

Iberdrola launches Carbon2Nature to reduce the global carbon footprint through nature-based solutions

- The "La Vera Carbon2Nature" project will manage 1,499 hectares of pastureland in Jaraíz de la Vera for 50 years, planting more than 700,000 trees and capturing 186,000 tCO2.
- Iberdrola launched Carbon2Nature a year ago with the aim of capturing and fixing in nature more than 60 million tonnes of CO2 through high-impact restoration, conservation and sustainable management projects.
- Its portfolio of projects in operation and negotiation involves more than 20 million trees planted and the capture of more than 14 million tonnes of CO2, with nearly 2 million trees already planted or under implementation that will capture more than 800,000 tonnes of CO2.

Iberdrola has presented in Jaraíz de la Vera (Cáceres) the company Carbon2Nature (C2N), which was created a year ago with the aim of reducing the global carbon footprint through actions based on nature, improving biodiversity and promoting a sustainable economy in which nature is an essential lever for the creation of sustainable value.

Since its launch, it has made progress in its mission to capture and fix in natural sinks more than 60 million tonnes of CO2 thanks to the development of a global and diversified portfolio of conservation, management and restoration projects in various ecosystems. For its financing it uses, among other tools, carbon markets, and applies an approach that guarantees the highest standards of integrity, the maximisation of long-term positive impact and a commitment to innovation and collaboration.

In one year, it already has fifteen projects under development and more than 40 under study in ten countries, with a focus on Spain, Brazil, Mexico, Colombia and Australia. Its strategy focuses on reforestation and sustainable management forestry projects, with more than eleven operational projects in Spain covering an area of more than 2,500 hectares and one under development in the Colombian Amazon covering more than 5,000 hectares.

It is also positioning itself in projects in marine ecosystems known as blue carbon, developing a mangrove restoration project in Mexico and a pioneering pilot project for planting posidonia meadows in Spain. In its innovation line, it also has a pilot project underway for methane avoidance in <u>livestock farming</u> in Spain.



In total, its portfolio of projects in operation involves nearly 2 million trees planted or pending execution, which will capture more than 800,000 tonnes of CO2. In addition to this, there is a large portfolio under negotiation that would involve the planting of more than 20 million trees and the capture of more than 14 million tonnes of CO2.

"La Vera Carbon2Nature: Planting of more than 700,000 trees on 1,499 hectares of pastureland in

In the case of Extremadura, the "Vera Carbon2Nature" project in the Dehesa Boyal de Jaraíz de la Vera in the Cáceres region of La Vera will take place in the Dehesa Boyal de Jaraíz de la Vera. This is the largest public-private forestry project in Spain in a public forest, and the first to be carried out in the long term (50 years).

The project will manage 1,499 hectares of pastureland and will involve the planting of more than 700,000 trees on 467 hectares affected by degradation processes, which will capture some 186,000 tCO2. The aim is to regenerate and conserve a highly valuable dehesa ecosystem, thanks to an innovative forestry transformation plan which, together with the planting of holm and cork oaks, includes the introduction of a transition species (Pinus Pinaster) and other species to enrich biodiversity (holm oak, hawthorn, cornicabra, ash, chestnut and Pyrenean oak...).

And all this, generating employment opportunities and maintaining the traditional uses of extensive livestock farming and other uses (hunting, recreational, cultural) of great value to the local population, thanks to a phased planting design.

Iberdrola's global director of innovation and sustainability, Agustín Delgado, highlighted this project as an example of Carbon2Nature's way of doing things "recovering our ecosystems and even improving them through innovation and long-term sustainable management. With great projects that also add up. In this case, more than 700,000 trees are going to be planted in collaboration with the administration, under a unique approach of sustainability and quality, which generates benefits for the adjacent communities, allowing them to be compatible with the traditional uses of the forest".

The presentation of the Carbon2Nature project in La Vera was attended by the Minister of the Presidency of the Regional Government of Extremadura, Abel Bautista, the Minister of Forestry Management, Ignacio Higuero, the Mayor of Jaraíz de la Vera, Luis Miguel Núñez, as well as a large representation of mayors from the northern regions of the province of Cáceres.

Carbon2Nature

Carbon2Nature is a company wholly owned by Iberdrola and follows the energy company's commitment to a sustainable model based on two priority objectives: to achieve zero net emissions in all scopes by 2040 and to have a net positive impact on biodiversity by 2030.



Thus, with a global vision, but with an emphasis on the local level, it is developing long-term conservation, restoration and sustainable nature management projects with a high climatic, environmental and social impact.

These projects generate "high quality carbon credits" that Carbon2Nature will make available to its clients to support them on their path to net zero emissions, as a complement to ambitious decarbonisation strategies.

The action plan focuses on regions and countries where Iberdrola is present and where nature-based solutions have significant potential, with a focus on Latin American countries such as Brazil, Mexico and Colombia, as well as Australia, Spain and other European countries such as Portugal, the United Kingdom and Sweden.

The projects are governed by the triple I approach: integrity, impact and innovation. All will be certified with internationally/nationally recognised quality standards, which will validate their contribution to climate change, the improvement of biodiversity, the well-being of local communities and other Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Iberdrola has launched Carbon2Nature through its start-up programme, PERSEO, which has helped the electricity company to implement innovative solutions to promote renewable energy, decarbonisation and electrification of the economy, digitisation of grids, promotion of efficient storage and care for the environment.