


Climate change is one of the biggest challenges facing mankind in the coming years. Rising temperatures, melting glaciers and increasingly frequent droughts, flooding and other extreme weather phenomena are all evidence that climate change is really happening. However, many of the impacts of climate change can be reduced, delayed or avoided by reducing our greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and our carbon footprint 

Contribution of tourism climate change

The World Tourism Organization of the United Nations estimated that the global tourism industry generates 5% of the GHG emissions generated globally. In 2005, transport generated the largest proportion of CO₂ emissions (75%) from global tourism, with approximately 40% of the total being caused by air transport alone. Emissions from accommodation facilities were estimated to account for 21% of the overall emissions from tourism activities .

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LIFE09 ENV/GR/00297

Strategic Planning towards Carbon Neutrality in Tourist Accommodation Sector



CARBONTOUR


- ✓ Calculate your carbon footprint
- ✓ Reduce your CO₂ emissions
- ✓ Help the environment!

About CARBONTOUR



The project “Strategic Planning Towards Carbon Neutrality in Tourist Accommodation Sector” - CARBONTOUR, initiated on September 2010 and has a duration of 28 months. The coordinator of the project is the Region of North Aegean while the project are the National Technical University of Athens, the company EPTA Environmental Engineers & Consultants, the Cyprus Hotel Association, the Aeolian Village hotel in Lesvos and the Mayfair Hotel in Pafos. The project is co-funded by the LIFE+ programme, the EU financial instrument for the environment.

The objectives of CARBONTOUR are:

- ⇒ To quantify and evaluate greenhouse gas emissions from tourist accommodations, i.e. their **carbon footprint** 
- ⇒ To develop a strategic approach, incorporating appropriate set of mitigation measures for CO₂ offsetting in order to reduce the contribution of the tourist accommodation sector to climate change.

Benefits for the tourist accommodations

The CARBONTOUR project is expected to benefit tourist accommodations mainly by:

- ✓ **Providing insight on those facilities and services of a tourist accommodation that contribute mostly to energy consumption, water consumption and waste production**
- ✓ **Indicating appropriate and cost effective interventions for energy, water and waste reduction**
- ✓ **Strengthening their environmental profile as well as their corporate social responsibility**

The CarbonTour tool

In the framework of this project, a carbon footprint software tool which calculates CO₂ emissions generated in tourist accommodations has been developed. The tool is user friendly, requiring the user to provide, as much as possible, simplified data regarding the type, number of rooms and location of the unit, its building characteristics, the desired indoor temperature, fuel and systems used, renewable energy, waste & wastewater management.

The tool, after processing the data inserted, presents the distribution of CO₂ emissions generated by each energy consuming facility of the tourist accommodation together with a sensibility analysis. Moreover it presents the CO₂ emissions generated according to the applied waste treatment method, whether waste are treated inside the unit or centrally, at the municipality.



General Information	
Building Characteristics	General Data
Data on Demands	Name of the Accommodation
Fuel & Systems	Type of the Accommodation
Renewable Energy	Rating of the Accommodation
Waste Management	Region
WasteWater Management	Number of Beds
Results	Monthly Accommodation Occupancy (%)
	January
	February
	March
	April
	May
	June
	July
	August
	September
	October
	November
	December

The CarbonTour tool will be applied in 80 tourist accommodation units in North Aegean, Greece and in Cyprus but it will also be available for everyone to use it.

More information on the project available at:
<http://uest.ntua.gr/carbontour/>