

ASES ON-CHAIN PROTOCOL

SUMMARY DESCRIPTION



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SUMMARY

The ASES on-chain protocol is a tool designed to scale climate action by supporting positive projects for nature. The projects we certify are evaluated based on their contribution to the conservation and restoration of ecosystem services and sustainability. The projects we currently admit encompass forest management, regenerative agriculture, silvopastoral management, urban forests, and biochar. These projects generate multiple ecosystem services, which we measure and acknowledge through various types of credits, including carbon removals, carbon emission reductions, soil erosion reduction, soil health enhancement, water infiltration improvement, and biodiversity conservation and restoration. Recognizing this array of benefits allows the projects to position themselves in the market as high-quality and ecologically impactful, contributing to fair financial remuneration for project developers. This, in turn, results in a greater number of ecosystem restoration projects with a significant impact on mitigating and adapting to climate change, restoring biodiversity, and combating land desertification—three of the current major global crises.

The aOCP aligns with the integrity principles of the voluntary carbon market, ensuring that the ecological benefits delivered by the projects exceed what would have been achieved without participation in the aOCP. Social and environmental safeguards are prerequisites for project registration and credit issuance. Project outcomes are scientifically measured by the aOCP's internal team of technical experts, applying methodologies based on current science, using complementarily field-measured data, remotely sensed data, and models from internationally renowned organizations. The results are verified by an independent third party before credit issuance, ensuring the accuracy of the quantity issued. This approach relieves project developers from the responsibility of the MRV process, streamlining the process and enhancing confidence in the evaluation results. The uniqueness of the awarded credits is closely monitored, aligning the number of issued credits with the amount approved by the independent verifier. Credits are issued (minted) using blockchain technology in the form of non-fungible tokens (NFTs), each with a unique identifier linking it to the metadata associated with the generating project. This on-chain record is the carbon ledger called NAT5, which also serves as the Marketplace platform connecting credit buyers directly with owners (initially project developers), enabling secure transactions through a Smart contract. NAT5 allows tracking the transaction history of each credit/NFT, including purchase/sale, retirement, or cancellation. Each credit can only be withdrawn or canceled once and cannot be resold afterward. The process established by the aOCP, from the pre-registration assessment of each project to the trading and retirement of generated credits, enables the scaling and acceleration of climate action through ecosystem restoration.