



As part of our vision to be a positive force for change, we've produced a series of factsheets to help our customers better understand sustainability issues, and what we're doing about them.

Overview

'Carbon footprint' is the term given to the total amount of greenhouse gases (GHG) that are produced by an organisation, directly and indirectly. For simplicity, all these different gases are collectively referred to as 'carbon emissions' and measured in carbon dioxide equivalent (CO₂e), so that we have a convenient single unit of measurement. A carbon footprint is made up of 3 different 'scopes':

SCOPE 1 ('Direct') – Emissions that are directly controlled within operations (diesel, gas, refrigerants etc.)

SCOPE 2 ('Indirect') – Emissions arising from the production of grid electricity consumed

SCOPE 3 (Everything else) – these are emissions upstream and downstream in the value chain. There are 15 different categories, from purchased goods and services to employee commuting and waste.

Being a food wholesaler, the vast majority of our carbon footprint (circa 94%) is driven by the production of the food we buy on behalf of our customers.

Our Vision

To be the best foodservice provider and a positive force for change because we care about...

- OUR PEOPLE
- OUR PLANET
- OUR CUSTOMERS
- OUR COMMUNITIES
- OUR PRINCIPLES

What's the problem?

Greenhouse gases (GHG) trap warmth and raise global temperatures, which changes our climate, resulting in heatwaves, floods, droughts, extreme heat and cold (due to unstable and changing ocean currents), as well as negative effects on marine life, nature, and so on.

We all need to cut GHG production by all means possible, to keep the planet habitable. Food production requires a stable climate, fertile soil and healthy seas, but also drives climate change, so it's both a driver and victim of the problem.

Useful jargon buster

'Net zero' is a popular but often misunderstood term; it refers to the point in time where an organisation really has minimised all their emissions, then they 'offset' the remaining emissions so that the net effect is zero CO₂e.

If a target is science-based, only a maximum of 10% of emissions can be offset. It's not the same as 'carbon neutral, which is usually achieved via carbon offset schemes (e.g. tree planting, as trees absorb carbon) but this is controversial, as the long term effectiveness of such schemes is debatable.

Share your feedback

We hope you find this fact sheet helpful, we'd love your feedback using the QR code or by clicking [here](#)



Our current position and emissions reduction targets

Annually, we report on our scope 1 and 2 emissions and limited scope 3 categories. However, our entire carbon footprint was mapped in 2019 and is shown below. Since then, we've completed a baseline for financial year 2024, however we will continue to reference the 2019 baseline and will update our figures once our 2024 calculation and targets are finalised.

Where in chain?	Scope	Source	Emissions (t) CO ₂ e	% of total
Direct operations	Scope 1	Diesel, refrigerants, natural gas	75,619	4%
Indirect operations	Scope 2	Electricity (market based calcs)	33,223	2%
Upstream	Scope 3	Purchased goods and services	1,913,287	92%
		Capital goods	22,094	1%
		Fuel-and-energy related activity	24,854	1%
		Upstream logistics	4,145	0.20%
		Waste generated in operations	193	<0.01%
		Business travel	328	<0.01%
		Employee commuting	9,695	0.50%
Downstream		Downstream logistics	20	<0.01%
		End of life treatment of sold products	8	<0.01%

We've set an overall ambition to achieve net zero GHG emissions by 2045:

Our current medium term target (2032):

Reduce scope 1 and 2 emissions by 55% and Scope 3 emissions by 32%, both against a 2019 baseline.

Our current long term target (2045):

Reduce Scope 1,2 and 3 emissions by at least 90%, with the residual emissions offset to achieve net zero.

Find out more

Details as to how we intend to reduce emissions are in our carbon reduction plan, available here: [Our policies | Bidfood UK](#) and our Carbon Reduction Roadmap.