



PRESS RELEASE

Sugarcane giant Atvos and biochar leader NetZero announce pioneering partnership in Brazil

- The partnership aims at deploying NetZero's biochar system in Atvos' supply chain as part of the group's sustainability roadmap – a first in the sugarcane industry.
- Construction of a first biochar factory is due to start by end of 2025 in the Brazilian state of Goiás, where Atvos runs integrated farming and processing operations, with already plans for further deployments.
- Biochar is a soil amendment produced from residual biomass that allows to increase soil fertility, remove carbon from the atmosphere, and reduce emissions from farming operations – all at once.

Paris (France) & São Paulo (SP, Brazil), 23 September 2025 – Atvos, one of the largest biofuels producers in Brazil, and NetZero, a leader in the industrial production of biochar, have signed a memorandum of understanding to deploy biochar in Atvos' supply chain.

Before year end, pending regulatory approval, the companies plan to start construction of a biochar factory in Caçu, a municipality of Goiás, the second-largest sugarcane-producing state in Brazil. The factory, to be built inside Atvos' Rio Claro agroindustrial plant, will produce over 6,500 tonnes of biochar per year using 'Gen2', NetZero's new modular biochar-production system. It will process sugarcane residues — bagasse and leaves – which are today burned or left to decompose. The resulting biochar will be applied back on Atvos' sugarcane fields, allowing for a fully local and circular model.

The partnership started in August with an 800-tonne agronomic experiment – one of the world's largest with biochar – to identify the best application methods ahead of production. Biochar improves water and nutrient retention, boosting productivity while reducing fertilizer use. These benefits are key in the decarbonization journey of Atvos, as fertilizers contribute to a significant share of the carbon footprint of sugarcane.

In addition to supply chain benefits, the project will actively remove carbon from the atmosphere. Through photosynthesis, sugarcane plants capture CO₂ from the air; biochar production locks this carbon permanently in the soil. The factory's initial capacity will be able to remove over 12,500 tonnes of CO₂ equivalent from the atmosphere every year.

This site will be one of the first implementations of "NetZero One", an all-in-one package of technology and services developed by NetZero for third parties willing to deploy biochar with the highest standards of safety, quality, and performance. With 4 projects already implemented in Brazil, NetZero was focusing until now on the coffee sector. This move to sugarcane is part of a broader biomass and technology strategy that was recently awarded in the XPRIZE Carbon Removal, a global competition funded by the Musk Foundation of which NetZero is a winner.

Axel Reinaud, Co-founder & CEO of NetZero, said: *"If you are serious about scaling biochar, you must work with sugarcane – the world's most-produced crop. Brazil alone represents 40% of global volumes and Atvos is one of the leading players in the country. We are proud to partner with them to start scaling sugarcane-based biochar."*

Bruno Serapião, CEO of Atvos, said: *"Building a biochar plant strengthens Atvos' commitment to becoming a benchmark in climate change agendas, because in addition to improving fertilizer absorption in our operations, this input has the potential to sequester more than 12.000 tons of carbon dioxide from the atmosphere per year". "This is another important step in showing that sugarcane ethanol can become one of the most valuable energy solutions with the lowest carbon footprint in the world, with real potential to even become a biofuel with negative emissions in the near future," he adds.*

ABOUT NETZERO

NetZero was founded in 2021 by Axel Reinaud, Dr. Jean Jouzel, Aimé Njiakin, Olivier Reinaud, and Pedro de Figueiredo. Its mission is to bring at scale biochar, one of the few climate solutions that can durably remove carbon from the atmosphere, as well as one of the few agricultural solutions allowing to reconcile productivity and sustainability.

By leveraging biochar in the tropics along a unique model, NetZero simultaneously tackles three pressing challenges in developing countries: climate change, sustainable agriculture, and overall rural development. The company is present in Cameroon and Brazil, operating mid-size industrial plants and currently working with over 600 farmers.

NetZero is a winner of Musk Foundation's XPRIZE Carbon Removal competition, a recipient of the Efficient Solution label from Solar Impulse Foundation, a Green Tech prize winner of the Tech for Good Awards, and develops carbon removal projects certified under the Puro Standard. NetZero's mid-term goal is to have removed more than 5 million tonnes of CO₂ from the atmosphere by 2030, while having improved the livelihoods of tens of thousands of farmers.

Learn more at: www.netzero.green

ABOUT ATVOS

Atvos is one of Brazil's leading producers of biofuels. The company also produces VHP sugar and clean, renewable electricity using sugarcane biomass. From this raw material, Atvos has the capacity to produce approximately 3.3 billion liters of ethanol—enough to power 60 million compact cars—along with 750 thousand tons of VHP sugar, sweetening millions of celebrations, and around 4.2 thousand GWh of electricity through biomass cogeneration, enough to supply over 20 million people.

With eight agro-industrial units located in the states of Goiás, Mato Grosso, Mato Grosso do Sul, and São Paulo, Atvos employs over 11,000 people and plays an important role in the social and economic development of 23 municipalities. As a key player in the production of clean, renewable energy, the company is one of Brazil's main issuers of Decarbonization Credits, having renewed its RenovaBio certification for all units through 2028. In addition, Atvos has obtained the ISCC EU, ISCC PLUS, ISCC CORSIA, and ISCC CORSIA PLUS certifications, allowing it to sell sugarcane-based products—including biofuels—to the European Union, Asia, and countries across the Global South. These achievements reinforce its commitment to leading the global energy transition.

For more information, click [here](#).

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