

## Every one of us causes greenhouse gas emissions...

Many of our activities produce greenhouse gases. From heating and hoovering our homes to travelling by plane, train or car, it is impossible to imagine our lives without greenhouse gas especially carbon emissions. Needless to say, there is great potential for reducing emissions by using environmentally friendly forms of transport such as trains, by switching to green electricity providers or by installing new, climate-friendly heating systems. However, in spite of these efforts, there will always be emissions that cannot be avoided or reduced and which contribute to climate change.

## ... and can offset them elsewhere

True to the guiding principle of “Avoid, reduce and offset”, Klima-Kollekte works to offset unavoidable emissions of harmful gases in order to minimise damage to our climate. This is where Klima-Kollekte comes in:

With the aid of Klima-Kollekte’s carbon **emissions calculator**, which can be found online at [www.klima-kollekte.de](http://www.klima-kollekte.de), you can begin by calculating the greenhouse gas emissions caused by your heating, mobility, electricity and paper consumption and by events.

To offset your emissions, the calculator will then indicate an amount that you can donate to church carbon projects. This voluntary amount corresponds to the volume of greenhouse gases which Klima-Kollekte partners save through their project activities, for instance by using solar systems, biogas plants or energy-efficient stoves.

## Projects and standards

Klima-Kollekte invests in carbon projects that promote energy efficiency or renewable energies. These carbon projects support climate protection as well as poverty reduction in their particular localities. So as an additional benefit, our projects always contribute to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) defined by the United Nations.

Within the projects, climate protection and development cooperation are indivisibly linked, because our projects

- create better prospects for disadvantaged people in poor districts by supporting village start-ups,
- strengthen women as small entrepreneurs in the village community,
- promote health and save energy and time, and
- support partner organisations in setting up social enterprises with a view to fostering financial self-sufficiency.

At present, Klima-Kollekte is funding carbon projects in India, Kenya, Lesotho, Rwanda and Nicaragua aimed at reducing greenhouse gases there.

Adhering to strict standards when selecting and implementing projects guarantees that the projects

- actually do make a contribution to climate protection and reduce carbon emissions,
- are implemented in addition to other climate protection efforts,
- do not have negative impacts on the local environment or development, and
- make a contribution to sustainable development and combating poverty in the area in question.

To ensure this, projects are selected and implemented in accordance with the **Gold Standard**, taking into account the contribution to both reducing emissions and to sustainable development. The **Gold Standard** is a quality standard for carbon projects which was developed by environmental and development experts with a view to ensuring that projects comply with the highest standards in connection with the “Clean Development Mechanism” and therefore with the regulated market. Since 2006, the **Gold Standard** has also existed in connection with voluntary offsetting.

## Church-based offsetting fund

Klima-Kollekte is a carbon offsetting fund organised by Christian churches in Germany, Switzerland and Austria. It sees itself as the churches’ contribution to existing measures for offsetting emissions. The notable factor in this case is that the carbon emissions are offset by carbon projects run by church organisations or their partners in developing countries. Klima-Kollekte benefits from its ties with churches, having worked for many years on an equal footing with project partners in developing countries.

Klima-Kollekte’s shareholders are Bread for the World – Protestant Development Service, Evangelical Church in Germany (EKD), Protestant Institute for Interdisciplinary Research (FEST), Fastenopfer Foundation, MISEREOR, Missionary Childhood Association “Die Sternsinger” and the Centre for World Mission and Church World Service (ZMÖ).

Klima-Kollekte aims to secure **new and stronger** participation by church-affiliated organisations, communities and individuals and society at large in offsetting unavoidable carbon emissions.

## A not-for-profit organisation

Klima-Kollekte (climate collective) was founded as a not-for-profit limited company in 2011. The administrative office is located in Berlin, while the not-for-profit company is headquartered at FEST in Heidelberg. Klima-Kollekte is overseen by the general meeting of shareholders, which also decides on the selection of projects. Scientific monitoring is performed by FEST in Heidelberg.

## Services provided by Klima-Kollekte

- Emissions calculator for gauging realistic greenhouse gas emissions
- Offsetting these emissions through climate protection projects at transparent prices in accordance with the **Gold Standard**
- Personal advice by telephone or by e-mail
- Information on climate change, climate knowledge and climate tips on the Klima-Kollekte homepage
- Payments by invoice or online payment by direct debit or credit card
- Certificate for offsetting emissions
- Donation receipts issued



## Protecting our climate Offsetting greenhouse gas emissions

Your contribution to climate  
protection

Avoid – reduce – offset

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### Shareholders

