



Fact sheet: Minimising the Cancun carbon footprint

An estimated 15,000 people representing Governments, NGOs, IGOs and media will travel to Cancun for the conference. The main objective of the organisers is to minimise greenhouse gas emissions as far as possible. Whatever cannot be avoided, is to be offset. In addition, every delegate can make a difference by, for example, choosing the most sustainable form of international and local transport.

Greenhouse gas emissions fall into two parts: international travel, which forms by far the largest part; and secondly, local emissions of the host country covering such things as energy consumed and waste generated at the conference venue, hotel accommodation and local transportation.

What steps is the Mexican Government taking to minimise emissions?

The Mexican Government has identified sustainability as one of its top priorities for the Conference. To this end it has publicised a number of steps:

- All delegates are encouraged to offset their COP-related emissions. They can calculate their carbon footprint on line at computer terminals at the conference and can contribute to a range of offset projects in Mexico and elsewhere.
- A large amount of the energy used during the COP is to come from renewable sources using photovoltaic cells and wind generation.
- Delegations of participating countries will be provided with hybrid vehicles for their transfers during the Conference.
- An eco-efficiency hotel programme is expected to avoid the consumption of approximately 200,000 m³ of water and the release of 4,000 tons of CO₂ into the atmosphere.
- Around 10,000 trees and bushes will be planted in Cancun.

Details can be found at: <http://www.cc2010.mx/en/about/cop16cmp6-sustainability/>

What about UNFCCC secretariat emissions?

The secretariat uses renewable electricity for all power supply in the premises. A sustainable travel policy is in place, with routes and modes of travel always being taken into consideration, and the use of video-conferences is encouraged whenever possible. Governments have



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authorised the UN Climate Change Secretariat at COP16 in Mexico to offset emissions from travel.