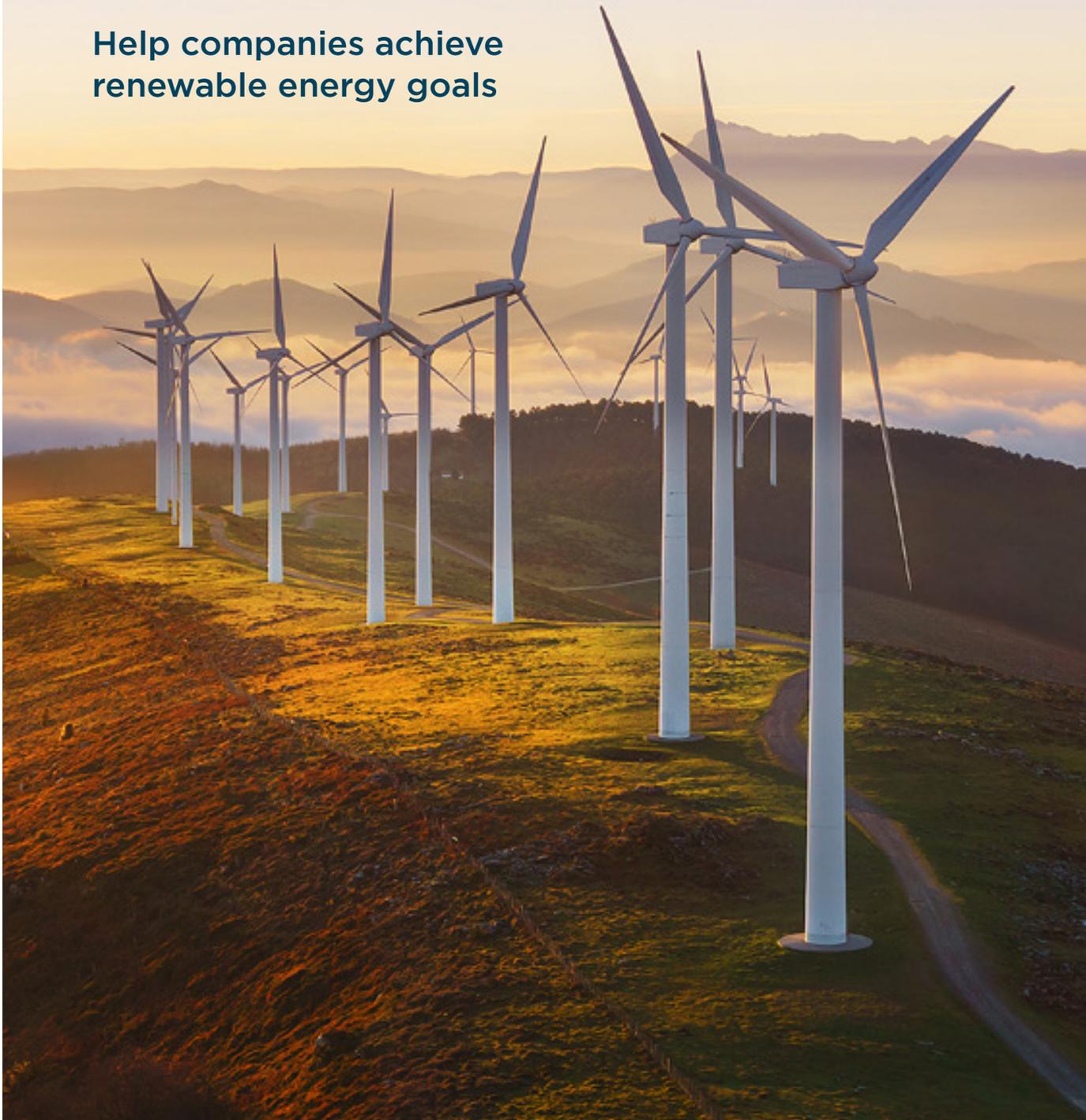


Energy Attribute Certificates

Help companies achieve
renewable energy goals



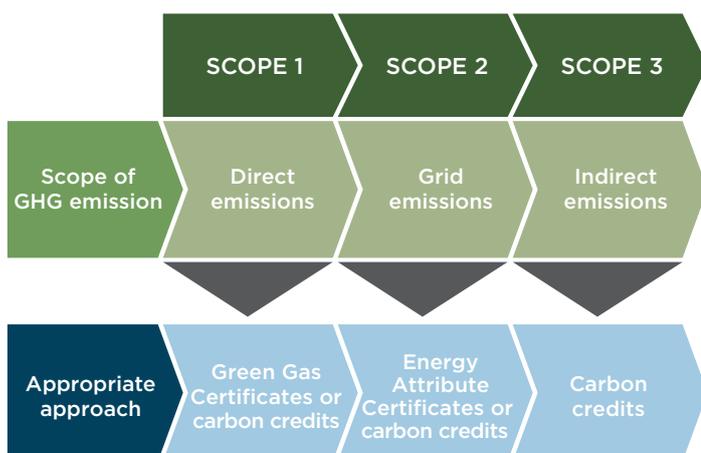
What is an Energy Attribute Certificate?

An Energy Attribute Certificate, or EAC, is a certificate that provides information about the environmental attributes of one megawatt hour (MWh) of electricity. Wind, solar and biomass generators produce electricity that has not emitted any carbon during its creation. EACs label that electricity as renewable, enabling companies to report lower Scope 2 emissions while demonstrating demand for renewable energy generation.

Renewable generators can sell EACs together with the electricity (bundled), or separately to the electricity (unbundled). Both methods are valid, robust ways to track and claim renewable electricity sourcing.

Companies can also use EACs to report lower Scope 1 emissions by purchasing Renewable Gas Guarantees of Origin (RGGOs), which each represent one kilowatt hour (KWh) of biomethane, or “green gas”.

Businesses can purchase EACs to address both Scope 1 and 2 emissions with renewable power



FEATURES

Energy Attribute Certificates:

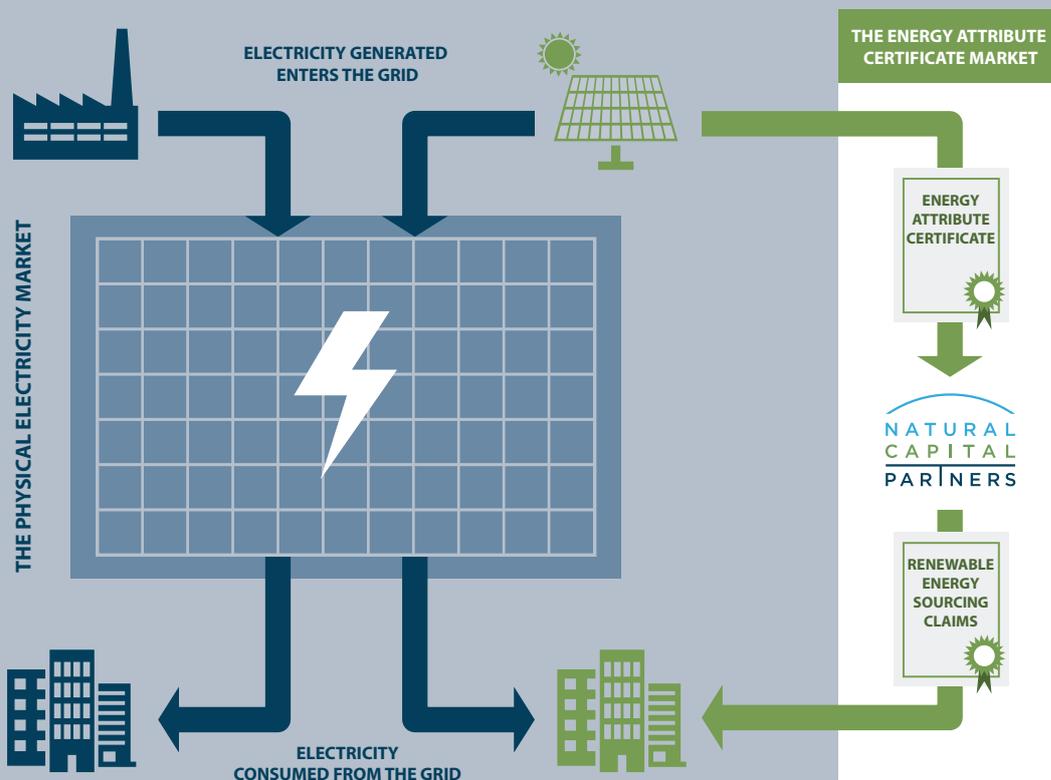
- Align the renewable energy demands of a business with the best available options in each country, tailored to the company's specific operational requirements
- Are customisable by technology type, location, vintage, size and age of the power plant. In this way they give all the benefits of a local renewable project but through a market-based approach
- Are the most credible way to ensure that a business is purchasing from viable renewable sources
- Underpin all grid-connected renewable energy solutions including Power Purchase Agreements (PPAs) and green tariffs
- Are tracked and retired on third party registries and supported by credible standards which are accepted by CDP quality criteria, RE100, The GHG Protocol and [The CarbonNeutral Protocol](#)
- Along with their associated tracking systems, need to be developed and scaled in emerging markets as a critical first step to increasing renewable energy options for all businesses

How do EACs track renewable electricity?

Electricity is the same regardless of how it was generated. Every business powered by electricity from the grid draws down that physical electricity from the same mix of sources, which includes all renewable and non-renewable sources. That means it is impossible

to track physical electrons from renewable generation to consumption.

Therefore, to credibly claim that they are using renewable electricity, businesses purchase EACs, which are cancelled on their behalf so they cannot be used again.



According to the National Renewable Energy Laboratory¹, EACs are the most effective way to support robust, accurate, and efficient tracking and accounting of renewable energy generation.

Credible claims to renewable electricity adhere to GHG Protocol Scope 2 quality criteria, which includes the following:

- Companies must purchase the exact amount of EACs to match their electricity consumption for a given time period and location
- The electricity produced by renewable sources can only be claimed once - all businesses must ensure the EACs they use to support their renewable energy claim are cancelled
- EACs must be sourced from production facilities linked to the market of consumption; the U.S. and EU are both counted as single markets for the purpose of Scope 2 accounting, while some cross-border claims are possible elsewhere, where there is a grid connection

¹ Renewable Electricity Standards: Good Practices and Design Considerations, NREL, January 2016 www.nrel.gov/docs/fy16osti/65507.pdf

What types of EAC are there?

The global renewable energy market is rapidly evolving and businesses will benefit from having a trusted partner to help them navigate. Our sourcing expertise, unrivalled network of partners, global product portfolio and industry experience enables us to create renewable energy solutions that will deliver the best value for your business.

On behalf of its clients, Natural Capital Partners sources Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs) in North America, Guarantees of Origin (GOs) in Europe, Renewable Energy Guarantees of Origin (REGOs) in the UK, and International RECs

(I-RECs) and Tradable Instruments for Global Renewables (TIGRs) across the rest of the world. There are also a variety of national EACs available in countries such as Australia and Japan. Natural Capital Partners is licensed to sell Green-e Energy and EKOenergy certified EACs, which meet additional sustainability and quality criteria.

RGGOs enable companies with operations in the UK and Europe to source green gas. Contact us to discuss how EACs can help address your Scope 1 and 2 emissions.

Where are energy attribute certificates generated and where can they be used?

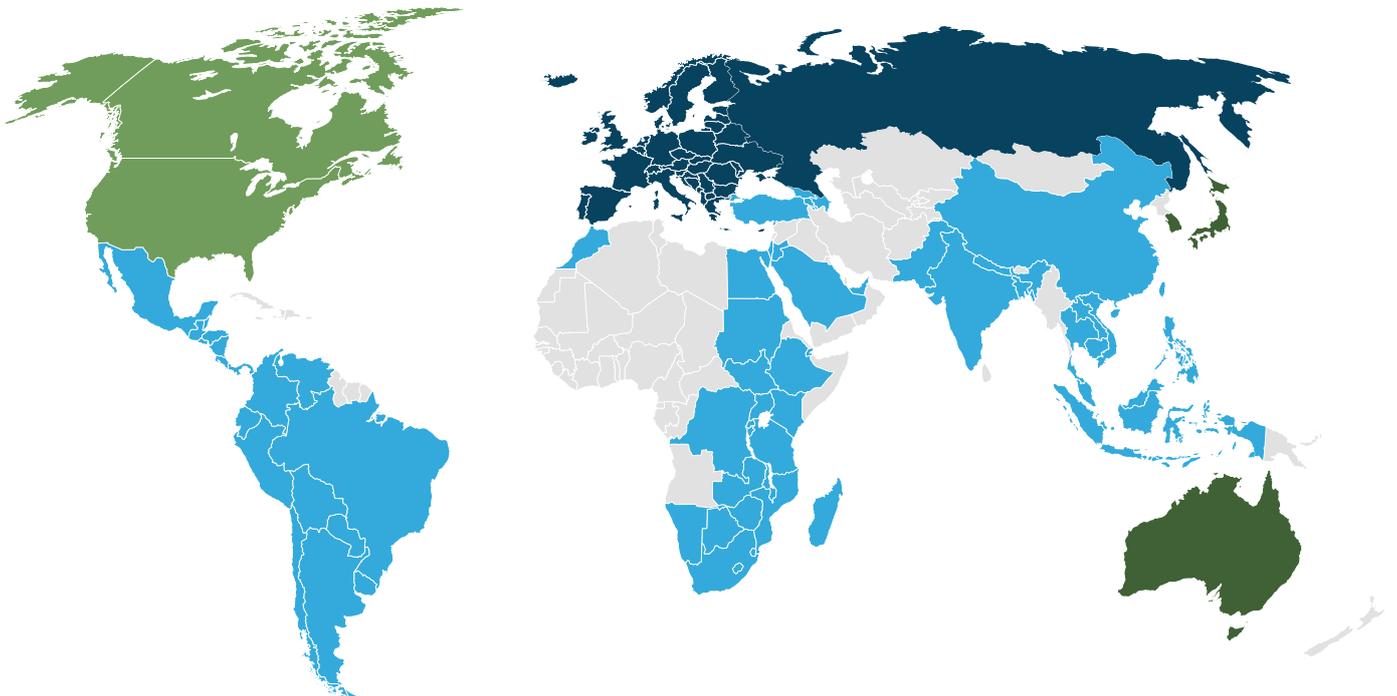
KEY

REC  Energy

GO 

I-REC and/or TIGR
 THE INTERNATIONAL REC STANDARD 

National Systems 



BENEFITS

Energy Attribute Certificates:

- Enable companies of all sizes to immediately, cost-effectively and accurately meet their renewable energy targets in the geographies most important to them, including where on-site renewables or PPAs are not practical
- Support a sophisticated renewable energy strategy that may also include on-site generation, PPAs or green tariffs
- Empower businesses to drive transformation of the grid by demonstrating increasing demand for renewable energy
- Can contribute to CarbonNeutral® certification and 100% renewable energy goals



Why do companies purchase Energy Attribute Certificates?

Energy generation accounts for nearly 40% of global greenhouse gas emissions and companies can address a significant portion of their emissions by sourcing EACs. EACs also enable companies to demonstrate climate action, impact and leadership by meeting renewable energy goals².

EACs are the only instrument type that businesses can use alone to credibly reach 100% renewable energy targets. They continue to be favoured by RE100 member companies, with 85% of U.S.

based companies and 60% of companies with operations across the rest of the world using unbundled EACs to achieve their renewable energy goals.

While there are many ways for businesses to source renewable energy, the purchase of unbundled EACs does not require the same long-term commitments nor high cost of PPAs and on-site generation, and EACs are much simpler to transact. In addition, EACs enable choice in heavily regulated or constrained markets where other sourcing options are not yet available.

² Accelerating Change: How Corporate Users are Transforming the Renewable Energy market, RE100, 2017. Available at: <http://media.virbcdn.com/files/a9/55845b630b54f906-RE100AnnualReport2017.pdf>

The role of I-RECs in developing global renewable energy markets

EACs are not only essential to credible claims of renewable energy sourcing, but are creating thriving markets for renewable energy across the globe.

The purchase of EACs in emerging regions enables companies to match their energy use in all countries where they have operations, while creating a demand signal that will spur market development. As the demand for EACs outside Europe and North America continues to increase, EAC infrastructure remains essential to enable companies to credibly claim renewable electricity sourcing. Businesses have the opportunity to support the development of this infrastructure in emerging markets by purchasing EACs.

The International REC (I-REC) Standard was created by an international team of renewable energy experts with the goal of empowering energy purchasers to make renewable consumption choices in any region of the world. It provides the blueprint for an electricity attribute tracking system that can be introduced to any country. I-REC is recognised as the pioneer in driving EAC market development and is acknowledged by the major reporting frameworks (GHG Protocol, CDP, RE100) as the appropriate tracking instrument within emerging markets.

Natural Capital Partners works closely with clients, project developers and the I-REC Standard to enable project developers to start issuing EACs in emerging markets. We have facilitated the development of more than 15 I-REC projects in countries such as Brazil, China, Israel, Mexico, the Philippines and Thailand, to respond to clients' needs to power international operations with renewable energy.

Our clients can immediately and cost-effectively meet their global renewable energy targets, support the generation of renewable energy in the locations of interest to them, and address their Scope 1 and 2 impacts, through our customised, global portfolios of EACs.



Learn more:

- [Energy Attribute Certificates are Alive, and are Very Much Needed](#)
- [Integrating Green Gas into Your Renewable Energy Strategy](#)
- [The Value of Sourcing Renewable Energy for Your Business](#)
- [How Corporates Can Meet Their Energy Goals](#)
- [Expanding Access to Renewable Energy Around the World](#)
- [Renewable Energy: Not Just For Big Business](#)

About Natural Capital Partners

Natural Capital Partners is a world-leading provider of innovative solutions for positive impact on the world's natural capital. With more than 300 clients in 34 countries, the company delivers high-quality solutions for renewable energy, carbon emissions measurement and reductions, water stewardship, building supply chain resilience and protecting biodiversity.

Contact us to find out how EACs can help your company to meet its target:

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