

Maria da Graça Carvalho Member of the European Parliament e)mission neutral[®] 2011 Office & Travel



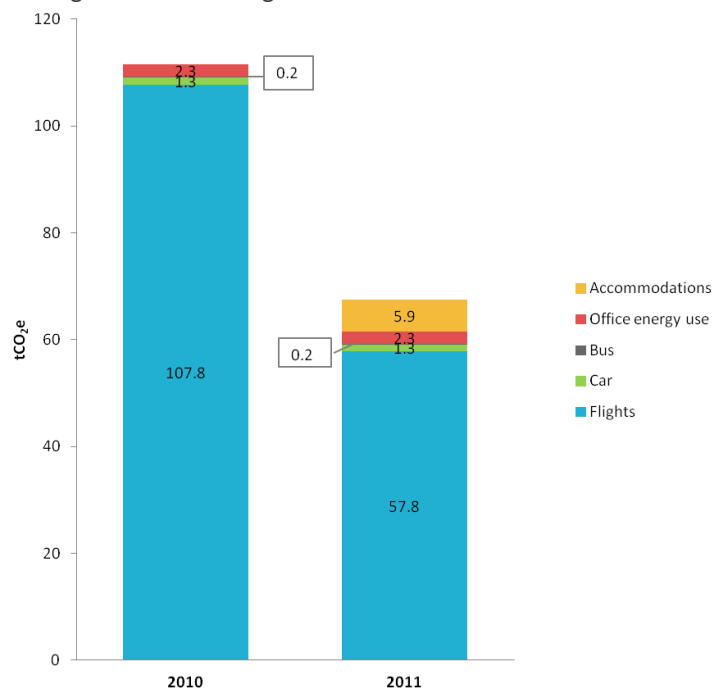
Our methodology for estimating emissions comprises the use of the best elements of a number of strategies, including the Greenhouse Gas Protocol, developed by the *World Resources Institute and the World Business Council for Sustainable Development*, and those developed by *Carbon Trust*, widely recognized in leading carbon emission reductions for businesses.

It is not always possible to replace the need for “energy services”, but pollution can be compensated via different ways. “**Offsets**” deliver carbon emission reductions and are one of the many ways to mitigate climate change.

The scope

Business air travel and road travel, accommodations, commuting and office energy use are sources of greenhouse gas emissions and are therefore included in this carbon footprint.

- Flights: 231 472 km
- Car: 10 464 km
- Bus: 5 472 km
- Office energy use: 8 700 kWh
- Accommodations: 100 days



The footprint

The carbon footprint (2011) is **67.4* tonnes CO₂ equivalent**.

*8.56 tonnes due to flight arrangements to COP17 have already been offset during 2011.

This is the equivalent to:

- The annual carbon footprint of 9 European citizens
- Emissions arising from consuming 157 barrels of oil
- The volume of gas, enough to fill up 13 hot air balloons

This amount of CO₂e
has been compensated



Our projects

Portfolio e)mission® Q1 2010

Neutralizing the footprint



How to compensate the carbon footprint?

The compensation, or offsetting, of the carbon footprint can be done by investing in activities that reduce greenhouse gas emissions relative to the business as usual scenario, and that would otherwise not be viable. This can be achieved with projects that improve energy efficiency or apply renewable energies, substitute dirty fuels for cleaner ones, or avoid biogas emissions, for example.

In accordance with the *Kyoto Protocol* and following international reference standards, these projects are located in developing countries where they can support sustainable, clean development while achieving cost effective carbon reductions.

The carbon credits for this compensation are delivered by the following projects:

Mini Hydroelectric project in Honduras

The project consists of a small run-of-river hydroelectric project with 4MW of installed capacity. Built along the Babilonia river. The main purpose of the project activity is to avoid the construction of new thermal power plants by generating electricity through sustainable, clean and secure means, using hydropower resources. This will contribute to a more reliable and secure provision of electrical services in the area. Besides reducing the dependency on fossil fuels, this project will trigger local development.

Composting in South Africa

The project involves composting of green waste (plant residues, garden waste, park waste) from the municipality of Cape Town. Biological (green) waste is taken from three Waste Transfer Stations in Cape Town to be sorted. It is decontaminated if necessary and chipped to reduce the volume, then brought to the composting site where it is treated and accumulated into piles. The objective is to produce controlled microbial compost in order to restore the fertility and buffering capacity of local agricultural soils.

Ceramic Facility Fuel Switching Project in Brazil

This project is composed of three small ceramic businesses situated in the state of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. The ceramics had used heavy oils as fuels for the kilns to produce its products, endangering the fragile ecosystems in the region. Understanding the impact that this had on the environment, the ceramics wanted to pursue a more sustainable form of production and replaced the heavy oils used in production to renewable biomass to generate thermal energy for the ceramic kilns. The new biomass came from sawdust and wood residues from areas of reforestation.

This amount of CO₂e has been compensated