

Managing Your Footprint

The tourism sector on its own accounts for 8% of total Green House gas emissions emanating from aeroplane fuel, hotel toiletries, single-use plastic usage et al. We are all responsible for it. While we cannot cease emissions completely, we can do our bit. By travelling responsibly.

As a traveller, we love to discover a preserved natural environment and meet the local communities around the globe. As a responsible traveller, we want to protect these environments and communities from the effects of climate change and the drawbacks of mass tourism.

Our partners at Himalayan Eco-Tourism offer to offset travel carbon emissions supporting community program, a large scale reforestation project that not only regenerates the Himalayan ecosystems and sequestrate atmospheric carbon but also helps the local communities to prosper by restoring a healthy forest environment.

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1) The Beginning

The cooperative members living in the ecozone of the Great Himalayan National Park have decided to start the regeneration project. Two square kilometres have been marked out as the initial project area and is divided into four categories of lands for different objectives considering parameters like Local Ecology and Community Benefits and Long-term carbon sequestration.

2) How does it work?

Together, we will assess the carbon emissions of your journey and based on that, calculate the required area of land and cost for regenerating and protecting the area as your own plot of land in the Himalayas. The offset of your estimated carbon emissions is then converted into a currency of your choice which can then be paid. Hence, you become a zero-carbon traveller.

3) Zero Carbon Traveller

Each contributor will receive a certificate mentioning their name, the date and amount of carbon units purchased along with the precise reference with geotagging of the plot of land. The mapping of the project area showing the implementation progress will be made publicly available and an expert from the sector will regularly assess the program.

4) Following the Protocol?

The Kyoto protocol marked the beginning of the international carbon market and one needs to be certified to enter the carbon market. The process is extremely time-consuming and costly. Hence, a little difficult for a small social enterprise. Therefore, Himalayan Eco-Tourism has decided to make their own self-certified carbon sequestration programme. The enterprise has been awarded for its fairness and transparency and will nurture the same ethical values through this program.