MAICURU HARDWOODS GmbH

Carbon Neutral Tropical Timber Products

MAICURU Hardwoods GmbH

has always strived to source its Brazilian timber exclusively from legal and sustainable forest management projects that help protect and preserve the forest.

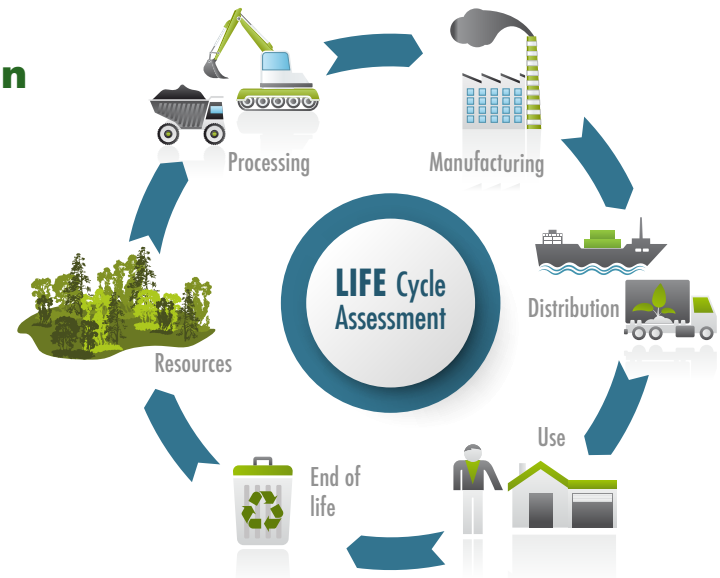
In order to take its responsibility for future generations one step further, **MAICURU** has recently completed its Corporate Carbon Footprint Report allowing us to offer customers the opportunity to participate in climate change mitigation action by joining us in making **MAICURU** timber products carbon neutral.

Why is it important to know your carbon footprint?

Climate change is the result of anthropogenic greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. In order to fight the resulting global warming[1], we must first determine the carbon footprint of goods and services (i.e., how many emissions are produced and where) and then reduce and offset these emissions.

What is a Corporate Carbon Footprint?

Corporate Carbon Footprint (CCF) is the calculation of a company's total greenhouse gas emissions, taking into account all sources of emissions along the value chain.



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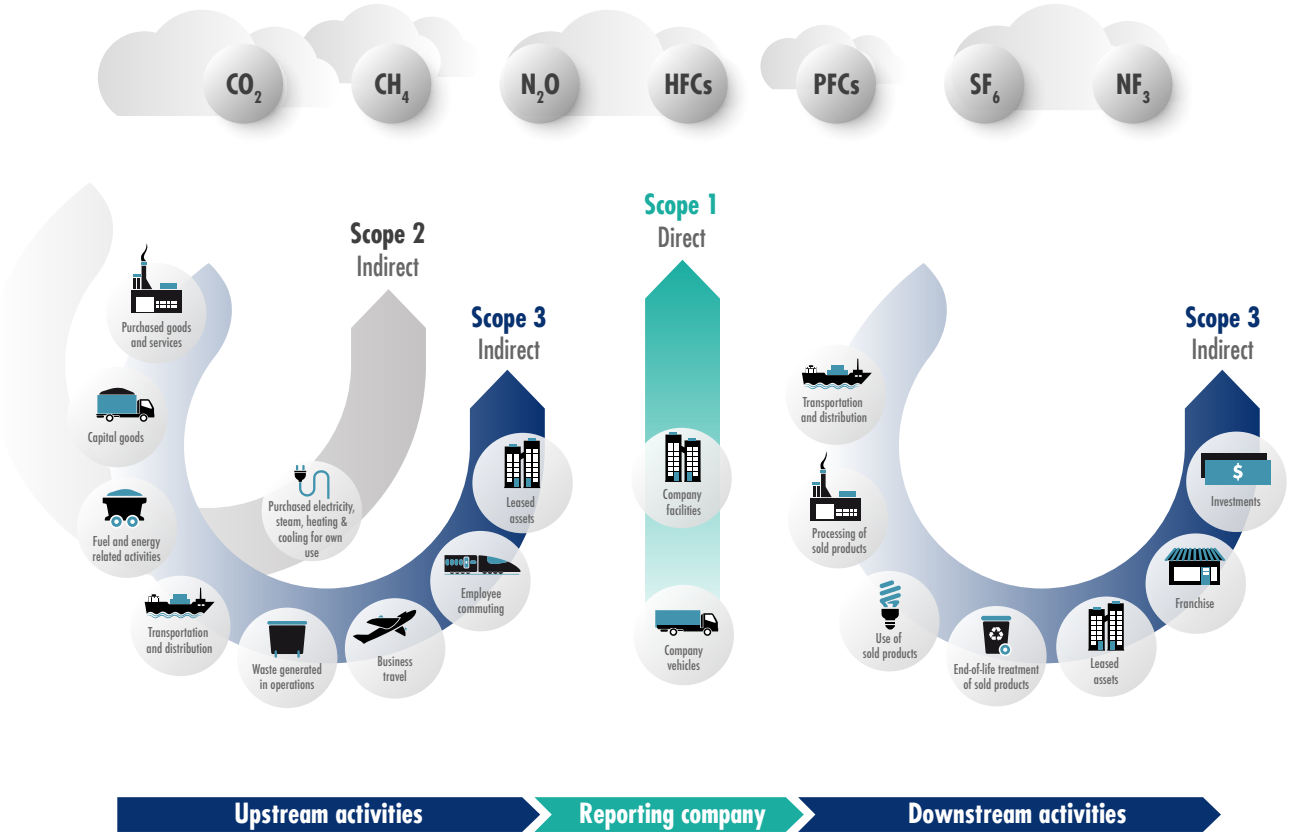
What is included in CCF calculations or carbon life cycle assessment from cradle to gate?



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Scope 1 (direct emission): company vehicles

Scope 2 (indirect emissions): purchased electricity, steam, cooling and heating for company use.

Scope 3 (indirect emissions upstream): upstream energy sources, business flights (including radiative forcing index), hotel days, office supplies, water, IT devices, employee commuting, harvesting activities, upstream logistics from the harvesting area all the way to the port.

Scope 3 (indirect emissions downstream): freight and delivery to the clients.

MAICURU's CCF calculation was determined according to the GHG Protocol and takes into account all seven greenhouse gases.

MAICURU's data analysis and CCF were calculated by DO CLIMATE (www.do-climate.de), a carbon neutrality consultancy firm based in Tübingen, Germany.

What we found from Maicuru's CCF

In addition to learning the total amount of emissions from our activity, we discovered from our CCF report that the timber we import sequesters five times more carbon (from CO_2) than the total greenhouse gases we emit.
The carbon fixed in the timber products originates from the absorption of CO_2 during photosynthesis and is stored in the branches, trunk and roots of the trees.

Nevertheless, this does not mean that we can simply add the two together so that they cancel each other out or imply that our products are climate positive without further action. Our carbon life cycle emissions are inevitable because of the nature of our activity.

What is a carbon offset?

A carbon offset is a certified emission reduction or removal of one metric tonne of carbon dioxide. The challenge of achieving a net zero carbon society cannot be met unless we reduce our emissions as much as we possibly can and offset those emissions that we cannot reduce.
When forest carbon credits or offsets are sold, the proceeds are used to fund projects that aim to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by protecting CO_2 sinks like forests and mangroves. Carbon offsets are sold in tonnes. One carbon offset is equivalent to one tonne of GHG emissions that has been removed or avoided. The use of offsets to avoid 12% to 17% of yearly global emissions from deforestation, forest degradation, land use and land use change would significantly impact climate change mitigation.

How does MAICURU calculate carbon offsets?

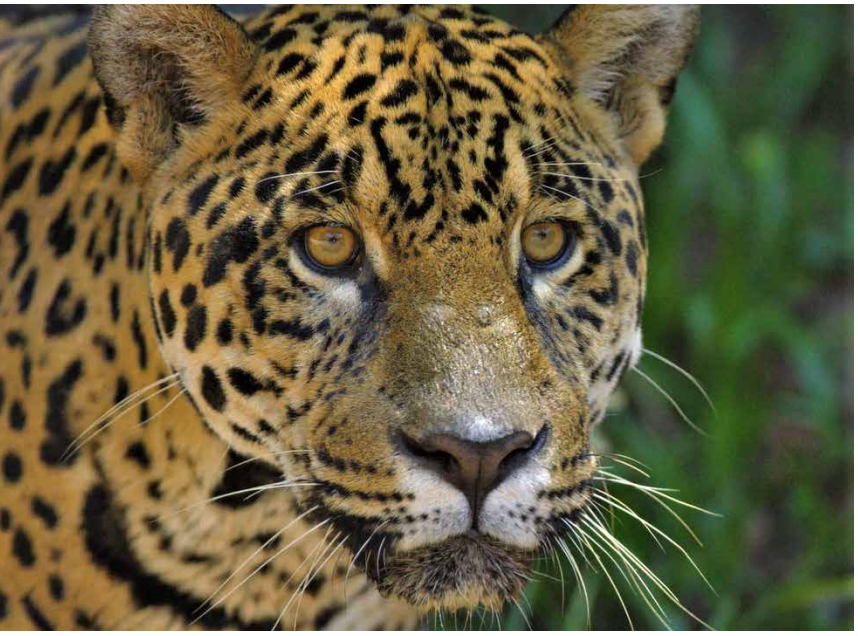
Because each one of the seven greenhouse gases has a different global warming potential (GWP), CO_2 is taken as the benchmark and emissions are measured in metric tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (tCO_2e).
When we take the total emissions from our activities over a 12-month period and divide them by the total volume of timber we imported during the same period, we arrive at a general average[2] emissions coefficient per m^3 (tCO_2e/m^3). For practical purposes, this coefficient is converted and expressed in emissions per m^2 to calculate the emissions to offset a specific product (e.g. decking) and make it carbon neutral.

Carbon offsetting projects

MAICURU will only buy top quality carbon offsets from third party monitored projects whose emission reductions are verifiable, additional, long term and not double counted.
Nature-based solutions to climate change include the offsetting of emissions through improved forest and mangrove management projects. These projects protect primary and intervened forests and mangroves as well as biodiversity and watersheds.

The projects follow strict methodologies in order to acquire the right to emit carbon offsets validated by one of the accepted top-quality certifiers such as Verra or Gold Standard.
Good projects are careful to implement principles and standards such as obtaining free, prior informed consent (FPIC) from local indigenous groups and other stakeholders prior to the development and execution of a project.
Adherence to one or more of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals of the United Nations[3] is an additional parameter we will consider when choosing the offsets projects.

When you offset your timber products with us, we transparently provide you with all the pertinent information about the particular project where we bought the offsets as well as the registry number of the offsets used[4].



Forest carbon offset projects help protect ecosystems crucial to the survival of endangered species.

Still from Biosphera video

We have to start taking responsibility for our individual environmental footprint

Because the earth's atmosphere is one and the same, climate change is a global issue and affects us all. We will only have a chance at fighting climate change and reducing global warming if we have policies and cooperation at the multinational, national and regional levels, as well as acceptance of responsibility for emissions from private businesses and individuals.
Every purchase of a good or service has an environmental cost.
Understanding this is crucial in order to act towards reducing our individual footprint.
The goal behind offering customers the option to offset their timber purchases through nature-based projects rather than have **MAICURU** offset the total is to get individuals to think about the environmental costs of their consumption.
If we all work together and share the burden, we can achieve the goal of net zero carbon and build a resilient and sustainable society.

MAICURU Hardwoods has incorporated **The Oxford Principles for Net Zero Aligned Carbon Offsetting**[5] to its carbon neutrality policies.

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[1] https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/the-paris-agreement/the-paris-agreement

[2] The use of a CCF calculation to determine an emissions coefficient gives a rough result or estimate of a group of products. A more precise way to determine the carbon emissions of an individual product would be to calculate its product carbon footprint (PCF). The PCF is a detailed analysis of the carbon lifecycle assessment (LCA) of a specific product from cradle to grave. This allows us to distinguish the amount of emissions in the production of one cubic meter of one product (e.g. ipe decking) from the emissions in the production of one cubic meter of another product (e.g. rough sawn Angelim vermelho) and be able to target emissions hotspots along the value chain. We will start calculating the PCF of our products with the data from the next harvesting season. Nevertheless, rather than postponing our drive for net zero emissions, we have decided to start offsetting this year with the coefficient from the CCF and increasing it by 22%.

[3] https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/

[4] Because carbon offsets are sold in tonnes of CO2e and the vast majority of offsetting required by retail buyers will be far below one tonne, we purchase the offsets from BIOSPHERA, a company that buys the offsets directly from the projects and sells us the exact amount of kg CO2e we need for each customer.

[5] https://www.smithschool.ox.ac.uk/publications/reports/Oxford-Offsetting-Principles-2020.pdf