

STATEMENT OF COMMITMENT - FOLLOW-UP AT YEAR +4

PRESENTATION OF RESULTS

March, 11th 2025



Statement of commitment by humanitarian organisations on the climate

Context

Follow-up report at year +3 and year +4

New signatories to come: CRF and TGH

Commitment to 2025 is getting closer

Event to present results → External advocacy with donors
and other organisations

Commitments

1. Measuring our impact
2. Reducing our carbon footprint
3. Adapting our action to meet these new challenges
4. Communicate
5. Encourage other players to step up their ambitions

Year +4 follow-up - Methodology and objective

Methodology

Survey reviewed by the SC
100% response rate (**but not in all cases**)
Anonymised data
Thank you very much!

Objective

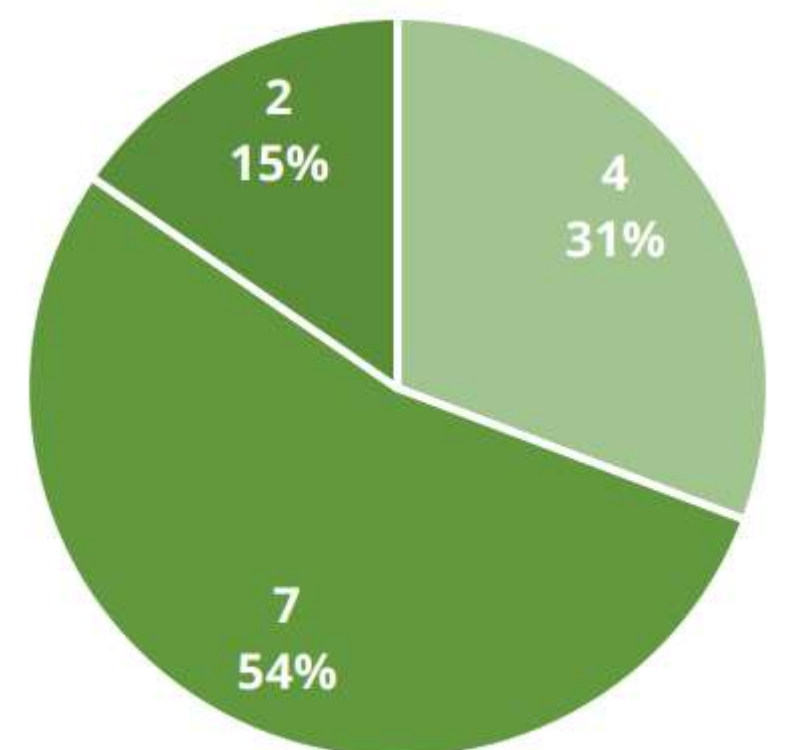
Commitment 4 of the Statement
Assess the progress made by each signatory
To identify successes and barriers
To inform the rest of the sector and enable them to reduce their footprint
in turn

Limits

Declarative
Different levels of progress
Length of questionnaire

Understanding/Subjectivity of certain questions
Social desirability bias
Comparisons with last year

All measuring & reducing their footprints...



■ (Still) In progress
■ Yes (already completed last year)
■ Yes (new)

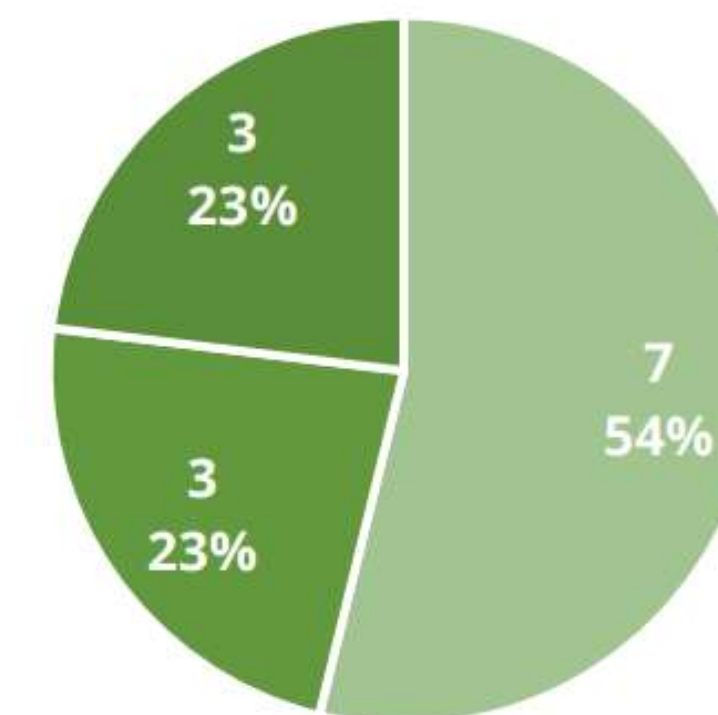
“Have you conducted your carbon footprint accounting?” (n=13)

All signatories have started to measure their carbon footprint (9 were done at the time)

=

They have a baseline to monitor reduction

Most signatories have developed a reduction strategy and drawn up action plans



■ In progress ■ Already defined ■ New

“Compared with last year, have you drawn up a strategy for reducing carbon emissions based on your calculation of your carbon footprint and major sources identified (roadmap, etc.)?” (n=13)



Working on what is considered *acceptable*



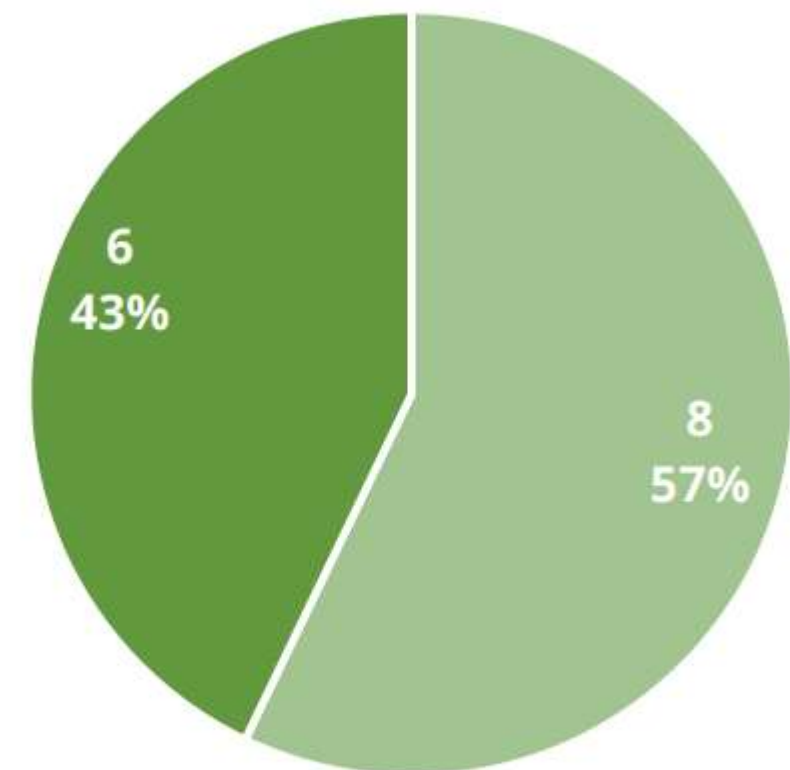
All the organisations have started to implement the most obvious and affordable actions



At the same time, organisations are working on actions that are more complex - by setting up working groups, advocacy or raising awareness

Technical considerations are gradually giving way to questions on the **social and ethical issues** at stake, from the need for **change management** support to thoughts about what actions might be considered '**acceptable**'

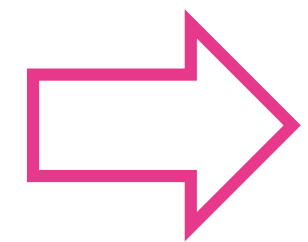
What about adaptation?



"Do you analyse the climate risks involved in your projects?" (n=13)

Organisations analyse somewhat more than the previous year (7) the climate risks affecting their projects, but that this is **still not a priority for them**

Need to think adaptation and mitigation together to avoid **maladaptation**



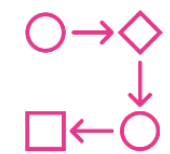
Challenges for their operating modalities – new crises, new ways of responding to them

Link to the [report](#) and its [summary](#)

A myriad of challenges met



Numerical logic VS **Behavioural** logic



Moving from theory to practice



Unavailability of staff to run and monitor events



Emotional and psychological **barriers**



Resistance to change



Blockage in the choice of reduction procedures



Promoting a new business model

Achieving collective **transformation** (NGOs, donors)



Mobilising financial and human resources



Lack of **financial visibility** for long-term investment



Difficult to **offset** HQ



Material and financial **difficulties** in reducing air freight

Tensions with the organisation's mandate



Availability and **cost** of carbon-free equipment



Transition momentum **running out of steam**



Complex questions - on the nature of the reduction

Nature of reduction	Number of organisations
Relative value	8
Absolute value	1
Under consideration	5
Total	14

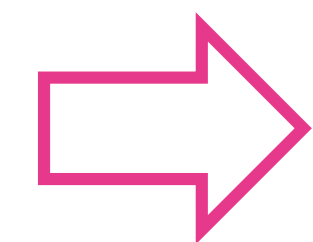
Table showing the choices by the signatory organisations of the nature of emissions reduction (n=13)

8 organisations calculate the reduction in relative terms, 1 in absolute, 5 not yet decided

→ far-reaching consequences, as it raises questions about the **growth of international aid organisations – especially as organisations are contracting**

Behind this...

- *Do all organisations have to reduce their emissions in the same proportion, regardless of their level of emissions at the reference date?*
- *Are all activities with similar environmental impacts equally valid?*
- *Do all countries have to reduce their footprint even if they do not have the **historical responsibility of emissions?***



Questioning the commitments with regards to the right to develop of countries in the Global South

Link to the [report](#) and its [summary](#)

Complex questions - on commitments

- Is the ecological transition an injunction from the Global North to the Global South?
- It is sometimes perceived as ‘**punitive**’ and/or another constraint for the field

How to define **fair reduction commitments** or a ‘**just transition**’?

➡ Principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities

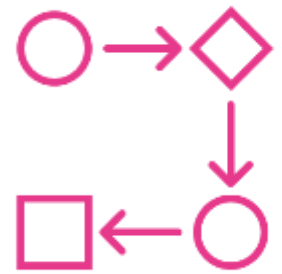
(**CBDR – RC**)

80%

of HR resources dedicated to the ecological transition are located at head office ([CCD](#), 2024)

Report “[A fair and equitable decarbonisation target for an international NGO](#)”, Groupe URD, January 2025

Next steps for the signatories...



Commitments are a political driver



But perceived more as a framework of ambition than as an obligation to achieve results

Signatories need to think about a **common narrative** that will enable us to maintain a strong environmental ambition, while analysing the results obtained in a critical - and obviously transparent - way

An appeal to the sector



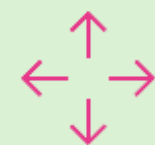
Reflect

Ask the complex questions and to consider environmental commitments from a more **holistic perspective**



Commit and reduce

Sign the Statement of Commitment



Adapt

Help communities become more resilient, prepare for and adapt to this **new reality**, and preserve and conserve the environment in which we operate



Link to the report and its summary

FOLLOWING UP ON ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITMENTS: WHERE ARE NGOS STANDING ON THEIR REDUCTION TARGETS?

CARBON WG

March, 11th 2025



The Carbon WG



Since 2021

- Grew out of a consortium of organisations aiming to assess their Carbon Footprint
- Collaboration with other groups and network (HCC development, WREC scope3, ...)

Since 2023 : welcomed new organisations and widened the purpose of the WG

Since 2024 : revised the WG governance to adopt new objectives

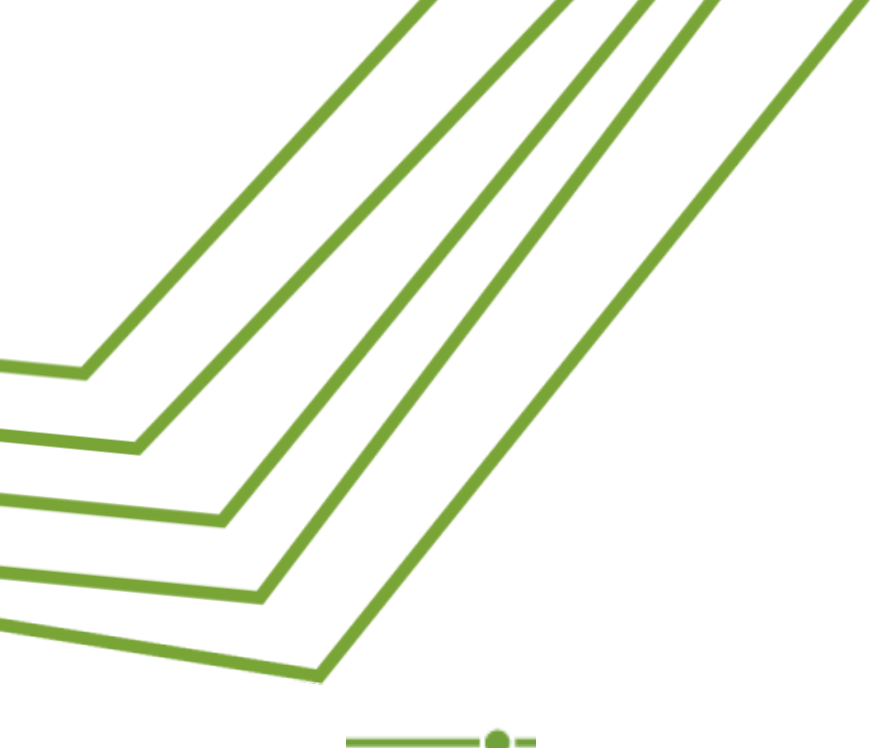
- Provide peer-to-peer assistance on technical topics linked to decarbonization
- Produce tools and analysis to help the decarbonization of aid organisations in general
- Support WG members decarbonization trajectories
- Build WG members knowledge on carbon related topics

The Carbon WG & reduction targets



12 organisations

- 10 signatories of the Statement of Commitment on Climate by Humanitarian Organisations, which includes a commitment to reduce emissions by 50% by 2030
- 1 non-signatory that has an independent commitment with the same target
- 1 non-signatory that has a "net zero in 2045" commitment



How has the motivation for decarbonisation in your organisation changed since last year? *before US budget cuts*

Multiple Choice Poll 19 votes 19 participants

It has increased - 5 votes



It is globally the same - 11 votes



It has decreased - 0 votes



There's no decarbonisation dynamic so far - 3 votes





Do you think NGOs can meet the '-50% by 2030' carbon reduction target adopted by many?

Multiple Choice Poll



14 votes



14 participants

Not at all - 3 votes



21%

Probably not - 10 votes



71%

Probably yes - 1 vote



7%

Yes, for sure - 0 votes



0%

I don't know - 0 votes



0%



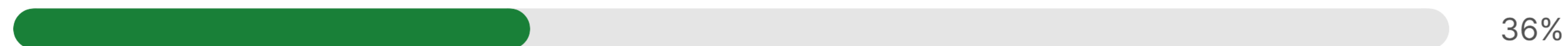
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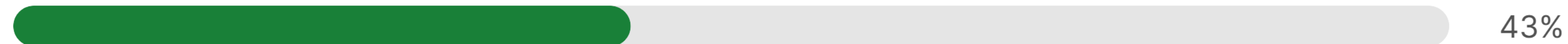
Have the USAID budget cuts had an impact on the environmental dynamics of your organisations?

Multiple Choice Poll 14 votes 14 participants

Yes, for sure - 5 votes



Yes, probably - 6 votes



No, I don't think so - 2 votes



I don't know - 1 vote

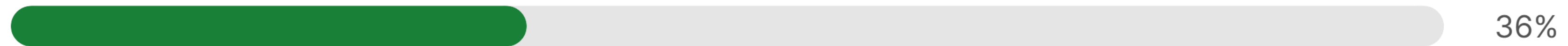




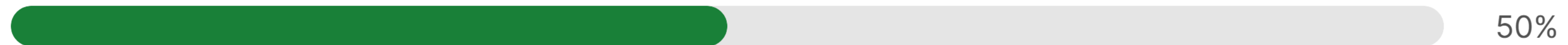
How do you feel about the possibility of not meeting the –50% decarbonisation target?

Multiple Choice Poll 14 votes 14 participants

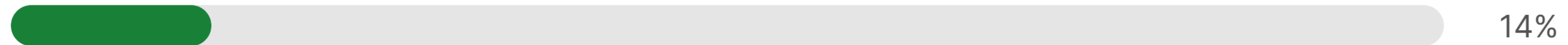
It would be a real failure - 5 votes

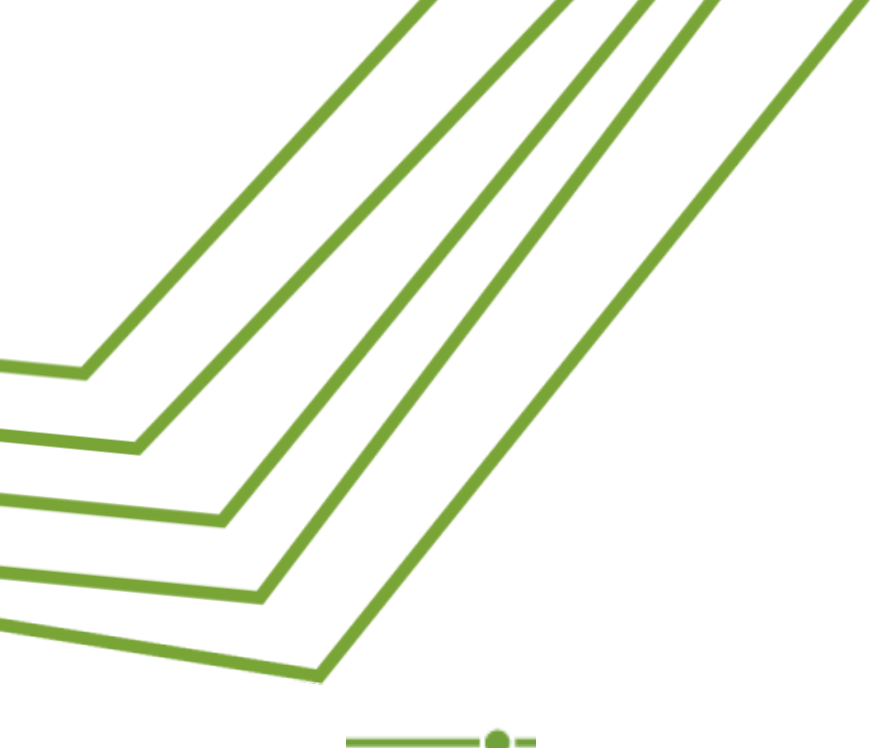


It doesn't really matter - 7 votes



In fact, it would be a good thing - 2 votes





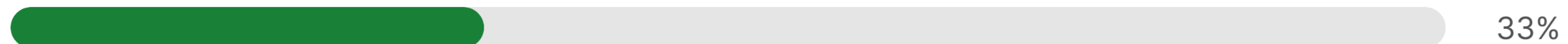
Do you think the -50% decarbonisation target for the aid sector is fair?

Multiple Choice Poll  15 votes  15 participants

Yes - 2 votes



Yes but only partially / under conditions - 5 votes



No - 7 votes



I don't know - 1 vote



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RESEAU ENVIRONNEMENT HUMAINITAIRE

Thank you!

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