

## CALCULATION, REDUCTION, AND COMPENSATION OF CO<sub>2</sub> EMISSIONS

**"5<sup>th</sup> Innovation & Tourism International Seminar"**

**Palma de Mallorca, October 22-24, 2008**

Like most human activities nowadays, the **"2008 5<sup>th</sup> Innovation & Tourism International Seminar"** is having some repercussions on the environment.

Considering that Climate Change is the main environmental problem of the 21<sup>st</sup> century and that, without a doubt, it is already an "undeniable reality" in the words of the Intergovernmental Group of Climate Change Experts (IPCC, 2007), **the Government of the Balearic Islands** is intent on reducing tourism's impact on the climate to the greatest extent possible. The government is pursuing this through the General Administration for Research, Development, and Innovation as organizers of the Innovation and Tourism Seminar, as well as in full agreement with the central theme of the 2008 edition of the Seminar: "Tourism, commitment towards climate change. Opportunities and challenges."

Within the framework of an entire series of measures to reduce the environmental impact of the event – including promoting recycling, saving on energy, and sustainable mobility – the Government of the Balearic Islands wants to calculate and compensate for the CO<sub>2</sub> emissions derived from transporting and housing the speakers, from energy consumption, and from paper usage and disposal.

By partnering with a local communications and events agency called Pidelaluna ([www.pidelaluna.com](http://www.pidelaluna.com)), these emissions have been calculated as part of a climate care initiative called **CeroCO<sub>2</sub>** ([www.ceroco2.org](http://www.ceroco2.org)). This has been motivated by **Acciónnatura** ([www.accionnatura.org](http://www.accionnatura.org)) and **Ecología y Desarrollo** (Ecology and Development) ([www.ecodes.org](http://www.ecodes.org)), both NGOs. The objective of CeroCO<sub>2</sub> is to offer information and tools to enable us to calculate our CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, reduce them as much as possible by changing our habits, and compensate for any unavoidable residual emissions.



### How are CO<sub>2</sub> emissions generated?

By participants' traveling to the event, whether by plane, highway, or other means of motorized transportation. These movements cause used fossil fuels to be burned, sending CO<sub>2</sub> into the atmosphere.

Through consumption of electricity, heat, and domestic hot water (DHW) at hotels and areas used by the event. This energy is mainly produced by the burning of fossil fuels (oil, coal, and gas).

Through the consumption and disposal of the paper that is used.



### How are emissions compensated?

CO<sub>2</sub> emissions compensation is based on the contribution of a financial amount that is proportionate to the tons of CO<sub>2</sub>s emitted within a specific time period for a particular activity. This financial contribution is dedicated to projects in developing countries that either:

- trap an amount of CO<sub>2</sub> in tons equivalent to the amount emitted through the development of a carbon sink for reforestation; or
- avoid the emission of an amount in tons of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent to the amount emitted. This is done by using an energy-efficiency project, by substituting fossil fuels with renewable energy, through projects for residuals, or by avoiding deforestation.

Contributions for the compensation of emissions from the **"2008 5<sup>th</sup> Innovation & Tourism International Seminar"** will be funneled to one of the projects included in the CeroCO<sub>2</sub> platform.

## Calculation of and Compensation for Emissions Generated by the “2008 5th Innovation & Tourism International Seminar.”

Right from the start, the General Administration of Research, Development, and Innovation has made a great effort to minimize CO2 emissions during the Innovation and Tourism Seminar. Thus, among other measures it has reduced paper consumption to a bare minimum; it has utilized recycled paper for all printing jobs; and it has provided participants with materials such as Seminar folders, pens, and notebooks made from recycled material. For the purpose of minimizing long commutes, it was further decided to choose a hotel location and venues for the Seminar and its related activities that are within walking distance from one another, thus eliminating the need for transportation. Furthermore, the Seminar’s web site, [www.visitinnovation.com](http://www.visitinnovation.com), provides clean travel alternatives between specific points on Mallorca and the Centre Cultural Sa Nostra where the Seminar will be held.

As an initial estimate, CeroCO2 calculates emissions generated from transporting and lodging the speakers, from energy consumption, and from paper consumption and disposal to an equivalent of around **38 tons of CO2**.

The event organizers invite you to reduce the impact that your participation will have on the climate by using sustainable means of transportation when traveling to the location of the event. You are further invited to collaborate with all the measures that are being taken to reduce the impact that the event will have on the climate and on the environment in general.

If you want to learn about and/or compensate for the emissions generated by your travel to the event, go to [www.ceroco2.org](http://www.ceroco2.org) where you will be able to calculate these emissions and choose the project that you want to use to counteract them.

### Other events compensated by CeroCO2

CeroCO2 has worked in partnership with more than 45 events in the calculation and compensation of their emissions. Notable among these are CONAMA'06, the Spanish delegation’s journey to the Climate Change Convention in Bali, the 1<sup>st</sup> Euro-Iberian-American Conference on Social Corporate Responsibility, ECOPROCURA'07, ECOCITY, ExpoCO2, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Joumeys for Responsible Universities Convention, and the 4<sup>th</sup> National Yoga Conference.



### For more information:

[www.ceroco2.org](http://www.ceroco2.org)

Acciónnatura. Tel:(+34) 93 237 38 02 - [www.accionnatura.org](http://www.accionnatura.org) – E-mail: [info@accionnatura.org](mailto:info@accionnatura.org)

At the center of the initiative:

Protection and recovery of natural areas

En el marco de la iniciativa: