

Bilan Carbone[®] 2017

Calculating the ECA's carbon footprint using the Bilan Carbone[®] method

October 2018



EUROPEAN
COURT
OF AUDITORS



- 1 Context of the study
- 2 Overview of the Bilan Carbone[®] method
- 3 Overall results
- 4 Results per scope
- 5 Recommendations

- In 2013, the ECA launched the **eco-management and audit scheme**, or **EMAS** project, and adopted its environmental policy with a view to continuously **improving its environmental performance** and introducing measures to prevent pollution and reduce carbon dioxide emissions.
- In order to design measures to reduce its greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, the Court first examined its GHG emissions in **2014, 2015 and 2016 using the Bilan Carbone® methodology**.
- This initial carbon footprint helped the ECA identify its main emission sources and appropriate reduction measures.
- **The ECA is committed to monitoring and reporting these emissions each year to track its progress in reducing GHG emissions.**

- The Bilan Carbone® method was developed in 2004 by the French Environment and Energy Management Agency, ADEME, to quantify organisations' GHG emissions. It is promoted by the Association Bilan Carbone (ABC).

- The method considers the following gases:**

- ✓ Kyoto Protocol gases: CO₂, CH₄, N₂O, SF₆ hydrofluorocarbons (C_nH_mF_p), perfluorocarbons (C_nF_{2n+2}), NF₃
- ✓ Other non-Kyoto Protocol gases (CFCs)
- ✓ Water vapour emitted by planes at the stratospheric level

Since directly measuring GHG emissions is not feasible, the Bilan Carbone® method estimates GHG emissions by multiplying data on an organisation's activity by an emission factor (EF).

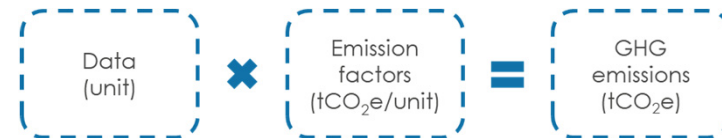


$$\begin{array}{|c|} \hline \text{Data} \\ \hline \text{(unit)} \\ \hline \end{array} \times \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \text{Emission} \\ \hline \text{factors} \\ \hline \text{(tCO}_2\text{e/unit)} \\ \hline \end{array} = \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \text{GHG} \\ \hline \text{emissions} \\ \hline \text{(tCO}_2\text{e)} \\ \hline \end{array}$$

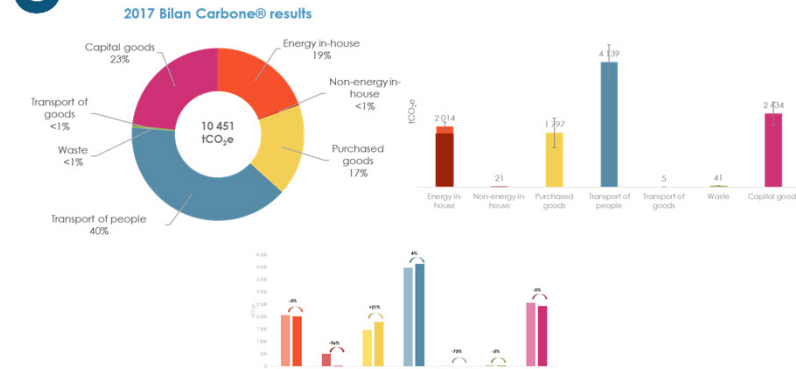
1 Collect activity data

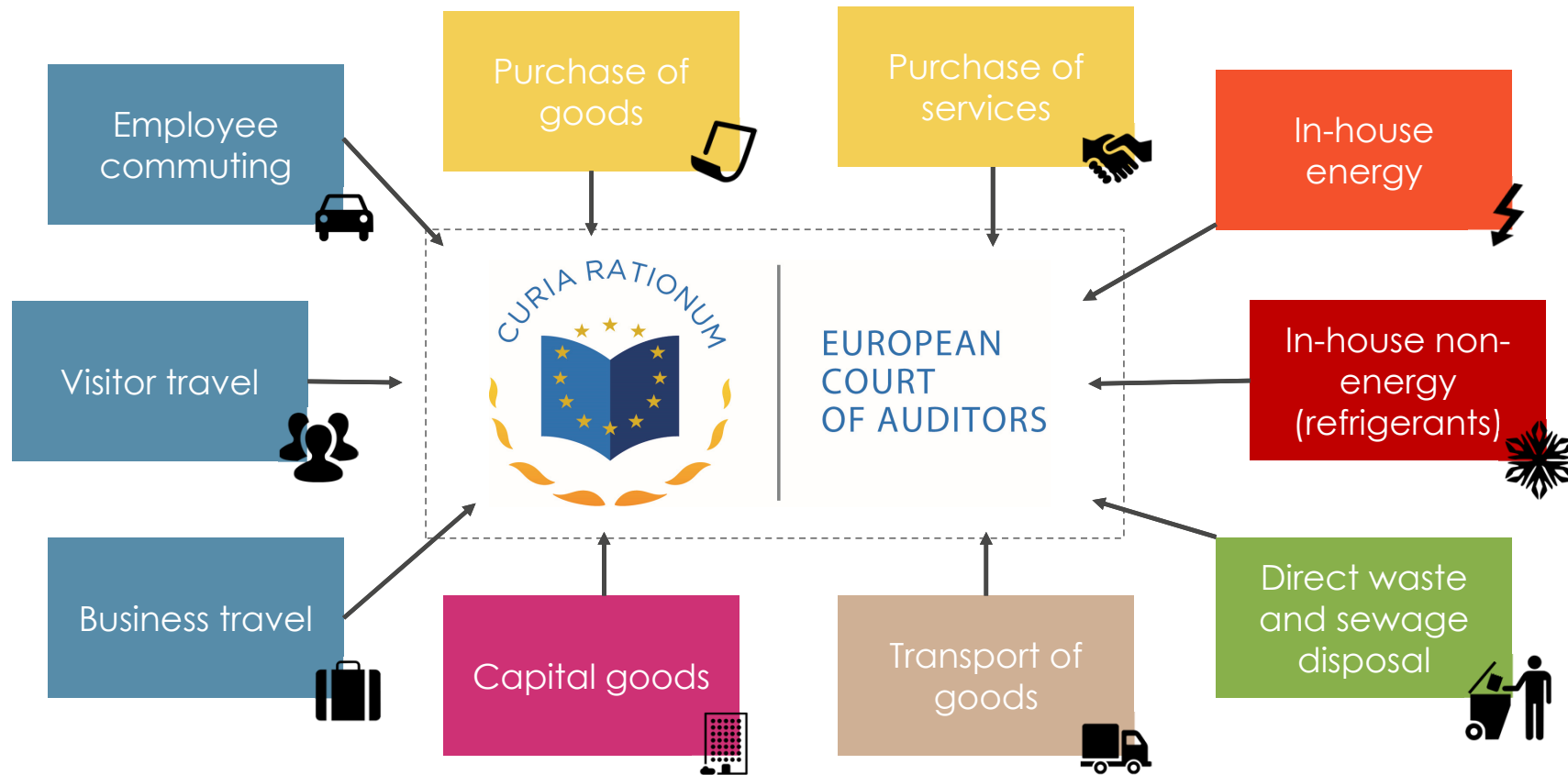


2 Apply the emission factors from the Bilan Carbone® database (version 8)



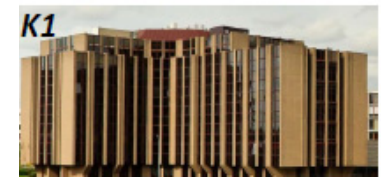
3 Visualise and analyse the results





The ECA's footprint exercise includes direct and indirect GHG emissions (Bilan Carbone® scopes 1, 2 and 3).

- **Bilan Carbone[®] approach:** operational control approach
- **Temporal scope:** ECA activities in 2017
- **Organisational scope:**
 - ✓ Three buildings in Luxembourg
 - **K1:** 23 419 m², 309 employees
 - **K2:** 18 618 m² , 245 employees
 - **K3:** 28 240 m² , 474 employees
 - These buildings include basements, underground car parks, two cafeterias and a canteen, archives and a library, walkways between buildings, among other amenities.
 - ✓ Activities of ECA officials and other employees
 - At the end of 2017, there were **923.75** full-time equivalent employees.

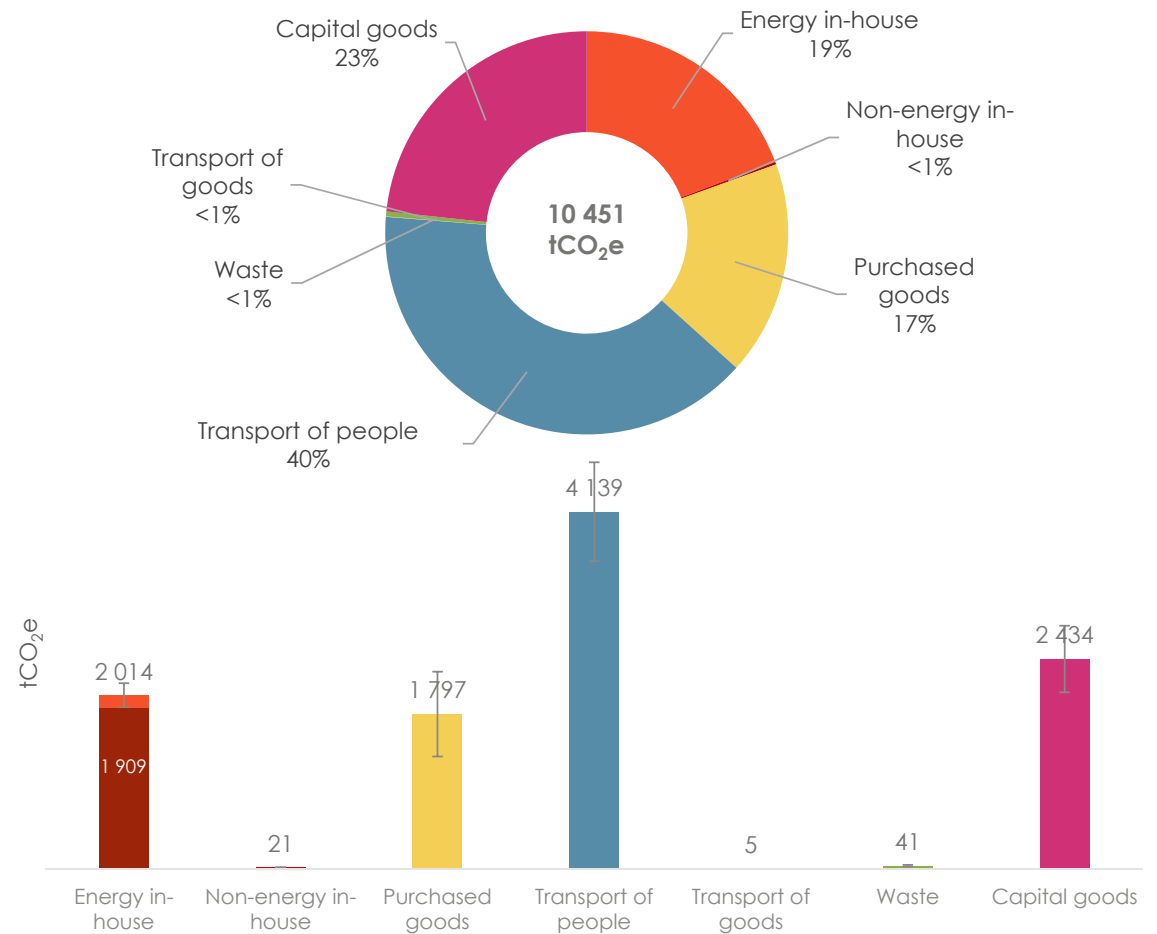


ECA buildings

- Total GHG emissions were 10 451 tCO₂e.
- The largest sources of emissions for the 2017 Bilan Carbone® were:
 - ✓ Transport of people (40%)
 - ✓ Capital goods (23%)
 - ✓ In-house energy (19%)
 - ✓ Purchased goods (17%)
- In-house non-energy, waste and transport of goods made up the remaining 1%.

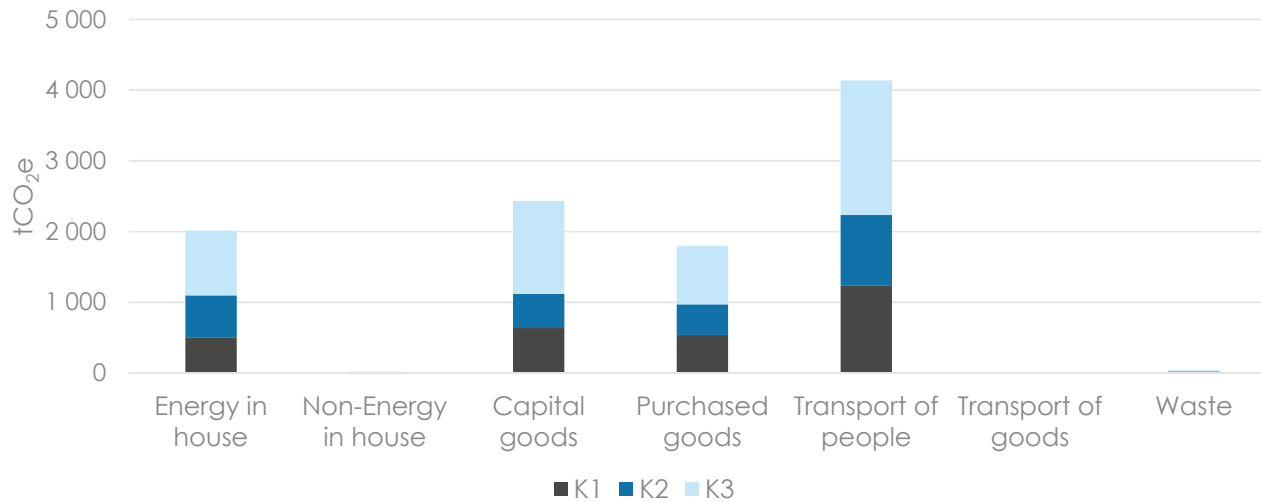
**Total uncertainties
858 tCO₂e (8%)**

2017 Bilan Carbone® results

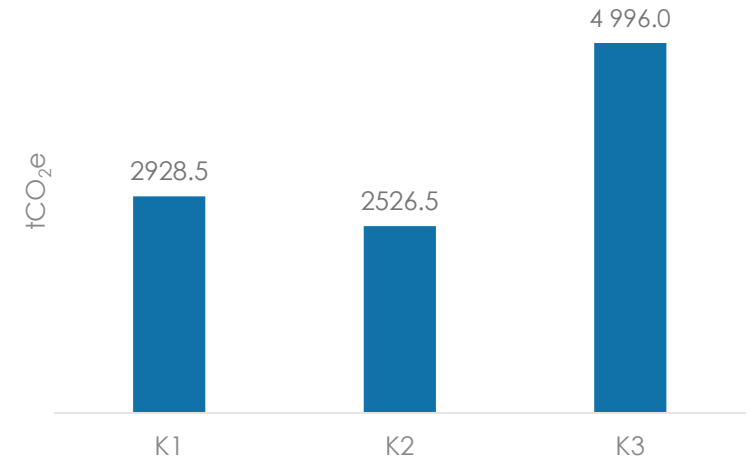


- Emissions were divided between the buildings according to staff headcount in each building.
- Unsurprisingly, then, since K3 houses the most employees, it has the largest share of emissions.

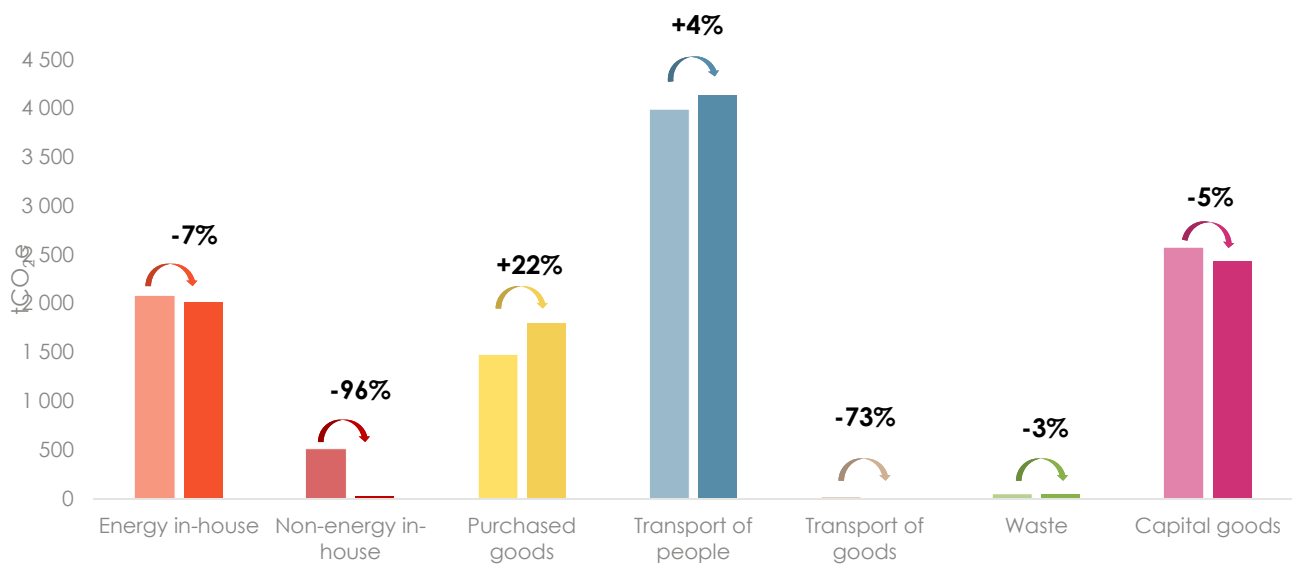
Emission categories by building



Total GHG emissions by building



Building	# of employees	Share (%)
K1	309	30%
K2	245	24%
K3	474	46%
Total	1 028	100%



Overall, emissions decreased by 3% between 2016 and 2017

	2016	2017
tCO2e per FTE	11.6	11.3
FTE	923.70	923.75

Emission sources tCO2e	2016	2017	Variation 2016-2017
In-house energy	2 165.8	2 014.2	-7%
In-house non-energy	507.0	20.8	-96%
Purchased goods	1 467.9	1 797.3	+22%
Transport of people	3 985.0	4 138.6	+4%
Transport of goods	18.5	5.0	-73%
Waste	42.2	40.9	-3%
Capital goods	2 569.9	2 434.3	-5%
Total	10 756	10 451	-3%



Emission sources

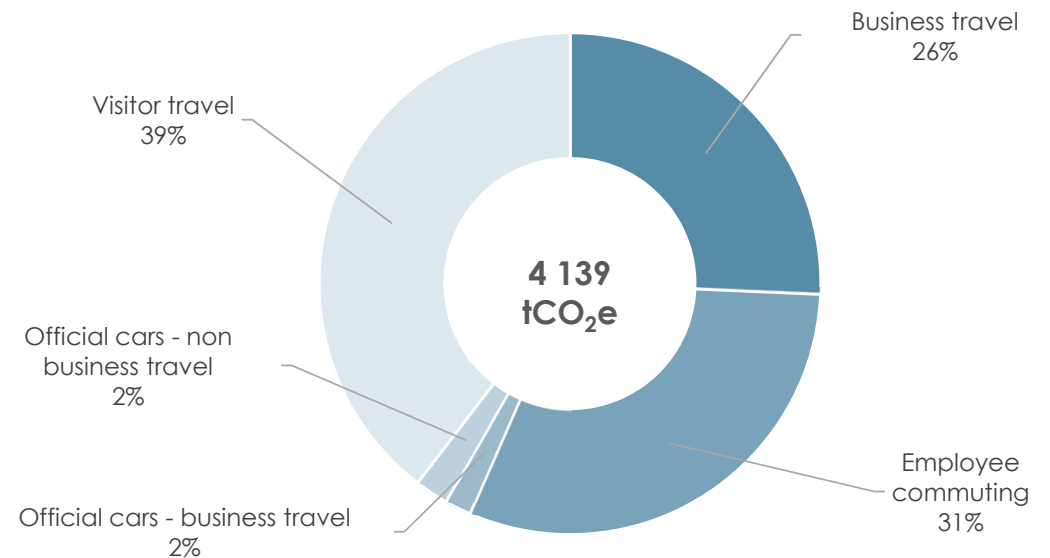
- Use of official cars (owned and leased)
- Employee commuting between home and work
- Business travel
- Visitor travel

Transport of people	tCO ₂ e	Kilometres
Business travel	1 134	4 787 935
Employee commuting	1 366	6 054 242
Visitor travel	1 639	7 297 834
Total	4 139	18 140 011

*Litres were used for official car calculation

Uncertainties
572 tCO₂e (14%)

2017 GHG emissions from the transport of people by type of travel (with official cars' breakdown)



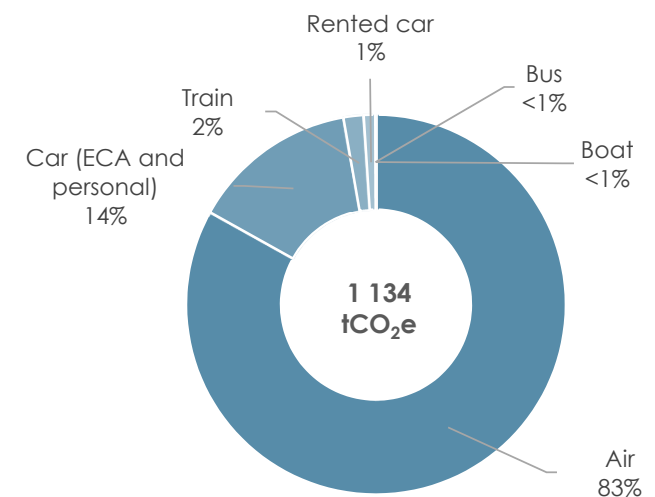
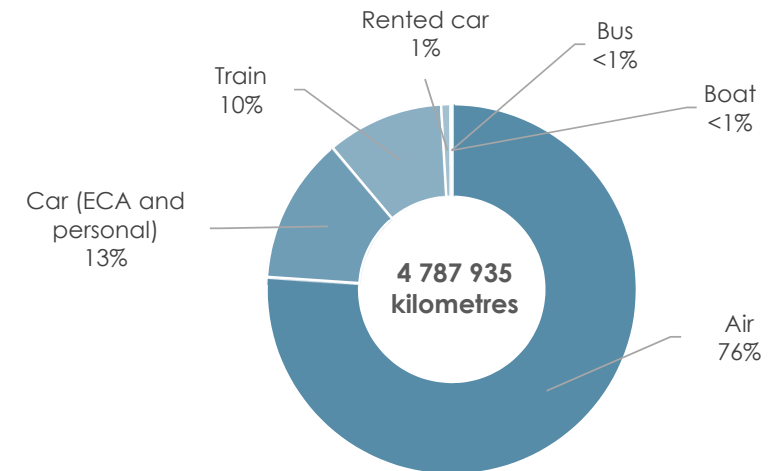
Business travel

- ✓ Data provided:
 - Total kilometres per mode of transport

Business travel	tCO ₂ e	kilometres
Air	942	3 642 622
Car (ECA fleet and personal)	161	613 108
Train	19	488 098
Rental car	11	41 254
Bus	0	2 423
Boat	0,4	430
Total	1 134	4 787 935

The most used mode of transport (in terms of kilometres travelled) is the airplane, followed by the car, train and then the bus.

The average distance travelled on a mission is **938 kilometres**



Employee commuting

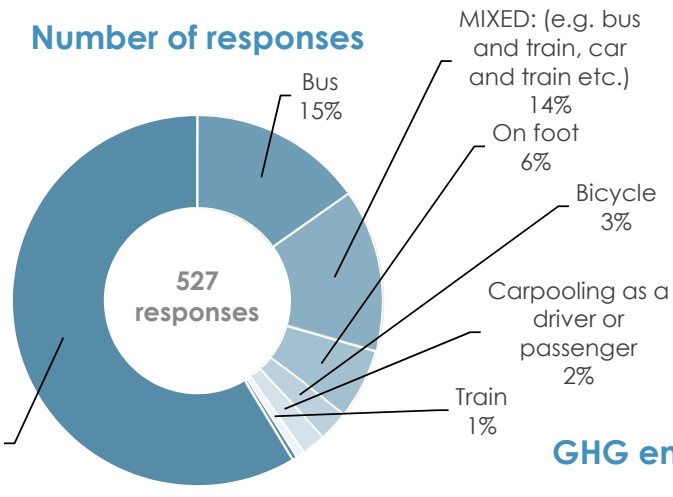
- ✓ Data provided:
 - The ECA only conducts an employee commuting survey once every 1.5 years.
 - For this reason, the 2016 results and assumptions were used (although 2017 data was used for ECA fleet).
 - Number of participants: 527

Extrapolated results

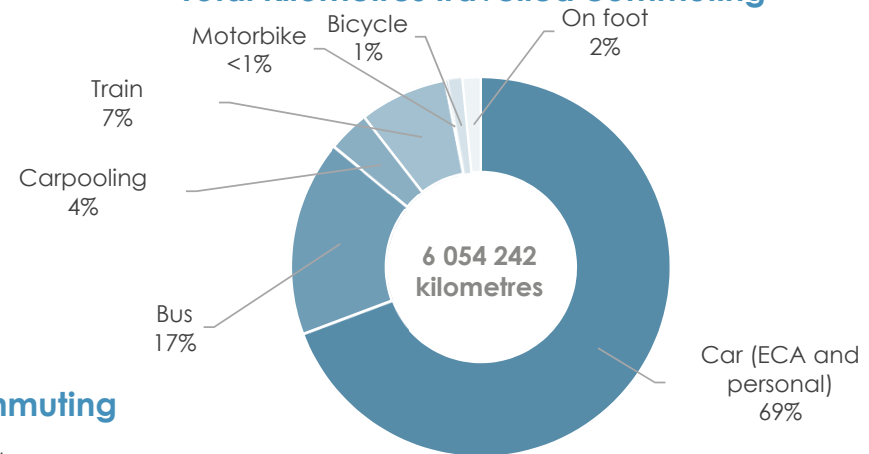
Employee commuting	tCO ₂ e	Kilometres
Car (ECA fleet* and personal)	1 105	4 193 564
Bus	183	1 009 049
Carpooling	57	215 036
Train	18	454 508
Motorbike	3	16 646
Bicycle	0	70 877
On foot	0	94 561
	1 366	6 054 242

*2017 information used for ECA fleet

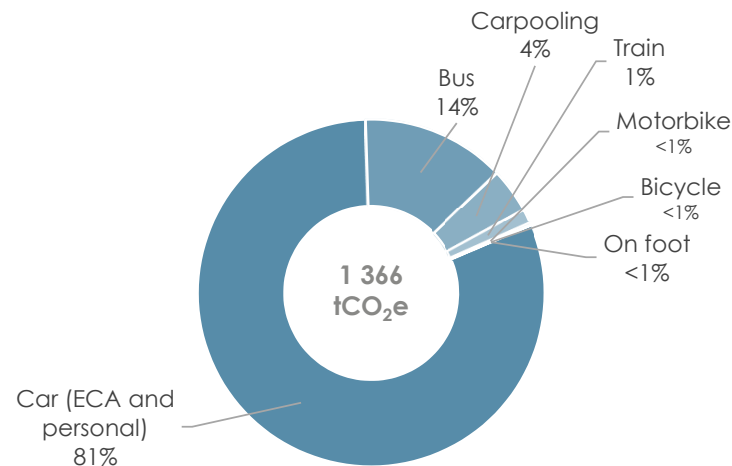
Number of responses



Total kilometres travelled commuting



GHG emissions from employee commuting



27 km travelled by employees per day



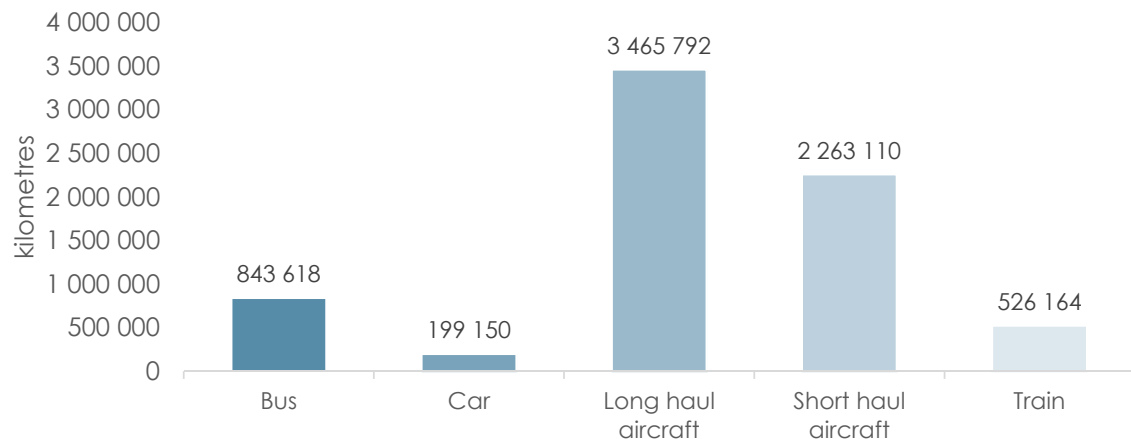
Visitor travel

- ✓ Data provided:
 - Number of visitors by country of origin in 2017
 - 120 visits
 - 3440 visitors
- ✓ Assumptions regarding mode of transport:
 - Short-haul aircraft
 - Europe: AT/BG/CZ/DK/EE/ES/FI/GR/HR/HU/IE/IT/LT/LV/MT/PL/PT/RO/SE/SI/SK/UK
Albania/Belarus/Bosnia/Kosovo/Macedonia/Montenegro/Serbia/Switzerland/Turkey/Ukraine
 - Long-haul aircraft
 - Brazil/Equatorial Guinea/Guatemala/India/Kazakhstan/Norway/South Africa/Tajikistan/USA
 - Car
 - BE/LU
 - Bus
 - CZ/DE/NL
 - Train
 - FR
- ✓ EcoAct used its internal distance calculator tools to estimate the distances between origin countries and Luxembourg, and multiplied this by two to get the round-trip distance.

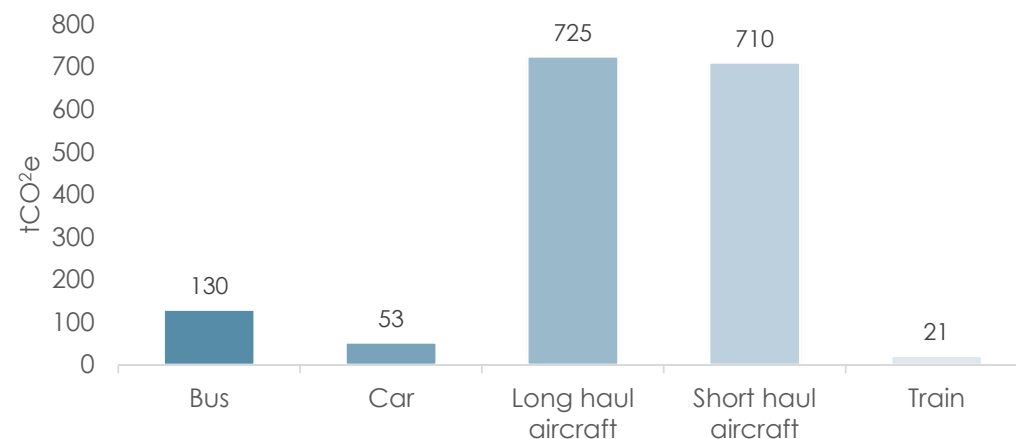
Visitor travel

1 639 tCO₂e

Total kilometres by mode of transport



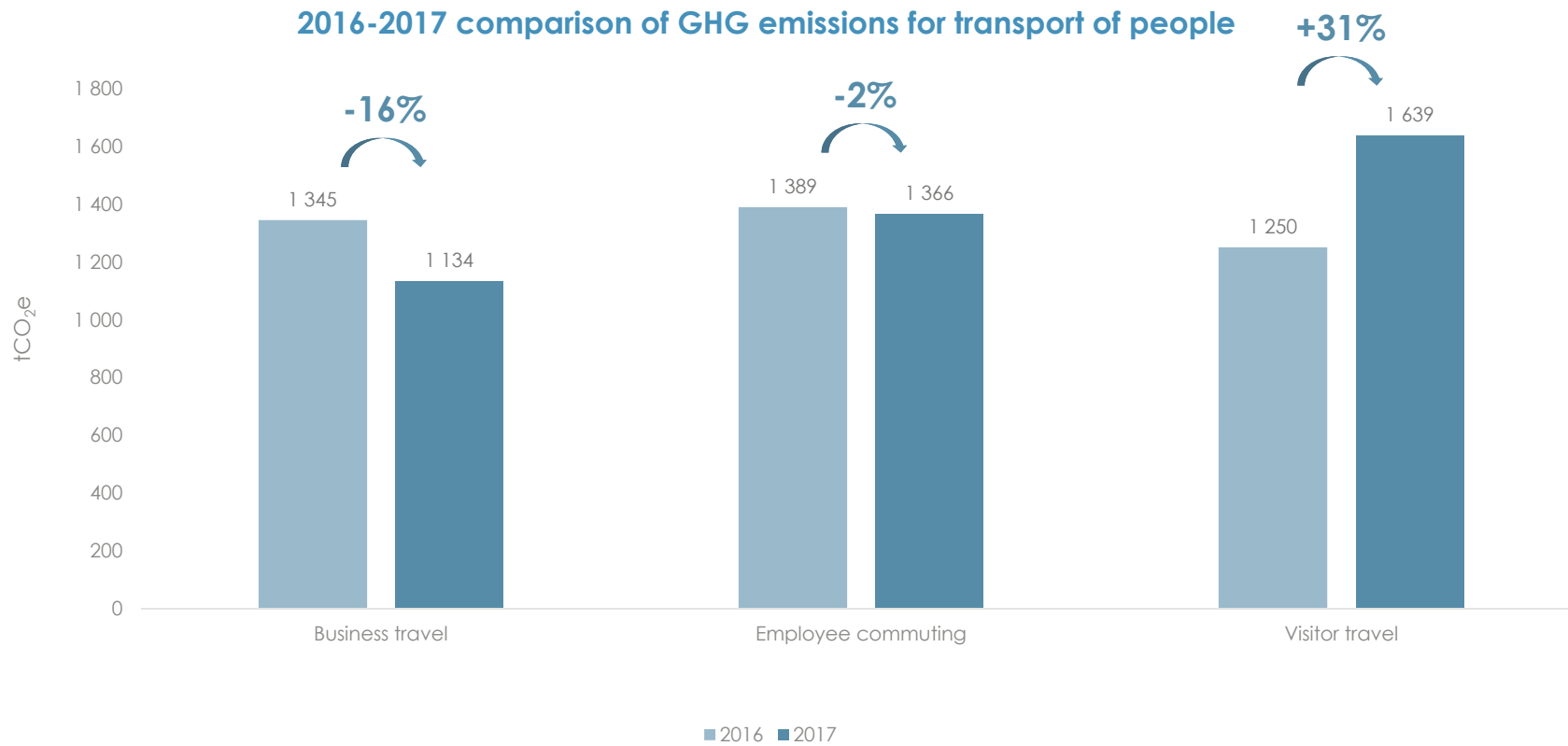
Total GHG emissions by mode of transport

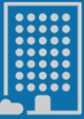


Visitor travel	tCO ₂ e	Kilometres
Bus	130	843 618
Car	53	199 150
Long-haul aircraft	725	3 465 792
Short-haul aircraft	710	2 263 110
Train	21	526 164
Total	1 639	7 297 834



GHG emissions tCO ₂ e	2016	2017	2016-2017 variation
Total transportation	3 985	4 139	+4%





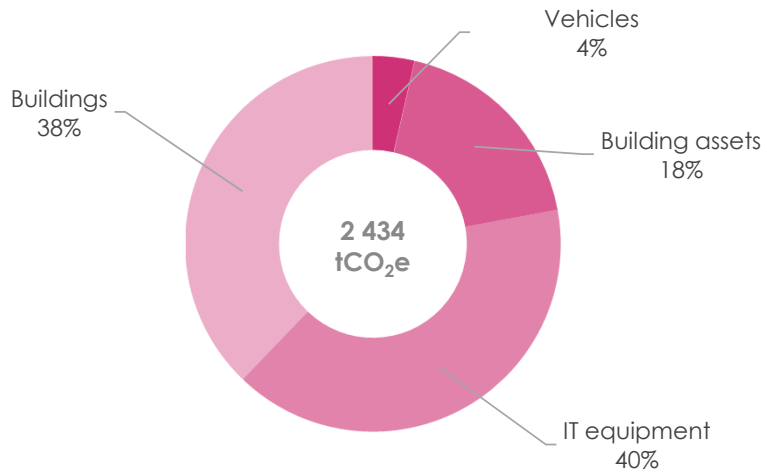
Emission sources

- ✓ Buildings, car parks, vehicles, IT equipment, office furniture and supplies, machines, tools, building assets and kitchen assets (K3 building)
- **Buildings and car parks**
 - ✓ Data provided: m2 of parking and office space
 - ✓ Depreciation: 40 years
- **Vehicles**
 - ✓ Data provided: model of leased and owned vehicles across all three buildings
 - ✓ Depreciation: 4 years
- **IT**
 - ✓ Data provided: IT inventory by type of good
 - ✓ Depreciation: 4 years
- **Building assets**
 - ✓ Data provided:
 - **Building assets**
 - **Generators, refrigerators, air conditioning units, etc.**, in units per building (K1, K2 and K3)
 - **Furniture, equipment, machines, tools** were quoted per building in terms of purchase price
 - ✓ Depreciation: 8 years



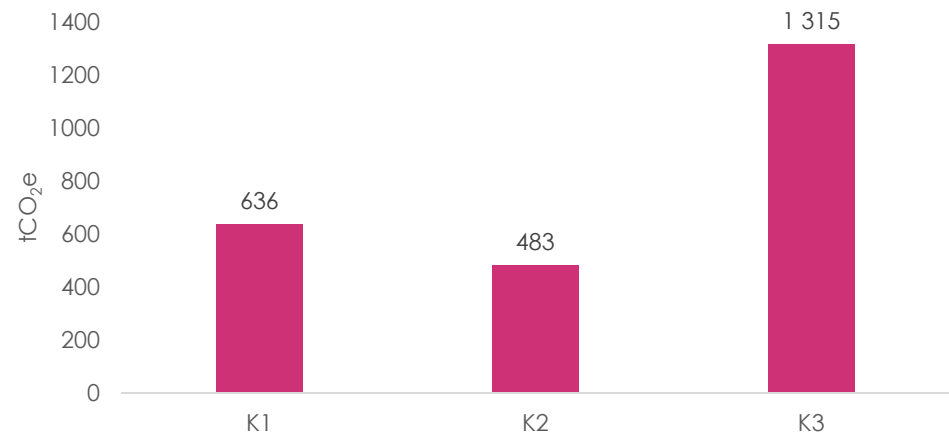
Uncertainties
384 tCO₂e (16%)

GHG emissions from capital goods

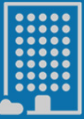


Type of capital good	tCO ₂ e
Vehicles	87
Building assets	450
IT equipment	976
Buildings	921

Capital goods GHG emissions per building



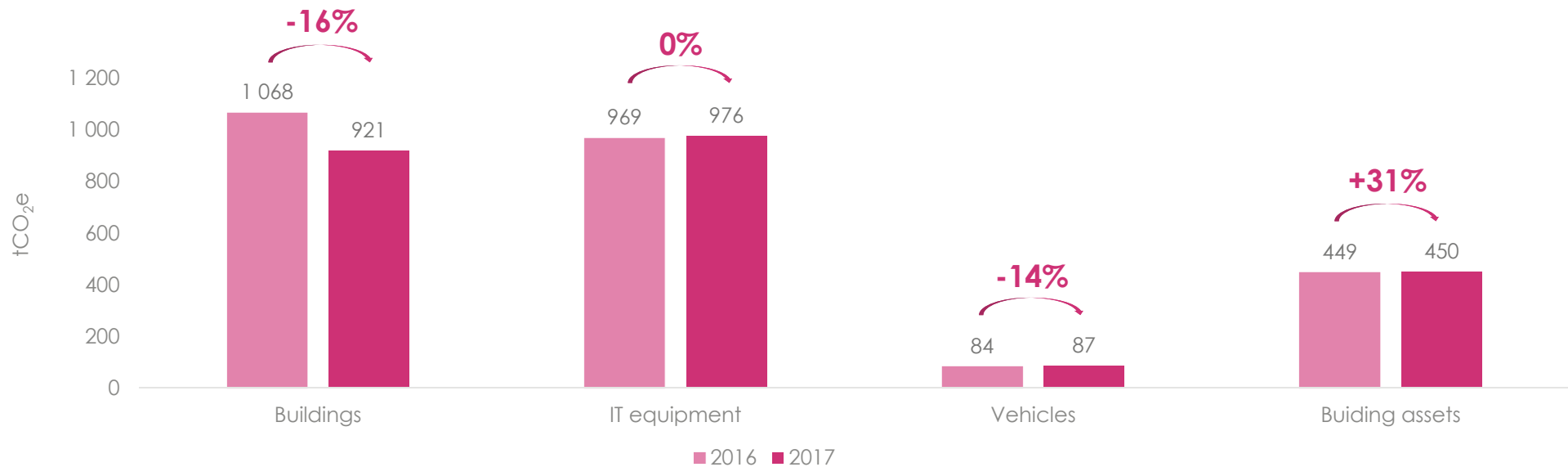
Most emissions come from IT equipment (40%). Buildings (car parks and office space) take second place, accounting for 38% of capital goods.



GHG emissions from capital goods decreased by 5% from 2016 to 2017. This was mainly the result of a reduction in building surfaces following a complete review of the buildings' surfaces conducted in 2017.

A complete review of the buildings' surfaces was done in 2017

GHG emissions tCO ₂ e	2016	2017	2016-2017 variation
Total capital goods	2 570	2 434	-5%



Emission sources

- Electricity consumption and losses, heating and fuel use

Electricity consumption and losses

- ✓ Data provided: 2017 consumption for each building
 - Electricity losses: 8.54%
 - The ECA purchases “guarantees of origin”. The Bilan Carbone ® method, however, considers the real electricity used from the national grid.

Fuel consumption (by electricity generator)

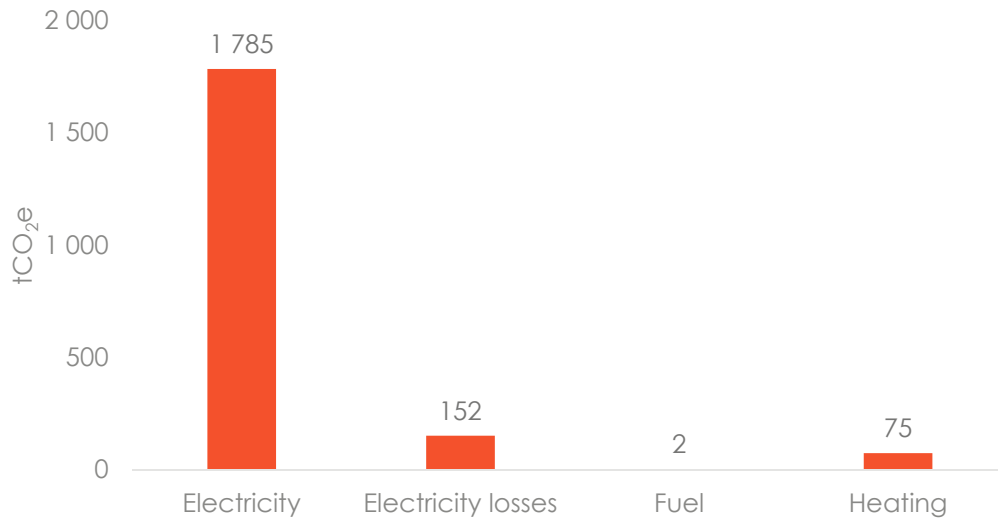
- ✓ Data provided: litres purchased

Heat consumption

- ✓ Data provided: 2017 consumption for each building
- ✓ Note: In 2017, the Luxembourg heating district changed its fuel sources, with 54% of biomass then in the heating fuel mix. To adjust for this change, the 2016 emission factor was multiplied by 46% to account for the 0 kgCO₂e associated with biomass. Biomass can be given a factor of 0 kgCO₂e as indicated in the JRC's 2017 technical [report](#) “Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy: Default emission factors for local emission inventories”. 0.0198 kgCO₂e/kWh was used in 2017 versus 0.043 in 2016. It should be noted that this emission factor is not in line with the Bilan Carbone ® method and was not recommended by EcoAct, yet it was adopted nonetheless to stay in line with the European Court of Justice for comparability purposes.



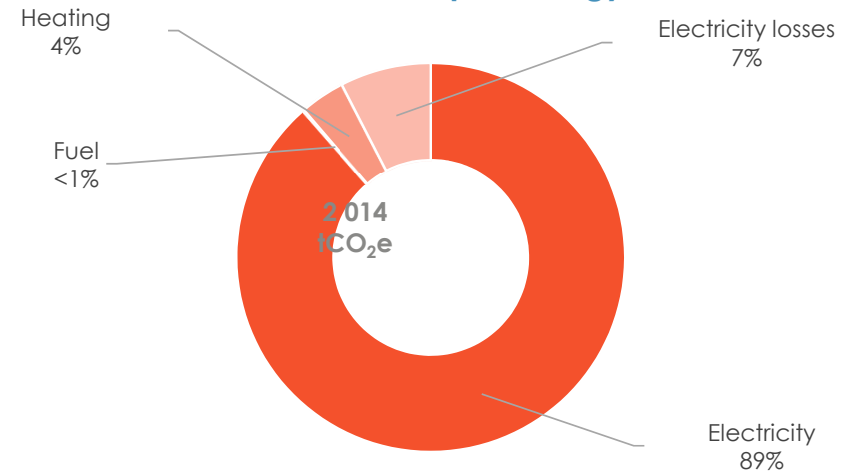
Total GHG emissions per energy source



- 4% of emissions come from heating (the emission factor used was 0.0198 kgCO₂e/kWh in 2017 versus 0.043 in 2016)
- 89% of emissions come from electricity use
- 7% from electricity losses
- <1% from fuel
- The ECA has decreased its energy consumption between 2017 and 2016

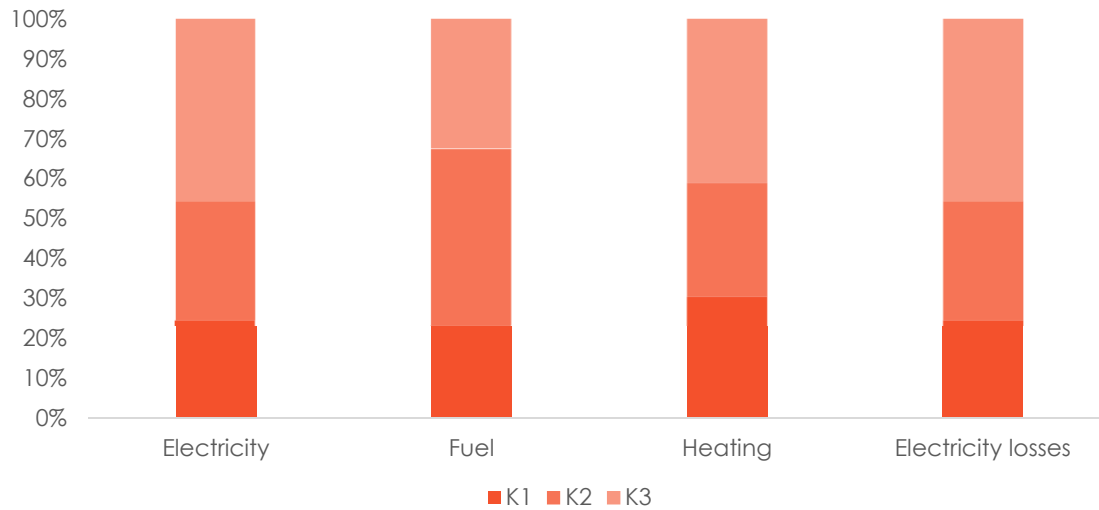
Uncertainties
 140 tCO₂e (7%)

Total GHG emissions per energy source

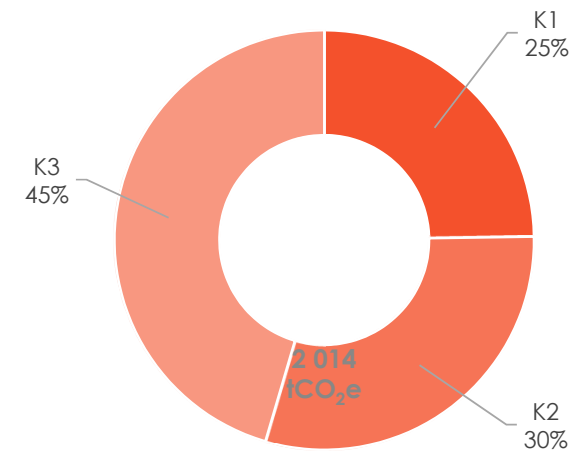




Relative GHG emissions per building by energy source



Energy-related GHG emissions per building

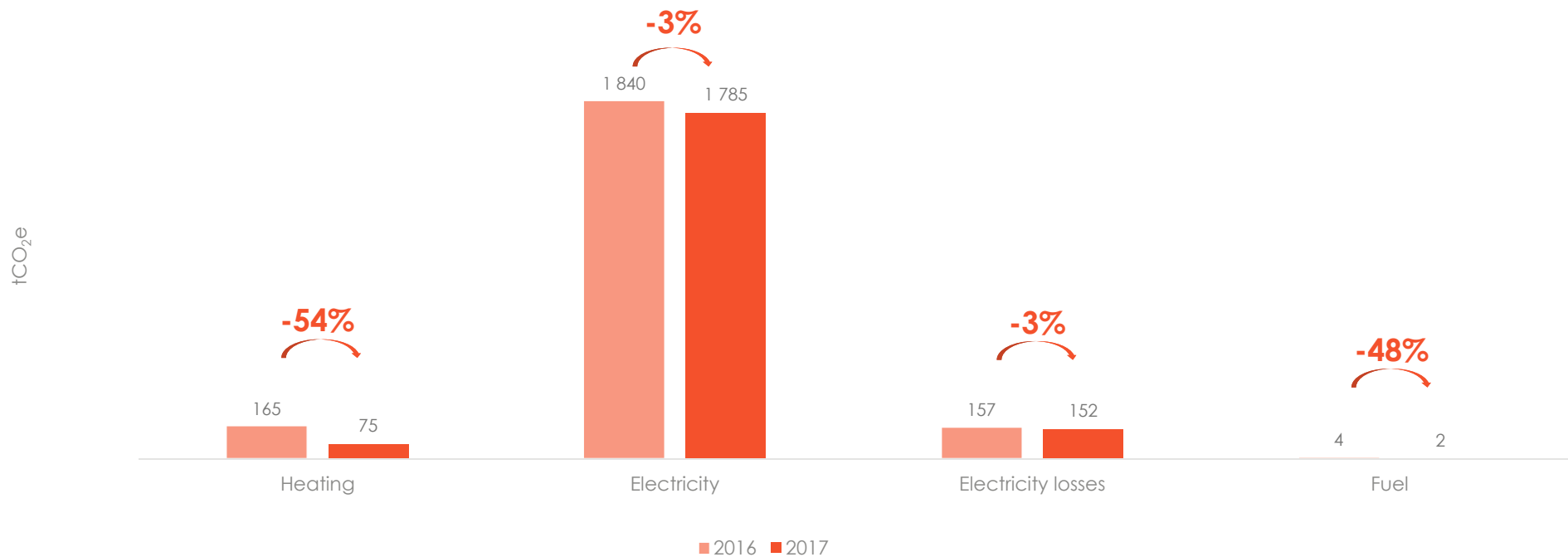


45% of emissions from energy consumption come from K3



The fall in GHG emissions reflects the ECA's decreased energy consumption between 2016 and 2017. The decline from heating comes mainly from an improvement in the related distribution emission factor.

GHG emissions tCO ₂ e	2016	2017	2016-2017 variation
Total energy	2 166	2 014	-7%





Emission sources

Uncertainties
5 tCO₂e (22%)

- ✓ Refrigerant gases

Refrigerant gases

- ✓ Data provided: cooling installations refilled with refrigerant gases (R134a and R407c) throughout 2017. Refills were considered leaks.
- ✓ Only K2 and K3 are concerned.

Year	Building	Leaks	tCO ₂ e
2017	K2	6 kg of R134a	8
2017	K3	8 kg of R407C	13

Note: GHG emissions from refrigerant leaks decreased by 73% in 2017 compared with 2016. In 2017, cooling installations were refilled with 6 kg of R134a refrigerant and 8 kg of R407c refrigerant, compared with 507 kg of R134a refrigerant in 2016.



One tonne of R134a and R407c is equivalent to 1300 and 1620 tonnes of carbon respectively. This has a large impact.



Emission sources:

- Paper, water, meals, gifts, goods, services purchased from third parties

Paper

- ✓ Data provided for the ECA Journal/reports in number of pages
 - Assumption, all documents are printed on double-sided A4 paper
- ✓ Data provided for internal printing in number of pages
 - Assumption: 80% double sided, 90% A4, 10% A3
 - Assumption: 97% recycled paper
- ✓ Method: transformed into weight

Water

- ✓ Data provided: total purchased water used in 2017

Meals

- ✓ Data provided: number of meals, purchased quantities of meat (fish, pork, beef, chicken), organic versus non-organic
 - Assumptions: 7% organic meals, 11% vegetarian meals and the remainder distributed according to proportion of the purchased quantities of meat (22% chicken, 16% beef, 17% pork, 27% fish)

Gifts

- ✓ Data provided: number and types of gifts purchased in 2017
- ✓ Method: gifts transformed into weight and type of materials

Purchased goods and services

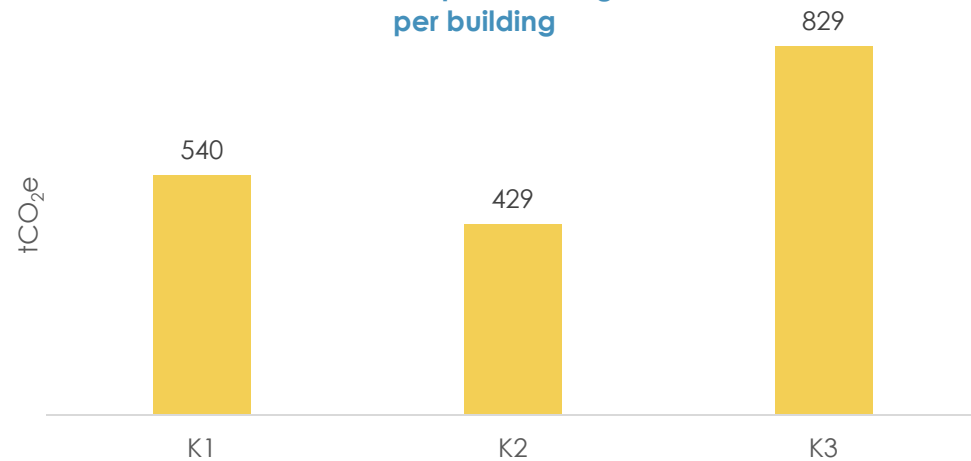
- ✓ Data provided: purchased goods and services by category and euros spent



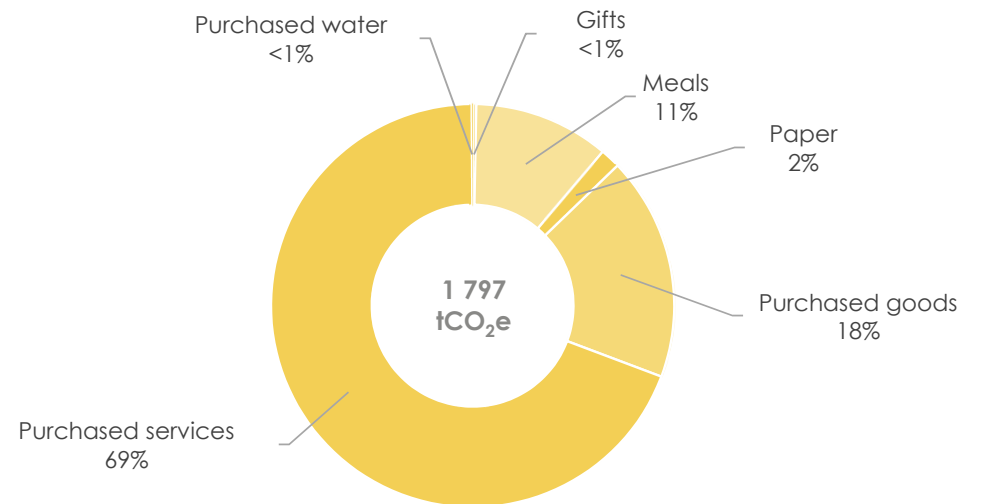
Type	tCO ₂ eq
Water	1.6
Gifts	5.3
Paper	28.8
Goods (books, clothing, consumables...)	322.6
Meals	195.5
Services purchased from third parties	1 243.6

Uncertainties: 491 tCO₂e (27%)

Total GHG emissions from purchased goods and services per building



Total GHG emissions from purchased goods and services

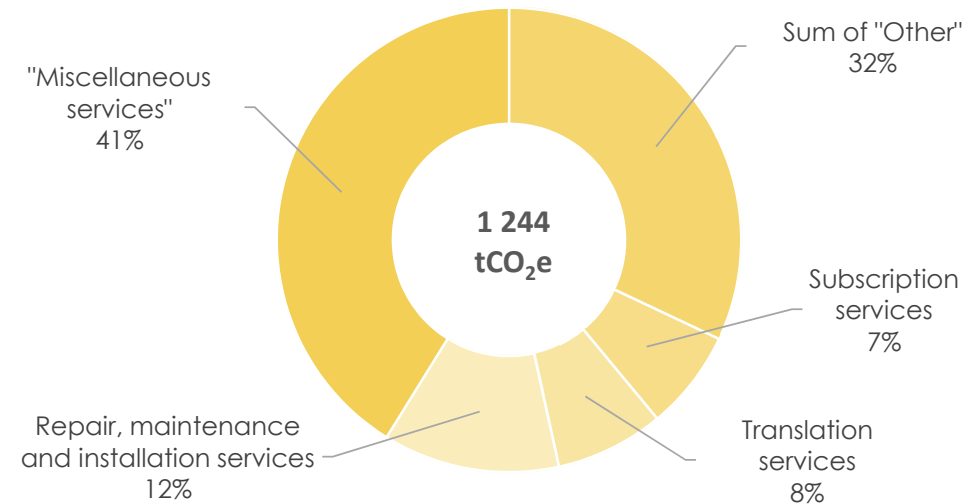




Over 60% of purchased services emissions come from:

- miscellaneous services (41%);
- repair and installation services (12%);
- translation services (8%);
- subscription services (7%).

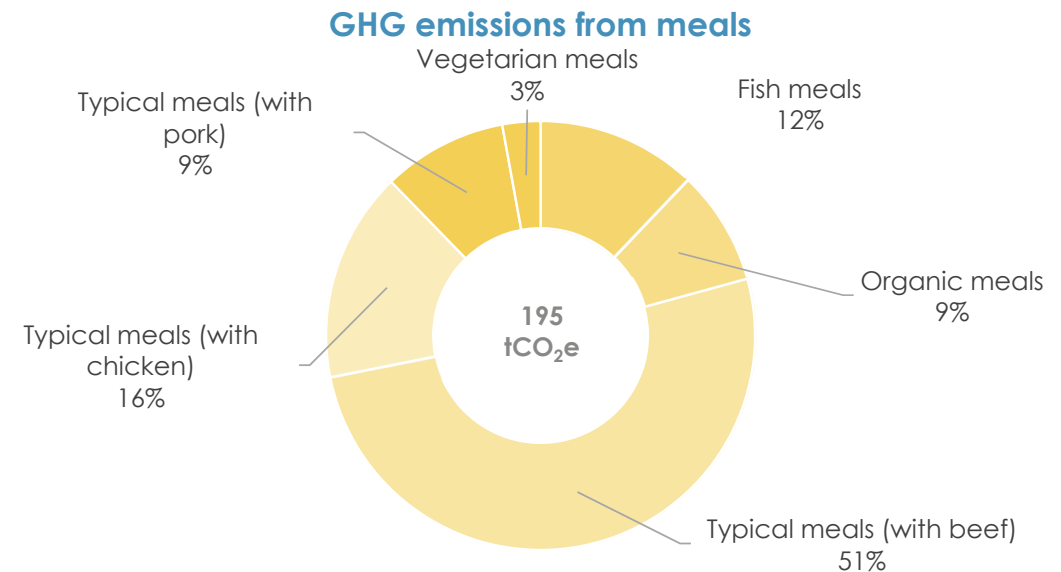
Other services include: legal and accounting, telecommunications, interpretation services, news agency, etc.



Miscellaneous services were attributed an average services emission factor from the Bilan Carbone ® database. These services ranged from renting material, training (language classes, etc), painting, document destruction, etc.



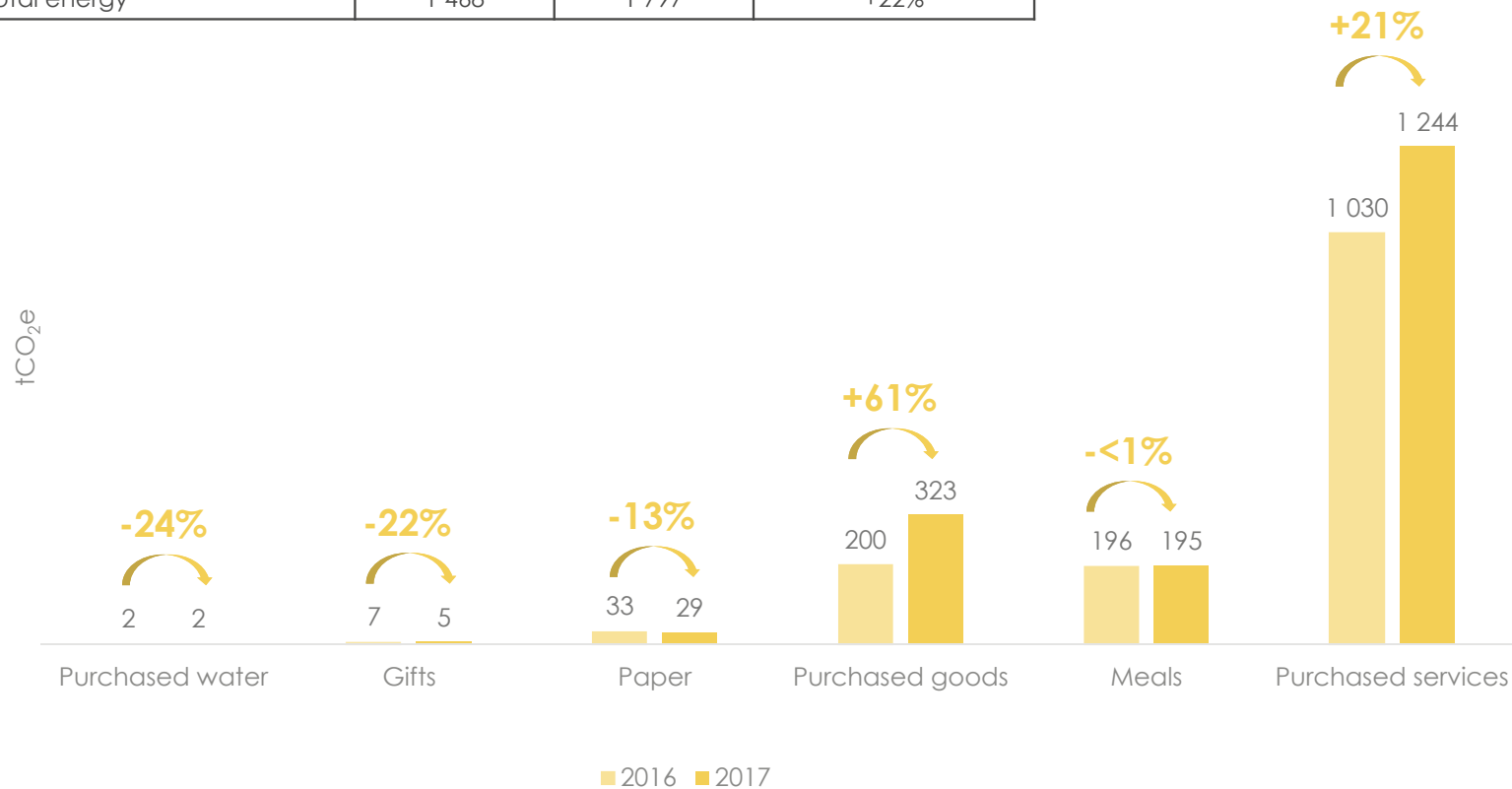
- 51% of the meals served at the ECA contain beef.
 - ✓ Replacing beef with chicken would reduce a dish's carbon impact by **76%**.
 - ✓ Replacing a pork dish with a vegetarian dish would **half** the meal's carbon impact.
- Organic meals were given the emission factor of an “average meal”, as the determinants of a dish's emissions are its ingredients (meat, vegetarian) and whether the ingredients were produced locally or not. There is no conclusive evidence that the average organic meal is less emissive, since each dish can only be considered on a plate-by-plate basis.



Type of meal	kgCO2e/unit
Vegetarian	0.45
Fish	0.80
Pork-based	1.01
Chicken-based	1.32
Organic	2.25
Beef-based	5.66



GHG emissions tCO ₂ e	2016	2017	2016-2017 variation
Total energy	1 468	1 797	+22%



GHG emissions from **purchased goods and services** increased by 22% between 2016 and 2017.

GHG emissions from **meals** decreased slightly, while the number of meals served increased by 9%. The number of meals served with beef and chicken decreased, whereas fish and pork-based meals rose. Vegetarian meals increased by 55%. The changing eating habits of ECA staff neutralised the effect of the increased number of meals.

GHG emissions from **purchased services** increased, due to a 20% increase in money spent on services, notably on miscellaneous and subscription services. GHG emissions from **purchased goods** increased, due to an increase in money spent on office equipment and supplies.

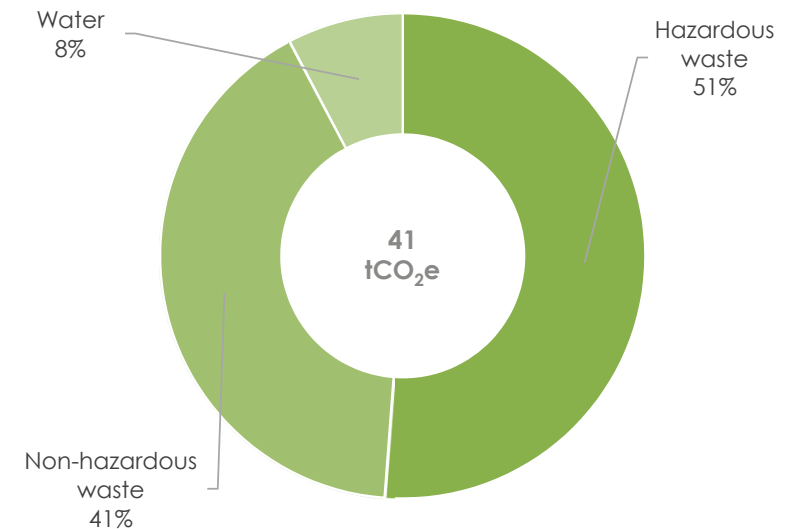


Emission sources

- ✓ Waste and water use (sewage)
- Waste
 - ✓ Data: waste by type (non-hazardous, hazardous) and tonnage
 - ✓ Non-hazardous: food waste, household waste, plastics, paper and cardboard, glass packaging
 - ✓ Hazardous: mud and sewage water, light and fluorescent tubes, packaging paste with harmful products, scrap metal, batteries and accumulators, electronic waste
 - ✓ Assumptions: waste treatment largely based on 2016 treatment with slight modifications
- Water use (sewage)
 - ✓ Data: based on water consumption, allocated to buildings on the basis of building occupancy

Uncertainties
12 tCO₂e (29%)

GHG emissions from waste by type

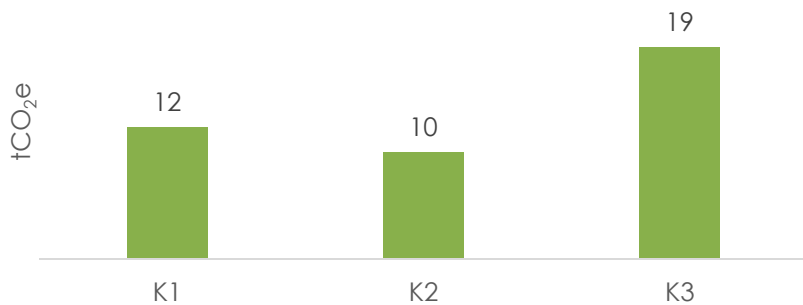


**200 kg of waste per FTE in 2017
versus 209 kg in 2016**

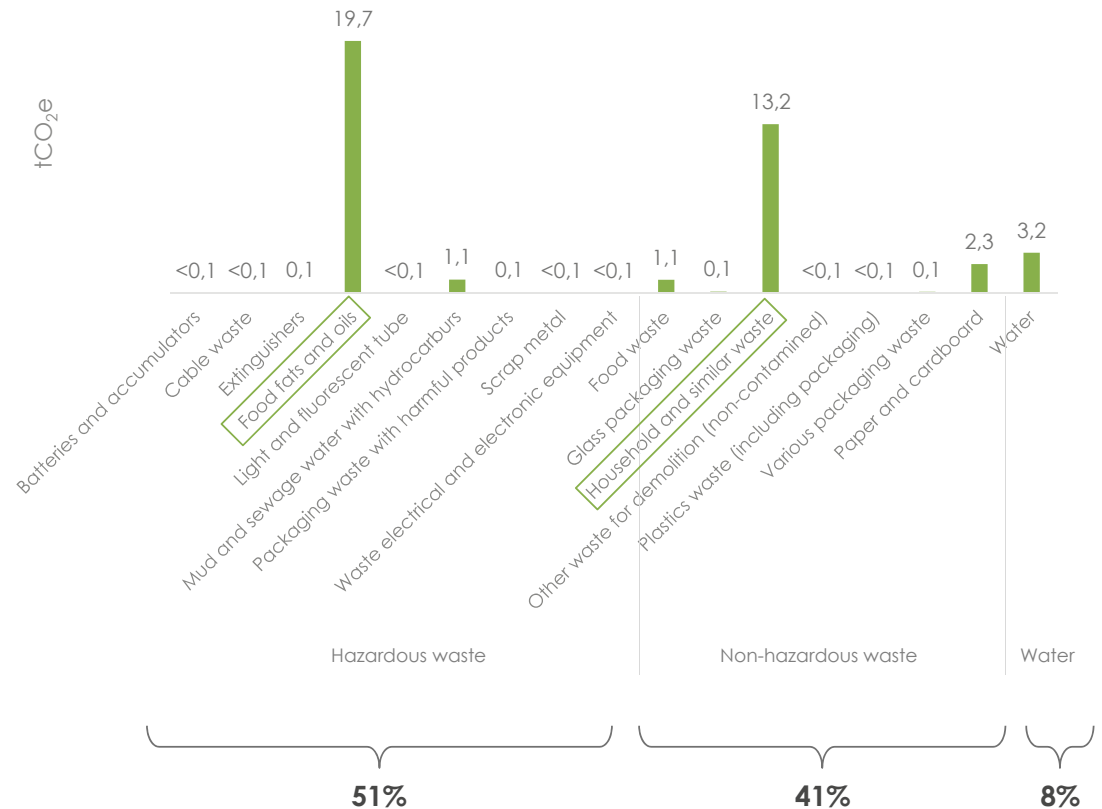


	tonnes	tCO ₂ e
Hazardous waste		
Batteries and accumulators	0.08	0.010
Cable waste	0.08	0.010
Extinguishers	0.50	0.063
Food fats and oils	54.38	19.686
Light and fluorescent tube	0.19	0.024
Mud and sewage water with hydrocarbons	8.32	1.065
Packaging waste with harmful products	0.13	0.091
Scrap metal	0.28	0.009
Waste electrical and electronic equipment	0.02	0.003
Non-hazardous waste		
Food waste	22.57	1.052
Glass packaging waste	4	0.132
Household and similar waste	36.24	13.191
Other waste for demolition	0.06	0.002
Paper and cardboard	53.07	2.286
Plastics waste (including packaging)	0.95	0.031
Various packaging waste	3.74	0.123
Water		
Water	12 071	3.2

GHG emissions from waste per building



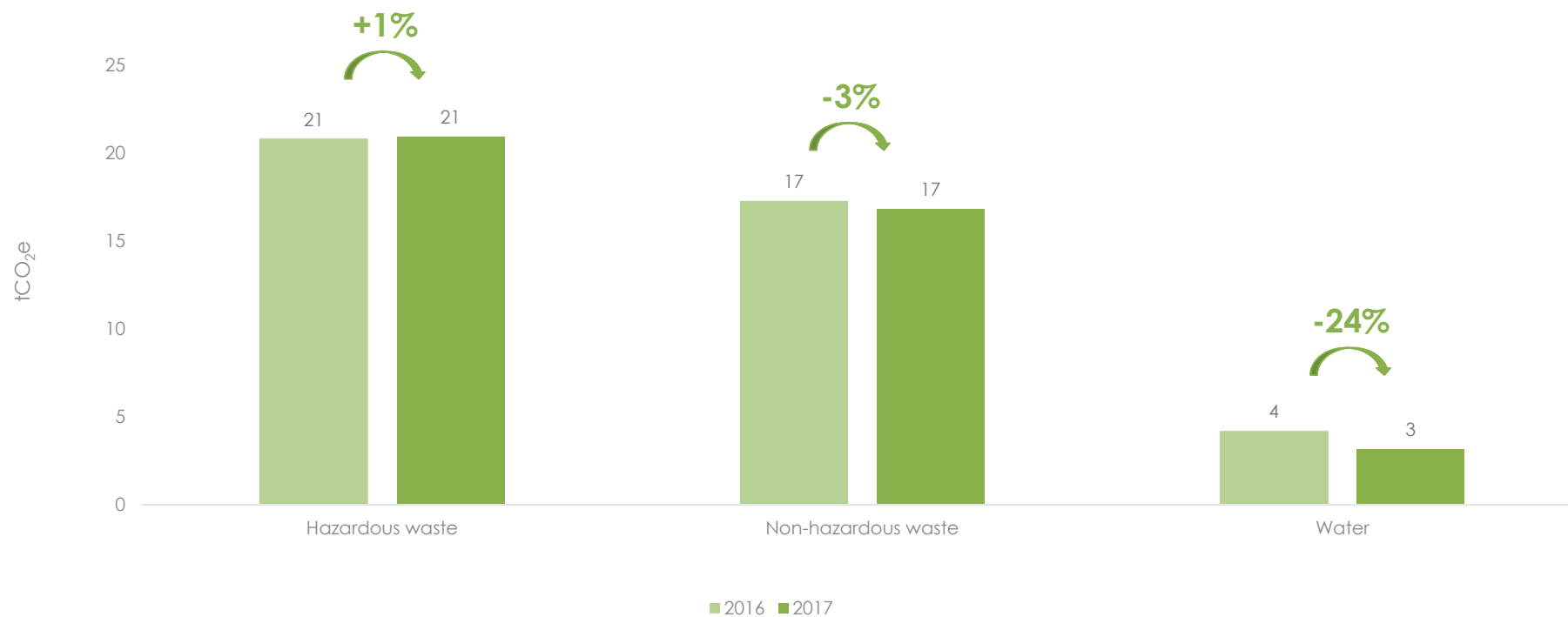
Total emissions of waste by category



Food fats, oils and household waste make up **80% of GHG emissions derived from waste**



GHG emissions tCO ₂ e	2016	2017	2016-2017 variation
Total	42	41	-3%



GHG emissions from waste decreased by 3%. GHG emissions from hazardous waste increased by 1%. GHG emissions from non-hazardous waste decreased by 3%. GHG emissions from wastewater decreased by 24%.



Emission sources

- ✓ Transport from suppliers

Data provided

- ✓ Distance (km), number of delivery days per supplier, average delivery weight and type of vehicle
- ✓ 21 suppliers in total

Uncertainties
1 tCO₂e (20%)

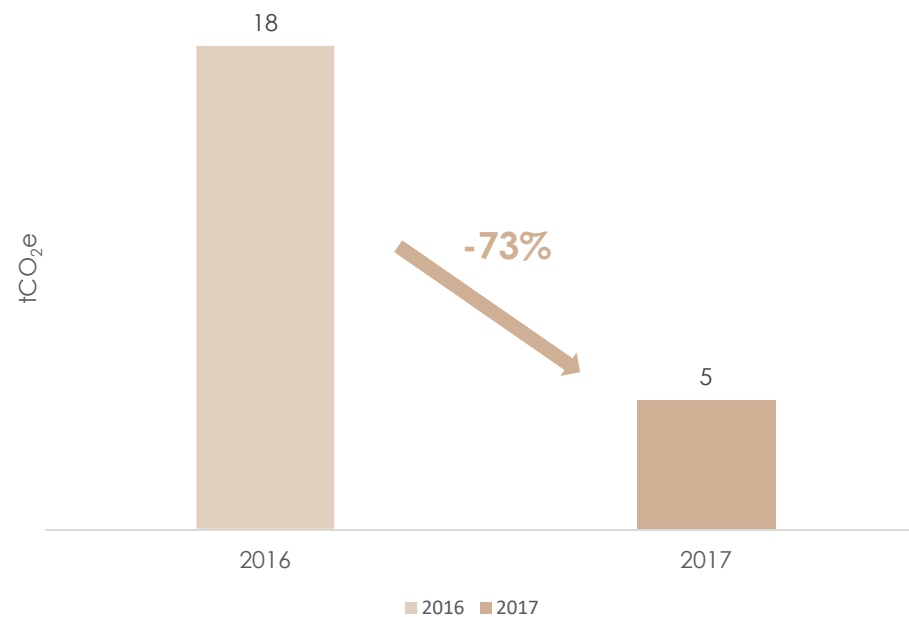
i Average distance driven by each supplier per year: **2 513 km**

This is equivalent to driving from Luxembourg to Rome and back.

Emission source	Total kilometres	tCO ₂ eq
Transport of goods	52 767	5



GHG emissions tCO ₂ e	2016	2017	2016-2017 variation
Total	18	5	-73%



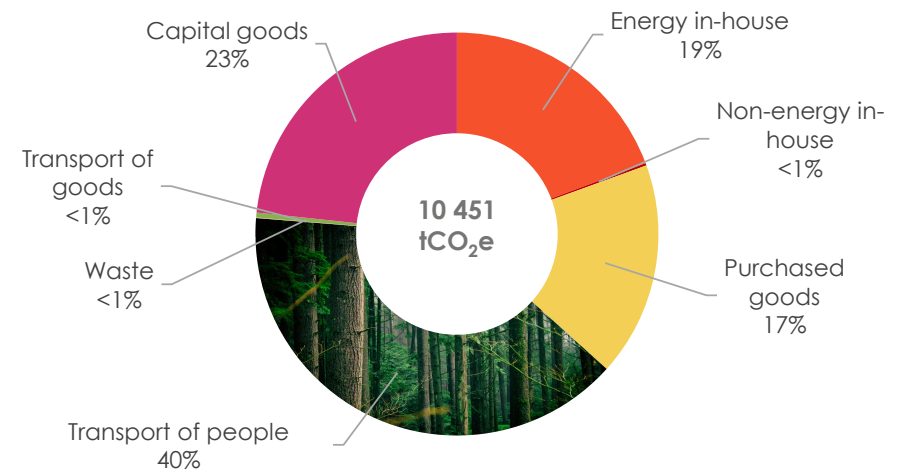
In 2017, data on transporting goods was better documented. As a result, GHG emissions from the transportation of goods decreased by 73% due to improved reporting.

- Today there is an urgent need to act! If we are to stay well below the 2° threshold, **emissions must peak by 2020, and the world economy needs to be carbon neutral by 2050**, as stated in the landmark Paris Agreement in 2015.
- Carbon neutrality is a term used to refer to organisations' efforts to **offset the residual emissions that they are unable to reduce** or are in the process of reducing. Carbon offsets is a mechanism whereby an organisation purchases carbon “credits” from projects proven to mitigate or sequester carbon.



- A first step for the ECA could be to offset the **largest sources of emissions** – transportation of people (visitor travel, employee commuting and business trips), covering 40% of its emissions. These emissions may be especially difficult to reduce in the short term, given the difficulties airlines face in cutting the carbon impact of travel.
- Each year, the ECA could consider increasing its offsets to supplement its reduction efforts.

2017 Bilan Carbone® results



Got a
question?

Contact us !



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