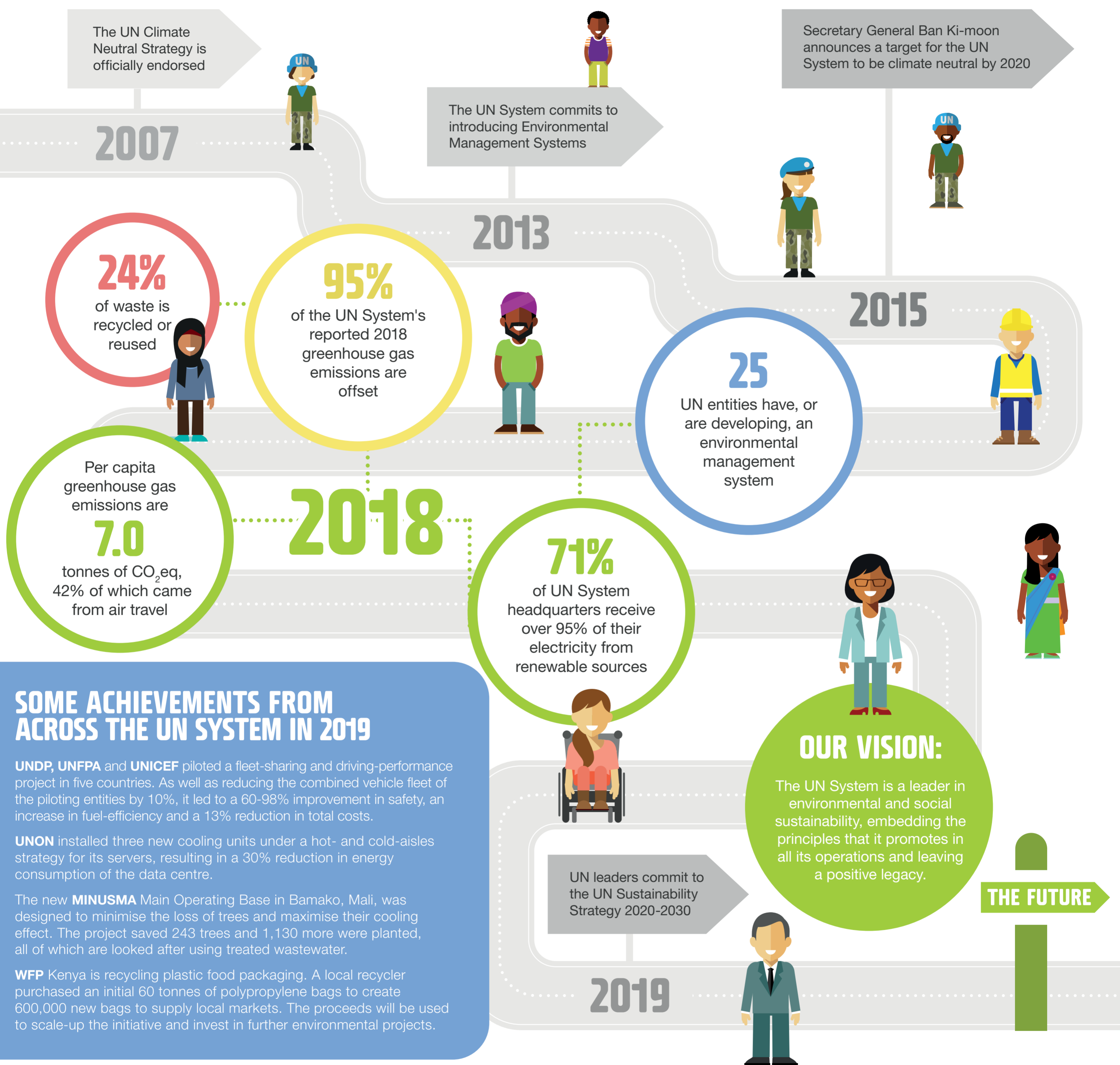# GREENING THE BLUE REPORT 2019
THE UN SYSTEM'S ENVIRONMENTAL FOOTPRINT AND EFFORTS TO REDUCE IT

RESPONDING TO THE CHALLENGE

The United Nations System has been working to improve its environmental sustainability over several years. Responding to the latest scientific evidence, UN entities are now accelerating this work with the introduction of a new UN Sustainability Strategy 2020-2030. This demands ambitious reductions of environmental impacts and the full integration of the Sustainable Development Goals in the management of facilities and operations.

The UN Climate Neutral Strategy is officially endorsed

2007

The UN System commits to introducing Environmental Management Systems

2013

Secretary General Ban Ki-moon announces a target for the UN System to be climate neutral by 2020

2015

24%
of waste is recycled or reused

95%
of the UN System's reported 2018 greenhouse gas emissions are offset

25
UN entities have, or are developing, an environmental management system

Per capita greenhouse gas emissions are **7.0** tonnes of CO_2eq, 42% of which came from air travel

2018

71%
of UN System headquarters receive over 95% of their electricity from renewable sources

OUR VISION:

The UN System is a leader in environmental and social sustainability, embedding the principles that it promotes in all its operations and leaving a positive legacy.

THE FUTURE

UN leaders commit to the UN Sustainability Strategy 2020-2030

2019

SOME ACHIEVEMENTS FROM ACROSS THE UN SYSTEM IN 2019

UNDP, UNFPA and **UNICEF** piloted a fleet-sharing and driving-performance project in five countries. As well as reducing the combined vehicle fleet of the piloting entities by 10%, it led to a 60-98% improvement in safety, an increase in fuel-efficiency and a 13% reduction in total costs.

UNON installed three new cooling units under a hot- and cold-aisles strategy for its servers, resulting in a 30% reduction in energy consumption of the data centre.

The new **MINUSMA** Main Operating Base in Bamako, Mali, was designed to minimise the loss of trees and maximise their cooling effect. The project saved 243 trees and 1,130 more were planted, all of which are looked after using treated wastewater.

WFP Kenya is recycling plastic food packaging. A local recycler purchased an initial 60 tonnes of polypropylene bags to create 600,000 new bags to supply local markets. The proceeds will be used to scale-up the initiative and invest in further environmental projects.

"As the world mobilises to address the climate emergency, the United Nations must walk the talk. We are taking decisive action to lower our greenhouse gas emissions, reduce energy use across our facilities and operations, transition to cleaner energy sources and improve waste management systems. The United Nations is on course to be climate neutral by 2020, and I am strongly committed to ensuring that the Organisation continues to lead by example by pursuing efforts in all areas of environmental sustainability."

António Guterres, UN Secretary-General

For more information visit **www.greeningtheblue.org**

UN environment — United Nations Environment Programme

GREENING THE BLUE.

Sustainable United Nations

ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

	MEASURE			REDUCE	OFFSET
	GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS	WASTE	WATER	ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT	CLIMATE NEUTRALITY
CTBTO					
FAO					
IAEA					
ICAO					
IFAD					
ILO					
IMF					
IMO					
IOM					
ITC					
ITC-ILO					
ITU					
OPCW					
UN Secretariat					
ECA					
ECE					
ECLAC					
ESCAP					
ESCWA					
Field Missions[1]					
OHCHR					
UNEP					
BRS					
CBD					
Ozone Secretariat					
UN-Habitat					
UNHQ[2]					
UNOG					
Other Geneva-based entities[3]					
UNON					
UNOV[4]					
Other Secretariat entities[5]					
UNAIDS					
UNCCD					
UNDP					
UNESCO					
UNFCCC					
UNFPA					
UNHCR					
UNICEF					
UNIDO					
UNITAR					
UNOPS					
UNRWA					
UNSSC					
UNU					
UNV					
UN Women					
UNWTO					
UPU					
WFP					
WHO					
WIPO					
WMO					
World Bank Group					
WTO					

UNSOS: RECYCLING IN SOMALIA

UNSOS's waste management plan aims to reduce the creation of waste at source whilst maximising waste recovery through recycling. The Mission is incinerating all hazardous and non-hazardous waste within its facilities. The ashes from non-hazardous waste are used as filler materal for bastions positioned along the perimeter fence. UNSOS is also a pioneer in centralised waste management yards. Recyclables - including aluminum cans, cardboard and scrap metal - are segregated, baled and containerised under the waste contract. Biodegradable waste is composted and used to improve the soil.

UNDP: MONITORING POWER CONSUMPTION

UNDP is taking action to reduce the energy consumed by IT systems. The OneICTbox allows UNDP country offices to take control of their IT infrastructure through a user-friendly online interface that simplifies a multitude of IT management tasks. The OneICTbox is a sustainable IT tool, fully consistent with UNDP's core values. Through reducing energy consumption and compatibility with solar energy solutions, the box enables country offices to minimise their data centre footprint. Over 70 OneICTboxes have been installed to date, delivering an average reduction of 80% in power consumption and 75% in space occupied.

UNOPS: EXCELLING IN SUSTAINABLE PROCUREMENT - KOSOVO

UNOPS has been awarded the Chartered Institute of Procurement and Supply's Gold Certificate in Sustainable Procurement for the third year in a row. This was in recognition of its purchasing policies and practices which minimise greenhouse gas emissions, improve waste management, support the safeguarding for women and empower local economies. A recent infrastructure project in Kosovo saw the installation of a wastewater treatment system that redirects grey water to be used to irrigate land, flush toilets and extinguish fires. Gender considerations were applied to the contracting documents to ensure that at least 20% of personnel employed were qualified female engineers, and resources were put in place to ensure that gender and sustainability objectives were achieved.

GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

- Entity reported greenhouse gas emissions for all of its personnel within the defined boundaries for the reporting year.
- Entity reported greenhouse gas emissions for a percentage of total personnel for the reporting year or reports on emissions from previous years.
- Entity did not report on greenhouse gas emissions.

WASTE

- Entity reported quantitative data for some or all of its waste for the reporting year
- Entity reported qualitative data for the reporting year or reported quantitative data from previous years.
- Entity did not report waste data.

WATER

- Entity reported quantitative data for some or all of its water for the reporting year.
- Entity reported qualitative data for the reporting year or reported quantitative data from previous years.
- Entity did not report water data.

ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

- Entity is certified under an established system, i.e. ISO 14001, LEED, BREEAM[6] or equivalent, or is considered to have a complete environmental or sustainability management system covering at least headquarters or a majority of its personnel.
- Entity has other systematic approaches to environmental management, such as an approved Emissions Reduction Strategy, Climate Neutral Strategy, Environmental Policy, or Sustainability Policy or an environmental management system under way – having policy and designated roles and responsibilities – in at least headquarters.
- Entity has no systematic approach to environmental management.

CLIMATE NEUTRAL

- Entity is climate neutral as a result of offsetting all reported greenhouse gas emissions for the reporting year.
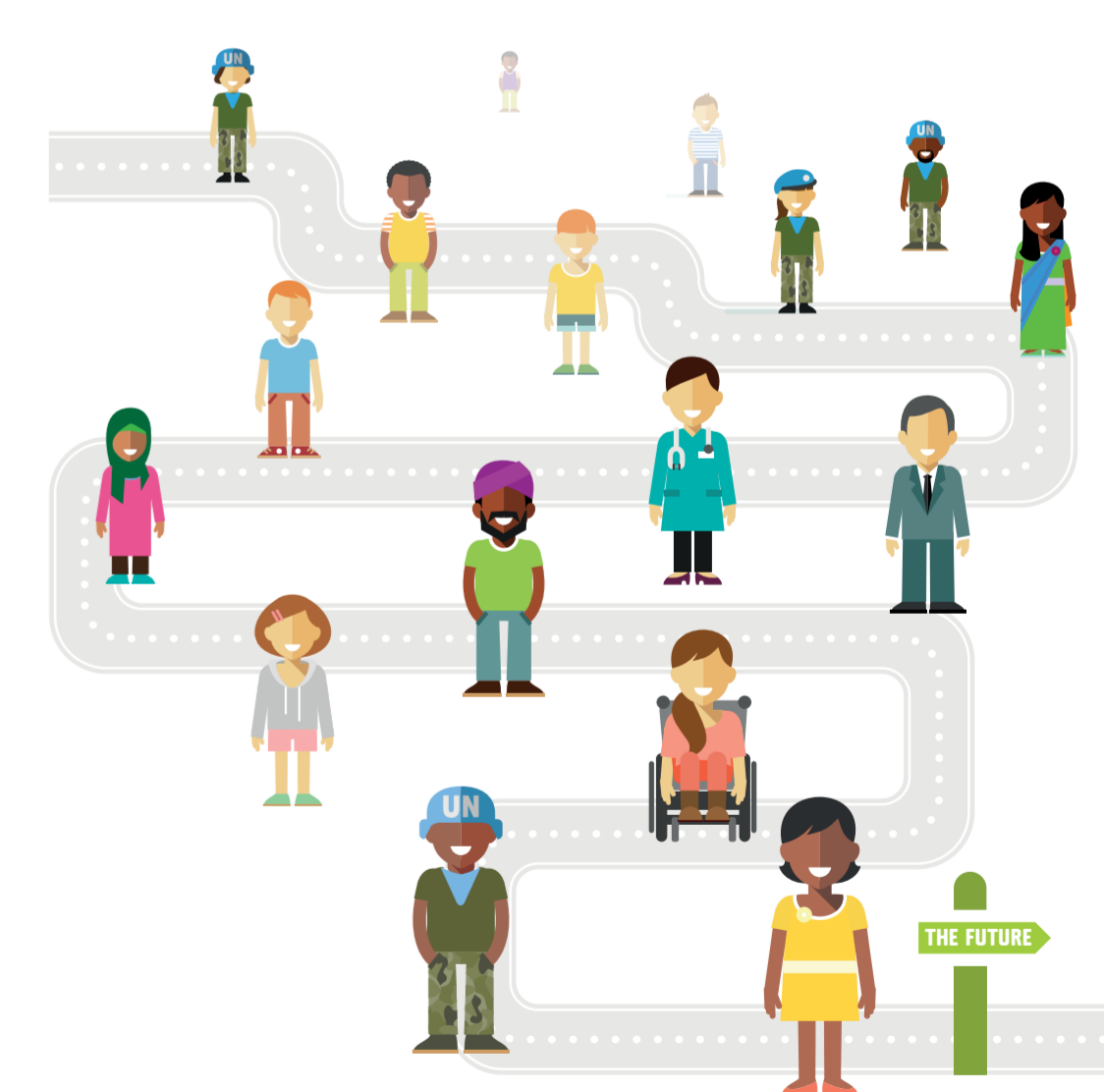- Entity is not climate neutral for the reporting year.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

The Sustainable Development Goals provide a set of universally endorsed objectives and targets to work towards. By committing to becoming climate neutral by 2020 and working to improve its overall environmental performance, the UN System is not only reducing its use of natural and financial resources but also is showing leadership in integrating the Sustainable Development Agenda in management planning and processes.

For more information on the Sustainable UN facility, Greening the Blue and the Sustainable Development Goals, please visit www.greeningtheblue.org

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