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## myclimate: FIFA World Cup 2006 is Climate Neutral

**The myclimate foundation has been awarded a tender by FIFA to offset the greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions produced by the 2006 World Cup – making it carbon neutral. myclimate has selected two Gold Standard CDM projects to offset emissions of the world’s largest sport event: a fuel-switching project in the Limpopo Province, and a biogas project in the Johannesburg area, South Africa.**

Offsetting event GHG emissions is a relatively new concept. It is based on the acknowledgement that an event such as the World Cup leads to appreciable emissions, primarily through the air travel of thousands of spectators and participants. Their use of energy whilst attending the event is also taken into consideration, as Germany generates a large proportion of its energy through fossil fuel sources such as coal and gas.

By investing in a project that leads to positive avoidance of emissions (greater or equal to the amount of emissions generated by the event), organisers can offset the effects of the event on the world’s climate – making it carbon neutral.

“The negative impact on the climate is balanced with an excellent project in South Africa. Not only does it reduce greenhouse gas emissions, but it also leads to black economic empowerment opportunities and local environmental protection. It is yet another reason for everyone to enjoy the World Cup in Germany, and we are very pleased to have been contracted to this project on behalf of the World Cup,” says Renat Heuberger, MD of the myclimate foundation in Switzerland. myclimate specializes in purchasing carbon credits and offsetting greenhouse gas emissions

The first project involves African Realty Trust, South Africa’s largest producer and processor of citrus. The company will have its existing coal-fired boilers replaced, enabling them to burn sawdust from surrounding sawmills instead. The project will minimise waste, reduce greenhouse gas emissions and foster sustainable development in the area. WSP Energy, through its subsidiary WSP BioTherm, an



international developer of clean and renewable energy projects, is the partner for delivering this project.

The African Realty Trust currently uses coal to generate steam for various processes at its facility. Marius de Bruyn, MD of African Realty Trust, South Africa's largest single producer of citrus fruits, explains, "We have a business critically dependent on a stable climate with a significant international profile and substantial exports. It is important that we do our utmost to keep our production process as environmentally friendly as possible. The switch from coal to biomass fuel boilers, which can burn sawdust, will substantially reduce emissions and soot at our facility."

The second project includes the recovery of methane emissions from a waste water treatment plant in the Johannesburg area. Methane is even more dangerous to the climate than carbon dioxide. The biogas is then used to generate clean electricity. Besides contributing to climate protection, the project creates jobs in a disadvantaged area.

"We're delighted to be involved in this project to make the 2006 World Cup carbon neutral, which is an excellent opportunity for South Africa, particularly in light of it being the 2010 World Cup host," said Charles Liebenberg, MD of WSP BioTherm in London. "The project utilises well-proven technology not only to reduce coal consumption, but also to avoid methane gas produced by stockpiling sawdust and will prevent at least 220,000 tonnes of GHG emissions over its ten-year lifetime. Commissioning of the new biomass fuel boilers is planned for August 2007."

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The myclimate foundation is one of the leading providers of high-quality carbon offset certificates for climate neutral business travel, conferences, products or for compliance regimes. More info on [www.myclimate.org/EN](http://www.myclimate.org/EN)