

# SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGY

Working Group Empirical Political Science

Prepared by Jakob Kemper and Teresa Hummler

With input from Jonas Elis, Achim Goerres, Jan Karem Höhne,  
Hayfat Hamidou-Schmidt, Paul Vierus and Conrad Ziller

As of: August 2022

# Principles of the Sustainability Strategy

As the Working Group Empirical Political Science at the University of Duisburg-Essen, we want to contribute to a sustainable use of resources. We therefore set ourselves the goal of minimising the outputs of **CO<sub>2</sub>, energy consumption, waste, the use of resources** such as rare earths, and the **consumption of land**.

We regard **business travel** as the most important area in which we can reduce the environmental impact of our work. For business trips, we follow the principles laid down in the [decision tree for business travel](#).

We strive to **reduce our electricity consumption and the energy used for heating**. Since 2020, the University of Duisburg-Essen has covered 100% of its electricity demand with green electricity. Our goal is to reduce our working group's electricity consumption by switching off devices and lights and by working as energy-efficiently as possible.

**In all aspects of purchasing, we take sustainability criteria into account**. For every procurement, we ask ourselves how we can obtain the most sustainable products and equipment possible.

**At the office workplace**, we print and copy as little as possible and double-sided wherever we can. We separate the waste generated at work into paper and residual waste, recycle as much as possible, and dispose of any further waste as intended.

We strive to choose **low-CO<sub>2</sub> means of transport for commuting to work**. We support the UDE's efforts to create incentives for commuting by bicycle or public transport.

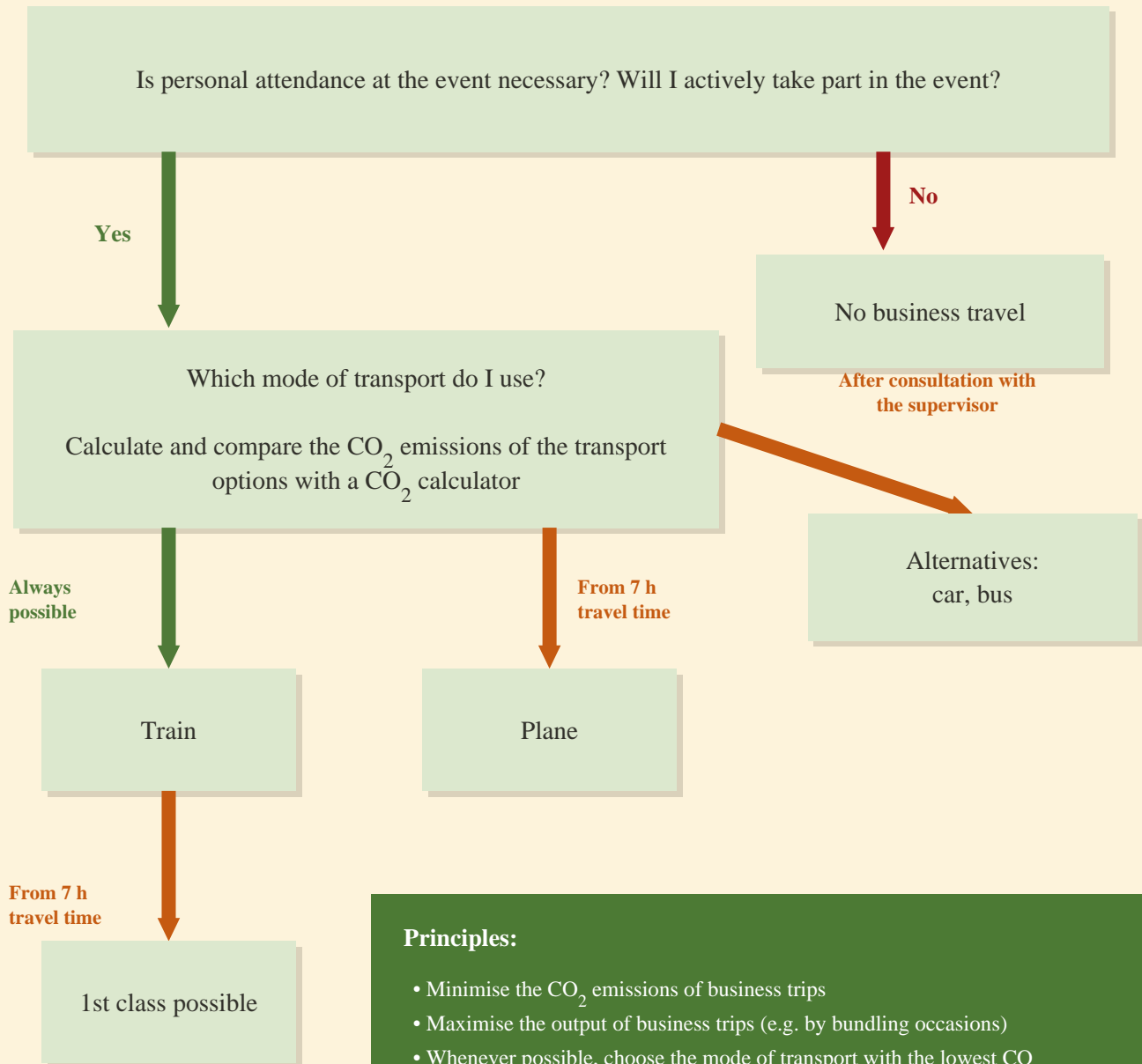
We **ask guests not to arrive by plane if possible** and instead point them to low-CO<sub>2</sub> options such as travelling by train. However, guests remain free to make their own decision about how they travel.

## Further Information

The University of Duisburg-Essen has initiated the sustainability process "[napro](#)". Within this framework, a [sustainability report](#) on the activities of the University of Duisburg-Essen was produced in 2020.

The action group [UDE for Future \(UDE4future\)](#) was founded in January 2020 and sees itself as an open group of active members of the University of Duisburg-Essen (UDE) who feel committed to the topics of climate protection, environmental protection and sustainability, and who thereby work for a future worth living.

# Decision Tree for Business Travel



## Principles:

- Minimise the CO<sub>2</sub> emissions of business trips
- Maximise the output of business trips (e.g. by bundling occasions)
- Whenever possible, choose the mode of transport with the lowest CO<sub>2</sub> emissions
- Avoid flights within Germany
- When flying, choose a direct flight whenever possible
- Ask guests and visitors to refrain from flying and point them to low-CO<sub>2</sub> options such as travelling by train