

# Sample Climate Change Statements

**Grant applicants who have not prepared a climate change statement for the Foundation might find these sample statements useful in thinking about how to describe their organization's efforts.**

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## ***Scenario 1: An organization that is just beginning to think about its impact on climate change***

While we have never really considered what our organization's impact is on climate change, we are exploring the following strategies:

- Subsidizing bus passes for employees
- Changing office light bulbs to compact florescent bulbs
- Instituting a recycling program
- Reducing paper use by printing and copying double-sided documents
- Educating employees and community stakeholders about global climate change

After implementation, we plan to evaluate how these strategies are working for our organization and establish additional goals.

## ***Scenario 2: An organization that has adopted climate-friendly office practices***

Climate change has been a serious consideration for our organization for a long time. I nitially, we sought to address the problem through public transportation subsidies and energy reduction strategies such as conversion to energy efficient light bulbs and increased attention to turning off computers, lights and electronics when we are out of the office. However, we recognize that our organization can do more, and we have set the following goals for our office operations:

- Conduct an energy audit to determine where, when and how we are using the greatest amounts of energy. With this information, we will determine additional ways and places to conserve energy.
- Eliminate use of disposable dishware and eating utensils to cut down on waste.
- Purchase from local vendors and suppliers whenever possible.
- Work with other building tenants to increase building-wide recycling efforts.
- Conduct a carbon footprint audit to determine where and how our office and staff are emitting greenhouse gases.

We will use this information to guide future goal setting with regard to greenhouse gas reduction.

***Scenario 3: An organization that is addressing climate change through both office operations and programmatic efforts***

Given our organization's role in revitalizing Cleveland's urban neighborhoods, we have thought about how we impact climate change in our programs and advocacy work. As we continue efforts to draw residents, businesses and visitors to the city's core, we combat sprawl and promote a vibrant urban environment. By encouraging individuals and businesses to move to Cleveland, we bring them in greater proximity to one another which allows individuals to walk, bike or take public transit to work. We are also advocating for increased funding of public transit and bike lanes on neighborhood streets.

In addition to our programmatic contributions to fighting climate change, we also have taken a number of steps in our offices to counter global warming. Whenever our staff members are required to travel, we purchase carbon offsets to counter the effects of our air travel on global warming. We also purchase paper products that are made from 100 percent recycled post-consumer waste and provide a space within our office for gently used office items so that supplies such as binders and hanging file folders can be re-used. Finally, we are working to reduce the junk mail we receive by removing our names from mailing lists. We keep our own mailing lists updated to ensure that we are only sending information to those who wish to receive it.