**SOCIAL OR BUSINESS IMPACT**

Climate change causes devastating impacts: extreme weather events like flooding and deadly storms; the spread of disease; sea level rise; increased food insecurity; and other disasters.

These impacts can cost businesses, families, governments and taxpayers hundreds of billions of dollars through rising health care costs, destruction of property, increased food prices, and more.

The social cost of carbon is a measure of the economic harm from those impacts, expressed as the dollar value of the total damages from emitting one ton of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere.

The current central estimate of the social cost of carbon is over $50 per ton in today's dollars. While this is the most robust and credible figure available, it does not yet include all of the widely recognized and accepted scientific and economic impacts of climate change.

In general, carbon footprint refers to the impact humans make on the environment in terms of greenhouse gas emissions, measured in carbon dioxide units. In the business sense, it is the total volume of greenhouse gases produced by an organisation, also known as [corporate carbon footprint](https://www.endesa.com/en/blogs/endesa-s-blog/business/business-carbon-footprint).

Several factors influence corporate carbon footprint. For instance, the dependence on fossil fuels for power generation, excessive electricity usage, and minimal carbon-neutral transportation for business operations lead to higher emissions of greenhouse gases. Your supply chain’s green activities can also impact your carbon footprint. According to McKinsey & Company, a [retailer's supply chain accounts for over 80% of greenhouse gas emissions, which further impacts 90% of the earth’s biodiversity and ecology](https://www.mckinsey.com/business-functions/sustainability/our-insights/starting-at-the-source-sustainability-in-supply-chains).