Restoration Barometer

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Iberdrola

2022 Pledge Implementation Progress Report

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2022 1T.ORG PLEDGE IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS REPORT

Iberdrola

Iberdrola's Tree Programme

Reporting period

January 2021 – December 2021

Pledge status

Fully on track

Intervention locations

Brazil, UK, Portugal, Mexico

Progress summary

Iberdrola is committed to planting 20 million trees during this decade – with the intermediate objectives of achieving 2.5 million by 2022 and 8 million by 2025. These trees will capture approximately 6 million tonnes of CO2 within 30 years.

In the period 2020–2021, the company promoted the planting of more than 2.3 million trees in seven countries. As part of our mitigation and compensation measures on new developments we have promoted the planting of more than 1.5 million trees mostly in Brazil, UK, Portugal, Mexico and Greece. In addition, we promoted the conservation and regeneration of more than 8,975 hectares of Permanent Preservation Areas and carried out management action across more than 18,400 hectares in Brazil through several techniques including silviculture, and fencing and protection from human activity for natural regeneration. In addition, Iberdrola promoted the growth of more than 760,000 trees as voluntary conservation, restoration and tree planting initiatives.

The most outstanding project is Cortes de Pallás, which targets more than 1,960 hectares of Iberdrola plots adjacent to the Cortes–La Muela hydroelectric plant. The objective is to improve the ecosystem deteriorated by severe fires, creating a forest that serves as the foundation for a diverse and resilient ecosystem. The innovative project has been carried out by CO2 Revolution using pioneering techniques, both in the seeds spread with drones and in the conservation of existing vegetation. Species planted are Aleppo pine, hackberry and holm oak. Initial results indicate the project has contributed to the planting and germination of more than 730,000 trees.

We have also promoted several initiatives as part of the third branch of our tree programme that have created social value, such as promoting the planting of more than 10,000 trees with volunteer actions.

Implementation method

- On-the-ground restoration through own operations or supply chains

Ecosystems and restoration interventions concerned

Forests and woodlands

- Artificial natural regeneration
- Artificial regeneration, such as through planting of seedlings or seeds in mixtures
- Reconnecting fragmented forests by planting mixed stands of native species
- Planting on steep slopes and along waterways to avoid or recover from erosion
- Silviculture
- Thinning (cleaning, density reduction or gap creation) to alter structure
- Planted forests and woodlots
- Nucleation or cluster planting (planting of small patches of trees as focal area for recovery)
- Planting or direct seeding with native species, such as interplanting with nurse crop, taungya, planting group, framework species or Miyawaki methods

Policies and strategies

Our tree programme was conceived under our Biodiversity policy and Sustainable Development Goal 15. As part of the construction of new developments we have developed several restoration projects and with the knowledge gathered, we decided to go beyond our current legal requirements and promote voluntary actions to regenerate forest lands.

Supporting documentation

- Biodiversity Policy
- Trees Program

Funding

USD 5.56 Million, disbursed towards:

- Financing of implementing partner(s)
- Carbon finance, including for insetting and/or offsetting

Part of this funding was to invest in the company CO2 Revolution, which is implementing all new voluntary restorations in Spain, and is developing voluntary initiatives like the one in Cortes de Pallas described above. The rest was to fund restoration projects required for new developments.

Supporting documentation

- Trees Program

Monitoring

At the moment, we are gathering the basic metrics site by site, including area, number of trees, monitoring surveys, etc. and consolidating on a spreadsheet. We are piloting Restor with one of our sites and we see the potential to bring all our sites on this platform to consolidate information.

Metrics monitored

- **Restoration intervention progress**
- **Area under restoration**
- **Effects on biodiversity**

Supporting documentation

- Trees Program

Area of land

There is a need to improve data collection from different projects. At the moment we are collecting data on the number of trees. This has been challenging as we needed to account for the replanting for maintenance. Some restoration efforts are scattered in areas that are not representative of the number of trees. Nevertheless, we are working on improving our data collection from our business to understand the methods used and area covered.

The density depends on the area, varying between 800 to 1,500 trees per hectare. We are planting native species, mainly Pinus halepensis, Quercus ilex and Celtis australis.

Supporting documentation

- Trees Program

Impact indicators

Climate

400.000 tons of CO2

Estimation method

- Custom-made formal measurement and monitoring systems for restoration efforts

We have accurate data, high level confidence in one of our sites, in which carbon removals will be use as funding the restoration.

Supporting documentation

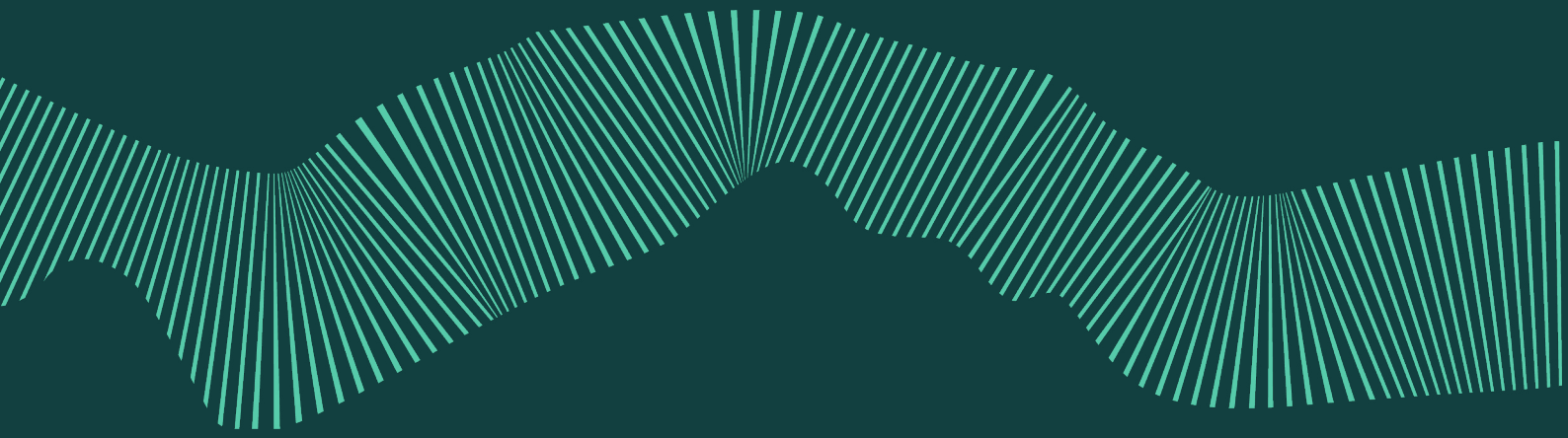
- Trees Program

Economy

Restoration of degraded woodlands with native species, home for fauna species.

Supporting documentation

- Trees Program



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