

UN SYSTEM  
CLIMATE NEUTRAL STRATEGY

2007-2017 PROGRESS ASSESSMENT



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UN environment  
LEHIGH UNIVERSITY

Supporting the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development by enhancing UN system-wide collaboration and consistent responses on environmental matters.

EMG ENVIRONMENT MANAGEMENT GROUP  
UNITED NATIONS

In October 2007, UN System Principals committed to the UN Climate Neutral Strategy with the aim of measuring, reducing and offsetting greenhouse gas emissions resulting from UN facilities and operations. The efforts made by each entity of the UN System have been regularly reported via the Greening the Blue campaign.

Ten years later, UN Environment collaborated with Lehigh University, USA to assess progress towards i) implementing the UN Climate Neutral Strategy, ii) integrating environmental considerations within internal management practices and iii) achieving reductions in greenhouse gas emissions. This document summarizes the findings of this research.

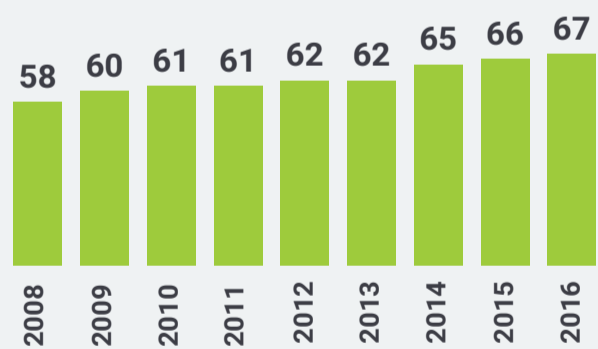
For more information, visit the Greening the Blue website at [www.greeningtheblue.org](http://www.greeningtheblue.org).

MEASURE. REDUCE. OFFSET.



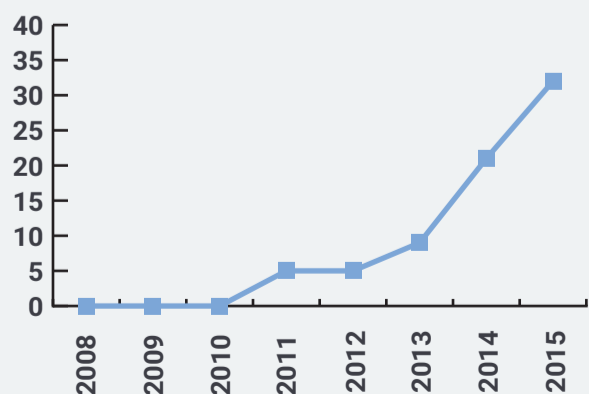
2007-2017 PROGRESS \*

MEASURE



Total UN entities reporting

OFFSET BY 2020



Number of climate neutral entities

REDUCE

Data collected in recent years suggests that **nearly half of the 67 reporting entities** have consistently reduced greenhouse gas emissions in facilities, travel, or both.



11 Reduced emissions from facilities (per area)  
12 Reduced emissions from travel (per capita)  
9 Reduced emissions from travel and facilities

Contribution to the Sustainable Development Goals



\*Source: 2008-2017 UN GHG emissions inventories



## Emission Reduction Measures

A 2017 UN Environment survey identified the top emission reduction measures undertaken in headquarters locations by the 67 entities reporting in the UN GHG emissions inventory.



## Case Studies

Virtually all reporting agencies took a variety of measures to reduce emissions. The case studies presented here are examples of the types of measures taken and their results:

### UNDP Smart Facilities - Energy Efficiency in Decentralized Offices



The UNDP Smart Facilities programme increases energy efficiency and reduces dependency on fossil fuels while optimizing ICT services in many decentralized offices. The implemented projects generated **1,143 kWh green energy and approx. \$1.8 million USD savings per year** and ultimately contributed to making UNDP more sustainable worldwide.

Among the projects implemented so far, UNDP can count the following:

• **Installation of 6 Solar Photovoltaic Systems**

• **Development of OneICTbox and installation of 49**

• OneICTbox is an innovative compact, energy efficient ICT solution developed for UNDP Country Offices as a substitute for conventional data centers

• Average annual savings: 49 x \$23,000 = \$1,127,000



Core kit of the OneICTbox

### Corporate Environmental Responsibility at FAO HQ



FAO is committed to reducing emissions, increasing efficiency, and integrating sustainability into its daily operations in the areas of facilities management, travel and procurement.

Since 2008, several efficiency projects have been implemented at Headquarters, which have resulted in a cumulative **annual reduction of over 10,000,000 kg of CO2e and \$1 million USD.**

HQ energy efficiency measures resulting in a 20% reduction in energy usage and 24% reduction in costs include:

- Elevator upgrades
- LED and sensors in corridor lighting
- Solar photovoltaic system
- Improved insulation near entrances



## Environmental Management

28

UN entities reported implementation of systematic approach to environmental management in 2016\*

\*Source: Greening the Blue report 2016

28

UN entities reported efforts to implement Sustainable Procurement in 2016\*

\*Source: UN Annual Statistical Report on UN Procurement 2016

## Sustainable Procurement