



CARBON FOOTPRINT 2024

Universidade Católica Portuguesa - Viseu Campus



UNIVERSIDADE
CATOLICA
PORTUGUESA

26th of march 2025





GHG* CERTIFICATE

GREENPATH

Veolia certifies that the study Carbon Footprint Assessment 2024 done for

Universidade Católica Portuguesa - Viseu Campus

Has been conducted with GreenPath whose GHG calculation methodology complies with the following international standards:

- GHG Protocol Corporate Accounting and Reporting Standard
- Corporate Value Chain (Scope 3) Accounting and Reporting Standard - Supplement to the GHG Protocol Corporate
- ISO 14064-1 (2006) and 14069 (2014) GreenHouse Gases

The calculation methodology used in GreenPath has been externally verified by CITEPA (Interprofessional Technical Center for Atmospheric Pollution). <https://www.citepa.org/en/activities/international-studies>



Date: 26/03/25

*GHG : GreenHouse Gases

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Background

Católica Viseu campus is one of the four campi integrating Universidade Católica Portuguesa, covers an area of approximately 24,000m² and consists of 5 buildings. It has computer centers, translation-interpretation rooms, study and research laboratories, a multimedia room with videoconference facilities, auditoriums, a library and a university dental clinic.

Católica Viseu is deeply committed to sustainability and acknowledges the significance of tackling environmental challenges within both the academic and business spheres. By setting a leading example and establishing clear strategic goals, the campus strives to foster an environment that promotes sustainable practices and encourages future generations to contribute to a more sustainable world.

Veolia is helping Católica Viseu to calculate its own carbon footprint and assess its environmental performance by identifying the specific sources and activities that contribute most to the institution's emissions. This information enables Católica to prioritize areas of improvement and develop strategies to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions.

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Wake up call regarding the greenhouse effect

The greenhouse gases (GHG) keep part of the sun's heat and maintain an average temperature of about 15°C on the surface of the Earth.

The CO₂ concentration, one of the main greenhouse gas effects, is naturally of about 0,04%. Beyond this concentration, the average earth temperature will rise.

Human activities (transport, dwellings, agriculture, etc) increase the proportion of GHG in the atmosphere and create some additional greenhouse effect..

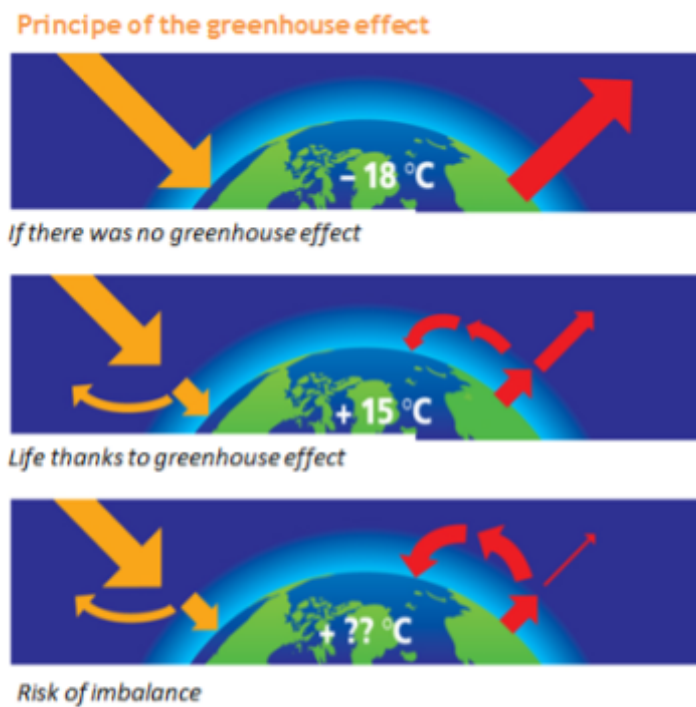


Figure 1: Greenhouse effect principle

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Selected Approach

3.1. Carbon footprint definition

A product or an activity carbon footprint is a tool that allows assessing and ranking the greenhouse gases generated by the whole physical process needed to produce an activity or create a human activity.

Thanks to this method, observable activities can be translated into greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions using conversion coefficients also called emission factors.

The purpose of the carbon footprint is to take into account six greenhouse gases listed in the Kyoto Protocol (carbon Dioxide [CO₂], methane [CH₄], nitrous oxide [N₂O], hydrofluorocarbons [HFC], perfluorocarbons [PFC], sulfur hexafluoride [SF₆]) and all other emission sources. In fact, this method allows to exhaustively cover the direct and indirect emission perimeter linked to an entity's activity, i.e. the scope.

Scopes 1, 2 and 3 have different perimeters, summarized as follows and shown in Figure [2].

Scope 1 refers to direct emissions of GHGs from the combustion of fossil fuels of controlled or possessed resources (Ex: consumption of oil-fired boilers, consumption of fuels for company vehicles, etc).

Scope 2 refers to indirect GHG emissions induced by the purchase or production of electricity (Ex: electricity consumption).

Scope 3 refers to other indirect GHG emissions not considered in Scope 2 that occur in the company's value chain, both up and downstream (Ex: consumables, telephones, waste, commuting, transport of visitors and customers, fixed assets, etc).

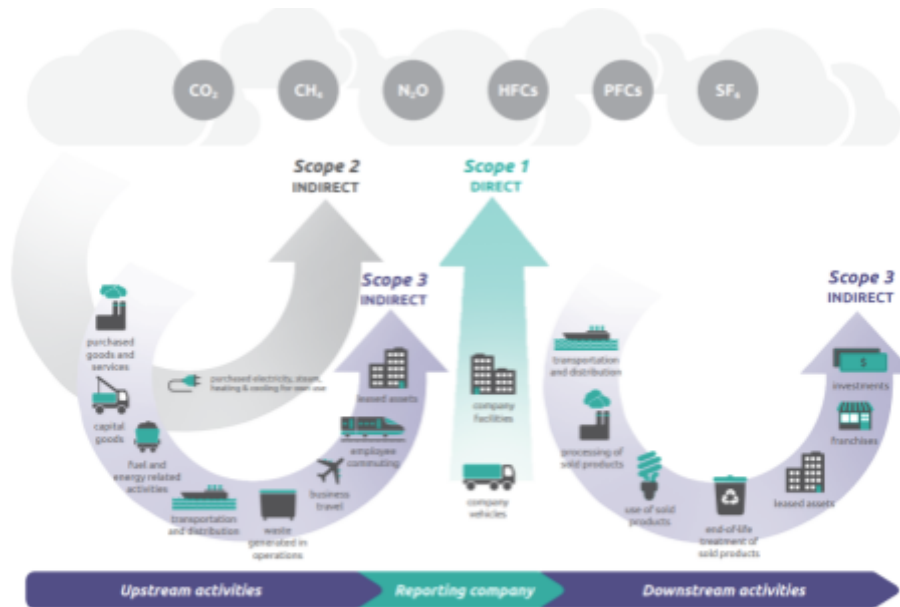


Figure 2: Overview of GHG Protocol scopes and emissions across the value chain

(Source: Corporate Value Chain (Scope 3) Accounting and Reporting Standard)

The carbon footprint (expressed in tCO_{2eq}) assessment is carried out by the multiplication of the activity data by the emission factors in a given perimeter:

$$\sum_{i=1}^i A_i \times FE_i$$

Where,

i : is the analysis perimeter

A_i : the activity data (kWh, natural gas, tons of steel, tons-kilometers of freight, etc).

FE_i : the emission factors (value that allows converting data into greenhouse gas emissions)

For each gas, a conversion factor is used to integrate the effect of the various GHG: the global warming potential (GWP) measures the importance of the contribution to global warming of a given greenhouse gas mass against CO₂. For instance, 1 ton of fossil CH₄ is the equivalent of 30 tons of CO₂. The GWP values retained are those given in the 5th IPCC report.

Conversions are automatically calculated by the GreenPath tool.

3.2. The tool: GreenPath

To carry out a greenhouse gas emissions inventory, Veolia developed a tool to calculate the carbon footprint based on the ISO 14064 norm and completed by the IPCC, ASTEE, EcoInvent, Carbone 4 and Veolia emission factors.

The aim of the GreenPath tool is to supply a diagnosis of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions linked to the various Veolia activities in the water, waste and energy sectors.

GreenPath covers direct and indirect emissions perimeters i.e. Scopes 1, 2 and 3. By taking into account all the components of a carbon footprint (direct and indirect emissions), the authors have a complete vision and the levers for action to reduce GHG emissions are more numerous and more easily identifiable. Stakeholders are thus adopting an ambitious and virtuous climate policy!

GreenPath Carbon calculation tool has been audited by third parties and is recognized as compliant with the international GHG calculation protocols: GHG Protocol Standard (revised edition) and ISO 14064-1 (2006) and ISO 14069-2 (2014) GreenHouse Gases. Certificate of the study according to GHG and certificate of compliance are available in Appendix 3 and 4, respectively.

3.3. Results reporting format (BEGES, ISO, GHG)

Green Path proposes three results restitution formats:

- Article 75
- GHG Protocol
- ISO

Article 75 of the Grenelle II Act requires legal entities employing more than 500 employees to take into account their greenhouse gas emissions. They must report on their greenhouse gas emissions.

The reporting is disclosed. It is updated every three years. It had to be established for the 31st December 2012.

The ISO 14064 norm 2006 defines specifications and guidelines at organization level, to quantify and disclose emissions and removal of greenhouse gas. It includes requirements for the design, adjustment, management, writing of the reports, and checking the greenhouse gas inventory of an organization.

The GHG Protocol was published to guide enterprises and voluntary organizations to measure their GHG emissions. It defines the greenhouse gas emissions accounting and reporting standards and provides guidelines for the perimeter, the evaluation of emissions over time and their reporting. It also provides avenues to implement management programmes aiming at reducing the enterprise's GHG emissions, or that of the organization assessing the emissions.

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General information on the site studied

4.1. Study perimeter

This study aimed to calculate the carbon footprint of Universidade Católica Portuguesa (UCP), Viseu Campus, that integrates two teaching units. The activity data refers to 2024, and the analysis was conducted based on available information provided by the School, following the operational control approach..

Regarding the Operational Boundary, Scopes 1 and 2 were considered and the GHG Protocol categories relevant to the study were defined, as summarized below:

Scope	GHG Protocol Category
Scope 1	1.1 Natural Gas Consumption
	1.1 Propane Gas Consumption
	1.2 Fuel Consumption from Mobile Sources - Diesel
Scope 2	2.1 Electrical Energy Consumption

Table 1: Operational Boundary and respective categories according to the GHG Protocol

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Input data, Assumptions and Methodology

This section summarizes the approaches followed in GreenPath to insert data and assumptions for the scenario of year 2024.

In terms of emissions inventory, the flows to be considered were as follows:

- Natural gas consumption (Scope 1)
- Propane gas consumption (Scope 1)
- Fleet Fuel consumption (Scope 1)
- Energy consumption (Scope 2)

5.1. Input Data

- **Scope 1 - C1. Natural Gas Consumption:** Purchased Natural Gas in kWh Low Heat Value (LHV);
- **Scope 1 - C1. Propane Gas Consumption:** Purchased Propane Gas in kWh;
- **Scope 1 - C2. Fleet Fuel Consumption - Diesel:** Quantity of Fuel in Liters;
- **Scope 2 - C1. Purchase of Electricity:** Quantity of Purchased Electricity in MWh;

5.2. Main Assumptions

Activity data regarding UCP Viseu were obtained through different information flows (internal and external):

- **Scope 1 - C1. Natural Gas Consumption:** information obtained from gas provider invoices and internal control sheets from the school;
- **Scope 1 - C1 - Propane Gas Consumption:** information obtained from gas provider invoices and internal control sheets from the school;

- **Scope 1 - C2. Fleet Fuel Consumption - Diesel:** information obtained from estimates based on monetary value spent ;
- **Scope 2 - C1. Purchase of Electricity:** information obtained from electricity provider invoices and internal control sheets from the school;

Table 2 presents the activity data considered in this study for the year 2024, for Viseu Campus

Activity Data	Year 2024	Units
Scope 1 - C1. Natural Gas Consumption		
Natural Gas Consumption	78.05945	MWh
Scope 1 - C1. Propane Gas Consumption		
Propane Gas Consumption	2237.14	KWh
Scope 1 - C2. Fleet Fuel Consumption		
Fleet Fuel Consumption - Diesel	1569.99	L
Scope 2 - C1. Purchase of Electricity		
Purchase of Electricity	408.14	MWh

Table 2: Data provided by Católica Viseu (2024)

5.3. Methodology

- **Scope 1 - C1. Natural Gas Consumption:** calculation approach using natural gas LHV (10.55 KWh/m³);
- **Scope 1 - C1. Propane Gas Consumption:** calculation approach through density (ρ) at standard conditions;
- **Scope 1 - C2. Fleet Fuel Consumption - Diesel:** calculation approach using diesel consumption, considering Diesel B7 (most common in Portugal);
- **Scope 2 - C1. Electrical Energy Consumption:** calculation approach using Portugal's energy mix emission factor for the year studied.

Table 3 summarizes the emission factors considered for each emissions category, as well as their Scopes, approaches and sources for consultation.

Item	Emission Factor	Unit	GHG	Comments	Source
Scope 1 - C1. Natural Gas Consumption					
Natural Gas	0.202	kg CO2eq/kWh	CO2	Natural Gas Consumption in kWh	[1]
	0.00239	kg CO2eq/kWh	N2O		[1]
	0.00054	kg CO2eq/kWh	CH4		[1]
Scope 1 - C1. Propane Gas Consumption					
Propane Gas	0.243	kg CO2eq/kWh	CO2	Propane Gas Consumption in kWh	[*]
Scope 1 - C2. Fleet Fuel Consumption					
Diesel	2.47	kg CO2eq/L	CO2	Fossil fuel consumption volume: Diesel B7	[1]
	0.0213	kg CO2eq/L	N2O		[1]
	0.000857	kg CO2eq/L	CH4		[1]
Scope 2 - C1. Purchase of Electricity					
Purchase of Electricity	0.1575	kg CO2eq/kWh	CO2	Portugal's energy mix	[2]

Table 3: Emission factors used and conversions considered for the Católica Viseu study

[1] Base Carbone ADEME - 2023, Origin: France

[2] IEA 2024, International Energy Agency (Scope 2), Origin: Portugal

5.3. Uncertainty Assessment

The Greenpath tool takes into account two kinds of uncertainties: The activity data uncertainty and emission factors uncertainty. The emission factors uncertainty is given by the tools database and the activity data uncertainty is considered with the following criteria shown in Table 4.

Uncertainty (%)	Activity Data Source
0	Exact data collected from analyzers or SI files (Example: EDP declaration of kWh consumed through in-house software)
5	Detailed primary data that may contain omissions in the margin
10	Data estimated from company experience (Example: data estimated from the history of recent years)
15	Data reconstructed from primary data or where the source files have been reprocessed (Example: kWh estimate from m ² heated)
20	Data extrapolated from a sample
30	Data extrapolated from a similar company/activity
50	Data not collected and use of statistical data

Table 4: Uncertainty Criteria for Activity Data

Table 5 provides more details regarding the uncertainties attributed to the different categories of activity data.

Item	Uncertainty Activity data	Comments	Uncertainty Emission Factor	Comments
Scope 1 - C1. Natural Gas Consumption				
Natural Gas	5	Supplier's invoices and internal control sheets	5	GreenPath Database
Scope 1 - C1. Propane Gas Consumption				
Propane Gas	5	Supplier's invoices and internal control sheets	5	GreenPath Database
Scope 1 - C2. Fleet Fuel Consumption				
Diesel	5	Internal control sheets based on invoices	10	GreenPath Database
Scope 2 - C1. Purchase of Electricity				
Purchase of Electricity	5	Supplier's invoices and internal control sheets	50	GreenPath Database

Table 5: Uncertainties considered for Activity Data and Emission Factors

To calculate the amount of uncertain emissions, the following equation was used:

$$\text{uncertain emissions} = CE \times \sqrt{uad^2 + uef^2}$$

Where,

CE : Carbon emissions calculated by multiplying activity data with correspondent emissions factors.

uad : uncertainty of activity data in percentage.

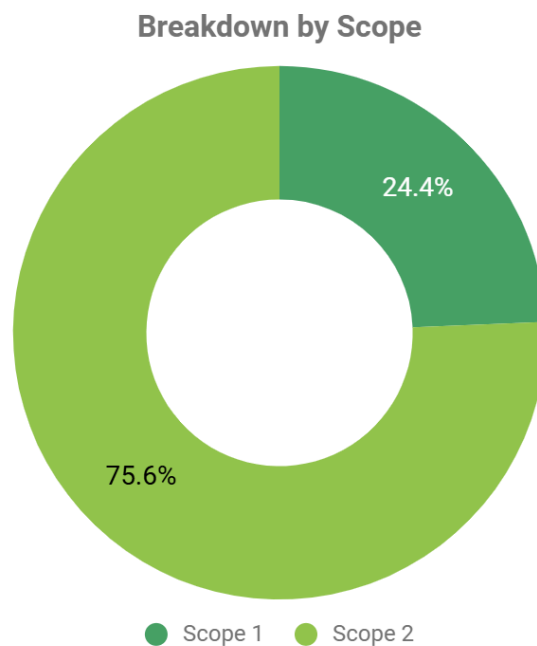
uef: uncertainty of emissions factor in percentage.

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Results

Based on the data provided and restricting the analysis to Scopes 1 and 2, the overall carbon footprint for Católica Viseu in 2024 was 85 CO₂eq. The total amount of emissions resulting from uncertainty was 33.9 ton CO₂eq. The final and summarized result is then 85 +/- 33.9 ton CO₂eq.

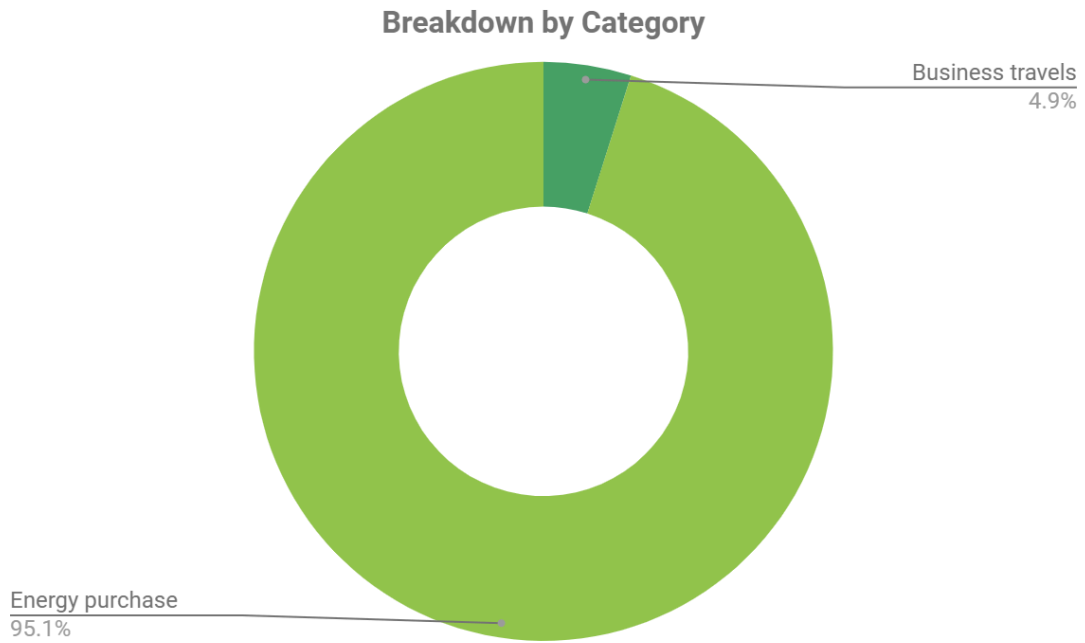
It is shown a high predominance for Scope 2 activities, making up 64.3 ton CO₂eq, around 75.6% of the total emissions, followed by Scope 1 (24.4%), as shown in Graph 1.



Graph 1: GHG Emissions breakdown by Scope

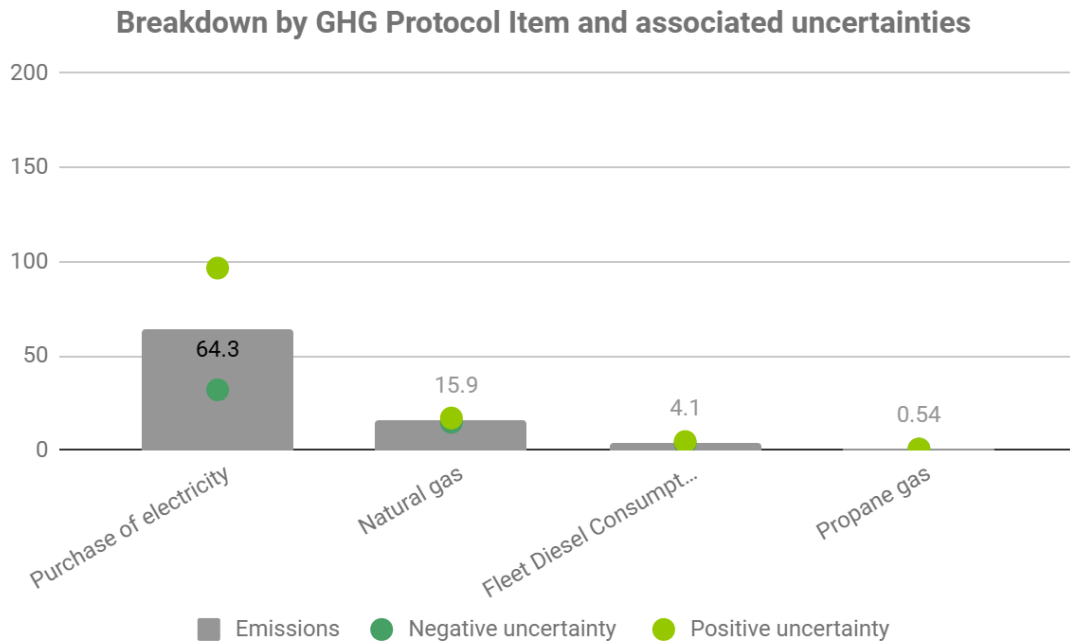
Breaking down the results by category (Graph 2), energy purchase related emissions (electricity, propane gas and natural gas consumption) assume the highest contribution

achieving 95.1% of Católica Viseu emissions. Business travels category, which includes the fleet diesel consumption has a residual representativity of 4.9%.



Graph 2: GHG Emissions breakdown by category

Graph 3 represents the breakdown of GHG emissions by the different items analyzed from Scopes 1 and 2.



Graph 3: Breakdown of total emissions and uncertainties associated with each category studied

Taking into account the uncertainty methodology presented previously in section 5.3, the disaggregated results are as follows:

Scope 1: 20.7 +/- 1.6 ton CO₂eq

Scope 2: 64.3 +/- 32.3 ton CO₂eq

The table shown in Appendix 1 summarizes the results according to GHG Protocol.

It is important to highlight that the overall results presented contain a total degree of uncertainty of around 40%, given the diversity of data sources or the absence of reliable data that would allow for a more solid analysis. Additionally, since electricity purchase is the most contributive item and given that the emission factor for Portugal electricity mix has an associated uncertainty of around 50%, the total amount of uncertain emissions assumes a significant value.

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Results interpretation and ways to improve

In this study, the carbon footprint for 2024 of Católica Viseu was analyzed. By measuring the greenhouse gas emissions, we can provide valuable insights into the school's environmental impact. Based on the results, it is possible to assess that the most impactful activity is electric energy consumption, which represents 75.6% of the total calculated emissions.

It is highly important to improve the data acquisition process in order to obtain maximum reliability values and reduce possible uncertainties associated with the study. This improvement is essential to ensure that the information collected is accurate, consistent and representative of the reality of Católica Viseu.

In order to reduce carbon footprint in the analyzed boundary, it is important to efficiently monitor the activities that consume energy. Because more than a half of the carbon footprint is related to energy consumption, it is important to invest in energy efficiency and energy conservation measures. Consumption monitoring and analysis, replacing existing equipment for more efficient models and having a good percentage of renewable energy supply are the most common examples in reducing Scope 2 emissions.

Regarding emissions controlled by the college, especially electricity consumption, detailed monitoring with energy meters is suggested to define consumption profiles and detect inefficiencies. This will allow to set clear reduction targets for Scope 2.

In terms of results and future work, KPIs will be created to measure the School's environmental and operational performance, with special emphasis on the following indicators:

- **Energy-related KPIs:**
 - kWh per square meter (kWh/m²)
 - kWh per student/staff member
 - % of renewable energy in total consumption

- **Emissions KPIs:**
 - Carbon footprint per student (kg CO₂eq/student)
 - Carbon footprint per square meter (kg CO₂eq/m²)
 - % reduction in emissions year-over-year

- **Building Performance KPIs:**
 - Building energy performance certificates
 - Space utilization rate
 - Cost savings from energy efficiency measures

These values will be of great importance for differentiating results and to achieve a comprehensive sustainability and operational monitoring. The use of these indicators will allow data-driven management decisions and benchmarking between the faculties that make up the Universidade Católica Portuguesa.

It is crucial to highlight the importance of Scope 3 in calculating the carbon footprint. This covers indirect emissions that occur throughout the organization's value chain, both upstream and downstream, and including this scope in the calculation is essential to obtain a complete and accurate view of the GHG emissions profile. By analyzing the value chain in detail, numerous opportunities for action and optimization arise, with the identification of the categories of emissions that most contribute to the school carbon footprint.

APPENDIX

ANEXO 1: RESULTS ACCORDING TO THE GHG PROTOCOL (YEAR 2024)

GHG Protocol										
		GES							Total	
		CO2 (TCO2-eq)	CH4 (TCO2-eq)	N2O (TCO2-eq)	HCFCs (TCO2-eq)	HFCs (TCO2-eq)	PFCs (TCO2-eq)	SF6 (TCO2-eq)	CO2e (TCO2-eq)	Uncertainty (TCO2-eq)
Scope 1 Direct emissions	1.1 - Direct emissions from stationary combustion sources	16.5	0	0.2	0	0	0	0	16.5	1.1
	1.2 - Direct emissions from mobile sources of combustion	3.9	0	0	0	0	0	0	3.9	0.4
	Sub-total	20.4	0	0.2	0	0	0	0	20.4	1.5
Scope 2 Indirect emissions associated with energy	2.1 - Indirect emissions from electricity consumption								64	32
	Sub-total								64	32
Total		20.4	0	0.2	0	0	0	0	84.4	33.5

APPENDIX 2: GREENPATH CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE



CITEPA

CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE

CITEPA certifies that the company



has established a calculation tool of carbon footprint

GREENPATH v. 2.02.05-2

in compliance with guidelines

	<p>GHG Protocol standard Revised Edition</p>
 <p>International Organization for Standardization</p>	<p>ISO 14064-1:2018 – Specification with guidance at the organization level for quantification and reporting of greenhouse gas emissions and removals</p> <p>ISO 14069- 2:2013 Greenhouse gases – Quantification and reporting of greenhouse gas emissions for organizations – Guidance for the application of ISO 14064-1</p>
<p>Certificate issued on</p>	<p>March 3rd, 2022</p>
<p>Recommendation report from CITEPA</p>	<p>« Mise à jour de l'audit du volet Empreinte carbone de GreenPath – Mars 2021 » <i>The non-compliances identified in the report have been lifted. This certificate does not include the sections relating to the calculations of avoided emissions.</i></p>
<p>Carbon expertise</p>	<p>https://www.citepa.org/en/activities/international-studies</p>

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