



## **Biomass Briquettes in South Africa Manufacturing Facilities**

### **Non-Technical Summary**

**Introduction:** The proposed PoA and VPA (Production of Biomass Briquette in South Africa) has been developed by Ecolinks Co., LTD, South Korea in partnership with Ground Greens with the purpose of displacing the use of coal and heavy fuel oil in manufacturing facilities in South Africa. The project will manufacture renewable briquettes made from agricultural and garden waste and sell them to factories that need heat. This will displace a proportion of the coal and heavy fuel oil that the factories currently burn.

**Introduction to the Gold Standard:** The Gold Standard is a body made up of NGOs that sets rules for measuring and issuing voluntary carbon credits. Their focus is on projects that have strong sustainable development credentials. The carbon credits are sold by the project to help provide finance and keep the renewable briquettes at an affordable level.

Ecolinks Co., LTD is setting up a Project Activity for renewable biomass briquettes in South Africa, which will be run in partnership with Ground Greens which is registered in South Africa and based in Southbroom, Margate, Kwa-Zulu Natal. There will be a PoA which will reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by less than 60,000 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> in a year. Activity will include a number of manufacturing facilities. In this consultation, we are informing stakeholders about:

- ❖ The PoA and VPA.
- ❖ The different industries using biomass briquettes.

**Wood, Bagasse and CO<sub>2</sub>:** Demand for wood in South Africa means it is being cut and burnt more quickly than it is able to regrow, which contributes to atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> concentrations. It is deemed “non-renewable”. Or the use of coal or heavy fuel oil in the manufacturing plants are increasing day by day to increase the production.

The renewable briquettes are made from biomass waste that includes sawmill dust, woodchips which comes from Industrial Sawmills, Macadamia shells which comes from a Macadamia Factory, Pecan processing waste from pecan factories, and garden waste which comes from gardening services and tree felling.

**The PoA:** The organic waste and green waste will be collected from identified waste suppliers. Then processes the agricultural/green waste into renewable briquettes. The company has been developing the process for about 1 year. During this time, it has consulted with a number of manufacturing facilities and experts, to improve the way that they can burn the renewable briquettes.

EcoLinks is in the process of carrying out trials with various factories who use the renewable briquettes alongside the coal they have traditionally used as fuel for their boilers. EcoLinks has an agreement to sell the carbon credits, which will mean that it has the finance to scale up these activities. The target factories/industries in this first project are:

- ❖ Cooking Oil Factory (Coal Boiler)
- ❖ Chicken Houses (Boilers using Charcoal/Wood) etc.

**Registration with other Carbon standards:** The Program is neither registered with any other carbon standard, nor is it seeking registration under any other GHG programs, and hence there is no likelihood



that double counting would occur. Additionally, our tracking systems ensure that there is no double counting between us and any other similar project.

**Implementation plan:** Once the PoA and real case VPA are registered, the plan is to add more project activities (VPAs), across other factories and with other industries.

### **Project Duration**

The expected crediting period start date is from 20 January 2026.

The Project activity has a crediting period of 15 years (5 years renewable twice)

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### **Carbon credits ownership**

The carbon credits generated by the project will be owned by the project developers (EcoLinks Co., LTD). Ecolinks will contract with the industrial users making it clear that the ownership of the carbon credits from the use of the renewable briquettes belongs to the project developers. This helps the project developers keep the renewable briquettes at an affordable price level. It also means that Ecolinks bears the risk of market prices, which it is better able to manage, as it is a private sector organisation.