

# CARBON-BACKED SECURITIES

Accelerating biochar project development through innovative carbon-credit-backed debt financing



Grace Aranow, Chandler Dalton, Ramil Ibrahim, Derek Nong Yale School of Management April 25, 2025

## **OUR TEAM**



Grace Aranow
MBA/MEM '25

Climate tech and infrastructure investing



**Chandler Dalton** 

MBA '25

Management consultant Energy and Finance & Risk



Ramil Ibrahim

MBA/MEM '27

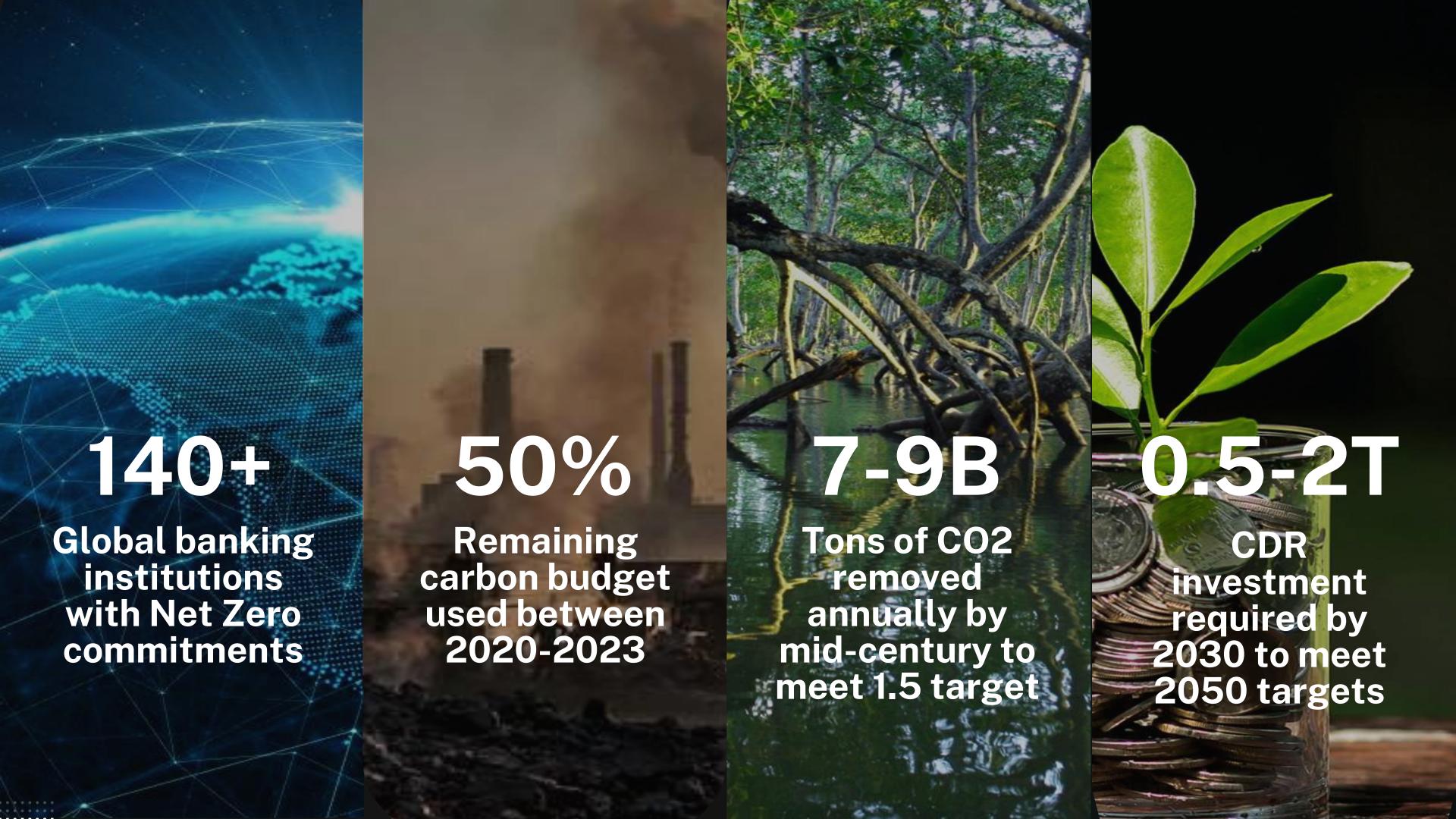
Agricultural micro-finance Affordable housing lending



**Derek Nong** 

MBA '25

Corporate Sustainability and Green Bank Lending



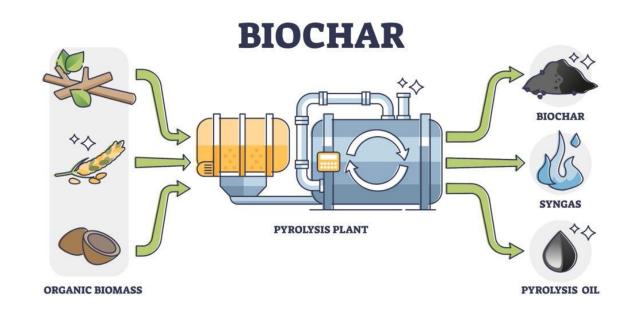
# BIOCHAR ISN'T RECEIVING THE NECESSARY FUNDING



**Significant co-benefits -** Cleanly dispose agricultural waste while producing a fertilizer to boost yields by 25%



**Scalability –** Potential to remove / store up to 3B tons/yr by 2050 (28% of all required removals)





**Traction -** In 2023, Biochar credits in the voluntary carbon market

represent >90% of global deliveries...

...yet only 13% of CDR investment

Underinvestment in this climate solution is a clear market failure.

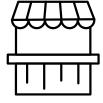
# WE NEED AN INNOVATIVE SOLUTION TO OVERCOME BIOCHAR FINANCING CHALLENGES

## LENDER PAIN POINTS



#### Lender unfamiliarity

Small projects make due diligence costly and not worth the transaction overheard



#### Carbon Market volatility

Prices for carbon credits, particularly CDR, vary widely and are hard for banks to access given tech industry monopsony



#### Green financing diversification

Portfolios are overweighted towards renewables with lack of investing alternatives

#### **DEVELOPER PAIN POINTS**



#### High upfront capital cost

Ranging from \$2-5M, depending on scale and feedstock



### High financing costs

Lenders typically demand interest rates of 18%-20% or higher



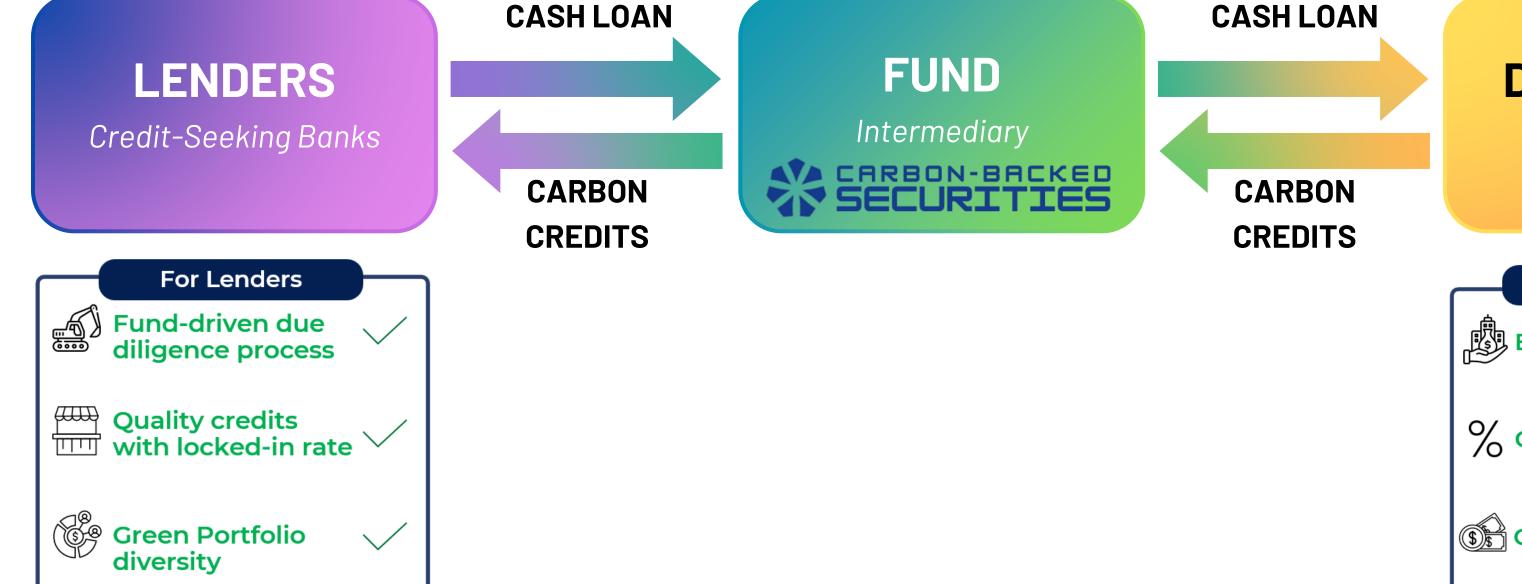
### **Monetizing Credits**

Only 40% of issued credits have been sold on voluntary markets

FRAGMENTED POLICY SUPPORT UNDERSCORES THE NEED FOR FINANCIAL INNOVATION

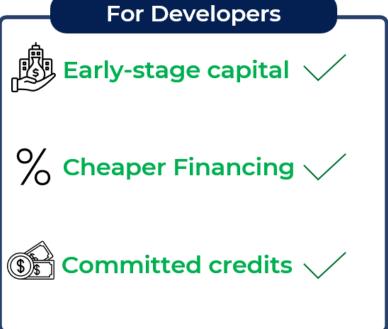
## **OUR SOLUTION:**

CARBON-BACKED SECURITIES BRIDGES THE GAP BETWEEN **DEVELOPERS** AND **LENDERS** 



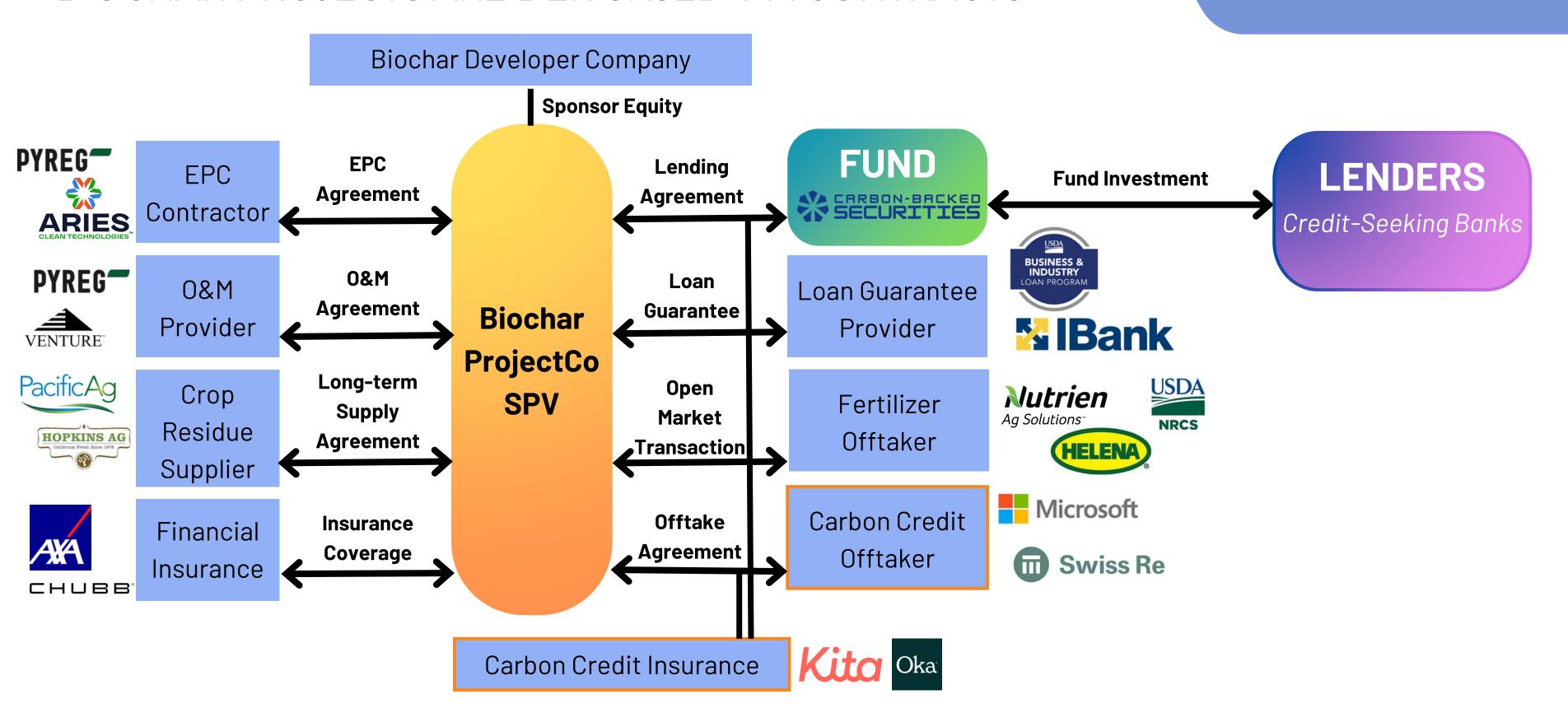
#### **DEVELOPERS**

Biochar Projects



## DEVELOPER STRUCTURE

BIOCHAR PROJECTS ARE DERISKSED VIA CONTRACTS



## VALUE PROPOSITION

# FUND SECURITIES

LENDERS



### Creates value for...

- Attractive coupons: UST10Y + 500 bps = 9.25%
- Full-service: origination, underwriting, portfolio mgmt.
- Assured supply of carbon credits
- Interest rate spread: 15% 9.25% = 5.75%
- Discount on credits: \$185/t \$20/t = \$165/tCO2e
- Mgmt. fee: 2%
- Lower cost of capital: Mkt (20%) 500bps = 15%
- Assured demand for carbon credits

## Mitigates risk by...

#### Credit

- Fixed income: decent yield, low risk
- Fund absorbs first-loss
- Secured by hard asset collateral

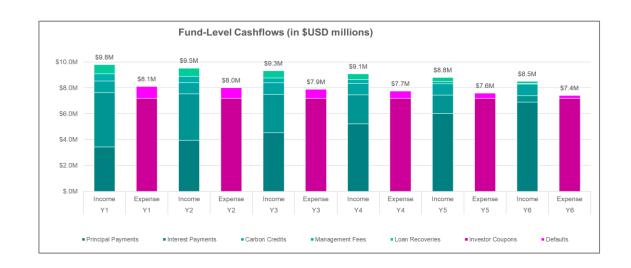
#### Price Volatility Risk

- Price Cap + No Floor
- High upside / limited downside

#### Repayment & Default Risk

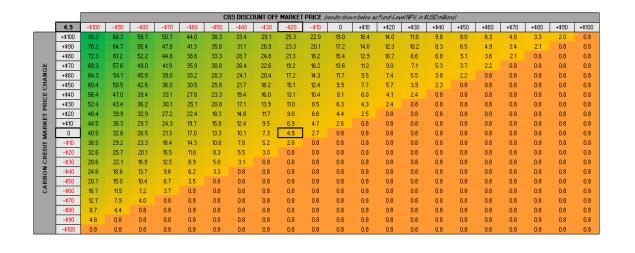
- USDA Guarantee (80% of loan)
- 1.40x DSCR, signed EPC / offtake
- Secondary source: biochar sales

## FINANCIAL ANALYSIS



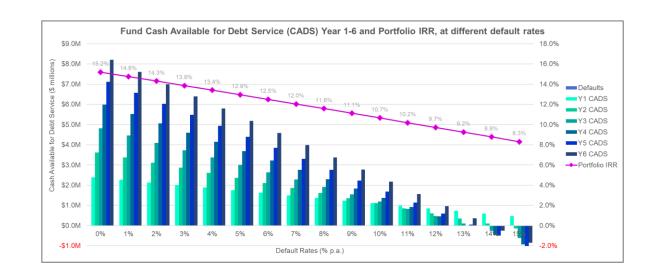
### **Base Case:**

14% Portfolio IRR + \$5M Fund NPV at 3% defaults



## **Price Volatility:**

Fund NPV = +ve at any carbon market price



### **Defaults:**

Stressed up to 13% before Fund delinquency risk

# UNLOCKING CAPITAL FOR BIOCHAR CREATES SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

### **Annual Impact**



46,000 tons biochar



60 rural jobs



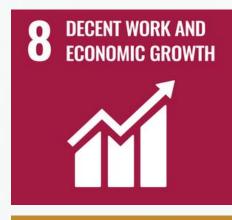
130,000 tCO2e removed

#### **Impact Over Project Life**



2,300,000 tCO2e removed

### Main SDGs addressed









20 year project life

## SCALING OUR SOLUTION

**NEAR TERM** 



GEOGRAPHIC EXPANSION



TECHNOLOGICAL EXPANSION

**Opportunity Size** 

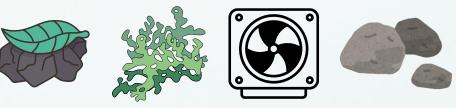
~\$250M current, \$500M by 2030

~\$540M current, \$1.4B by 2030 ~\$1.5B current, \$25B by 2030

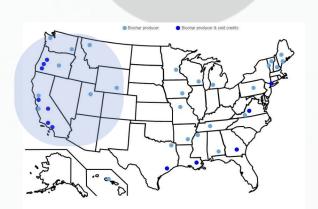
Investment Focus

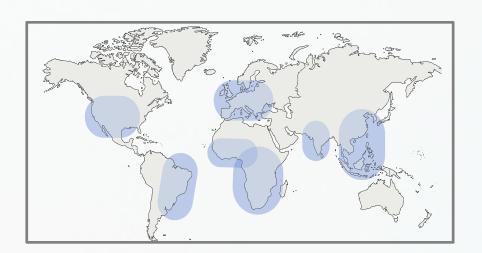


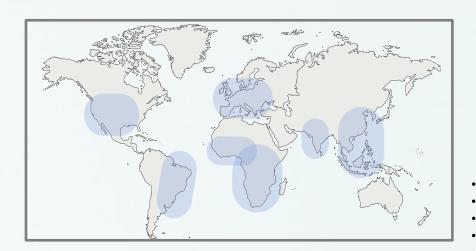




Target Geography









## THANK YOU TO OUR ADVISORS

Topic	Mentor	Organization
	Richard Kauffman	GGRF, former NYSERDA
	Dan Gross	Amazon Climate Pledge
Lending and Project Finance	Stephon Smith	Bank of America
	Gil Shefer	Orrick
	Chinmaya H M	Tata Steel
	Jeff Hallowell	Biomass Controls
	Josiah Hunt	Pacific Biochar
Biochar	Ross Kenyon	Airminers
	Emily Lewis	Silk Grass Farms
	Matt Plasek	US Biochar Initiative
Carbon Credit Markets	Kassandra Byaruhanga	Baringa
Carbon Credit Warkets	Lana Le Hir	Orrick
	James Kench	Kita Carbon Insurance



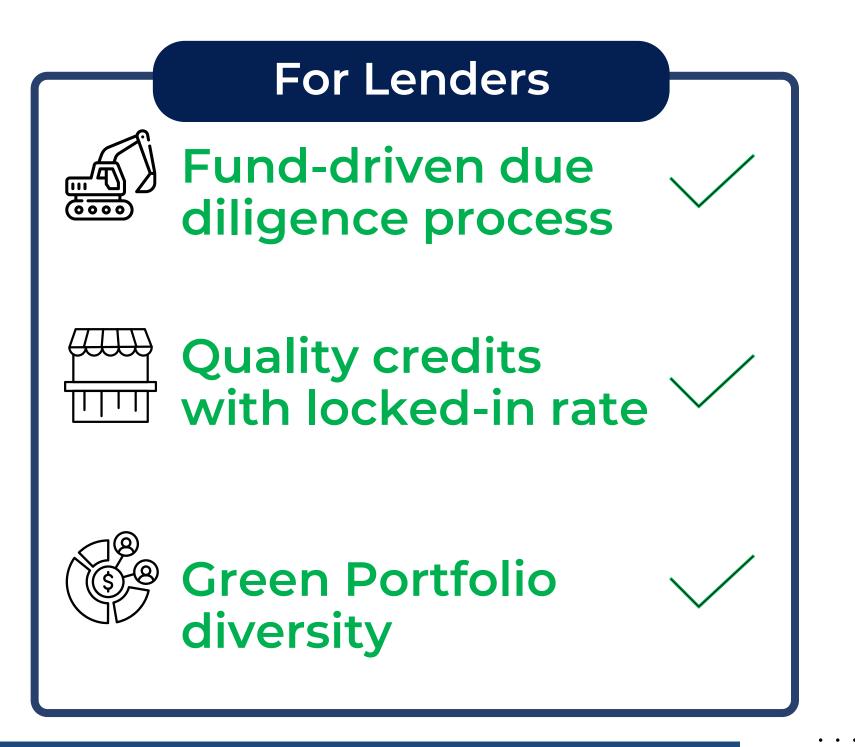


## **APPENDIX**



# WE NEED AN INNOVATIVE SOLUTION TO OVERCOME BIOCHAR FINANCING CHALLENGES

# For Developers Early-stage capital \square Cheaper Financing < Committed credits </



FRAGMENTED POLICY SUPPORT UNDERSCORES THE NEED FOR FINANCIAL INNOVATION

## UNLOCKING CAPITAL FOR BIOCHAR CREATES SIGNIFICANT IMPACT





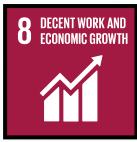
































Indirect impact / future impact through expansions Not relevant



Each facility generates approximately 60 direct jobs in rural communities, with broader economic ripple effects through feedstock collection and increased agricultural productivity





3 AND INFRASTRUCTURE Infrastructure that bridges agricultural and industry. Facilities provide regional waste processing, agricultural soil amendments, and can serve as innovation hubs





Fund catalyzes the production of 105,000 tons of biochar, improving ~26,000 acres of farmland and creating longterm soil benefits and avoiding local waterway contamination

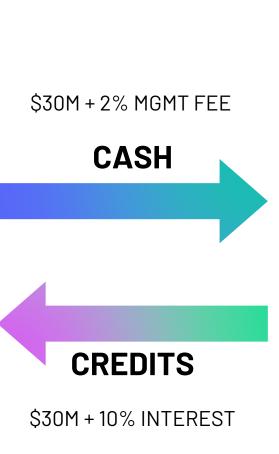


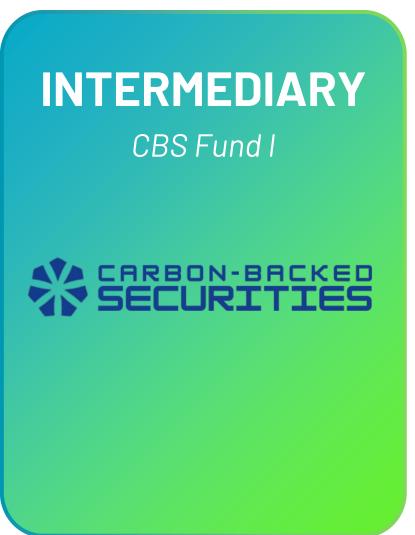


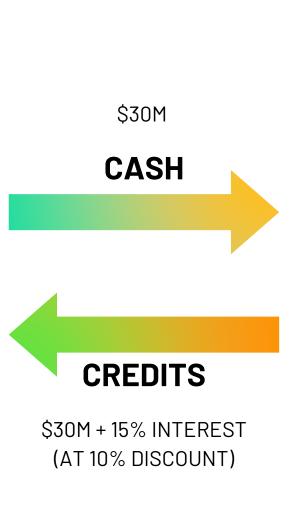
Fund enables 300,000 tons of carbon removal and storage annually, positioning biochar as a scalable climate solution with measurable impact

## FLOW OF FUNDS







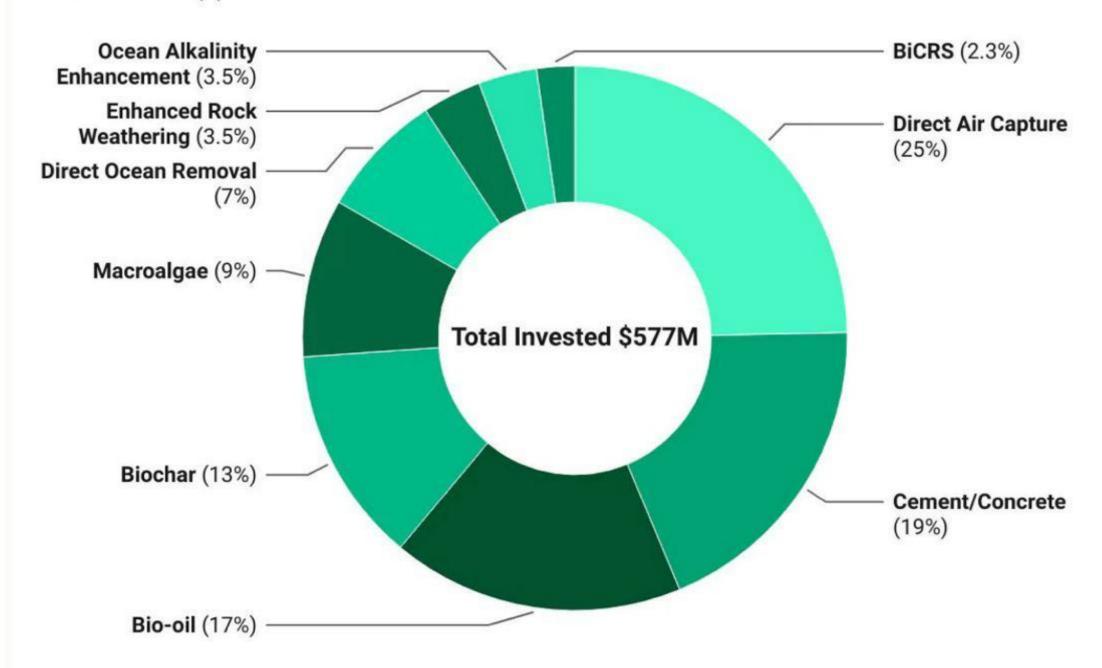




## Other CDR technology

### 2023 Investment in Durable CDR by Method

Total invested (\$)



\*Excluding soil, forest, and other less-durable forms of CDR

Chart: CDR.fyi · Source: Compiled from public announcements, as of Dec 24, 2023 · Created with Datawrapper

## **US OPPORTUNITY SIZE**

#### **Global Market**

- 350,000t (2023)
- \$542M and expected to reach \$1.4B (2030, 14%
   CAGR)
- ~300 Producers

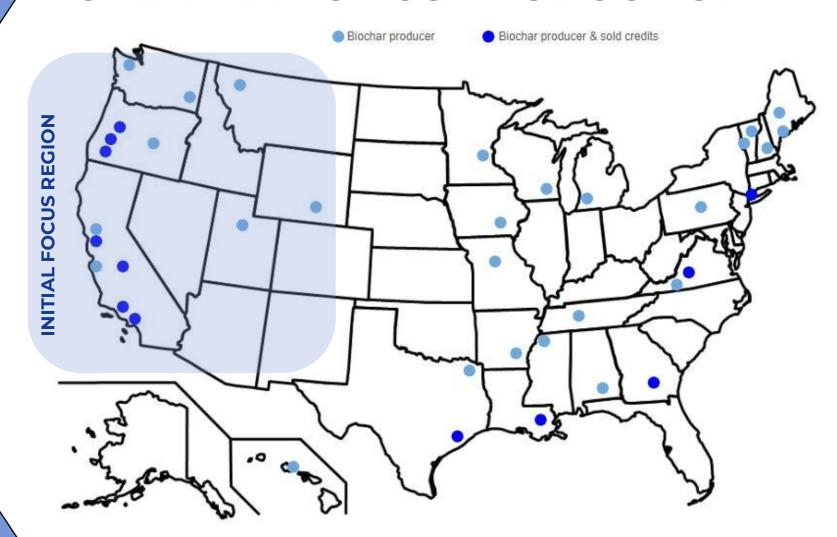
#### **US Growth**

- \$203M in US (2022), ~\$480 by 2030 (11% CAGR)
- 180 Producers

#### **Western US Focus**

- 4-8Mt of waste woody biomass produced per year
- 1-4Mt of biochar yield per year
- Figures could increase 25x if state and federal goals are met
- Increasing restrictions on agricultural waste burning (ex. San Joaquin Valley)

#### **OVERVIEW OF US PRODUCTION**



## RISKS AND MITIGATION

Risk	Description	Impact	Mitigation
Credit Risk	Delinquency or default by developers due to project failure or inability to generate sufficient carbon credits/cash	Loss of principal, missed carbon credit goals	<ul> <li>Strict underwriting criteria</li> <li>Loan tenor and cash sweep terms enable lender to accrue 100% of economic benefit during a default</li> <li>Secured collateral with marketable pyrolysis equipment</li> </ul>
Carbon Market Price Risk	Volatility in carbon credit spot prices leading to lower-than-expected value	Reduced cash flow	<ul> <li>Price Cap + No Floor provision enables lender to receive more credits in downside</li> <li>Offtake contract with creditworthy offtaker limits spot market exposure</li> </ul>
Policy Risk	Changes in carbon credit regulations or eligibility criteria	Recapture of credits, changes in subsidy available	<ul> <li>Monitor policy and regulatory developments</li> <li>Structure loans with alternative cash repayment options</li> </ul>
Offtake Risk- Credits	Offtaker refuses to accept credits	Reduced cash flow	<ul> <li>Take-or-Pay offtake agreements with corporate buyers</li> <li>Reserve fund to cover short-term liquidity needs</li> <li>Biochar revenue provides cash-based repayment</li> </ul>
Offtake Risk- Biochar	Insufficient biochar fertilizer demand leads to low price	Reduced cash flow	<ul> <li>Contract with large fertilizer providers for multi-year supply contract</li> <li>Utilize USDA subsidies for farmers to promote biochar demand</li> </ul>
Measurement, Reporting, and Verification (MRV) Certification Risk	Biochar facilities fails to achieve MRV and thus produces less credits	Lower/no carbon credit generation	<ul> <li>Work with experienced developers</li> <li>Include contractual penalties for verification delays/failures</li> </ul>

## SIMILAR MARKET PRODUCTS

	CARBON-BACKED SECURITIES	Pre-payments with Offtake Contract	Carbon Streaming
Upfront Payment	Yes, as loan	Yes, part of payment schedule	Yes, as nonrefundable deposit
Source of Capital	Bank Lenders with Credit Demand	Anyone (historically Tech)	Market Specialists
Use for Discounted Credits	Retire (with Resale option)	Retire	Resale for Profit
Exposure to Market Volatility	Price Cap with No Floor provides upside if prices fall	Fixed price provides no upside if prices fall	Profit/Loss based on price differential
Values Biochar Sales	Yes	No	No
Remedies for Credit Delivery Failure	Cash/Credit Sweep, Plant Repossession	None	None
Total Upfront Value at Risk	100% less equipment value	100%	100%

## FINANCIAL ACCOUNTING FOR CARBON CREDITS

#### **Accounting for Carbon Offsets**

- Carbon offsets that are intended to be retired are typically considered intangible assets
- They are derecognized when they are retired, and the reporting entity records the gain/loss. Management judgement is required to determine the appropriate cost expense.
- Carbon offsets do not have an expiration date, and generally should not be impaired

#### **Fair Valuing Carbon Offsets**

- Carbon offsets are carried on the book at cost if there is no active market (ex. if price and quantity vary widely)
- If there is an active market, then the credits need to be revalued regularly compared to the market price, and any gains/losses recorded
- In instances with a signed offtake/loan contract, then the market approach, followed by cost approach would be most appropriate.

#### **Accounting for CBS Loans**

• CBS loans are recorded at amortized cost with the effective interest method, like any other financial loan

## APPENDIX FINANCIAL MODEL (1/4)

CARBON BACKED SECU	RITIES - FINANCIA	L MODEL ASSUMPTI	ONS		
PROJECT LEVEL	Value	Unit	INTEREST RATE (TO BORROWER	2)	
CapEx per Project	\$4,000,000	\$	UST10Y	4.35%	% p.a.
LTV	80.0%	%	Spread	15.65%	% p.a.
Equity Required	\$800,000	\$	Market Rate	20.00%	% p.a.
Biochar Production	6,160	tons/year	CBS Discount	-5.00%	% p.a.
Biochar Price	\$200	\$/ton bc	CBS Rate	15.00%	% p.a.
Price Escalator	2.00%	% yoy			
Feedstock Cost	\$50	\$/ton fs	INTEREST RATE (TO LENDER)		
Feedstock Yield Factor	20.0%	bc:fs	UST10Y	4.35%	% p.a.
			Investor Spread	5.00%	% p.a.
OpEx	\$100	\$/ton bc	Investor Coupon	9.35%	% p.a.
Expense Escalator	3.00%	% yoy			
Carbon Benefit	2.5	tCO2/ton bc	USDA LOAN GUARANTEE		
Tax Rate	21.0%	% p.a.	Guaranteed Portion of Loan	80.0%	of loan amt.
PP&E Useful Life	20	years	Origination Fee	3.00%	%
Technology	25MW biopower	ight upgrade	Retention Fee	0.55%	% p.a.
FUND LEVEL			CARBON CREDIT PRICE		
Initial Investment	\$30,000,000	\$	Market Rate @ t_0	\$185	\$/tCO2e
Tenor	6	years	Market Price Change	\$0	\$/tCO2e
Repayment Structure	Mortgage		Market Rate @ t_new	\$185	\$/tCO2e
Total Number of Projects	7.5	#			
Defaults	3.00%	% p.a.	CBS Discount	-\$20	\$/tCO2e
Management Fee	2.00%	% p.a.	CBS Price Cap	\$165	\$/tCO2e
_			CBS Price Floor	N/A	

## APPENDIX FINANCIAL MODEL (2/4)

EAR		0	1	2	3	4	5	6
UND LEVEL MODEL								
INCOME (CASH INFLOWS)								
Loan O/S Begin. Bal., interim			30,000,000	26,572,893	22,631,720	18,099,370	12,887,169	6,893,137
Less: Principal Amortiz.			(3,427,107)	(3,941,173)	(4,532,349)	(5,212,202)	(5,994,032)	(6,893,137)
Loan O/S End. Bal., interim		30,000,000	26,572,893	22,631,720	18,099,370	12,887,169	6,893,137	-
Defaults	3.00%		(900,000)	(797,187)	(678,952)	(542,981)	(386,615)	(206,794
Less: Loan Guarantee Recovery	80.0%		720,000	637,749	543,161	434,385	309,292	165,435
Net Loan Loss			(180,000)	(159,437)	(135,790)	(108,596)	(77,323)	(41,359)
Principal Payment, before Default Effects			3,427,107	3,941,173	4,532,349	5,212,202	5,994,032	6,893,137
Less: Net Loan Loss			(180,000)	(159,437)	(135,790)	(108,596)	(77,323)	(41,359
Less: Reduced Principal Payment	3.00%		(51,407)	(59,118)	(67,985)	(78,183)	(89,910)	(103,397
Principal Payment, after Default Effects			3,195,701	3,722,618	4,328,574	5,025,422	5,826,798	6,748,381
Loan O/S End. Bal., Net of Princ. Amort. and	Loan Loss	30,000,000	25,672,893	21,834,533	17,420,419	12,344,187	6,506,522	-
Avg. Loan O/S			27,836,446	23,753,713	19,627,476	14,882,303	9,425,355	3,253,261
Interest Payment	15.0%		4,175,467	3,563,057	2,944,121	2,232,345	1,413,803	487,989
Debt Service (P&I) Payments, incl. Loss Rec	overy and Default Effects		7,371,168	7,285,675	7,272,695	7,257,768	7,240,602	7,236,370
DS in Carbon Credits, at CBS Rate	165		44,674	44,156	44,077	43,986	43,882	43,857
DS in Carbon Credits, at Market Rate	185		39,844	39,382	39,312	39,231	39,138	39,116
Fund "Profit," in Carbon Credits	100		4,830	4,774	4,765	4,755	4,744	4,741
Fund "Profit," if Carbon Credits Cashed Out	185		893,475	883,112	881,539	879,729	877,649	877,136
Fund Management Fee	2.00%		556,729	475,074	392,550	297,646	188,507	65,065
Total Mgmt Fee	1,975,571		230,720	,	,			25,230
Total OPM Capital Required	31,975,571							
Total Fund Income			8,821,371	8,643,862	8,546,783	8,435,143	8,306,757	8,178,571
EXPENSE (CASH OUTFLOWS)								

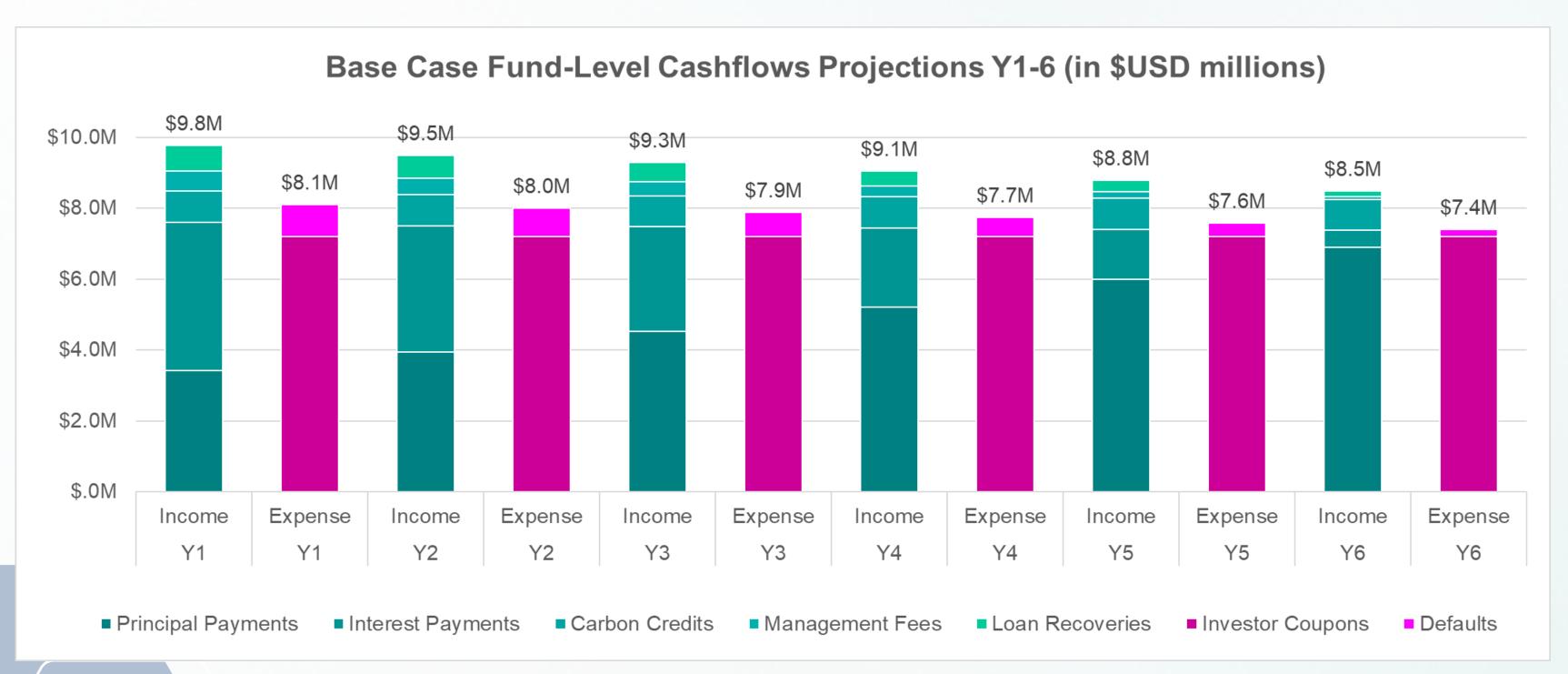
## APPENDIX FINANCIAL MODEL (3/4)

AR		0	1	2	3	4	5	6
Total Fund Income			8,821,371	8,643,862	8,546,783	8,435,143	8,306,757	8,178,571
EXPENSE (CASH OUTFLOWS)								
Interest Portion of Coupon			(2,989,716)	(2,595,818)	(2,165,090)	(1,694,089)	(1,179,050)	(615,85
Principal Portion of Coupon			(4,212,815)	(4,606,714)	(5,037,441)	(5,508,442)	(6,023,481)	(6,586,67)
Total Investor Coupons	9.35%		(7,202,531)	(7,202,531)	(7,202,531)	(7,202,531)	(7,202,531)	(7,202,53
Guarantee Origination Fee	3.00%		(900,000)	-	-	-	-	
Guarantee Retention Fee	0.55%		(153,100)	(130,645)	(107,951)	(81,853)	(51,839)	(17,89
Total Guarantee Expense			(1,053,100)	(130,645)	(107,951)	(81,853)	(51,839)	(17,89
Total Fund Expense			(8,255,632)	(7,333,177)	(7,310,482)	(7,284,384)	(7,254,371)	(7,220,42
NET INCOME (NET CASHFLOWS TO CBS)			565,740	1,310,685	1,236,301	1,150,759	1,052,387	958,14
Fund Discount Rate	8.0%							
Fund NPV	4,794,824							
Fund Mgmt Fee Account Begin Bal			1,975,571	1,418,842	943,768	551,218	253,572	65,06
Less: Mgmt. Fee Payment			(556,729)	(475,074)	(392,550)	(297,646)	(188,507)	(65,06
Fund Mgmt Fee Account End Bal		1,975,571	1,418,842	943,768	551,218	253,572	65,065	, ,
Fund Cash (No Distrib.) Begin. Bal.			1,975,571	1,984,582	2,820,192	3,663,944	4,517,057	5,380,93
Less: Mgmt Fee			(556,729)	(475,074)	(392,550)	(297,646)	(188,507)	(65,06
Add: Net Income / Retained Earnings			565,740	1,310,685	1,236,301	1,150,759	1,052,387	958,14
Fund Cash (No Distrib.) End. Bal.		1,975,571	1,984,582	2,820,192	3,663,944	4,517,057	5,380,937	6,274,01
Income-to-Expense Ratio (Annual)			6.9%	17.9%	16.9%	15.8%	14.5%	13.3
Income-to-Expense Ratio (Cumulative)			6.9%	12.0%	13.6%	14.1%	14.2%	14.0
RETURNS								
Investor Cashflows		(31,975,571)	7,202,531	7,202,531	7,202,531	7,202,531	7,202,531	7,202,53
Investor IRR	9.35%							

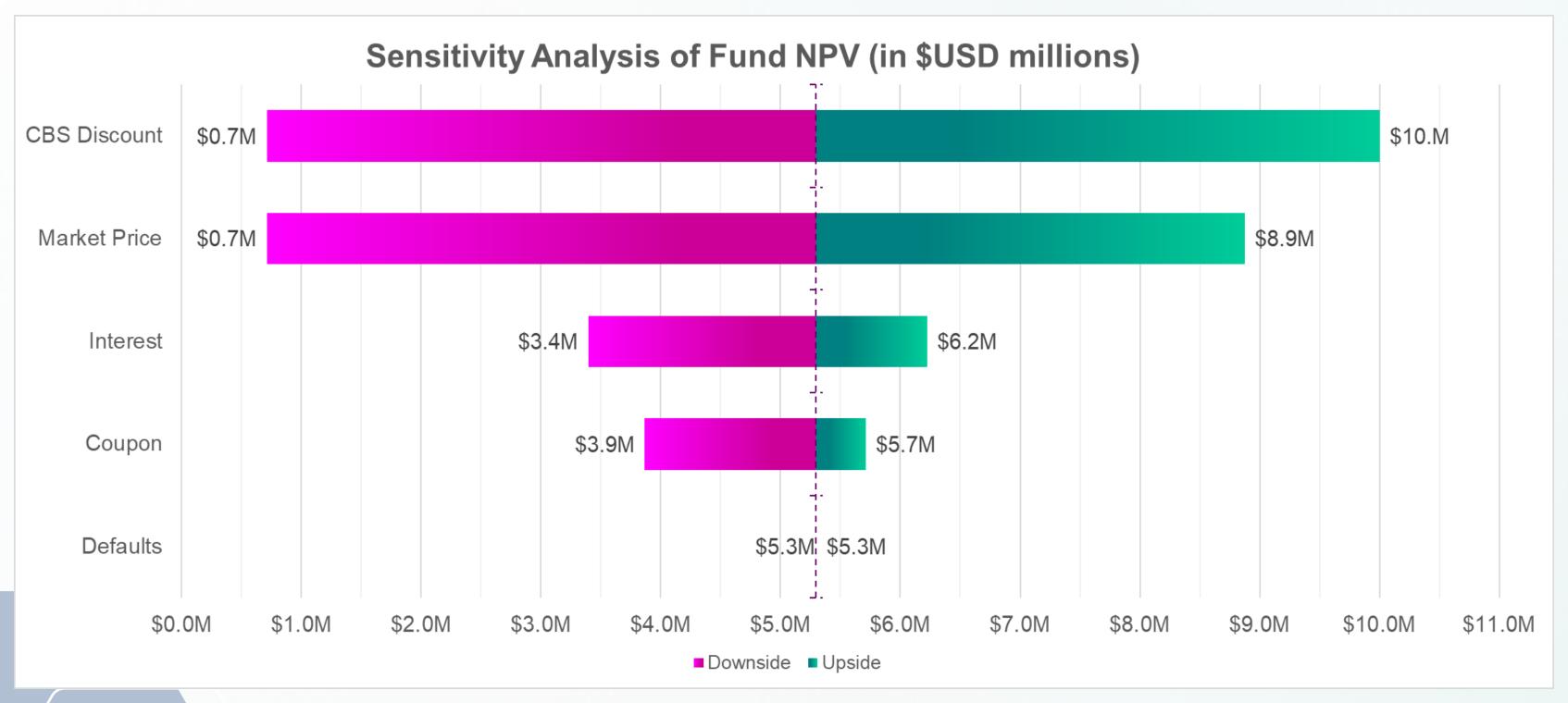
## APPENDIX FINANCIAL MODEL (4/4)

/EAR		0	1	2	3	4	5	6
RETURNS								
lavaataa Caabilavaa		(04.075.574)	7 202 524	7 202 524	7 202 524	7 000 504	7 202 524	7 000 504
Investor Cashflows	0.050/	(31,975,571)	7,202,531	7,202,531	7,202,531	7,202,531	7,202,531	7,202,531
Investor IRR	9.35%							
PORTFOLIO LEVEL								
Interest Income (from Borrowers)	15.0%		4,175,467	3,563,057	2,944,121	2,232,345	1,413,803	487,989
Interest Expense (Coupons to Lenders)			(2,989,716)	(2,595,818)	(2,165,090)	(1,694,089)	(1,179,050)	(615,854
Net Interest Income			1,185,751	967,239	779,031	538,256	234,753	(127,865
Avg. Interest Earning Assets			27,836,446	23,753,713	19,627,476	14,882,303	9,425,355	3,253,261
Net Interest Margin (Per Year)			4.3%	4.1%	4.0%	3.6%	2.5%	-3.99
Net Interest Margin (Cumulative)			4.3%	4.2%	4.1%	4.0%	3.9%	3.6%
Portfolio Cashflows (before coupons)		(31,975,571)	8,264,642	8,168,787	8,154,234	8,137,497	8,118,250	8,113,506
Portfolio IRR	13.76%							

## APPENDIX ANALYSIS: CASHFLOW PROJECTIONS

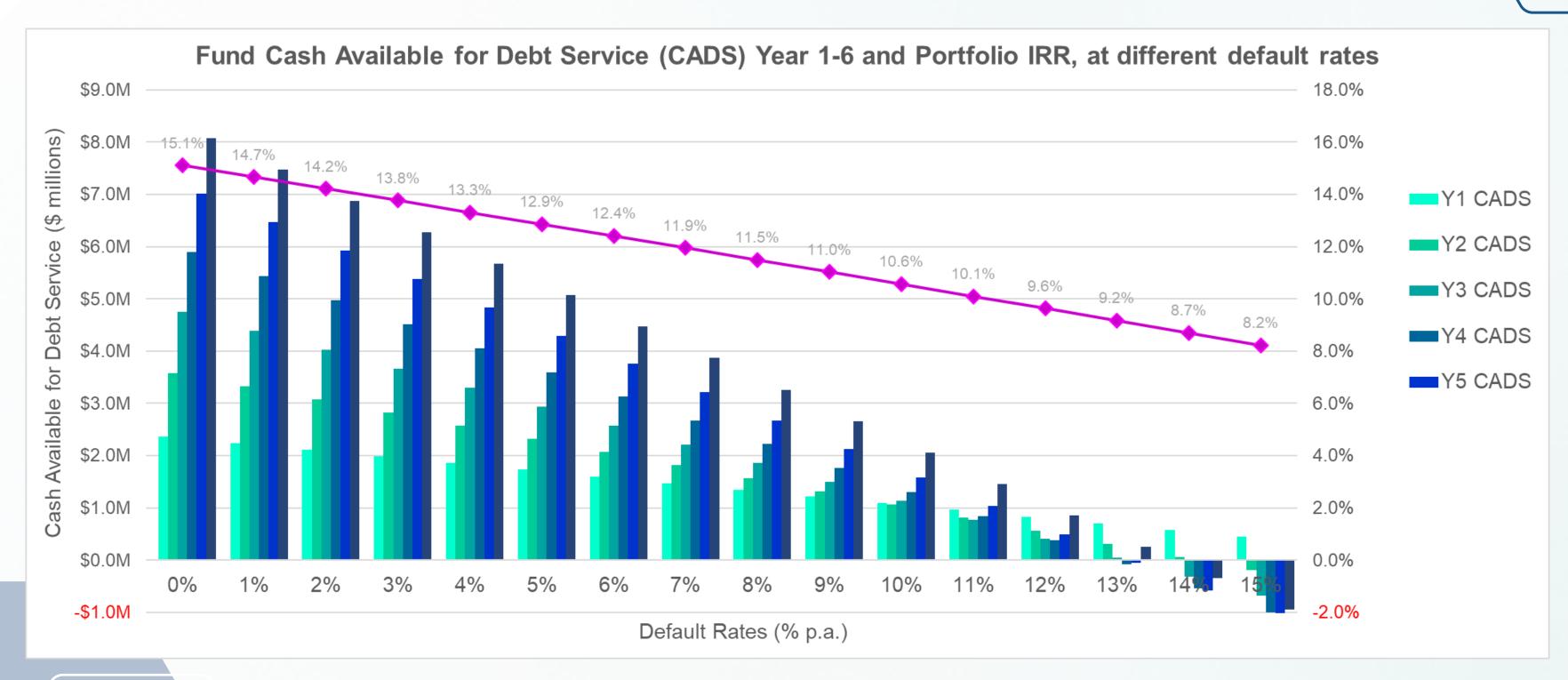


## **APPENDIX**ANALYSIS: SENSITIVITY



Note: Each line item was stressed +/- 10% to produce the above effects

## **APPENDIX**ANALYSIS: DEFAULTS STRESS TEST



Interpretation: Defaults must exceed 13% before Fund is at risk of delinquency on coupon payments.

At this point, Portfolio IRR is less than 9.25%, which is the coupon rate to Lenders.

**APPENDIX**ANALYSIS: PRICE VOLATILITY SCENARIOS

					(	CBS DI	SCOUN	T OFF I	MARKE	T PRICI	E (result	s show	n below	as Fun	d-Level	NPV, in	\$USD	millions	:)			
	4.8	-\$100	-\$90	-\$80	-\$70	-\$60	-\$50	-\$40	-\$30	-\$20	-\$10	0	+\$10	+\$20	+\$30	+\$40	+\$50	+\$60	+\$70	+\$80	+\$90	+\$100
	+\$100	79.9	68.0	58.4	50.5	43.8	38.1	33.2	29.0	25.2	21.9	18.9	16.3	13.9	11.7	9.7	7.9	6.2	4.7	3.3	1.9	0.7
	+\$90	76.0	64.5	55.2	47.6	41.1	35.6	30.9	26.8	23.2	20.0	17.1	14.5	12.2	10.1	8.2	6.4	4.8	3.4	2.0	0.7	0.7
Щ	+\$80	72.0	61.0	52.0	44.6	38.4	33.1	28.6	24.6	21.1	18.0	15.3	12.8	10.6	8.5	6.7	5.0	3.5	2.0	0.7	0.7	0.7
HANG	+\$70	68.0	57.4	48.8	41.7	35.7	30.6	26.3	22.4	19.1	16.1	13.5	11.1	8.9	7.0	5.2	3.6	2.1	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7
ij	+\$60	64.1	53.9	45.6	38.8	33.0	28.1	23.9	20.3	17.0	14.2	11.6	9.3	7.3	5.4	3.7	2.1	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7
Ö	+\$50	60.1	50.3	42.4	35.8	30.3	25.7	21.6	18.1	15.0	12.3	9.8	7.6	5.6	3.8	2.2	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7
PRICE	+\$40	56.2	46.8	39.2	32.9	27.6	23.2	19.3	15.9	13.0	10.3	8.0	5.9	4.0	2.3	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7
<b>8</b>	+\$30	52.2	43.2	36.0	30.0	25.0	20.7	17.0	13.7	10.9	8.4	6.2	4.2	2.4	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7
-	+\$20	48.2	39.7	32.8	27.1	22.3	18.2	14.6	11.6	8.9	6.5	4.4	2.4	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7
RKE	+\$10	44.3	36.2	29.6	24.1	19.6	15.7	12.3	9.4	6.8	4.6	2.5	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7
MAR	0	40.3	32.6	26.4	21.2	16.9	13.2	10.0	7.2	4.8	2.6	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7
	-\$10	36.4	29.1	23.2	18.3	14.2	10.7	7.7	5.1	2.8	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7
REDIT	-\$20	32.4	25.5	20.0	15.4	11.5	8.2	5.4	2.9	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7
2	-\$30	28.4	22.0	16.7	12.4	8.8	5.7	3.0	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7
O	-\$40	24.5	18.4	13.5	9.5	6.1	3.2	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7
RBON	-\$50	20.5	14.9	10.3	6.6	3.4 0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7
8	-\$60	16.6	11.3	7.1	3.6		0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7
₹	-\$70	12.6 8.6	7.8 4.3	3.9 0.7	0.7 0.7	0.7 0.7	0.7 0.7	0.7 0.7	0.7	0.7 0.7	0.7 0.7	0.7 0.7	0.7 0.7	0.7	0.7 0.7	0.7 0.7	0.7 0.7	0.7 0.7	0.7	0.7 0.7	0.7 0.7	0.7 0.7
	-\$80 -\$90	4.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7 0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7 0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7 0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7
			0.7		0.7	0.7									0.7						0.7	
	-\$100	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7

Interpretation: If carbon credit market price drops below CBS price cap, Fund NPV = \$0.7M. At this point, Fund gets zero "profit" from carbon credit arbitrage, and only earns interest and fee income.

## **APPENDIX**EXAMPLE: PRICE CAP / NO FLOOR MECHANICS

	<b>Null Case</b> Without CBS No Price Change	<b>Base Case</b> With CBS No Price Change	<b>Upside Case</b> With CBS Price Increase +\$10	<b>Downside Case</b> With CBS Price Decrease -\$10
Borrower repayment	\$1,000 / \$100 per credit =	\$1,000 / \$90 per credit =	\$1,000 / \$90 per credit =	\$1,000 / \$90 per credit =
at CBS Price Cap:	10 credits	11.11 credits	11.11 credits	11.1 credits
Fund receives	10 credits * \$100 =	11.11 credits * \$100 =	11.11 credits * \$110 =	11.11 credits * \$90 =
market value of:	\$1,000	\$1,111	\$1,222	\$1,000
Fund "profit" from arbitrage:	\$0	\$111	\$222	\$O

#### **Assumptions**

- Cash to Credit Conversion = Debt Service / CBS Price
- Debt Service = \$1,000
- Carbon Credit Market Price = \$100 / tCO2e
- CBS Price Cap (10% Discount) = \$90 / tCO2e

## EXAMPLE DEVELOPER FINANCIALS

- \$4.0M CapEx
  - \$3.2M Loan principal, 80% leverage
- 17,600 ton/year processing capacity
  - 6,160 tons biochar output (@ \$150/ton)
  - 17,433 tCO2e credits (@ \$185/ton)
- \$3.8M Revenue (75% from credits)
- \$0.9M Biomass feedstock cost (@ \$50/ton)

	CBS Loan (6 years)
EBITDA	\$1.6M
Debt Service	\$1.06M
Average DSCR	1.43x
Levered IRR	38.7%

