

Factsheet: Environmental plantings projects



The benefits of running an environmental plantings project

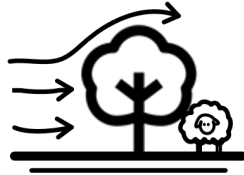
An environmental plantings project stores carbon in new tree plantings. This earns Australian carbon credit units (carbon credits) in return for reducing the level of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere.

Increasing the number of trees on your farm has a number of benefits:



Diversify revenue

Carbon credits provide another income stream for your property.



Shelter for livestock and pastures

Plantings improve the condition of stock and pastoral productivity.



Restore degraded land

Protect soils from wind erosion by reducing wind speeds.



Ecosystem health

Improves water quality through reduced pesticide and fertiliser runoff.

How environmental plantings projects work

Environmental plantings projects capture carbon by planting native trees or Mallee species to establish forest cover. The type of trees you plant, and your planting arrangements will affect how much carbon is stored.

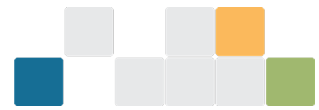
You need to use the free [Full Carbon Accounting Model](#) (FullCAM) software to model carbon captured in growing trees. You earn carbon credits for modelled increases in stored carbon.

Environmental plantings project activities

You need to plant and maintain one or more of the following types of plantings:

- Mixed-species environmental planting – a mixture of tree and shrub species that are native to the area.
- Mallee species planting – any of the Australian species of the genus *Eucalyptus* that have multiple stems growing from the ground level (underground lignotuber).

Trees can be planted either as young plants (tube-stock) or through direct seeding. They may be grown in rows (linear belt plantings) or in groups of trees (block plantings).

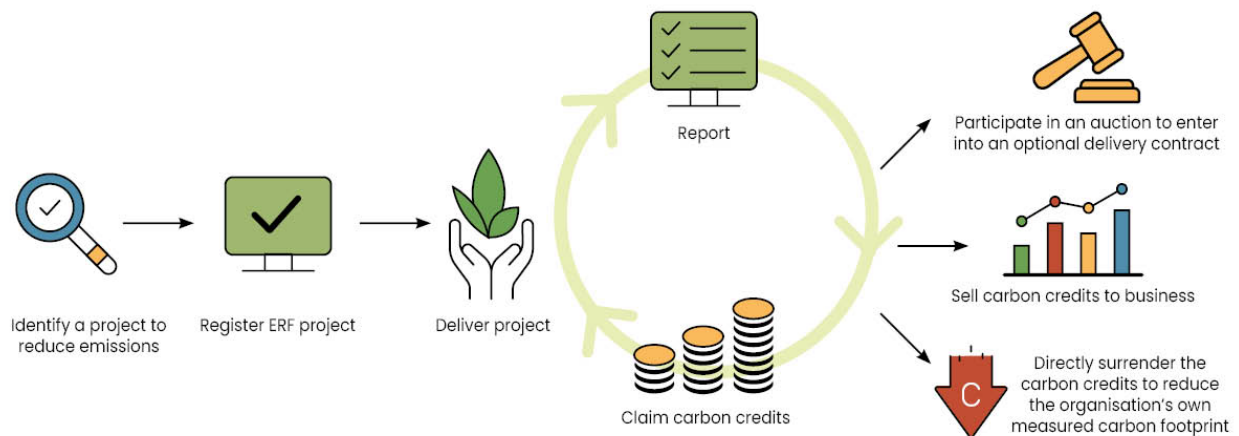


How the Emissions Reduction Fund works

The Emissions Reduction Fund offers landholders, communities and businesses the opportunity to run new projects that reduce or remove greenhouse gas emissions from the atmosphere.

In running an Emissions Reduction Fund project, you can earn carbon credits and sell them to the Australian Government, or to companies and other private buyers. Each carbon credit represents one tonne of carbon dioxide equivalent greenhouse gas emissions stored or avoided.

How to participate



Emissions Reduction Fund project lifecycle

Make sure you are eligible to participate

To be eligible you must:

- Identify eligible land on your property – for example, the land must have been clear of forest for at least five years before you apply to register a project.
- Establish legal right (the right to run your project and claim carbon credits) – for example, holding a lease or other land title, or having a signed agreement with other landholders to run a project on their land.
- Obtain regulatory approvals and consent from everyone with an eligible interest in the project land. Consent holders will vary. They may include banks, state governments (if the land is leased) or relevant native title bodies corporate.
- Make sure your project is new – you cannot have started project activities until we register your project.

Running and reporting on your project

There are operating, reporting and audit obligations in running a project. You will need to report on your project at least once every five years. You receive carbon credits each time you report modelled increases in carbon stored in your plantings over a period of 25 years.

Your project must store carbon for 25 or 100 years to deliver a long-term benefit to the atmosphere (known as 'permanence').

Further information

Visit our website www.cleanenergyregulator.gov.au or contact us on 1300 553 542.