



# Climate Neutrality at WFP

## WFP: Leading greenhouse gas management in the UN system

The Climate Neutral UN initiative was established by Secretary General Ban Ki-moon in 2007, urging UN agencies to lead by example in addressing climate change. WFP has been a leading contributor by:

- Conducting yearly greenhouse gas (GHG) footprints of global operations from 2008;
- Reducing emissions by almost 10 percent between 2008 and 2013;
- Attaining climate neutrality since September 2015, purchasing high quality carbon credits to offset 2014 emissions through the UNFCCC's Adaptation Fund.

## Three steps to Climate Neutrality

### 1. Report: in line with international standards

WFP is one of the few UN organizations to reach out to its most remote locations from the start. The GHG emissions boundary agreed by the UN covers energy use and refrigerant gases in premises, fuel use in trucks, passenger vehicles and aircraft controlled by WFP, and duty travel via commercial aviation. WFP also reports emissions from humanitarian air freight.

### 2. Reduce: to the extent possible

WFP's GHG emission reduction strategy prioritizes no-cost and low-cost energy efficiency measures including:

- Increasing remote conferencing and avoiding non-emergency travel;

- Fuel efficient driver training for more than 1900 personnel;
- Reducing energy/fuel use through energy-efficient lighting, equipment, control systems and building fabric upgrades;
- Training, advice, and campaigns to drive energy efficient behaviour and culture.

WFP's experience shows that the biggest financial and environmental gains are often found in remote locations dependent on diesel generators, 4WDs and trucks, or aircraft. WFP is investing in replacing vehicles and cooling/heating systems with more efficient models. Where cost effective, right-sized renewable energy systems, including solar or wind power and solar hot water, are being installed. Through an Energy Efficiency Programme, WFP has so far invested US\$2.8 million in 43 projects that are expected to save 2,321 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>e and US\$1.4 million in energy/fuel costs per year.

### 3. Offset: emissions that cannot yet be avoided

Offsetting is WFP's way of recognizing that humanitarian actions that save lives today carry a carbon cost for future generations. In line with UN strategy, WFP purchases high quality, Clean Development Mechanism-certified carbon credits for 100 percent of emissions within the common UN boundary. Proceeds from Adaptation Fund Credits provide additional help to developing countries as they adapt to climate change that is already happening.

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WFP Global Emissions by Source: 2008 - 2014



**After reducing GHG emissions by 10% over 5 years, humanitarian air operations increased five-fold in 2014.**

## Our ongoing commitment

WFP recognizes that deep cuts in our energy and fuel use are needed, even in the most challenging environments, to do our part in avoiding the worst effects of climate change.

We remain focussed on reducing GHG emissions first. Innovations in highly efficient lighting, cooling, insulation, vehicles, and information exchange are helping us to embed change at scale. Ongoing energy and fuel efficiency projects help drive down running costs and make switching to renewables in remote areas more affordable, as well as reducing offsetting costs over time. WFP's climate neutrality commitment will be affirmed yearly, through the purchase and retirement of high quality carbon credits.



**Better co-ordination among teams planning field missions in Ethiopia, is helping to reduce the number of vehicle journeys, saving on fuel and maintenance costs.**

## Key Achievements:

**2007:** UN Secretary General announces Climate Neutral initiative on World Environment Day, June 5.

**2008:** Interagency working group formed. WFP undertakes GHG footprint of headquarters premises in Rome.

**2009:** UN agencies report first ever GHG footprint for the UN, using 2008 as the baseline year. WFP footprints 93 countries globally.

**2010:** WFP Helpdesk: [wfp.greening@wfp.org](mailto:wfp.greening@wfp.org) established; Nepal country office supported to reduce energy by 30 percent and install 20kWp solar panel system; publishes guidelines for eco-driving.

**2011:** WFP launches online resource GreeningWFP; implements carbon tax on vehicles.

**2012:** WFP publishes first GHG Emission Reduction Strategy.

**2013:** Energy Efficiency Programme launched, to part-fund energy saving projects in field locations. Passive cooling technologies trialed at four sites in the Sahel to keep nutrient-enriched food at safe temperatures with little or no air conditioning.

**2014:** WFP reports GHG reductions of almost 10 percent from 2008 to 2013.

**2015:** More than 200 donated new trucks improve fleet efficiency by 30 percent in South Sudan, and help WFP reduce reliance on expensive air freight. WFP purchases high quality carbon credits from UNFCCC's Adaptation Fund for 2014 GHGs and declares climate neutrality.