



United Nations
Global Compact



AFRICA BUSINESS
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Global Compact
Network Egypt

GREEN IMPACT REPORT

The UN Global Compact Network
Egypt Annual Forum: Pathways to
Sustainable Africa
2024



ClimateSM 
Innovating for resilience

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Overview of UN Global Compact : Pathways to Sustainable Africa

The United Nations Global Compact Annual Forum: Pathways to Sustainable Africa, organized with the UNGC Africa hub, ABLC Coalition, the resident coordinator office in Egypt, and the EU Commissioner, aimed to promote sustainable development and economic prosperity. This forum sought to mobilize the private sector by encouraging ethical business practices and integrating sustainability into their operations and strategies. It provided a platform for collaboration among private sector entities, government bodies, international organizations, and civil society to support the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Themed "Pathways to Sustainable Africa," the forum features five main discussions on sustainable finance, green hydrogen, food security, sustainable communities, responsible supply chains, aligned with global sustainability trends for 2024. Key events included the launch of a special assignment by H.E. Antonio Guterres to create a sustainability-enabling environment in Egypt, the "Forward Faster" platform to help the private sector scale up responsible practices, and the UNGC Africa strategy. Additionally, there was a private sector consultation on the national anti-corruption strategy for 2030.



Participants explored sustainable investing, linking financial success with environmental and community well-being. The forum fostered partnerships through discussions on food security, renewable energy, and green hydrogen. It also highlighted investment in sustainable buildings and communities, featuring insights from the "Building Environments Sustainable Transition (BEST)" initiative from COP28 in UAE.

ABOUT THIS REPORT

This Green Impact Report examines the carbon footprint of the UN Global Compact Network Egypt (UNGCNE) Annual Forum, "The Pathways to Sustainable Africa," held on May 20th, 2024, in Cairo, Egypt. The report is aligned with the principles of ISO 20121: Event Sustainability Management Systems, which provides a framework for minimizing the environmental impact of events.

Quantifying Our Environmental Impact

By measuring the carbon footprint, the UNGCNE demonstrates its commitment to environmental responsibility and sets a benchmark for future sustainability efforts.

The carbon footprint is the total greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions associated with an event.



These emissions can come from various sources, including:

- Venue energy consumption (electricity, heating, cooling)
- Transportation (travel of participants, staff, and materials)
- Catering (food production, transportation, waste)
- Materials used (printing, signage, promotional materials)
- Waste generation (disposal and recycling)



FOLLOWING ISO 20121

The ISO 20121 standard provides a comprehensive framework for managing the environmental impact of events. This report will consider the following key aspects of ISO 20121:

- **Planning and Leadership:** This section will outline the planning process for the forum, including any specific sustainability goals that were established.
- **Location and Venue:** This section will examine the environmental impact of the chosen venue, including its energy efficiency and waste management practices.
- **Materials and Services:** This section will explore the materials used for the forum, such as printing supplies and catering options, and how sustainable choices were incorporated.
- **Transportation:** This section will analyze the travel emissions associated with the forum and explore strategies for minimizing them.
- **Waste Management:** This section will assess the waste generated during the forum and outline plans for waste reduction, reuse, and recycling.



Sustainability First Approach

Conscious of the environmental impact, the UN Global Compact team integrated eco-friendly practices into every decision, from venue selection and material sourcing to waste management and attendee engagement.

This commitment to sustainability aligns with the organization's core values and demonstrates their leadership in fostering a greener future.

Location & Venue

The event organizers have carefully selected a venue in the heart of downtown Cairo to minimize the transportation emissions associated with the event. By choosing a well connected central location, the organizers encouraged attendees to carpool or utilize the city's extensive metro and bus networks to travel to the event. This helped to reduce the number of individual car trips and the associated greenhouse gas emissions. The event's proximity to major landmarks and attractions also meant that many attendees were able to combine their trip to the event with other activities, further minimizing the need for additional transportation. Overall, the strategic location of the event venue in the center of Cairo was a key factor in the organizers' efforts to promote low-emission travel and reduce the environmental impact of the event.





Event Attendance, Food Waste and Materials

The forum was initially expected to host 250 attendees, but the actual number reached 600. To accommodate the increased attendance, the logistics team requested the hotel to double the provisions, preparing for 500 people. Remarkably, there was no food waste at the end of the event.

Attendance and Logistics

Expected vs. Actual Attendance:

- Expected: 250 attendees
- Actual: 600 attendees

Food and Beverage Provisions

- Initial preparations: Catering for 250 attendees
- Adjustments: Increased provisions to serve 600 attendees
- Outcome: No food waste, despite the final count of 600 attendees

Material Use

The production setup was constructed entirely from wood, covered with printed vinyl film for branding. Approximately 1035.9 m² of wood was used, and all branded elements were preserved for future events. Paper was used mainly for printing nametags, which were not retained after the event.

Production Setup:

- Materials: Wood covered with printed vinyl film for branding.
- Quantity: 1035.9 m² of wood used.
- Post-event: All branded elements preserved for future reuse.

GHG EMISSIONS ANALYSIS

The total GHG emissions for the forum amounted to 37,186.94 kg CO₂e, covering travel, accommodation, catering, water consumption, and materials. With 600 attendees, the GHG emission intensity was calculated to be 61.98 kg CO₂e per attendee.



Table 1 shows the exact breakdown of the emissions for each activity.



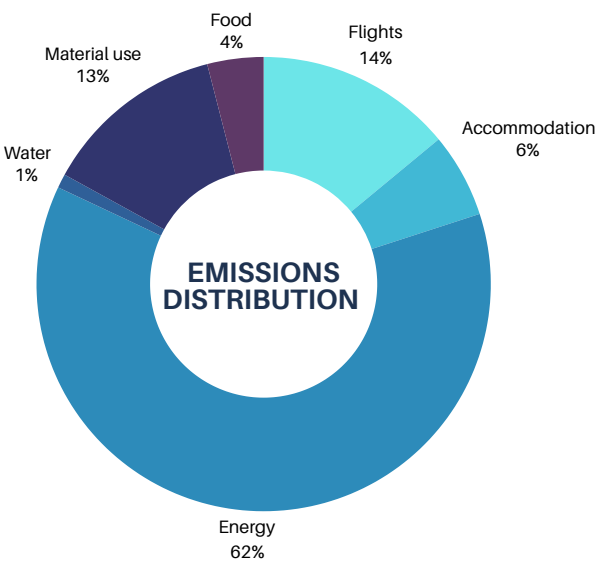
Main Activities

- **Travel:** Includes air and ground transportation for attendees and speakers.
- **Energy consumption:** Emissions from energy consumed during the event.
- **Accommodation:** Emissions from hotel stays.
- **Catering:** Emissions from food and beverage services.
- **Water Consumption:** Emissions related to water usage during the event.
- **Materials:** Emissions from the production setup and printed materials.

BREAKDOWN ANALYSIS

Table 1: Breakdown of the emissions for each activity.

Activity	Emissions in kg CO2e
Flights	5,280.00
Accommodation	2,353.78
Food Consumption	1,298.00
Water Supply	126.65
Electricity	23,481.51
Material Use	4,647.00
Total	37,186.94



COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS

Benchmarking with International Standards

According to the International Congress and Convention Association (ICCA):

- Average carbon footprint per attendee at international conferences: 204 kg CO₂e.
- Components: Travel, venue operations, catering, and waste management.

UNGC Network Egypt Forum Performance

- GHG emission intensity per attendee: 61.98 kg CO₂e.
- Performance: Significantly lower than the ICCA average, indicating effective sustainability practices.



CONCLUSION

The UNGC Network Egypt Annual Forum "Pathways to Sustainable Africa" sets a benchmark for future events in the region and beyond. By demonstrating that large gatherings can be conducted in an environmentally responsible manner, the forum serves as a model for sustainable event management. The strategies and practices implemented during this event can inspire other organizations to adopt similar approaches, contributing to global efforts to combat climate change and promote sustainability.

In conclusion, the UNGC Network Egypt Annual Forum successfully balanced the goals of fostering important discussions on sustainability with a commitment to reducing its environmental impact. Through effective planning, resource management, and adherence to ISO 20121 standards, the event showcased how sustainability can be seamlessly integrated into the core of event management.

The lessons learned and the practices adopted here can pave the way for more sustainable events in the future, making a positive contribution to the global sustainability agenda.



APPENDIX 1

UNGCNE Forum Carbon Emissions KgCO2e				
Flights				
Origin	Destination	Class	Single/Return	Kg CO2e
JFK	CAI	Economy	Return	1,422
KGL	ADD	Economy	Return	326
KGL	ADD	Economy	Return	326
KGL	ADD	Economy	Return	326
ADD	CAI	Economy	Return	520
ADD	CAI	Economy	Return	520
ADD	CAI	Economy	Return	520
AUH	CAI	Economy	Return	378
AUH	CAI	Economy	Return	378
Dubai	Kuwait	Economy	Return	186
Kwait	CAI	Economy	Return	378
total				5,280.00
Accommodation				
Country	No. Occupied rooms	No. nights/room	Factors	Kg CO2e
Egypt	12	3	65.38	2,353.78
Food Consumption				
Vehicle	Unit	Factors	Amount	Kg CO2e
1 cold or hot snack	hot snack	2.02	250	505.50
Non-alcoholic beverage	hot snack	2.02	500	100.00
1 hot snack (burger+fries)	hot snack	2.02	250	692.50
total				1,298.00
Water supply				
Type	Unit	Factors	Amount	Kg CO2e
Water supply	Cubic Meter	0.149	850	126.65
Electricity				
Activity	Country	Unit	Amount	Kg CO2e
Electricity	kWh	0.149	57852	23481.51
Material Use				
Activity	Waste type	Factors	Amount (tonnes)	Kg CO2e
Construction	Wood	312.61	14.8	4640.56
Paper	Paper	919.4	0.006	6.44
total				4647
TOTAL CARBON EMISSIONS				37,186.94



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