

UNEP's Climate Neutral Strategy

1st revision

Summary presentation



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Background

- UNEP is climate neutral as of 1 January 2008
- UNEP's current climate neutral strategy (April 2008) is a preliminary strategy, to be revised during 2009
- This presentation outlines the revised strategy, for the considerations and guidance by SMT
- If approved "as is" the strategy will result in 10-30% emission reduction in three years with recurring annual net savings of between US\$ 235.000 and US\$ 2 million per year

Exact amount of emission reductions and savings depend on what approach is used to reduce travel emissions.



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Objectives

1. Long-term goal: 85% emission reduction by 2050 compared to 2007
2. Approach: 1) Emission reduction; 2) Offsetting
3. Pursue climate neutrality within an environmental management approach
4. UNEP will 'lead by example' and will share methods, procedures, and approaches with other organizations.

15 other UN organizations are now in the process of developing similar plans and policies



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Principal outputs

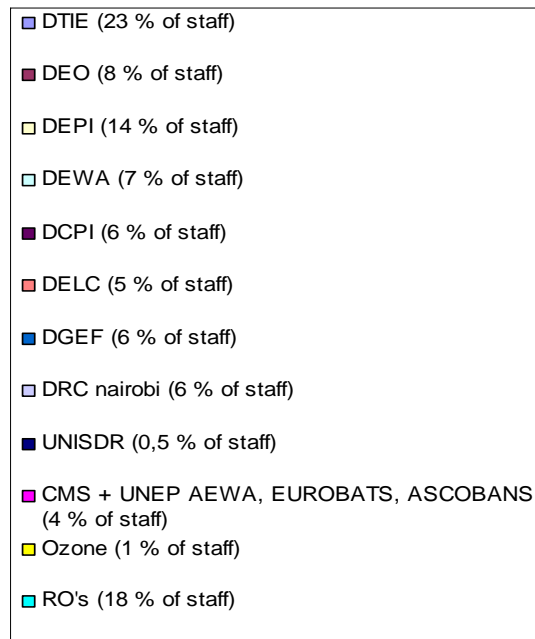
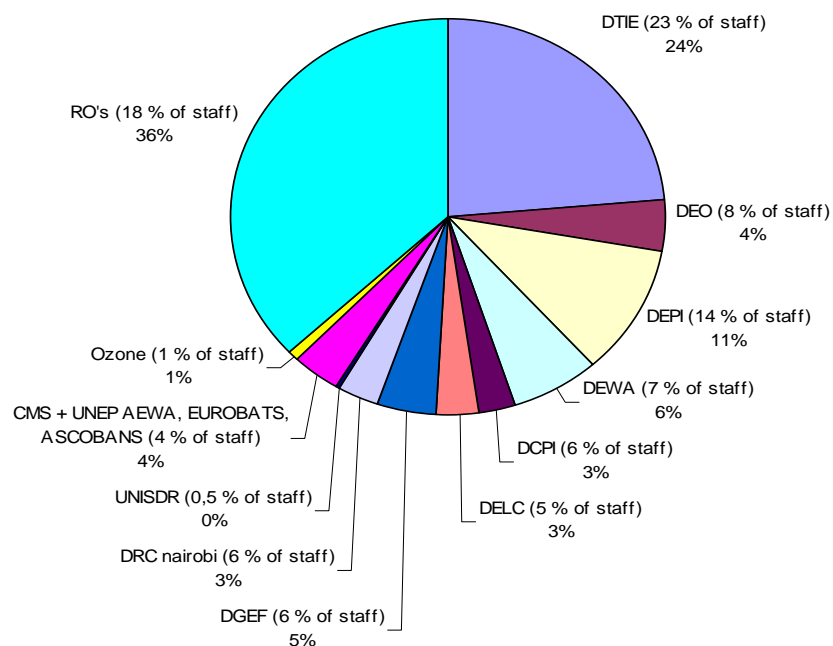
1. Annual GHG inventory
2. Emission reduction and improved environmental performance
3. Establish environmental management system
4. Procurement of offsets



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Emissions

Green House Gas Emissions UNEP 2008 -
Office emissions 1,452 tonnes CO₂-e -
Percentage per division





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Focus areas

- 1) Air travel
- 2) Facilities and office operations;
including meetings, e-admin, local
transport and flexible working
arrangements
- 3) Staff engagement and communication
- 4) Procurement
- 5) Environmental safeguards
- 6) Environmental Management System



Travel

Background:

- *87% of UNEP's carbon footprint is caused by air travel (year 2007)*
- *In 2008 UNEP issued 9854 air tickets, of which 47 % for staff and 47 % for meeting participants.*
- *15% of the tickets were business class – responding to 35% of total ticket costs and 45% of all GHG emissions from air travel*
- *250 air tickets were issued for routes where travelling by train would be less than 6 hours*



Travel

Three options for business class air travel (para 10)

- All air travel in economy class: 20% emission reduction and US\$ 1 million in annual savings. This is the walking the talk option. BUT inconvenient for efficiency of work during travel and missions. OR
- 20% air travel emission reduction goal (for divisions and branches) by Dec 2012, supported with “Smart Travel” incentive scheme. More flexibility in how emissions are reduced but savings unpredictable. Estimate annual savings is US\$ 2.2 million. OR
- Business tickets per branch capped and reduced by 10% (or more) per year. Long-term soft approach resulting in 2.5 % emission reduction per year. Estimated annual savings: US\$ 340.000.

Savings to be used for supporting measures



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Travel

- Always use train if travel time is less than 6 hours (para 11)
 - *Train should be used even if a ticket is more expensive than flying*
- Establish e-communication plan by end 2010 to provide alternatives to physical meetings (para 12)
 - *Minimum e-communication access for all UNEP staff*
 - *Costed implementation plan presented to SMT by end of 2010*
- Support bundling of missions (Para 13)
 - *Reduce number of tickets*
 - *Encourage distance work to bridge time between missions at same/nearby destinations*
- Minimum requirements on travel agents (Para 14)
 - *Provide CO2 info on all quotations*
 - *Be able to book surface travel tickets*



Facilities

*UNEP has offices in 36 locations (year 2008) – all rented or leased.
GHG emissions from offices cause around 15% of total footprint.
Electricity use is the main source.*

1. All offices with +10 staff to undertake in-house energy audit in 2010 (para 15)
 - *Action plan for reduced energy at each UNEP office proposed by December 2010*
2. Common environmental indicators/standards for all UN facilities adopted by Dec 2010 (para 16)
3. All service contracts to be environmentally screened when renewed (para 17)
 - *Contracts to address choice of energy supplier, monitoring of consumables (water, electricity, generator fuel etc), monitoring of waste produced, access to and influence on contracts relating to maintenance, energy supply, catering etc*



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Meetings

1. UNEP Green Meeting Guide to be applied at all UNEP's meetings (para 18)

2. All UNEP offices with +10 staff to establish rooster of local green service providers by Dec 2010 (para 19)
 - *Hotels, conference venues, catering firms, local transport providers etc.*
 - *Update the rooster every 2nd year.*



E-admin

Administration and daily communication provides the backbone for all UNEP's activities and has a direct impact on the efficiency of the organization, and indirect impact on the environmental footprint of UNEP offices. One example is paper use, which is estimated at well over 10 million sheets per year in UNEP.

1. Introduce e-applications throughout UNEP (para 20)

- Increased efficiency and accountability of admin processes.
- Reduced need for printing

2. Adopt a paperless policy for all in-office communication (para 21)

- Electronic signatures + tracking system for correspondence in all UNEP offices with +10 staff
- Proposal for supporting system provided to SMT by March 2011



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Local transport

All UNEP offices to conduct, by mid 2010, a survey of commuting habits of staff, and identify means to encourage more sustainable transport (para 22).

- Contracted local transport for Gigiri
- Parking space for bikes, subsidized public transport etc.



Flexible Work

The UN Flex policy allows staff to work from outside the office for periods of time, thereby reducing the need for commuting, allowing bundling of missions, offloading limited office space, and increasing work-life balance of staff.

Review the potential in each UNEP office (+10 staff) to use distance work as means to improve staff efficiency and reduce office costs and travel climate footprint (para 11)

- *Each UNEP office to review the potential to use the UN Flex Policy (ST/SGB/2003/4) to allow distance work by end of 2011. The review will identify potential participants, benefits and costs to the organization and involved staff.*



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Staff engagement and communication

All UNEP staff to undergo by the end of 2011 training on sustainable behaviour, including travel, office habits, procurement, environmental safeguards for projects etc. (para 24)

- On-line training module to be ready by mid-2011.
- Integrated as part of induction training

Greening UNEP communications will include (para 25):

- Greening UNEP website on Intranet.
- Improve and maintain the Greening UNEP web page at www.unep.org
- Include a section on Greening UNEP in all annual reports
- “Best green initiative” to be added to the Baobab awards
- A senior management task force group to develop proposals for additional incentives



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Procurement

1. Sustainable procurement practices to be implemented within 2010 (para 26)
 - *All procurement on UNEP's behalf to be conducted in line with the statement HLCM procurement network's statement on sustainable procurement*
 - *All procurement on UNEP's behalf to apply the guidelines and fact sheets for sustainable procurement developed by UNEP SUN, UNPS and UNOPS*
 - *Support on training and awareness raising on sustainable procurement to be provided by SUN*

2. Annual reporting by each +10 staff office on efforts and results of sustainable procurement (para 27)
 - *Support to be provided by SUN*



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Environmental safeguards in projects

Background

UNEP project approval procedure currently includes checkpoints on poverty alleviation and gender equality. No safeguards exist for the environmental design and performance of the projects.

By the mid 2011 UNEP will have adopted a system to include environmental safeguards in all projects and activities in the Programme of Work for 2012-2013 (para 28)

- *This will be informed by, and contribute to, the work on environmental safeguards in the UN system undertaken by the Environmental Management Group New procedure to be approved by PAG*

EMS

Background

An Environmental Management System (EMS) identifies the significant environmental impacts from an organisations operation, clarifies the organisations' environmental objectives and outlines the organisations' response to these objectives.

UNEP will establish by the end of 2010 an initial system for annual monitoring and reporting of key indicators (para 29)

- *Suggested areas for indicators include: Water, Waste, Greenhouse gas inventory, Sustainable Procurement, Travel, sustainability monitoring of UNEP Projects*

By the end of 2012 UNEP will have upgraded this environmental performance monitoring to a proper Environmental Management System, ready to be certified according to ISO 14001 (para 30)



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Offsetting

1. Procurement of offsets according to ToR for UNEP's Climate neutral fund.
 - *Meeting the criteria set for Cleaner Development Mechanism under the Kyoto Protocol*
2. Costs for travel is calculated and charged to the relevant travel budget line at purchase of ticket
3. Costs for office emissions calculated at end of year and shared by divisions.
4. Paragraph included in all new donor agreements



Organisational setup

1. UNEP ED
 - *Overall decisions re: UNEP Climate Neutral Commitment*
2. Advisory Board of UNEP Climate Neutral Fund
 - *Decide on offsets and other use of the UNEP Climate Neutral Fund*
3. Climate Neutral Officer
 - *Lova Andre: Coordinates implementation of strategy*
4. SUN team
 - *Provides technical support*
5. UNEP Climate Neutral Senior Champion
 - *Paul Akiwumi, chief of staff. Advise and facilitate high level dialogue*
6. Network of UNEP climate neutral focal points in each office
 - *Support local data collection & staff engagement*



Expected result of the Strategy

1. Emission reductions of approximately 30% by end of 2012
2. UNEP in leadership position on climate change in UN
3. Consistent environmental management in UNEP
4. One time investment costs: US\$ 2,6 million
5. Recurring costs: US\$ 2,0 million
6. Recurring savings: US\$ 4,0 million
7. Funding in PoW (RE63-P4/SUN) for kick-start activities*
8. Staff need to be assigned in each division/office to support implementation (2-4 m/m per office for 2010-2011)

**) US\$ 1,2 million. This is not including costs for offsetting, e-communication upgrades, implementation of emission reduction plans in offices or incentive schemes for economy class travel.*



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Next steps

1. The strategy assigns responsibilities and deadlines (summarized in Annex 1).
2. The strategy should be revised and updated by the end of 2012.
3. The strategy will become operational once adopted (with any modifications) by ED/SMT.