

GLOBALCAD'S COMMITMENTS FOR ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

At GlobalCAD, we recognize the global ecological and climate crisis as the major challenge of our time. We support the declaration of the climate emergency, and in the spirit of the [Agenda 2030](#) we join the global community in pursuing a more environmentally, socially and economically sustainable development through collective action. This is reflected in our [vision](#) "to transform societies towards a more sustainable and inclusive world".

OUR GOAL

We apply sustainability criteria in all aspects of our work to reduce the ecological and carbon footprint of our operations and create a positive net impact on people and planet. *As part of our commitment to this goal, we monitor and report on the progress we make towards reducing our footprint while enhancing our positive impact related to environmental sustainability and social cohesion.*

OUR APPROACH & COMMITMENTS

The following commitments guide our actions in relation to environmental sustainability at all levels: how we identify and how we implement our projects, how we manage our workspace and how we communicate what we do.



IDENTIFY



IMPLEMENT



MANAGE



COMMUNICATE

Putting these commitments into practice is a collective effort of the entire team, as well as part of our engagement with partners, clients and our wider community. The implementation of these commitments is supported through an action plan containing targets, key performance indicators (KPIs) and actions, which we regularly monitor to track and report on our progress. Based on our progress, we will periodically review the actions, targets, and commitments.



HOW WE IDENTIFY PROJECTS

Objective: All of our projects provide a tangible contribution to society, particularly environmental sustainability and social cohesion.

- **We provide solutions for ecosystem health and climate resilience. The projects we engage in have a positive impact on the environmental sustainability of the planet.**
 - We prioritise those projects with the highest potential impact on environmental sustainability and climate resilience in order to put our experience and resources to the best possible use.
 - We strive to monitor and estimate the positive impact that we generate together with our partners and clients.
- **We do not engage in any project or partnership that may directly or indirectly contribute to the ecological and climate crisis.**
 - We carefully screen project opportunities not only for technical and financial viability, but also for potential negative impacts on environmental sustainability and climate resilience that may arise from implementation, even if unintended.
 - We do not engage in the project if negative impacts are likely or cannot be reasonably discarded.
 - We do not engage with organisations whose values are not aligned with our vision.

Targets and KPIs:

- Projects implemented per year with a focus on addressing climate change and/or environmental sustainability. **Target:** at least 50% of GlobalCAD's annual turnover and at least 50% of GlobalCAD's annual project portfolio.
- No. of countries, regions and organisations supported through projects with a focus on addressing climate change and/or environmental sustainability. **Target:** 2 new countries, regions and/or organisations per year.



HOW WE IMPLEMENT PROJECTS

Objective: By 2025, all of our projects are implemented with a zero-emission and environmentally friendly approach.

- **We intend to limit international air travel to the necessary and we avoid domestic air travel.**
 - Wherever the option is available, we take the train to destinations that can be reached within 6 hours.
 - We rely on local partners whenever it is possible and we travel to international destinations when there is a high added value.
 - We aim to reduce the mileage of international air travel by using virtual tools and methodologies, by combining meetings and missions across projects, by selecting the shortest possible flight connection and by considering mileage already when selecting and designing projects.
- **We compensate all CO₂ emissions from our air travel.**
 - As of 2020, all emissions from our air travel will be compensated through carbon offsetting and/or alternative mechanisms.
- **We use safe and sustainable local transport options.**
 - While safety always goes first and public transport is not a viable option in all countries we work in, we choose public transport whenever and wherever possible.
- **We apply sustainability criteria when planning and organising missions and events.**
 - We prioritise eco-friendly and independently run accommodation options and event venues (e.g. those with an environmental management plan).
 - When on mission, or when organising events outside of our own office space, we consider sustainability criteria when choosing the accommodation and venues (e.g. those with an environmental management plan).
 - When organising events, we chose healthy, sustainably produced and packaged food options, i.e. seasonal, organic, plant-based and healthy products, sourced locally or from fair trade, and avoiding single use packaging.

Targets and KPIs:

- Amount of GHG emissions generated through air travel (total and compared to turnover) and % of GHG emissions compensated. **Target:** 100% compensated.
- % of events organised with eco-friendly options. **Target:** 100% by 2025.



HOW WE MANAGE OUR WORKSPACE

Objective: We reduce our resource consumption, waste and emissions through an environmental monitoring and management system.

- **We use 100% renewable energy sources in our offices.**
 - Our office in Barcelona is supplied with 100% renewable energy by [Holaluz](#). This saves approximately 5,000t of CO₂ emissions annually compared to the energy mix of the largest electricity supplier in Spain and does not generate any nuclear waste.
 - Other GlobalCAD offices, including home offices, are also using 100% renewable energy, and we encourage our team members working from other offices to use renewable energy wherever it is feasible.
- **We use electricity, water and other resources and materials as efficiently as possible.**
 - We closely monitor our electricity and water bills and the procurement of other resources (e.g. paper) and set targets and measures for reduced consumption. We prioritise eco-friendly services over conventional ones.
- **We apply the principles of “reduce, reuse, recycle” to avoid waste and we separate all recyclable materials.**
 - We monitor the waste we generate in our workspace and we set targets and measures for reduction. We separate recyclable materials.
- **We buy sustainable food and office supplies.**
 - We consider sustainability criteria in the procurement of office supplies (such as energy efficient electronic devices, recycled paper, biodegradable cleaning materials, etc.) and food (such as organic, seasonal, local, plant-based, fair trade products, with reusable or biodegradable packaging).
- **We use sustainable transport options to commute to the office.**
 - Our offices are located in central neighbourhoods close to the public transport network, so all of our team members walk, cycle or take public transport to commute. Thus, we do not contribute to GHG emissions, air and noise pollution, but keep healthy and happy.
- **We facilitate remote work as a common practice among our team for those who wish to work from home, as well as during missions.**
 - We have digital collaboration tools in place that enable remote work, not mainly for environmental benefits, but as a means to improve reconciliation of work and family life.

Targets and KPIs:

- Use of renewable energy at GlobalCAD offices including home offices. **Target:** 100%.
- Electricity (kWh) and water (m³) consumption levels in our offices. **Target:** Electricity reduced by x% and Water by y% (tbd based on baseline and reduction potential assessment).
- % of recyclable materials (packaging, paper, glass) separated at our offices. **Target:** 100%.
- % of team members regularly commuting by foot, bicycle, e-bike or public transport. **Target:** 100%.



HOW WE COMMUNICATE WHAT WE DO

Objective: We communicate our commitments, actions and progress in a proactive and transparent manner and inspire our team, partners, clients and our community to take action and promote change within their organisations.

- **We raise awareness about our commitments and actions regarding environmental sustainability.**
 - We communicate with our partners and clients about our sustainability principles when planning and implementing a project. At the beginning of a new project, we establish sustainable practices for project implementation, including travels, organising meetings and use of materials/resources. We take ownership and responsibility to push the environmental agenda forward.
- **We promote sustainable business practices in the sector beyond our own projects.**
 - We share our experiences, learnings and best practices with our community via online (website, newsletter, social media) and offline channels (events, seminars, trainings).
- **We raise awareness among our team about sustainability at our workspace, and we promote a healthy and sustainable lifestyle.**
 - We involve the entire team in making sure that our sustainability targets are met while promoting a healthy and sustainable lifestyle beyond the work environment.
 - We clearly communicate the targets, actions and measures and jointly track our progress internally.
 - We encourage conversations around sustainability and health among our team members, where we share personal experiences, resources and ideas.

Targets and KPIs:

- Clients and partners are aware of our environmental commitments and practices through project documents and through direct communication. **Targets:** All project proposals contain our commitments for environmental sustainability; all active partners and clients receive a message with our commitments for environmental sustainability.
- No. of (a) events/trainings and (b) articles/interviews/useful resources on environmental sustainability in our website and social media. **Targets:** a) 4 per year; b) 6 per year.
- At the end of each year, we transparently communicate the progress on our targets. **Target:** Annual report on progress.
- Team members are aware of and apply our environmental commitments and promote and/or attend internal informational events. **Target:** environmental indicators included in the monthly reports; each team member promotes or attends at least 2 events per year.

CONTACT US

These are our commitments to promote a healthier, more sustainable and more resilient environment. If you want to learn more about our approach, access our website, social media or send us an email.

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