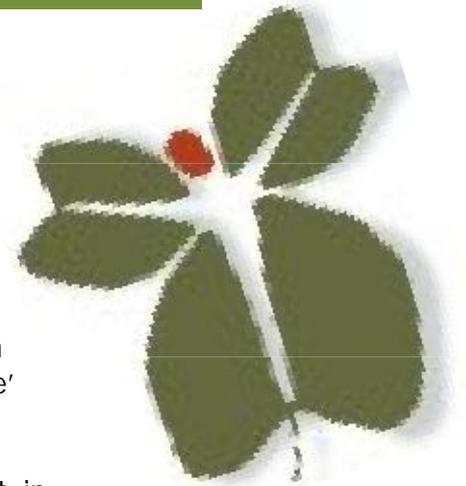


K2c Sustainability Assessment Guide

A useful definition of 'sustainability assessment' is: **'An assessment of activities, projects programmes, plans and/or policies which applies social and economic sustainability criteria as well as environmental ones, and considers the integration and reconciliation of these different criteria'**



What sustainability assessments are is a means of informing the decision making process. The expected outcome of the assessment is that a broad overview about the impact of any project or activity can be made and any opportunities to make the activity more 'sustainable' can be quickly identified.

Identifying sustainability issues and acting upon them will assist in enabling sustainable development to be addressed as part of any process, particularly at the outset. For each statement assess if the activity in question contributes in a positive or negative way. If the effect is positive tick 'Yes', if the effect is negative tick 'No', if it is not applicable tick 'N/A'. However, further investigation may be needed to clarify issues before an overall assessment of impact can be determined.

On the final page of the checklist show how any planned improvements will enhance the project/activity, making it more sustainable. Whenever a 'No' is recorded consider possibilities for changing some aspect of the process to provide a more sustainable service. The reasons for a 'No' response should also be justified. For any improvements please supply a completion date.

To summarise, when completing the checklist consider the following:

- *It is better if a small team of people does the assessment. These will be closely involved with the work to be appraised, although it may be worth bringing in an individual not directly involved;*
- *try not to take more than an hour to complete the assessment;*
- *consider the potential impacts and opportunities, not just the direct impact of the activity;*
- **identify the impacts** – *work through the statements, identify those relevant to the assessment. Not every statement may be relevant to the programme under review;*
- **determine significance** – *is it a positive or negative impact? This may not be apparent at the outset, further data may be needed;*
- *finally, Sustainability Assessment is not a rigid system but a practical approach to ensure that significant impacts of a programme are considered. It is important not to labour over it.*

SUSTAINABILITY CHECKLIST

What is the main aim of your project/activity?			
DOES THIS PROJECT BENEFIT THE FOLLOWING AREAS?	Yes	No	N/A
1. COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION			
a) encourage local action and decision making			
b) involve your community in developing the proposal			
c) take account of under represented groups			
2. ECONOMY AND WORK			
a) provide opportunities for local businesses			
b) increase employment/vocational training opportunities			
c) assisting low income/disadvantaged groups			
3. HEALTH			
a) reduce factors that contribute to ill health (poverty, diet, lifestyle, etc)			
b) improve health facilities			
c) provide healthy and safe working environments for staff			
4. EQUALITY & OPPORTUNITY			
a) increasing opportunities for life-long learning			
b) increasing facilities for: the young elderly or disabled			
c) promoting citizenship, eg. Racial and religious understanding			
5. TRANSPORT			
a) encourage walking or cycling			
b) promote the use of public transport			
c) encourage appropriate vehicle use, thereby reducing emissions levels.			
d) promote efficient transport systems/routes to support rural and/or urban areas			
6. POLLUTION			
a) reduce local pollution, eg noise, air, water, land etc.			

7. ENERGY			
a) reduce energy use			
b) generate energy from renewable sources or waste. For example, the use of biofuels			
8. WASTE & RESOURCES			
a) reduce the amount of waste produced, or reuses existing products			
b) encourage recycling or use recycled products			
9. BUILDINGS AND LAND USE			
a) ensure the protection of historic sites and buildings			
b) avoid building on greenfield sites			
c) use sustainable construction techniques, eg low impact building materials or the efficient use of materials and land.			
10. ENVIRONMENT			
a) create quality green spaces for community use			
b) benefit plant and animal life, e.g. protecting or enhancing wildlife habitats.			
c) protect/promote Norfolk's cultural heritage			
d) promotes the protection/enhancement of existing landscape or townscape character			
e) consider environmental issues when purchasing goods and services			

Substantiate The Statements

COMPLETION DATE

1. COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION	
2. ECONOMY & WORK	
3. HEALTH	
4. EQUALITY OF OPPORTUNITY	
5. TRANSPORT	
6. POLLUTION	

7. ENERGY	
8. WASTE & RESOURCES	
9. BUILDINGS & LAND USE	
10 ENVIRONMENT	



The first step to lowering carbon emissions is to understand your carbon footprint. This tool helps you to estimate your household CO2 emissions and shows how different lifestyle choices, household features and new technologies affect the size of your footprint

- [Food & Trees For Africa Carbon Calculator](#) - using Global Greenhouse Gas Reporting Protocols
- [Project 90x2030](#) - personal household carbon footprint calculator
- [Food and Trees for Africa](#) - carbon calculator
- [CO2balanace](#) - carbon dioxide emission calculators
- [BP](#) - non-flash carbon footprint calculator
- [Forum for Economics and Environment](#) - CO2 calculator

Several international online carbon footprint calculators are also available:

- [UK government initiative](#)
- [Calculator endorsed by the World Resources Institute, a US-based centre for policy research and analysis](#)
- [European Commission's initiative](#)

There is currently no universally-agreed principle and/or standard to base calculations on and online carbon footprint calculators are based on different standards and guidelines and with different scopes. However in the South African context, the South African National Standard (SANS) 14064-1:2006 edition 1, especially part 1 ("Specifications with guidance at the organisation level for quantification and reporting of greenhouse gas emissions and removals"), should guide the design of any online carbon footprint calculator.

The applicability and accuracy of an online carbon footprint calculator will also depend on the conversion factors that it uses, some of which might differ between countries. Therefore, it is recommended to use an online carbon footprint calculator which uses conversions factors relevant to your country.

However, an online carbon footprint calculator can be a very useful tool, mainly for individuals, NGOs and small companies, to evaluate in a cost-effective and user-friendly way their average carbon footprint related to specific activities and to enable them to take the necessary actions to reduce their Greenhouse Gas emissions. It is a tool which is favoured for the compilation of a voluntary carbon footprint, and it is generally considered more as an awareness tool than a management tool per se. It should not be used to quantify the reductions associated with Greenhouse Gases mitigation projects for use as offsets or credits.