



**Arup BV**

# CO2 Performance ladder

Communication plan 2022

Reference: CO2-Portfolio\_Communications plan

Final | 12 July 2022

This report takes into account the particular instructions and requirements of our client. It is not intended for and should not be relied upon by any third party and no responsibility is undertaken to any third party.

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## 1. Introduction

Our Arup Strategy states clearly that sustainable development is our central purpose. ‘If what we are doing does not contribute to sustainable development, we should ask ourselves whether we should be doing it.’ This applies to all of us, and everyone has a role to play in making sustainable development business as usual over the next three years. There are many aspects to sustainable development but action to combat climate change and its impacts is our no.1 priority.

### 1.1 Key objectives

1. **Projects:** Adopt climate action as an integral part of our design and advisory services on all existing and new projects, aligned with national and industry commitments to limit global warming to 1.5 degrees and future climate projections.

Demonstrate what is possible through our projects, pushing boundaries, delivering demonstrator projects, defining best practice and evaluating outcomes.

2. **Data & Digital:** Prioritise investments in data and digital technology that accelerate innovation, support informed design decisions, and enable us to measure and demonstrate impact.

**Business & Services:** Prioritise climate action within existing businesses and develop new services within and between businesses that respond to climate change challenges and opportunities guided by the six principles.

3. **Policy, Finance & Standards:** Influence climate-related policy, legislation and finance, industry procurement and standards in our priority countries, and establish the implications for our core markets, businesses and services.
4. **Organisation & Structure:** Build capacity and organise ourselves better to win and deliver progressive projects and incorporate climate expertise on all projects.

In this document Arup B.V. outlines its communication plan for the years 2021 and 2022 within the framework of its sustainability strategy and the CO<sub>2</sub> -Performance ladder. This document is an update of the draft plan 2019-2020, never officially released due to COVID-19 related disruptions of work patterns.

Arup uses both internal and external channels to communicate the implementation of the CO<sub>2</sub>-performance ladder. The earlier communication strategy based on quarterly CO<sub>2</sub>-performance updates, half yearly awareness weeks and yearly CO<sub>2</sub>-target updates have been adjusted to reflect the new reality of working from home.

At the moment of writing this plan, working from home is the norm and no change is expected in this regard in the foreseeable future. Updates on the CO<sub>2</sub>-performance using the screens in the office are now obsolete for now, due to the COVID-19 related disruptions of work patterns.

Annual calendar:

Internal		External				
Period	CO <sub>2</sub> -ladder		CO <sub>2</sub> -awareness			
	Topic	Method	Topic	Method	Topic	Method
Q1	Update CO <sub>2</sub> -performance	Group meeting presentation at the end of Q1 (March)			Update CO <sub>2</sub> -performance for previous calendar year	Arup site
Q2			Report Sustainability in projects		websites	SKAO
Q3	Update CO <sub>2</sub> -performance	Update in group meeting for half year results Q1+Q2.				Arup site
Q4			Sustainability day	External speaker		

Figure 1 Yearly communication calendar

## 2. Communication strategy

The goal for the communication plan is to achieve a general understanding of what we do as Arup in the field of sustainability, decarbonization and how we want to achieve a more sustainable future in the built environment. As a firm, in our projects and in our advice to clients. Sustainable Development is everything. The leadership has an important role in leading the way towards net zero in 2050. They lead by example to help ensure we make the best effort in running our business in the most sustainable way possible and advise our clients on how they can be more sustainable.

## 2.1 Target groups

Target Group	
Internal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Employees</li> <li>• Project managers</li> <li>• Business units Leaders</li> <li>• Management team</li> </ul>
External	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Arup Global and Arup companies</li> <li>• Clients: public and private sector</li> <li>• Sector / network associations and knowledge exchange platforms:</li> <li>• SKAO “Stichting Klimaatvriendelijk Aanbesteden en Ondernemen:</li> <li>• Project partners: architects and engineering firms</li> <li>• Students and potential employees</li> </ul>

## 2.2 Content per Target Group

In the table below, we explain the content of communication for each target group:

Target group	Content of communication
General	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduction target and progress of Arup B.V. in meeting these targets</li> </ul>
Internal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Actual footprint, reduction goals and measures to be taken to reduce emissions (All internal target groups)</li> <li>• Measured progress in reducing emissions (All internal target groups)</li> <li>• Expected / measured environmental performance of projects using Power BI dashboard (Project Managers, Business Unit Leaders &amp; Management team)</li> <li>• Environmental audits on projects (Project Managers, Business Unit Leaders &amp; Management team)</li> </ul>
Arup Global and Arup companies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Progress of Arup Netherlands in complying with Arup Regional and Global sustainability strategy and plans.</li> <li>• Progress of Arup B.V. in meeting reduction goals</li> </ul>
Clients, Sector and knowledge exchange platform	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Carbon footprint, reduction targets and measures (to be) taken.</li> <li>• Progress in meeting reduction targets</li> <li>• Our measures and visions about a collaborative progress towards more sustainable designs</li> </ul>
SKAO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Documents and links required according to certified level requirements of CO2-performance ladder</li> <li>• Valid certificates</li> </ul>
Partners and clients	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continuous reporting on design propositions, feasibility studies and decisions to increase the sustainability outcome of a project</li> </ul>

### 2.3 Responsibility and planning

Within the Arup Management System people have been appointed and are responsible to inform people on and carry out our Environmental policies. This extends into the responsibility for maintaining and communication around the CO<sub>2</sub>-performance ladder. At least twice a year information will be given to all internal and external target groups, see Figure 1.

## 3. Internal communication channels

To making sure we are aligned and practice what we preach we use multiple channels to convey our message and information and reasoning about the CO<sub>2</sub>-performance ladder to employees.

### 3.1 Group meetings

The prime channel for internal communication is the group meeting. These meetings are recorded and widely shared within Arup. Twice a year [March and September] the results of the carbon emissions inventory is shared in the group meeting. There is room for discussion and questions.

In 2021 the following group meetings were held regarding our sustainability ambitions:

Date	Topic	Link
14 december 2021	Sustainability concepts in projects	<a href="\\global\europa\Amsterdam\Office\09 QHSE\03 ENVIRONMENTAL\02_CO2-registratie\C_Communicatie plan\2022\Group cafe 2021">\\global\europa\Amsterdam\Office\09 QHSE\03 ENVIRONMENTAL\02_CO2-registratie\C_Communicatie plan\2022\Group cafe 2021</a>
2 november 2021	Sustainable Development – Toolkit	
28 september 2021	Buy nothing new month challenge	
22 june 2021	Measuring Circularity	
8 june 2021	Sustainable Development plan 2021	
11 may 2021	Sustainable Development policy	
2 march 2021	Sustainable Development update	
5 january 2021	Sustainable Development update	

### 3.2 Sustainable development in our projects-report

From 2021 onwards we yearly publish a summary of sustainable development aspects used in our projects. This showcases our capabilities in the field of sustainability and helps to improve our own understanding of sustainability in a project context.

The first sustainable development report was scheduled for June 2021. An update version is scheduled for June 2022.

### 3.3 Training

In February 2021, we organised a DuboCalc training course for all staff members, on a subscription basis, in order to link up with the standard sustainability measurement tool used by RWS.

For the infra team, there is specific attention for sustainability in the projects for Rijkswaterstaat and from Arup there is a strong focus on supporting Rijkswaterstaat in achieving sustainability targets. Together, we can achieve climate objectives.

In November and December 2021 we initiated a Sustainability training drive within the Infrastructure team with the intention to upskill the team in sustainability. Participants were encouraged to complete 8 online modules to participate in a lottery for small prizes. In total 18 participants completed the modules, effectively doubling the number of trained staff.

The Infra-initiative was followed up in January-March 2022 with an Arup bv level initiative along the same lines.

Sustainable development is at the heart of our Arup Strategy. It is our purpose. It is how we will shape a better world. We train our people to making sure that they can deliver this complex task.

The way we train our people is based on four pillars:

**Act:** Deliver projects, products, services and solutions that create shared value and drive innovation.

**Influence:** Use our knowledge and networks to lead the way and shape the markets in which we work.

**Learn:** Build capability and deep expertise through research, learning, knowledge management and communications.

**Enable:** Integrate sustainable development in our operations and business practices.

All staff members can enroll through our internal training system Moodle in the Learning Path Global Sustainability Practitioner with 5 knowledge streams on sustainability on three levels – Knowledgeable, Skillfull, Expert.

1. Climate change-
2. Health and wellbeing-
3. ESG responsible business-
4. Sustainable/regenerative design and tools-
5. Sustainability/Frameworks and Certification)

### 3.4 GIKI

In December 2021 Giki Zero was made available to all staff, to evaluate their personal carbon footprint one step at a time. Giki Zero is an app which provides you with your own personal path to reach zero carbon emissions based on several factors such as food choices and travel habits. With our working unbound policy the boundaries between work and home become less clear, this app will allow people to improve their personal carbon footprints along the improving of our corporate carbon footprint.

## 4. External communication

Our work and our solutions are communicated externally in various ways. Through national media and trade platforms/ magazines we convey our vision and our inventive approach to achieve sustainable outcomes for our clients or to inspire the public to change their ways to help achieve a more sustainable future.

#### 4.1 Arup website

Arup communicates its participation in the CO<sub>2</sub>-performance ladder system through the [website of Arup](#). One of the significant changes in the past year on the Arup Group policy on CO<sub>2</sub> has been our commitment to be carbon neutral in 2030 and to achieve a 30% reduction in carbon footprint in five years. These goals are reported and measured on European and global level within Arup.

Following COP26 last November in our role as sustainability advisor during the event we committed ourselves to undertaking whole lifecycle carbon assessments for all its buildings projects – new and retrofit – from next year. The firm has also announced it will not be taking on any new energy commissions involving the extraction, refinement, or transportation of hydrocarbon-based fuels.

Read more [here](#)

#### 4.2 SKAO

- On the SKAO, Arup B.V. shares the information according to the requirements of the audit checklist. The information stays available on the website for at least 2 years. Arup is listed on the website of SKAO as a level 5 certified company.
- <https://www.skao.nl/gecertificeerde-organisaties/Arup>

**Niveau**  
**5**

Certificaathouder  
Arup B.V.

CO<sub>2</sub>-bewust Certificaat

Grootte bedrijf

KLEIN    MIDDEL    GROOT

<https://www.arup.com/nl/perspectives/towards-sustainability>

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### Arup

Arup werkt sinds 2001 in Nederland met een team van erkende consultants en engineers aan uiteenlopende aspecten van gebouw- en infrastructuurontwerp. Door toegang tot het mondiale netwerk van specialisten binnen Arup is het team in Amsterdam in staat wereldwijde kennis aan lokale projecten toe te voegen en te adviseren bij internationale iconische projecten.

#### Publicaties

<b>Ketenanalyses</b>	<i>i</i>
<a href="#">Mobility &amp; Transport and Buildings</a>	
<a href="#">Value-chain analysis for two types of bridges</a>	
<a href="#">Downstream scope 3 emissions</a>	
<b>Materiële emissies</b>	<i>i</i>
<a href="#">Materiële emissies</a>	
<b>Deelname aan sector-/keteninitiatief</b>	<i>i</i>
<a href="#">Participation plan</a>	
<b>CO<sub>2</sub>-emissie reductieprogramma</b>	
<a href="#">Participation plan</a>	

Figure 2 Arup information on the SKAO website (obtained on 31/05/2019)

### **4.3 Clients**

As part of our client relationship management with RWS we yearly discuss sustainability issues in our annual suppliers meeting also known as 'Leveranciersgesprek'. Part of the Samenwerkingsovereenkomst 4 with Rijkswaterstaat is the stated intention to collaborate on sustainability. Arup has confirmed this intention.

### **Other communication channels**

Throughout the year we organize various events, lectures, and meetings with and for clients to inspire, update and motivate. Together we are responsible for delivering a more sustainable future. In sharing our knowledge, learnings and delivered projects we lead the way.