

**Environment Canada's Carbon Neutral Conferencing Activities  
Canadian Delegation to COP 8 in New Delhi, India  
October 23 - November 1, 2002**

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**Buyer:** Environment Canada

**Supplier:** Women for Sustainable Development

**Broker:** CO2e.com LLC, a Division of Cantor Fitzgerald International

**Amount Purchased:** 212.5 CO<sub>2</sub>eq (\$3.50 USD per tonne)

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Environment Canada has committed to hosting or participating in carbon neutral conferences as a concrete way to offset emissions from international meetings. Through the Federal House in Order (FHIO) initiative, the Government of Canada is working to reduce GHG emissions from its operations and government business travel. The purchase of carbon credits to offset emissions from conferences has been identified as an effective way to achieve this goal. However, it should be noted that the Government of Canada will not use these carbon credits as a means of achieving its target. That said, any department that hosts or participates in carbon neutral conferencing activities is displaying leadership and an overall reduction of GHG emissions from federal emissions. In order to demonstrate leadership, set an example for other federal entities, raise employee awareness and begin reducing work-related emissions, Environment Canada has participated in the following project.

Environment Canada purchased 212.5 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>eq from a renewable fuel project located in Karnataka, India that was created by the group *Women for Sustainable Development*. These credits were purchased in order to make Canada's participation at the Eighth Conference of Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP 8) in New Delhi, India carbon neutral. Through this initiative, greenhouse gases (GHG) associated with the Canadian delegation's travel to and from New Delhi, as well as accommodations, were offset through the purchase of these credits. The renewable fuel project will reduce carbon dioxide and other air emissions, while delivering high sustainability and social benefits.

## **Renewable Energy Power Plant, Karnataka, India Women for Sustainable Development**

This project reduces GHG emissions through a biomass-fuelled gasifier that replaces a diesel generator for supplying heat for a marigold drying plant in Harihar. The fuel for the new biomass plant is Eucalyptus citridora pulp wood waste from the Harihar Polyfibre Factory. The trees are grown on private marginal lands in the area.

The project began in 2000, and has a life span of 20 years. The supplier is currently building a second 120kW biomass plant in the same cluster with financing closing on a third.

The aim of the supplier, which is based on the principle of conscious and responsible participation of women, is to implement relevant development programmes and to help set up a forum for women to meet, debate and decide on matters concerning the development of their lives.

In pursuance of this aim, the supplier runs a prototype carbon marketing facility to sell the Certified Emission Reductions (CERs) from the global environmental services which poor rural women and others who assist them, provide.