

The Green Touring Toolkit

ARTS
ON
TOUR

Reference Guides / Fact Sheets
Template Plans / Riders



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This Green Rider can be used to assist touring companies and venues work together to reduce GHG emissions associated with staging a production. It can be tailored to your production and included with your tech specs or as a separate document. In compiling this Rider, Arts on Tour would like to acknowledge the generous input and expertise of touring artists including Hannah Smith and Ralph McCubbin Howell of Trick of Light.

GREEN RIDER

INSERT COMPANY NAME is committed to reducing our GHG emissions at the office and on the road. We have incorporated emission reduction strategies into all aspects of our tour planning and would like to continue this while we are at INSERT VENUE NAME. This Green Rider is a starting point for a conversation about sustainable goals and aspirations. If there is anything we, as a touring company, can practice to address your venue's sustainability goals, please let us know.

Back of House requests

Waste

To reduce landfill waste we would appreciate, where possible:

- Recycling bins in back of house areas and the Green Room
- Bins for batteries back of house*
- Bins for soft plastic bins back of house*
- Information about composting opportunities in town for touring company members

**At venues where these disposal facilities are not available for these items the Company will dispose of them at the next venue*

Energy

To reduce energy usage we would appreciate the following being switched on only upon company arrival (when facilities not in use directly prior):

- Lighting grid and theatre power
- Dressing room lights
- Air-conditioning/heating facilities (and set to 22 degrees in winter and 24 degrees in summer)

Catering

To reduce single-use plastics and food emissions, we would appreciate:

- Filtered water to be available for the Company to re-fill water bottles. Please, no bottled water
- Access to Green Room supplies, such as cutlery and crockery
- No single-use items such as plates, cutlery, cups, salt and pepper sachets, sauce packets
- If food is provided (thank you!) we would appreciate locally sourced food, minimal meat (vegetarian options preferred), and minimal packaging.

Accommodation/travel (if venue providing)

To reduce energy usage from accommodation and transport, we would appreciate:

- Accommodation within walking distance to the venue to avoid any unnecessary vehicle use
- The accommodation provider to be supplied with AOT's Accommodation Rider
- Hybrid rather than petrol cars, if you are hiring vehicles on our behalf

Working together

Do you have a sustainability policy that you would like to share with us? Is your venue currently doing or working towards any of the following? Is there anything we can do on our visit to help you achieve your goals? We'd love to have a conversation about the following:

General

- Do you have a net zero emissions target and has a timeframe been set?
- Do you source electricity from a renewable energy supplier?
- Do you have a single-use plastics policy?
- Do you have water reduction initiatives in place, or use recycled water?
- Are you using eco-friendly cleaning products?
- Do you have LED fixtures throughout your venue?
- Do you have LED fixtures in your lighting rig?
- Do you have local green suppliers that we could utilise, eg. hotels, restaurants, food co-ops?

Marketing

- How much of your marketing is digital? Is digital-only material a realistic goal for your venue?
- If you are providing printed marketing material, is this on recycled paper?

Audience Goals

- Are you working with audiences to reduce emissions associated with audiences getting to and from your venue?
- Do you encourage audiences to walk, cycle or car pool?
- Do you communicate your sustainability goals with audiences?

Accommodation Rider



Dear X,

We are pleased to have the company of INSERT SHOW NAME staying with you for their season at INSERT VENUE from INSERT DATE to DATE.

Arts on Tour is committed to our touring activity being carbon neutral by 2024. As part of our commitment, we are taking steps to reduce our waste and energy usage. As the peak body for touring in NSW, we are also committed to providing tools and resources to support other touring companies to reduce their carbon footprint.

In our pre-tour briefing with the company, we asked if they had any requests for greener choices they'd like us to pass on to the accommodation we have booked for them. They have indicated the preferences listed below. We hope you can fulfil as many of these requests as possible:

- Removal of all single-use toiletries from each room (no soaps, shampoos, body wash, etc.)
- Ensuring lights and air-con units are not switched on prior to check in
- Not changing sheets or towels with any room service or turndown service
- Provide recycling facilities in rooms and/or common areas where possible (incl. soft plastics)
- Provide compost facilities in rooms and/or common areas where possible

Arts on Tour is advocating for a sector-wide adoption of emission reduction strategies/net zero emission targets for all touring activity. As part of this advocacy, and to help us green our supply chain, we're **building a database of accommodation providers that details their environmental sustainability practices**. For us to include you in this database, please respond to the questions overleaf.

Please send your responses and any supporting documents you'd like to include (e.g. policies), to INSERT EMAIL. If you'd like to chat through any of these, or green policies for accommodation providers in general, feel free to give me a call on INSERT PHONE NUMBER.

Kind regards,

INSERT NAME

INSERT TITLE

ACCOMMODATION ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY QUESTIONNAIRE

Accommodation Name _____

Type (Chain/Franchise/Independent) _____

Location _____

Contact Name and Phone Number _____

Area	Policies, Strategies, Processes	Status
CARBON NEUTRAL	Do you have an environmental sustainability policy?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Planned: target date _____
	Are you measuring your carbon emissions?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Planned: target date _____
	Do you have emission reduction strategies?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Planned: target date _____
	Are your operations carbon neutral?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Planned: target date _____
ENERGY	Do you use 100% renewable energy?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Planned: target date _____
	Do you have a photovoltaic system?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Planned: target date _____
	Do you use LED lighting?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Planned: target date _____
WASTE	Do you have a zero waste plan?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Planned: target date _____
	Are you single-use plastic free?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Planned: target date _____
	Do you recycle all recyclable waste?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Planned: target date _____
	Do you compost all organic waste?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Planned: target date _____
	Do you have processes in place to eliminate food waste?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Planned: target date _____
WATER	Do you have grey water recycling?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Planned: target date _____
	Water conservation/reduction methods?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Planned: target date _____
PROCUREMENT	Does your kitchen/restaurant have vegetarian/vegan options available?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Planned: target date _____
	Do you source environmentally friendly products and recyclable packaging?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Planned: target date _____
	Do you source bulk amenities rather than single-use?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Planned: target date _____
SUSTAINABLE BUILDING?	Does your building have a green star rating?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Planned: target date _____
	Passive solar design?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Planned: target date _____
	Insulation, double glazing, weather stripping?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Planned: target date _____
	Do you use FSC certified timbers?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Planned: target date _____
OTHER	Do you have other sustainability practices? Eg. free bikes for guests, electric car recharge station?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Planned: target date _____ Please describe: _____ _____

Green Tips from a Touring Stage Manager



Cally Bartley has over 10 years' experience as a Touring Stage Manager. She tours frequently with some of Australia's most prolific touring companies, including Monkey Baa Theatre Company, which can have tours on the road for up to nine months. Reducing the environmental impact of touring is a personal passion and a company priority for Monkey Baa.

MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR FOOD

- Make a truck 'pantry' box for sauces, oils and spices that are not regularly used and are tricky to travel. This will save buying and disposing each time they are needed
- Pair up with other company members for a 'leftovers' dinner on the last night in a town to combine and use up food stuffs before travel days
- Shop at bulk buy stores to buy smaller amounts of items like flour, cereals, pastas and nuts, which make them easier to use up before travel
- Plan ahead, and offer items that you won't use to venue staff or the truck driver rather than leave them behind at accommodation. Hotels will more than likely have a policy to dispose of leftover foodstuffs, and some hotels even charge an additional cleaning cost for this
- Our truck has a small fridge, so asking the truck driver to travel a tub of butter or your fave mayo on a flying leg saves disposing and rebuying. Sometimes on short flights I travel these cold items with an ice brick if practical... yes you can take cold goods through security scanners!
- Travel your own tupperware and beeswax wraps for storing food and keeping leftovers
- Have a small Esky or insulated bag with an ice brick to travel cold items on driving legs

REDUCE YOUR WASTE

- Share the location of recycling bins at accommodation in the touring party group chat, so people know where to find it. Asking about the recycling bins at check in is also a good way to drive customer need
- Make a soft plastics recycling bag available backstage that can be easily squished into the top of a road case and travelled in the truck. Drop off to a supermarket 'Recycle' bin when full
- Make time in the travel schedule to eat in, including coffee stops to save takeaway packaging
- Take your own water bottle on the plane and decline offers of bottled water
- Download the Qantas and Virgin phone apps and use digital tickets rather than print

MINIMISE WASTE AND ENERGY USE AT YOUR HOTEL

- Pack a small leak-proof container to travel soap so you don't need to open a new soap at every hotel. Keep it handy in a front pocket of your suitcase!
- Try to use just the one bin in hotel room/apartment, so that only one bin liner will need to be replaced by the cleaner
- Ask for a clothes airer/rack at hotels to save using the dryer. You can also pack a travel clothesline that could be strung up in your room to allow you to hang clothes to dry. Using the hangers provided in the wardrobe is another option
- Remind company members to turn off lights and air conditioning when leaving hotel rooms

MINIMISE WASTE AND ENERGY USE AT THE VENUE

- Hang costumes to dry overnight or on a rack in the truck at bump out rather than using the dryer. I have traveled a costume rack that we secure in the truck to hang the costumes on. The costumes can be refreshed (if needed) in the dryer on a shorter/cooler cycle at next venue, saving both emissions and wear on the fabric, giving garments a longer life
- Remind company members to turn off lights and air conditioning when leaving dressing rooms. This is something I am constantly reminding the touring party members to do
- Provide face washers and towels for make-up removal and/or facilitate the washing of reusable make-up pads with wash bags in costume washing to avoid using disposable wipes
- Check with venues if they have battery and light bulb recycling. Hold on to these until you find a venue that does have proper disposal options

Flying Fact Sheet



Air travel is one of the biggest contributors of emissions on tour. By eliminating, reducing and carefully planning flight legs, you can make a substantial reduction to the emissions output of your tour. This sheet outlines a few facts that may assist with air travel planning.

- 1. The times when most emissions are released during a flight are take-off and landing, so booking connecting flights, which have twice as many instances of these means, a substantial increase in emissions.**

A non-stop flight will take the most direct route to a destination, thereby burning less fuel and eliminating some emissions.

APPROACH: Book non-stop flights wherever possible.

If a non-stop flight is not possible, consider replacing one leg of the flight with driving/coach, driving to another airport that does offer one, or choosing flights that are the most direct with the fewest stops.

- 2. Per person, emissions are calculated by how much space is taken up.**

A passenger travelling business class can take up to twice the amount of space as one travelling economy, doubling their emissions. A person travelling first class can take up to four times the amount of space.

APPROACH: Book economy tickets when flying.

The upside to this, of course, is also an economic one!

- 3. The lighter the load, the less fuel required.**

APPROACH: Less luggage = less weight = less emissions.

By only taking essential luggage with you on flight routes, and where possible packing other luggage into the freight truck with the set, you will be lowering the weight carried on your flight and lowering your emissions.

- 4. Emissions from contrails are more damaging to the environment at night.**

Contrails (the wispy white lines that crisscross the skies after an aeroplane flies overhead) are water vapours that condense as ice onto soot particles emitted from aircraft engines. They trap and absorb outgoing heat in the atmosphere which otherwise escapes into space. This worsens at night when it is colder and the contrail has a longer lifetime.

APPROACH: Take daytime flights.

Contrails can also have a slight cooling effect during the day, by blocking incoming sunlight.

- 5. Single-use plastic is incredibly prevalent in airport terminals and on flights.**

APPROACH: Encourage the company to avoid single-use plastic altogether.

And to bring their own food for the flight where possible. Plan ahead with reusable, sustainable alternatives to plastic cups, straws, bags and containers where possible. Bringing your own food to eat on a flight instead of the in-flight meal or snack allows you to make more ethical and environmentally responsible food choices like eating local produce and reducing your consumption of meat, as well as saving on wasteful plastic packaging.

6. Catching public transport to the airport can have up to seven times lower emissions than a taxi.

APPROACH: Use efficient transport with a lower emissions output to get to/from the airport.

When practicable, give the company the option of being reimbursed for a train or bus trip to or from the airport rather than individual taxi vouchers, particularly when the company isn't travelling as a collective (e.g. from their individual homes to the airport at the start of a tour).

7. Purchasing emissions offsets with your flight is a good start.

APPROACH: When replacing flight legs with driving legs in hybrid vehicles or coaches is not possible, offset the emissions of your flight.

Purchase the optional emissions offset when booking flights, or investigate and purchase your own emissions offsets. (Refer to the Carbon Offset Reference Guide.)

WHAT ARE CARBON OFFSETS AND HOW DOES OFFSETTING WORK?

WHAT ARE CARBON OFFSETS?

Carbon offsets are certifiable and transferrable units of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reduction or removal that can be purchased to balance, or offset, unavoidable emission outputs. One carbon offset unit represents the reduction or removal of one metric tonne of carbon dioxide or greenhouse gas equivalent (one tonne of CO₂e).

HOW DOES CARBON OFFSETTING WORK?

Carbon offsetting can be thought of as making a climate investment in a certified climate action project that generates returns in the form of carbon offset units. Typically speaking, *one carbon offset generates one carbon credit*. Once purchased, the carbon credit is permanently retired and can't be reused.

WHAT TYPES OF PROJECTS ARE THERE?

Broadly there are four categories of project: forestry and conservation; renewable energy; energy efficiency/community projects; and waste-to-energy projects.

Forestry and conservation: *removes* emissions

- Examples: reforestation (tree planting), avoided conversion (forest conservation), and sustainable forest management
- Co-benefits: protecting eco-systems, biodiversity and wildlife, creates jobs. Some Australian projects are also First Nations-led and draw on First Nations land management wisdom

Renewable energy: *avoids* emissions

- Examples: solar power, wind, hydropower or geothermal energy projects that boost the amount of renewable energy on the grid
- Co-benefits: supports the transition to renewable energy, creates jobs. These projects are currently less common in Australia but are becoming more popular

Energy efficiency/community: *avoids* emissions

- Examples: improved cook stove technology, access to safe water (avoiding burning fire wood to boil water, which also protects forests)
- Co-benefits: improved health (better hygiene, less indoor smoke pollution), community empowerment, often particularly for women and girls

Waste-to-energy: *captures* emissions

- Examples: capturing methane gas from landfill gas or animal biowaste and converting it to energy for cooking or heating with a biogas digester. Methane is at least 25 times more potent than carbon dioxide
- Co-benefits: reduces reliance on wood-fired cooking, reduces indoor smoke pollution, protects forests

WHAT FACTORS ENSURE THE INTEGRITY OF A CARBON OFFSET PROGRAM?

To have environmental integrity, carbon offsets must be:

1. **Additional:** that the project wouldn't have occurred without finance from offsets
2. **Permanent:** the emissions reduction must be permanent or for a minimum time (eg. 100 years)
3. **Measurable:** able to accurately quantified
4. **Independently audited and verified:** for transparency, and to ensure the offset is traceable, retired, and cannot be double counted

WHY IS ADDITIONALITY A KEY ISSUE?

As listed above, additionality is an essential criteria of a carbon offset program – ie. that the emission reduction achieved by the project is beyond 'business as usual'. For example, regular land management practices may result in an emissions reduction, but are not additional. If you're buying forestry offsets, avoid 'Avoided Deforestation Method' programs which currently account for 20% of Australian Carbon Credit Units (ACCUs): their additionality is disputable.

WHAT ARE THE UNITED NATIONS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS AND HOW ARE THEY RELATED?

At the heart of the United Nations' 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development are 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) which provide a shared blueprint for peace and prosperity for people and the planet, now and into the future. The goals recognise that tackling climate change and preserving our oceans and forests goes hand in hand with ending poverty, improving health and education, reducing inequality, and economic growth. Many carbon offset programs aim to provide social co-benefits that address these SDG goals: <https://sdgs.un.org/goals>

HOW DO I KNOW IF A CARBON OFFSET PROGRAM IS REPUTABLE?

You can check they are third party verified by one of the major carbon standards. These standards set out rules defining how emission reductions are measured, verify the quality and impact of offset programs, and then certify that a carbon offset credit is a Verified Emission Reduction (VER). Here are some of the major ones:

- **Australia:** Australian carbon credit units (ACCUs) are certified by the Clean Energy Regulator under the Federal government's Climate Active initiative
- **International:** some of the major standards and the carbon credits they issue include:
 - The Gold Standard (GS VERs), founded by the WWF, arguably the most rigorous standard globally and committed to addressing the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs);
 - The Verified Carbon Standard (VCUs), the world's most widely-used standard;
 - The United Nations' Clean Development Mechanism (CERs), certifying projects that take place in developing countries and contribute to SDG goals
 - USA-based Climate Action Reserve (CAR) and the American Carbon Registry (ACR)

You can also ring the organisation and ask to visit their offsetting sites, and see first-hand the impact of the offsetting project.

CHOOSING AND PURCHASING CARBON OFFSETS

HOW DO I KNOW HOW MANY CARBON OFFSETS TO PURCHASE?

Once you've measured your emissions, you can buy carbon credits per tonne of CO₂e to offset these emissions. Or if you don't have an accurate measurement of your emissions, you can buy carbon credits based on estimates of average emissions for individuals and households.

DO I OWN THE CARBON OFFSET CREDIT ONCE I'VE PURCHASED IT?

Not exactly. You are buying the cancellation of the carbon offset credit you have purchased – ie. it is retired from the registry that it's certified through and can't be sold again. You receive a digital certificate as proof of purchase.

HOW MUCH DO CARBON OFFSETS COST?

The price of carbon offsets varies significantly across projects, depending on where they're located, the type of certification, scale, type of project, and social co-benefits. As an example, currently (March 2022) you could choose to invest in a renewable energy project in India for \$15-18 per tonne CO₂e or invest in a First Nations-led carbon farming project for \$59 tonne CO₂e.

HOW DO I CHOOSE WHAT CARBON OFFSET PROGRAMS TO INVEST IN?

You might be led by your organisation's values or key focus areas, or the preferences of your staff. The social co-benefits of a program is potentially the most significant decision-making factor, along with your budget; eg. whether the project is locally-based, generates employment, addresses poverty or preserves cultural practice; or whether it's Australia or overseas-based; or by the type of offset program – eg. renewable energy or conversation-based. One way to manage investment priorities and budget restrictions is to purchase carbon credits from a portfolio of offsets programs. You could do this through one offset provider, or work with multiple providers (see below).

WHERE AND HOW DO I PURCHASE CARBON OFFSETS?

It's advisable to buy carbon credits that have been independently verified by a standard you recognise (see list above). You can buy carbon credits directly from a registry platform or you can purchase from a reputable carbon offset management company that manages a portfolio of projects and sells carbon credits.

1. REGISTRY PLATFORMS

This list is far from exhaustive but includes some of the main registries:

- **Australian Carbon Credit Units (ACCUs):** Carbon Market Institute's [Carbon Marketplace](#) (search projects only)
- **United Nations Certified Emission Reductions (CERs):** [Carbon Offset Platform](#) (purchase with an account)
- **Verra's Verified Carbon Units (VCUs):** [Verra Registry](#) (purchase with an account)
- **The Gold Standard (GS VERs):** [Marketplace platform](#) (purchase without an account)

2. AUSTRALIAN ENVIRONMENTAL ORGANISATIONS/CARBON OFFSET PROVIDERS

This list focusses on small, Australian organisations with offset projects that offer co-benefits and are Australian-based. It is not an exhaustive list of offset providers.

Aboriginal Carbon Foundation (AbCF)

- Northern Territory-based, First Nations-led not for profit that supports carbon farming projects led by Indigenous rangers. Provides training for Indigenous rangers and utilises First Nations land management and cultural knowledge
- AbCF are currently developing a platform that enables the online purchase of carbon credits from their website
- www.abcfoundation.org.au

Carbon Neutral

- WA-based organisation that has been in operation for over 20 years designing and delivering large-scale biodiverse forestation programs. Carbon Neutral also sources carbon credits from other types of projects, such as offshore renewable energy projects
- The Yarra Yarra Biodiversity Corridor is Gold Standard accredited
- Facilitates online carbon offset purchase once you've created an account. Cost per tonne CO₂e varies depending on the project
- www.carbonneutral.com.au

Greenfleet

- Victorian-based not for profit with DGR status that specialises in planting localised, bio-diverse forests including First Nations-involved projects and projects that protect sea turtles
- Greenfleet's projects have their own verification process which is third-party audited. This means their projects don't produce certified carbon credits – your purchase supports investment in forestry projects and future offsets. If you are climate active certified and need certified carbon credits, they have a stapled option which offers local abatement through Greenfleet's projects and an overseas certified carbon credit. This is a good option, and currently costs \$28 per tonne of CO₂e
- If you don't need certified carbon credits, Greenfleet's website facilitates shopping-cart style purchase of carbon offsets, including 'CarbonCover365' if you want to buy annual carbon offset cover to offset your approximated personal household emissions
- www.greenfleet.com.au

Pangolin Associates

- Pangolin are an Australian-owned high quality energy consultancy company based in Sydney with a 12-year history of providing carbon management services
- They have a portfolio of overseas carbon offset projects which are Gold Standard or Verra certified
- There's no minimum quantity to carbon credits purchases, which can be made by contacting the team
- www.pangolinassociates.com

CARBON OFFSET RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THOSE IN THE KNOW...

Regional Arts Victoria

RAV have done a lot of work in this space, and have developed a range of carbon offset options to allow their touring artists to identify an issue they wish to support when offsetting their tour. Check them out [here](#).

Victorian-based artist Jens Altheimer

I offset my touring travel and personal footprint through www.goldstandard.org. Their website also had measurement tools and tips to reduce your emissions. All of their projects must also benefit Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), helping local communities and/or ecosystems. Each project, most of them in developing countries, provides a clear overview of which of the 17 social or environmental SDGs it tackles.

REFERENCES AND MORE INFORMATION

- **The Carbon Offset Guide:** http://www.offsetguide.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Carbon-Offset-Guide_3122020.pdf
- **Climate Active:** <https://www.climateactive.org.au/what-climate-active/carbon-offsets>
- **Gold Standard Offsetting Guide:** <https://www.goldstandard.org/our-story/gold-standard-offsetting-guide>
- **Explained:** the difference between CER and VER:
<https://climatetrade.com/voluntary-market-and-mandatory-carbon-credit-market/>

Touring Sustainability Action Plan



Arts on Tour's Touring Sustainability Action Plan can be used as a template to create your own Action Plan. It can be changed and adapted to suit the needs of your organisation.

SCOPE OF THIS PLAN

This Sustainability Action Plan addresses Arts on Tour's emissions reduction goals across our *touring activity*, and forms the basis of specific Touring Sustainability Plans that we develop for each tour in collaboration with our producing partner for that tour.

Reduction of Arts on Tour's non-touring activity emissions is addressed in our Office Sustainability Action Plan, which will be completed in 2022.

The Touring Sustainability Action Plan is informed by [Arts on Tour's Environmental Policy \(2022-2024\)](#), which outlines both our commitment to net zero emissions across our operations by 2024 and our commitment to facilitating carbon neutral touring becoming a sector-wide goal.

TOURING SUSTAINABILITY GOALS

GOAL 1 – To achieve carbon neutral touring by 2024, by:

- Working with our producer partners to support the prioritisation of sustainable practices from the beginning of the creative process
- Applying remove and redesign strategies to all aspects of tour planning
- Inspiring and facilitating touring company members to contribute to the reduction of energy and waste emissions while on tour
- Minimising waste from set disposal by adopting re-form, re-use and recycling practices post tour
- Evaluating and measuring emissions post tour and purchasing carbon credits to offset remaining emissions

GOAL 2 – To facilitate carbon neutral touring becoming a sector-wide goal, by:

- Providing tools and resources for producers to adopt emissions reduction strategies
- Advocating to suppliers, government agencies and other stakeholders to adopt sustainable practices and ambitious emission reduction targets

The following pages provide a detailed overview of the actions that will be taken to achieve these goals.

PRE TOUR

PRODUCTION DESIGN
GOAL
Work with our producer partners to support sustainability becoming central to the creative process and propose an emissions reduction target of at least 15%.
ACTIONS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Measure emissions from a previous production design/build of a comparable scale – Involve all departments, creatives and suppliers in the emissions reduction goal from the beginning of the creative development process – Develop specific, measurable and achievable targets and actions for each department – sets, lighting, costumes, lighting, technical - referring to The Green Touring Toolkit and The Theatre Green Book for relevant strategies and resources
TOUR PLANNING
GOAL
Apply remove and redesign strategies to all aspects of pre-tour planning to reduce emissions by at least 15%.
ACTIONS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Measure emissions of touring logistics from a previous tour of a comparable scale
Tour itinerary building
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – At least 80% of venues are no more than 600km apart (coach/car leg) – Maximum of 1 back track, necessitated by limited venue date availabilities – At least 2 venues per state/territory visited (except ACT) – At least 50% of location visits to include additional engagement activities to maximise net positive impact of visit
Logistics planning
Air
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Limit air travel to tour legs that are 600km long or longer – Flight legs to comprise no more than 20% of tour legs – Fly with airlines with quality offset programs; or offset flights through alternative program
Ground
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Hire cars: only utilise hybrid/electric fleet vehicles, unless not available in that location – Coach: utilise for 400-600km legs for medium to large-sized touring companies instead of flights – Airport transfers: encourage and facilitate touring company members to catch public transport to/from airport-home
Freight
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Reduce truck size as much as possible, working with producer on set design from the beginning

- Reduce road freight legs, particularly West-East coast as much as possible and use alternatives – rail/air/locally sourced or built

Accommodation

- Conduct a questionnaire with touring company regarding hotel preferences around energy/waste reduction, such as removing single use toiletry items
- Provide an accommodation rider to providers (see AOT’s Green Touring Toolkit [Green Accommodation Rider](#) template) stating these energy/waste reduction preferences
- Ask accommodation providers to complete a questionnaire on their sustainability measures and policies and from this build a [Green Accommodation Reference database](#) that rates providers on their sustainability credentials. This will be a live document that will continue to evolve

Venue partners

- Share this Touring Sustainability Action Plan with venue partners and start a conversation about achieving mutual sustainability goals
- Include a Green Rider (see AOT’s Green Touring Toolkit [Green Rider](#) template) in the venue contract to outline ways to reduce energy/waste during your visit

ON TOUR

TOURING COMPANY PARTICIPATION

GOAL

Inspire and inform touring company members to contribute to the reduction of energy and waste emissions on tour

ACTIONS

- Inspire the touring company at the pre-tour briefing to participate in emissions reduction goals for the tour
- Include carbon emission literacy training particularly around food emissions for different meat/veg options and waste reduction strategies
- Ask the touring company if they would be willing to anonymously track their food consumption to include in measuring tour emissions
- Incorporate green tips into the tour book (refer to [The Green Touring Toolkit](#))

POST TOUR

RE-FORM, RE-USE, RECYCLCLE: SET DISPOSAL

GOAL

To minimise waste and maximise the lifetime of materials through re-form, re-use and recycling practices.

EVALUATE

GOAL

Evaluate performance against goals, evaluate successes and areas for improvement and fold learnings into the next tour sustainability plan.

ACTIONS

- Ask the touring party if they'd be willing to complete an anonymous survey about sustainability efforts on the tour (and include meat consumption, as listed above)
- Survey venue partners and determine what energy data is available for presenting the show
- Conduct a debrief with the touring party, following up on the survey, discussing successes and challenges of the sustainability plan
- Conduct an internal organisational debrief to capture learnings and different perspectives

MEASURE & OFFSET

GOAL

Measure emissions and offset through a high quality program to reach goal of net zero emissions.

ACTIONS

- Collect data from the tour for:
 - Air travel (kms travelled, type of flight)
 - Ground travel (kms travelled, type of vehicle)
 - Freight (kms travelled, size/type of truck)
 - Accommodation (no. rooms, no. nights)
 - Venue energy usage at venues (kWh, if available)
 - Touring company food emissions (no. meals/type of food, if available)
 - Landfill waste from set disposal (kg, if applicable)
- Use Circulate, Arup's online emissions tool to convert data to emissions
- Purchase offsets (refer to AOT's Carbon Offset Reference Guide)

ADVOCATE

GOAL

To advocate to suppliers, government agencies and other stakeholders to adopt sustainable practices and ambitious emission reduction targets.

ACTIONS

- Advocate in all correspondence to suppliers AOT's sustainability goals and our mission to only work only with suppliers with sustainability practices and carbon reduction targets, including accommodation, car hire, coach hire, freight and air travel companies as well as performing arts venues
- Advocate to funding bodies to adopt net zero emission targets and for funding agreements to make costs that reduce environmental impact eligible
- Advocate and motivate audiences and other stakeholders to adopt emission reduction practices