

We invite you to compensate for your carbon footprint!



This entire calculation is quite challenging and is based on several assumptions. Tell us if you can see how improve this document in any way.

You can estimate your carbon footprint using, for example, the calculator offered by the World Wildlife Fund for Nature: <https://footprint.wwf.org.uk/#/>

According to WWF, on average, a person in the UK is responsible for the emission of 10.5 metric tons of CO₂ per year. In the USA, the average footprint is substantially larger.

According to various websites¹, a mature tropical tree absorbs, on average, 22.6 kg CO₂ each year. For this exercise, given that our partners plant trees as seedlings, we assume that, over a lifetime of 30 years, the average rate of absorption is 12 kg per year.

We estimate, therefore, that during a lifetime of 30 years a tree will absorb 360 kg CO₂.



This little boy holds a 2 metre high *Prunus africana* tree that was planted as a seedling 2½ years earlier in Maliba, Uganda. Agroforestry is good for the environment and good for the household economy.



Pupils and teachers plant a tree seedling at the Hamamaoko Primary School in Zimbabwe

To

compensate for annual emissions of 10.5 tons, one must plant $10,500/360 = 29.2$ trees each year.

But the rate of survival is never 100%. Assuming a survival rate of 50%, one must then plan 58.4 trees each year.

Planting a tree seedling and looking after the growing tree costs around £2.50. A fair compensation for one's footprint amounts therefore to £146 per year or £12.2 per month.

Our partners in Uganda, Zimbabwe and Malawi would rejoice to be able to enrich their environment and enhance their livelihoods with such support!

If you would be willing to make such a compensation for your carbon footprint, please make payments to Discover as follows:

- From the UK, via the Stewardship Trust: www.stewardship.org.uk
- From anywhere: via Paypal: Keith@discover-src.net
- Or directly into our "Discover e.V." bank account in Germany: Stuttgart Volksbank, IBAN: DE92 6009 0100 0349 6100 02

With grateful thanks,
Keith Lindsey and the Discover Team

¹ See for example <https://www.communitycarbontrees.org/climate-change-solutions>