

SUSTAINABILITY REPORT

2024



Volunteer Charles River Conservatory Clean Up
July 2023
Cambridge, MA



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A MESSAGE FROM LEADERSHIP



We are pleased to present to you the latest Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) Report for the Center for Information & Study on Clinical Research Participation (CISCRP). This report not only reflects our dedication to sustainable practices but also encapsulates our commitment to "Service with Integrity," a principle that guides every aspect of our work.

CISCRP was founded with the mission of educating and informing the public, patients, and medical professionals about the importance of clinical research. We aim to build trust and transparency in the clinical trial process, ensuring that everyone involved is treated with the utmost respect and care. Our work is vital to advancing public health, and we take this responsibility seriously.

For CISCRP, sustainability is about more than just environmental stewardship; it encompasses our ethical responsibilities, the social impact of our work, and the governance structures that ensure our operations are transparent and accountable. "Service with Integrity" means that we are committed to conducting our work with honesty, respect, and a focus on long-term positive impacts for all our stakeholders.

This year, we are proud to highlight several key achievements in our sustainability efforts. Notably, we have established our baseline year and set ambitious, science-based targets, reinforcing our commitment to combating climate change. Additionally, our community outreach programs have expanded, reaching more diverse populations to educate them about the importance of clinical research, thereby promoting greater inclusivity and equity in healthcare.

These accomplishments would not have been possible without the dedication of our employees, the collaboration of our partners, and the support of our stakeholders. As we look to the future, we remain steadfast in our pledge to uphold sustainable practices across all facets of our work. We believe that by continuing to align our operations with our values, we can create a lasting, positive impact on both our communities and the environment.

Thank you for your continued support and commitment to sustainability.

Handwritten signatures of the six leadership members mentioned in the text above.

Ken Getz, Caroline Casey, Annick de Bruin, Jasmine Masullo, Kim Edwards, and Rachael Borghi

ABOUT CISCRP

Our Mission

CISCRP's core mission is to provide accessible, relevant, useful, high-quality educational resources, programs, and services that increase awareness and understanding of the clinical research process; recognize and appreciate the unprecedented gift of participation in clinical trials; enhance and enrich the participation experience for patients and their families; and promote engagement and partnership between clinical research professionals, patients, and the public.

Who We Are

CISCRP is a nonprofit organization striving to educate and inform patients, professionals, and the public about clinical research.

Our Vision

Educating and empowering patients and the public to be viewed and engaged as partners in clinical research.

Core Values

Collaboration | Integrity | Service | Creativity | Respect | Passion



CISCRP'S SUSTAINABILITY JOURNEY

The sustainability journey for the Center for Information and Study on Clinical Research Participation (CISCRP) started when they received a request to disclose their greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions via a CDP questionnaire.

As a mission-driven not-for-profit, CISCRP embraced the opportunity to go beyond compliance to build upon their existing social endeavors through their incredible work of democratizing clinical research to highlight their efforts to mitigate their environmental footprint and engage their employees along the journey.



OUR FOCUS AREAS & GOALS

Environmental

Climate

- Reduce Scopes 1 & 2 emissions by 42% by 2030
- Reduce Scope 3 emissions by 25% by 2030

Waste and Circularity

- Minimize waste within our operations
- Explore supplier collaboration to improve sustainability of our products and services

Social

Education

- Educate patients and the general public about clinical research and what it means to be a clinical research participant

Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion

- Incorporate diversity, equity, and inclusion-focused trainings into standard employee training

Community

- Continue to track and report our volunteering impact annually

Governance

Ethics & Code of Conduct

- Embrace our mission and carry out work with honesty, accountability, and ethical decision making.

Supply Chain Management

- Establish regular data requests with key suppliers to monitor and provide sustainability initiatives

ENVIRONMENTAL



CLIMATE

Actions we're taking:



Improve our office energy efficiency and explore integration of renewable energy into our space



Foster culture of sustainability through education to empower our team



Expand tracking of business travel data to set sustainable travel guidelines

Goals:

REDUCE SCOPES 1 & 2 EMISSIONS BY

42% by 2030*

REDUCE SCOPE 3 EMISSIONS

25% by 2030*

*Against 2023 baseline year

Our Performance:

CISCRP is committed to the tracking and management of our emissions impact. We have established 2023 as our baseline year and set science-based targets to help limit global temperature rise to 1.5C.

SPOTLIGHT

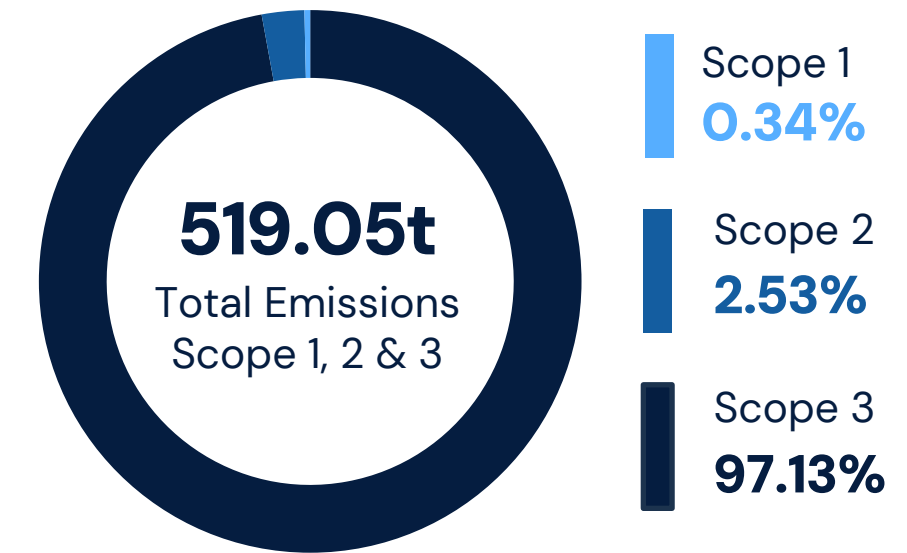
CLIMATE

CISCRP's sustainability journey started with a customer request for greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions disclosure via a CDP questionnaire. As a mission-driven not-for-profit, CISCRP embraced the opportunity to go beyond compliance and has taken several key steps in 2023-2024 to further sustainability including:

- Measuring GHG Emissions across Scopes 1, 2, and 3
- Creating our inaugural GHG Emissions Report
- Conducting Sustainability Benchmarking to inform our sustainability ambitions
- Setting Sustainability Targets including emissions reduction goals aligned with the Science-Based Targets initiative
- Hosting sustainability education sessions to engage our employees

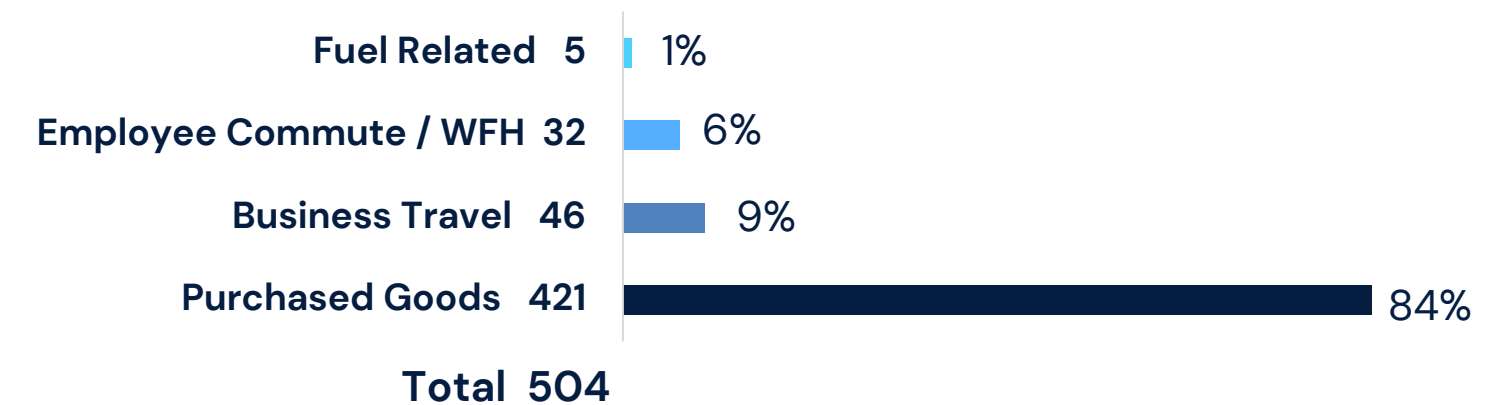
Through these efforts, we found that Scope 3 emissions contribute over 97% of our carbon emissions and is largely driven by purchased goods and services, business travel, and employee commuting. As a result of these findings and our commitment to decarbonization, we initiated the creation of a Supplier Sustainability Engagement Strategy and will continue our efforts to improve data quality such as moving from spend-based estimates to primary data.

Emissions Per Scope, %



Category Emissions

Emissions per Scope (kgCO₂e)



WASTE AND CIRCULARITY

Actions we're taking:



Reduce barrier to recycling by implementing single stream recycling



Ensure proper recycling and disposal of e-waste through collaboration with Green Network Exchange



Identify opportunities to incorporate sustainable materials in our products

Goals:

MINIMIZE WASTE

WITHIN OUR OPERATIONS

IMPROVE SUSTAINABILITY

ON PRODUCTS & SERVICES BY EXPLORING SUPPLIER COLLABORATION

Our Performance:

CISCRP encourages its employees to reduce, reuse, recycle, and recover where possible. We are committed to improving sustainability of the materials and services we provide by collaborating with our suppliers and partners.

SOCIAL



EDUCATION

Actions we're taking:



Offer variety of engagement methods to reach the target participants



Promote participant diversity and inclusivity outreach



Remain an independent, neutral, non-profit organization

Goals:

Empower and educate patients, the public, participants and the research enterprise

Our Performance:

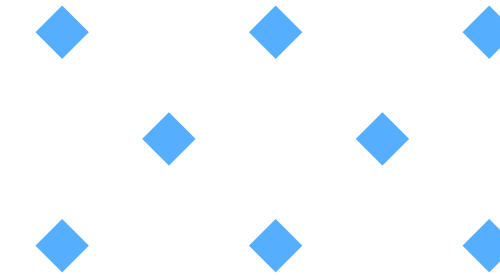
CISCRP works to raise awareness, enhance experiences, and strengthen communication and relationships among participants, research professionals, and the public.

SPOTLIGHT

OUR EDUCATIONAL CONTENT

We develop our material with subject matter experts, patient advocates, and members of the public, to make sure the topics, language, images, and design are appropriate and engaging.

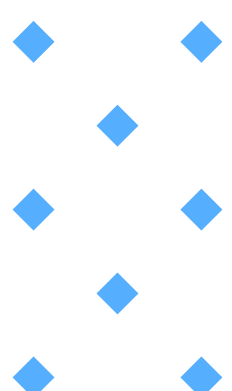
Our content is reviewed by an Institutional Review Board (IRB), which is also known as an independent ethics committee. The IRB review ensures the brochure follows ethical guidelines for providing information about clinical research to patients and the public.



Finding Treatments Together Series



The Importance of Diversity in Clinical Trials



DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION

Actions we're taking:



Assess DEI baseline assessment within our organization



Conduct and communicate participant diversity research results with actionable best practices



Increase awareness through diversity, equity, and inclusion training

Goals:

Incorporate **DEI-focused** trainings into standard employee training

Our Performance:

CISCRP is committed to improving Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) both internally, within our own organization, and externally, in the broader clinical research space. We are working diligently towards becoming a more diverse and inclusive organization, and continuously optimizing our programs that aim to improve representation in clinical research.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Actions we're taking:



Participation in group and individual volunteer programs



Financial and time donation to local organizations



Remain engaged in communities' feedback

Goals:

Continue to track and **report our volunteering impact** annually

Our Performance:

CISCRP encourages employees to become involved in their communities, lending their voluntary support to programs that positively impact the quality of life within these communities.

SPOTLIGHT

JOURNEY TO BETTER HEALTH MOBILE EXHIBIT

In 2023, CISCRP created a mobile exhibit that showcased clinical research information to local communities in a fun, interactive way. Our exhibit traveled to Philadelphia, PA, and Baltimore, MD, bringing clinical research education directly into underserved communities. Patient advocacy groups and community educators engaged with public and patient communities, advocating for the importance of participation in clinical research and the critical need for more diverse representation.

“We need more education like this! If the RV didn’t come to my neighborhood, I never would have learned anything like this.”
-Community Member



GOVERNANCE



ETHICS AND CODE OF CONDUCT

Actions we're taking:



Update Code of Conduct as needed to align with latest standards and regulations



Provide training on new and updated corporate policies



Develop comprehensive programs to ensure adherence to all relevant local, national, and international regulations



Ensure compliance with privacy, security, and data protection regulations

Goals:

Continue to achieve

100% compliance

to our Code of Conduct and completion of annual reviews

Our Performance:

Our commitment to sustainability extends beyond just environmental and social stewardship. We embrace our mission and carry out all our work with honesty, accountability, and ethical decision making.

SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT

Actions we're taking:



Quantified supplier impact to CISC RP emissions



Engaged with top suppliers on climate-related opportunities



Collected supplier self-assessment questionnaire from large third-party vendors

Goals:

Establish **regular data request** with key suppliers to monitor and support sustainability initiatives

Our Performance:

CISC RP understands long-term impact cannot be achieved alone. We are actively engaging with suppliers to establish shared sustainability goals and identifying opportunities to reduce environmental impact across the supplier chain.

THANK YOU

In this report, we have outlined our approach to environmental, social, and governance responsibilities, detailing our progress and commitments. We recognize the importance of responsible business practices and are dedicated to minimizing our environmental footprint, fostering an inclusive and supportive workplace, and upholding transparent and ethical governance.

Our achievements, as outlined, are the result of concerted efforts across all levels of our organization. Looking ahead, we aim to build on these accomplishments, setting ambitious targets and continually improving our practices to meet evolving standards. We are committed to transparently reporting our progress, ensuring that sustainability remains a fundamental aspect of our operations.

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Quality and Compliance Officer

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