

Executive Summary of the Planet Positive Protocol

Executive Summary

Planet Positive is a mark of certification which signifies change; a transparent and rigorous standard of compliance for companies and individuals wishing to advertise and enjoy the market benefits associated with environmental responsibility.

“A company, product, service or an individual is Planet Positive if it has measured and verified a net positive impact on our planet, its ecosystems and its people.”

In order to display the Planet Positive identity, businesses or individuals must comply with this Planet Positive Protocol. The Protocol requires that individuals or organisations measure their carbon footprint, make commitments to substantially reduce it, and offset the remainder by at least 110%. Once complete, parties may report their reductions in their Annual Sustainability Report, gaining marketing benefit from displaying the mark, and publicising their support of the initiative.

Business Operation - Carbon Footprint Methodology

The methodology employed by Planet Positive is based on the World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD) & World Resources Institute (WRI) Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Protocol. This Protocol should be referred to for further information to support this written methodology.

APPLICATION OF METHODOLOGY

In order to achieve Planet Positive certification, a corporation must:

- Quantify its GHG emissions (carbon footprint) using the Carbon Footprint Approved Methodology.
- Commit to a direct GHG emissions reduction target and communicate how they will obtain this reduction target in the form of an Emissions Reduction Action Plan. This Action Plan and GHG target must be communicated publicly. Offset the entire remaining footprint, plus a minimum of 10% extra using carbon credits from projects that have been reviewed against the Planet Positive Carbon Credit Selection Policy all significant GHG emissions associated with the activities of the organisation.
- Publish and record:
 - The footprint of GHG emissions
 - Emissions Reduction Action Plan
 - Offset portfolio on the Planet Positive retirement registry.

DEFINITION OF BOUNDARIES – BUSINESS

The term Planet Positive business indicates that all significant GHG emissions associated with the office activities of the organisation have been measured, reduced and offset by 110%.

Organisations or businesses seeking Planet Positive certification must ensure they have included the following sources of GHG emissions for all sites seeking certification that are owned or under their direct management control (as defined by the WBCSD/WRI GHG Protocol, Section 3):

Companies report GHG emissions from sources they own or control as scope 1. Direct GHG emissions are principally the result of the following types of activities undertaken by the company:

- Generation of electricity, heat, or steam. These emissions result from combustion of fuels in stationary sources, e.g., boilers, furnaces, turbines.
- Transportation of employees, and waste. These emissions result from the combustion of fuels in company owned/controlled mobile combustion sources (e.g., trucks, trains, ships, airplanes, buses, and cars)
 - Emissions from the generation of purchased electricity that is consumed in its owned or controlled equipment or operations.
- Transport-related activities:
 - Employee business travel in non-company owned vehicles.
 - Employees commuting to and from work (optional).
 - Transportation of waste in non-company owned vehicles.
- Extraction, production, and transportation of fuels consumed in the generation of electricity for office activities.
- GHG emissions associated with the disposal of waste generated in operations in company and non-company owned vehicles.
- Procurement of paper for internal and external use (life cycle analysis).

CALCULATION OF EMISSIONS

The footprint measurement must cover the six Kyoto gases (CO₂, SF₆, CH₄, N₂O, HFCs, PFCs) and emissions should be calculated for a one-year period (period to be clearly stated). A minimum of 10 months data should be used for the purpose of extrapolation.

Business Activity - Carbon Footprint Methodology

APPLICATION OF METHODOLOGY

In order to achieve Planet Positive certification for an activity (e.g. flight or conference), a business must:

- Quantify the GHG emissions (carbon footprint) associated with the specific activity using the Planet Positive Carbon Footprint Methodology.
- Offset all significant GHG emissions associated with the activity of the organisation to a minimum of 110% of the footprint by purchasing carbon credits from projects that have been reviewed against the Planet Positive Carbon Credit Selection Policy.
- Publish and record its footprint of GHG emissions, its Emissions Reduction Action Plan and its offset portfolio on the Planet Positive retirement registry.

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DEFINITION OF BOUNDARIES – ACTIVITY

- The term Planet Positive Activity indicates that all significant GHG emissions associated with the activity of have been reduced and offset by at least 110%.
- It should be ensured that Activities described as Planet Positive have offset to at least 110% the following sources of GHG emissions (as defined by the WBCSD/WRI GHG Protocol, Section 3):
 - Direct GHG emissions from stationary combustion sources, process emissions and fugitives from sites and company owned vehicles (mobile sources) (Scope 1, WBCSD/WRI).
 - Indirect GHG emissions from the generation of imported electricity and heat (Scope 2, WBCSD/WRI).
 - Other indirect GHG emissions (Scope 3, WBCSD/WRI).
 - All applied as relevant.

CALCULATION OF EMISSIONS

The footprint measurement must cover the six Kyoto gases (CO₂, SF₆, CH₄, N₂O, HFCs, PFCs) and emissions should be calculated for the time period of the activity (period to be clearly stated).

Product - Carbon Footprint Methodology

The Product Carbon Footprint Methodology is based on EN ISO 14040 (Environmental Management -- Life cycle assessment -- Principles and framework) and BS EN ISO 14044:2006 (Environmental Management -- Life Cycle Assessment -- Requirements and Guidelines) international standards.

APPLICATION OF METHODOLOGY

In order to achieve Planet Positive certification, the product manufacturer must:

- Quantify the GHG emissions associated with the production, use and disposal of the product using the Planet Positive Carbon Footprint Methodology
- Develop and implement an Action Plan to reduce GHG emissions associated with the product
- Offset a minimum of 110% of the carbon footprint using carbon credits from projects that have been reviewed against the Planet Positive Project Selection Policy all significant GHG emissions associated with the product over its life cycle
- Publish and record its footprint of GHG emissions, its Emissions Reduction Action Plan and its offset portfolio on the Planet Positive retirement registry.

DEFINITION OF BOUNDARIES - PRODUCT

- The term Planet Positive Product indicates that all significant GHG emissions associated with the life-cycle of the product have been offset to a minimum of 110%.
- Organisations wishing to apply the Planet Positive logo to their product should offset a minimum of 110% of the following sources of GHG emissions (also see Figure 1) using the Planet Positive Carbon Footprint Methodology:
 - Extraction of raw materials
 - Transportation of raw materials to user
 - Manufacturing Processes (including GHG emissions from imported electricity used in the process but excluding emissions associated with the manufacture of processing machinery or infrastructure for processing plants).
 - Intermediate products
 - Transportation of product to user
 - Extraction of raw materials for packaging
 - Packaging and storage process
 - Installation (if applicable)
 - Product use and maintenance (where applicable)
 - Product disposal.

CALCULATION OF EMISSIONS

The footprint measurement must cover the six Kyoto gases (CO₂, SF₆, CH₄, N₂O, HFCs, PFCs) and emissions should be calculated for a one-year period (period to be clearly stated). A minimum of 10 months data should be used which can then be extrapolated.

Reduction

Every organisation must undertake an Energy Survey and commit to an Emissions Reduction Action Plan before they can use Planet Positive certification. The Emissions Reduction Action Plan will include an emissions reduction target to be met within a year. This is applicable to any business operation and activity or product certification.

The result of the carbon footprint should be calculated using the global warming potential of emissions as described in the IPCC (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change) method which calculates the CO₂-equivalent of GHG emissions for the time horizon of 100 years.

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Offsetting

Planet Positive only sanctions carbon offset projects of the highest environmental quality. Planet Positive has developed and implemented the following Project Selection Policy which is adhered to when selecting suitable carbon offset projects.

Planet Positive does not currently endorse afforestation or reforestation projects due to their lack of permanence and the unquantifiable nature of the associated reductions. In order to reduce delivery risk, Planet Positive only endorses current or historic carbon credits.

Planet Positive is committed to reviewing the Project Selection Policy on an annual basis.

PROJECT SELECTION POLICY

All projects must:

- Pass the Additionality Test under the Kyoto Protocol.
- Show triple-bottom Line (3BL) benefit.
- Have taken place with local consent.
- Have a robust baseline and monitoring methodology in place.
- Be documented to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change Small Scale Project Design Document (UNFCCC SSPDD) standard.
- Have a Monitoring Plan.
- Be verified by a Designated Operational Entities (DOE).

Corporate Social Responsibility Project Policy

Planet Positive offers Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Projects as part of the 'Carbon Credit Exchange' Platform. Each dcarbon8 credit retired includes a contribution to these projects and this contribution and the project details can be reported in their Annual Sustainability Report.

All CSR projects approved by Planet Positive will have a carbon reduction component, however, this will be considered in conjunction with other complimentary triple-bottom line benefits. This will ensure each project has social, economic and environmental benefit to the local area and communities.

For a complete copy of the protocol, please contact dcarbon8. Further information may be obtained by visiting www.planet-positive.org