

Carbon Literacy for The Food Sector

Introduction

Shareable
Course



2023

The Carbon Literacy Project

**Carbon Literacy
Project**





The imperative for food companies to decarbonize the food system spans financial and ethical considerations, and positions businesses as leaders in a market where customers prioritize responsibility and sustainability.

Recognised globally at COP21 in Paris as a TAP100 initiative Carbon Literacy offers a pathway for this pioneering change.

Why use the Carbon Literacy Shareable Food Course?

There has been confusion within the food sector about how to instigate robust, science-based net-zero strategies leading to unintentional greenwashing and reputational damage.

The Carbon Literacy Shareable Food Course has been designed to address this challenge by offering a holistic approach to sustainability education, acting as a driver for transformative cultural change across an organisation.

Educated employees become advocates for genuine engagement and action towards tangible net-zero goals. A study by Harvard Business Review found that companies with well-implemented sustainability education programs experienced a 50% reduction in environmental incidents and a 25% improvement in overall performance.

Delivery methods

The Carbon Literacy Shareable Food Course comes in four modules with everything you need to deliver a day's worth of interactive training including PowerPoint slides, activities, a complete script for trainers, trainer manual and source materials for the evidence-based science which informs the materials. The four modules can be broken up into segments and delivered over several weeks, face to face or remotely via Teams or Zoom.

Carbon Literacy encourages discussion and the development of collaborative cross-team solutions so in-house training using peer to peer delivery is our model of choice. We can also recommend Carbon Literacy Trainers to deliver the course on your behalf.

Will the Carbon Literacy Shareable Food Course Fit the Needs of my Organisation?

Editable slides throughout the training allow you to tailor sections to your organisation and location, whilst optional slides allow you to build a course which focuses on the areas most appropriate to your business.



For organisations who want a highly bespoke course, we suggest you use the Shareable Food Course as a baseline of materials which you can then adapt, transform and resubmit to the Carbon Literacy Project for Criteria Checking.

Course Content

Module 1 – Nature, Climate and Society

The Carbon Literacy Shareable Food Course looks at the broader sustainability picture of the food system using the Planetary Boundaries model. Climate change impacts and solutions are explored alongside areas such as biodiversity loss and land-use change

Module 2 – The Power of Personal Change

A short section on personal carbon footprints allows employees to understand opportunities to make sustainable choices, see how this relates to healthy diets, and then extend this awareness to discussions and collaboration around organisational goals.

Module 3 – Farming for our Future

Module 3 looks at agricultural practices. Combined, land use and farm-stage emissions account for more than 80% of the footprint of most foods.

For many in the food and hospitality sector there has been a tendency to focus on reducing emissions in their own operations; scopes 1 and 2. Whilst this reduction is an essential part of a comprehensive net-zero plan, when we look at the full footprint of an organisation, land use and on-farm emissions represents the most significant opportunity for companies to play their part in reaching net-zero.

The most important way the food and hospitality sector can reduce scope 3 emissions is by fostering a shift toward regenerative agriculture and reducing food waste.

Educating employees on these broader themes is essential if they are to communicate these goals to suppliers and customers alike and effectively implement informed decisions across the organisation.

Module 4 – the Environment is our Business

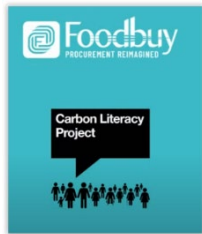
Module 4 looks at key business themes from the Science Based Targets Initiative, to emissions scopes and gives employees the opportunity to select, discuss and brainstorm ideas around the organisation's carbon hotspots.

The training culminates in employees pledging two actions to reduce the carbon footprint of their organisation which then form part of their evidence to receive a Carbon Literacy Certificate.

“The Foodbuy Sustainability Team recently delivered our very first Carbon Literacy training to our food colleagues. This is an industry first initiative which aims to empower our colleagues with the knowledge and understanding of climate change both in its personal and its business impacts. We've had some really great feedback so far which just shows a real desire to further both individual and collective climate action.”

Maya Gadhvi,
Sustainability Specialist,
Foodbuy

[Watch the full video here](#)



“The Carbon Literacy Project is a fantastic initiative for any business that wants to take an informed step forward in their sustainability agenda.”

Emma Love
Product & Sustainability Director
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“The range of activities sustained engagement throughout the day, and we were left with knowledge about the positive changes we can make, both individually and in our organisations, to tackle climate change.”

Alison Gray, Fairtrade Association

