



Shippers' and forwarders' associations commit to accelerating logistics emissions footprinting and reduction

Given the increasing urgency to step up decarbonisation efforts in the logistics sector, we, industry associations representing European shippers and European freight forwarders, are committed to logistics emissions footprinting and reduction. As such, we actively contributed to the [LEARN project on logistics emissions accounting](#), which kicked off in October 2016 and finished in March 2019. The objective of LEARN was to mobilise companies to measure and report on the carbon footprint of their global logistics supply chains in a transparent way, with a view to influence meaningful emissions reduction actions.

Project focus and achievements

The LEARN project focused largely on advancing the sector-wide business uptake of the [Global Logistics Emissions Council \(GLEC\) Framework](#), which provides companies with a universal methodology to calculate emissions from logistics operations across global supply chains. As part of the project, the practical applicability of the GLEC Framework was successfully tested by over 30 companies that represent both customers and providers of freight and logistics services across different transport modes. Accordingly, the [testing results](#) demonstrated that logistics emissions accounting works for business and is instrumental for improved efficiency and emissions reduction.

Furthermore, a number of enabling guidelines and materials, aiming to support companies in calculating, reporting and reducing logistics emissions, were developed throughout the project. These include the [GLEC Declaration](#) – a harmonised format to disclose emissions performance in B2B and public reporting, – as well as [guidance for logistics sites emissions accounting](#), training and education programmes on carbon footprinting, a [research and development agenda](#) and [recommendations for policy-making](#) at different levels of governance. Regarding the latter, the undersigned associations were particularly engaged in the development of recommendations for policy-makers and regulators at the EU level, with an objective to roll out supporting initiatives and emissions reduction strategies, aligned with industry needs and activities.

Joint industry associations' commitment

Consequently, we welcome LEARN achievements and are committed to continuing work beyond the project, aiming to extend the number of interested companies beyond the coalition of the willing. We jointly aim to accelerate the uptake of carbon footprinting and reduction, as this would make logistics supply chains more sustainable and cost-efficient. As such, we will continue encouraging businesses to adopt and implement the GLEC Framework via the following steps:



In addition, we support plans to upgrade the GLEC Framework into an ISO standard and the alignment with the EN16258 standard. We will also take LEARN policy recommendations forward and advocate them at the EU level, with a view to promote incentivising policy action and gather support among the relevant stakeholders. At the same time, we emphasise that carbon accounting and reduction should remain a voluntary initiative led by the industry.



European Association for Forwarding,
Transport, Logistics and Customs Services



European
Shippers' Council