

Open Education Global Conference

2023 GHG EMISSIONS EVENT SUMMARY REPORT

December 12, 2023

1. GHG Emissions Inventory Report

This greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions inventory report has been created on behalf of Explore Edmonton for the activities related to the 2023 Open Education Global Conference, which was held in Edmonton, Alberta, from October 16th to October 18th, 2023.

The calculations provide an estimate of emissions for the event, which include the main conference, pre-conference activities, a side conference, and a workshop at NorQuest College. This consists of a variety of emission sources such as the venue's utilities, catering, paper usage, waste generation, transport, and hotel stays. GHG emissions were calculated using data provided by Explore Edmonton and the calculator developed by Ostrom Climate for Explore Edmonton. Based on the data, a total of 678.3 tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (tCO₂e) were produced, as shown in the table below.

Emissions Source	GHG Emissions (tCO ₂ e)	% of Total
Scope 1	3.1	0.5%
Venue Heating - Natural Gas	3.1	0.5%
Scope 2	5.3	0.8%
Venue Electricity Consumption	5.3	0.8%
Scope 3	669.8	98.8%
Commercial Flights	622.3	91.8%
Hotel Stays	36.6	5.4%
Catering	5.2	0.8%
Local Transportation	2.9	0.4%
Transportation from Airport	2.6	0.4%
Waste	0.1	<0.1%
Paper	0.1	<0.1%
Shipping	<0.1	<0.1%
OVERALL TOTAL	678.3	100.0%

*Note: Figures may not add due to rounding

2. Climate Designation

In most cases, organizations are not able to reduce 100% of their operational emissions for their events and are left with unavoidable emissions. To go beyond this reduction barrier, and take full responsibility for their emissions, organizations can purchase carbon offsets to mitigate their greenhouse gas emissions and achieve carbon neutrality for these events. A carbon offset is an investment in a project with a real and measurable emissions reduction and can help organizations cost-effectively meet their carbon targets.

In order to mitigate the climate impacts of the event, Explore Edmonton purchased 679 tonnes of carbon offsets from Ostrom Climate's Climate Action Portfolio. In doing so, Explore Edmonton has contributed to a collection of high-quality offsets from British Columbia and around the world, such as the Darkwoods Forest Carbon Project and The Southern Cardamom REDD+ Project. Supporting these projects ensures the long-term conservation and viability of forest ecosystems and wildlife. This portfolio also supports a variety of clean energy projects, including a Solar Cooker Project in China, a Wind Energy Project in India, a Solar Power Project in China, a Hydropower Plant Project in Brazil, and a Biomass Power Generation Project in China. These projects reduce the need for fossil fuels by promoting cleaner and renewable energy in the area, thus reducing carbon emissions.

Because Explore Edmonton has purchased an equal number of tonnes that were emitted during the 2023 Open Education Global Conference, the event is carbon neutral.

