



The Global Returns Project

CORPORATE CONTRIBUTION TESTIMONIAL

This UK fund management company contributes to the Global Returns Portfolio as an alternative to purchasing carbon offsets. The following are excerpts from a letter to the company's stakeholders:

'For quite some time [we] have been aware of the environmental impact of our business, particularly our travel, and have been wondering how we best address this issue given the nature of our work.

[...] it is through my relationship with [The Global Returns Project] that I have found an approach which works for us in addressing both the historical environmental footprint of the firm and a framework for us going forward. Underpinning our approach is our principle that **we would rather be part of a fundamental solution to the climate crisis than just offset our ongoing activity**. In keeping with the way we run our business [...] **we are interested in constructing an authentic, tailored and innovative solution to the problem rather than just following the herd or ticking a box.**

[...] The simplest solution would be to offset our footprint by buying verified Carbon Standard Certificates [...]. These do appear sensible and are priced at £9.00-19.80 per tonne currently, depending on the certificate. However, we feel that a more generous and appropriate approach for calculating the financial contribution to be made, and one we can now repeat on a yearly basis, is to multiply our emissions by the current carbon future price. This approach puts us more in line with the price suggested by the majority of climate economists polled at COP26 who believe a price of US\$75-100 per tonne is needed to reach net zero emissions by 2050.

We are a UK business so I have used the UK Allowance Price as traded on the UK Emissions Trading Scheme. As of November 19th 2021 this price was £63.44 per tonne. So, using that price for our 965.6 tonnes of emissions we generate a sum of £61,258 to be applied by [our management company] to redress the impact we have had historically. I say "redress" rather than "offset" because **it is important to us to actually help reverse the problem of climate change rather than narrowly mitigate our contribution to it by using the offset market.**

For us, our choice at this point was simple. [The Global Returns Portfolio] was established by [The Global Returns Project] precisely to cater for individuals and for businesses like [our management company] who want **to support regenerative projects that work to reverse the impact we have had on the environment**. It appeals to us, as investors, that [The Global Returns Portfolio] is **managed with a portfolio-like framework and selects projects after thorough due diligence.**

[...] In sum, we have sought to redress the environmental impact we have had historically through a contribution to [The Global Returns Portfolio]. The financial contribution is commensurate with the cost of the carbon we have generated - calculated as the carbon future price multiplied by our firm's carbon footprint. We will continue to do this going forward.'