



Council of the  
European Union

098286/EU XXVII. GP  
Eingelangt am 27/04/22

Brussels, 27 April 2022  
(OR. en)

8463/22

COHAFA 42  
DEVGEN 71  
CLIMA 178  
ENV 370  
RELEX 527  
INTER-REP 59

#### NOTE

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From:	General Secretariat of the Council
On:	25 April 2022
To:	Working Party on Humanitarian Aid and Food Aid (COHAFA)
Subject:	Implementation of climate solutions by humanitarian organisations - presentation by The Climate Action Accelerator

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Following the COHAFA meeting of 25 April, delegations will find in Annex presentation made by The Climate Action Accelerator<sup>(1)(2)</sup>.

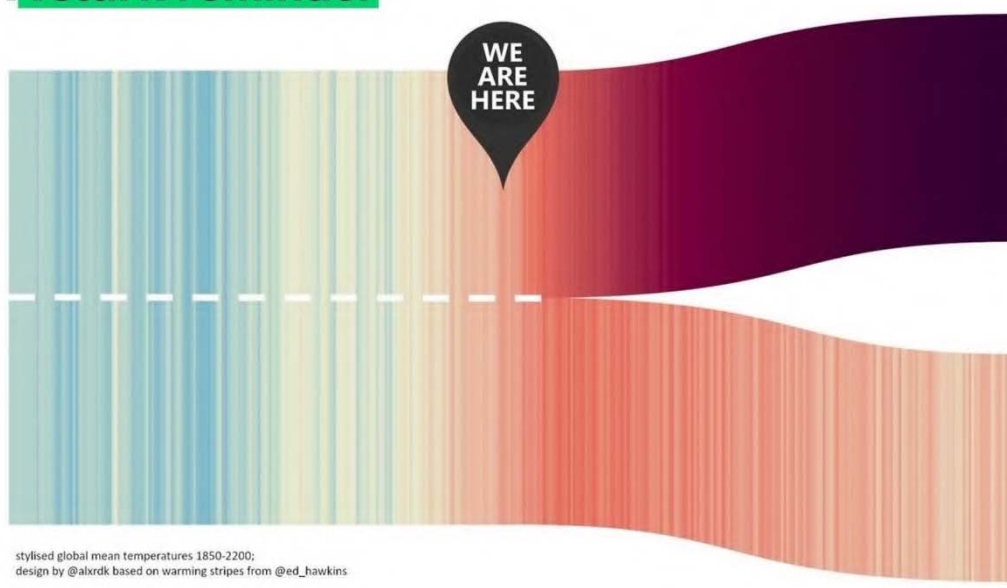
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<sup>1</sup> The Climate Action Accelerator (CAA), identification number in the EU Transparency Register: 424946946188-48.

<sup>2</sup> This document contains a presentation by an external stakeholder and the views expressed therein are solely those of the third party it originates from. This document cannot be regarded as stating an official position of the Council. It does not reflect the views of the Council or of its members.



## A stark reminder





## Who we are

The Climate Action Accelerator, a non-for-profit initiative, aims to mobilise a critical mass of community organisations in order to scale up climate solutions, contain global warming below 2°C and avoid the risk of dangerous runaway climate change.

The aim is to help shift the aid, health and higher education sectors towards a radical transformation of their practices, pursuing emissions reduction targets (-50% by 2030) and a 'net zero' trajectory, in line with the Paris Agreement.

## Our objectives

- EMPOWER**  
Empower emblematic organisations to **at least halve their emissions by 2030**, through a network of experts and a "one-stop-shop" support service.
- CHAMPION**  
Transform them into **champions of change within their networks**, able to influence their ecosystems.
- COMMUNITY**  
Build a global community of action, sharing **climate solutions as a free universal good**, in order to scale up their implementation.

## Our partners

15 aid organisations have joined the Accelerator and committed to science-based reduction targets and benefit from operational support and an expert resource centre, increased public engagement and visibility, cross fertilisation of ideas and a chance to inspire a larger domino effect in society.



We are an official partner in the UNFCCC's 'Race to Zero', allowing us to link our operational work with the global climate agenda and integrating and integrating our partner organisations into the **global race to a resilient net-zero future**.



## Our partners

Onboarding process  
and Methodology

(MM/YY)  
● Letter of Intention  
● Memorandum of Understanding  
Mtd - Developing the methodology  
RM - Co-constructing the roadmap

International Committee of the Red Cross  
(ICRC)

Alliance for International Medical Action  
(ALIMA)

Médecins sans Frontières  
Operation Centre of Geneva (OCG)

Médecins sans Frontières  
Operation Centre of Paris (OCP)

Terre des Hommes Schweiz  
Terre des Hommes Suisse

Terre des Hommes Foundation

Partner



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Geneva Centre for Security Sector  
Governance (DCAF)

Nonviolent Peaceforce  
(NP)

Groupe URD

Epicentre

Geneva Centre for Security Policy  
(GCSP)

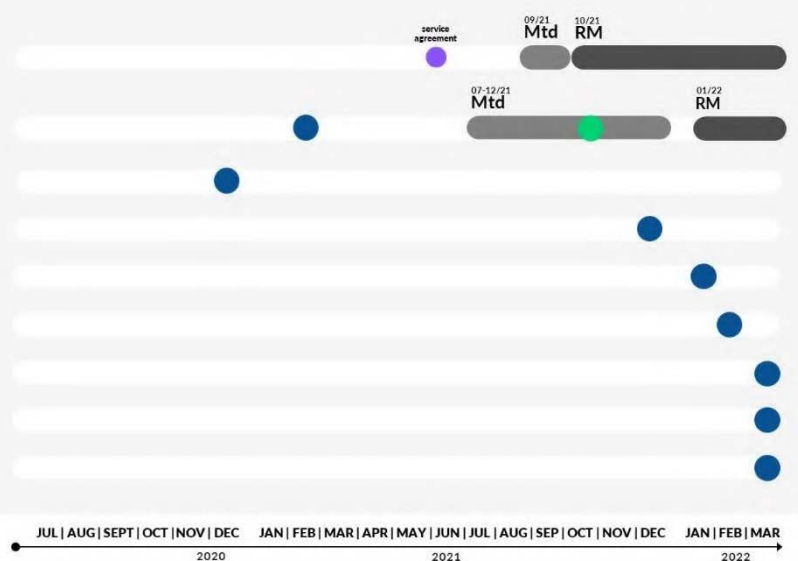
Médecins sans Frontières  
Operation Centre of Brussels (OCB)

Drugs for Neglected Diseases Initiative  
(DnDi)

MSF Supply

MSF Logistique

Partner





## Essential principles

**Integrity and determination: carbon compensations do not count as reductions**

**The mobilisation of human, technical and financial resources for the implementation of projects**



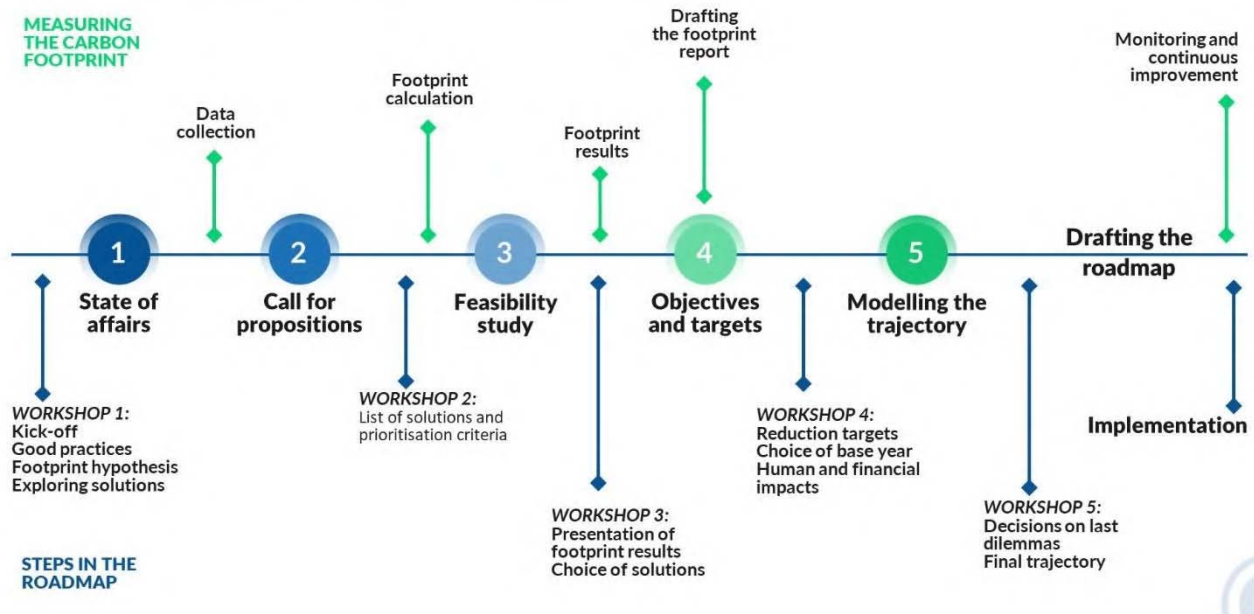
**The humility inherent to a process of continuous learning and experimentation**

**The centrality of the social mission must not be compromised**



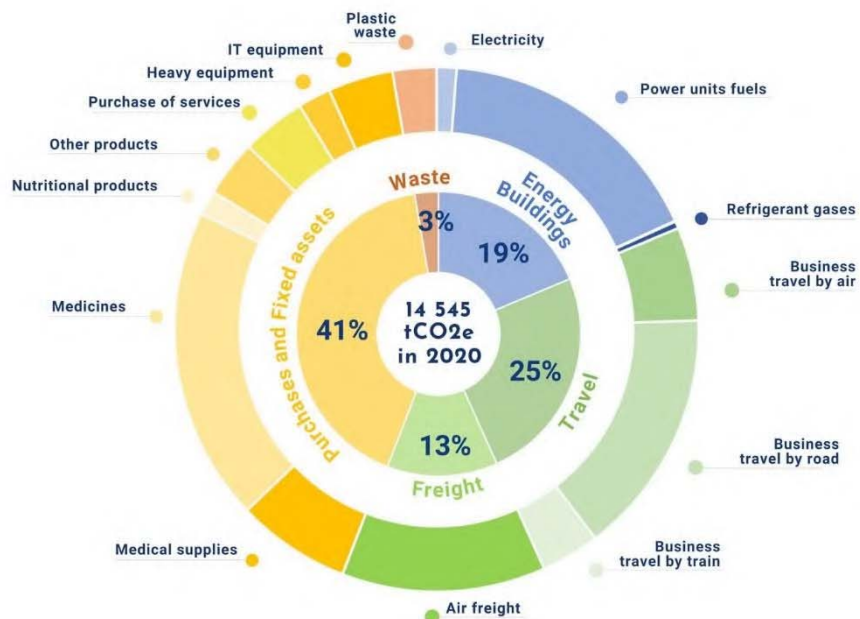
## Methodology of construction\*

\*a 9 months process



## Estimation of ALIMA's carbon footprint in 2020

*Despite Covid,  
still an increase*



## Solutions

From ALIMA's roadmap

### TRANSPORTS

- 01 Increase the share of maritime freight in the transport of goods
- 02 Reduce air travel for business trips
- 03 Maximise shipping container load to reduce frequency of use
- 04 Reduce the volume, weight and packaging of goods.
- 05 Reduce the energy consumption of the vehicle fleet

### PURCHASES

- 06 Reduce the environmental impact of purchasing
- 07 Reduce the number of travelling ton-kilometers thanks to regional purchasing
- 08 Replace plastic with alternative solutions

### ENERGY AND BUILDINGS

- 09 Reduce energy waste
- 10 Reduce the energy consumption of buildings
- 11 Decarbonise electricity consumption
- 12 Avoid emissions of gases with very high warming potential
- 13 Reduce the energy consumption of equipments

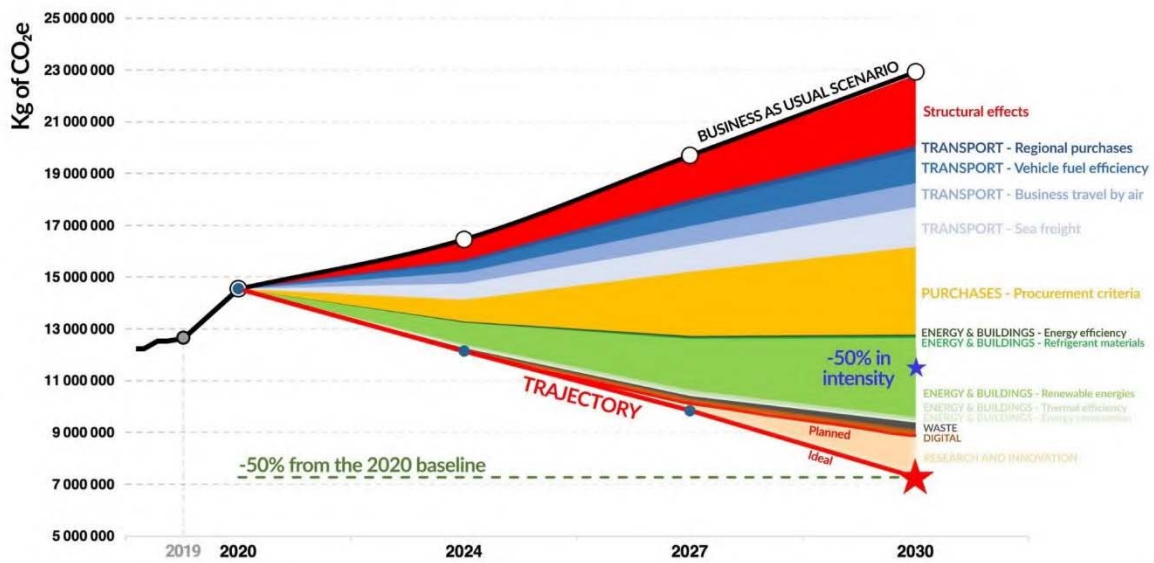
### WASTE AND ECOSYSTEMS

- 14 Reduce local pollution resulting from waste management
- 15 Reduce soil, water and air pollution from medical waste
- 16 Prevent and limit environmental degradation caused by projects
- 17 Preserve water resources

### DIGITAL AND TRANSVERSAL

- 18 Reduce greenhouse gas emissions caused by digital technology
- 19 Systematise eco-responsible practices in daily life, promoting everyone's awareness and involvement
- 20 Move towards the realisation of a low carbon headquarters

## ALIMA's decarbonisation trajectory: 2020-2030



More than 85% of the carbon reduction over 10 years is achieved through 5 major solutions. These 5 solutions are the key to success:



Maximise the switch from air to maritime freight for supply



Rationalise staff travel, especially by air



Increase the energy efficiency of vehicles



Implement environmental criteria to guide purchasing decisions



Switch to renewable energy - mainly solar photovoltaic energy

## The means for success

### MEASURE

- Carbon emissions
- Quantities and types of waste produced

### INTEGRATE

- Environmental project manager
- Project manager for sustainable procurement
- Expert in water, sanitation and waste
- External partnerships

### TRAIN

- Staff skills are upgraded
- Environmental aspects are integrated in logistics workshops and trainings

### FINANCE

Over the years 2022-2024:

#### INVESTMENTS

3.1 million euros

#### SAVINGS

3.4 million euros



#### RETURN ON INVESTMENTS for photovoltaics

After 2-3 years  
Depends on context



#### PURCHASING CRITERIA, TRAVEL POLICY AND LOCALISATION

To be determined in 2022-2023



## Key learnings for implementation

**Internal levers are significant and can be turned into action**

**Focus on the few solutions with the greatest impact, avoid dispersion**

**Leadership and investment in people are the real key to success**

**Quantified indicators and intermediary milestones are essential**

**Avoided costs may compensate for a large part of the investment**

**A roadmap over 9 years must leave room for continuous learning and adjustment**

# Amplifying the transformation

**1**  
Mobilising aid organisations around a -50% emissions reduction goal

A growing number of partners onboard, committed to science-based targets

National actors join the movement and transform their own practices

A critical mass is reached and a domino effect is underway in the sector

**2**  
Mutualised operational support

Delivery of co-constructed roadmaps or action plans tailored to reach the -50% emissions reductions commitment

Support in building low-carbon development roadmaps for national actors, combining adaptation and resilience

**3** Tools to  
accelerate sector-  
wide  
transformation

**An inventory / repository of solutions**

**A carbon measurement and monitoring  
tool adapted to the aid sector**

**An emissions factors database tailored to the  
activities of the aid sector**

**A generic roadmap based on key learnings**

**4** Building  
momentum to  
create a shift in  
the sector

**Global community of sharing is  
activated with an open-source platform**

**Trainings for transfer of knowledge and  
experiences**

**Strategic dialogue with funders to  
influence donor policy**

## Key recommendations for policy makers

**Amplification potential  
of the aid sector is real**

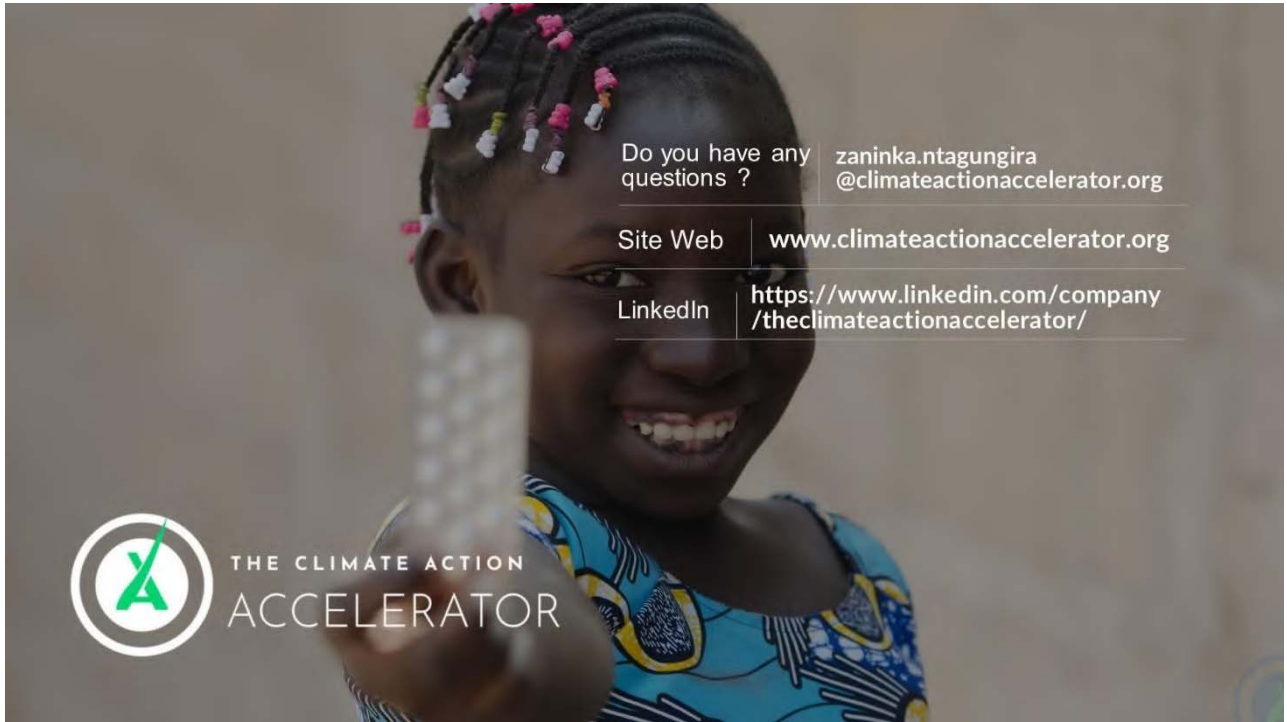
**Importance of creating an  
enabling funding environment  
(indicators, ratios, timespan...)**

**Positioning on compensation: a  
clarification is needed**


**Inclusion of science-  
based targets is key**

**Developing a generic  
roadmap: an opportunity  
for funders also**

**How to support better  
accelerator initiatives ?**



Do you have any questions ?	<a href="mailto:zaninka.ntagungira@climateactionaccelerator.org">zaninka.ntagungira@climateactionaccelerator.org</a>
Site Web	<a href="http://www.climateactionaccelerator.org">www.climateactionaccelerator.org</a>
LinkedIn	<a href="https://www.linkedin.com/company/theclimateactionaccelerator/">https://www.linkedin.com/company/theclimateactionaccelerator/</a>



THE CLIMATE ACTION  
ACCELERATOR