





Impact Report Number One

We're Happy to be Here

This document outlines our sustainability efforts and impact data from last fiscal year (2022). This report is our very first. There will be some gaps, to be sure, but it's important nonetheless. Olive+Comet is a small company, and small companies start off, well... small.

This compilation of data will give you, and us, an opportunity to see what we're doing right—as well as outline what we need to work on in order to lessen our carbon footprint, strengthen our impact and move closer to our goals.

What We Do

In simple terms, Olive+Comet is a brand of plastic-free, sustainable lifestyle gear. Our company was structured to provide authentic goods of unmatched quality, while helping to heal our planet.



OUR BUSINESS

Eco-edicts



Photo courtesy of Aidi Tandy

We want the world to be a better place because our business exists, not worse off because of it. This early goal led us to develop several fundamental principles—a series of mandates, in essence—that we apply to every aspect of our business:

1. We keep plastic & silicone out of our products, and therefore, out of the environment.
2. We source materials that are smarter and better—for people, and planet.
3. We seek out and support fair trade practices and shun unfair labor.
4. We aim to continually improve the environmental impact of our products, and to operate climate-positive on the whole.
5. We give back to the planet and society—in ways that are impactful and verifiable.

To satisfy these company mandates and help achieve our goals, Olive+Comet carefully selected vendors, suppliers, packaging companies, printers, banking & other support teams based on their positive track records in social justice and/or environmental stewardship—and joined forces early with respected environmental organizations and companies that share our vision, and work for the benefit of our planet.

Sustainable Products



The world is changing. It has been for some time. As a new company, we wanted to make the world a better place, and felt we might have a small advantage. Unlike large corporations that came before us, Olive+Comet would have the opportunity to operate sustainably—from the very start—without the need to untangle years of “business as usual” to get there.

We started with plastic. Or rather, we started “without” plastic. We looked at how modern products are made, and how it “feels” to own them. We evaluated simple, everyday products from the standpoint of sustainability... from supply chains to production to end-of-life—and wanted to do better.

We researched. And pondered. And made calls. We chose suppliers carefully—and what resulted, was our initial collection of sustainable products.

The Hadley Bottle

- Plastic & silicone-free
- Glass (60-80% recycled), steel & porcelain construction with 100% natural Fair Rubber certified seal
- Carbon-neutral production
- Ink, dye & chemical-free
- 100% recyclable
- Ethically sourced & sustainably manufactured

The Sonoma Bag

- Plastic & silicone-free
- Fair trade guaranteed (WFTO)
- 100% organic cotton (GOTS certified) with brass zipper
- Ethically sourced materials
- Production supports real economic opportunity for at-risk communities
- Ethically sourced & sustainably manufactured

The Kambi Mug

- Plastic & silicone-free
- Enamel & steel construction
- Handmade by artisans
- Durable & long-lasting (can provide decades of use)
- Non-porous & anti-bacterial
- 100% recyclable
- Ethically sourced & sustainably manufactured

Product & Supplier Goals



We pledge to continue forging alliances with the “right” companies—so that we may source materials, packaging and products that are unmatched—and meet the highest social and environmental standards.

Challenges

Our suppliers have done a remarkable job supplying eco-friendly packaging and shipping solutions. However, some packaging from two manufacturers contain plastic bags or wrap. Our company’s small size can make negotiations for alternatives difficult.

Goals

- To continue pressing suppliers to find suitable alternatives to plastic bags & wraps during the initial shipping process.
- To develop a supplier code of conduct (information regarding eco-friendly practices, social & equality efforts, labor, supply chains, transparency, etc.) that Olive+Comet can use for future vetting scenarios & keep on file for reference.

An aerial photograph of a river winding through a dense, green forest. The river is a vibrant blue color, contrasting with the dark green of the trees. The river flows from the top left towards the bottom right, with several bends and small islands of land. The forest is thick and appears to be a mix of deciduous and coniferous trees. The lighting suggests it might be late afternoon or early morning, as the shadows are soft and the colors are rich.

OUR FOOTPRINT



Adding Up Carbon

When properly calculated, the total carbon footprint for Olive+Comet would equal the greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) released from three primary areas:

- 1) The **production** of our products,
- 2) The **shipping** of company supplies and product deliveries; both to us & to our customers, and
- 3) The daily business **operations** of Olive+Comet employees & management (the workforce)

This first year of reporting, we have been unable to determine GHG/carbon data as it relates to the production of our specific products.

When we ship supplies “in” from outside sources, many of those shipments are offset through optional upcharges from the originators, who retire carbon credits to cover the offset. When shipping “out”, we currently utilize two sales channels: **Shopify** and **Etsy**. All outgoing shipments to customers are made carbon-neutral (offset 100%) in one of the following ways:

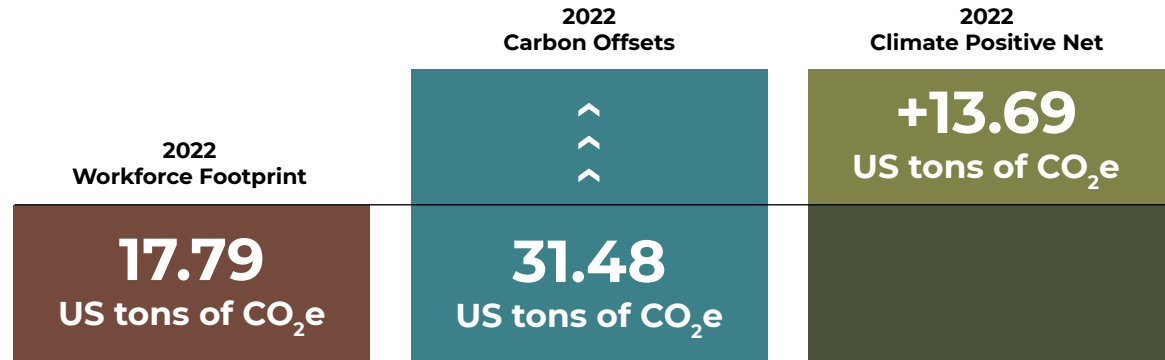
- a) All purchases made via Shopify (other than those made with Shop Pay) are offset through our subscription of Shopify’s “Planet” app (Millennium Plan). As products are sold, the total carbon emissions are calculated, and Shopify purchases carbon removal credits and retires them on behalf of Olive+Comet.
- b) As part of Shopify’s Shop Pay carbon removal initiative, when a customer completes a Shopify purchase using Shop Pay as their method of checkout, Shopify retires credits on behalf of that customer, rendering the shipment carbon-neutral.
- c) Etsy offsets 100% of goods shipped through their storefronts as part of their own sustainability initiatives, ensuring that all Olive+Comet Etsy orders ship carbon-neutral.

Climate Positive Workforce

At present, Olive+Comet is run by a single individual. As such, the carbon footprint for the workforce is that as generated by the owner alone.

For this, our first year of reporting, Olive+Comet used total greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) information provided by *The World Bank* (worldbank.org), which indicates a carbon output of 14.67 metric tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (CO₂e) per capita for the United States annually. Because World Bank reporting is several years behind (2019 data is most recent), we've added 10% to the figure as a margin of error and used the full amount of emissions, without splitting hairs for the time the owner was "acting in the capacity of the business", for a total of 16.14 metric tonnes. When converted to US measure, that's **17.79 US tons of CO₂e**.

Olive+Comet has partnered with *Ecologi*, a UK-based company, to fund carbon avoidance projects certified at the highest levels. In 2022, Ecologi offset a total of **31.48 US tons of CO₂e** on our behalf, indicating that Olive+Comet maintained a climate positive workforce for the year with a positive net footprint of **+13.69 US tons of CO₂e**.



Footprint Goals



Photo courtesy of GD Fischer Photography

Although the workforce footprint is climate-positive based on information we could estimate, the total picture of our corporate footprint is lacking. More data points are needed to present a comprehensive overview of our emissions across all phases of our business.

Challenges

As a small startup, our finances are limited. Subscriptions and plans for in-depth, cutting-edge footprint calculators and services are pricey and not generally tailored to small companies.

Although we expect “significantly better than average” metrics for carbon emissions regarding the production of our goods, we do not have the figures to “back it up” & speculation is difficult.

Goals

- To find & employ appropriate methods for accurately calculating the company’s total carbon emissions, including details for customer shipping.
- To open dialogue with our suppliers with the goal of determining carbon emissions during the production of Olive+Comet goods.



OUR IMPACT

Mechanisms of Action



Social & environmental impact is part of our DNA, and an essential part of the Olive+Comet mission. Our full impact is directly related to the relationship we have with three key groups:

Like-minded Suppliers

We've worked hard to choose reputable and transparent suppliers to craft our sustainable products. By eliminating plastics, focusing on natural, eco-friendly materials and ensuring fair labor practices, we begin our impact journey on firm footing and in good company.

Environmental Partners

We're serious about our commitment to the environment and to the communities we depend on for the production of our products. Through our affiliation with environmental organizations, we donate funds & give back in ways that champion the causes we're passionate about.



Eco-friendly Business Support

Olive+Comet compounds its impact whenever possible by choosing to work with vendors that work for our planet. Below are just a couple of the companies we rely on to help us realize our goals:

Banking Services

Olive+Comet has chosen to work with *Climate First Bank*—a sustainable, carbon-neutral community bank heavily focused on CO₂ drawdown. Climate First is a 1% for the Planet business member and is pending B Corporation status.

Printing

Our product hang tags and customer appreciation inserts are produced by *GreenerPrinter*, a certified B Corporation. Fully in line with our goals & ideals, these materials are produced with vegetable-based inks. Paper is 100% recycled post consumer waste, processed chlorine-free, Ancient Forest Friendly & Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) certified.

Product Packaging

We proudly pack & ship our products with materials from *EcoEnclose*. Our boxes, mailers and packing are all 100% recycled, plastic-free and curbside recyclable with 70% or better post consumer waste content.



Membership, Donations & Direct Involvement

1% for the Planet Membership

1% for the Planet, an internationally recognized 501(c)(3) nonprofit, has become the gold standard for a global movement—driving critical philanthropic support to address the most urgent environmental issues of our time. Olive+Comet is proud to have been a 1% for the Planet business member from day one—pledging to donate 1% of total sales annually to support nonprofit organizations focused on the environment & social issues.

In addition to our financial commitments in 2022, Olive+Comet donated products to the annual 1% for the Planet Network Auction, held every November.

Mangrove Planting & Shoreline Cleanup; Bahia Honda State Park, Florida

Olive+Comet joined additional volunteers in April of 2022 to plant mangrove trees at Bahia Honda State Park in the Florida Keys. The coastline restoration project along the park's northeastern shore was sponsored by *One Tree Planted*, Florida nonprofit, *Coast Love*, and the *Fabien Cousteau Ocean Learning Center*. *Mang* provided the mangroves, and trailed them down from their nursery in West Palm Beach.

Plastic Removal & Shore Sweep; Delray Beach, Florida

Olive+Comet joined *Plastic Symptoms*, a Florida 501(c)3 nonprofit and a local sustainability-focused business, *Zuke's Refillery*, for a trash & plastic cleanup of Delray Beach in early September of 2022.

Trees for the Future

We are committed to reforestation through our partners *One Tree Planted* and *Ecologi*. Healthy trees & forests help to restore ecosystems, boost biodiversity, protect our shores from erosion and sequester CO₂. Reforestation projects provide benefits for local populations as well, providing employment while promoting gender equality, new income streams, diverse food sources and improved community facilities.

We're proud to have backed planting efforts that range from rewilding the Appalachians in the Eastern US, to replanting vast areas of destroyed Mangroves at Kandranay, in Madagascar.

Trees are an imperative resource for future carbon sequestration. Newly planted trees, however, store very little carbon—and, it can take many decades for a tree to reach its full potential, depending on the species. This results in carbon capture figures that change over time and are difficult to verify. Therefore, Olive+Comet doesn't factor the carbon absorbed by new plantings into its impact figures for carbon avoidance.

In addition to ongoing donations and other plantings, Olive+Comet utilizes a One Tree Planted app (through the Shopify back-end) that funds the planting of a tree for every product sold.

2022

93

Trees Planted Via
One Tree Planted

2022

156

Trees Planted Via
Ecologi

TOTAL TREES
FUNDED / PLANTED:

249 

Photo courtesy of One Tree Planted

Carbon Offsets

31.48^{US TONS}

Olive+Comet contributed to the following carbon reduction projects in 2022, supporting 16 of the 17 United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDGs), totaling **31.48 US tons of CO₂e offset** & ensuring our climate-positive operation.

Climate Project

Climate Project	Location	Certification(s)	UN SDGs ³	CO ₂ e (US tons)	+Info
Cerro de Hula Wind Project First ever wind power project in Honduras	Honduras	Verified Carbon Standard	6, 7, 8, 9, 13, 15	3.9216	Link
Uberlândia Landfills Projects I & II Electricity generation from landfill gas	Brazil	Gold Standard	3, 7, 13	2.1786	Link
Methane capture; Gujarat, India Emissions reduction & energy generation	India	Verified Carbon Standard	7, 8, 13	1.0288	Link
Protection of the Tambopata-Bahuaja Biodiversity Reserve Conservation	Peru	Verified Carbon Standard & CCBS ¹	1, 2, 3, 4, 8, 12, 13, 15	0.6052	Link
Wind Power Project; Nakhonratchasima Province Clean electricity production	Thailand	Verified Carbon Standard	7, 8, 9, 13	1.4121	Link
Rainforest Protection; Mato Grosso Region Conservation within the deforestation arch	Brazil	Verified Carbon Standard	4, 5, 8, 13	0.9884	Link
Distribution of High-efficiency Cookstoves Prevention of greenhouse gas emissions	Tanzania	Verified Carbon Standard & SD VSta ²	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 13	1.2507	Link
Hydropower Project; State of Himachal Pradesh Generation of clean electricity	India	Gold Standard	7, 8, 13	3.7593	Link
Longyuan Mulilo De Aar 2 North Wind Energy Project Energy from wind turbines	South Africa	Verified Carbon Standard	3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 13	1.3515	Link
Photovoltaic/Solar Project; Binh Thuan Province Conversion of sunlight into electricity	Vietnam	Verified Carbon Standard	4, 7, 8, 9, 13	0.6656	Link
Benban Solar Park Project; Aswan Installation and operation of solar power plant	Egypt	Verified Carbon Standard	7, 8, 9, 13	1.8356	Link
Protection of Forest in the Congo Basin Prevention of unsustainable extraction, etc.	Congo	Verified Carbon Standard & CCBS ¹	1, 2, 3, 4, 8, 12, 13, 15	0.2017	Link
Viñales Sawmill Project Production of electricity from the conversion of waste biomass	Chile	Verified Carbon Standard	7, 8, 13	1.8155	Link
Katingan Restoration & Conservation Project Peatland restoration & protection	Indonesia	Verified Carbon Standard & CCBS ¹	1, 3, 4, 6, 9, 10, 13, 15	0.6052	Link
Oaxaca IV Wind Energy Project Generation of electricity from wind power	Mexico	Verified Carbon Standard	3, 4, 7, 8, 9, 13, 15	1.9315	Link
West Huaybong Wind Farm Generation of electricity from wind power	Thailand	Gold Standard	3, 7, 8, 13	5.6773	Link
Improved Efficiency of Delhi's Transport System Reduced greenhouse gas emissions	India	Verified Carbon Standard	3, 8, 9, 11, 13	1.9180	Link
Madre de Dios (REDD+ Avoided Unplanned Deforestation Project) Conservation	Peru	Verified Carbon Standard & CCBS ¹	1, 3-5, 8-13, 15-17	0.1815	Link
Bac Lieu Province Wind Power Plant Generation of electricity from offshore wind power	Vietnam	Gold Standard	1, 7, 8, 13, 15	0.1534	Link

¹ CCBS = Climate, Community & Biodiversity Standard | ² SD VSta = Sustainable Development Verified Impact Standard | ³ <https://sdgs.un.org/goals>

Impact Goals



We're new at this. Like really, really new. We're a tiny company, and the difference we are making is relatively small—but small does not mean unimportant. As we grow, so too will our contributions to people and planet. We're very proud of that.

Challenges

In our first full year of operation & reporting, Olive+Comet is not yet profitable. Though our impact has made us proud beyond words, it is hard fought.

Goals

- We intend to keep our impact metrics moving in an upward trajectory—to do so, the company will need to identify alternative sales channels and boost marketing in an attempt to generate awareness & increase sales.
- Over the course of this next year, we aim to continue support for 1% for the Planet and to double the total number of trees planted through One Tree Planted and Ecologi.
- We wish to invest in more fair trade products. In addition, we need to determine metrics for total fair trade impact.

