

A difference that matters!

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KPMG in Romania



Contributor



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KPMG in Romania is committed to mitigating its impact on the environment and addressing environmental related matters. As climate change is one of the most serious challenges facing the world today, we have implemented a strategy to tackle it.

KPMG's Global Green Initiative (GGI) was launched in 2008, setting out the KPMG network's climate change strategy. The first phase set a target for member firms to reduce their global carbon footprint by 25% of 2007 emissions by 2010 and phase 2 had a targeted further reduction of 15% by 2015, compared with the updated 2010 baseline. Due to fluctuation of personnel and for consistency reasons, these targets are set for Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions per capita (FTE – full time equivalent).

The global network of participating member firms has been able to exceed the emissions reduction stretch targets for both phases of the initiative: A 29% reduction of net emission per FTE for the first phase, compared with the target of 25% and a 16.6% decrease during second phase, which had a 15% reduction as its objective.

KPMG in Romania adhered to the Global Green Initiative from its start and made a commitment to integrate the best environmental practices into day to day activities. This requires coordination of our actions to minimize the use of natural resources,

reduce waste and other environmental impacts our activities generate. We have promoted and we will continue to promote awareness of environmental issues among our employees, suppliers and clients.

Consequently, we succeeded in achieving a 22 percent reduction in net emissions per FTE in the first phase and over the past 5 years we have continued the implementation of various initiatives aiming to make an improvement on the environmental impact of our operations, to continuously reduce our carbon footprint and meet the target for the second phase.

So we are pleased to announce the final performance results of KPMG in Romania during the second phase of the GGI, across which we managed to significantly exceed the target by achieving a reduction of 37.8% in net emissions per FTE. This figure puts Romania at the top of the member firms participating in the GGI, with one of the most significant decreases in net emissions per FTE.

Our efforts to reach this goal are a source of pride. However these achievements would not have been possible without our employees' involvement and consistent commitment to meeting our objectives in terms of environmental impact reduction.

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At the end of the second phase, we can draw several relevant conclusions about the actions implemented and the results achieved during this period:

- The largest source of our carbon footprint is energy consumption (electricity, heating & cooling), accounting for approximately two thirds of our total emissions. We managed to significantly reduce our gross emissions from energy consumption - by 28%-from 636 tons CO2 in 2010 to 459 tons in 2015. Electricity consumption per square meter decreased from 166 kWh in 2010 to 150 kWh at the end of the reporting period. These positive results have been achieved without significant investment, but instead through structured and consistent organizational measures, as well as programs designed to raise employees' awareness of the importance of environmentally-responsible behavior both in the office and at home.
- Air travel remains one of our biggest challenges, with about 200 tons CO2 annual emissions. We have succeeded in reducing emissions by 5.7% since 2010 and we strive to find solutions to achieve further reductions, As a client service business, travel is frequently required to meet client's needs and the main steps we have taken include enhanced video conferencing usage, promotion of rail over air travel (where possible), and adjusting class of travel policies for flights.
- Water consumption slightly increased (by 3.78%). However the percentage is considerably smaller than the increase in FTEs (28%). We achieved a very significant reduction in paper consumption, from 6 million sheets in 2010 to 4 million sheets in

- 2015. This is mainly due to implementation of software and databases replacing hard-copy documents, pull-printing technology and continuously raising awareness among our employees on methods for reducing paper consumption.
- The amount of waste generated decreased by 22% over this period, even though the number of FTEs significantly increased.

We won't stop here – this is not the end of the journey, but a new beginning. As from 2016 the GGI will be transformed into the Global Climate Response (GCR). Our refreshed strategy will be aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals and targets stemming from the Paris Agreement on Climate Change. We will go towards the formulation of a renewed strategy, with new targets aiming at an additional reduction of net emissions per FTE and an increase in the proportion of electricity purchased from renewable energy sources.

We believe in adapting to changes in society and its needs. GCR is our response to the huge challenges the world faces and will have to deal with in the next few decades, which have been transposed into the Sustainable Development Goals, and acknowledged by world's most developed countries at COP 21 Paris. We will promote these goals and do everything we can to ensure they are understood and taken up by our stakeholders, because only together – shoulder to shoulder, with sustained efforts – we will be able to make a difference that matters!

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