



CARBON NEUTRAL ICAEW ANNUAL REPORT

AN OVERVIEW OF PROGRESS AND PLANS

November 2021



INTRODUCTION: THE YEAR IN REVIEW	3
CARBON NEUTRAL ICAEW: OUR APPROACH, STRATEGY AND ROADMAP	4
INTERNAL CARBON EMISSION REDUCTION ACTIONS	5
ICAEW'S CARBON FOOTPRINT: CURRENT AND COMPARISONS	6
SHARING OUR JOURNEY TO CARBON NEUTRAL: ENCOURAGING OTHERS	10
OUR OFFSET PROJECTS: OVERVIEW AND IN ACTION	10
NEXT STEPS	13
REPORTING	14
ICAEW INITIATIVES FOR MEMBERS	14

INTRODUCTION

ICAEW's move to carbon neutral in 2020 has given us good credibility in this important area with many stakeholders. Over the past year we have stood ready to share the stages of our journey. We have:

- been invited to present to and speak with a number of organisations (from other UK and international membership bodies through to the National Audit Office); and
- shared the process with our members through the creation of articles for ICAEW Daily, which are then housed in a dedicated [ICAEW carbon neutral](#) portal on our website.

Due to the pandemic lockdowns our carbon footprint has fallen by approximately 2/3; with changes to employee commuting patterns we do not expect to reach pre-pandemic levels for the foreseeable future.

Implementation of carbon reduction initiatives has continued over the year, particularly in Chartered Accountants' Hall.

Carbon offsetting plays a role in ICAEW's commitment to contributing to the achievement of the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The three offset projects we purchased (in Asia and Africa) each contribute to the achievement of a number of the SDGs, with the relevant goals identified and mapped against each project. We selected projects which, as well as preventing the emission of carbon, deliver a number of socio-economic benefits, including improving health and living conditions and ultimately the provision of more renewable and sustainable approaches to solving environmental problems.

Our carbon neutrality should not, however, be an end game in itself, not least because the stakes and the goalposts are moving.

More reporting will become mandatory for organisations and, with it, a greater focus on internal governance and climate-related risk inclusion.

The line of sight is now net zero which, by its purest definition, means absolute reduction of internal emissions, with the (minimal) residual offset by carbon removal or sequestration projects.

Science-based target (SBTi) setting is increasingly the focus for larger, more carbon-emitting organisations. Any adoption of this approach (to net zero) will require deeper targets of over 90% decarbonisation across all scopes by 2050.

ICAEW considers the most important aspect of our sustainability and climate change work to be active focus on influencing, educating and encouraging others to take action. With our reach to 187,800 members and students in 147 countries, as well as to our many stakeholders, we take our reputation and influence position seriously.

CARBON NEUTRAL IN AUTUMN 2020

ICAEW became carbon neutral in autumn 2020. This made us the first major professional body in the world to go carbon neutral

We became carbon neutral through the purchase of offsets against our entire footprint ie, 3,360 tonnes of CO₂e

ICAEW council endorsed the UN SDGs in 2016. Becoming carbon neutral reflected our commitment to UN SDG 13.

TAKE URGENT ACTION TO COMBAT CLIMATE CHANGE OVER TIME AND ITS IMPACTS



'I believe the accountancy profession will have a huge leadership role in helping to realise the UN SDGs. And in doing so, we will be shaping our own future as a profession.

'If the profession and businesses can demonstrate that we are responding to the things that matter to the public and play our part in delivering the Sustainable Development Goals, then we may find that we are in a better place to reclaim the public's trust.'

Michael Izza, ICAEW Chief Executive

Our offsets support good projects which are beneficial to local communities (in Cambodia, Kenya and Vietnam) in terms of improved conditions, employment and sanitation. These socio-economic outcomes, which align with a number of the UN SDGs, are something we couldn't achieve on our own. The projects also prevent carbon being generated in the first place and they are assured through the Verra or Gold Standard.

As our emissions drop, this will reduce the level of offsets required.

CARBON NEUTRAL ICAEW

Operationally we had been working towards this for about five years, reducing our GHG emissions by 20% over the period from 2015.

Emission reduction actions included investing in enhanced remote meeting technology, comprehensive recycling and planning for a removal of gas as an energy source in Chartered Accountants' Hall (CAH).

OUR CARBON NEUTRAL STRATEGY

In July 2020, ICAEW's Board approved a roadmap for the organisation to become carbon neutral.

The roadmap set out a plan to financially support external carbon reducing projects (offsets) against our entire GHG emissions from 2020, in tandem with investment in internal decarbonisation actions over 10 years.

ICAEW'S CARBON NEUTRAL ROADMAP

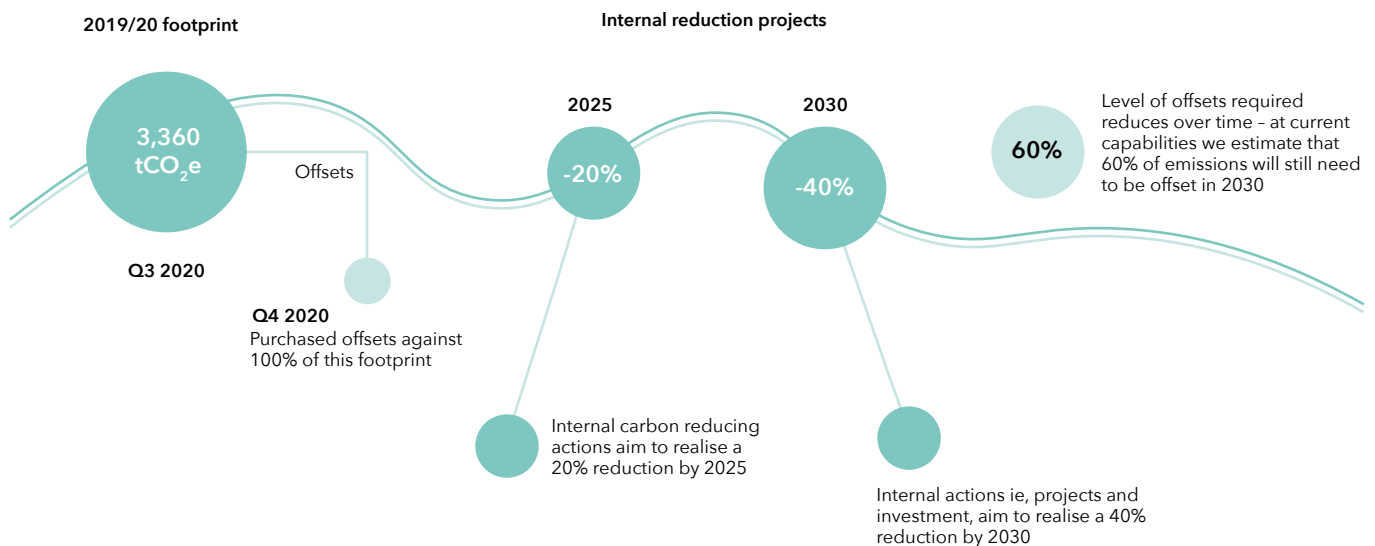
Our roadmap sets out our reduction targets and the timeframes we aim to achieve those in.

Sitting behind that we have identified actions (projects and activities) that we will undertake and invest in to reduce our carbon footprint.

As an organisation, we are not satisfied with simply offsetting - we are backing that up with a strong commitment to invest in internal carbon emission-reducing initiatives. We will continue to monitor our reduction progress through the annual footprint measurement exercise.

At this stage, with fully achieving these internal actions over the coming decade (and potentially others along the way), we will still need to include the purchase of some offsets against remaining emissions.

ICAEW'S CARBON NEUTRAL ROADMAP: TIMEFRAMES AND TARGETS



INTERNAL CARBON EMISSION REDUCTION ACTIONS

EXAMPLES OF INTERNAL PROJECTS

1. Consideration of alternative fuel boiler options for Chartered Accountants' Hall
2. Moving our data centre to the Cloud
3. Changes to flight policy - eg, on domestic flights
4. Assessing the potential for solar panels
5. Continuing investment in remote working capabilities

Chartered Accountants' Hall

During 2020, we had invested in and achieved, by year end:

- 100% LED lighting (with motion sensors)
- 100% electrification of our kitchens (all three of the catering kitchens have moved from gas to electric induction cooking appliances)

We are currently planning the following:

- Installation of air source heat pumps to provide the hot water supply to our building

Our plans and projects are not without various infrastructural challenges. We were hoping to replace the heating gas boilers with electric boilers, however UK Power Networks would require us to install a new substation, which brings issues around the location, cost and planning consent.

ICAEW STARTED CARBON REDUCTION INITIATIVES ABOUT FIVE YEARS AGO

Projects took place in areas such as recycling, non landfill disposal of waste and more efficient air conditioning and heating units. This meant that we had already achieved a 20% drop in our emissions before we embarked on the actual carbon neutral project.

The introduction of LED lighting in 85% of CAH saw a reduction in our power consumption of 60%. As at the end of 2020 the building is now lit 100% by LED.

Our recycling credentials are strong and we are actively looking at ways to improve those. No waste goes to landfill and all our food waste is anaerobically digested.

Paper use is down significantly year on year. In the year to April 2019, we recycled enough paper to save the equivalent of over 400 trees.

Non-essential business travel had been falling before the COVID-19 restrictions were implemented.

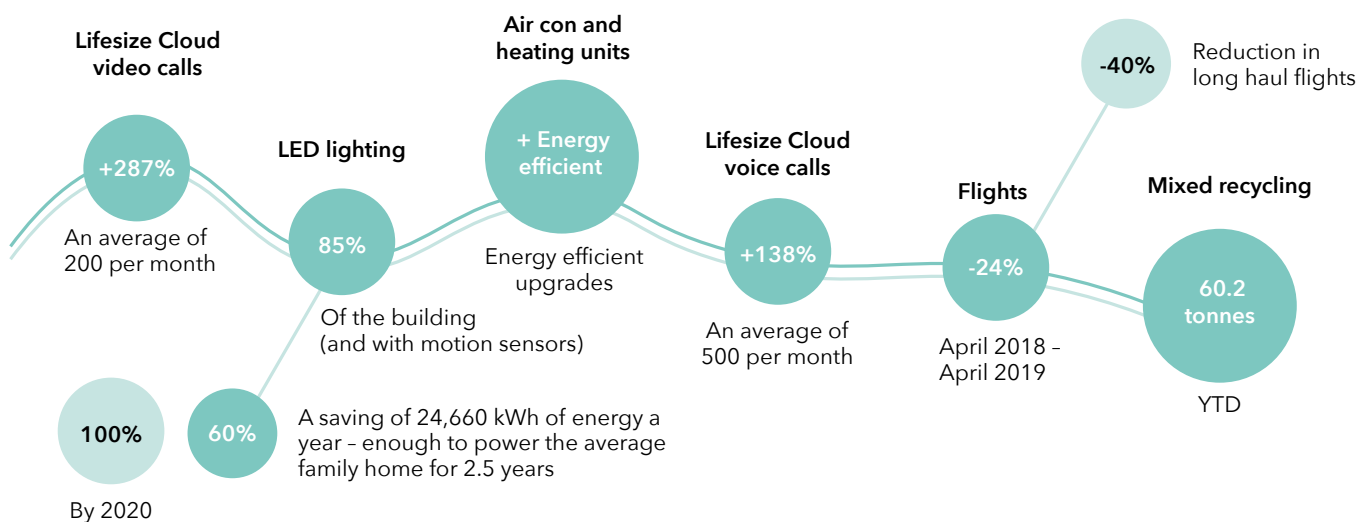
BRINGING OUR INTERNAL STAKEHOLDERS ALONG

Club Climate is a voluntary staff group discussing all aspects of ICAEW's climate work and sharing updates on current initiatives.

The group helps to raise awareness on sustainability issues and build organisation-wide traction and momentum. It was set up in 2019 and meetings have continued virtually during the COVID-19 pandemic.

There are currently 80 members of staff signed up to the group and attendance at meetings is strong.

OPERATIONAL AREAS ALREADY TARGETED: A LOOK BACK AT 2018-2019



ICAEW'S CARBON FOOTPRINT

We have been measuring our GHG emissions and calculating our carbon footprint since 2015.

This has enabled us to identify our emission hotspots, target key areas and measure the impact of our internal carbon reduction actions.

ICAEW has been consciously and steadily working to reduce our footprint year on year since we started formally measuring it (annually) in 2015.

We have undertaken to share our journey with our members, including those who run accountancy practices and members working in business globally - this is to educate, encourage and inspire change.

We advise that one of the first tasks is to measure the organisation's emissions so that you know where you are starting from and to allow reduction targets to be set and, over time, managed and monitored. It also helps to identify and understand where the bulk of the organisation's emissions come from and where the most effective action can be taken.

OUR GHG FOOTPRINT - 2019/20

Our base year for purchasing our first set of offsets to reach carbon neutrality was our 2019/20 footprint. The headline elements indicate that our carbon 'hotspot' is our travel.

Emissions from travel amounted to 66%. Employee commuting was the largest contributor to the overall footprint (29%), followed by business travel (19%). Emissions from all of our offices amounted to 34% and our electricity consumption in UK offices was 19%.

ICAEW includes the emissions arising from employee commuting in our footprint, not every organisation (currently) does. Emissions from commuting are based on staff surveys and are calculated on the basis of distances travelled and modes of transport used.

OUR GHG FOOTPRINT - 2020/21

We completed the measurement exercise in July 2021 (capturing our emissions from end March 2020 - 1 April 2021) with the assistance of external experts and using the CDP online reporting platform, and reporting through its portal.

Our footprint dropped by approximately ¾ in the reporting year.

The CDP will issue a scoring in January 2022 (for our related internal climate related processes including governance): we expect this to be an improved score compared to last year's 'C'.

THE IMPACT OF COVID-19

The pandemic lockdowns resulted in a significant fall in ICAEW's footprint.

Over the next three years (at least), we expect to see lower than pre-pandemic levels of employee commuting and overseas business travel.

Before we purchased the offsets we had to re-model our five-year projections for our fall in GHG - specifically due to COVID-19 and its impact on the employee commuting element of our footprint (it did account for well over ¼ of our footprint) plus the impact of less overseas travel by our senior executives and office-holders.

We did expect a ⅔ drop - and our projection was correct.

3,360 tCO₂e GHG → >837 tCO₂e actual



ICAEW'S CO₂e FOOTPRINT IN 2020/21

In 2019/20 our footprint was 3,360 tCO₂e.

Due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic lockdowns, our footprint has fallen to 837 tCO₂e.

FY 20-21: Summary - By emissions source	Tonnes of CO ₂ e (Market based)
Premises	584
Business travel	44
Employee commuting	209
Total	837

COMPARING 2019/20 TO 2020/21 - BY SCOPE

This 75% drop is largely due to the decrease in travel ie, business travel and commuting.

Source of emissions	Equivalent emissions CO ₂ e (t/yr) 2020	Equivalent emissions CO ₂ e (t/yr) 2021	CO ₂ e difference (2020 to 2021)	Emission Change - % of previous emission source year
Scope 1	213	124	-89	-42.0%
Scope 2	580	356	-224	-38.6%
Scope 3	2,567	357	-2,210	-86.1%
Total	3,360	837	-2,523	-75.1%

COMPARING 2019/20 TO 2020/21 - BY EMPLOYEE

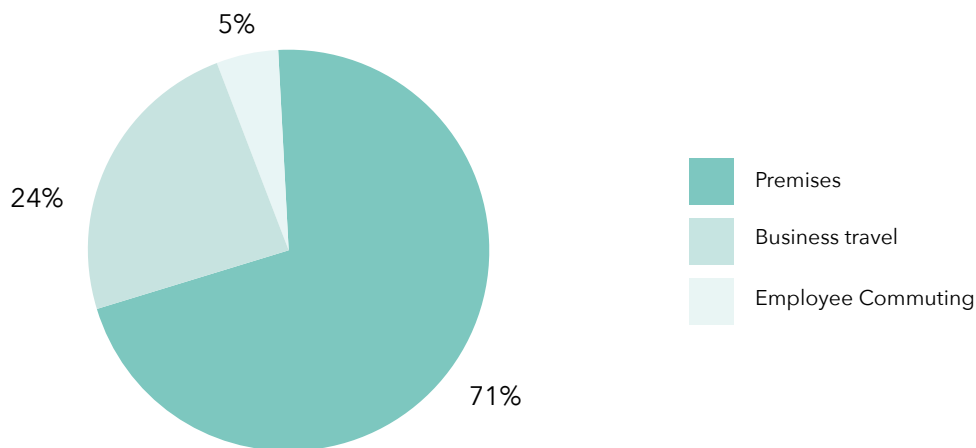
In 2019/20, the equivalent CO₂e per full time employee was 5.1 tonnes.

This dropped to 1.2 in 2020/21 - a decrease of almost 77%.

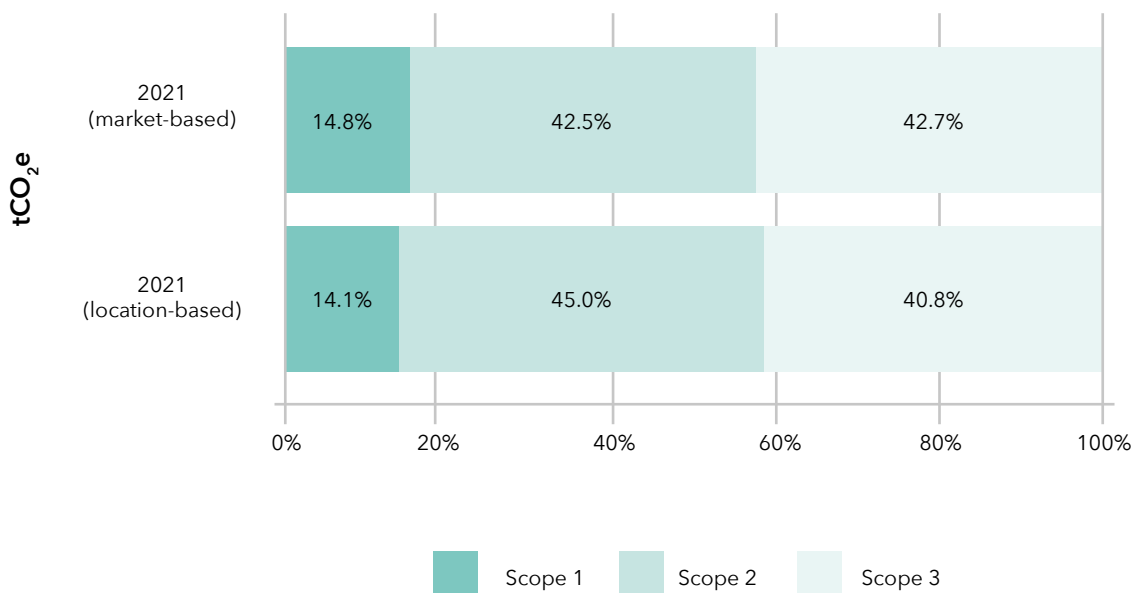
Source of emissions	Equiv. CO ₂ e per FTE employee (t) 2020	Equiv. CO ₂ e per FTE employee (t) 2021	CO ₂ e difference (2020 to 2021)	Emission Change - % of previous emission source year
Chartered Accountants' Hall	11.3	2.1	-9.2	-81.3%
Metropolitan House	0.7	0.6	-0.1	-8.7%
Warehouse	5.8	2.7	-3.2	-54.3%
Preston	1.0	0.5	-0.5	-50.4%
Sheffield	0.7	0.8	0.0	5.2%
Global offices	3.4	1.0	-2.4	-70.9%
Total	5.1	1.2	-3.9	-76.6

ICAEW EMISSIONS BY SOURCE (2020/21)

ICAEW - GHG emission by source (market-based) tCO₂e



ICAEW CO₂e emissions by scope (2020/21)

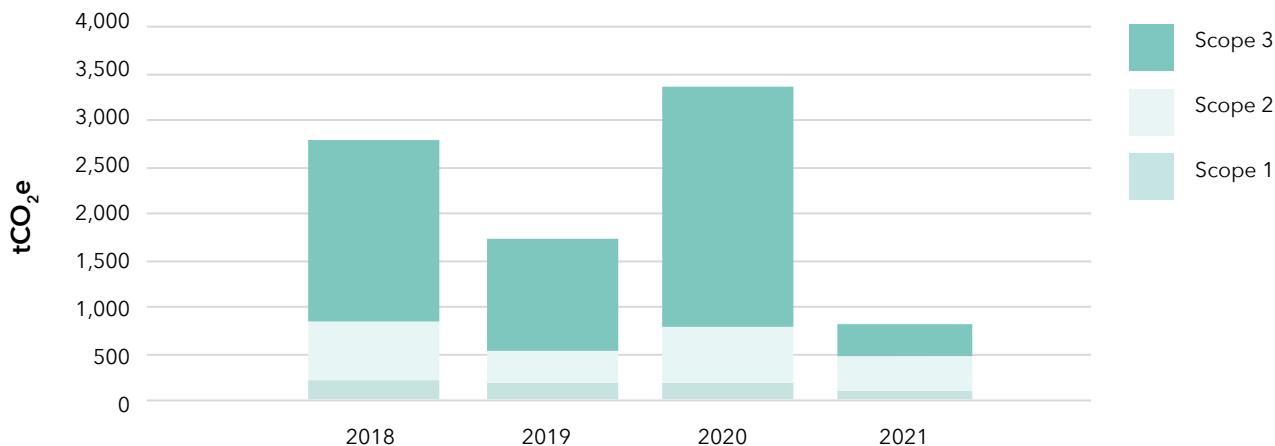


What is market-based? We use a market-based emissions calculation, allowing us to take account of the fact that we source our power from energy providers who use renewable sources. The alternative is location based which instead uses the average UK grid emissions factor for electricity. (Note on gas: gas is a fuel rather than power, but green gas tariffs are rare owing to a lack of biomethane supply.)

COMPARING OUR EMISSIONS: 2017/18 - 2020/21

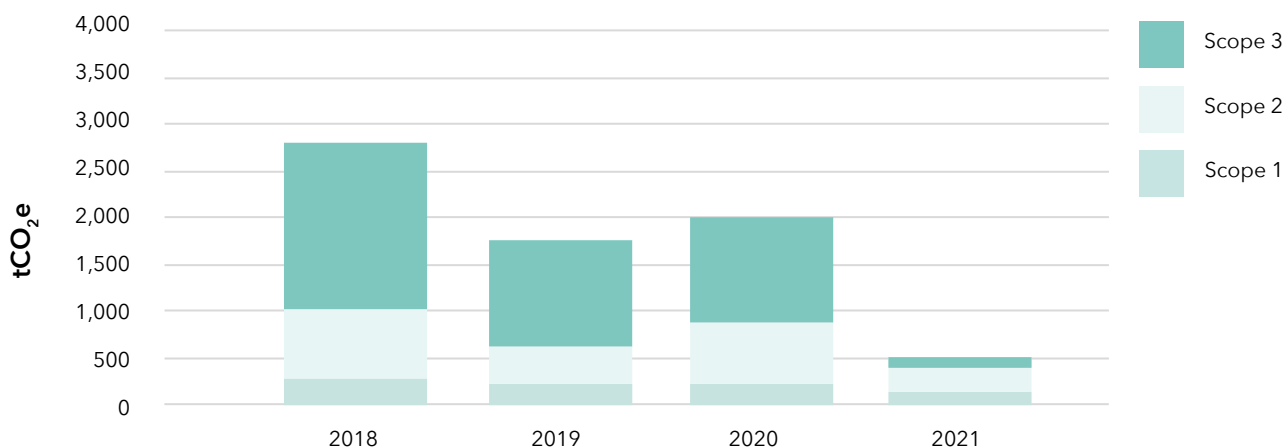
Year-on-year GHG Comparison (Market-based)

This chart below shows market-based emissions per scope, including all new emission sources added to the footprint for the first time last year.



Year-on-year GHG Comparison (Market-based) - like-for-like emission coverage

In order to enable a like-for-like comparison, the chart below shows the same data without the new emission sources that were added last year.



OUR GHG FOOTPRINT FOR 2021

ICAEW will now move to a calendar year measurement (to align with our financial year (FY)) and will complete the exercise in February 2022 to obtain a full figure for 2021. The resulting new figure will then be included in our financial statements for 2021.

Moving to a financial year measurement will also facilitate completion of the BEIS SECR reporting requirement – where we must report our Scope 1 and Scope 2 emissions for the financial year.

For this 2021 exercise, we will be following available guidance and including a measure to take account of the carbon arising from staff home and hybrid working, in our footprint.

SHARING OUR JOURNEY

HOW WE HAVE SHARED OUR EXPERIENCES

When approving our roadmap, ICAEW Board asked that we seek ways to inspire and encourage other organisations and our members to act too – by educating and sharing the stages of our journey.

We want to encourage these and other stakeholders to embark on carbon reduction journeys. We have communicated in a number of ways and to a number of audiences (members, stakeholders, other professional bodies) in the UK and internationally.

We have:

- written informative articles for ICAEW Daily;
- created a dedicated carbon neutral hub housing these articles;
- contributed content for articles to Chartered Accountants Worldwide (CAW) and conducted an interview for publication; and
- given bespoke presentations directly to various stakeholders.

Our CO₂e footprint is relatively modest but our footprint of impact and influence is substantial

It is encouraging that a number of accountancy bodies now have plans in place to address their carbon emissions, with most CAW members indicating active engagement.

Chartered Accountants Ireland (CAI) is committed to becoming the first carbon-neutral professional accountancy organisation in Ireland and ICAS is currently considering its own net zero ambition and a timetable.

WHO WE HAVE PRESENTED OUR JOURNEY AND LEARNINGS TO

- Accountancy Europe (AE)
- American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA)
- Chartered Financial Analysts Institute (CFA)
- Global Accounting Alliance (GAA)
- Green Finance Education Charter bodies
- Institute of Chartered Accountants of Ireland (CAI)
- Institute of Chartered Accountants of Scotland (ICAS)
- International Federation of Accountants (IFAC)
- National Audit Office (NAO)
- Professional Associations Research Network (PARN), the network of approx. 110 UK professional bodies

A [three-minute video](#) on our carbon neutral journey has been released, which also signposts our carbon neutral hub. This video was launched at the ICAEW Climate Summit in October 2021 and has been shared with members of CAW.

OUR OFFSET PROJECTS

The need for offsets

Offsets are a core element of any carbon neutral strategy.

ICAEW chose, like EY and PwC and companies in other sectors such as Microsoft and Sky, to fully offset our entire carbon footprint at the outset to achieve carbon neutrality.

Regardless of the approach to carbon neutrality, most organisations wishing to become carbon neutral will need to purchase offsets against an irreducible residual element of carbon, which internal initiatives and actions alone can simply not totally eliminate. This is particularly so against Scope 3 emissions ie, emissions beyond the organisation's direct control.

Selection process

ICAEW undertook a methodical process to select a high quality offset broker utilising checklists and assurance points.

In terms of the offsets, we selected three strong projects supporting a wider reduction in GHG in Africa and in Asia. Contributing (annually and equally) to these projects will offset our emissions for that year.

We wanted to select a diverse range of offset projects, each contributing to achieving the SDGs. The offset broker we selected maps the SDGs that each project contributes to, for example, the project in Kenya contributes to 16 of the goals.

Geographically, ICAEW also has a number of existing links including assisting with capacity building projects in these countries, two of which were led by our [International Capacity Building team](#). ICAEW Foundation has also allocated funds to provide bursaries to students of the new Accounting Technician Qualification (ATQ) in Cambodia. We also have a staff presence in Vietnam.

The projects are either Verra or Gold Standard verified.

Our external offset projects

- Cambodia: Clean drinking water climatepartner.com/project/1061
- Vietnam (65 provinces nationwide): Biogas plants climatepartner.com/1053
- Kenya (Kasigau Wildlife Corridor): Forest protection and wildlife corridor protection climatepartner.com/1004

Carbon offsetting - what it is

By supporting a carbon reduction project (an offset), an individual or a company is compensating for emissions it creates itself. Carbon offsets are an efficient and cost-effective method of contributing to carbon reduction.

ICAEW's GHG footprint was 3,360 tonnes of CO₂e in 2019/20. Therefore we purchased the equivalent amount - 3,360 tonnes - of carbon offsets or credits to balance things out.

The work behind the offset projects encourages the development of more renewable and sustainable approaches to solving environmental problems.

For example, the water treatment project in Cambodia means that locals will no longer need to cut down trees (counteracting deforestation) and light fires (CO₂ emitting) to boil contaminated water. Instead, water filtration and purification systems provide safe drinking water at source, as well as mitigating against illness.

Offsets - cost

The market price of offsets has risen substantially over the past year - in most cases there has been a doubling and in some cases a trebling of price as demand now outstrips supply.

We were aware of rising demand and the potential for price increases when we were purchasing so we took the option of locking in the 2020 price until 2025.

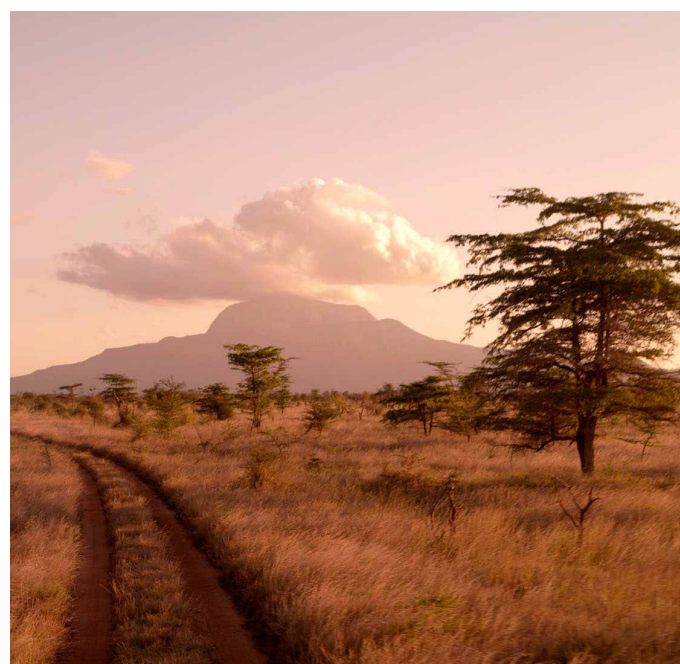
Larger organisations are being encouraged to invest in developing their own projects as an alternative approach to this rising demand.

We will complete the renewal process for our offsets at the end of October - the cost of offsetting will decrease this year as our footprint has decreased.

Our offset broker provides access to an online reporting portal for each of our projects so we can keep up to date with their progress.



Cambodia: clean drinking water programme - the filtration is based on an ancient method in which the water seeps through baked clay



Kenya: Kasigau wildlife corridor



Vietnam: biogas project

OFFSETS - A FOCUS ON THE VIETNAM PROJECT

ICAEW's investment - and its timing - completed the required financial needs of this nationwide biogas project and it is now operating self sufficiently.

The biogas programme in Vietnam effectively addresses both climate change and energy access in communities in rural Vietnam.

The biogas plants convert methane from animal waste into fuel for domestic use. This technology uses waste to generate clean, sustainable energy. It saves families valuable income while improving their health, reducing deforestation and preventing millions of tonnes of CO₂ emissions from entering the atmosphere.

The achievements have been widely recognised and acknowledged each year through the issuance of hundreds of thousands of credits, enabling the biogas programme in Vietnam to generate 50% of its budget from the carbon market.

In Vietnam, the construction of small-scale biogas plants in households makes an effective contribution to climate protection. The plants are filled with organic waste such as animal manure, which ferment under exclusion of oxygen. This produces biogas, which the families use in gas cookers for water purification and cooking or for gas lamps. The project improves the health and social situation of poor people by giving them access to clean and affordable energy. It also reduces the need for firewood and thus counteracts massive deforestation in Vietnam.

In large parts of Vietnam, there is a lack of proper waste management. This means hygiene and odour problems for communities, polluted waterways and significant greenhouse gas emissions for the environment. The lack of biogas generation also means that a valuable energy source is wasted.

Meanwhile, households struggle to meet their energy needs safely. Solid biomass fuels such as wood and agricultural residues are often burned indoors, causing respiratory and eye problems. The income and time women and children spend collecting these fuels could be used for better purposes.

climatepartner.com/1053

Achievements

- More than 179,000 biogas plants have been built in 55 provinces of Vietnam, benefiting 850,000+ Vietnamese users over the lifespan of the project.
- Since 2007, 15, 935 hectares of forest have been protected (as much as 25,000 football pitches).
- 166m kilowatt hours of energy were produced in 2019.
- Prevented over 485,000 tonnes of CO₂ emissions.
- More than 2,700 rural jobs have been created.
- \$578m+ saved in health co-benefits generated from the reduction of treatment and mortality cost due to diarrhoea and respiratory illness.

CONTRIBUTING TO THE UN SDGs

How the clean drinking water project in Kampong Chhnang, Cambodia contributes the UN SDGs

Water-borne disease is a leading cause of illness in the developing world.

In Cambodia, 88 out of 1,000 children under the age of five die due to the consumption of untreated water. Two thirds of Cambodian households rely on boiling water as a way to provide their families with clean drinking water.

SDG 3 - Good Health and Well-being

Reducing air pollution from burning wood to boil water; improving health of all family members, especially children by combatting child mortality and improving maternal health.

SDG 5 - Gender Equality

Strengthen the role of women through time savings and training.

SDG 6 - Clean Water and Sanitation

For every tonnes of CO₂ sold, 3,825 litres of clean drinking water are produced locally. The project will give more than 800,000 people access to clean drinking water.

SDG 8 - Decent Work and Economic Growth

Creation of jobs for local producers, middlemen and sellers.

SDG 13 - Climate Action

People avoid carbon emissions by not boiling their drinking water anymore.

SDG 15 - Life on Land

Reducing the demand for firewood, preserving local forest areas and biodiversity.



NEXT STEPS

What else we are doing?

- Identifying an appropriate climate-related risk for our risk register – the lack of inclusion of such a risk means that we are not able to meet fully some of the requirements when reporting externally on our carbon actions.
- Preparing a short form TCFD [Task Force on Climate-Related Financial Disclosures | TCFD](https://www.fsb-tcdf.org) (fsb-tcdf.org) report for FY 2021.
- Including reporting requirements arising from BEIS SECR [Environmental reporting guidelines: including Streamlined Energy and Carbon Reporting requirements - GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/environmental-reporting-guidelines) (www.gov.uk) in our FY 2021 financial statements.
- Continuing to convene Club Climate, the voluntary (and popular) staff group covering all aspects of our work on sustainability.

What we need to focus on next

- Identify and include a climate-related risk in our risk register
- Watch developments in the net zero space: ICAEW is a signatory to the A4S pledge to net zero by 2050 – we have 12 months to develop a roadmap for that
- Consider our Scope 3 emissions in more detail including focusing on our suppliers and our supply chain

With external assistance, the carbon footprint of the *Finance for the Futures Awards* (2 November 2021) was calculated and we will offset that event by including the 4 tCO₂e in our existing offsets for the coming year – making it carbon neutral.

ICAEW's role

The carbon our organisation emits in the course of its operations is relatively modest so we believe that the greatest impact ICAEW can and should have is one of influence, education and encouragement. We will continue to focus our efforts on leveraging our reach and voice across our 187,000 members and students. We will work with stakeholders, policymakers and through the syllabus of our qualifications towards a world of sustainable economies. ICAEW has also now placed helping to achieve the UN SDGs at the heart of our strategy.

Our pledge to do more

In October 2021, ICAEW signed the Prince of Wales’s Accounting for Sustainability Project (A4S) Accountancy Body Network (ABN) Accounting Bodies Net Zero Commitment. This pledge signals the commitment of 13 body members of the global accounting profession, to a net zero GHG emissions future within our operations. This includes committing to help our members to respond.

While addressing climate change through our own operations is critical, we also wish to ensure others benefit from our transition. Therefore, we aim to share our experiences, and that of others, as examples to support our members, their clients and the wider business community, as they implement their own net zero GHG emissions pathways.

For our members, we commit to:

- encourage and provide our members with the training, support and resources they need to establish their own net zero pathways and reduce GHG emissions; and
- provide sound advice to help governments create the policy and regulatory infrastructure necessary for a just transition to a net zero carbon economy. accountingforsustainability.org

REPORTING

There is an increasing number of reporting requirements and tools. While many are not mandatory at this stage, that will change.

ICAEW has taken the decision to prepare a short-form TCFD (Task Force For Climate Related Disclosures) report for the FY 2021. We have also reported to the FRC for two years now as part of its annual *Information Request for climate change and related issues* exercise.

It is now a requirement for medium-sized organisations to include information under the BEIS SECR (Streamlined Energy and Carbon Reporting) in their financial statements; and we are including this in our FY2021 financial statements.

INITIATIVES FOR MEMBERS

ICAEW CLIMATE AND SUSTAINABILITY INITIATIVES AND ACTIVITIES FOR OUR MEMBERS

The Sustainability and Climate Change Community was launched in autumn 2020. Membership is currently 10,232 (mid November 2021), making it one of the fastest-growing of ICAEW’s communities.

Our dedicated carbon neutral hub was launched in 2020 and houses a series of informative articles on our carbon neutral journey.

These articles are first disseminated via the ICAEW Daily to all ICAEW members who have signed up to receive it.

In the run-up to COP26, we launched a joint initiative of ICAEW, Chartered Accountants Ireland and ICAS. We aim to celebrate and support 1,000 Chartered Accountants who have committed, or want to commit, to begin their journey to net-zero carbon emissions.



Sustainability and Climate Change Community icaew.com/joinscc



icaew.com/carbonneutral

Join us and thousands of others in signing up for the Race to Zero.

1,000 Chartered Accountants campaign icaew.com/insights/cop26/1000-chartered-accountants

When Chartered Accountants Save the World

When Chartered Accountants Save the World | ICAEW

The world is changing - and so is the role of chartered accountants. Our major new content series explores how chartered accountants are helping to tackle some of the most urgent social challenges within the UN Sustainable Development Goals, and considers how the profession could do even more in the future. Are you ready?

COP26 and climate | ICAEW

With the Conference of the Parties approaching in November, ICAEW has been developing a vast amount of content and events to prepare the profession on the subject of climate and ESG developments.

Our qualifications: The ACA and beyond

As the demand for action on climate change, sustainability and broader environmental, social and governance (ESG) issues rises, it is expected that professionals are equipped with the knowledge, skills and experience to tackle them.

To support our members in this rapidly evolving field, ICAEW has already made several additions to the ACA syllabus (including materials on the Taskforce on Climate-Related Financial Disclosures, the Natural Capital Protocol, the UN Sustainable Development Goals and the requirements of the Green Finance Education Charter). ICAEW is now working to develop a course to support those members who are already qualified and is seeking input on what that needs to deliver.

ICAEW Climate Summit

18-22 October 2021

A five-day virtual summit of events, videos, podcasts and articles to help chartered accountants act on climate. This is the first such summit bringing ICAEW members from across the profession together on the issue of climate change.

COP26: acting together on climate

What's the role of the accountancy profession?

FUNDER
COMMITMENT
ON CLIMATE
CHANGE

Our Charity wants to play its part too and in Spring 2021, ICAEW Foundation became the 60th signatory to the [Funder Commitment on Climate Change](#).

The Foundation has also identified that its work contributes to UN SDG 3, 4 and 10.

Chartered accountants are talented, ethical and committed professionals. There are more than 1.8m chartered accountants and students in the world, and more than 187,800 of them are members and students of ICAEW. All of the top 100 global brands employ chartered accountants.*

Founded in 1880, ICAEW has a long history of serving the public interest and we continue to work with governments, regulators and business leaders globally. And, as a world-leading improvement regulator, we supervise and monitor over 12,000 firms, holding them, and all ICAEW members and students, to the highest standards of professional competency and conduct.

We promote inclusivity, diversity and fairness and we give talented professionals the skills and values they need to build resilient businesses, economies and societies, while ensuring our planet's resources are managed sustainably.

ICAEW is the first major professional body to be carbon neutral, demonstrating our commitment to tackle climate change and supporting UN Sustainable Development Goal 13.

We are proud to be a founding member of Chartered Accountants Worldwide, a network of 750,000 members across 190 countries which promotes the expertise and skills of chartered accountants around the world.

We believe that chartered accountancy can be a force for positive change. By sharing our insight, expertise and understanding we can help to create sustainable economies and a better future for all.

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ICAEW is
carbon neutral

* Source: CAW, 2020 - Interbrand, Best Global Brands 2019