



Climate Impact Strategy

I. Introduction

The purpose of this strategy is to significantly strengthen environmental sustainability practices towards achieving climate neutrality of WOSM's operations by the 46th World Scout Conference in 2033 as decided by Conference resolution 2021-08. The strategy will also serve as a guide for addressing other aspects of the resolution such as continuous improvements in the broader area of environmental sustainability, monitoring the environmental impact of World Scouting's operations, and support the mainstreaming of environmental sustainability across the Scout Movement.

Defining Climate Neutrality

To achieve Climate Neutrality, several goals exist for organizations to commit to. Since in practice some terms are used synonymously, we find it important to differentiate which goal will apply to this strategy. The below figure highlights the main differences in goals and the respective terminology.

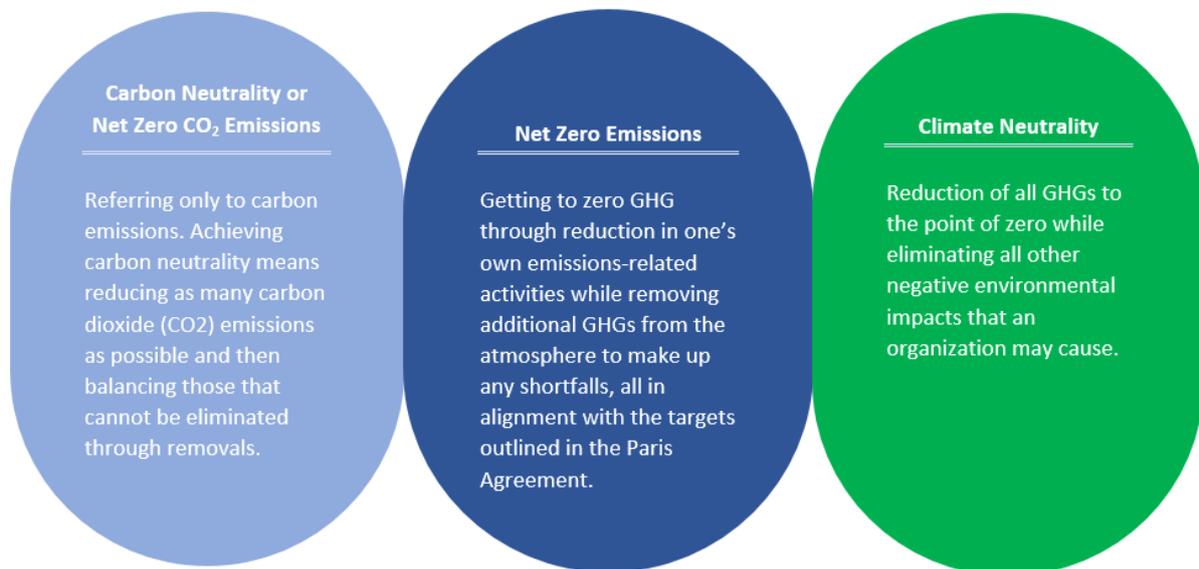


Figure 1: Source: Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC). For detailed definitions see their Glossary of Terms

As this strategy is aiming to respond to the actions outlined in Resolution 2021-08, we are working with the goal of Climate neutrality as it is clearly stated: "...achieving climate neutrality of WOSM's operations at the latest by the 46th World Scout Conference in 2033."

We interpret climate neutrality as dealing with GHG emissions within our operational control and corresponding reduction and compensation methods, while not addressing anthropogenic climate effects like albedo change. This means that at this phase in the strategy, we are focussing on climate neutrality as it relates to GHG emissions and corresponding reduction and compensation methods. We may in the future conduct further analysis on other negative impacts on the climate but at this stage are not aware of significant factors.

As context for the strategy, the following outlines the progress and past initiatives that have been taken in the area of environmental sustainability in WOSM.

Leading up to Conference Resolution 2021-08

During the 41st World Scout Conference in 2017, Member Organizations adopted the Conference Resolution 2017-10 to introduce the need to measure the impact and strengthen the area of environmental sustainability. Besides calling on Member Organizations to adopt policies that promote environment sustainability activities, the Conference Resolution also covered expectations to:

- empower young people through environmental education;
- report on opportunities for achieving carbon neutrality;
- engage SCENES Centres;
- organize sustainable meetings and events;
- investigate WOSM's environmental impact.

Between 2017 and 2021, several actions were taken along these expectations:

World Scouting launched the [Earth Tribe initiative](#) in June 2020, building on the foundation established by the former World Scout Environment Programme. The Earth Tribe initiative and its educational Challenges specifically seek to empower young people to environmental and sustainability issues such as climate change, promoting the development of sustainable habits towards an eco-friendly and healthy lifestyle, and connecting with nature to protect it sustainably.

Around the world, **Scouts Centres of Excellence for Nature, Environment and Sustainability (SCENES Centres)** are working to be exemplary in the field of climate sustainability and educate people about the effects of climate change. Today, there are around 40 SCENES Centres established in 21 countries. Support is available to all SCENES Centres and National Scout Organizations interested to initiate the process to become internationally accredited through WOSM services and the [SCENES Guidelines](#) were published to support the accreditation process.

World Scouting has developed [Guidelines for Organising Sustainable Events](#). This guideline is prepared with a special focus on event bidders and designated hosts for World and Regional Scout Events such as Jamborees, Moots, Conferences and Youth Forums. In addition, these guidelines are also meant to serve as guidance for all organizers of smaller events and meetings across the Scout Movement (i.e. NSO events, workshops, operational framework structures' meetings, committee/board meetings, etc.). In addition, specific Regional guidance was developed.

A report on [WOSM's environmental impact](#) was published in April 2021. The report helped to understand the current situation, but it also recommended World Scouting to conduct an in-depth analysis of its carbon footprint and implement a plan for gradually becoming a carbon-neutral or carbon-positive organisation. In this way the report helped inform the shaping of conference resolution 2021-08 and has been the starting point for this strategy,

Besides the actions already taken before the development of the strategy, further initiatives in environmental sustainability are also in development across various streams of work, including the development of an option event bidders label, related criteria in the new GSAT framework, alignment in the next Strategy for Scouting, and improved advocacy on sustainability and positioning in this area.

Environmental Sustainability and Climate Action

What is environmental sustainability?

Many definitions for sustainability have been proposed in the sector, generally along with the concept of sustainable development. The most widely accepted definition of sustainability states that: *“Sustainable development is a development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs”* (World Commission on Environment and Development, 1987).

Sustainable Development is defined into three pillars: Environmental, Economic, and Social Sustainability.

The closest definition proposes a methodology that can be followed to reach sustainability: *“Sustainability is a vision of the future that provides us with a road map and helps us focus our attention on a set of values and ethical and moral principles by which to guide our actions”* (Veiderman, S). The latter definition is practical for institutions and organizations seeking to establish their vision and strategy for sustainability.

The concept of *Environmental Sustainability* goes slightly beyond the two above-mentioned definitions by emphasizing the aspect of environmental protection. That is, ensuring that available natural resources are: preserved whenever possible, and healthily recoverable once used so that they can also be enjoyed by coming generations.

Applying these concepts to one environmental issue of concern at a time and focusing on the science behind it and possible pathways to mitigate its negative impacts is enabling society to get active.

Applied to climate change, the focus topic of this working group, this means building on the clear goal of climate neutrality, and aligning our approach with certain (global) initiatives, respectively their methodology on data collection, climate gas emission accounting and how reporting should be implemented. From the collected data, clear actions to counter climate change can be derived.

A selection of the main initiatives is listed below:



UN Global compact^[2] - An initiative by the UN to bring together stakeholder to advance fulfilment of the Sustainable Development goals



Carbon Disclosure Project (CDP)^[3] - not-for-profit charity providing guidance for stakeholders on measuring and disclosing their environmental impacts



Science Base Target Initiative (SBTi)^[4] - An initiative to help stakeholders align their reduction strategy and targets to the goal of limiting global warming to 1.5°C in accordance with the Paris Agreement



Global Reporting Initiative (GRI)^[5] - non-governmental organization issuing the GRI standard, which is widely applied in greenhouse gas reporting

Some points of attention

Even though primarily developed in the context of industry and corporate climate action, the existing standards and protocols should be continuously reviewed and checked for updates and application in the global NGO category to realign WOSM's climate strategy.

Achieving climate neutrality is obviously close to Scouting's heart. Nature is part of the Scout Method and it's in our DNA "to leave this place a little better than we found it". However, Environmental Sustainability is not the mission or vision of Scouting, and this must be kept in mind and reflected in the capacity and resources we commit to the cause.

Additionally, it is recognised that the climate impact of Scouting activities and operations is far-reaching considering the global scope of our Movement. However, the intention of this strategy is for WOSM to start from what it's able to operationally control within the World Scout Bureau and its volunteer structures and later expand outwards, hopefully inspiring NSOs to join along the way.

II. Approach

In this strategy, WOSM will account for the GHG emissions over which it has operational control, which includes specific data points in scopes 1, 2, and 3 of the GHG protocol:

Scope 1: direct emissions from vehicles and facilities owned or operated by the World Scout Bureau

Scope 2: purchased electricity, steam, heating, and cooling in facilities owned or operated by the World Scout Bureau

Scope 3.6: emissions from business travel, including flights and trains.

These three scopes apply to the World Scout Bureau's Global and Regional Support Centres, including both staff and volunteers within the WOSM global and regional structures. It does not apply to the activities or emissions of National Scout Organizations or independent but affiliated entities such as Kandersteg International Scout Centre (KISC) and the World Scout Foundation (WSF). It also does not apply to individual staff and volunteer activities outside of Scouting.

It is, however, the ambition that as WOSM matures and professionalizes its approach to carbon accounting, reduction, and compensation, that it considers expanding the scope of its strategy over the coming triennia.

Data collection:

Data relevant to these three scopes will be collected and analyzed on a regular basis by designated staff in the World Scout Bureau using industry-standard tools and emissions factors. The data points collected will be:

Scope 1: amount and type of fuel consumed by litre; amount and type of energy consumed in facilities, natural gas heating, generators, cooking fuel, etc

Scope 2: energy consumed as purchased electricity, steam, heating & cooling

Scope 3: each travel segment completed by WOSM staff or volunteers, including individual flight and train journeys

There are multiple types of data inputs that can be used for carbon reporting. The Bureau will always aim to choose the most accurate option possible given the realities of each facility. For example in Brussels, electricity reporting may be based on financial spend on energy, whereas in Nairobi it may be based on kWh due to factors outside of our control such as how energy is billed by the supplier.

For the purpose of accuracy in comparative data analysis, each data point should use the same collection method at each reporting interval unless a conscious decision has been made to change data collection methodologies, especially to improve accuracy. In these cases, changes in methodology will be considered carefully by relevant oversight roles and communicated transparently.

Data collected will then be multiplied by the corresponding emission factor, which should be sourced from a reputable source. Emission factors should be annually updated to reflect changes in the market, however ideally the source of the emission factors will not change year-over-year.

The World Scout Bureau will designate, and where needed, upskill staff to be accountable for this regular reporting and will also make biannual reports available to the World Scout Committee. The World Scout Bureau will establish a common reporting mechanism used by all Support Centres, which will be supported by digital tools where possible.

Avoid
e.g. flights not taken, energy not used by avoiding standby modes, switching of lights when not used

Reduce
e.g. switch energy sources or transportation modes to less emission intense ones (highlight example with WSF to financially support the shift)

Compensate
emissions that cannot be avoided without compromising delivering on the overall mission and vision of WOSM should be compensated according to the highest standard

At the end of each reporting cycle, staff should review the data collection and analysis process to include any improvements and new efficiencies for the next cycle. Involved staff together with the relevant governance structure should also decide if the scope of data collected needs to be expanded or improved.

It's understood that since the nature of the WSB's operations changes annually and will have fluctuations especially

related to travel (for example the timing and location of world and regional events will impact the number of flights taken), slight reductions in carbon emissions may not necessarily reflect an improvement in operations or efficiencies.

As the strategy evolves over time, further elements of WOSM's Scope 3, besides travel impacts, should be included. For example, events, procured goods, and other emissions should be considered over time. Similarly, the World Scout Bureau will endeavor to make services available to NSOs through WOSM Services to support them along a similar journey.

Avoid, Reduce, Compensate

On the way to achieving the set goal of becoming a climate neutral movement by 2033, WOSM should always keep in mind the hierarchy of climate emission mitigation measures. The most focus, effort and willingness to reflect current practices should be placed on the first category of measures before those that follow. Avoiding (followed by reducing) emissions has the potential of integrated long term climate protection effect as it implies a permanent change of processes, behaviors and system changes (i.e. move from fossil to renewable energy).

Every effort should be made to first avoid and reduce emissions before considering compensation, however, it is recognized that not all emissions will be able to be reduced or avoided. Compensating emissions with credible compensation schemes should be a last resort in the case of hard to reduce emissions, especially reserved for emissions caused which are outside of your direct control (e.g. emissions from unavoidable air travel.) Therefore efforts to mitigate emissions need to be prioritized in the following manner, with the first one having the highest priority:

To implement mitigation strategies, WOSM can leverage partnerships with stakeholders within the Scouting Movement as well as outside.

Avoid & Reduce:

The current focus of this strategy is on avoiding and reducing our carbon emissions by promoting behaviour change and more sustainable habits.

Operations must consider efficiencies that will reduce carbon consumption with an eye to ensuring core operations will not be compromised in order to drastically reduce emissions. Some types of emissions will be

much harder to reduce, and that's ok. These considerations should be actively discussed and reviewed at annual and triennial intervals to promote behaviour change and decision-making that supports environmental sustainability. Possible actions are listed below, but are not limited to:

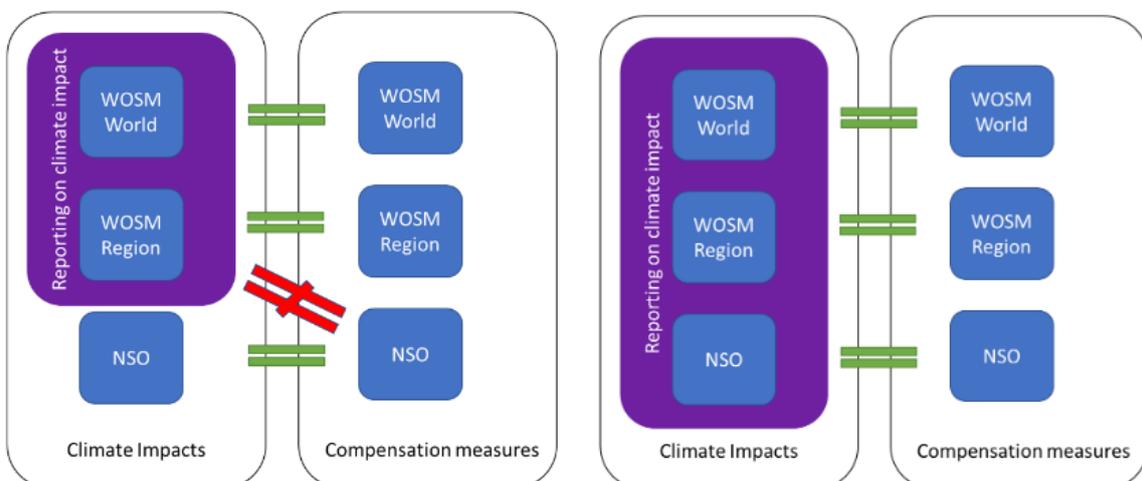
- Give guidance on how to make decisions related to the necessity of travel to support in person group meetings, missions, events, etc. vs. hybrid or virtual meetings.
- Give guidance to staff on how to make decisions about flight routes and airlines vis-a-vis carbon cost and financial cost; increase attractiveness of less carbon intense travel mode (train, shared rides)
- Consider carbon budgets or quotas per team within the World Scout Bureau in order to encourage that decisions around travel are organised by priority and necessity.
- Continually review and invest in improvements that can be made to office infrastructure that will support the reduction of energy usage.

Compensate:

Many carbon emissions will not be avoidable. With a view to the 2033 horizon for achieving climate neutrality, WOSM will gradually invest in offsetting and compensating for unavoidable emissions. On a short-term basis, buying carbon credits in reputable carbon-offsetting projects could be considered, however as carbon credits come with risks and many opaque factors, it's recommended to rather invest in a more permanent solution. On a long-term basis, WOSM should consider investing in building its own carbon-offsetting initiatives that are verified externally for their impact and with close oversight by WOSM in order to ensure integrity. By strategically selecting and investing in or creating compensation projects, the effort can even become more tangible for individual Scouts through larger adjacent reforestation areas, which can be visited with groups. This way the exercise of compensating for non-avoidable emissions will achieve an even higher meaning for the Movement itself, including potential positive social and educational impacts.

When considering compensation measures and counting them against GHG emissions, care must be taken as to not take ownership of positive compensation measures which are happening within World Scouting, but are not yet part of the reporting framework. Essentially, WOSM cannot benefit from positive action brought on by an NSO or Scout group, without taking the responsibility for the negative climate impact of the same organization.

Below, two scenarios exemplify the case of NSOs - as long as WOSM does not include the NSO climate impact as part of World Scouting's climate impact and reports on it, any positive action on NSO level regarding credible compensation measures cannot be accounted for (scenario 1). In Scenario 2 all impacts are included in the reporting, likewise a pool of compensation measures can be accounted against the impacts.



Scenario 1: WOSM is not including the NSO level in climate reporting. This means that compensation measures at NSO level can not credible accounted against the impacts (if done anyway this can be considered problematic (tendency of greenwashing))

Scenario 2: WOSM is including the NSO level in climate reporting. This means that compensation measures at NSO level can credible accounted against the overall impacts. Each level can benefit from „overcompensating“ of impacts at another level.

Principles for Compensation:

When compensating for emissions that cannot be reduced, WOSM will seek the best available option that comply with industry standards but is also within the financial and operational means of the World Scout Bureau. The following are principles that we will seek to follow whenever pursuing carbon compensation measures:

- Ensuring the both negative and positive emissions are accounted for as part of the process
- Following third-party standards to ensure integrity, and making all efforts to receive third party certification
- Seeking to benefit the Scout movement in a direct way, i.e. via upskilling Scouts on environmental sustainability through project implementation or increasing NSO capacity on carbon accounting

Implementing an Action Plan

There are several aspects to be addressed when conceptualizing, implementing, and executing a climate strategy. Since the 42nd World Scout Conference decided on a defined goal (i.e. becoming climate neutral by 2033), the strategy must be developed “backward”, therefore distributing the required tasks, workflows, and budget considerations as required between now and the 46th World Scout Conference in 2033.

The governance structure, volunteer task force, and executive decision-making need to be set up and empowered in a way to ensure that the strategy delivers on the decided goal of being climate neutral by 2033.

One continued feature, which needs to be set up first and is the basis for all future development of the strategy and the mitigation measures is a streamlined data collection and reporting framework of climate relevant data.

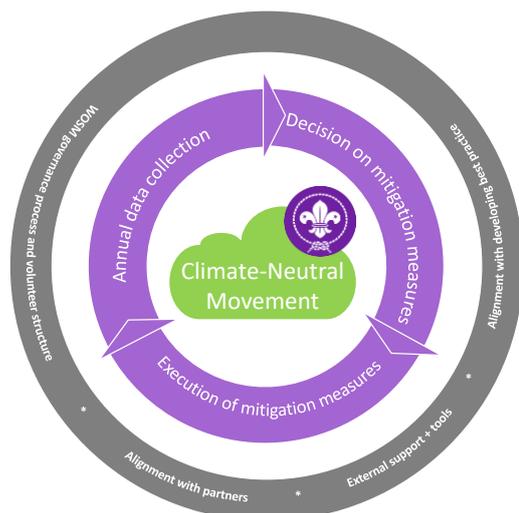
The reported annual carbon emissions should become a KPI of WOSM annual reporting procedures and have at least have the same relevancy for decision making processes like other KPIs (e.g. financial).

Delivering the strategy will have an iterative nature regarding continued alignment of where the Movement currently stands with its annual emissions, the available financial resources and structural options to mitigate emissions and the developing prioritization of the strategy.

A challenge, and likewise also an opportunity, while executing the strategy will be to have regular revisions of the set timeline and the defined goal. External factors outside of the influence of WOSM, like a general increase in less greenhouse gas intensive energy sources or transportation means, will positively affect the climate impact as well.

Setting out on a pathway to meaningful climate action by implementing a climate impact strategy will enable WOSM to contribute in a meaningful way to achieving the sustainable development goals.

A summary of the main work items for the strategy and a suggestion for the implementation over time is summarized in the table below.



	2021/24 familiarize, setting up, baseline			2024/27 maturing, professionalisation, roll out		2027/30 execution, adaptation	2030/33 realignment, finalization, extension
	21/22	22/23	23/24				
Volunteer Structure	Task Force Formation pre-read/work	Work meeting, consolidation of strategy, initiation of baseline data collection	Complete baseline data collection, publish strategy document, disseminate within WOSM	Ongoing support by volunteer expertise → e.g. reacting to new resolutions, update cycles of strategy document, dissemination at WOSM events			
WOSM Internal Resources (Staff)		Execution of baseline data collection		~1 FTE equ. Staff involvement for data collection/reporting		~0.75-1 FTE equ. Staff involvement for data collection/reporting	~0.5-0.75 FTE equ. Staff involvement for data collection/reporting
WOSM External Resources		Alignment with partners on best practices		Collaboration on strategy implementation (best practise alignment) and compensation measures			
Partners							
Implementation support			Review of strategy and baseline evaluation	High: setting up reporting tools, support for first annual reports		Medium: roll out to regions/ NSOs	low: occasional support
Data collection and reporting tool		Reflect current data collection and reporting setup	Implement a scalable solution at world level	Consistent implementation at world level	Consistent implementation at regional level	Semi- automatic annual evaluation of WOSM footprint, all levels	
WSB Implementation		Baseline data collection from: KL, Geneva, Brussels, Nairobi	Preparation of Role out to organisation, access to reporting tool (first KL)	Operations at world level	Operations at regional level	Setup and operation of compensation project	

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WOSM is delivering on its mission in general by applying a working style that is driven and supported by volunteer governance decisions and volunteer-led development of content.

It is therefore important to highlight the relationship between the different roles, like volunteers and WOSM staff to ensure the respective interfaces between the different stakeholders are clear and the workflow is efficient and frustration free. The below figure shows how the delivery of the strategy is handed over, after its initial inception in the start up phase, from volunteer driven concept work to a WOSM staff administrated workflow. Periodic review of the strategy brings together again all stakeholders to ensure the delivery of the strategy reflects current priorities, budgets and external factors. The “Start up” and “Transition” phase are to be completed latest within the first three years as indicated in above figure. “Regular Delivery” is representing the whole timeframe until the strategy is completed. The frequency of the “Periodic Review” phase needs to be decided once the strategy is in delivery mode – it can be aligned with existing reporting workflows within WOSM, which will also ensure that the insights from the strategy and latest updates can be shared with the movement at the regular events (like world and regional conferences).

	“Start Up”	“Transition”	“Regular Delivery”	“Periodic Review”
Taskforce/ Volunteer Subject Matter Experts	Strategy Setup			
Staff liaison, Senior Leadership, WSC Sponsors	Documenting procedure	Baseline data collection	(Involvement as required)	Strategy alignment Review of necessary measures to reduce climate emissions
Staff Experts			Steady execution of implemented data collection, evaluation and KPI reporting	

III. Governance

It is important to ensure alignment between the Climate Impact Strategy and the bigger picture of WOSM governance and operations to ensure it is not a stand-alone effort but rather supports continuous improvement across the organisation. This chapter seeks to outline who will be involved in the various parts of the process in terms of both involvement, mandates and general responsibilities.

Due to the operational nature of the scope of this strategy and the need of having a long term oversight function spanning across 3 triennia, the primary responsibility for governing the implementation will lie within the World Scout Bureau, through dedicated staff. To complement, governance functions relating to the oversight of carbon accounting and reporting will lie within WOSM's Audit Committee, which will be expanded to welcome members with expertise in carbon accounting and sustainability management.

The strategy will be implemented together with volunteer expertise at all levels, including through Operational Framework projects as relevant. The responsibility for coordination of the implementation of this Strategy, including the transversal coordination of all environment-related initiatives and reporting accountability will lie within the World Scout Bureau, supported by volunteers where relevant and necessary. Similarly the Bureau will support the development of environmental sustainability related resources and services as part of WOSM Services and ensure volunteer consultants are upskilled and available to support NSOs.

IV. Budgeting for Climate Impact Reduction

Approaches to Budgeting

Offsetting and compensating for carbon emissions that cannot be avoided will require financial investment backed by long-term planning. As a non-profit organisation with limited financial resources, our financial investment will need to be planned for over time and scaled up slowly through the 10 year strategy to back the continually increasing scope of work. It is assumed that a general reduction in carbon emissions through taking fewer flights or using less electricity for example will also result in cost savings to the Bureau, which can then be re-invested in offsetting. However, to maximise long-term savings, investment will also need to be made in upgrading our operational infrastructure and utilities to more eco-friendly devices and systems. For example, a switch to solar panels or more energy-efficient lighting will require substantial upfront investment.

Understanding and Offsetting Spend on Carbon-Emitting Activities

In order to fully contextualise the funds spent by the World Scout Bureau on carbon-emitting activities, expenses related to business travel and energy consumption will need to be properly tagged in our budgeting process as well as expense reporting and year-end review to ensure we fully understand how much the organisation spends towards the activities that we will then need to invest more in to offset.

Planning for Carbon Offsetting:

Many carbon emissions will not be able to be avoided and therefore, we will need to pay to offset them. This strategy suggests a long-term compensation approach whereby the Bureau will consider investing in developing and directly managing a carbon-offsetting project that will offset the emissions of the Bureau. Organisational climate action, though close to Scouting's heart, is not part of our core mission and therefore not our core professional competence. It is therefore paramount to ensure continued external accreditation and validation of our work, including any carbon credits. Until this project is up and running, we will need to begin setting aside funds to prepare for this investment. The Bureau could consider adding a percentage of "carbon tax" to each carbon-emitting activity, such as flight bookings. The total of this "tax" collection would then be invested into a the carbon compensation project. This carbon tax rate would start small and increase over time. Adding a carbon tax to our spending habits will also promote behavioural change whereby staff will need to think twice about the impact of their travel in particular, both financially and ecologically.

Income Generation:

We will need to mobilise resources to support this work in the long-term, however, traditional fundraising approaches may not apply to our efforts to offset our own carbon footprint. Instead, emphasis should be placed on ensuring a financially sustainable business model if WSB chooses to develop and implement its own carbon-offsetting project. For example, WSB could offer options for individuals or companies to offset their own emissions by buying credits in our project. The carbon offsetting project would then not be profit-generating but rather collect funds to offset the financial resources invested into it.

V. The Road to Climate Neutrality

This strategy sets out some principles for continuous review and evaluation, as it spans over multiple triennia and a long time horizon in a changing world. First of all, we need to ensure that our path towards Climate Neutrality by 2033 takes in new insights and general new knowledge from research in the field. We also need to cater to how well we manage to adopt the goals set out in the action plan and if these need to be adjusted as we progress down the path.

The lifespan of the Climate Impact Strategy for adopting, implementing, evaluating and revisiting the policy is 4 trienniums, organised as follows:

- The first triennium (2021-2024) is for developing the Climate Impact Strategy, its action plan and ensuring a solid baseline as a foundation for the work. As part of this work, a reporting mechanism also needs to be developed that will inform the work for the coming triennia and ensure we can monitor the progress of the strategy.
- The second triennium (2024-2027) will focus on the first clear path of the action plan. This also includes ongoing measurements from all operational levels in the World Scout Bureau and beginning work to explore developing a carbon compensation project. At the end of the triennium, a review of the strategy is needed and a detailed action plan for the next triennium needs to be developed.
- The third triennium (2027-2030) would then again focus on the decided action plan for this period, which includes developing the carbon compensation project as well as introducing climate reporting in the WOSM service model. At the end of the triennium, a review of the strategy is needed to ensure that the action plan for the last triennium is defined, so that the strategy concludes successfully.
- The fourth triennium (2030-2033) is the last of the lifespan for the Climate Impact strategy. This triennium will focus on the last action plan and a thorough evaluation including future recommendations.

Based on the timeline above, this also means that the strategy will be reviewed and potentially adapted by the end of each of the triennium 2023-2027 and 2027-2030 where towards the final triennium of this strategy's lifespan a more detailed evaluation and future recommendations will take place, focussing on remaining climate relevant emissions.

For World Scouting, the most important guide is the overall vision and strategy for the Movement. The Climate Impact strategy should be seen as an addition and support to this, and should therefore always be kept in alignment with the current priorities of World Scouting in general. Therefore, it is important that this is taken into consideration when the Climate Impact Strategy is being revised at the end of each triennium of its lifespan.

Climate reporting is still a new tendency across NGOs and is therefore far from mainstreamed in the NGO community. This also means that only few guidelines are available and not many good practices and examples to learn from exist, but we expect this will change in the future.

Likewise World Scouting operates within changing boundary conditions - the next decades will, hopefully, see global climate action which will lead to beneficial effects regarding emission reduction for World Scouting as well. Examples are increased renewable electricity in national grids as well as the introduction of sustainable aviation fuels.

Hence we anticipate this work will develop and mature in the coming years and we suggest ensuring revisions happen frequently.

VI. Terminology

Carbon Footprint - the amount of climate-active gases (e.g. carbon dioxide, methane or water vapor) emitted to the atmosphere as a result of human-induced activities over a given period of time. It is usually expressed in carbon dioxide equivalent (CO₂e).

Carbon dioxide equivalent (CO₂e) – is a standard unit in measuring carbon footprint, and it expresses the impact of each climate active gas in terms of the amount of carbon dioxide (CO₂) that would create the same amount of warming. This way, although the carbon footprint is a combination of various different gases, it can be expressed in a single measure.

Carbon offset/credit– is a way to compensate for the CO₂e emissions of an individual/group/organization by supporting a CO₂e saving elsewhere. Examples are reforestation with appropriate longterm forest management and other CO₂e storing ecosystem restoration projects as well as more technical solutions under the Kyoto Protocol.

Climate change (the phenomenon caused by Global Warming) – long-term changes to temperature on and around the Earth’s surface (Global Warming), which causes long term shifts to weather patterns (Climate Change).

Environment – In this report, the term “environment” is used to refer to the natural world, as a whole or in a particular geographical area, especially as affected by human activity.

Environmental impact – is defined as any change to the environment, whether adverse or beneficial, wholly or partially resulting from an organization's activities, products, or services.