# Carbon Footprint Report



Carbon Footprint Report

### Introduction

As global efforts to address climate change have grown more urgent over the past decade, UTAM has developed increasingly sophisticated processes for measuring and managing climate-related investment risks and opportunities. One of the pillars of our reporting to University of Toronto stakeholders is our annual carbon footprint report, which we've produced in various forms since 2018.

#### **Evolution of our carbon reporting**

In September 2017, UTAM became a signatory to the Montréal Carbon Pledge and committed to reporting annually on carbon emissions associated with the long term investment portfolios we manage for U of T. The following year, we published our first carbon footprint report, which provided metrics for the public equity holdings within our two main long term portfolios. We subsequently expanded the scope of our analysis to include private equity, private real estate and private infrastructure investments.

In 2020, UTAM committed to reducing the carbon footprint of the equity (and equity-like) investments in the Endowment portfolio by at least 40% relative to 2017 levels by 2030. Then, in the fall of 2021, the University, as part of a major announcement on climate action, pledged to achieve net zero emissions in the Endowment portfolio by 2050. Coinciding with this announcement, U of T (through UTAM) joined the United Nations—convened Net-Zero Asset Owner Alliance, becoming the first university in the world to do so. The Alliance provides a framework for setting interim targets on decarbonization initiatives to guide members pursuing net zero emissions in their portfolios.

Guided by the Alliance's Target Setting Protocol, UTAM established interim targets in 2022 with respect to total carbon emissions, as well as engagement with emitting companies and transition financing. Having met our previous carbon footprint target for the Endowment nearly a decade ahead of schedule, we built on this momentum to set an ambitious goal: UTAM's new carbon footprint target is a further 50% reduction in emissions by 2030, measured against a 2019 baseline. Going forward, all UTAM carbon footprint reporting will gauge our progress against this target.

When Alliance members establish an overall carbon reduction target, they're also required to set comparable targets – where credible methodologies and sufficient data coverage exist – for each asset class in the sub-portfolios. (The Alliance defines a sub-portfolio as the asset classes within an asset owner's total portfolio that are included in the carbon footprint calculation.) Under the Target Setting Protocol, UTAM is expected to include public equity and publicly traded corporate bonds in carbon footprint calculations for the LTCAP Sub-Portfolio within the Endowment portfolio. Therefore, beginning with our 2021 carbon footprint update, we now include these types of holdings along with equities and equity-like securities in the LTCAP Sub-Portfolio. Holdings in hedge funds in the absolute return portfolio, government bonds and alternative credit strategies are currently excluded.

#### **PwC limited assurance review**

In 2021, UTAM engaged PwC (PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP) to undertake a limited assurance review of our carbon footprint calculation and reported outcomes for the LTCAP Sub-Portfolio. PwC's independent opinion based on this review was included in our 2021 Responsible Investing Report. We continued this engagement in 2022. The current report presents PwC's opinion of the reported footprint beginning on page 3.

#### **Previous reports**

UTAM's previous carbon footprint reporting can be found in our Responsible Investing Reports (2021, 2020, 2019–2020) and our earlier Carbon Footprint Reports (2019, 2018). We also present emissions-related data in our reporting under the framework of the Task Force on Climaterelated Financial Disclosures (TCFD).

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## Independent practitioner's limited assurance report

on the select performance metrics of University of Toronto Asset Management Corporation (UTAM) as presented in the 2022 Carbon Footprint Report

#### To the Board of Directors and Management of UTAM:

We have undertaken a limited assurance engagement on select performance metrics detailed below (the select performance metrics) as presented in UTAM's 2022 Carbon Footprint Report for the year ended December 31, 2022.

Our limited assurance engagement was performed on the following select performance metrics:

Performance metrics	2022
Absolute emissions	99,307.8 tCO <sub>2</sub> e
Carbon footprint	37.8 tCO <sub>2</sub> e/\$M invested

#### Management's responsibility

Management is responsible for the preparation of the select performance metrics in accordance with the applicable criteria established in Exhibit 1 (the criteria). Management is also responsible for such internal control as management determines necessary to enable the preparation of the select performance metrics that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

PricewaterhouseCoopers Place, 250 Howe Street, Suite 1400, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada V6C 3S7 T: +1 604 806 7000, F: +1 604 806 7806, www.pwc.com/ca

#### "PwC" refers to PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, an Ontario limited liability partnership.

#### Our responsibility

Our responsibility is to express a limited assurance conclusion on the select performance metrics based on the evidence we have obtained. We conducted our limited assurance engagement in accordance with Canadian Standard on Assurance Engagements (CSAE) 3000, *Attestation Engagements Other than Audits or Reviews of Historical Financial Information*. This standard requires that we plan and perform this engagement to obtain limited assurance about whether the select performance metrics are free from material misstatement.

A limited assurance engagement involves performing procedures (primarily consisting of making inquiries of management and others within the entity, as appropriate, and applying analytical procedures) and evaluating the evidence obtained. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the decisions of users of our report. The procedures are selected based on our professional judgment, which includes identifying areas where the risks of material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, in preparing the select performance metrics in accordance with the applicable criteria are likely to arise.

Our engagement included, amongst others, the following procedures performed:

- Reviewed the UTAM methodology and evaluated whether UTAM's methods for determining the boundaries and quantification of the select performance metrics were appropriate and consistent with the applicable criteria;
- Through inquiries, obtained an understanding of UTAM's control environment and the information systems relevant to the select performance metrics quantification and reporting. Our procedures did not evaluate the design of particular control activities, obtain evidence about their implementation or test their operating effectiveness;
- Evaluated whether UTAM's methods for developing estimates are appropriate and consistently applied;
- For a limited sample of assets, reconciled the select performance metrics data back to the underlying records; and

PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP

Carbon Footprint Report  Reviewed the select performance metrics disclosure in UTAM's 2022 Carbon Footprint Report to ensure consistency with our understanding and procedures.

The procedures performed in a limited assurance engagement vary in nature and timing from, and are less in extent than for, a reasonable assurance engagement and, consequently, the level of assurance obtained is substantially lower than the assurance that would have been obtained had a reasonable assurance engagement been performed.

#### Our independence and quality management

We have complied with the relevant rules of professional conduct/code of ethics applicable to the practice of public accounting and related to assurance engagements, issued by various professional accounting bodies, which are founded on fundamental principles of integrity, objectivity, professional competence and due care, confidentiality and professional behaviour.

The firm applies Canadian Standard on Quality Management 1, *Quality Management for Firms that Perform Audits and Reviews of Financial Statements, or Other Assurance or Related Services Engagements,* which requires the firm to design, implement and operate a system of quality management, including policies or procedures regarding compliance with ethical requirements, professional standards and applicable legal and regulatory requirements.

#### Inherent limitations

Emissions data are subject to inherent limitations given the nature and the methods used for determining such data. The selection of different but acceptable measurement techniques can result in materially different measurements. The precision of different measurement techniques may also vary.

#### Conclusion

Based on the procedures we have performed and the evidence we have obtained, nothing has come to our attention that causes us to believe that UTAM's select performance metrics for the year ended December 31, 2022 are not prepared, in all material respects, in accordance with the applicable criteria.

### Purpose of statement and restriction on distribution and use of our report

The select performance metrics have been prepared in accordance with the applicable criteria prepared by UTAM's management to report to the Board of Directors. As a result, the select performance metrics may not be suitable for another purpose. Our report is intended solely for UTAM. We acknowledge the disclosure of our report, in full only, by UTAM at its discretion, without assuming or accepting any responsibility or liability to any third party in respect of this report.

Pricewaterhouse Coopers LLP

#### **Chartered Professional Accountants**

Vancouver, British Columbia May 5, 2023

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#### Exhibit 1

Select performance metrics and criteria

#### 1. Carbon Footprint

**Description:** Total carbon emissions for a portfolio normalized by the market value of the portfolio, expressed in tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>e/\$M invested as at December 31, 2022.

**Methodology:** Scope 1 and Scope 2 GHG emissions are allocated to investors based on an equity ownership approach as described under methodology for Total Carbon Emissions. The portfolio value on the measurement date is used to normalize the data.

**Investment portfolios:** Endowment (Long-Term Capital Appreciation Pool or LTCAP).

Scope by asset class: Public equity and equity-like assets (including private equity, real estate and infrastructure), fixed income (corporate bonds only) mapped to equity and credit in the Reference Portfolio are included. All other strategies and holdings are currently excluded from the footprint. We refer to these asset classes as the "LTCAP Sub-Portfolio" or the "Sub-Portfolio." Holdings in these asset classes in the absolute return hedge fund portfolio and the alternative credit portfolio are excluded.

#### 2. Absolute Emissions

**Description:** The absolute GHG emissions associated with the measured portfolio, expressed in tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>-equivalent (tCO<sub>2</sub>eq) as at December 31, 2022.

**Methodology:** Scope 1 and Scope 2 GHG emissions are allocated to investors based on an enterprise value including cash approach.

**Investment portfolios:** Endowment (Long-Term Capital Appreciation Pool or LTCAP).

Scope by asset class: Public equity and equity-like assets (including private equity, real estate and infrastructure), fixed income (corporate bonds only) mapped to equity and credit in the Reference Portfolio are included. All other strategies and holdings are currently excluded from the footprint. We refer to these asset classes as the "LTCAP Sub-Portfolio" or the "Sub-Portfolio." Holdings in these asset classes in the absolute return hedge fund portfolio and the alternative credit portfolio are excluded.

The reporting criteria against which the select performance metrics will be assessed is as follows:

Management's internally developed criteria as outlined in UTAM's 2022 Carbon Footprint Report.

Net Zero Asset Owner Alliance Target Setting Protocol, available at: <u>www.unepfi.org/net-zero-alliance/resources/target-setting-protocol-second-edition</u>

The Global GHG Accounting and Reporting Standard for the Financial Industry developed by the Partnership for Carbon Accounting Financials (PCAF), available at: <a href="mailto:carbonaccountingfinancials.com/standard">carbonaccountingfinancials.com/standard</a>

Implementing the Recommendations of the Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures. <u>assets.bbhub.io/company/sites/60/2021/07/2021-</u>TCFD-Implementing\_Guidance.pdf

Greenhouse Gas Protocol, Portfolio Carbon Initiative, Guidance for financial institutions to assess the climate impact from investing and lending activities. <a href="https://doi.org/portfolio-carbon-initiative">qhaprotocol.org/portfolio-carbon-initiative</a>

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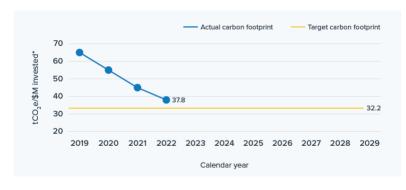
## Sub-Portfolio carbon footprint

Dates are at December 31 in each year referenced unless otherwise specified.

Starting point 2019 <sup>†</sup>	Results 2022	Change
Absolute emissions	Absolute emissions	Absolute emissions
145,404.2 tCO <sub>2</sub> e	99,307.8* tCO <sub>2</sub> e	-31.7%
Carbon footprint	Carbon footprint	Carbon footprint
<b>64.4</b> tCO <sub>2</sub> e/\$M invested	<b>37.8*</b> tCO <sub>2</sub> e/\$M invested	-41.3%

tCO<sub>2</sub>e/\$M = tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent per million dollars invested

## Carbon footprint over time compared to the 2030 target



By calculating the annual reduction in the carbon footprint of the LTCAP Sub-Portfolio, we are able to track the tangible impact of our efforts over time. One of the virtues of this approach is that the impact will be felt not only in high-emitting sectors but across all sectors within the Sub-Portfolio. By identifying the climate-related risks associated with actual and prospective investments – as part of our broader responsible investing framework and also through our stewardship activities (proxy voting, engagement and advocacy) – we expect the carbon footprint of LTCAP's investments to decrease over time. As the companies in the LTCAP Sub-Portfolio adopt more sustainable practices, their collective absolute emissions and carbon footprint should shrink, and as a result, LTCAP should become more resilient to climate-related risks.

At the end of 2022, the carbon footprint of the LTCAP Sub-Portfolio was 37.8 tCO<sub>2</sub>e/\$M (based on total emissions of 99,307.8 tCO<sub>2</sub>e). This calculation follows the EVIC ownership approach<sup>‡</sup> for the Sub-Portfolio and includes the impact of carbon contributions from equities (including equity-like assets) and corporate bonds. The year-over-year changes in absolute emissions and carbon footprint since 2019, using calendar year periods, are summarized in Table 1.

**Table 1**Carbon Footprint of the LTCAP Sub-Portfolio

Year	tCO₂e	tCO₂e/\$M	Cumulative change in tCO₂e	Cumulative change in tCO₂e/\$M
2019	145,404.2	64.4	-	-
2020	143,188.2	55.7	-1.5%	-13.5%
2021	132,991.1* <sup>  </sup>	45.2*	-8.5%	-29.8%
2022	99,307.8*1	37.8*	-31.7%	-41.3%

<sup>\*</sup>We engaged PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, an independent third party, to conduct a limited assurance engagement on reported values indicated by an asterisk.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>†</sup> UTAM has set a target end date of December 31, 2029, and a baseline year starting from December 31, 2019. Although the Alliance publishes targets on a five-year cycle, members who join the Alliance midcycle have the flexibility to extend the length of their initial target period.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>‡</sup> For sub-portfolios with multiple asset classes (e.g., equities and corporate bonds), the Net-Zero Asset Owner Alliance recommends using enterprise value, including cash (EVIC), to determine an asset owner's proportional share of an issuer's emissions.

<sup>§</sup> All public equity holdings (long and short) and equity-like private investments (private equity, private real estate and private infrastructure), as well as publicly traded corporate bonds within the LTCAP portfolio, were included in the analysis, except for these holdings in the absolute return hedge fund portfolio and the alternative credit strategies. As stated in Methodology (page 8), public market indexes are used to proxy the emissions contributions of the private investments that are included in the LTCAP Sub-Portfolio.

Refer to PwC's limited assurance report in the 2021 Responsible Investing Report (page 15).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Refer to PwC's limited assurance report on page 3 of this report.

Carbon Footprint Report Since 2019, the LTCAP Sub-Portfolio's carbon footprint has realized a cumulative decrease of 41.3%. In the past few years, substantial progress has been made toward meeting the targeted 50% reduction goal set for 2030. Nonetheless, the current cumulative changes can and may partially revert in the short term due to external factors such as changes in economic activity and capital market movements. For example, absolute emissions for many companies have increased post-2020 as the economy has recovered from the COVID pandemic. Similarly, the carbon footprint is sensitive to swings in the value of the Sub-Portfolio, and all things equal, a weak capital market environment will result in a higher carbon footprint.

For 2022, in particular, a key contributor to the decrease in absolute emissions and carbon footprint was the transition to ex-fossil fuel mandates for much of the passive public equity exposure and all of the passive corporate bond exposure in the Sub-Portfolio. While we will continue to look for opportunities to reduce emissions in LTCAP further, we believe we have now tackled many of the most accessible and readily achievable reductions. As a result, further emission reductions are expected to be increasingly challenging to achieve over the coming years.

#### Sector and country contributions

#### **Sector attribution**

Table 2 shows the carbon emission contribution by the different sectors in the Sub-Portfolio (denoted in the table as % of Sub-Portfolio). Nearly 90% of emissions come from just four sectors: Materials, Energy, Utilities and Industrials. These four sectors have been the primary contributors to the Sub-Portfolio's total emissions in the past four years. However, on a year-over-year basis, Materials, Energy and Utilities saw an overall decrease in their emissions contribution. Out of the top four sectors, only the Industrials sector saw an increase in its year-over-year contribution to emissions. It is also worth noting that, similar to past years, despite these four sectors driving the Sub-Portfolio's emissions, they represent a relatively small exposure in dollars invested. At December 31, 2022, these four sectors represented only 20.3% of the Sub-Portfolio's net asset value.

Table 2
Sector attribution

Sector	Emissions Contribution	% of Sub- Portfolio
Materials	38.1%	3.7%
Energy	25.7%	3.1%
Utilities	12.9%	1.4%
Industrials	12.1%	12.1%
Consumer Staples	4.0%	5.7%
Consumer Discretionary	2.7%	11.7%
Information Technology	1.9%	18.0%
Health Care	1.0%	11.6%
Communication Services	0.6%	6.8%
Financials	0.5%	15.5%
Real Estate	0.4%	3.9%
Cash and Others	0.1%	6.4%
TOTAL	100%	100%

Numbers may not add up to 100% due to rounding.

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#### **Country attribution**

Table 3 shows the top 10 countries (based on securities' place of issue) that contribute most to the LTCAP Sub-Portfolio's emissions. These countries accounted for 84.7% of the Sub-Portfolio's market value and represent 80.2% of total emissions. The top three countries with the largest share of emissions are the United States (24.0%), China (13.0%) and Switzerland (10.2%). The US and China have consistently contributed the most to the Sub-Portfolio's total emissions since the inception of the calculations.

Canada previously ranked third in terms of contribution to emissions, contributing 10.6% of the Sub-Portfolio's emissions at December 31, 2021. However, largely as a result of the transition to the ex-fossil fuel corporate bond benchmark in 2022, Canada's emissions contribution was reduced by almost 50%. This pushed Switzerland from the fourth-largest contributor at the end of 2021 to the third-largest contributor at the end of 2022.

**Table 3**Country attribution

Country	Emissions Contribution	% of Sub- Portfolio
United States	24.0%	51.5%
China	13.0%	6.5%
Switzerland	10.2%	2.2%
France	8.3%	3.2%
Ireland	5.9%	1.1%
Canada	5.8%	9.3%
United Kingdom	4.5%	4.1%
Japan	3.5%	4.3%
South Korea	3.0%	1.1%
Netherlands	2.1%	1.2%
Top 10 Countries	80.2%	84.7%

#### Carbon footprint methodology and limitations

UTAM's carbon footprint calculation follows a systematic process grounded in current leading practices within the investment industry.

#### Methodology

- We use a carbon footprint calculation methodology based on the following:
  - The Global GHG Accounting and Reporting Standard for the Financial Industry (November 2020), developed by the Partnership for Carbon Account Financials (PCAF).
  - Implementing the Recommendations of the Task Force on Climaterelated Financial Disclosures (October 2021), published by the Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures (TCFD).
  - Target Setting Protocol, second edition (January 2022), published by the Net-Zero Asset Owner Alliance.
  - UTAM's internally developed criteria for year-end carbon footprint calculations. We typically use emissions data available one month after the reporting date.
  - The total emissions and carbon footprint metrics reported by UTAM follow the financed emissions approach: a portfolio's share of emissions is calculated based on proportional ownership relative to a company's enterprise value, including cash (EVIC).

#### Carbon emissions (tonnes CO2e) per \$million invested

$$\frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n} \left(\frac{C_i}{EV_i} \times I_i\right)}{\sum_{i=1}^{n} I_i}$$
i: Current value of EV: Enterprise value of C: Carbon emission

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- Both Scope 1 and Scope 2 emissions are currently included in the footprint calculations and results.
- The PCAF standard provides guidance on how to score the quality of emissions data. We obtain position data from our risk aggregator, State Street's truView, and emissions data from MSCI Inc. On this basis, we estimate the average data quality score for public equities and public fixed income to be 2 and 3, respectively. For private assets where public equities are used as proxies, an average data quality score of 5 is implied.
- All assets classified within the Equity component of the Reference Portfolio, as well as publicly traded corporate bonds in the Canadian Corporate Bonds component of the Reference Portfolio, are included in carbon footprint calculations.
- For private market investments, primarily in private equity and private real estate investments, we use public indexes to proxy the emissions contributions to the LTCAP Sub-Portfolio.

#### Limitations

- The methodologies used in UTAM's carbon footprint calculation, as well as the scope of assets covered, will continue to evolve. As new methods and data become available, we will evaluate how they can best be incorporated into our calculation process. For example, private equity and real estate assets were added to the footprint calculation in 2018, while corporate bonds and the EVIC approach were integrated for 2021 year-end calculations.
- We also recognize that there are limitations to the footprint metrics themselves. Calculated results can be affected by factors outside UTAM's control, including lags in emissions reporting or missing emissions data, as well as shifts in foreign exchange rates and changes in the market values of the securities included in the LTCAP Sub-Portfolio. We endeavour to use the most recently available information in our calculations and have adopted a standardized approach to both data gathering and the treatment of missing data. For the 2022 carbon footprint results, emissions data available by January 31, 2023, was used in the calculations.
- Carbon footprint metrics are not a forward-looking measure of the LTCAP Sub-Portfolio's exposure to climate risk (i.e., its climate risk sensitivity). By the nature of the calculations and data used, metrics are snapshots at one point in time of the Sub-Portfolio's attributed emissions.

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The Reference Portfolio is a benchmark (currently 60% equity exposure and 40% fixed income) that serves as an objective yardstick for measuring active risk and value gained or lost through investment management activities. It is developed jointly by UTAM and the University's Investment Committee and approved by the University Administration.

777 Bay Street, Suite 2502 Toronto, Ontario Canada M5G 2C8 416-306-8730

utam.utoronto.ca