



# Product Guide





# A Nature-Based Path to Carbon Neutral

Introducing the **Nature-Based Global Emissions Offset™**, the latest evolution of CBL's Global Emissions Offset™. The N-GEO® provides companies with a streamlined way to meet emissions-reductions targets using offsets sourced exclusively from Agriculture, Forestry, and Other Land Use (AFOLU) projects.

The N-GEO enables market participants to buy high-quality, nature-based offsets—without having to evaluate the vast universe of AFOLU projects. Underlying every N-GEO contract is an offset that meets stringent eligibility criteria defined by Verra's Climate Community and Biodiversity (CCB) Standard.

Like the GEO, the N-GEO contract is traded on the CBL exchange and provides liquidity, transparent price discovery, and a reliable benchmark for nature-based offsets. The N-GEO contract was designed based on input from financial institutions, trading firms, project developers, industry associations, corporations, and carbon-standards organizations.

The CCB-accredited units underpinning the N-GEO eliminate many of the operational requirements of trading offsets, because you can trust that you're purchasing carefully vetted projects—while simultaneously promoting biodiversity and supporting developing communities.





# A Simple Way to Transact High-Quality, Nature-Based Offsets

The N-GEO will trade alongside the GEO on CBL, the world's leading spot commodity exchange. CBL offers access to a broad range of individual carbon-offset projects from leading registries, enabling unrivalled choice. But for those who don't want to choose—or don't have the resources to choose from the vast universe of individual AFOLU projects—the N-GEO provides a turnkey solution. When you buy an N-GEO contract, you purchase a specific underlying AFOLU project that meets Verra's CCB criteria, which means you can trust that the project protects natural environments and supports the communities who depend on them.



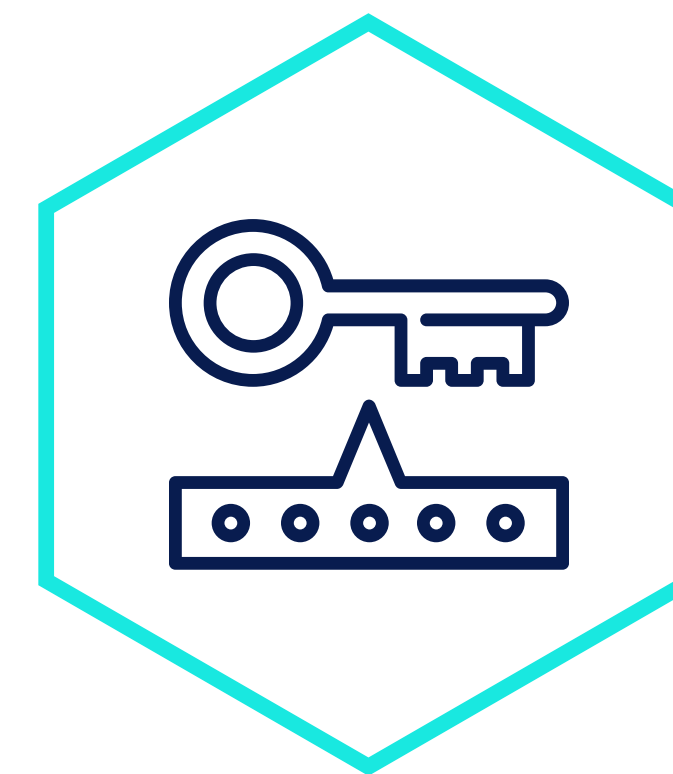
**Standardisation**



**Trust**



**Reliable  
Benchmark Pricing**



**Access**



**Low Risk**

# N-GEO Contract Specification

PRODUCT DESCRIPTION	The Nature-Based Global Emissions Offset Standard Spot Product represents a standardized, cleared contract for immediate (“spot”) physical delivery of voluntary emissions offsets meeting defined criteria (“N-GEOs”). N-GEOs acceptable for delivery meet the Defining Criteria and other requirements identified and described in the CBL Standard Instruments Program.
PRODUCT CODE	N-GEO
CLEARING & SETTLEMENT	Asset Units associated with Products that are the subject of Transactions are pre-cleared and physically settled through Market Operator’s Delivery versus Payment Clearing and Settlement structure. Asset Units are delivered on a spot basis at the moment of Transaction execution into the Participant’s Registry Account linked to EMA.
LOT SIZE	1 N-GEO—one metric ton of CO2 equivalent (1 mtCO2e)
CURRENCY	USD
MINIMUM PRICE FLUCTUATION	The price convention shall be \$0.01 per N-GEO
REGISTRY	Verra Registry
MARKET(S)	CBL
TRADING HOURS	23 hours per day, 365 days per year



# Frequently Asked Questions





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## 1. What is the Nature-Based GEO (N-GEO®)?

Like the Global Emissions Offset™ (GEO®), the new Nature-based Global Emissions Offset (N-GEO) provides streamlined access and operational efficiencies for purchasers and developers of nature-based projects. Also, like the GEO, the N-GEO provides a price benchmark for its underlying market segment not tied to specific regions or specific nature-based project type.

The N-GEO contract is composed of Agriculture, Forestry, and Other Land Use (AFOLU) projects with additional Climate, Community, and Biodiversity (CCB) accreditation.

The CCB Standards can be applied to eligible land-management projects, promoting innovation from early-stage project design through development and implementation. Eligible offset projects will be carefully vetted under the CBL Standard Instruments Program, which also applies to the GEO.

## 2. Why is Xpansiv launching the contract?

The successful GEO launch proved the market's demand for spot

contracts that can be transacted without requiring buyers to first perform due diligence reviews of hundreds of potential underlying projects. Whereas the GEO followed CORSIA criteria tailored to the aviation industry, key market participants supported the idea of a similar product they could use to transact nature-based projects with an additional emphasis on co-benefits.

## 3. What kinds of market participants are considering using it?

We developed the N-GEO in close consultation with a diverse range of market participants that supported the idea enthusiastically. These firms represent a broad swath of the market, including project developers, investment firms, oil majors, and even airlines.

## 4. What registries will be providing N-GEO projects?

Verra devised the CCB co-benefit accreditation scheme used in the N-GEO. At launch, projects deliverable into the N-GEO will be sourced from Verra/VCS.



## 5. What projects are eligible under AFOLU criteria?

*From Verra AFOLU Factsheet:* “AFOLU requirements cover a wide range of project types, from Improved Forest Management and REDD to Wetlands Restoration and Conservation as well as the Avoided Conversion of Grasslands and Shrublands.”

## 6. How does the CCB accreditation work?

From the Verra website: <https://registry.verra.org/> “The CCB Program is the leading framework for assessing land management projects that create net positive benefits for climate change mitigation, for local communities and for biodiversity. The standards can be applied to all types of land management projects, including forest conservation and restoration, agroforestry, sustainable agriculture, and others.”

The CCB Program can be used in conjunction with a GHG crediting program, such as the VCS Program, and carbon credits can be labelled with the co-benefits certified under the CCB Program.

The CCB accreditation can be applied to any land management project to certify its climate, community & biodiversity benefits. The rules and requirements set out by the CCB Standards must be met in order to be certified under the program and undergoes a rigorous assessment

process including independent auditing, accounting methodologies and registration.

To gain CCB verification, project developers need to apply to Verra with additional documentation proving the additional benefits of their project. Verra then assesses and, if successful approves the CCB distinctions. The project developer can then issue credits with an accompanying CCB label.

More information on the CCB Program can be found here:  
<https://verra.org/project/ccb-program/>

## 7. What is the available inventory for N-GEO-eligible projects versus the GEO?

We estimate the N-GEO market size at approximately 70 million credits, of which roughly 61 million (85%) are REDD. We expect the N-GEO supply to grow quickly relative to other markets. We anticipate that some current GEO buyers will shift some of their purchases to the N-GEO contract, which meets their project preferences and goals more closely.

Moreover, the N-GEO launch will create basis trading and arbitrage trading opportunities with the GEO as well as other related contracts traded on CBL and elsewhere. This activity will increase liquidity across all related instruments.



## 8. What is the CBL Standard Instruments Program?

CBL, as Market Operator of the CBL spot market exchange, has established the first of its kind Standard Instruments Program (SIP) to accompany and govern the launch of spot contracts for the settlement and physical delivery of standardized environmental commodities that meet defined criteria for quality and performance.

The objectives of the SIP are to assure CBL Market Participants and other buyers and sellers that they are purchasing and procuring environmental commodities that meet a level of acceptable and transparent quality and to protect and promote the scaling of development and implementation of qualifying projects and activities generating such high-quality environmental commodities.

## 9. In addition to minimizing project due diligence, what benefits does the N-GEO offer market participants?

N-GEO bids, offers, transaction and daily settlement prices will provide a transparent, benchmark price signal for nature-based offsets with associated co-benefits. The N-GEO contract will also enable intraday market price monitoring, and a reliable daily settlement price participant

can use for a host of purposes, including the ability to mark open positions to market, as a mark for other OTC spot or derivatives contracts, and as a basis for project financings or hedging activities.

For market participants, many additional N-GEO benefits stem from the contract being traded on CBL Markets' open exchange platform:

- A simplified membership process enables exchange trading without the extensive documentation required to trade OTC
- Equal market access for all market participants (not credit dependent)
- Transparent pricing on the exchange's central limit order book
- Diverse participation from companies, producers, financial institutions, and trading firms
- Live market data
- Minimal/zero counterparty, credit, and delivery risks
- Post-trade, straight-through processing to registries

## 10. How does CBL reduce counterparty and delivery risk?

Our clearing-and-settlement process ensures against settlement risk, as we pre-clear both the product and cash sides of the transaction. This ensures that a buyer is guaranteed delivery of units offered on the



exchange. Furthermore, sellers are guaranteed payment on a T+0 basis as we require buy-side participants to post cash in an escrow account before a bid can enter the order book, and therefore before a trade can occur. Furthermore, CBL acts as the central counterparty for all N-GEO transactions, which removes counterparty risk and the need for participants to complete KYC for the other side.

## **11. Operationally, how are volumes being flagged as "N-GEO" compliant in the CBL system/screen?**

The N-GEO spot contract will be listed on the “compliance” tab on the CBL platform, alongside the GEO, US RECs, RGGI, and CCAs. Initially, to list an N- GEO offer, a participant will need to transfer eligible N-GEO units into the dedicated CBL account at Verra. CBL operations staff will then do another check/verification in conjunction with the registry’s approved list of projects and update the N-GEO holdings within the CBL Platform.

## **12. What are the fees/costs to trade the N-GEO?**

There are no membership fees to join CBL. The buyer and seller each pay a \$0.05 per contract transaction fee that covers matching, clearing, and delivery/settlement.

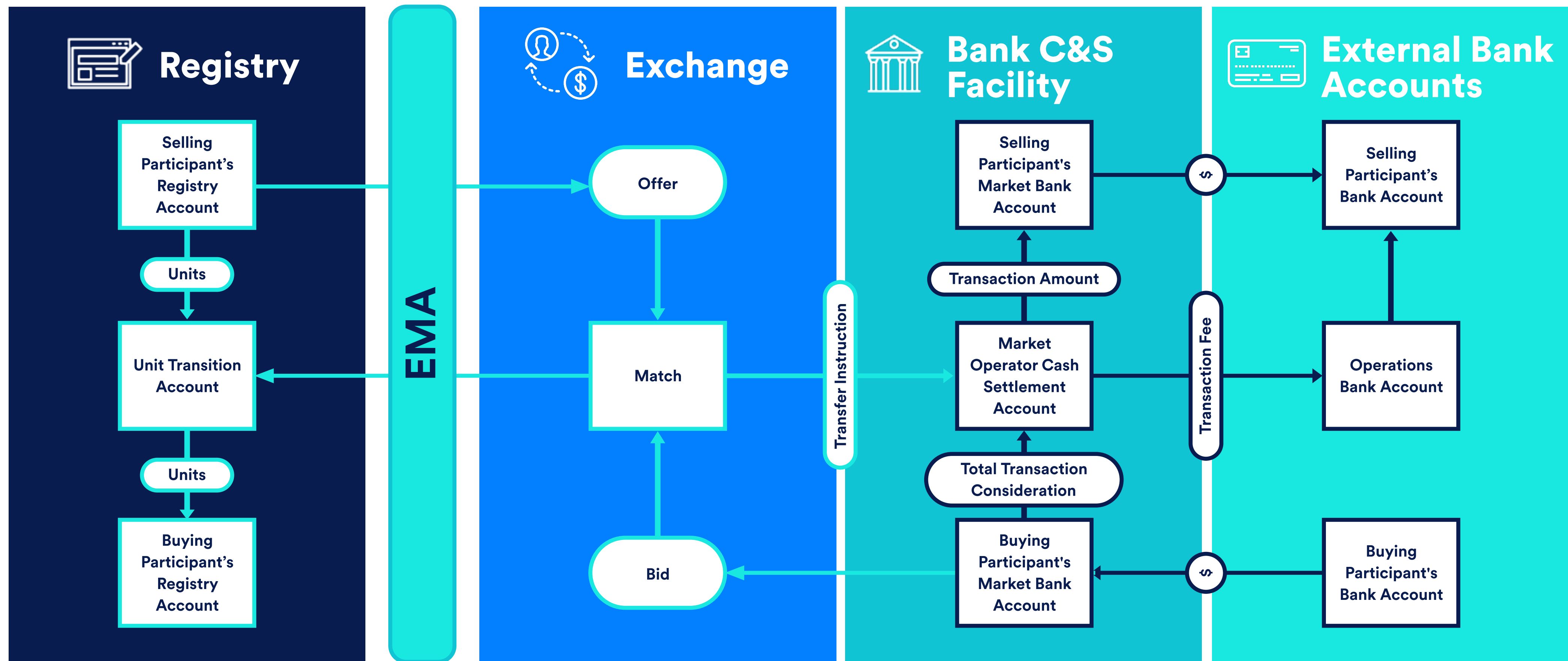


# How to Trade the N-GEO





# Clearing and Settlement



**KEY:**  
T.I. - Transfer Instruction  
\$<sup>1</sup> - Transaction Fees  
\$<sup>2</sup> - Transfer of funds to external bank accounts only occur if one-side of the trade doesn't have an Austraclear account



# CBL is Part of the Xpansiv Digital Commodity Ecosystem

CBL is part of Xpansiv, the world's first commodity exchange built for a new asset class: *data*. Xpansiv brings transparency to the market by recording real-world characteristics in an immutable profile, empowering informed decision-making and commodity differentiation. As a result, commodities can be valued based on vital information that was previously invisible. More information at [Xpansiv.com](https://xpansiv.com).

Put CBL to work for you—contact us today at [geo@cblmarkets.com](mailto:geo@cblmarkets.com) to learn more and schedule a demo.

