



Concept Note



Net Zero IIFF 2025

Nourishing the Planet, Empowering Entrepreneurs

NET
ZERO

Background

The India International Foodpreneurship Festival (IIFF) 2025 brings together food innovators, students, startups, policy makers, researchers, and entrepreneurs to catalyse a sustainable, inclusive, and resilient food ecosystem. As India advances towards its climate commitments and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), it is imperative that flagship events like IIFF also lead by example. Transitioning IIFF 2025 into a **Net Zero Event** aligns with national priorities on climate action (SDG 13), responsible consumption (SDG 12), and industry innovation (SDG 9), and will enhance the credibility and global recognition of the festival. The steps and strategies planned for executing net zero event ensures that every aspect of the event aligns with sustainability goals. IIFF 2025 as a Net Zero Event will not only be a sustainable food entrepreneurship event but also provide a blueprint for large-scale global events in the future. This initiative will serve as a legacy contribution towards India's climate goals and circular economy vision.

Objectives

- To calculate and minimize the carbon footprint of IIFF 2025.
- To implement mitigation strategies for emissions generated.
- To adopt carbon offsetting methods to neutralize unavoidable emissions.
- To create awareness among participants about Net Zero initiative.

Scope of Emissions

Sources of Carbon Emissions Expected at IIFF 2025

- Travel
- Venue energy and lighting
- Accommodation energy use
- Food and Catering
- Single-use materials and packaging
- Waste generation
- Any other relevant resource usage

Proposed Carbon Mitigation & Offset Strategies

Minimizing the carbon footprint of event

- Encouraging public transport and EV shuttle services
- Energy efficient lighting and equipments
- Online registration, e-certificates, and e-brochures
- Local, seasonal, and plant-based catering
- Ban on single-use plastics; use of biodegradable or reusable materials
- Zero waste with waste segregation and composting

Mitigation Strategies to neutralise unavoidable emissions

To neutralize the unavoidable emissions, the following offsetting methods are proposed:

- 1. Tree Plantation Drives**
 - Planting native and fruit-bearing trees, Mangroves in partnership with local NGOs and forest departments.
- 2. Biogas & Clean Cooking Solutions**
 - Support deployment of community biogas units or clean cookstoves in rural households.
- 3. Carbon Capture**
 - Carbon absorbing materials and products, biochar, algae walls etc.
- 4. Food Waste to Compost**
 - All food waste from the event to be processed into compost and used in urban gardens or schools.

Brief Methodology

To achieve the Net Zero India International Foodpreneurship Festival (IIFF) 2025, a systematic methodology will be implemented. This approach will ensure a comprehensive and data driven execution of initiatives.

Pre-Assessment and Detailed Project Report (DPR)

- Carbon Footprint Assessment: A thorough pre-event assessment will be conducted to estimate the baseline carbon footprint. This will involve an analysis of all anticipated emission sources, including attendee and organisers travel, venue energy consumption, waste generation, food and catering, and all logistical aspects.
- Mitigation Strategy Planning: Based on the assessment, a Detailed Project Report (DPR) will be created. The DPR will outline specific mitigation strategies to minimize emissions from each identified source.
- Target Setting: The DPR will establish clear, measurable targets for emissions reduction and offsetting providing a roadmap with timeline.

Monitoring

- Real-time Data Collection: Data such as energy usage, waste volumes, No of Participants etc will be collected in real-time.
- Waste Segregation & Composting: On-site waste management will be closely monitored to ensure proper segregation of dry and wet waste. All food waste will be collected for composting, and the volume of waste will be recorded.
- Logistics Tracking: The use of EV shuttles and the overall travel footprints will be tracked to measure the impact of transportation strategies.

Offsetting

This phase focuses on neutralizing the unavoidable emissions that remain after all mitigation efforts.

Implementation of Offset Projects: Funds from the event's budget and support will be allocated to high-impact offsetting projects. These will include Tree Plantation Drives, Biogas & Clean Cooking Solutions, Carbon Capture etc.

Carbon Neutrality Certification: The offsetting activities will be documented and verified to ensure that the event meet the standards for a Net Zero certification.

Dashboard

Digital Dashboard will serve as a central hub for transparency and awareness. The dashboard will display key metrics in real-time, including the estimated carbon footprint, the progress of mitigation efforts, and the total amount of carbon offset. The dashboard will educate participants about the event's sustainability goals and show them the direct impact of their actions. All data and outcomes will be documented on the dashboard.

Work Plan

Pre-Event (August, September)

- Meeting and Work Order Finalisation
- Carbon Footprint Assessment: Detailed pre-event assessment to estimate baseline emissions.
- DPR Finalization: Finalisation of Detailed Project Report (DPR) with mitigation strategies, budget, and offsetting targets.
- Stakeholder Communication: Communication with stakeholders to inform and engage attendees, exhibitors, and sponsors about the Net Zero event and their role in achieving them.
- Digital Infrastructure: Setting up the digital dashboard to track key metrics and the event website for online registration and e-materials.
- Training & Briefing: Conduct training sessions for all staff, volunteers, and vendors on sustainability protocols, waste segregation, and energy conservation.
- Logistics & Sourcing: Procuring eco-friendly materials, arranging EV shuttle services, and arrangements for waste management
- Final Checks

During Event (October)

- On-site Monitoring: Actively monitoring energy usage and tracking waste generation. Dashboard will display real-time metrics and progress.
- Waste Management.

- Participant Engagement: Using the dashboard, digital signage, and trained volunteers to promote awareness.
- Logistics Management

Post-Event (6 months)

- Data Compilation and Analysis
- Carbon Offsetting Execution
- Final Carbon Footprint Calculation
- Certification
- Final Report
- Publication and Promotion

Benefits for Supporters

The event can offer substantial and multi-faceted benefits to its supporters aligning their contributions with sustainability goals and providing significant brand and social value.

Individual Supporters

- Certification and Recognition: Participants will receive a personalized e-certificate.
- The event will serve as a platform for individuals to gain a deeper understanding of sustainable practices and their personal impact on climate action. The interactive dashboard will provide real-time data, showcasing the direct results of their actions such as using an EV shuttle, segregating waste, contributions towards offsetting.
- Discounts and Offers

Industries/Organizations

- Brand Enhancement: By sponsoring or partnering with this event, industries and organizations can significantly boost their brand reputation as leaders in climate action and corporate social responsibility (CSR).

- CSR Alignment: The initiative offers a clear and impactful avenue for fulfilling CSR mandates, particularly under themes of climate action (SDG 13), responsible consumption (SDG 12), and industry innovation (SDG 9).
- ESG Benefits: The event's structured methodology and transparent dashboard will provide valuable data and documented framework for an organization's own sustainability reporting, helping them in ESG disclosure requirements and demonstrate accountability.
- Showcasing Innovation: The event provides a platform for industries to showcase their sustainable products, services, and technologies.

Government Departments

- Alignment with National Goals: Supporting the event directly aligns with India's national climate commitments and Sustainable Development Goals.
- Blueprint for future events organised by department.
- Public and Global Recognition

Budget Estimate (Tentative)

SI No	Component	Estimated Cost (INR)
1	Carbon Footprint Assessment & DPR	₹ *****
2	Monitoring	₹ *****
3	Digital Infrastructure	₹ *****
4	Eco-friendly Materials	₹ *****
5	EV Transportation	₹ *****
6	Waste Segregation & Composting	₹ *****
7	Awareness and Branding	₹ *****
8	Tree Plantation	₹ *****
9	Biogas/Cookstove Program	₹ *****
10	Carbon Capture	₹ *****
11	Miscellaneous (Pre, During and Post)	₹ *****
12	Post Event (Analysis, Implementation, Documentation, Report and Certification)	₹ *****
	Total Estimated Budget	₹ *****

Note: Budget will be revised based on actual calculations.

Outcomes

- Certification as a Net Zero Event.
- Awareness among participants.
- Documentation and Blueprint of Net Zero Event model for future events.

For any further clarifications:

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