

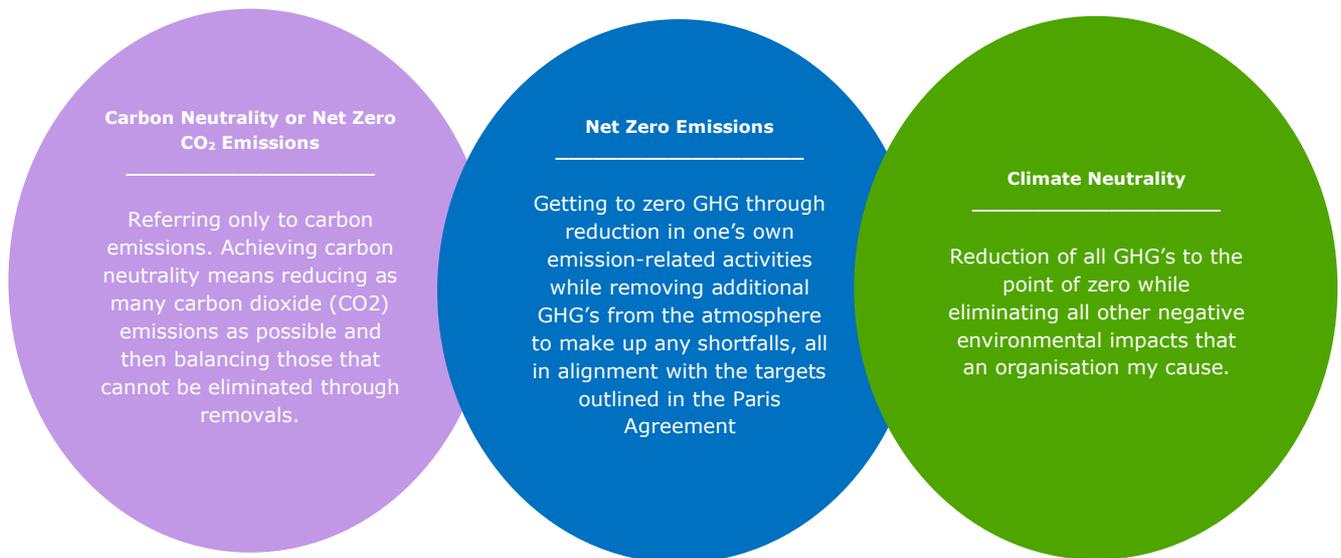


Main aspects of developing WOSM's climate impact strategy

1. Goal setting

The first step is to create a screening step to identify the desired climate action goal for WOSM. Since there are several climate action goals, it is common for terminology to be used interchangeably. It is important to differentiate, from the beginning, which goal applies to the WOSM climate impact strategy.

The figure below highlights the main differences between the climate action goals.



Source: Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC). For detailed definitions see their Glossary of Terms¹ (GHG = greenhouse gas)

Depending on which goal is chosen to be the focus of the WOSM climate impact strategy, different aspects of sustainability initiatives at a global scale can be combined; respectively, data collection methodologies and accounting and reporting needs. Though these initiatives were primarily developed for the industry/corporate climate action context, they can be reviewed and tailored to fit the WOSM climate impact strategy. Below is a selection of the main initiatives:



UN Global compact² - 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

¹ <https://www.ipcc.ch/sr15/chapter/glossary>

² <https://www.unglobalcompact.org/>

³ <https://www.cdp.net/en>

⁴ <https://sciencebasedtargets.org/>

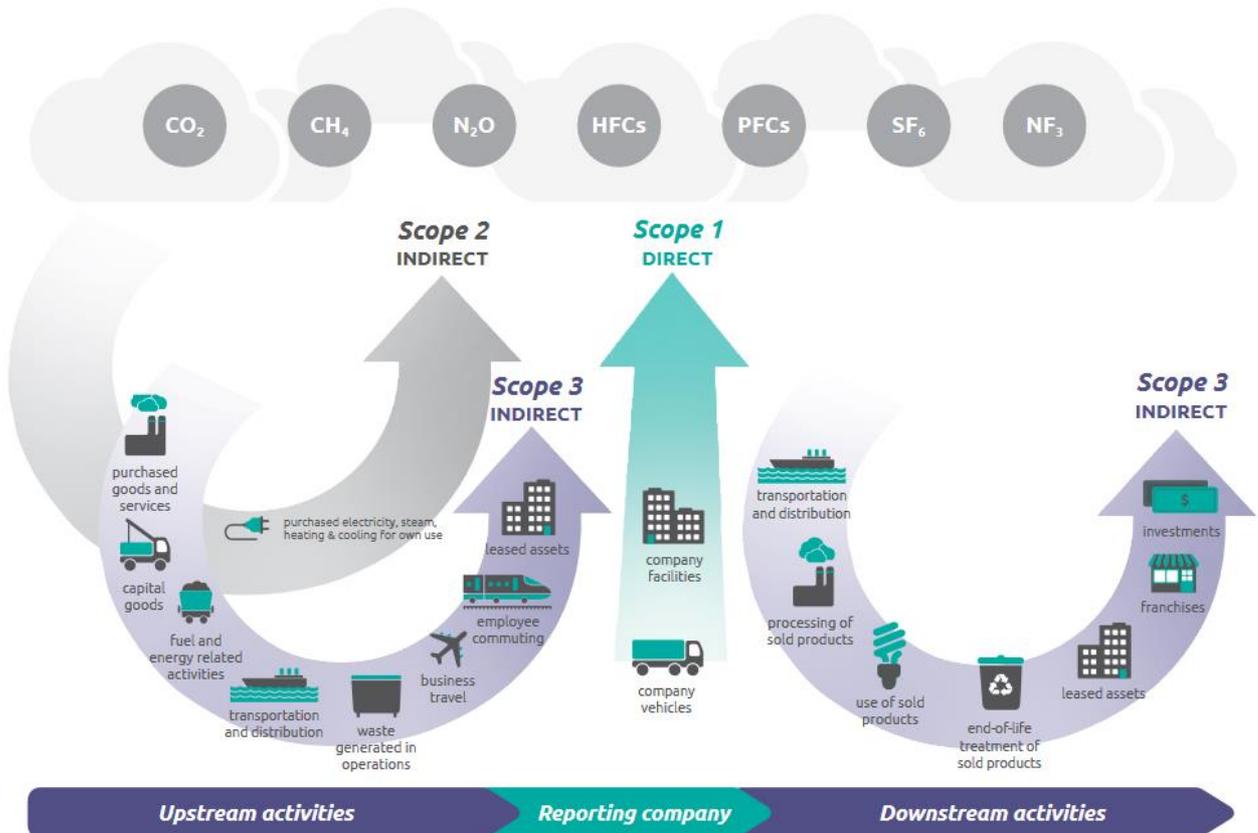


Global Reporting Initiative (GRI)⁵ - non-governmental organization issuing the GRI standard, which is widely applied in greenhouse gas reporting

Engaging with initiatives like these will help WOSM identify the best fitting methods for measuring and reporting data within their own climate strategy. WOSM will be able to establish a network to learn from best practices and keep up to date with evolving standards.

2. Data collection

Starting from the concept that you cannot manage what you do not measure, WOSM first needs to set up a framework for data collection. The prevailing classification to collect and report on greenhouse gas emissions is according to scope 1, 2 and 3 as depicted in the figure below.



Source: Greenhouse Gas Protocol⁶

For WOSM at World and Regional level this would mean:

- **Scope 1:** include emissions from all buildings (e.g. offices of the World Scout Bureau) and vehicles operated globally
- **Scope 2:** include emissions associated with electricity consumption, steam production, and district heating and cooling systems.
- **Scope 3:** include emissions from purchased goods (e.g. paper, digital devices), generated waste, consumed food (e.g. on the World Scout Jamboree), and travel (e.g. to the Educational Methods Forum).

⁵ <https://www.globalreporting.org/>

⁶ <https://ghgprotocol.org/standards/scope-3-standard>

As indicated, this classification would also apply to events at the World and Regional level, not just to “stationary” activities. Since data on scopes 1 and 2 are easy to obtain through existing data such as utility bills, data collection and reporting on these scopes are typically the first areas of focus. Reporting on scope 3 is generally more challenging since the reporting is dependent on others (e.g. suppliers) to communicate their own impacts.

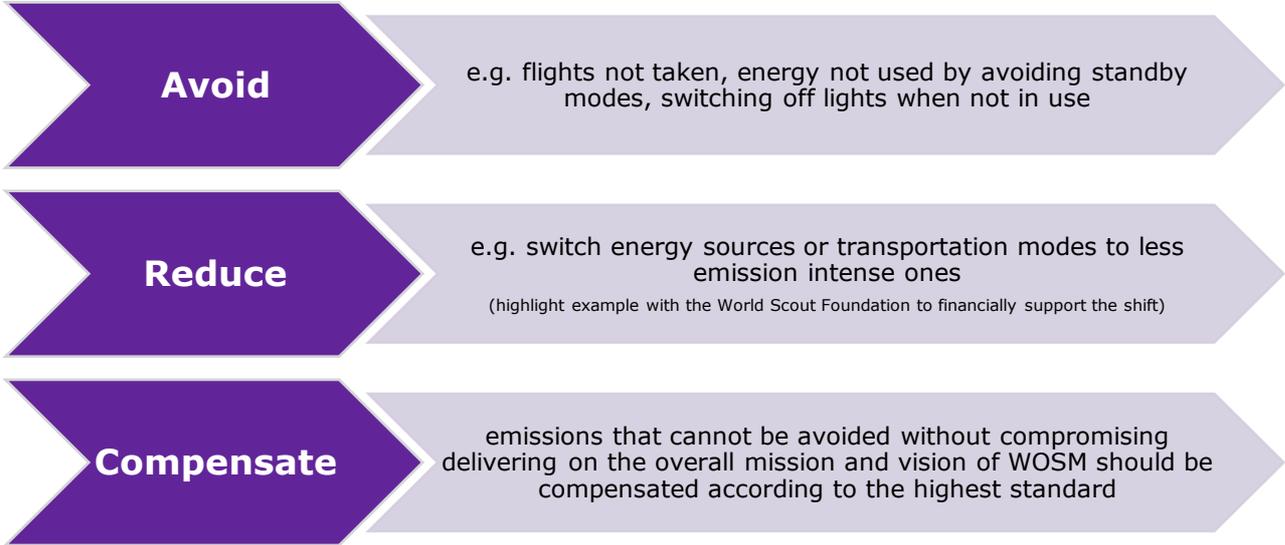
Setting up the data collection should be done with a rollout strategy that keeps all levels in mind: World, Regional, and National. Given that WOSM can identify each of these levels as being contributors of emissions, they are appropriate places in which to implement the strategy to reduce emissions based on insights gained from data collected. See more detail regarding this in section “Vertical roll out”.

3. Implementation

Based on comprehensive and continuous data collection, WOSM can report its data regularly (i.e. annually) and adapt its mitigation strategies towards achieving the articulated vision.

Prioritization of mitigation efforts

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 its partnerships with both internal and external stakeholders of the Scout Movement.

Avoid example:

Put in place optimization schemes to avoid paper use in offices, combine meetings for the same groups of people, extend meeting times and reduce the number of meetings needed.

Compensate example:

WOSM has long standing partnerships with leading organizations on environmental action like WWF and UNEP. These relations could be leveraged to set up a respective framework for all emission compensations bought by WOSM to offset non-avoidable emissions. Working with these partners will assure the highest standards for compensation certificates as well as the underlying programs like tree planting. The sum of all compensation certifications accrued for tree planting could be communicated to the organization and the public as the continuously growing “World Scout Forrest”. By strategically selecting or creating compensation programs in each WOSM region, the effort can become more tangible for individual scouts through larger adjacent reforestation areas which can be visited with groups. In this way, the exercise of compensating non-avoidable emissions will achieve a deeper meaning for the Movement itself.

Reduce example:

Together with the World Scout Foundation (WSF), WOSM can initiate a funding program to support facilities, at the world, regional and national levels, shift to greener electricity sources. This can be done through dedicated funds such as helping NSOs finance respective photovoltaic and thermal solar collectors at their headquarters and education facilities like campsites. Future events by the WSF can highlight this initiative to show its commitment to this pressing environmental issue, attracting respective donors who want to support this cause.

Key resources

Staff

Implementing the strategy successfully requires the right resources being planned for at the right time. The crucial resource will be located within the staff of the world scout bureau. It can be estimated that the time equivalent of at least one full-time employee will need to be dedicated to implementing the strategy at the beginning. The person(s) holding this role will need to be well connected within the World Scout Bureau operations to successfully fulfil their role. Being a strategic priority, this issue should be represented by at least one World Scout committee member being tasked with executive oversight together with the secretary general.

External support

To set up the strategy in a way that is compliant with the common reporting standards, include external support by a consulting agency specializing in climate strategy. This will help with goal setting as well as with identifying the appropriate data collection previously outlined. The external support can be leveraged to familiarize new staff with the work regarding the strategy and also to introduce them to professional networks.

Scalable software solution

To allow for a quick and ongoing data collection and regular reporting process, a respective dedicated software solution should be considered. Dedicated software for reporting on climate emissions should come with emission factor libraries, built-in compliance to common standards and reporting schemes, and evaluation tools to test mitigation measures against reported and projected emissions. Scalability of the software solution is key to ensure consistent data collection and consistent reporting across all organizational levels (world, regional, national).

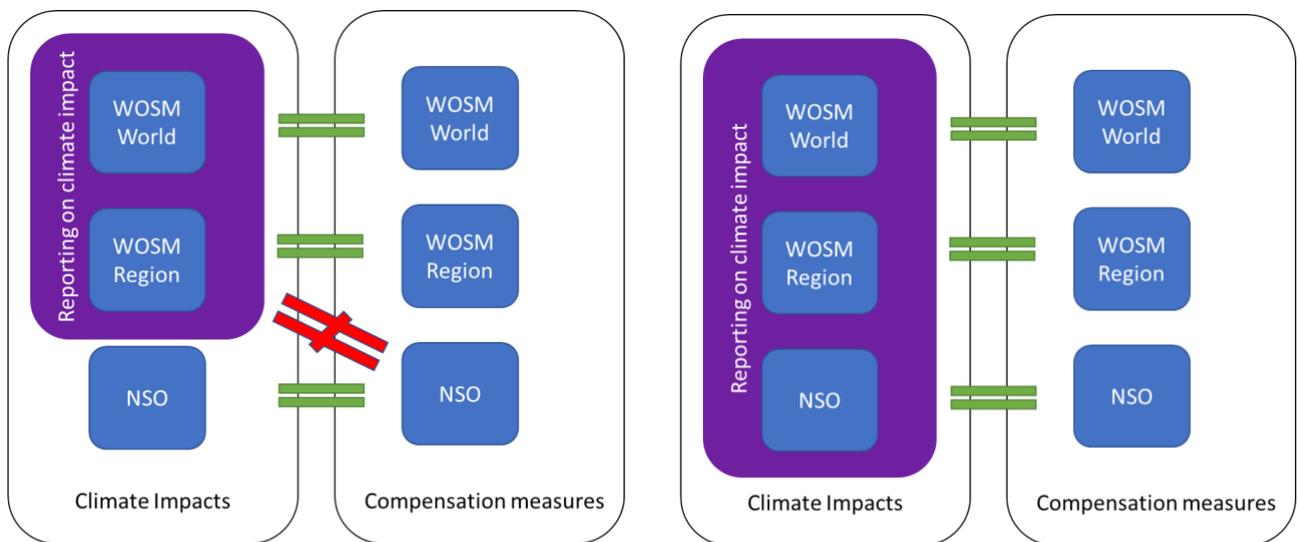
Financial resources

Apart from the budgets for previously mentioned resources, seeking further financial resources/support should be considered to help manage fees for compensation measures and possibly accreditation fees towards initiatives.

Vertical roll out

The vertical roll out of the strategy can be achieved by leveraging the framework of WOSM Services for NSOs. This will enable NSOs to join in the effort when they are ready and able to allocate internal resources to effectively manage their national emissions data entry into the reporting tool.

Rolling out the strategy through all or some of the organizational levels has implications towards which compensation measures can be credited against the reported emissions. The figures below depict that double accounting of compensation measures need to be avoided. If NSOs are not yet included in the emissions reporting, then the WOSM world and regional levels cannot claim compensation measures executed at the national level.



Scenario 1: WOSM is not including the NSO level in climate reporting. This means that compensation measures at NSO level can not credibly be 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 credibly be accounted against the overall impacts. Each level can benefit from „overcompensating“ of impacts at another level.

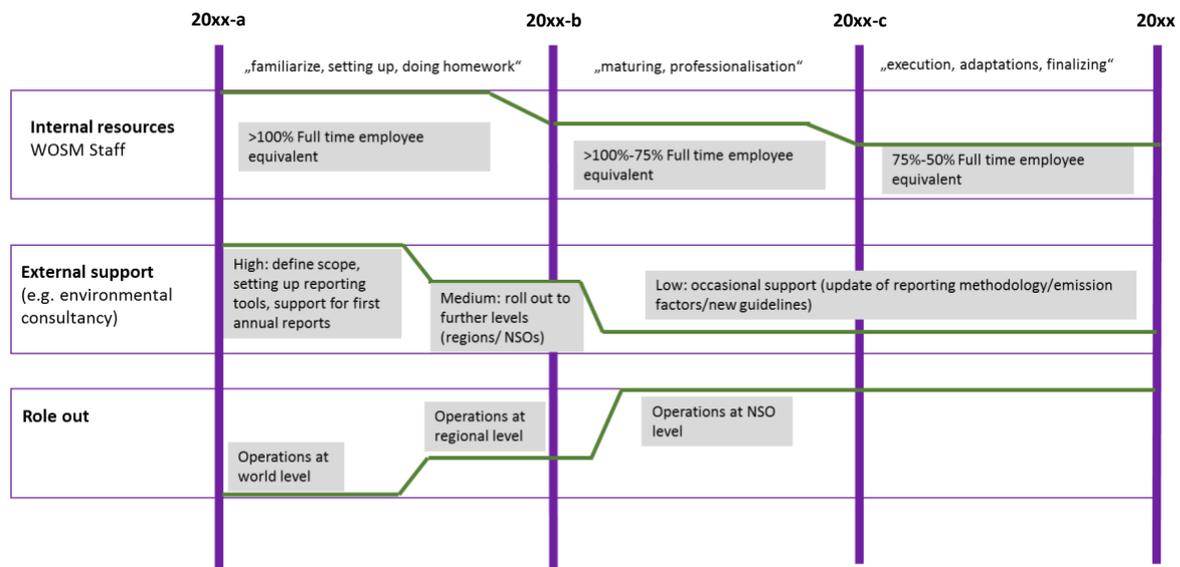
A full roll out to all NSOs in a timely manner will be a challenge; to get an impression of the “full” climate impact of WOSM, part of the data management can be dedicated to generation of a “(regionalized) average emission factor per scout” based on data collected from contributing NSOs. This extrapolation can help to efficiently manage resources in the roll out phase to NSOs.

4. Conclusion

The several aspects to be addressed when conceptualizing, implementing and executing a climate strategy are summarized in the figure below.

Here, the high-level example of concluding the strategy in 20xx is applied. This timeframe is only selected to allow for an exemplary visualization; the goal setting process might deliver a more ambitious timeframe for WOSM.

The figure highlights how main aspects of executing the strategy, the internal resources, external support, and the role out are developing over time.



It is recommended that WOSM will follow the steps as described in the previous sections; from goal setting to creating a data collection foundation through to strategy of implementation. By sticking to this step-by-step approach, a strategy fitting within WOSM organizational boundary, the allocation of available resources and the general strategic plan will be found.

A challenge, and likewise also an opportunity, while executing the strategy will be to implement regular revisions of the set timeline and the defined goals. External factors, outside of the control of WOSM, can positively affect climate impact (i.e. a general increase in energy sources or transportation means that emit less greenhouse gases).

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 achieve the Sustainable Development Goals.