

Start-up developed an easy to adapt tool which enables enterprises to identify in detail its corporate climate footprint (greenhouse gas emissions)

Summary

Profile type	Company's country	POD reference
Technology offer	Germany	TODE20230523005
Profile status	Type of partnership	Targeted countries
PUBLISHED	Commercial agreement with technical assistance	• World
Contact Person	Term of validity	Last update
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General Information

Short summary

Many small and medium-sized enterprises are willing to contribute their part to tackle climate change, but do not know how to begin with little effort. A start-up from northern Germany developed an easy to adapt software which calculates an enterprises' entire climate footprint, based on financial transactions. The detailed result shows access points for improvement in every section and identifies crucial parts with need of change. Enterprises from all sectors are sought for cooperation.

Full description

A Start-up from northern Germany developed a web tool which calculates an enterprises' entire climate footprint – incl. scope 3 emissions – using data from financial spending transactions. A quick export from the enterprises' accounting software, safe import into the web tool and a short questionnaire, and the annual report can be created. It shows the overall emissions and which categories contribute most and least to it. This way processes and actions in everyday work responsible for CO2 output can be easily identified.

After two yearly footprint calculations and an indication of planned emission reduction measures, the start-up also provides a degree-Celsius-KPI for easy and effective benchmarking and progress tracking – showing the increase of global temperature if every enterprise in the sector would act the same.

After the data upload the suppliers, products and services are mapped to the start-up's categories with a specific emission intensity. To determine the diverse emission intensities across all EU countries, the start-up uses different

leading databases (such as exiobase.eu). An important factor is the the kind of calculation: not territorial-based accounting, but state-of-the-art consumption-based accounting, allocating emissions globally across borders to the countries where the products and goods are demanded and consumed. So e.g. when buying parts of a machinery in Germany the emission intensity for that would include embedded emissions from machinery production in other countries from which Germany imports machinery, including logistics' emissions.

The underlying scientific method has been verified by one of Germanies largest auditing companies. And it is constantly improved by a PhD physicist. Since 2022, the start-up collaborates closely with a large German bank, helping them to offer climate footprint analytics to its customers.

Advantages and innovations

Based on the report the start-up helps identify the most climate-effective and cost-effective measures. Consistent implementation then increases resilience to better meet future challenges.

Increase of attractiveness as an employer: in times of very low emotional attachment to the employer and a shortage of skilled workers, climate footprint management can be an important asset for retention and hiring of staff. Because 2/3 of all people are sensitive to climate protection and expect according engagement from their employer.

Winning customers:

- In B2B: from 2024, large companies will have to do sustainability reporting according to the EU Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive (CSRD) and will require corresponding disclosure from their suppliers.

- In B2C: 2/3 of all people are climate-sensitive when making purchasing decisions and will value according engagement.

Creation of better conditions for financing: from 2024, banks will have to transparently disclose where their money goes due to CSRD and, according to European Banking Authority guidelines, banks should take ESG criteria into account when granting loans. So having a climate footprint report as the main part of ESG will make a difference in the credit process.

Technical specification or expertise sought

Stage of development

Already on the market

IPR Status

No IPR applied

Sustainable Development goals

- **Goal 13: Climate Action**
- **Goal 12: Responsible Consumption and Production**

Partner Sought

Expected role of the partner

Banks who would like to provide additional sustainability services to their clients, Service providers and small and medium sized enterprises in general (SMEs) with an interest in collecting information about environmental consequences as a result of their purchasing behaviour

Type of partnership

Commercial agreement with technical assistance

Type and size of the partner

- **Big company**
- **SME 11-49**
- **SME <=10**
- **SME 50 - 249**

Dissemination

Technology keywords

- **01003015 - Knowledge Management, Process Management**
- **10002004 - Climate Change mitigation**
- **01003011 - Electronic Commerce, Electronic Payment & Signature**
- **010002001 - Air Pollution/Treatment**

Targeted countries

- **World**

Market keywords

- **02006004 - Data processing, analysis and input services**
- **02007022 - Software services**
- **02007008 - Business and office software**

Sector groups involved