

External Development Summit (XDS 2025)

GHG EMISSIONS - EVENT SUMMARY REPORT

October 2025

1. GHG Emissions Inventory Report

Ostrom Climate has prepared this greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions inventory report on behalf of the BrandLIVE Management Group for the activities related to the External Development Summit (XDS 2025) event that was held in Vancouver, British Columbia, from September 2nd to September 5th, 2025.

The calculations provide an estimate of emissions for the event. This consists of various emission sources such as the venue's utilities and transportation for staff and speakers. GHGs were calculated using data provided by BrandLIVE Management Group. Based on the data, approximately 88.4 tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (tCO₂e) were produced, as shown in the table below. For this event, there were no Scope 1 or 2 emissions, only Scope 3.

Emissions Source	GHG Emissions (tCO ₂ e)	% of Total
Scope 3		
Category 1: Purchased Goods and Services	81.2	91.9%
Electricity (Venue)	0.1	0.1%
Natural Gas (Venue)	1.1	1.2%
Flights - Speakers and Performers	79.7	90.1%
Airport Transportation - Speakers and Performers	0.2	0.3%
Other Local Transportation - Speakers and Performers	0.2	0.3%
Category 6: Business Travel	7.1	8.1%
Local Transportation - Staff	7.1	8.1%
Total GHG Emissions	88.4	100.0%

Note: Figures may not add due to rounding.

2. Additional Savings from the Event

By serving 750 vegetarian (rather than meat-based) meals at the welcome reception, there were dramatic savings in both carbon emissions and water usage. When comparing beef to vegetarian meals, the GHGs saved totalled 23.3 tCO₂e; this is the equivalent amount of emissions from driving about 93,000 kilometres in a typical gasoline-powered car. Also, approximately 1,247,00 litres of water usage was avoided, which is roughly the same as the annual consumption of 10 Canadians.

Environmental Benefits	Water Saved (L)	CO ₂ e Saved (tonnes)
Vegetarian meal instead of beef	1,247,000	23.3

3. Climate Designation

In most cases, organizations are not able to reduce 100% of their operational emissions for their events and are left with unavoidable emissions. To go beyond this reduction barrier and take responsibility for their emissions, event organizers can purchase carbon offsets to mitigate the GHG emissions that they can't reduce. To achieve a Climate Friendly Event designation through Ostrom Climate means that organizers have measured the climate impacts from the utilities used at the venue (heating/cooling and electricity) as well as the emissions from travel and hotel stays for event staff, volunteers, speakers, and performers, and they have purchased the equivalent number of offsets to mitigate those emissions. A carbon offset is an investment in a project with a real and measurable emissions reduction and can help organizations cost-effectively meet their carbon targets.

In order to mitigate the climate impacts of the event, BrandLIVE Management Group has purchased 89 tonnes of carbon offsets from Ostrom Climate's Climate Action Portfolio. In doing so, they have contributed to a collection of high-quality offsets from British Columbia and around the world, such as the Darkwoods Forest Carbon Project and the Southern Cardamom REDD+ Project. Supporting these projects ensures the long-term conservation and viability of forest ecosystems and wildlife. This portfolio also supports a variety of clean energy projects, including a Solar Cooker Project in China, a Wind Energy Project in India, a Solar Power Project in China, a Hydropower Plant Project in Brazil, and a Biomass Power Generation Project in China. These projects reduce the need for fossil fuels by promoting cleaner and renewable energy in the area, thus reducing carbon emissions.

XDS 2025 has, therefore, been designated a Climate Friendly Event.

