

CLIMATE NEUTRAL NOW PLEDGE APPENDIX

Thank you for making a pledge to Climate Neutral Now. To validate your pledge, please complete the form below by answering each one of the following questions and send this document to the UNFCCC secretariat at ClimateNeutralNow@unfccc.int

Please refer to the [explanatory document](#) for further information on how to complete this appendix.

STEP 1: MEASURE YOUR GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

1. What is the reporting period for this appendix? (please indicate the calendar or fiscal year, or another period as applicable)

01/01/2020 – 31/12/2020

One-off initiative

2. What standard or methodology are you using when quantifying your GHG emissions?

Other

ICOS developed its own methodology, described below.

Each employee of ICOS ERIC (Head Office + Director of Carbon Portal) reports two types of emissions related to their home-work-home (HWH) commuting and to their business travels (BT). The latter include all modes of transport from the starting point (home or office) to the end point (hotel, conference venue...).

For the flight emissions, the Carbon Footprint Calculator (www.carbonfootprint.com/calculator.aspx) is used. Radiative forcing is systematically included in the calculation.

For the other modes of transport, the conversion factors of the UK Government are used as the best possible approximation for the activities of ICOS (although they are not happening in the UK). For 2020, the 2018 emission factors were used (www.gov.uk/government/publications/greenhouse-gas-reporting-conversion-factors-2018). This represents a compromise between the accuracy of the calculated emissions and the amount of work it requires from each member of ICOS ERIC.

It is important that the calculation and the reporting, which is made by every individual, are made as easy as possible to lower the threshold for participation (which, in a first attempt, is voluntary).

ICOS ERIC considers the good will of the employees has been acceptable in 2020.

The emissions are calculated as a total but also broken down between HWH and BT. They are also calculated per Full time Equivalent (FTE) as the number of employees varies through the year. This allows to set reduction targets that are more realistic and achievable.

3. Which categories are included in your estimation of emissions?

- Electricity generation
- Heat generation
- Heat consumption
- Electricity consumption
- Fuel consumption for purposes other than heat or electricity generation
- Air travel
- Transport by car
- Public transport by bus
- Public transport by taxi
- Public transport by train
- Other modes of public land transport
- Waste
- Water consumption

Please use the following space to provide more details as required, or to indicate **other** categories not listed above, such as Scopes 1, 2 and 3 according to the GHG Protocol:

The scope of the ICOS Pledge covers the home-work-home commuting (HWH) + the business travels (BT) of all employees of ICOS ERIC (18 FTE in 2020).

4. Is your GHG data publicly available? If yes, please provide a web link or a copy of the report.

- No
- Yes

Website of ICOS: www.icos-ri.eu

5. Which GHGs are included in your estimation?

- Carbon dioxide (CO₂)
- Methane (CH₄)
- Nitrous oxide (N₂O)
- Hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs)
- Perfluorocarbons (PFCs)
- Sulphur hexafluoride (SF₆)

NB: The calculations are systematically including the radiative forcing if available.

6. What is the amount of total emissions?

Tons of CO2 equivalent

This represents a total of approximately 6.5 tons for BT and 1.8 tons for HWH commuting. Calculated on the basis of FTEs, the results are 460 kg/FTE, equal to 362 kg/FTE BT and 98 kg/FTE HWH.

STEP 2: REDUCE YOUR EMISSIONS

1. Do you have a greenhouse gas emissions reduction target? If yes, please indicate it.

- No
 Yes

ICOS ERIC had set in 2019 a 10 % reduction target on the total emissions (HWH + BT) for 2020. This would have represented a maximum total emission budget of 5.6 tons/FTE. Reduction actions were, amongst others, a systematic one day of home office per week for each employee and the generalization of virtual meetings...

When reporting the 2019 emissions, it was considered a rather ambitious goal considering the activity planned for 2020. The world pandemic completely transformed the situation and all business travels disappeared after March 2020. In the same way, the extension of home office practices reduced considerably the HWH emissions.

It is difficult at this stage to set a realistic emission target for a year 2021 which might largely be similar to 2020, although some signs indicate that traveling could resume in the last quarter of the year.

If ICOS ERIC wants to pursue its ambitious reduction of emissions, a target of a maximum 5 tons/FTE (all emissions included) can be set for 2021 (easily reached) and 2022.

2. Please list your greenhouse gas emissions reduction actions here.

Home-work-home travels:

- substantial part of work in home office
- incentives to cycle, jog or walk to the office, at least during the warm weather months.

Business travels:

- reduce the number of people from ICOS ERIC attending the same meeting
- ask for and organize more virtual meetings.

STEP 3: OFFSET YOUR UNAVOIDABLE EMISSIONS

1. Which categories are being compensated with offsets?

- All measured categories
 Some of the measured categories, please select from below
 Electricity consumption

- Electricity generation
- Heat generation
- Electricity generation
- Fuel consumption for purposes other than heat or electricity generation
- Air travel
- Transport by car
- Public transport by bus
- Public transport by taxi
- Public transport by train
- Other modes of land transport
- Waste
- Water consumption

Please use the following space to provide more details as required, or to indicate **other** scopes not listed above, such as Scopes 1, 2 and 3 according to the GHG Protocol:

[Please enter any comments here.](#)

2. If you are using other offsets in addition to UN Certified Emissions Reductions (CERs), please indicate which ones.

No

Yes

[If yes, please specify here.](#)

3. How many tons of CO2 equivalent are you offsetting during this period?

10

tons of CO2 equivalent

4. How many CERs are you using during this period?

10

CERs

5. Which platform did you use to purchase the CERs?

United Nations Carbon offset platform

Others

[If others, please specify here.](#)

6. Please provide proof of purchase/cancellation of the CERs here or attach it to your e-mail or provide a link to a relevant public registry/website.

<http://offset.climateutralnow.org/orderdetails/19482>