News release

Date 12 March 2019

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Pages 2 pages

While driving efficiency to reduce its absolute carbon impact, PwC Jamaica commits to offset air travel emissions and energy consumption by 100%

Efficiency actions include:

● Implementation of technologies to reduce travel such as video conferencing/online meetings
● Reduction of paper waste
● Laptops older than 4 years donated locally

Kingston, Jamaica - PwC Jamaica announced today that it has taken proactive steps towards reducing the carbon footprint of its business through a new environment commitment: “While driving efficiency to reduce our absolute carbon impact, we commit to offset our air travel emissions and energy consumption by 100%.”

Leighton McKnight, PwC Jamaica territory leader, said: “If ever there was a time to act, it’s now. The impacts of global warming and climate change can be seen every day and everywhere around the globe. But we don’t have to look far beyond our shores, rising sea levels and coastal flooding are issues that small island developing states like ours are vulnerable to and so the threats are right here and right now. While our carbon impact here in the Caribbean is low, it’s still important for us to take action to reduce our absolute carbon emissions, switching to renewables and offsetting our air travel.”

“This commitment by our firm is part of a larger global effort by PwC to be part of the solution and has been adopted as part of our local strategy to reduce our carbon footprint. Without convincing global action, average temperatures are predicted to increase by more than two degrees Celsius, a threshold at which scientists believe potentially irreversible environmental changes will occur.”

Gail Moore, Environment Lead partner, PwC Jamaica, said: “While our priority is reducing our absolute carbon impact, offsetting is an important part of our strategy to mitigate the impact of our unavoidable emissions. Our biggest carbon impact comes from our business travel and the energy we use in our offices (and data centres). This is why we have decided to take the extra steps of offsetting residual air travel emissions and energy consumption.”

The PwC global network has joined the RE100 initiative of over 150 global businesses dedicated to growing the global demand for renewable energy, led by The Climate Group, an international non-profit, whose mission is accelerating climate action. PwC is proud to be aligned with some of the world’s most influential companies in moving to renewable energy and are the first of our big 4 competitors to make this commitment.
Bob Moritz Global Chairman, PricewaterhouseCoopers International Limited, commented: “At no time has the need for alignment of economic growth, social progress and environmental sustainability been more important - and at no time have we been better positioned to tackle the challenge ahead. The world’s current economic model is pushing beyond the limits of the planet’s ability to cope. And healthy environmental ecosystems are critical to healthy economies. It’s time to accelerate the pace of change.”

A carbon offset is a way to compensate for our emissions by funding an equivalent carbon dioxide saving elsewhere. With support from Natural Capital Partners, PwC member firms will select portfolios to reflect local priorities. Underpinning our approach is a set of strict quality criteria, including ensuring our offsets are verified by an independent third party to an established standard or protocol. Through our purchasing we seek to drive projects with multiple benefits, including helping to create renewables markets, to support local economic and social development and to create and sustain sustainable landscapes.

Through these projects the PwC global network of firms is projected to have collectively impacted nearly 3 million people worldwide, protected or restored 656,000 hectares of forest, generated 209,000 MWh of clean energy and created over 570 new full time jobs.

-30-

Find out more about PwC’s approach to corporate responsibility and read stories about some of our corporate responsibility activities around the world:
https://www.pwc.com/gx/en/about/corporate-responsibility.html

About PwC
At PwC, our purpose is to build trust in society and solve important problems. We’re a network of firms in 158 countries with over 250,000 people who are committed to delivering quality in assurance, advisory and tax services. Find out more and tell us what matters to you by visiting us at www.pwc.com.

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