



climate cleanup

Annual Report 2024

Climate Cleanup Foundation



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Executive Summary

In 2024, Climate Cleanup Foundation achieved unprecedented growth and impact in our mission to reverse climate change through nature-based carbon dioxide removal (CDR) solutions. Our annual CDR Conference attracted 150 participants, bringing together leaders in carbon removal finance and policy. We successfully published our Construction Stored Carbon Certification Protocol, establishing the world's first open certification framework for carbon storage in buildings. Strategic partnerships with Ballast Nedam Development, a.s.r. real estate, and Greencarbon have created new market opportunities for carbon removal certificates, while our ONCRA framework now supports over 50 entrepreneurs in the nature-based solutions sector.

The year was marked by significant policy engagement, including contributions to the EU Carbon Removal Certification Framework and participation in Dutch climate policy development. Our Interreg ABC Project, launched in collaboration with European regions, demonstrates our expanding international influence in connecting regenerative agriculture with bio-based construction materials.

Mission and Vision

Climate Cleanup Foundation is dedicated to removing carbon dioxide from oceans and the atmosphere by fostering systemic conditions for a regenerative economy. Our vision remains to double nature, restoring 1500 gigatons of CO₂ to contain the climate crisis. We believe that by harnessing the power of entrepreneurial people, natural systems, and innovative technologies, we can create a sustainable future for all.

Key Achievements

CDR Conference 2024: Funding the Future

On May 28, 2024, we hosted our seventh annual conference at Tolhuistuin, Amsterdam, with the theme "Funding the Future". The event brought together over 150 representatives, including entrepreneurs, innovators, investors, and policymakers to explore how carbon finance can unlock the potential of CO₂ removal. Full report [here](#).



Key highlights of the conference included:

- Policy Leadership: Representatives from the European Commission, Dutch national ministries, and provincial governments discussed policy frameworks for carbon removal
- Corporate Engagement: Keynote presentation by Onno Dwars, CEO of Ballast Nedam Development, showcasing visionary perspectives on the built environment's role in carbon removal



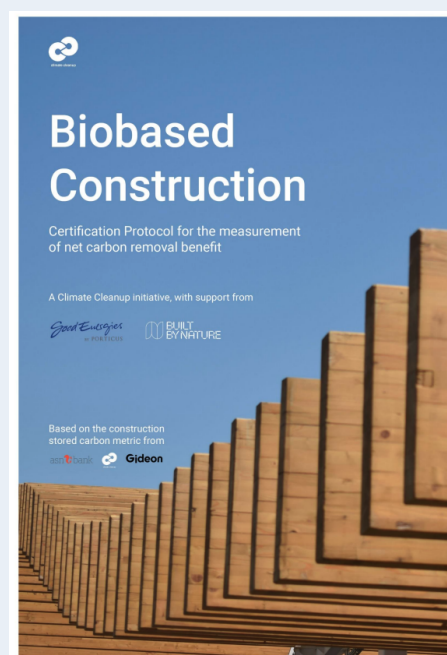
- Interactive Workshops: Four breakout sessions covering Corporate CDR Buyers, Biobased Building Portfolios, Investment in Carbon Removal, and Government Policy Working Sessions
- Provincial Support: Active participation from the provinces of North Holland, South Holland, Utrecht, and Gelderland

Construction Stored Carbon Certification Protocol

On March 31, 2024, we published the results of our nearly two-year research project "Construction Stored Carbon Certification," funded by Built by Nature and Good Energies Foundation. This groundbreaking protocol establishes the world's first open certification framework for carbon storage in buildings, following the new European Carbon Removal Certification Framework.

Key Features:

- Certification of the Net Carbon Removal Benefit of biobased construction projects
- Integration with the ONCRA accounting framework
- Alignment with EU Carbon Removal and Carbon Farming regulation
- Support for sustainable material transitions in construction



Enhanced Rock Weathering method

Building on our pioneering work on Enhanced Rock Weathering (like the global scientific conferences), we developed and published a Protocol (methodology) for the accounting of carbon storage through enhanced rock weathering. This protocol can be found [here](#).

Market Launch

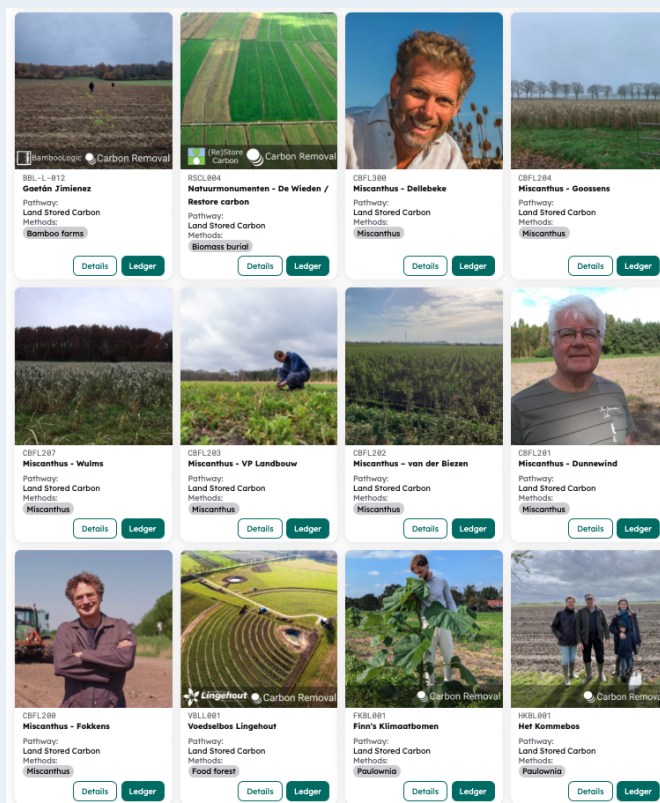
In collaboration with Ballast Nedam Development, we launched the world's first Construction Stored Carbon Certificates market. This historic development included:

- Quantification and Verification: Through ONCRA, we certified carbon storage in three development projects
- Market Creation: Establishment of a transparent trading platform for construction-related carbon credits

ONCRA Expansion and Ecosystem Growth

Our Open Nature Carbon Removal Accounting framework continued its rapid growth in 2024:

- Entrepreneur Support: Over 50 entrepreneurs now utilize the ONCRA scheme, representing continued expansion from 2023
- Sector Diversification: Active projects spanning bamboo farming, miscanthus cultivation, construction materials, and enhanced weathering
- Partnership Development: New collaboration with Greencarbon and Scature to stimulate investments in CO₂ removal projects





Systemic Interventions

European Collaboration: Interreg ABC Project

We initiated an European collaboration called Agro Building Carbon, that is to lead to a four year collaboration from 2025 - 2029. The funding decision will be made in 2025.

- Lead Partner: Province of Gelderland (Netherlands)
- Intended Partner Regions: Latvia, Poland, Italy, Greece, Albania, Slovenia, and Ukraine
- Objective: Realizing synergy between regenerative farmers and construction materials, creating a regenerative economy where both soils and building materials store carbon

Policy Integration and Government Engagement

2024 marked significant progress in policy integration:

- EU Carbon Removal and Carbon Farming regulation: Continued contribution to the development of European carbon removal standards. The CRCF was adopted on 26 December 2024.
- Dutch Climate Policy: Active participation in the Dutch government's carbon removal roadmap development, resulting in the first carbon credit buying programme by the Dutch government ([read more](#)).
- Provincial Collaboration: Ongoing partnerships with Dutch provinces for nature-based solution implementation



Partnerships and Collaborations

Strategic Industry Partnerships

Ballast Nedam Development: Our flagship partnership continued to break new ground in 2024, with the company becoming the first developer in the Netherlands to financially value and market CO₂ storage from residential construction projects.

a.s.r. real estate: This new partnership launched in 2024 focuses on certifying CO₂ storage in real estate portfolios, including hybrid timber office buildings like The CubeHouse.

Scature, Ecommit and Greencarbon: these partnerships create a broader, more transparent marketplace for CO₂ certificates in the Netherlands and Belgium, while strengthening Climate Cleanup's governance structure by making Oncra independent of credit sales.

Government and Provincial Partnerships

Our collaboration with Dutch provinces continued to strengthen:

- Province of Gelderland: Lead partner in Interreg ABC Project exploration
- Province of Utrecht: Pioneering carbon pricing at €875/ton CO₂ in policy considerations
- Multiple Provinces: Active support for the CDR Conference and carbon removal initiatives

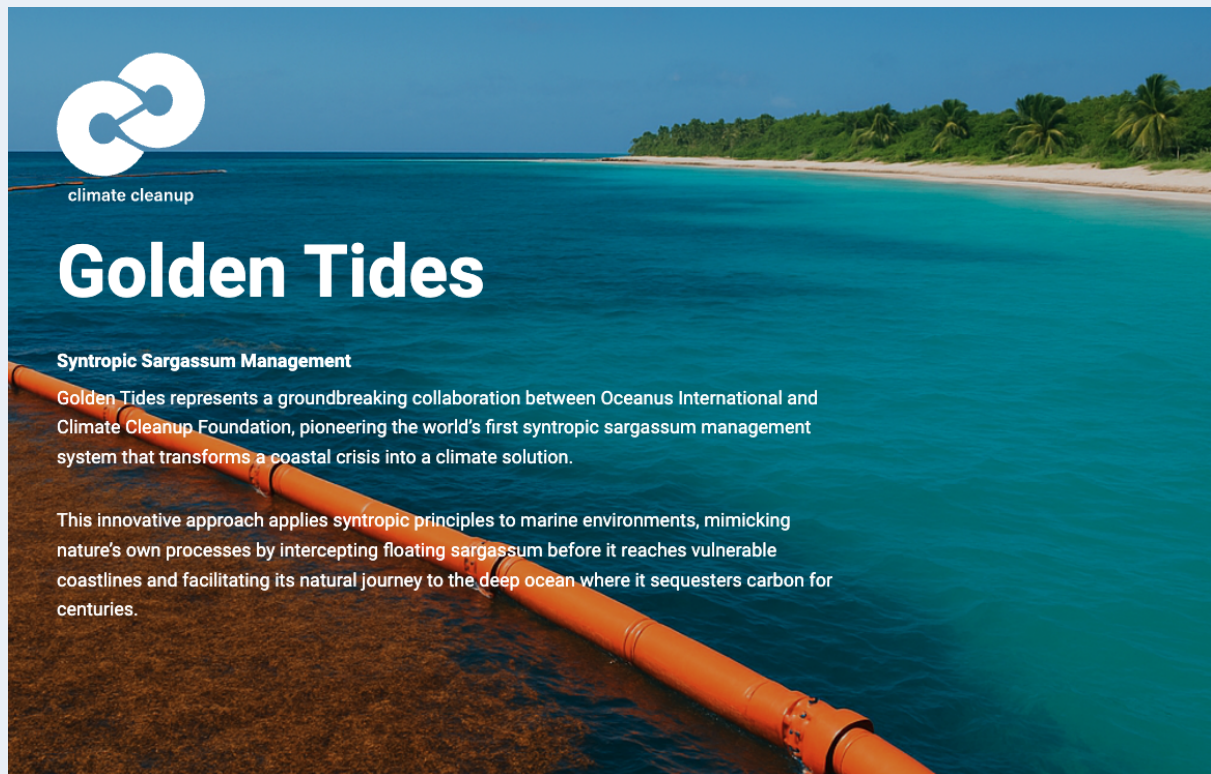
International Collaborations

The Interreg ABC Project represents our most ambitious international collaboration, connecting regenerative agriculture with bio-based construction across eight European regions.

In the meso-American region, several partnerships have been explored and established during a three month partnership exploration by Climate Cleanup's director. We visited restoration projects like the [Resilient Ecosystems Institute](#), and partnered with regenerative



farm [Piedra Azul](#), both in Southern Mexico. On the Yucatan coast we initiated a collaboration with Oceanus International named [Golden Tides](#), with the aim of turning the Sargassum seaweed invasion into a climate solution.





Financial Overview

As an ANBI (Algemeen Nut Beogende Instelling), Climate Cleanup Foundation maintains transparent financial practices. Building on the strong financial recovery reported in 2023, the foundation continued to diversify its funding sources in 2024, successfully dealing with challenges posed by declining philanthropic funding opportunities in the sector.

Key Financial Highlights:

- Continued diversification of funding sources with growing proportion from public partnerships and grants
- Successful European grant funding through the Interreg ABC Project
- Market development through Construction Stored Carbon Certificates
- Strategic partnerships generating new revenue streams

Remuneration

The team works on two principles: impact first, and equal pay. Impact first means that salaries are maximised on the Dutch modal salary level, and even that the team now agrees to work at 60 to 70% of that level until the Foundation has the financial basis needed for a 'normal' remuneration. The team chooses the right mix of talent, intrinsically motivated, over payment. The equal pay principle means that everyone in the organisation roughly earns the same, with the exception of interns and volunteers. This way the team is motivated and stands shoulder to shoulder, also in line with many innovative entrepreneurs in the network (like food foresters, construction innovators) who often also work on less than normal salaries and invest substantial amounts of their personal time. The board is not financially compensated for their board work.

Results

In 2024 a positive net result was realized. This positive result will be added to the general reserves. For details related to financials we refer to the financial statement.



Looking Ahead to 2025

Based on our 2024 achievements, we have established ambitious goals for 2025, detailed in brief below. Additionally, as in 2025 the Foundation exists for seven years, we will develop a next seven year strategy.

1. Scaling Market Solutions

- Carbon Removal Credit impact expansion: Building on the successful partnerships, we will expand the Construction Stored Carbon Certificates market.
- ONCRA Framework Development: Continued development of certification practice, verification, accreditation by ICVCM and ICROA and enhanced operational capacity
- Partnership Growth: Expanding our network of corporate partners and government collaborations

2. European Leadership

- Interreg ABC Implementation: Full implementation of the four-year European project across partner regions
- Policy Influence: Continued contribution to EU Carbon Removal Certification Framework development
- International Conferences: Planning for expanded international presence and knowledge sharing

3. Technology and Innovation

- Enhanced Weathering: Continued development of rock weathering protocols and applications
- Construction Innovation: Advancing bio-based building materials and carbon storage quantification
- Ocean-based innovation: development of Ocean Stored Carbon method and partnerships with Arbon Earth, Oceanus International, WWF and others
- Digital Platform Development: Improving ONCRA accessibility and user experience
- Soil health innovation: developing innovation on the interface of regenerative farming, soil life, rock weathering and biochar (working name: SuperSoil).



Organizational Information (ANBI Requirements)

Foundation Details:

- Name: Stichting Climate Cleanup
- RSIN/Fiscal Number: 858911759
- Chamber of Commerce Number: 71935754
- Address: Tolhuisweg 2, 1031 CL Amsterdam, The Netherlands
- Bank: NL58 TRIO 0379 3068 24, Swift/BIC: TRIONL2U

Objectives: The foundation develops and implements innovative systemic solutions for climate change to restore balance between natural ecosystems and people, creating a regenerative economy through nature-based carbon dioxide removal.

Remuneration Policy: Board members receive no compensation for their work in the board. The foundation maintains minimal administrative costs while employees receive fair compensation aligned with our mission-driven approach.

Board Composition (as of December 31, 2024):

- Chairman: Ruud Koornstra
- Secretary: Sven Jense
- Treasurer: Ruurd Priester
- Board Members: Laura Rooseboom, Donald Pols

Board meetings are conducted quarterly. Board members receive no compensation for their work, in accordance with ANBI requirements.



Conclusions

Climate Cleanup Foundation achieved remarkable milestones in 2024, successfully positioning ourselves as a leading force in the nature-based carbon removal sector. Our annual CDR Conference demonstrated the growing momentum behind carbon removal financing and policy development. The publication of our Construction Stored Carbon Certification Protocol and the successful launch of the first carbon credit auction from a construction project represent historic achievements for the built environment sector.

The expansion of ONCRA to support over 50 entrepreneurs and the initiation of the Interreg ABC Project showcase our ability to create systemic change across multiple sectors and geographical regions. Our partnerships with governments and industry leaders like Ballast Nedam Development and a.s.r. real estate prove that nature-based solutions are becoming economically viable and attractive to mainstream markets.

As we look toward 2025, we remain committed to our mission of doubling nature and restoring 1500 gigatons of CO₂. The foundation we have built in 2024 – through partnerships, policy influence, market development, and technological innovation – positions us to accelerate our impact in the coming years. We are grateful to our board members, partners, and the growing community of entrepreneurs who make this vital work possible.

The climate crisis demands urgent and radically positive action, and 2024 has proven that nature-based solutions offer both the scale and speed needed to address this challenge, especially when taken as the basis for a new life-based economy. Climate Cleanup Foundation will continue to lead this transformation, creating the systemic conditions necessary for a regenerative economy that serves people and planet and all life it supports.



Part of the Climate Cleanup team on a petanque pit at Tolhuistuin, which actually removes CO₂ as you play because it is made with olivine.