

Low Carbon Farming

Development
& Climate Change

P e a s a n t
farming by 250 million
small holders in developing
countries is the **most sustainable**
and non polluting
way of life.



Peasant farming by 250 million small holders is the most sustainable and non polluting way of life. Unfortunately, the predictable climate they trusted for generations is no more a reality. The manner in which peasants traditionally tilled their fields doesn't work any longer. Cultivating small holdings is now an annual gamble.



Gamblers do not invest in the future. They are lured by quick and easy returns. Mainstream cultivation, with high external inputs and GHG emissions, is rapidly replacing sustainable agriculture. Overreaching by small and marginal farmers who don't have the risk bearing capacity leads to pauperisation and acute farmer distress. When this happens at scale, by one-quarter the world's population, GHG emissions will shoot through the roof. Global targets emission reductions will be made meaningless.

Glorifying and enshrining peasant lifestyles with clichés will not work. Small and marginal farmers will not agree to stay impoverished for ever, to save the world from climate change. Sustainable Agriculture by 1.5 billion family members will continue only when made financially viable. Mechanisms of the carbon market present a solid solution to this impending crisis by leveraging resources.



Our Low Carbon Farming Coalition operates in 5 diverse agro-climatic zones of India to assist small and marginal farmers interpret sustainable agriculture as GHG emission reduction. This is a trail blazer. When we succeed, we will incentivise sustainable agriculture with carbon revenues, and show the way for small and marginal farmers to reverse and restore the damage done to their lives, livelihoods and the environment. Similarly, there are other opportunities

in rural sector that already leverage carbon markets.

We have registered the world's very first pro-poor CDM Project and built 23,500 domestic biogas units for as many families. The world's first pro-poor A/R CDM Project to plant trees on 9,800 hectares of land owned by 12,400 farmers will be registered this month. We are facilitating grassroots NGOs and CBOs develop 20 pro-poor CDM Projects.

