CLAIMS

1. An information processing apparatus comprising:

a demand amount acquisition part that acquires a demand amount of carbon credit; and

a method allocation part that allocates one or more creation methods, required for creating carbon credits corresponding to the demand amount, to the extent that they are feasible for each of one or more carbon credit creators with reference to i) a method database storing a plurality of the creation methods for creating carbon credits and respective carbon credit creation capacities of the plurality of creation methods in association with each other and ii) a creator database storing one or more of the creators and one or more of the creation methods feasible for each of the creators in association with each other.

2. The information processing apparatus of claim 1, further comprising:

a request generation part that generates a request to one or more of the carbon credit creators to implement one or more of the creation methods;

a decided method acquisition part that acquires one or more decided methods that are one or more of the creation methods and their extent, and that one or more of the carbon credit creators have decided to implement; and

a total supply calculation part that calculates a total supply that is a total of carbon credits that can be created by the decided methods, on the basis of one or more of the decided methods.

3. The information processing apparatus of claim 2, wherein

the total supply calculation part calculates the total supply by subtracting a) greenhouse gas emissions required for introducing the decided methods, in reference gas emission terms, from b) a reduction amount of greenhouse gas emissions due to the introduction of one or more of the decided methods, in predetermined reference gas emission terms.

4. The information processing apparatus of claim 2 or 3, wherein

the total supply calculation part calculates the total supply by subtracting a) greenhouse gas emissions required for introducing the decided methods, in reference gas emission terms, from b) a reduction amount of greenhouse gas emissions due to the introduction of one or more of the decided methods, in predetermined reference gas emission terms, and then further subtracting c) greenhouse gas emissions before introducing one or more of the decided methods, in reference gas emissions terms.

5. The information processing apparatus according to any one of claims 2 to 4, further comprising:

a demand satisfaction determination part that determines a size relationship between the total supply calculated by the total supply calculation part and the demand amount acquired by the demand amount acquisition part; and

a demand adjustment part that acquires one or more procurement sources of carbon credits so that an additional supply from the procurement sources is equal to or greater than a difference between the demand amount and the total supply, if the total supply is less than the demand amount.

6. The information processing apparatus according to any one of claims 1 to 5, wherein

the plurality of creation methods for creating carbon credits include a creation method involving a product as an outcome,

the demand amount acquisition part further acquires designation of a product to purchase, and

the method allocation part allocates the creation method so as to include a creation method involving production of the product designated for purchasing.

7. The information processing apparatus according to any one of claims 1 to 5, wherein

the plurality of creation methods for creating carbon credits include a creation method involving a product as an outcome,

the creator database includes balance information for specifying a balance between a yield of product based on a creation method involving production of the product and a carbon credit creation capacity, and

the method allocation part includes:

an optimization part that allocates one or more of the creation methods required for creating carbon credits corresponding to the demand amount to the creator, by optimizing an objective function incorporating the balance information as a constraint.

8. The information processing apparatus according to any one of claims 1 to 7, further comprising:

a combination database that stores creation method combination information indicating a condition to be imposed when different creation methods are used in

combination, wherein

the method allocation part includes:

an optimization part that allocates one or more of the creation methods required for creating carbon credits corresponding to the demand amount to the creator, by optimizing an objective function incorporating the creation method combination information as a constraint.

9. The information processing apparatus of claim 6 or 7, further comprising:

an outcome selling part that sells at least some of an outcome to a potential purchaser of the outcome resulting from a creation method involving a product as an outcome.

10. An information processing method, executed by a processor, the method comprising the steps of:

acquiring a demand amount of carbon credit; and

allocating one or more creation methods, required for creating carbon credits corresponding to the demand amount, to the extent that they are feasible for each of one or more carbon credit creators with reference to i) a method database storing a plurality of the creation methods for creating carbon credits and respective carbon credit creation capacities of the plurality of creation methods in association with each other and ii) a creator database storing one or more of the creators and one or more of the creation methods feasible for each of the creators in association with each other.

11. A program for causing a computer to realize the functions of:

acquiring a demand amount of carbon credit; and

allocating one or more creation methods, required for creating carbon credits corresponding to the demand amount, to the extent that they are feasible for each of one or more carbon credit creators with reference to i) a method database storing a plurality of the creation methods for creating carbon credits and respective carbon credit creation capacities of the plurality of creation methods in association with each other and ii) a creator database storing one or more of the creators and one or more of the creation methods feasible for each of the creators in association with each other.

12. An information processing system comprising:

a terminal used by a carbon credit buyer; and

an information processing apparatus connected to the terminal via a communication network, wherein

the information processing apparatus includes:

a demand amount acquisition part that acquires a demand amount of carbon credit; and

a method allocation part that allocates one or more creation methods, required for creating carbon credits corresponding to the demand amount, to the extent that they are feasible for each of one or more carbon credit creators with reference to i) a method database storing a plurality of the creation methods for creating carbon credits and respective carbon credit creation capacities of the plurality of creation methods in association with each other and ii) a creator database storing one or more of the creators and one or more of the creation methods feasible for each of the creators in association with each other.