



GLOBAL CLIMATE ACTION SUMMIT

GLOBAL CLIMATE ACTION SUMMIT 2018

SUSTAINABILITY RESULTS REPORT

MISSION

The Global Climate Action Summit was committed to reducing the environmental impact of the Summit event and building a legacy of sustainability in the event venues, throughout the city of San Francisco, and for future global conferences. The organizing team worked to develop and implement a sustainable event strategy in accordance with best practices in event sustainability by demonstrating compliance with the ISO 20121 Event Sustainability Management Systems standard. Through detailed documentation of processes and tracking of results, the management system was designed for continual improvement so that the lessons learned from the Summit would allow for future events to build upon this set of sustainability initiatives. The strategy outlined key impact areas and corresponding objectives to reduce the Summit's overall environmental footprint. Through a comprehensive educational campaign, all delegates learned how to reduce their own environmental impact as they witnessed sustainability strategies in action.

Each event impact area was linked to a list of corresponding [Sustainable Development Goals \(SDGs\)](#), as indicated by the icons below each section.



GLOBAL CLIMATE ACTION SUMMIT 2018

RESULTS AT-A-GLANCE

1ST

1st organization to receive ISO 20121 certification by an accredited third-party certification body.

100%

100% GHG-free grid power for major Summit venues.

100% Summit GHG emissions compensated by supporting the Amazon Fund and Yurok Tribe.

100% Summit hotels enrolled in the California Green Lodging Program.

100% Zero-Emission Vehicle Fleet of delegate shuttles, speaker transport, and production vans.

100% affiliate events pledged to implement sustainability practices as outlined in the Summit Sustainability Toolkit.

AND,
MORE

90% Summit waste diverted from the landfill.

75% Summit menu items sourced from within a 200-mile radius.

7,600 lbs Summit materials donated to local community organizations and middle schools.

880 Summit meals donated to food recovery programs.

IMPACT AREAS

ISO 20121

The Summit's primary objective within the *ISO 20121 Impact Area* was to successfully implement an environmental management system in accordance with [ISO 20121](#), a management system standard designed to help event-oriented organizations incorporate sustainability into their activities and productions. The international standard was released prior to the London 2012 Olympics and prescribes a management system approach that can help any event-related organization reduce its environmental footprint and become more socially responsible.

RESULTS

The Summit became the first organization in the world to receive ISO 20121 certification by an accredited third-party certification body, the highest industry standard for sustainable event management.



ENERGY

The Summit's primary objective within the *Energy Impact Area* was to reduce energy consumption and GHG emissions related to the energy consumption required for the Summit production. At the time, the main conference venue, the Moscone Center, was undergoing an extensive renovation with a goal of LEED Platinum Certification. The Moscone Center was working independently to institute long-term sustainability measures on-site, including the installation of high-performance glazing with low-emissivity glass to maximize natural light, and the city's largest municipally-owned solar photovoltaic system. The majority of the official Summit venues, including the Moscone Center, utilized 100% greenhouse gas (GHG) free [Hetch Hetchy](#) hydroelectricity from San Francisco Public Utilities Commission.

RESULTS

The Summit's energy footprint was powered by one of the cleanest grids in the world and was tied exclusively to grid power (no generators were used for production). Additionally, all electric vehicles used for the Summit were charged off of the 100% GHG-free grid.



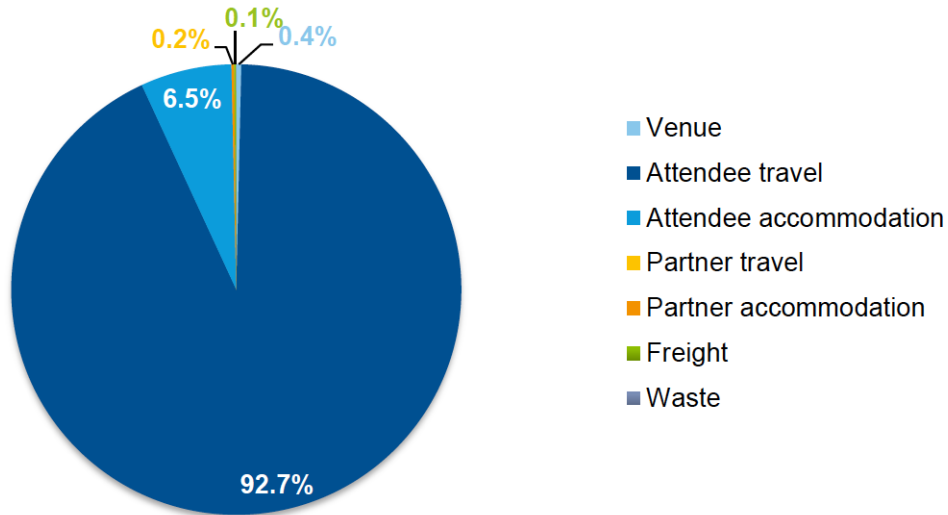
CARBON FOOTPRINT

The Summit's primary objective within the *Carbon Footprint Impact Area* was to reduce the GHG emissions of the event as much as possible. The event's carbon footprint was calculated to measure all event-related emissions from the planning phase, event days, and post-event activities.

RESULTS

South Pole analyzed carbon tracking data and completed the Summit's Greenhouse Gas Accounting Report, which shows the event's total GHG emissions as 7,826.8 tCO₂e. Those emissions, largely related to air travel, were offset fully through the Yurok Tribe Project via Natural Capital Partners and results-based payments from The Amazon Fund with the support of the Government of Norway.

Sources of Emissions



OFFICES

The Summit's primary objective within the *Offices Impact Area* was to apply event sustainability policies to Summit organizing offices, ensuring that the environmental impact of the planning efforts was as small as possible. From waste diversion systems to sourcing of office supplies, the office's environmental initiatives engaged event staff, visitors, and other key stakeholders with the implementation of sustainability efforts from the planning phase through the event phase.

RESULTS

The Summit organizing offices were centrally located in an [Energy Star](#), [LEED Gold Certified](#) building at the hub of the city's mass transit lines. The office building ranked highly for its transit friendly location with a Walk Score of [98/100](#) and a Transit Score of [100/100](#).



ACCOMMODATIONS

The Summit's primary objective within the *Accommodations Impact Area* was to ensure that delegate hotels demonstrated a strong commitment to divert waste from landfills, conserve energy and water, and establish environmental leadership across their operations.

RESULTS

The Summit selected delegate hotels located within close proximity of the main conference venue, the Moscone Center, allowing delegates the option to walk, cycle (using regular bikes, e-bikes, or scooters), ride public transit, use shared ride services, or take the Zero Emission Delegate Shuttles to and from the venue. Additionally, the Summit team worked to successfully enroll 100% of the Summit hotels in the [California Green Lodging Program](#), which acknowledges and certifies environmentally conscious hotels in the lodging industry.



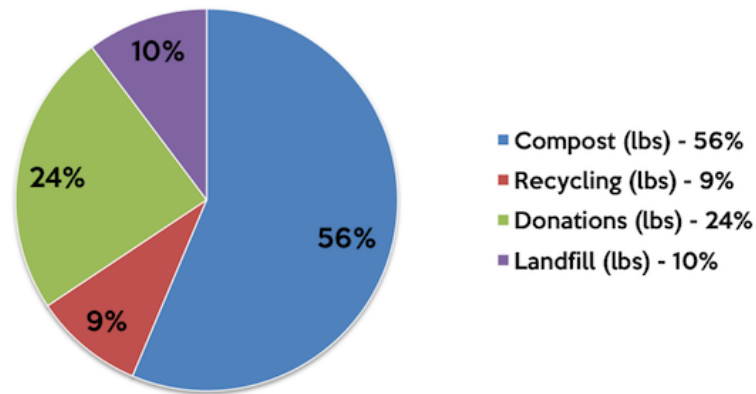
WASTE MINIMIZATION AND RECOVERY

The Summit's primary objective within the *Waste Minimization and Recovery Impact Area* was to divert 85% of event-related waste from the landfill via a comprehensive waste minimization and recovery plan. This plan included food recovery, donation, recycling, and composting with the assistance of the zero waste teams at each venue.

RESULTS

The Summit's waste minimization and recovery plan surpassed its goal, achieving a **90% waste diversion rate**. Catered events donated excess food to City Impact, a local nonprofit organization. Production items, including the InterfaceFLOR carbon neutral carpet, were donated to several Oakland area middle schools.

Waste Diversion Summary

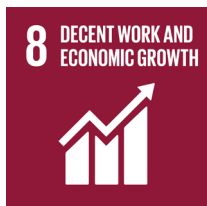


PROCUREMENT

The Summit's primary objective within the *Procurement Impact Area* was to incorporate sustainable sourcing practices (including the reduction or reuse of materials) throughout all production efforts.

RESULTS

Over 7,600 lbs of materials were measured, tracked, and donated to community organizations and local middle schools at the conclusion of the event. On-site signage was minimized and all printed items were ordered through a certified local, green, union printer using eco substrate (like recyclable Falconboard). The majority of attendee communications were managed via digital platforms, including a mobile app and recyclable electronic name badge clip. The Summit featured drought-resistant, native plant species decor arrangements that were donated for planting in [San Francisco Carbon Fund](#) sites post-event.



CATERING

The Summit's primary objective within the *Catering Impact Area* was to feature locally-grown, climate-friendly meals for all Summit delegates, staff, speakers, and talent.

RESULTS

The Summit menus were designed to feature California-grown, farm-fresh meals. The climate-friendly menus included locally-sourced items with 75% of ingredients sourced from within a 200-mile radius of the venue. All meals were served on reusable dishware, and no single-use disposable packaging was offered. Delegates enjoyed high-quality, great tasting water from the [Hetch Hetchy Regional Water System](#) via tap water stations throughout the venue using their reusable American-made Summit bottles. Through an active food recovery effort, excess meals were donated to San Francisco City Impact and the event was certified as a "Food Recovery Verified" event by the national Food Recovery Network.



TRANSPORTATION

The Summit's primary objective within the *Transportation Impact Area* was to minimize the attendee transportation footprint as much as possible. From arrival to departure at San Francisco International Airport (SFO), to getting around the city, to attending the Summit, delegates utilized many options to minimize their transportation footprint. The main conference venue, the Moscone Center, was located in close proximity to the designated delegate hotels. Additionally, the venue was accessible via [BART, CalTrain and Muni Metro](#), in addition to the various shared mobility programs.

RESULTS

The ground transport footprint was reduced significantly via the event planning efforts. The Summit utilized a 100% Zero-Emission Vehicle (ZEV) Fleet of delegate shuttles, speaker transport, and production vehicles, featuring both all-electric and hydrogen fuel cell vehicles. The Summit also offered a 'free ride day' for the entire city of San Francisco on all Scoots (electric scooters) and Ford GoBikes (electric bikes). All official delegates received free access to both Scoots and Ford GoBikes for the entire week.



COMMUNITY EDUCATION & ENGAGEMENT

The Summit's primary objective within the *Community Education & Engagement Impact Area* was to impart a lasting legacy within surrounding communities via hundreds of affiliate events hosted by businesses, governments, NGOs, arts and music organizations, academic institutions, and others throughout the entire week of the Summit. These events provided an opportunity to create additional arenas for exploring climate challenges and solutions that complemented Summit activities.

RESULTS

The Summit's sustainability plan carried over to the affiliate events. Each affiliate event organizer agreed to a set of 'terms and conditions' which encouraged the event planners to make every effort possible to reduce the environmental impact of their events. Additionally, they received the "Affiliate Event Organizer: Sustainability Toolkit" which was designed to provide local resources to assist affiliate event organizers with their planning efforts and to align those efforts with the Summit Sustainability Roadmap.



GRATITUDE

As with any complex project, there are persons who exert leadership, offer expert advice, and provide technical support. The preparation of this report, which presents the implementation of the Sustainability Roadmap and the results achieved for the Global Climate Action Summit, is no exception. Below is a summary of the contributors who assisted with the development of the report and the implementation of the plan. This list is by no means exhaustive as this monumental effort took the commitment and involvement of hundreds of individuals and organizations across the globe.

AUTHORS

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Additional Partners

United Nations Foundation, Bloomberg Philanthropies, Government of Norway, 196 Strategies, Amazon Fund, American Honda Motor Co., Inc., Chanje, ChargePoint, City of San Francisco, Food Recovery Network, Ford GoBike, GenZe by Mahindra, , Natural Capital Partners, NorthStar Moving, PECB, Proterra, Recology, South Pole, Tesla, The Lion Electric Co., The Yurok Tribe, Toyota Motor Corporation, Uber/Jump Bikes, UN Climate Change, and UNFCCC.

QUESTIONS

Please visit <http://globalclimateactions summit.org/sustainability> for more information. If you have specific questions, you may contact the Summit Sustainability Director, Jaime Nack, via email at jnack@threesquaresinc.com.



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