



Environmental responsibility charter of the MetaboHUB infrastructure

The members of the MetaboHUB infrastructure commit to respecting this charter. Each node and site manager will ensure that this charter is disseminated within their facility and provided to new members.

After several decades of scientific research, the link between human activities, climate change, and biosphere degradation is now clearly established and documented on a global scale. Prospective studies show that there is—possibly in the medium term—a high risk that the situation could become irreversible in many socio-ecosystems if the current trajectory of resource use and greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions continues.

I. Justification and development process of the environmental responsibility charter

Within MetaboHUB, aware of the urgency to align research and development activities with the need to reduce environmental impact, we have been conducting an annual GHG assessment of the infrastructure since 2022, using the tool provided by the Labos1point5 collective to monitor our reduction targets.

During the Executive Board (EB) meeting of the infrastructure in December 2024, and based on the results of a 2024 survey conducted among infrastructure members, the drafting of an environmental responsibility charter was decided to formalize our reduction approach. This charter was designed by the "Eco-Responsibility" working group of the MetaboHUB infrastructure, bringing together members from each node of the infrastructure, and was then validated by the EB.

II. Objectives of the charter

Faced with the environmental emergency, the members of MetaboHUB, through their adherence to this charter, acknowledge the reality and severity of the situation and express their willingness to implement a gradual change in their professional practices to significantly reduce the environmental impact of their research activities. They commit to disseminating this charter to all relevant staff and stakeholders and to promoting its rapid and effective implementation within their spheres of influence, particularly around the following axes:

1. The MetaboHUB infrastructure commits to a process of quantitative assessment of the carbon impact of its activities and raising awareness among its staff on these issues.
2. The MetaboHUB infrastructure commits to a process of reducing greenhouse gas emissions related to its research and development activities, with an annual reduction target determined by the CSR department and validated by the MetaboHUB EB.
3. The MetaboHUB infrastructure commits to establishing a collective reflection on actions to implement, in a consensual, effective, and short-term manner, the measures necessary to reduce GHG emissions across all areas of its activity. This involves incentive and awareness-raising actions.

III. Commitment to major themes

The MetaboHUB infrastructure commits to an eco-responsible approach concerning the following points:

1. Environmental Footprint Assessment

Based on the following actions:

- ❖ Conduct an annual comprehensive assessment of the infrastructure's environmental footprint, including climate awareness initiatives and a complete assessment of greenhouse gas emissions (including building consumption, professional and commuting travel, digital usage, purchases, etc.) based on a common evaluation framework shared by all.



- ❖ Make this environmental footprint assessment public and widely communicate it to all staff involved in the infrastructure's operations.
- ❖ Act to reduce MetaboHUB's environmental footprint and make it as moderate as possible.

2. Reducing the Environmental Impact of Operations

a. R&D

- ❖ Ensure that experimental and technological developments consider the compatibility of their environmental impact and the goal of reducing the carbon footprint.

b. Buildings

- ❖ Ensure, in collaboration with competent and decision-making authorities, that the working conditions of members guarantee a healthy environment adapted to their missions and conducive to identifying effective gains to limit the environmental footprint of activities. Also ensure that these conditions effectively enable the reduction of the environmental footprint of their activities.
- ❖ Commit to controlling energy expenditure, particularly by:
 - Engaging in reasonable thermal and electrical regulation within premises when possible.
 - Working with governing bodies and site/laboratory management to reduce building energy consumption and promote the transition to renewable energy when possible.

c. Purchasing

- ❖ Control and reduce the environmental impact of the instrumental fleet by implementing a reasoned investment and management policy, and by including the environmental impact of instruments (manufacturing, use, and recycling) in procurement processes.

d. Mobility

- ❖ Promote soft mobility and carpooling for professional travel, particularly by providing the means and facilities to support these practices.
- ❖ Provide staff with efficient videoconferencing tools, ensure effective technical support and training in their use, and encourage their use for short meetings (full or half days).
- ❖ Encourage staff to rethink professional travel, especially long-distance, support their efforts, and incentivize the use of trains over planes, choice of cities, schedules, and grouping meetings to avoid cumulative travel...

e. Events

- ❖ Favor eco-responsible meals and/or buffets when they are funded by MetaboHUB.
- ❖ Organize annual MetaboHUB scientific days in an eco-responsible venue that minimizes the carbon cost of transportation.

f. Digital

- ❖ Control the renewal of IT equipment by encouraging the purchase of durable items and longer usage.
- ❖ Optimize and rationalize data storage and backups.

3. Informing requesters about the environmental impact of their analyses

- ❖ Develop tools to conduct life cycle assessments (LCA) of the various experiments developed on the platform.
- ❖ Inform requesters, when the LCA method is applicable and available, about the environmental footprint of their analyses.