

GHG Fact Sheet: Events

Why assess the Carbon Footprint of an event?

- To identify key emissions reduction opportunities
- To communicate the carbon footprint of the event to delegates or the general public
- To offset the emissions associated with the event or allow delegates the option of offsetting their portion of event emissions

Protocols and standards

WBCSD/WRI 2004: Greenhouse Gas Protocol

Sources of emissions assessed

Typical sources of emissions assessed include:

- Travel to the event by delegates, staff and organisers
- Local travel during the event by delegates, staff and organisers
- Delegate and organiser accommodation
- Venue energy consumption, waste disposal and refrigerant gas loss

Additional sources of emissions that an event organiser could opt to assess include:

- Office energy consumption, waste disposal and refrigerant gas loss associated with organising the event
- The embodied emissions associated with event materials (e.g. publications)
- The incoming delivery and removal of event materials

Reporting metrics

Absolute emissions will vary according to the size and location of the event so it is useful to use reporting metrics that take these effects into account and monitor relative GHG emissions intensity. The typical metric used for events is kilograms of CO₂e per delegate.

In our experience emissions per delegate are on average 1 tonne of CO₂e.