INTRODUCTION

A STiCH COMPANION GUIDE

Sustainability Tools in Cultural Heritage

STiCH has been made possible in part by the National Endowment for the Humanities.

What is STiCH?

Many people working to preserve and share cultural heritage want to take climate action but do not have the information to make effective choices

The STiCH Carbon Calculator is an online lookup tool for quantifying the impacts of daily work choices

It provides a method for comparing the carbon footprint of commonly used materials, chemicals, and products

Who is the STiCH carbon calculator for?

STiCH carbon calculator is designed for professionals looking to understand the impact of their everyday choices

- Art Handlers
- Art Packers
- Artists
- Collections Managers
- Conservators
- Curators
- Educators
- Exhibition Designers
- Registrars
- Transporters

What does STiCH help the user to do?

The STiCH carbon calculator empowers heritage professionals to turn their personal work choices into climate action

By measuring the carbon footprint of items (CO_2 eq), the carbon calculator supports item-to-item or scenario-to-scenario comparisons

With this information users can set goals, make plans, set priorities, measure and communicate climate actions

How STiCH Aims to Help You

- The STiCH calculator aims to empower you to take climate action
- It helps you understand and prioritize your daily work choices

- It encourages your creative thinking to transform standard and accepted practices
- Rather than limiting your choices, STiCH helps to expand them

How does your contribution matter?

Climate action requires action everywhere

In schools, hospitals, farms, communities lots of people are already taking climate action

STiCH is made to help the heritage sector join other sectors in taking action

Every time you take climate action, it strengthens your knowledge, confidence, and abilities to take even bigger steps

Brief Climate Change Glossary

Climate Change: the warming of average global temperatures due to human activities that add greenhouse gases to the atmosphere. These arise primarily from burning fossil fuels (for more detail link to UN definition)

Climate Action: steps we take to reduce greenhouse gas emissions (climate mitigation), or to adjust climate impacts (climate adaptation)

Greenhouse Gases: heat-trapping atmospheric gases that lead to climate change. The major ones include carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide, and fluorinated gases

GHG: the abbreviation for greenhouse gases, often simply referred to as carbon

GWP (Global Warming Potential): the power of each greenhouse gas to warm the atmosphere. For example, methane and fluorine gases especially have a more powerful warming affect than CO2

CO2eq (CO2 equivalent): each greenhouse gas has a different warming potential, so their quantities are converted to the equivalent effects of a volume of CO2 to standardize comparisons

Carbon Footprint: the amount of CO2eq an individual or organization generates through its practices and consumption