Corporate Carbon Footprint

TUV India -Carbon Footprint Verification

Carbon Footprint

Why carbon footprint matters:
Environmental catastrophes as a potential result of global warming are a threat to both people and the natural world and can lead to unforeseeable consequences. Climate change is considered to be the most important challenge of the 21st century because it requires a willingness to approach economic growth in new ways. Companies are under increasing pressure to take voluntary measures to combat global warming over and above their basic legal obligations.

This is the time when it is becoming increasingly important for companies to determine their Green House Gas (GHG) emissions. A Corporate Carbon Footprint provides information to corporate management or to other stakeholders upon which carbon reduction initiatives and investment decisions can be based.

Carbon Disclosure Project (CDP)
The Carbon Disclosure Project is an independent not-for-profit organization holding the largest data base of corporate climate change information in the world. This information is made available at the heart of business, policy and investment decisions.

Interested parties include institutional investors, ranging from pension funds to insurance companies through to blue chip companies holding a total US$71 trillion in assets under management, policymakers and their advisors, public sector organizations, government bodies and also academics and the public. CDP, launched in 2000, sent out the first request for climate change information in 2003, and the number of disclosing companies has increased well over tenfold since.

Why it pays to join CDP
Climate change can be called a problem of 'deep uncertainty'. Many links in the chain of anthropogenic GHG emissions, physical changes in the climatic system and their socioeconomic impacts are difficult to quantify. However, financial and policy decision-makers often cannot simply rely on a best guess as to how the future will unfold, and the risks associated with climate change need to be embedded into their policies and strategies.

In order to proactively manage the risks, governments, global corporations and institutional investors must engage with their business partners. This includes requests for disclosure of emission levels, environmental impact assessments, as well as full disclosure and reporting on sustainability management policies and practices. Initiatives such as the CDP can be utilized in this context. Transparency as a consequence of disclosure, or simply meeting market needs, is good reasons for representatives to publish their organization’s GHG inventory and ultimately mitigate the risks of climate change. CDP is worthwhile because it:
- ensures transparency of reported GHG data
- enables comparison of disclosed information
- serves as a preparation for possible legislative requirements

Reasons for verification
In the current carbon-dependent economy, the integrity and robustness of this data is being questioned more than ever. Verification can provide credibility and reassurance regarding the integrity, completeness and transparency of the statements that are made. Due to increasing concern about improving environmental quality, there has never been a better moment to harvest the benefits of having GHG emissions data independently verified.
Verification is becoming a market access issue as global buyers and institutional investors are demanding proof of performance claims.

**Some reasons for having your GHG information and data verified**

- Verification demonstrates a commitment to being fully transparent and accountable to stakeholders and thus generates even more trust
- Verification can differentiate a business from the competition – providing a distinct market advantage and can therefore open up further business opportunities and markets
- Verification provides credibility to prospective buyers and investors, which reduces the risk inherent in the investment and procurement process. This facilitates investment in the business
- Verified data increases corporate ranking in CDP’s league table
- Verification can align a company’s business strategy with government policy and regulation, which may be advantageous in applications for government funding support

**Service portfolio of TÜV NORD**

TÜV NORD offers a wide range of services in the energy and carbon sector from inspection of energy management systems and validation/verification of climate protection projects to checking eco-balances. TÜV NORD is proud to possess national and international references in the area of climate protection. We are accredited by the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) to validate, verify and certify international climate protection projects. To date we have performed these services for around 1,000 projects (Clean Development Mechanism, Joint Implementation, and Voluntary Offset). TÜV NORD is also very active within the framework of the European Union Emission Trading Scheme (EU-ETS). So far, more than 400 million tonnes of CO2 have been verified by TÜV NORD GHG experts under this system.

TÜV NORD is a well-established and reliable partner for inspection and certification services. Our experts and auditors have extensive knowledge based on experience and are generally permanently employed by TÜV NORD. This guarantees independence and neutrality and also means we can offer continuity in supporting our clients.

The benefit to you is clear: our auditors accompany and support the development of your company and provide you with objective feedback.

The services provided by TÜV NORD within carbon business include:

- Verification of Emission Reports for EU-ETS
- Validation & Verification of JI / CDM / VCS Projects
- Certification of Carbon Footprints and Carbon Neutrality Projects

TÜV NORD has successfully conducted a variety of verifications of carbon footprints for companies, products and events as well as for carbon neutrality. The certification scheme for carbon neutrality includes verification of the carbon footprint as well as the examination of the offset of the verified GHG emissions by carbon credits such as reduction certificates from GHG mitigation projects; this enables companies to have their carbon footprint checked, demonstrate the sustainability of their operations through an independent review and document success with a carbon neutral mark of conformity.

TÜV NORD has defined and implemented various standards within the TÜV NORD climate protection services to enable transparent verification procedures. TÜV NORD has been accredited by DaKKs in Germany and UKAS in the UK for the provision of verifications under ISO 14064.

**Benefits of verification by TÜV NORD**

- By making use of TÜV NORD verification services you gain assurance of climate or sustainability data through third party certification
- As a qualified verifier, TÜV NORD brings additional experience and viewpoints into the reporting process
- Certification by TÜV NORD enables companies and other organizations that are aware of their environmental responsibilities to document their commitment to climate protection
- TÜV NORD verification boosts credibility in information provided to and disclosed by CDP

**10 keys to a successful partnership as your partner, TÜV NORD**

- has experience and wide-ranging expertise
- is flexible and multi-skilled
- is competent and expert in its field
- is always objective
- is available when and where you need it
- speaks your language
- has a global presence
- is independent but sensitive to your needs
- looks positively towards the future
- is highly respected within the market

**TÜV NORD and CDP**

For verification, all relevant data has to be documented by the company and submitted to TÜV NORD. After a pre-check of the documents by TÜV NORD, the verification consists of on-site audits and interviews with qualified company personnel. The auditors from TÜV NORD document the results of the assessments, including any findings such as non-conformities or areas for improvement. After all non-conformities are cleared, the verification results are reported by TÜV NORD and the certificate is issued.

**Verification Approach**

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