## NEUTRAL TOGETHER

Bulk Carbon Offsetting for ATTA Members

SEPTEMBER 2019





## INTRODUCING: **NEUTRAL TOGETHER** A BULK CARBON OFFSET PROGRAM FOR ADVENTURE TRAVEL TRADE ASSOCIATION MEMBERS

# ADVENTURE TRAVEL TOUR OPERATORS WANT TO OFFSET, BUT OFTEN DON'T: WHY?

- > Too expensive, too complicated and time consuming particularly for smaller operators
- > Once they calculate emissions they discover they cannot afford the offset expense

## ATTA AND SOUTH POLE HAVE TEAMED UP TO MAKE OFFSETTING EASIER FOR ADVENTURE TRAVEL TOUR OPERATORS

## **NEUTRAL TOGETHER PROGRAM WILL ENABLE:**

- > Easy measurement of carbon emissions for tour operators and accommodations providers
- > Industry-wide emissions aggregation for greater volume and reduced price per ton for all

## **OVERVIEW**



## **HOW IT WILL WORK**

STEP 1 MEASUREMENT

- Input emissions information into South Pole tool (January April each year)
- View GHG footprint from the tool
- Send emissions result provided through the tool to ATTA



## Select one of three types of offsetting projects:

- Forestry
- Renewable energy
- Cookstoves

## **HOW IT WILL WORK**

STEP 3 INVOICE

STEP 4 PAYMENT AND RECEIPT ATTA communicates industry volume total to South Pole

- South Pole bills ATTA for aggregated volume
- ATTA bills individual members adding a 5% administrative fee
- Members pay ATTA
- ATTA pays South Pole
- Members receive receipt and certificate of participation

Digital badge | Templetized blog post | Downloadable imagery



- ATTA receive year-end report showing the results of the ATTA carbon offset program, aggregating the impacts of all of the participating members.
- Each member receives a digital copy of this report for their records.

## **CURRENT CARBON OFFSET MODEL**

Costs for carbon offsetting for adventure travel companies up to now:



#### Invest in calculating emissions



Find an offsetting partner/ select quality projects



Pay for the offsets, which at low volume can be expensive (\$11 per metric ton for example) Ex: A company with 3,500 pax a year running week-long trips could have a footprint of ~2,625 metric tons of  $tCO_2e^*$ . Through a standalone program, this can cost as much as:

\$29,000 emissions offset\$4,000 calculation fees (+ company admin time)

\$33,000 TOTAL

\*Assumes .75 tCO<sub>2</sub>e per pax, which covers only on-trip operations (ie, no international flights). If international flights are considered, the footprint would likely be 2.0+ tCO<sub>2</sub>e per pax.

## **NEUTRAL TOGETHER**



#### Input data into calculator



Aggregate emissions with similar companies (under 10,000 tons)



#### Receive volume pricing \$3-\$5 per ton

Ex: A company with 3,500 pax a year running week-long trips could have a footprint of ~2,625 metric tons of  $tCO_2e^*$ . Through Neutral Together, this would cost as little as:

\$7,875 emissions offset \$393 (5% admin. fee for Neutral Together)

### \$8,269 TOTAL

\*Assumes .75 tCO<sub>2</sub>e per pax, which covers only on-trip operations (ie, no international flights). If international flights are considered, the footprint would likely be 2.0+ tCO<sub>2</sub>e per pax.

Note that for companies with >10,000 tons it will be better to go directly to an offsetting partner (like South Pole or any of the others). At that level, more tailoring of the program is possible and the cost savings provided by the aggregated community is diminished.

## **EMISSIONS MEASUREMENT TOOL**

The emissions measurement tool was developed based on the global standard Greenhouse Gas Protocol including Scope 1, 2, and 3 emissions sources. It will capture:

Transportation and activities associated with adventure travel trips: flights and ground

#### **Hotel nights**

Company headquarters energy usage

## IMAGINE







84,000 METRIC TONS CARBON DIOXIDE



THE AMOUNT CAPTURED **BY 12.25 MILLION** TREES THAT'S LIKE MANHATTAN, **BUT COVERED IN TREES** 



## WANT TO LEARN MORE?

## Visit https://www.adventuretravel.biz/neutraltogether

Email climate@adventuretravel.biz