



All Things Small and Green, a charity aiming

<http://allthingssmallandgreen.org.uk>

To raise awareness of global warming among all research scientists and staff

To offer a simple way for scientists and others to offset their carbon emissions

The carbon footprint of us, scientists, is not negligible!

Pre-covid, scientists used to travel a lot, in fact excessively.

For example, the carbon footprint of academic travel by UCL staff in 2017-18 was 19,490 tonnes CO₂e. Multiply this by the number of such institutions (and the many smaller ones), whether public or private, and one would reach a large number, likely millions of tonnes CO₂e.

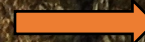


Yet, it is increasingly apparent that man-made global warming poses a major threat to not only humanity but to our entire planetary eco-system.



The WHO provides a conservative estimate of 150,000 deaths annually due to climate change and predicts that between 2030 and 2050, global warming would cause an additional 250,000 deaths per year from heat stress, malnutrition, malaria and diarrhoea. Catastrophic floods and hurricanes have killed scores of people in developing countries and some in the developed world.

Millions have already been displaced from their homeland: according to the Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre, there were 18 million new disaster-related internal displacements recorded in 2017.



ATSG also provides a simple rewarding way of offsetting your carbon emission by setting up groves to which you can contribute native trees. We have created 9 native woodlands so far; we hope to create many more with your help (see the IC CSB grove at left)



@ATSG, we advocate a complete change of how we manage and organize conferences: the hybrid model. It consists of a mixed economy of virtual (online) and physical (in-person) conferencing. It includes the following principles :

- 1- move at least part of the event online as often as possible to reach the highest possible or desirable ratio of virtual versus physical lectures/talks;
- 2- reduce as much as possible the number of physical conferences by either combining conferences in related fields or/and decreasing their frequency;
- 3- locate physical conferences exclusively within urban centres readily accessible by trains;
- 4- reduce air travel and provide options for overseas speakers to intervene online;
- 5- reduce car travel by suggesting car-pooling;
- 6- All physical or virtual conferences should assess their carbon footprint, make every effort to reduce it, and offset the unreducible part of their footprint by contributing to carbon offsetting programmes;
- 7- registration costs should include the costs of offsetting as well as any other environmental costs;
- 8- best practices should be adopted to reduce waste.