition, Action Carbone will be the only voluntary off-setting organisation present at the **European Development Days**, which will take place in Lisbon 7-9 November. More information can be found at [www.eudevdays.eu](http://www.eudevdays.eu).



## Version 2 of the online calculator

The calculator on the Action Carbone site allows you to estimate your greenhouse gas emissions linked to your 'plane and car journeys and housing. Covering more than 270 world destinations, and taking into account feedback from internet users, the 'plane calculator will soon include several new cities, mainly in Europe. How much CO<sub>2</sub> is emitted in the journey Lyon-Dubrovnik? You can find the answer from the 22<sup>th</sup> of October, at [www.actioncarbone.org](http://www.actioncarbone.org)...

## Action Carbone, about the team

The programme currently involves 9 people. Matthieu is responsible for the programme from the beginning. Virginie is responsible for the Bilan Carbone® section. Jeremy is in charge of communication and partners. Ruy is in charge of identifying and monitoring off-setting projects and Stephanie is specialised in forest issues until the end of 2007.

In partnership with AFVP, from September and for one year, 4 engineers from Centrale are assisting us on most of the projects we support. For further information, please consult [www.objectifdd.org](http://www.objectifdd.org).

This dedicated team is convinced action is the way forward and is made up of a diverse range of profiles.

## Carbone news...

# Phase I of the Grenelle has just reached an end

In 2005, France agreed to cut its greenhouse emissions by four by 2050. Phase 1 of the environment Grenelle has put forward some detailed propositions. They will be presented to the public during October. At the end of the month, participating parties will have to agree upon which measures are to be adopted from the choice submitted by groups involved in the initial meetings of the Grenelle.

Established in 2006, l'Alliance pour la Planète is an umbrella group of around 80 associations linked to ecology and solidarity. As a member of the Alliance, GoodPlanet has contributed to the work of group no.1 "Fighting against climate change and controlling energy demand."

In the **building** domain, measures are centred around energy efficiency, (the residential and tertiary sector represents 19% of french greenhouse gas emissions); rules regarding the performance levels of new constructions and renovation of existing buildings before sale in order to make significant energy savings.

With regards saving **energy**, some steps include the gradual suppression of energy-intensive machines; eco-bulbs; stand-by modes on electrical equipment amongst other steps. A new energy tax has been put forward: a tax to favour energy saving machines, a tax on non-renewable energies, and reduced VAT for renewable energy sectors. Finally, l'Alliance requests a transfer of public funds from fossil energy to reduced-carbon initiatives.

The last section 'Climate and energy' regards the **transport** sector. Greenhouse gas emissions account for 26% of the total in France, making it the most polluting sector, followed by industry, residential and tertiary, and agriculture.

L'Alliance calls for a general reduction in road speeds, which could result in a saving of up to 4 million tonnes of CO2 a year. At the same time, first generation agro-carburant should be limited, and we should favour cleaner transport (public transport and canals, water systems and railways to transport freight).

These suggestions are taken from all the propositions of l'Alliance pour la Planète.

### To sum up - Developping a charter of voluntary offsetting

Although the voluntary market is more flexible than the CDM (Clean Development Mecanism), it is also more fragile. With guidance from ADEME, Action Carbone and the main players in voluntary off-setting are working together on a charter which aims to establish rules of good practice regards voluntary off-setting of greenhouse gases, based on a transparent approach. Organisations need to work together.

Action Carbone is proud to contribute to this work with greater transparency, and will do its best to respond to future demands of the charter.

## Advice to avoid emissions

### Good resolutions for the start of term

Follow the three R rule: Reduce, Re-use, Recycle. When talking of the climate, it is easy to forget about rubbish, but rubbish treatment contributes to national emissions – more than 14MT CO2 per year, (ie. 2.5% of France's emissions). Use the opportunity of the Week of Reducing Rubbish to think about your reductions, to find out more at [www.reduisonsnosdechets.fr](http://www.reduisonsnosdechets.fr).

## News from our partners

### Poweo commits itself to green energy

Poweo encourages its customers to make energy savings and is creating the CO2 Community! For each subscriber consuming less than his or her fixed package, the operator will reimburse unconsumed electricity, and agrees to fund the off-setting of 100kg of CO2 in a reducing greenhouse gas project chosen in partnership with Action Carbone. This means all the customers' savings will be multiplied ! [www.poweo.com](http://www.poweo.com)



**The following have joined us recently** : Conférence Derbi, Inoxia, Neomansland, Patte Blanche, Tarkett Bâtiment...

**Zoom on Euromobile** : specialised in mobile communication, the group is launching a sustainable development approach with Bilan Carbone® by off-setting its emissions and encouraging its partners too. [www.euromobile.com](http://www.euromobile.com)

**Continue to support Action Carbone by reducing your emissions and promoting sustainable development:**

[www.actioncarbone.org](http://www.actioncarbone.org)  
Spread the word around you!

**Action Carbone is a GoodPlanet program**  
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