



elementsix

Our 2021 Impact Report

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Letter To Our Stakeholders

As our first year of operations draws to a close, we reflect upon our performance in this, our inaugural sustainability report. It's been an exciting year for us, as our business has seen positive growth with new clients, exciting new projects and wonderful new employees.

Our aim is to make a positive impact on the society, economy and environment in which we operate. This is the founding principle upon which we build our relationships with clients, employees, partners and suppliers.

We thank you for your continued support and hope you enjoy reading our 2021 report.



Amer Arafat & Dahlia Haleem
Co-Founders - elementsix

About This Report

This report has been prepared with guidance from the following globally recognised standards and frameworks:

- SASB Professional and commercial services Sustainability Accounting Standard
- The GHG Protocol
- The Global Reporting Initiative

The reporting period is elementsix's first year of operations, from July 2021 to June 2022.

For any information on this report, please contact elementsix on info@element6.cc.

Company Profile

elementsix is a Dubai-based advisory firm that offers turnkey solutions in the fields of sustainability and carbon abatement, promoting resilience against climate threats.

Founded in 2021, we help our clients achieve their carbon emission reduction targets through globally recognised initiatives, frameworks and strategies.

By working closely with our clients and addressing their needs in carbon mitigation, elementsix contributes toward the economic growth and environmental sustainability of the UAE and the region.

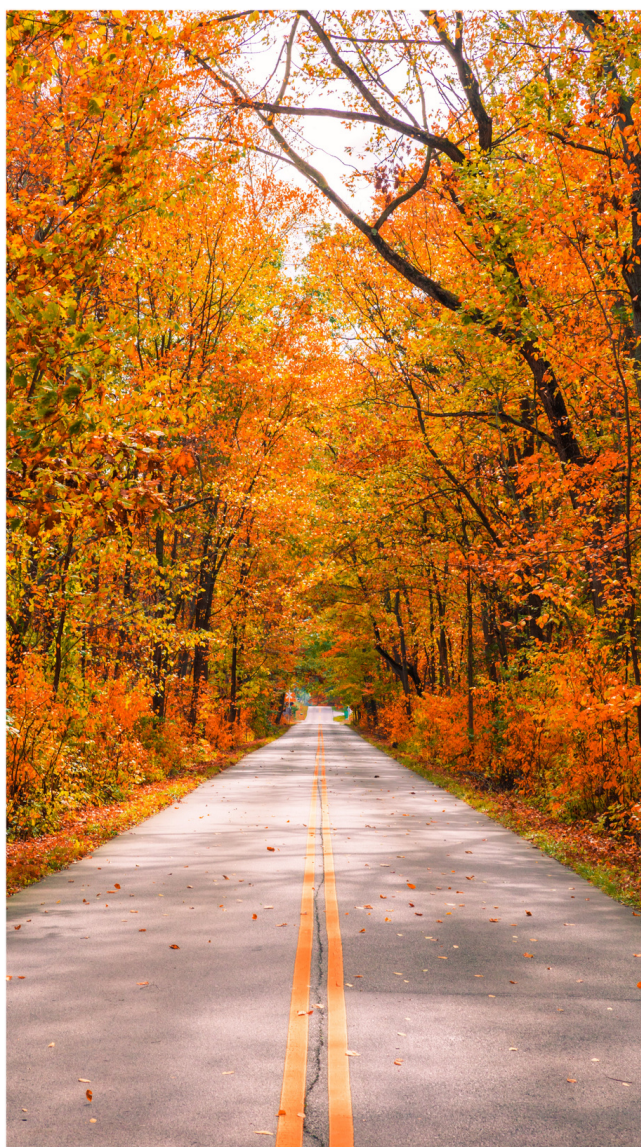
We want to show businesses that a sustainable and profitable business is possible, at any scale, and that a reduction in emissions leads to a reduction in operating costs.

elementsix supports smart, innovative and integratable solutions that produce sustainable results. We believe that preserving nature can still be done in parallel with the ambitions of even the most profit-driven companies. It can strengthen social protection, lead to employment creation while bolstering investor confidence and improving the bottom line.

Moderation and regulation of resources would be the true directive in a healthy economy. This is the philosophy behind the work done at elementsix.



Vision & Mission



Vision

Our vision is to help our clients reduce avoidable emissions, and add tangible value to the economy by optimising their business efficiency and improving their impact on the environment.

Mission

Our mission is to support businesses to deliver on the triple bottom line; preserving natural resources while boosting profitability and attracting and retaining the best talent.

Service Overview

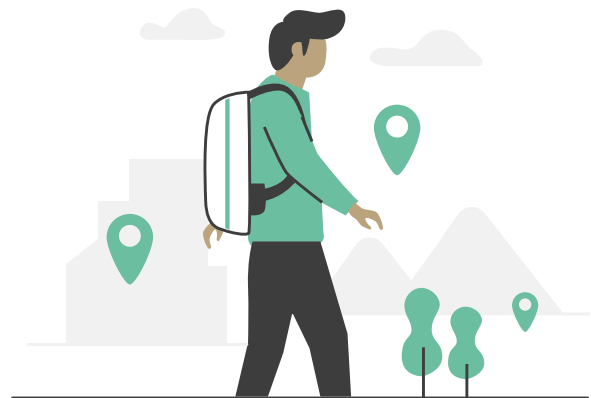
Our work revolves around the fundamental principle of doing no harm. We consult, advise, implement and execute projects to improve the environmental performance of our clients.

Reducing emissions is a journey.

We recommend a measure, reduce, offset and disclose approach to reducing your negative impact.

We help our clients quantify the impact that their business has on the environment in which it operates, then set targets, and make plans to reduce that impact to the lowest possible amount.

Some of our solutions include:



Carbon Accounting

Greenhouse Gas (GHG) accounting or inventorying is the process by which an organisation can quantify its carbon emissions either from a corporate level (the carbon emitted from the general operation of the company) or on a product level (the emissions produced from manufacturing a product). Using the GHG Protocol, IPCC Guidelines, ISO 14064 and PAS 2050 standards, elementsix will identify emission sources within your organisational and operational boundaries. The emissions, measured in tonnes of CO₂ equivalent (tCO₂e), are calculated using emission factors to give a total carbon footprint. Some organisations end the process here, using this as a baseline upon which to measure improvement in the coming years. But for many, it is the starting point of a carbon neutral roadmap or strategy. Carbon, or GHG, accounting is the first necessary step in any carbon management plan (CMP).

Emission Reduction Projects

Emission Reduction projects are those projects that are registered with a certified mechanism, that avoid or sequester carbon dioxide from the atmosphere. Projects include renewable energy and energy efficiency activities. Emission reductions from these projects are traded on the carbon markets and can account for an organisations offsets of their unavoidable emissions. Our partners have years of experience in designing and developing emission reduction projects against all of the recognised standards and mechanisms around the world (VCS, GCC, GS) for both the voluntary and compliance markets.

Environmental Commodities

Environmental commodities are a class of commodities that take the form of non-tangible energy credits. The value of these credits derives from the needs of market participants to produce and consume cleaner forms of energy. elementsix helps connect buyers and sellers of environmental attribute credits across the globe. These include carbon emission allowances and renewable energy certificates. We provide the advisory services required to buy, sell, trade and redeem these certificates in the different markets. These environmental commodities allow you to make genuine claims like “Our company runs entirely on renewable energy”, “Our factory is carbon neutral” or “Our products are made with 100% solar energy”. With their long experience in these markets, the people at elementsix will provide you with the best quality commodities that match your needs.

Advisory Services

Development of strategies and targets to reduce emissions, training to build capacity within the organisation, and cost-benefit analyses of abatement activities, are just a few examples of the consultancy work that elementsix undertakes. Within the fields of emission reductions, ESG and carbon management, elementsix offers advisory and consultancy services on any number of topics across all sectors.

Management Team



Amer Arafat

Amer Arafat, co-founder and partner at elementsix, is a renewable energy professional with a technical background in Mechatronics and project management. He has over 13 years of experience in the fields of sustainability and carbon abatement projects in the MENA region. His vast experience is focused on GHG inventory management, emission reduction projects, renewable energy certificates, and project management.



Dahlia Haleem

Dahlia Haleem, co-founder and partner at elementsix, is an emission reduction expert with a strong background in physics and engineering. She has over 15 years of valuable experience in project management, strategic advisory, sustainability and carbon management. Her diverse client portfolio has spanned the MENA and APAC regions. Her extensive experience is focused on managing certified emission reduction projects, carbon abatement and offsetting strategies, corporate sustainability planning, GRI-compliant sustainability reporting, and project management.

2021 Highlights



ZERO
paper
business.



100
trees
planted in
the
Philippines



50%
board seats
occupied by
women

100%
of electricity
sourced from
local UAE
solar projects



WFH
flexible working
hours & locations
for a happier,
lower emission
workforce



500
meals
donated
through "One
Billion Meals"

Environmental Impact

All business activities have an environmental impact, either directly or indirectly. At elementsix, we try and keep our emissions as low as possible, thereby reducing any negative impact on the environment. Some of our initiatives to reduce this negative environmental impact include:

001



Virtual Meetings

elementsix commits to holding as many client and team meetings as possible, virtually, to limit the emissions associated with business travel and commuting.

002



Paperless Office

elementsix has committed to being a completely paperless office. We use digital contracts, invoicing, payroll and reporting.

003



Renewable Energy

elementsix purchases 100% of its energy from renewable energy sources in the UAE, through the International Renewable Energy Certificates (I-RECs) Standard.

004



Trees Planted

elementsix has helped in planting 100 trees in the Philippines through EcoMatcher, a certified B corporation that are reforesting the planet in a digitally traceable, transparent manner.

Our Social Impact

elementsix aims to promote business practices and policies with positive social impacts on our employees and the society. We do so by fulfilling our corporate social responsibilities related to working conditions and by being an active part of community services.

001



Employee Wellbeing

elementsix puts employee happiness and wellbeing at the forefront of its priorities. Continuous wellness check-ins, and anonymous grievance mechanism are implemented to improve employee wellbeing.

002



Feeding the Community

elementsix contributes financially to local and regional meal donation services including “One Billion Meals”, the biggest humanitarian initiative of its kind in the region.

003



Flexible Work Hours and Location

elementsix offers all employees flexible working hours and location, prioritising the comfort and wellbeing of its workforce and promoting a low carbon model of operating.

The UN SDGs



elementsix supports the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) developed by the United Nations to overcome the environmental, social and economical challenges we face as humanity.

As a company that sources 100% of electricity from local solar projects, we aim to promote SDG 7 (Affordable and Clean Energy) and SDG 13 (Climate Action) to combat climate change and its impacts. Our work also focuses on SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production) by being paperless for our business activities and zero use of single use plastics, and SDG 5 (Gender Equality) with 50% of our board seats occupied by women. We support SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities) by working towards the Net Zero 2050 initiative by the UAE to transform into a sustainable city by facilitating businesses in the country to do so.

We aim to bridge the gap between resilience and sustainability and facilitate corporate strategies in conjunction with the needs of today's society.



A Sustainable Economy



The UAE has had sustainability and a green economy at the forefront of its strategy since its ratification of the Paris Agreement in 2016. Since then it has rolled out a number of mandates, initiatives and visions, all with the goal of achieving a greener, lower emission more sustainable economy.

In September of 2022, at the time of publishing this report, the UAE had updated its second Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) to an aggressive 31% emission reduction target by 2030 against a business as usual scenario. The new target, released by the Ministry of Climate Change and Environment, compares with the initial 23.5% reduction pledge, and is a result of the Glasgow Climate Pact that called for more aggressive reduction targets from member states. In addition, 21 companies in the private sector had pledged to increase their engagement in the country's decarbonization drive, demonstrating their commitment towards UAE Net Zero by 2050 Strategic Initiative.

elementsix supports the UAE's transition to a greener more sustainable economy by supporting local businesses to reduce their negative impact on the environment, and by ourselves operating in the lowest carbon business model we can.

2021 Carbon Footprint

An Overview

The carbon inventory in this report follows the GHG Protocol. The GHG Protocol is the world's most widely used greenhouse gas accounting standards. It provides a framework for businesses and governments to measure and report their greenhouse gas emissions in ways that align with their missions and goals. The GHG Protocol categorizes emissions into 3 scopes based on different emission sources.

We followed the step-wise approach shown below for accounting our carbon footprint in line with the GHG Protocol:

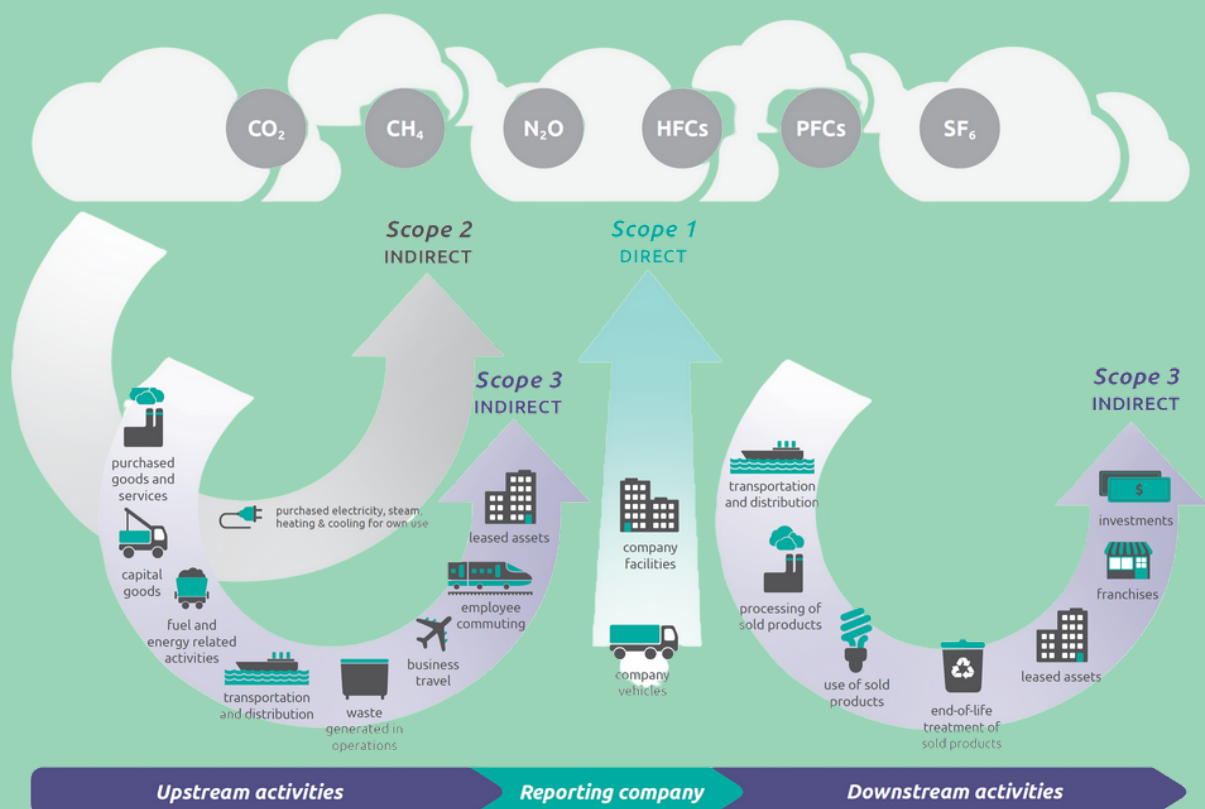
- Boundary Setting
- Emission Source Identification
- Data Collection
- Reporting

Our total emissions for the reporting period were calculated at 991.32 kgCO₂e with 52% of our emissions stemming from energy consumed from our leased assets. We purchase the same equivalent International Renewable Energy Certificates (I-RECs) to source that energy from renewable sources and offset this energy used.

The emission factors used for our calculations are sourced from highly credible sources such as the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Dubai Electricity and Water Authority (DEWA). As a company focusing on carbon mitigation and environmental sustainability, we intend to calculate our carbon footprint and disclose on our performance annually.

Emissions

Scope 1 emissions are direct emissions that include carbon dioxide (CO₂), methane (CH₄), and nitrous oxide (N₂O) that are emitted from stationary and mobile combustion. Scope 2 emissions are indirect emissions from the generation of energy that is purchased from a utility provider. In other words, they are all greenhouse gas emissions that are released into the atmosphere from the consumption of purchased electricity, steam, heat, and cooling. Indirect emissions caused by various activities such as business travel, employee commute, upstream and downstream activities etc. constitute as Scope 3 emissions. The breakdown of GHG Protocol scopes and emissions across the value chain according to the EPA is shown below.



Emission Sources

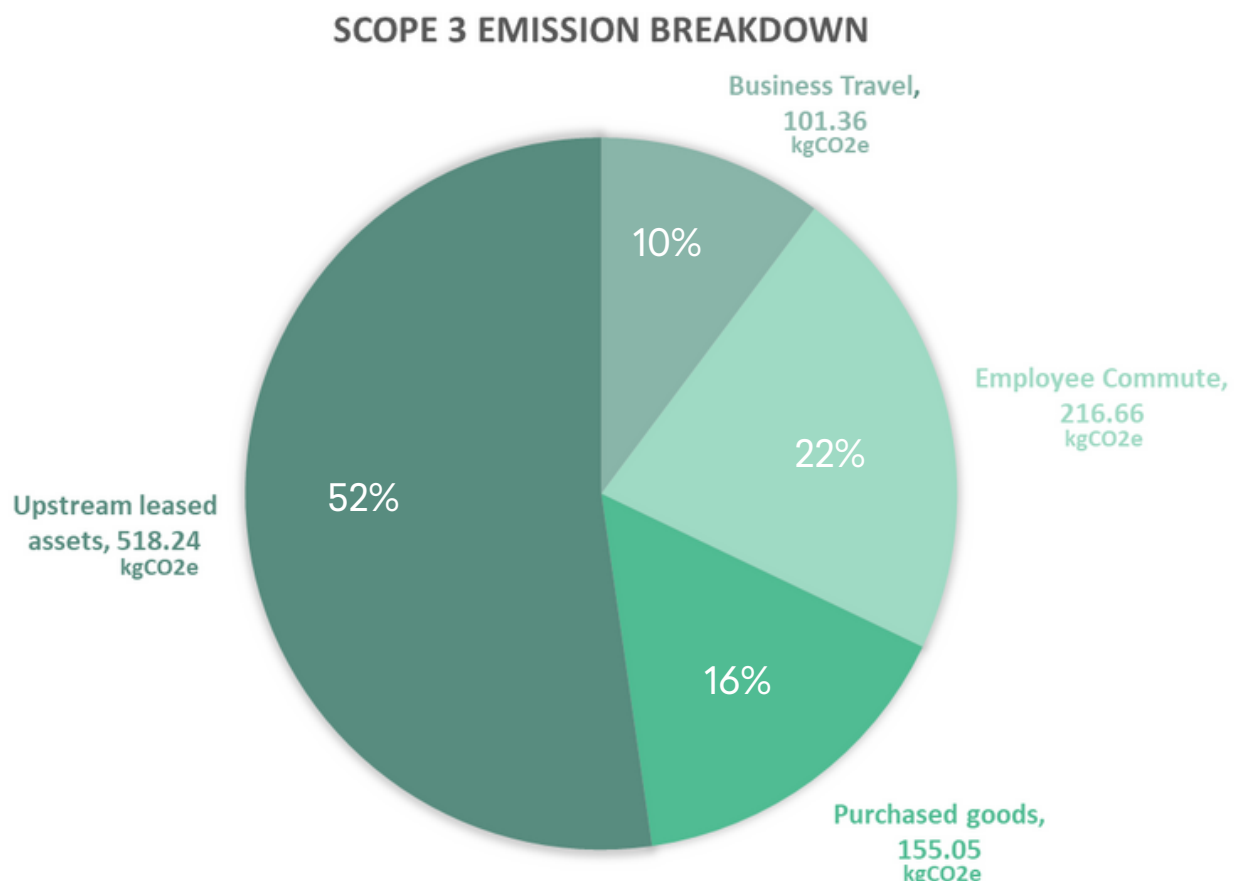
After characterising the emission sources as per the GHG Protocol, we identified the potential emission leaks based on our activities. Provided below is a breakdown of our established emission sources and the scope under which they fall:

SCOPE	DEFINITION	INCLUDED EMISSION SOURCES
Scope 1	Emission from company facilities and fleet	None
Scope 2	Purchased electricity, cooling, and heating	None
Scope 3	Upstream Leased Assets	Operation of assets that are leased by the company, estimated as energy consumed using our company's share of the building's total floor space and total building energy use
	Purchased Goods	Company t-shirts and internet services
	Staff Commute	Employee journey to and from work
	Business Travel	Employee travel for business purposes

Emissions Breakdown

Our total emissions for the reporting period were calculated to be 991.32 kgCO₂e.

As we do not contribute towards scope 1 and scope 2 emissions, all our emissions stem from scope 3 emission sources. The breakdown of the scope 3 emissions is shown in the chart below. As we have adopted a work from home model, most of our emissions fall under upstream leased assets where we have calculated the amount of energy used from teleworking. For the same reason, we have significantly less emissions from employee commute when compared to a work from office set up.



Strategic Partnerships

Throughout the past year, elementsix has sought out like-minded organisations to collaborate and partner with, to offer combined, enhanced services with the mission of reducing emissions and improving sustainable performance.

 houbara

Houbara, an integrated creative and content-driven communications agency has partnered with elementsix to support clients in taking a holistic view of all their actions and processes through the lens of sustainability



TWL are a women-owned, Dubai-based, impact-driven startup that aims to create an opportunity for every food scrap to become a solution rather than a burden on our society and environment. elementsix are providing carbon accounting services for TWL's composting solutions.



Thriving Solutions are a boutique social enterprise dedicated to implementing innovative solutions that support companies and municipalities to transition to circular food systems thus eliminating waste, maintaining resources and regenerating ecosystems. elementsix are providing carbon accounting services for waste management options under the EPIC+ program.



ree is a recycling app, allowing users the ability to be rewarded for their recycling. elementsix, as a strategic partner, are providing carbon footprinting calculations of waste recycle and diverted from landfill to give users of the app a tangible understanding of the positive impact their recycling has had on the environment.

Memberships

As of July 2022, elementsix has been accepted as a Participant of the United Nations Global Compact.

The United Nations Global Compact is a voluntary pact to encourage businesses and firms worldwide to adopt sustainable and socially responsible policies, and to report on their implementation. It is a principle-based framework for businesses, stating ten principles in the areas of human rights, labour, the environment and anti-corruption and is now the world's largest corporate sustainability initiative with 13000 corporate participants over 170 countries.

The Ten Principles of the United Nations Global Compact are derived from: the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Labour Organisation's Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work, the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, and the United Nations Convention Against Corruption. elementsix adheres to the framework in the following ways:

Human Rights	No religion, age, marital status, or orientation questions when hiring	Supplier and vendor due diligence against forced and child labour	
Labour Standards	Flexible working hours and location	Zero gender pay gap	50% board occupied by women
Environment	100% renewable energy consumption	Work from home policy for minimal commuting	Paperless business
Anti-Corruption	Client due-diligence prior to engaging	Voluntary annual financial audit	

Looking Ahead

As we enter into our second year of operations, we plan to stay vigilant in regards to the negative impacts within our control. We aim to maintain our flexible work location and reduced face-to-face meetings to keep emissions from employee commute and business travel to a minimum. We're looking into green servers to host our website on, to ensure that it is stored on a server that is powered entirely by clean energy. We'll continue to be people-focused; as a consultancy we recognise that happy consultants make better consultants. We'll continue to check in with our team, give them anonymous means to report any issues, and give them the room and freedom to produce their best work at their best time.

We plan to increase our due diligence on the projects, clients and partners that we align ourselves with to be able to maintain a high level of integrity, and to do our part in fostering that same attitude in our community. We're going to try and keep doing better than we did before; keep learning, growing and leaving as positive an impact on our environment and community as we can.

Thank You



element**six**

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