



# Carbon Group

Agro-Climatic Solutions

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## *Mission Statement and Presentation*

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## *Carbon Group Agro-Climatic Solutions*

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### **Who we are?**

Carbon Group Agro-Climatic Solutions is a consulting firm originally based in the southern cone of South America, and now working globally. Internationally known for its experience in the development and implementation of climate change adaptation and mitigation strategies, and in greenhouse gas (GHG) inventory systems with a special focus and world-class expertise in sequestered carbon in soils, including the development of business models, financial instruments and market mechanisms for a low carbon, circular economy that focuses on nature based solutions in its pursuit of comprehensive sustainable development.

Our team has extensive experience as recognized leaders in environmental and agricultural sciences, climate policy, forestry, business model development and international and transnational law.



### **Our Mission**

We support to our clients in the development of systems that allow them to face the challenges and requirements of a sustainable, low carbon future incorporating principles of sustainable development and the hallmarks of a circular economy.

We prioritise nature based solutions, which the International Union for Conservation of Nature describes as “actions to protect, sustainably manage, and restore natural or modified ecosystems, that address societal challenges effectively and adaptively, simultaneously providing human well-being and biodiversity benefits.” We harness the power of nature based solutions,

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including through the reduction of atmospheric carbon concentrations through natural processes of sequestration in soils and forests.

## **What we do**

We provide bespoke advice, assistance and technical capacity to global and local, private and public sectors organizations that addresses their specific objectives, including:

**1. Addressing sustainable development indicia, with an emphasis on the environmental, economic and social factors exacerbating anthropogenic climate change.**



**2. Development of support instruments and business models enabling organizations to pursue their objectives of lowering carbon and other emissions and pursuing sustainability, with a special focus on nature based solutions and corresponding portfolios:**

a. Support in the design of sustainability and reporting systems aligned with local and international norms and regulations, specially adapted for emissions intensive industries.

b. Design and development of carbon market instruments and strategies for global, national and multilateral organizations, including the issuance and trade of carbon offsets on the basis of real, verifiable and quantifiable metrics and the establishment of corresponding programmes.

c. Design and development of a variety of financial products that promote sustainability goals, including social and climate finance instruments and green bonds, with a special focus on the nature based solutions.

d. Design and support in the implementation of non-financial support mechanisms for nature based solutions and the corresponding emerging ecosystem of related businesses and markets.

e. Design and support of investment programmes and acquisition strategies that promote sustainability objectives and enable an entity – and its ecosystem – to move toward a more sustainable future.

**3. Creation and management of carbon crediting and carbon offsetting programmes.**

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**4. The development and implementation of MRV systems (Monitoring Reporting and Verification) of GHG emissions, carbon stocks and related dynamics:**

- a. Development and implementation of monitoring, reporting and verification protocols scalable to a national or global level.
- b. Modeling and forecasting of GHG emissions, carbon sequestration and balance and providing assistance in identifying mechanisms to mitigate GHG emissions.
- c. Carbon stocks modeling and forecasting corresponding dynamics in soils and plant biomass.
- d. Carbon compensation needs and capacity development.

**5. R&D for the development of production strategies aimed at the adaptation and mitigation of climate change:**

- a. Development and implementation of protocols, trials, adaptive experimental systems and pilot projects to evaluate and test strategies oriented toward the mitigation and adaptation of climate change in accordance with the Nationally Determined Contributions of each country, the 2016 Paris Agreement and the Sustainable Development Goals contained in the UN's 2030 Agenda.
- b. All aspects of diagnostics and monitoring of the state and evolution of the resources underlying a nature based solutions portfolio, with special emphasis on soil and water.

**6. Support in identifying, prioritizing and pursuing the key elements of an organization's or an economy's path to sustainable development and a circular economy, including the use of agro-industrial and organic waste:**

- a. We develop solutions for the final, sustainable use of organic waste in the context of nature based solutions and the circular economy.
- b. Capacity building on alternatives and possible uses for the base load of contaminants and nutrients of all types of residues.
- c. Constructive support and engagement on the design of local and international norms and regulations related to nature based solutions and the treatment, management and final disposition of organic materials.



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## *Our Backgrounds:*

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Carbon Group Agro-Climatic Solutions was founded by six senior professionals with an array of professional backgrounds and expertise. Together, we offer integrated academic, political, government, multilateral institutional and technical backgrounds, expertise and leadership skills to advise on the climate-related needs of our corporate, government and multilateral institution clients. While we are adept at tailoring individualized solutions for our clients, we bring the necessary expertise to align our clients with pre-existing programmes, markets, regulatory regimes and solutions. Our founders include:



### **Martin Fraguío**

Martin Fraguío has worked in agribusiness, sustainability and ecosystem improvement for over 35 years as a senior corporate executive, a businessman, a value chain association and business organization officer, a farmer, a professor and as representative of the private sector in local and international events and organizations.

Martin was head of the Agricultural Division of Eni SpA (Ente Nazionale Idrocarburi SpA) in Argentina and an advisor to the Brazilian Eni SpA operation for eleven years, developing energy and production solutions for farms and isolated communities. His ability to understand, navigate and advance the strategic objectives and needs of a major oil company helped Eni SpA to develop their Agriculture Division in the context of appropriate and positive interactions between multiple public and private stakeholders pursuing their various priorities, including sustainability, energy demand and local development.

He was also founder and Executive Director of the Argentine Corn and Sorghum Value Chain Association, an organization that became known for its coordination of the corresponding value chain and for developing methodologies to improve sustainability and GHG inventories along that value chain.

Martin is a founder and member of GPS- Group of Producing Countries of the Southern Cone, a network of organizations in Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay. Martin is a Consulting Member of CARI (Argentine Council for International Relations) and a member of the Buenos Aires Grain Exchange, the Argentine Center of Engineers and the Argentine National Cabinet on Climate

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Change. He was one of the founders of MAIZALL- The International Maize Alliance with the US Grains Council, the National Corn Growers Association of the US and Abramilho from Brazil.

Martin has a degree in agronomy and an MBA and currently is a graduate professor of Circular Economy and Bioenergy at the KIT (Karlsruhe Institute of Technology)- ITBA (Buenos Aires Institute of Technology) Energy and Environment Masters Course.

He is known as an international expert and speaker in sustainability, climate change, food security, bioenergy and the circular economy. Martin is a Founder and Director of Carbon Group Agro-Climatic Solutions.



### **John Charles Cole**

John Cole has worked in the climate area for the last 22 years as a lawyer, academic, businessperson and official NGO observer. In 2006 John left private law practice to co-found Southreach Limited, a project development consulting company advising European and Japanese multinationals on the establishment of regulated carbon credit projects through the Kyoto Protocol's Clean Development Mechanism. Southreach sold its Latin American operations in 2012, but John continues to work with clients on ongoing projects in the Asia/Pacific region and with Carbon Group Agro-Climatic Solutions regarding projects in Latin America and globally.

John holds a doctorate in Environmental & Energy Policy and an M.Sc. in Environmental Change, both from the University of Oxford, law degrees from Vanderbilt University and the University of Melbourne (Australia) and an MBA from the University of Michigan. At Oxford John also taught Environmental Policy to undergraduates and conducted business-oriented project development seminars for graduate students in the Oxford University Centre for the Environment. He has published peer-reviewed academic articles on climate policy and sustainable development in the context of climate change in *Climate & Development*, *Carbon Management*, *International Environmental Agreements*, *Environmental Science & Policy*, *McGill International Journal of Sustainable Development Law and Policy* and *Carbon & Climate Law Review* and has co-authored published opinion pieces in *Wiley Interdisciplinary Reviews: Climate Change* and *Ambio*.

John is a Founder and Director at Carbon Group Agro-Climatic Solutions.

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### **Carla Pascale Medina**

Carla Pascale Medina is an Agricultural Engineer from the University of Buenos Aires and a specialist in Environmental Management in Agri-food Systems. She studied soil science through the master's degree in Soil Science level from the Faculty of Agronomy at the University of Buenos Aires ("FAUBA") and has received training in international negotiations through the specialization in Negotiations and International Trade in Agro-Industry at FAUBA.

Carla has 26 years experience in agriculture, with a focus on sustainable management of natural resources and climate change, in academia, research environments, government and international multilateral agencies. She served in the Argentine National Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries, coordinating plans, programs and projects related to systemic competitiveness, the governance of natural resources and their territorial impacts, climate change and its productive and commercial implications. Many of these aspects were developed through the coordination of the Intelligent Agriculture Program, the Climate Change Commission for Agriculture, Livestock and Forestry, the National Soil Plan, and the coordination of the international environmental negotiations regarding agriculture. Within the framework of the G20 in Argentina, she was in charge of coordinating the Soils theme for the Declaration of the G20 Meeting of Agriculture Ministers (27-28 July 2018, Buenos Aires, Argentina). In recent years she served as President of the Latin American and Caribbean Soil Partnership of the UN FAO. In the private sector, she has worked as director of climate change and sustainability at ECODES INGENIERÍA SAS (Colombia, Peru and Argentina)

Carla is a Founder and Director of Carbon Group Agro-Climatic Solutions.



### **Carmen Longa Virasoro**

Carmen Longa Virasoro is a law graduate from the University of Buenos Aires, and a professor of law and environmental management in public and private universities at the graduate and postgraduate levels. She also participated in the Argentine Juridical Digest Project / IDB, the Climate Change Group of the Argentine Chamber of Commerce.

Carmen chairs Sustentable Consulting, an environmental consulting company, which has developed CSR and climate change projects, supported by the World Bank Institute, GIZ (German cooperation) and CAF Development Bank of America. She was Coordinator for Argentina of the TTF Canada-Cone Sud

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Technology Transfer Fund of the Canadian International Development Agency. She was an Argentine expert for the ISO Technical Committee, TC207 in Working Group 5 on Climate Change and the Subcommittee on Environmental Declarations; she participated at the G20 2018 Unit, Climate Sustainability Group, in the Argentine Foreign Ministry. Carmen has vast experience in the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of environmental and intercultural programs and projects, and has a record of integrating these skills to achieve broad-ranging environmental and social objectives. She chaired ADEGA (Association for the Development of Environmental Management) of the INEM (International Network for Environmental Management) in Germany. She was Director of AIME (Iberoamerican Association of Businesswomen) of the FIDE Network (Iberoamerican Federation of Businesswomen).

She is an active Board member of several organizations, with a focus on Gender, Cultural Heritage and Human Development.

Carmen is a Founder and Director of Carbon Group Agro-Climatic Solutions.



### **Miguel A. Taboada**

Miguel A. Taboada has worked in the climate area for the last 20 years as a scientist, academic, expert in agricultural GHG inventories, United Nations GHG reviewer of National Communications, and lead author in IPCC Climate Assessments and Special Reports. In 2009 left a full professor position at the University of Buenos Aires and joined the National Institute of Agricultural Technology as Director of the Institute of Soils, where he leads a research and technology institute comprising 60 people scientists and technicians. As a soil and climate scientist, Miguel has been a member of the National Research Council of Argentina since 1992. He authored 65 peer-reviewed publications, 30 book chapters and 10 edited books. He leads research projects funded by grants from national and international institutions on climate change mitigation in the agricultural sector and soil carbon sequestration in Argentina, Brazil, Uruguay, Chile, and countries of the Caribbean.

Miguel holds a doctorate in Eco- and agroecosystems from L'Institut National Supérieure de Toulouse, France, and an M.Sc. in Soil Science from the University of Buenos Aires. Miguel also taught Soil Fertility and Fertilizers Use to undergraduates and conducted postgraduate courses in the FAUBA Graduate School, in Soil Physics, Soil Physical Degradation, Soil Physics of No till Farming, and Agricultural Use of Biosolids. As a climate expert, Miguel was the expert responsible for the agricultural GHG inventory of Argentina, and led

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international assessments in climate change adaptation for the agricultural sector of Latin America in a project funded by grants from Spain.

Miguel is a Founder and Director of Carbon Group Agro-Climatic Solutions.



### **Guillermo Peralta**

Guillermo is an Agricultural Engineer who graduated from FAUBA, and a specialist in sustainable soil management in agricultural systems. He has coordinated public-private research and development projects for organizations and associations of agricultural producers. Guillermo has worked as R&D coordinator in different projects focused on development of sustainable agricultural systems in the Argentinian provinces of Salta, Formosa, Chaco, Corrientes, Santa Fe, Córdoba, Buenos Aires, Río Negro, and Neuquén.

He has taught training courses for engineers, producers and agricultural companies related to soil management, soil health assessment, and agricultural practices aimed at improving the soil organic carbon budget, water and nutrient use efficiency. He has been a consultant of the Soil Organic Carbon Technical Advisory Group (SOC-TAG) in the framework of the Livestock Environmental Assessment and Performance Partnership (LEAP), coordinated by the United Nations Food And Agriculture Organization (UN-FAO). He acts as Technical Coordinator of the Joint Research Agreement between the Argentine No Till Farmer Association (AAPRESID) and FAUBA, and as a consultant on Soil Organic Carbon Sequestration Potential for the Global Soil Partnership (GSP).

Guillermo is a Founder and Director of Carbon Group Agro-Climatic Solutions.

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*Cover Painting: "Wheatfield in Santa Fe" by Norberto Luppi.  
Photographys: Guillermo Peralta.*



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