

Vegetation Offsets

Earthtrade is currently the leading environmental offsets solutions specialist in Australia.

Earthtrade has developed a 14 step process to find and deliver environmental offsets. By following the 14 step process, a developer can transfer the obligation of regenerating vegetation to a landholder through a contractual arrangement.

Earthtrade, as the broker, works as the agent or intermediary between the developer and the landholder. Earthtrade has the experience and credibility to broker and deliver offsets to meet legislative requirements to industry standards on behalf of the developer.

Earthtrade assists developers to meet their specific performance requirement by sourcing and securing land that meets the development approval condition.

What is an Offset?

An 'offset' compensates for an impact resulting from a development, and has legislation requirements. This includes:

Vegetation Offset – required when it is determined that a development must maintain the current extent of certain vegetation or habitat. (*Vegetation Management Act 1999*)

Biodiversity Offset – may be required under the *Nature Conservation Act 1992* or the *Environment Protection and biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*.

Koala Offset -required to provide a net benefit for koala conservation for unavoidable development in koala habitat conservation areas in South East Queensland. (*Nature Conservation Act 1992*)

Marine & Coastal Offsets – required to address the loss of marine, coastal and fish habitat.

Environmental Offsets

Environmental offsets are not intended to make proposals with unacceptable impacts acceptable. They simply provide another tool that can be used during project design, environmental assessment and implementation to achieve the principles of ecologically sustainable development.

An offset is an arrangement that, over time, guarantees to maintain the extent, structure and function of:

- Regional ecosystems
- Essential habitat and
- Vegetation associated with watercourses, natural wetlands and natural significant wetlands.

We provide a comprehensive single entry point for a client to access services to assist in finding an effective, cost effective and streamlined solution to the client's vegetation offset requirement.



Offset Standards

The vegetation offsets are brokered in accordance with the appropriate policy for vegetation management offsets currently administered by:

- Department of Natural Resources and Mines (DNRM)
- Department of Environment and Heritage Protection (DEHP), and
- Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities, (DSEWPaC)

Earthtrade Capability

Earthtrade is an environmental broker within the environment/natural resource management sector with established networks, strong working relationships and proven abilities including:

- Brokerage capability
- Legislative and policy interpretation
- Government liaison
- Landholder liaison
- Project management
- Access, coordination and management of technical skills to deliver quality offset solutions
- Monitoring and reporting

Earthtrade offers complete offsets brokerage solutions or any combination of the above services which may be required to meet your environmental requirement. Earthtrade provides products and services to clients ranging from large commercial scale projects through to a community or individual project.

Further information

Contact us on (07) 4194 5009 or email info@earthtrade.com.au about a tailor-made solution to your specific environmental requirements.

Vegetation Offset Participants

Examples

Developer with a vegetation offset demand.

If you have a requirement to source an offset to satisfy a legislative requirement, Earthtrade's brokerage service can assist you with the sourcing, attaining agreement of all parties, project management, submission and monitoring and reporting requirements of the offset, to meet legislative requirements.

Landholder with a potential vegetation supply to meet the offset demand

You may have regrowth native vegetation that you wish to protect or allow to return to "remnant" vegetation.

Earthtrade may "broker" or source another party who requires your vegetation asset as an offset, thus providing you with a source of funds as an alternative income stream and to maintain/manage and protect the vegetation into the future.

Corporate Land Bank

Your organisation may have areas of land available that are not useable for your current business. These areas could potentially be saleable as an offset. The revenue from offsets could save you money for maintenance activities or provide an additional income stream.

Earthtrade can undertake an offsets audit to assess the quantity and quality of potential offsets within your land bank.

Vegetation supply in advance of vegetation offset requirement

Advanced offsets provide a market opportunity for a person or entity to create or build a supply of offsets for future potential use, transfer or sale.