



Introduction

Go Climate Positive is a certification programme for organisations designed to help businesses to manage their carbon footprint in line with the goal of limiting global warming to 1.5°C.

Issuance of the certificate is at the sole discretion of Sustainable Business Design Ltd. (owners of the "Go Climate Positive" brand) but as we are passionate about transparency, we believe it is important to publish our criteria, which are based on established best practice wherever possible.

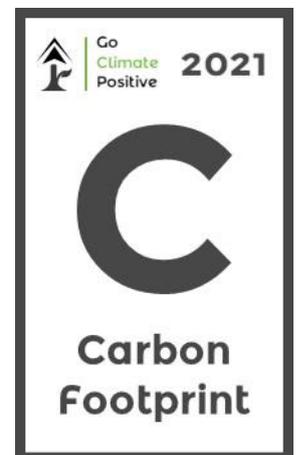
Year of applicability

A certificate is valid for 1 year from the date of issuance. The year stated on the certification badge relates to the year it was issued. The period that an organisation's carbon footprint calculation relates to can be seen on their certification page. This can be viewed from our [Members Directory](#).

Criteria

Carbon Footprint certificate

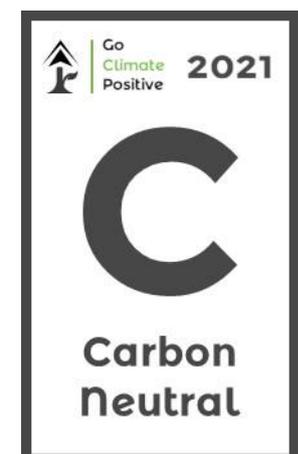
- A. The calculation shall be done in accordance with the GHG Corporate Protocol and Value Chain Standards.
- B. All emissions, from all categories of activity, upstream and downstream, in all 3 scopes shall be included in the calculation of the organisation's carbon footprint.
- C. The organisation shall set long term goals aligned to a 1.5°C pathway as defined by the Science-based Targets Initiative guidelines.
- D. The organisation's carbon footprint, handprint and reduction targets shall be published on the Go Climate Positive website.



Carbon Neutral certificate

- A. All criteria for the *Carbon Footprint* certificate shall be met.
- B. 100% of the organisation's total footprint shall be offset by retiring carbon credits in a public registry such that they cannot be double counted. All carbon credits shall be certified by a recognised third-party (e.g., Gold Standard or Verified Carbon Standard).
- C. Optional criteria:

We strongly encourage members of the programme to match their offsetting with an equivalent investment in the restoration of natural carbon sinks, such as the planting of a tree in a well-managed programme.



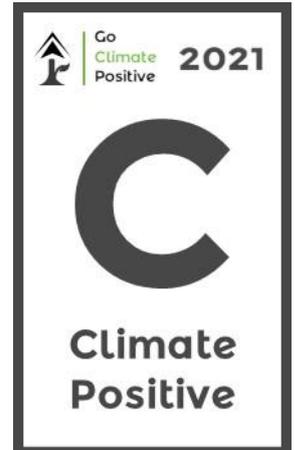
A well-managed tree planting programme is one which:

- I. Respects the local ecology and does not damage valuable habitats.
- II. Is committed to looking after the trees planted for a minimum of 50 years.
- III. Accounts for every tree planted, records their location and the name of the organisation financing it, and prevents double counting.



Climate Positive certificate

- A. All criteria for the *Carbon Footprint* certificate shall be met.
- B. At least 101% of the organisation's total footprint shall be offset by activities that reduce or prevent greenhouse gas emissions outside the organisation's boundaries (we call these 'carbon handprints' but they are technically known as 'avoided emissions') in one of the following ways:
 - I. Reusing or recycling materials/products beyond your operations
The difference between the carbon produced by reusing or recycling compared with the embedded carbon of making a new product is counted as a handprint. Recycling/reuse of operational waste does not count as a handprint as that is expected.
 - II. Developing and selling low-carbon products
The difference between the lifetime emissions of the low-carbon product and those of a standard product is counted as a handprint.
 - III. Helping suppliers or customers to reduce their emissions
Carbon saved by working with one of your suppliers or customers on a specific project that helps them to reduce their emissions, by saving energy, consuming less material or reducing waste is counted as a handprint. Work with a supplier that reduces the footprint of the materials purchased by the organisation does not count as a handprint, but it will reduce the organisation's footprint.
 - IV. Introducing other businesses to the community
Carbon reductions from businesses introduced by the organisation to the Go Climate Positive community are counted as a handprint.



Alternative pathway to Climate Positive

- A. All criteria for the Carbon Neutral certificate shall be met.
- B. An additional 10% of the organisation's total footprint shall be "over-offset" by activities that reduce or prevent greenhouse gas emissions outside the organisation's boundaries (as per the criteria I-IV above)

Optional "net zero aligned" stamp

An optional "net zero aligned" stamp may be applied to any certificate if the organisation has committed to:

- A. Cutting emissions in half by 2030 or set a 1.5°C aligned science-based target within 5-10 years with a detailed plan to achieve this.
- B. Achieving net zero emissions by 2050 at the latest and a roadmap that headlines how this will be achieved, demonstrating 90% absolute reduction in emissions or 97% reduction in emissions intensity.
- C. Once at net zero, offsetting any emissions that are not feasible to eliminate by permanently removing CO₂ from the atmosphere.
- D. Investing in the restoration of natural carbon sinks (e.g. a well-managed tree planting programme) to an equivalent of at least 10% of their total carbon footprint annually.

