

Center for Human Rights and Environment

Integrated Annual Report 2019





Letter from the Chairman



Jorge Daniel Taillant
Executive Director, CHRE

Since our founding in 1999, we have been unwavering advocates of environmental sustainability, advancing human rights protection not only by sustaining human

rights law but also by helping create human rights policy, protection mechanisms, and international norms and laws that favor environmental protection and human rights. We've spear-headed movements to promote environmental justice and corporate accountability as well as establish key human rights issues such as the "right to water". We've pushed for sustainability in the mining sector and in oil and gas where we are helping abate toxic emissions, and we are working tirelessly to contain climate change.

At present we are continuously menaced by a collapsing climate while many key global, national and local political and private sector leaders fail to take on the necessary actions to halt our planetary spiral into climate catastrophe. We are working to change this!

One of the areas we focus on is *Cryoactivism*, a field of environmental advocacy that *we coined ourselves* which simply means advocacy to protect our planet's frozen environments (such as the polar regions, glaciers and permafrost areas of high mountain

environments) that conserve water and regulate flow to our global ecosystems.

Ice covers about 10% of the planet's surface. The rest is water and land. As climate change deepens, ice melts around the world at the polar ice caps and in mountain areas. As a result, our delicate global climate is altered. First, the sea rises and will continue to rise drastically in upcoming decades and centuries. Hundreds of millions of people that live on the coast will suffer tragic impacts, including loss of property, destruction of agriculture, illness and death. It's already happening and it will only get worse if we do not contain glacier melt.

Retreating ice exposes darker earth surfaces. White icy surfaces reflect solar heat, dark surfaces absorb it, and as a result melting glaciers lead to further global warming as the Earth absorbs more solar heat.

Deteriorating ice also poses glacier instability, which can lead to massive ice dislocation that results in dangerous glacier tsunamis for communities living in glacier basins. Vanishing glaciers diminish long-term water supply and drastically reduce or completely eliminate the rationing ability that glaciers have to hold back freshwater supply for use during warmer months and drier years. As glaciers recede, fresh water supply suffers, affecting our ability to live sustainably on our planet. Action is needed now to stop climate change and avoid future catastrophe!

We divide our work into thematic issues (or programs). This includes our efforts to address *climate change*

through promoting the reduction of toxic emissions such as methane (the gas that burns in your kitchen or that you use to heat your home in the winter), or fugitive methane from the oil and gas sector. We work to lower the black carbon emitted by inefficient burning in artisanal brick production in the Latin America region (our work this year took place in Mexico, Colombia, Paraguay and Uruguay). We engage directly with States to push them to comply with toxic gas phase-out commitments they've made to rid the planet of these terribly contaminating gases.

Concurrently, we are helping defend the human rights of environmental defenders, the people that defend our planet, and who are systematically persecuted because of their activism to help conserve the environment and protect vulnerable communities. This year we've made important strides to bring this predicament to the attention of (and achieve protective action by) global human rights institutions.

This is CHRE's Integrated Annual Report, prepared following the [Global Reporting Initiative's Sustainability Standards](#). An "integrated" annual report brings together program and sustainability information, evaluating institutional progress towards goals and sustainability. Our report is reviewed by a professional and independent accountant.

It is to the best of my knowledge and to the best capacity of our team, a thorough, transparent, and fair representation of our work and impact.

HIGHLIGHTS from 2019

CHRE's programmatic advocacy areas are:

Climate Change and Human Rights
Cryoactivism (protecting our world's ice)
Reducing Oil and Gas Emissions
Lowering Emissions from Traditional Brick Kilns
Addressing the Impacts of Mining
Promoting Corporate Accountability

Some of the key highlights and achievements for 2019 include:

- We organized a site visit to the Sierra Nevada (California) permafrost region with high-level public officials and expert scientists to draw attention to the vulnerability and resilience of frozen earth environments in the face of rapid climate change and global warming.
- We led and organized a regional hearing at the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights drawing attention to the judicial and political persecution of Environmental Defenders; the Commission has subsequently called on States for action to protect defenders.
- We captured video of toxic emissions during a tour of Colombia's oil and gas sector, and secured the commitment of public officials and the national oil company to strengthen regulations and reduce emissions.
- We helped organize and deliver a workshop and conducted a regional tour in Uruguay on the sustainability of artisanal brick production. We also traveled to Mexico to engage with local brick producers and policy makers to advance implementation of cleaner bricks projects.
- We began drafting a *new* book on the impacts of glacier-melt to local and global ecosystems.
- We engaged with Climate Works in Sofia, Bulgaria to strategize on global strategies to contain climate change and address methane gases



Adam Riffle (CHRE), David Herbst (UCSB) and Jared Blumenfeld (CAL-EPA) examine rock glacier water runoff in Sierra Nevada Mountains. Photo [JDTaillant](#)

Strategic Plan 2019 - 2022

The Center for Human Rights and Environment (CHRE) launched activities as a 501 (c) 3 organization under the laws of the United States and the State of Florida in 2015. We should note though that CHRE's institutional history dates back to 1999, when its previous incarnation and Spanish namesake (el Centro de Derechos Humanos y Ambiente—CEDHA) was founded as an Argentine non-profit. CHRE's Strategic Plan for the 2019-2022 period includes the following institutional and programmatic objectives and priorities.

Without specific or prioritized order, this Strategic Plan was devised in January of 2019.

- to achieve medium-term institutional, programmatic financial and administrative sustainability for CHRE
- to diversify CHRE's financing base, to include foundations, governments, and individual donors
- to generate savings of 15-20% of CHRE's average budget to secure operations during funding shortfalls
- to maintain remuneration for staff and management at a competitive rate
- to maintain and expand CHRE's presence in national and international spheres
- to maintain CHRE's innovative tradition and reputation on human rights and environmental issues
- to maintain an active and engaged website for CHRE's activities
- to promote constructive, engaged and collaborative advocacy work building on partner relations
- to bring CHRE's advocacy work closer to and more engaged with the academic community
- to sustain a steady flow of volunteers through CHRE's virtual internships
- to attract new volunteers to help consolidate CHRE's USA presence
- to engage on and expand CHRE's Florida-related issues and advocacy work
- to engage on and expand CHRE's general USA-related issues and advocacy work
- to deepen work on Glacier Protection, particularly in new countries (for example, USA, Peru, etc.) and achieve sustainable financing to do so
- to explore new, innovative and economically sustainable ways to continue to engage on reducing impacts of artisanal brick production in the Americas

CHRE activities for 2019 were all geared to comply and meet the objectives set out in the 2019 – 2022 Strategic Plan.

Photo: Artisanal Bricks Kilns in Florida, Uruguay. Photo: JDTaillant

Activities are presented by “program” below.

Programs

Permafrost areas like this one in the high mountain environments of the Sierra Nevada in California provide critical water storage and rationing during dryer months and drought years. Photo: JDTaillant



Climate Change

We leave 2019 behind with the firm understanding that we are on route to cause irreversible climate change and destructive global warming and that we urgently need to achieve global commitments and take action to regulate industry to contain and repair our global climate system.

CHRE is focused on engaging and helping lead global negotiations aimed at creating policy and regulatory frameworks for tackling climate change through the promotion of emissions reductions policy and action primarily of Short-Lived Climate Pollutants (SLCPs), which are gases that have enormous global warming impact (methane, HFCs, black carbon, ozone). Reducing SLCPs fast is the best way to avert irreversible climate change.

Our on this front CHRE engages global agencies such as the UN and Montreal Protocol signatory countries to ensure countries promote policies and commitments, while developing programs to implement climate action now.

Our senior climate advisor and CHRE co-Founder, Romina Picolotti, through her work with our collaborative partner IGSD, is contributing incisively to promoting cutting edge climate policy and programs while advising a number of philanthropic organization on how to best channel advocacy funding to promote global policies that can leverage action to address, contain and reverse climate change trends.

CHRE also directs climate action through our partnership with the United Nation's Climate and Clean Air Coalition (CCAC), of which we are a steering commission active partner as well as a project implementer.

Our work through the CCAC involves engaging countries with significant Short-Lived Climate Pollutant emissions and helping these countries develop action plans to reduce them. We actively engage with the CCAC's *Bricks Initiative*, focusing on reducing black carbon emissions from artisanal brick kilns in Latin America and Asia. Additionally, we promote methane and other toxic fossil fuel emissions reductions in the oil and gas sector, drawing attention to fugitive methane emissions from oil and gas infrastructure, and building capacity of non-governmental organizations that advocate for fossil fuel reductions in society.



<http://center-hre.org/following-emissions-revelations-ecopetrol-announces-take-warm-target-for-emissions-reductions/>

CHRE is the Creator and Coordinator of the CCAC's Latin American Policy Advisory Network for Clean Brick Production (PAN LAC). This network brings together over 200 specialists and policy actors from the Latin American region to discuss and develop policies to address contamination from brick kilns.

In 2019 in addition to assisting the government of Paraguay with setting up a national brick sector census, we accompanied the government of Uruguay with a local workshop on more efficient brick production and toured the country to take stock of

Uruguay's current black carbon emissions from the sector.

CHRE has developed a number of publications available online to help steer public policy in the brick sector, including a [Regional Strategy](#), a [Compilation of Public Policy](#), a [Ten Step Guidance Document](#) for Governments, and a [Model Training Course](#) for Public Policy workshops.



Camilo Quintero, CHRE Representative in Colombia, conducts production efficiency training for Artisanal Brick producers in Rivera Uruguay. Photo: JDTaillant

It is common to see children and animals circulate (including barefoot as in this picture) amidst highly toxic chemicals utilized in the artisanal brick sector. In this image note the bluish chromium-laced waste in the center-area of the image, derived from the leather industry. It is used as an additive to raw brick clay. CHRE is working to educate local officials and kiln producers on risks and solutions to eliminate such practice. Location: Outskirts of Montevideo, Uruguay.



Cryoactivism

Glacier and Permafrost Protection

A term coined by CHRE, *cryoactivism* is activism geared to protecting our cryosphere, the Earth's frozen environment.

This year we've made strong inroads in promoting periglacial (permafrost) awareness in California (of mostly *ignored* frozen grounds of the Sierra Nevada Mountains), in drawing attention to the effects of accelerated glacier melt into local ecosystems of the Pacific Northwest with partners in Washington State, in Peru where we are advising public officials on the creation of glacier protection mechanisms, in Kyrgyzstan where we continue to help draw attention to the impacts of mining on glaciers and *glaciosystems* (also a term we coined), and in Chile and Argentina where the struggle to protect glaciers continues. This year we've also started drafting a new book on the multi-dimensional and global ecosystems impacts of glacier melt.

Listen to California's EPA Head, Jared Blumenfeld, in his Podcast on Rock Glaciers, after his visit with CHRE to California Rock Glaciers in the Sierra Nevada Mountains!

<https://www.podshipearth.com/rockglacier>

It's surprising to realize that 98% of our planet's water is not freshwater and that only 2% is apt for human consumption, agriculture and industrial use. Of this miniscule amount of water available to us, 75% is stored in glacier ice, mostly in the North and South Poles. A very small percentage (but a very large amount in terms human consumption) of this water is also found in mountain glacier environments. Mountain glaciers perform a fundamental role in storing freshwater and supplying our rivers with critical water supply after the winter snow has melted. If it were not for the "rationing" function of mountain glaciers, which slowly melt during dry months until they recharge the following winter, we would not have water to meet ecosystem needs for the full year!

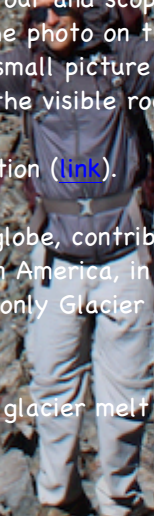
This year we turned our focus to *rock glaciers* and *permafrost* regions of the US's Pacific West and Northwest Region, including the Cascade and Sierra Nevada Mountains. CHRE took on Adam Riffle as our Northwest Region Cryoactivism Coordinator, we joined the Sierra Nevada Alliance and began engagement with partners in the Pacific Northwest to explore the impacts of accelerated glacier melt on local ecosystems and hydrology.

In the late summer we teamed up with Connie Millar, a rock glacier specialist of the US Forest Service, David Herbst a Sierra Nevada expert hydrologist at UCSB and Jared Blumenfeld, head of California's Environmental Protection Agency, to tour and scope out some of California's most critical, yet also mostly unknown water supply (rock glaciers and permafrost). The photo on this page is atop of Excelsior Rock Glacier near Lee Vining, California—below the rocks is a solid ice core. Note the small picture bottom left, of a high mountain water stream stemming directly from the base of the Barney Rock Glacier (the visible rocks in the background).

We also completed during 2019 a first draft California Periglacial Environment publication ([link](#)).

We are continuing our efforts to promote glacier vulnerability awareness around the globe, contributing in 2019 to several webinars held throughout the region on glaciers and their relevance in California, Latin America, in Peru, Chile, Kyrgyzstan and elsewhere. CHRE is also continuing to contribute to the implementation of the world's only Glacier Protection Law currently in force in Argentina.

For 2020 we look forward to publishing a new book on the significance and impacts of glacier melt around the world, while continuing to promote local and global cryoactivism.

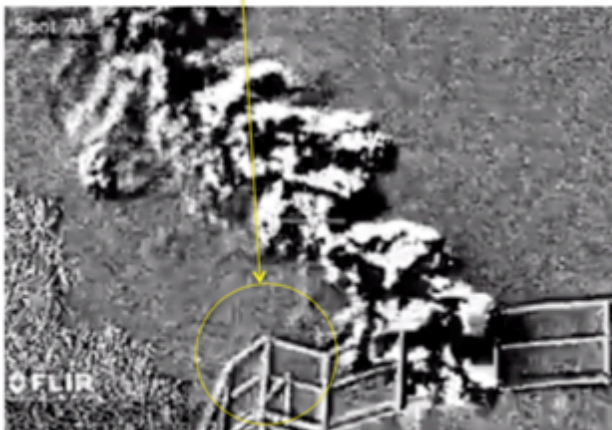


Oil and Gas

CHRE and partners Earthworks and Clean Air Task Force took an Infrared FLIR Camera to view otherwise invisible toxic gas emissions at oil and gas facilities in Colombia. Local residents and political leaders learned of and viewed these emissions for the first time. This "image capturing tour" helped bring dangerous toxic emissions from the oil and gas sector to the attention of policy makers and public officials. We achieved national media coverage on Colombia's principal TV networks, which led to commitments and steps *taken* by Colombia's environmental authorities to strengthen regulations on oil and gas sector emissions. Following our intervention, the state-owned oil company Ecopetrol also made commitments to reduce emissions by 20% by 2030! We want better than that but it is an important first step. We will continue to engage Colombia on reducing oil and gas sector emissions in 2020 and beyond.



Local Councilman of Yumbo, Joseph Medina, David Sanguino of Corporación Regional Yumbina CARM, and Peter Driscoll register emissions at Ecopetrol's Estación 4, in Yumbo. (FLIR Clips 0499, 0500, and 0501)
GIS: 7°53'35.97" N 77°54'50.89" W



Site visit registers emissions at Ecopetrol's Estación 5, in Yumbo. (FLIR Clips 05005 - 0510), less than 150 yards from a primary school (image of school top left)
GIS: 7°53'33.72" N 77°54'28.41" W



Oil and Gas / Fracking

Fossil fuels are a thing of the past, and while fossil fuel lobbyists have a strong hold on politicians, we are already seeing a fall in global support for continued fossil fuel production over time. And while abruptly eliminating all fossil fuels from our energy mix is unlikely in a short-term scenario, we are convinced that all countries can *and must* begin to steer their energy mix towards cleaner and renewable fuels such as wind and solar, and the faster we get there, the better it will be for our planet.

CHRE firmly supports a progressive reduction in fossil fuel production over the next 50 years, completely inverting the 80/20 mix (now favoring fossil fuels). Concurrently, we must address hot spots, where fossil fuels are causing the largest impacts, such as in fugitive emissions or venting of gases from oil and gas infrastructure directly into the atmosphere, still a common practice of the oil and gas sector. Ironically they vent gas simply because they are not driven to capture it, process it, reutilize it and/or sell it. Oil and gas companies could make a profit by contaminating less, yet fail to do so. This is because our regulations are too lax, or because policy makers and public officials are not pushing for cleaner production. We are working to change this.

As part of our ongoing work to raise the awareness around the oil and gas sector's severe contribution to climate change, and particularly focusing on emissions of toxic gases by conventional and non-conventional (shale) oil and gas exploration and production, CHRE is working to engage local activists

and inform public officials on how the oil and gas sector contributes to our climate problem. We are mapping out paths towards emissions reductions.

Our work centers on engaging civil society that has not been traditionally active on the environmental impacts of oil and gas production. Fracking, meanwhile, is a fairly new and exploratory activity in most of the developing world, and is slated to increase fossil fuel production instead of reducing it.



This is the typical reaction the first time you see invisible gaseous emissions (small picture) from oil and gas operations. We call it the "WOW-ometer" reading! Pete Dronkers of Earthworks and local Colombian activist Estefany Grajales view dangerous invisible emissions from Ecopetrol's infrastructure. Photo JDTaillant

In a collaborative effort, *the Clean Air Task Force*, *Earthworks*, and *CHRE* traveled to Colombia to tour the oil and gas sector equipped with a FLIR technology infrared camera, and we registered copious emissions at more than 50 oil and gas sites.

We then held a workshop with environmental groups, community leaders and media to show the images we captured (see photo on this page) and things went viral! Days later we were getting calls from Colombia's governmental agencies and even from the main oil producer Ecopetrol, surprised and incredulous of the images we were showing on national television.

The following week, we held a series of meetings with Ecopetrol, Colombia's Environmental Ministry and its lead regulatory agency. Ecopetrol went public days later promising emissions reductions of 20% by 2030. Governmental agencies promised stricter regulations to reduce emissions. CHRE also spoke last year before the Colombian Congress about the risks of fracking, and thanks to the advocacy of local environmental groups we are helping train and inform, there is now a temporary ban on exploratory permits for fracking, which we hope will eventually become permanent.

Bricks: Cleaning Up Artisanal Brick Production in Mexico



Andres Aranda (far left), CHRE Representative in Mexico meeting with artisanal brick producers and public officials in Tlaquepaque to promote efficiency gains in production techniques. Photo: A. Aranda

2019 was a busy year for CHRE in Mexico. We met several times with the Mexican Institute for Ecology and Climate Change (INECC) to discuss national emissions reduction strategies in the bricks sector, and with brick producers to discuss production efficiency improvement opportunities to greatly reduce emissions. CHRE's Andres Aranda created a brick producer's association called Amerprosche and met with numerous local authorities to promote collaborative engagement, including with the Environment Secretary of Durango, with locality Leon Guanajuato to explore recycling of biogas, and with the University of Vasco de Quiroga to explore financing opportunities for artisanal brick makers. In November of 2019, through Amerprosche, Andres held a workshop with the Technological Institute of High Studies (ITESO) examining eco-labeling to promote best practices in the sector.

Human Rights: Defending the Earth's Defenders!

Never before in history have the Earth's climate and natural systems been so threatened. And never before have environmental defenders been under such attack as a result of their efforts to protect the planet. These are the themes discussed at an Inter-American Commission on Human Rights Hearing requested by CHRE and over 30 partners in 2019 to inform the region's highest human rights tribunal of the civil liberties and life-threatening abuses faced by environmental defenders around the continent and around the world merely because they work to protect the Earth.

The hearing, a landmark achievement to activate international human rights protection for environmental activists, focused specifically on the misuse and abuse of States' criminal justice systems to punish and deter environmental defenders and their work. The IACHR heard from some of the Earth's most influential, and yet most vulnerable, environmental defenders—activists that put their lives on the line to protect our planet and to stop the environmental pollution that is causing climate change, devastating some of our most pristine ecosystems, and affecting the health of local communities.

The IACHR reviewed the increasingly sophisticated and alarming State practice of criminalizing environmental defenders' work with smear campaigns, false accusations in social media and newspapers, baseless criminal investigations, continuous harassment, and bogus criminal lawsuits

marred by evidentiary problems and due process violations. The hearing also examined the ways that powerful polluters with political power, media backing, and corrupt control over judges and courts wage a sustained and effective fight against environmental defenders and their supporters.

CHRE Founder and globally recognized human rights and environmental activist Romina Picoletti, herself a victim of such abuse, called on the Commission to take action. "We as environmental defenders are the target

of persecution and criminalization geared to stop our efforts to defend the planet. Environmental defenders, as a 'group', are being attacked, and this has severe consequences to individuals, to families and to the very idea of sustainable development. We need strong and coordinated international action to protect citizens that are standing up for us to protect the Earth."



CHRE and partner groups speak at a regional hearing in 2019 to bring to the attention of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, the persecution, imprisonment, smear campaigns and other abuses faced by Environmental Defenders in the course of their advocacy.

CHRE and partners produced a comprehensive [report](#) laying out a framework for understanding the criminalization of environmental defenders and featuring chilling details from dozens of cases of environmental defenders across the region that have been criminalized and persecuted in their countries. A great end to 2019, Alberto

Curamil, an indigenous leader in Chile, illegally detained over a year earlier for his environmental activism, was released from prison after CHRE and numerous partners coordinated and filed a legal brief defending him.

Florida and USA-Related Activities

One of our institutional objectives is to look at our new home (since 2015) and identify some of the priority issues that our advocacy can help influence in the State of Florida and around the country. In compliment to CHRE's Short Lived Climate Pollutant reduction efforts at a global scale, CHRE in 2018 began an effort to engage on local environmental policy inputs to some of Florida's political candidates. We also prepared a draft Short Lived Climate Pollutant Strategy for the State, which we have begun to circulate to key actors. CHRE is currently carrying out a targeted outreach to key environmental leaders and local political representatives to inform and strengthen the policy narrative and future action on climate and environment.

Our Climate Advisor also continues to engage with key US Institutions and government agencies, such as the US Congress, with the Governor of California, as well as with the California Air Resources Board, and with coalitions like the US Climate Alliance, not only to communicate the benefits of keeping to international climate agreements such as the Montreal Protocol and the new Kigali Amendment, but also to promote local actions (such as in California) and clean air and SLCP phase-outs.

In 2019, CHRE carried out a field visit and scoping exercise to the Sierra Nevada Mountains of California, to draw attention to the little-known "periglacial environment", or permafrost zones of the Sierra Nevada, which are critical to California's water supply in a changing climate where glaciers are melting and water has become an extremely scarce resource.



Draft Proposal for Florida Short Lived Climate Pollutant Phase-Out Strategy

[DRAFT DOCUMENT IN EVOLUTION]

By J. Daniel Taillant
Center for Human Rights and Environment
jdtailant@gmail.com
+1 415 713 2309

Short Lived Climate Pollutants (or SLCPs) are *climate change causing gases* found in industry and households. They are typically found in air conditioning systems, in the agricultural sector, in oil and gas operations and in other commercial and industrial sectors. Reducing them quickly is economically feasible, it's good for the environment, it helps stop climate change, it's good for human health, and it reduces energy costs by increasing efficiency. Florida stands to gain on many political, economic, social, and environmental grounds by introducing a SLCP reduction strategy.

Context/Rationale/Intro

Climate change, caused largely by the global warming, which is in turned caused by the anthropogenic saturation of our atmosphere with green house gases, is one of the world's most important global problems and currently has much of the world's attention in a race to contain and revert degenerative climate trends.

Florida is perhaps one of the US State's most famous for its lush environment, its' beautiful ~~coast~~ coastline, beaches, and yet, it is perhaps the US State that is most affected by climate change. Warming temperatures melt glaciers around the world, including in the North and South Pole regions, but also in high mountain environments in middle latitudes. Melting glaciers cause sea level rise, which in turn causes saltwater intrusion into Florida's rich freshwater aquifer system, and the very sensitive Everglade environment. Eventually much of Florida's territory will be under water—this is a natural phenomenon that occurs in long millenary year cycles (tens of thousands of years), however current climate change caused by excessive contamination are bringing this flooding on much sooner, and we may even see some signs of this even within our own lifetime. For anyone that has visited the Florida Keys, the multiple island scenery surrounded by ocean water is a visual that may soon be seen in other parts of the state's territory.

Many global strategies already exist and are newly emerging to tackle climate change, and reverse these trends. One example is reducing fossil fuel ~~consumption~~ consumption which reduces highly contaminant CO₂ gases that warm our planet. By cutting down on dirty fuel sources such as coal, or promoting renewables energy sources such as solar and wind, we can help avoid accelerated global warming. Other strategies focus on reducing consumption, recycling, planting trees, making transportation more efficient, and lowering toxic emissions from anthropogenic sources such as dirty industries.

The active Excelsior Rock Glacier in California's Sierra Nevada. Photo: JDTaillant

Administration

The Center for Human Rights and Environment (CHRE) is a legally established non-profit organization constituted under Florida State law and is recognized by the Internal Revenue Service of the United States as a non-profit charity 501 (c) 3. The CHRE Board of Directors is a three-person board, as mandated by Florida law. The board, which may expand in the future, consists of three Florida residents: Jorge Daniel Taillant (founder), Romina Picolotti (founder), and Stephanie Daveris (former CEDHA Fellow)—see page 20 for bios of Board Members. CHRE functions in Palm Beach Gardens, Florida. CHRE is a virtual organization with contributors, staff, volunteers and consultants operating remotely from their place of preference, in varying countries, as defined by their work and personal circumstances. During 2019, CHRE's team was comprised by activists from the Austria, Spain, Colombia, Argentina, Mexico, Paraguay and the United States. As CHRE is a virtual organization, documents are physically managed as is most practical—at present they are filed and stored in Palm Beach Gardens Florida, at the home of the Chief Executive Officer/Executive Director.

The CHRE team is comprised of its Executive Director (Jorge Daniel Taillant), *ad hoc* consultants hired (as funding is available) to carry out specific programmatic activities and volunteers who also take on a considerable portion of activities, contributing as needed to CHRE's various programs and initiatives. Romina Picolotti serves as Climate Advisor on a non-remunerated basis strategically steering CHRE's Climate Change Program.

CHRE activities are logged in Institutional Meeting Minutes prepared bi-monthly containing administrative, financial and programmatic information. These minutes are sent to CHRE's Board of Directors electronically bi-weekly. They are logged by year and kept by the Executive Director. Minutes contain details of programmatic activity as well as a summary of financial standing and movements for the period comprised. Monthly expenses are registered electronically each month and receipts are physically kept and ordered by semester. Minutes are signed and stamped by the Executive Director and contain a seal of the institution. Exact copies of bi-weekly minutes are sent to each member of the Board of Directors providing a copy/legitimacy check for their content and accuracy with those minutes kept on office premises.



Legal Documents and Policies

The Center for Human Rights and Environment has specific foundational legal documents mandated by the State of Florida and by federal agencies, as well as internal operational policies that guide the organization, establish its mandate and institutional objectives and govern staff and board behavior. The Office Policies were reviewed and updated in 2016.

These are:

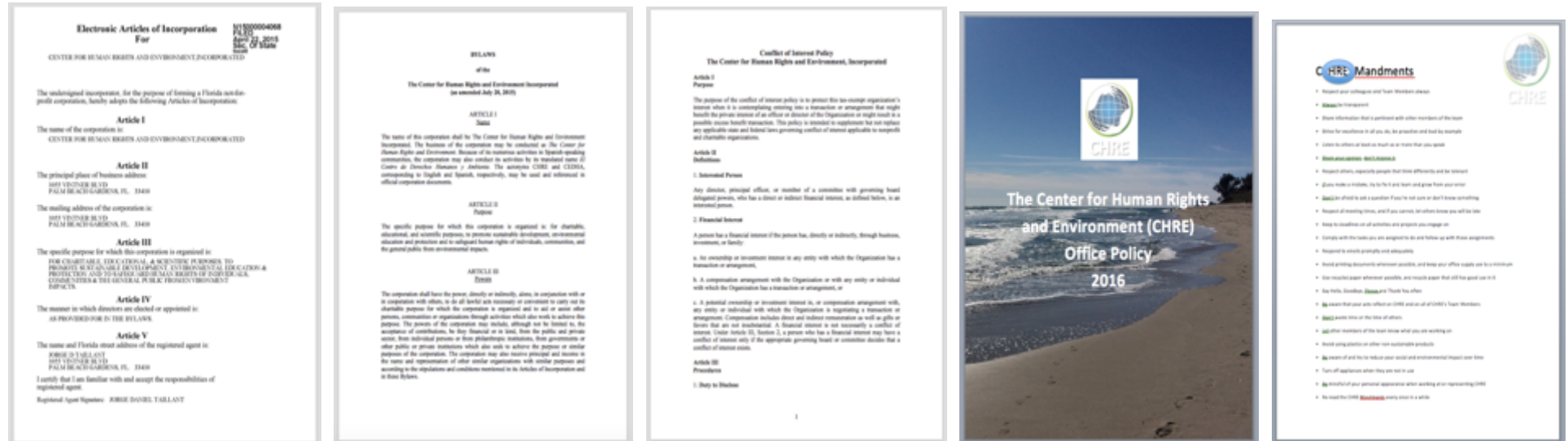
Articles of Incorporation ... which lay out the essential coordinates, governors, and objectives of the organization.

Bylaws ... which establish institutional due diligence.

Conflict of Interest Policy ... which define the relationship between the board members and CHRE.

Office Policies (updated in 2016) ... which help guide the nature of our Team Relations, our ethics and institutional character.

CHRE-Mandments ... which are basic rules to live by.



Communication

CHRE regularly communicates information about its activities and key issues in its fields of action. Part of our communication is carried out through a number of websites devoted to disseminating information about our work activity and about specific issues related to our programmatic agendas. CHRE's main website is www.center-hre.org. Some of the more active and targeted communications this year were on Oil and Gas, Mining, Glaciers, Brick Kiln Contamination and Abatement, Human Rights Defenders and Climate Change.

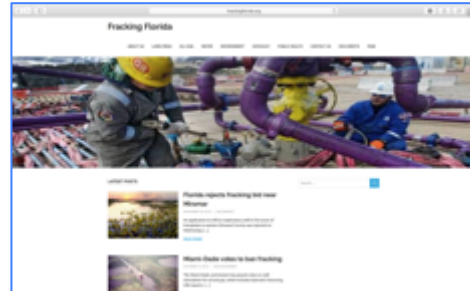
Past Websites that remain online (but that are no longer active; click below, links are live!)

<http://frackingflorida.org> ... is CHRE's page about fracking issues specifically focusing on the State of Florida

<http://fracking.cedha.net> ... focusing on the evolution of fracking in Argentina and around the world

<http://Redracc.org> ... focusing on eliminating short life climate pollutants in Latin America

<http://casopasteras.cedha.net> ... recounting an extensive CHRE advocacy case involving pulp mill contamination on the Argentine-Uruguayan border



Facebook pages: (click below, links are live!)

<https://www.facebook.com/minargentina/> ... a page about mining impacts in Argentina

<https://www.facebook.com/Glaciares-Argentinos-122562527824381/> ... a page about glacier vulnerability in Argentina and around the world

<https://www.facebook.com/Fracking-Argentina-499891123423652/> ... a page about the evolution of fracking in Argentina

<https://www.facebook.com/Los-Glaciares-de-Barrick-350139245096392/> ... a page about Barrick Gold's impacts to glaciers and permafrost

<https://www.facebook.com/The-Woodstock-Principles-265359213577526/> ... a page about sustainability in the music industry




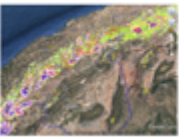











<https://www.facebook.com/search/top/?q=fundacion%20cedha> ... a page following CEDHA activities (in Spanish)

<https://www.facebook.com/VoluntariosCedha/?fref=ts> ... a page for CHRE Volunteers (Spanish)

Press Releases

Our press statements have always been an important part of our institutional outreach. They are generally produced and circulated both in English and in Spanish. CHRE maintains several email lists focused on media contacts, interested government officials, corporate and civil society stakeholders. More than 5,000 contacts receive communications in English or in Spanish (or both). E-mail lists are updated regularly. Press releases during 2019 were focused on programmatic activities, global climate change related issues, brick kiln contamination and abatement, mining impacts, glacier impacts, oil and gas, and periodic information drawing attention to the persistent illegal persecution of environmentalists in the region, as well as CHRE's team and our organization.

Below is a selection of these press releases with live Internet links so that the reader may consult them.

 <p>Brick Kiln Association Launches in Jalisco Mexico to Tackle Environmental, Social and Economic Efficiency</p> <p>April 5, 2019</p> <p>March 25, 2019 - A product of evolving awareness on the importance of tackling environmental, social and economic challenges in Mexico's artisanal brick production, nearly...</p>	 <p>Environmental Organizations and High-Level Dignitaries Request Hearing on the Criminalization of Environmental Human Rights Defenders</p> <p>July 26, 2019</p> <p>Image: Police repression in Peru in 2018 at Alto Huarca in Yauri, Peru. Local indigenous woman denounced violent attacks by police attempting to expel them...</p>	 <p>Amicus Brief Filed in Chilean Mapuche Indigenous Leader Case</p> <p>December 6, 2019</p> <p>Human Rights Leaders File Amicus Brief in the case of Chilean Indigenous Environmental Activist Washington D.C., December 6, 2019. - Four International Human Rights Organizations...</p>
 <p>Argentine Supreme Court Upholds Glacier Law</p> <p>June 4, 2019</p> <p>Photo: Mining conflict with glacier areas in the Central Andes... yellow dots mining projects purple, blue and red areas, glacier and frozen ground zones. ...</p>	 <p>Global fossil fuel burning continues to increase rapidly</p> <p>August 8, 2019</p> <p>by Barry Saxifrage (originally published in Canada's National Observer) Despite decades of promises to prevent a climate crisis, the primary cause of it - global fossil...</p>	 <p>CHRE Organizes Periglacial Environment Tour of Sierra Nevada Mountains in California</p> <p>October 3, 2019</p> <p>(Image: Adam Riffe (CHRE), Dave Herbst (UCSB) and Jared Blumenfeld (CALERA) take water samples at run off stream below rock glacier above Mammoth Lakes, Barney...</p>
 <p>The World We Dream: Supreme Court Ruling in Argentina Favors Glacier Protection</p> <p>June 5, 2019</p> <p>The World We Dream: Supreme Court Ruling in Argentina Favors Glacier Protection Opinion by Romina Picoletti Founder, Center for Human Rights and Environment Former Secretary...</p>	 <p>CHRE Joins Sierra Nevada Alliance</p> <p>August 12, 2019</p> <p>The Center for Human Rights and Environment became the newest member of the Sierra Nevada Alliance this month. The Sierra Nevada Alliance. Since 1993, the...</p>	 <p>Environmental Defenders: Inter-American Commission on Human Rights Holds Special Hearing on Environmental Defenders Under Attack</p> <p>September 27, 2019</p> <p>ENVIRONMENTAL DEFENDERS UNDER ATTACK IN TIMES OF CLIMATE CHANGE Inter-American Commission on Human Rights Holds Special Hearing on Environmental Defenders Under Attack Victims and Experts...</p>
 <p>CHRE Visits Uruguayan Artisanal Brick Sector</p> <p>June 18, 2019</p> <p>May 2019 - Uruguay PAGE Uruguay (Partnership for Action on Green Economy) in collaboration with the Ministry of Industry, Energy and Mining (MIEM) and the...</p>	 <p>CHRE Reveals Toxic Emissions at Colombian Oil and Gas Sites</p> <p>September 3, 2019</p> <p>September 3, 2019 In collaboration with Earthworks, the Center for Human Rights and Environment conducted a 5-day field visit to over 50 oil and gas...</p>	 <p>Inter-American Commission Calls to Protect Environmental Defenders</p> <p>October 3, 2019</p> <p>Inter-American Commission on Human Rights Calls for Action to Protect Environmental Defenders in Times of Climate Emergency (October 3, 2019 - Washington D.C.) - Commissioners...</p>
 <p>Webinar Mining Impacts to Glaciers</p> <p>June 21, 2019</p> <p>Webinar on Mining Impacts to Glaciers (Spanish Only) link to webinar: https://www.aida-americas.org/es/blog/seminario-virtual-mineria-en-glaciares-impactos-y-alternativas On April 26, 2019, an online webinar took place focused...</p>	 <p>Following Emissions Revelations Ecopetrol Announces Luke-Warm Target for Emissions Reductions</p> <p>September 17, 2019</p> <p>September 16, 2019 - Bogota, Colombia Days after the Center for Human Rights and Environment and Earthworks revealed extensive fugitive and venting emissions at numerous...</p>	 <p>Our addiction to fossil fuels causes climate emergency, say human rights experts</p> <p>September 18, 2019</p> <p>originally posted at: https://ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=25003&LangID=E GENEVA (17 September 2019) - UN human rights experts call for an end to society's addiction to fossil fuels ahead of the...</p>

CHRE's *Permanent Team, Volunteers, Fellows and Interns*

CHRE's team comprises persons from all walks of life, some contributing full-time commitment to our advocacy, but mostly our team is comprised of part-time volunteers that have other ongoing full-time commitments but that want to contribute in different ways to our overall sustainability objectives.

Whatever the form of engagement, CHRE's team members contribute incisively to our advocacy! Over the years we have been fortunate to have the assistance and commitment of hundreds of people, including seasoned professionals, students, career environmentalists, scientists, academics and human rights advocates, some conducting cutting edge research, others helping draft reports, or producing academic publications, while others work on international complaints we might file against a government or contaminating industry. Many offer their help anonymously because they are working for contaminators and would like someone to engage to make their companies more sustainable! Some like deskwork, while others prefer more hands-on engagement with local communities to help promote sustainable development and defend human rights. We've also benefited greatly from lovers of the outdoors who have contributed photography and onsite data collection of things like glaciers, mining projects or high mountain wetland systems.

While in the past CHRE offered *onsite* engagement in office environments, today our engagement with our team members is *virtual* and free from a geographically-defined location. This means that you can engage with CHRE anywhere in the world, adapting personal schedules and time and travel constraints, or targeting site-specific research or advocacy that you are interested in working on. In 2019, CHRE's team came from the Austria, Spain, Colombia, Mexico, Paraguay and the United States, carrying out research, maintaining websites, generating communication, editing publications, assisting with academic research, and publishing some of our most incisive and important reports.



CHRE's 2019 Team

Andres Aranda (Mexico)



Andrés Aranda received his degree as a Environmental Chemical Engineer from the University of Wismar in Germany. He has specialized in technical cooperation projects to reduce emissions causing contamination to the atmosphere. He has contributed to the creation of projects in renewable energies, sustainable transport and climate change mitigation in Mexico and Latin America, and on accessing public and private sector finance from the Green Climate Fund. He has collaborated with multilateral agencies such as GTZ, Swisscontact and the CAF, and as a consultant on climate change mitigation. During the last several years, he worked for the Government of the State of Jalisco, Mexico, as Director of Clean Air where he promoted the creation of the first environmental norms for the State on the location and operation of artisanal brick kilns, promoting clean technologies, capacity building and the creation of an artisanal brick kiln industrial park. Andres contributes to CHRE to strengthen initiative promoting the transition to clean brick production in Mexico, seeking consensus building throughout the sector and improving air quality in Mexico's principal cities.

Carl Arco (Austria/Paraguay)



Carl is a graduate of the University of Leoben, Austria. He completed his masters thesis on current state and evolution of the Brick Industry in Paraguay. He currently assisting the Paraguayan Government in the development of strategies to address sustainability of the artisanal brick sector in the country. He has worked at several quarries and for mining companies extracting coal and iron. The time he spent with "Engineers Without Borders Austria" awakened his interest in facilitating technical support in developing countries. He works with CHRE as Market Analyst for the Paraguayan Brick Sector.

Camilo Quintero (Colombia)



Camilo is a chemist by trade with more than 20 years of experience in the ceramics sector. He is founder of Mintec Ceramic Ltd, a company offering services to the ceramics sector of Colombia, and to Central and South America. He has been a consultant for programs such as EELA (by Swisscontact), USAID and PAN LAC, actively participating on the characterization of clays and best practices in production processes in the bricks sector. He is a project collaborator at CHRE working with the PAN LAC (Latin American Policy Advisory Network for Clean Brick Production).

Lucia Urrutia (Spain/Paraguay)



Lucia graduated from Goldsmiths University in London (United Kingdom) with a degree in Education, Culture and Society. Always very interested in social inclusion, Lucia has worked as a social, linguistic and cultural educator in places such as Turkana (Kenia), Kolkata (India), Yucatán (México), London (United Kingdom), Fuzhou (China) and Madrid (Spain). She is a passionate sociologist and educator in different cultures with an integral approach on inter-culturality, cultural respect and development. Her degree dissertation and master thesis (Master on Bilingual Education) focused on sustainable transformation on the basis that all changes in society need to be well planned and consider all stakeholders towards a positive and realistic transformation, taking into account cultural as well as social diversity. Now she is now engaged with CHRE on the empowerment and inclusion of the brick sector in Paraguay by promoting the national product and aiding in the smooth change of the sector in relationship to formalization, visibility and modernization.

Adam Riffle (United States)



Adam received his B.A. in Geography from Keene State College and more recently he graduated from Central Washington University with a master's in Cultural and Environmental Resource Management. His master's thesis was focused on the hydrological significance of rock glaciers in the Eastern Cascades of Washington. His research involved using Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR) to survey the substructure of nine rock glaciers. He is now currently working on publishing his findings. Adam is collaborating with CHRE to protect the cryosphere through educating the public and promoting policy change. He is CHRE's West Coast Cryoactivism Coordinator. Adam is a conservation geomorphologist whose views stem directly from his love for the outdoors. If he is not out advocating for the protection of the environment he is likely out playing in it.

Your picture could be here!



Board

Jorge Daniel Taillant



Daniel co-founded the CHRE in 1999, and served as Executive Director until 2006, as President from 2006 to 2008 and assumed Executive Director position again in 2012. He leads CHRE's work on Cryoactivism, in the promotion of Oil and Gas Emissions Reduction, and on CHRE's general advocacy, communications and management tasks. For this work, and particularly for CHRE's strategic advocacy opposing two controversial pulp mills on the Argentine-Uruguayan border, the CHRE received the 2007 Sierra Club's Earth Care Award, its highest international distinction for innovative advocacy in protection of the global environment. He has worked with numerous national and international organizations, including the United Nations, OAS, World Bank, and the European Community. He has published numerous papers on human rights and environment linkages.

Romina Picoletti



Romina Picoletti is co-founder of the Center for Human Rights and the Environment (CHRE) and presently serves as Climate Advisor and Board Member of the USA based CHRE. Romina is a worldly recognized international environmental and human rights expert. She established Latin America's first human rights and environment legal clinic to defend underprivileged and marginalized communities from environmental degradation and has defended victims before international human rights tribunals. In 2006 she won the prestigious Sophie Prize for her unique contribution to sustainable development. She served as Argentina's Environment Secretary from 2006-2008 deepening environmental controls for hundreds of companies. She helped shape and create stronger environmental regulatory frameworks, led Argentina to pass a critical forestry law, established environmental insurance requirements for corporations, and ushered in the world's first ever glacier protection law. Through her collaboration with the Institute for Governance and Sustainable Development (IGSD) she contributes extensively to address global climate change and phase-out short-lived climate pollutants, for which she won USEPA's Climate Protection Award in 2008.

Stephanie Daveris



Stephanie graduated from the University of California, Los Angeles with a degree in International Political Science and a Public Policy minor. Through her career she worked on many different platforms including, international, state and non-profit sectors. Internationally, she worked in Argentina for CHRE assisting in the initial research for the Pulp Paper Mill case. At the state level, she served California Governor Schwarzenegger coordinating constituent affairs. In the non-profit sector, she worked in Vail, Colorado educating disadvantaged youth through the arts. Stephanie is very passionate about learning and helping her community. She serves as CHRE Board Member.

Sustainability



“An integrated report is a concise communication about how an organization’s strategy, governance, performance and prospects, in the context of its external environment, lead to the creation of value in the short, medium and long term.”

- [Integrated Reporting](#)

Sustainability at CHRE *(much of this text is taken and reedited from 2015 and other annual reports as the information is still very pertinent!)*

Ironically, environmental and human rights organizations are rarely called out to show how **they** promote environmental and human rights protection within their own organization. Questions of legitimacy and representation oftentimes come up in discussions about non-profit advocacy, including NGO commitments to labor rights or to human rights or to environmental sustainability inside *their* spheres of influence. We of course should be considering *our own* social and environmental impacts caused by our travel, through our material purchases, and we also should be striving to create a healthy work environment for our Team Members. And yet, we only rarely hear of efforts by non-profit organizations to report on their own sustainability.

CHRE has addressed this issue nearly since our founding, because the global promotion of sustainability for ALL organizations no matter their size, shape or form, has been at the heart of our advocacy from Day 1. In fact, CHRE's founder and present Executive Director until recently sat on the [Global Sustainability Standards Board](#) of the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI). Most companies and other organizations around the world utilize GRI as guidance to develop their sustainability reports. CHRE has been a key proponent and leader along with GRI in helping evolve global sustainability reporting for all organizations since the early 2000s, helping GRI incorporate human rights in their reporting framework in 2002. In 2003, CHRE became one of the first NGOs to produce a *sustainability report*, and with the International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD) we published [a report](#) analyzing why civil society organizations should *also* report their triple bottom line on environmental, social, and economic sustainability. We also contributed to [GRI's Sector Supplement on NGO Reporting](#). These reports are still relevant today for helping NGOs define their sustainability materiality and reporting!



CHRE plants trees to offset CO₂ Emissions; image of tree planted by CHRE in 2016 (left), 2017 (center left), and 2018 (center right) and 2019 (right)

The first and most important question for sustainability reporting for any organization is defining what is **material** to the organization's activity that merits reporting. What does the organization do about its own impacts and what is the organizations' policy to address it? Also, what are its commitments

to reduce impacts and the organization's system for monitoring and reporting progress? NGOs should consider *who* their primary stakeholders are and *how* those stakeholders engage (or may not engage) with the organization in evaluating its sustainability progress and influencing its policy to address it. NGOs don't generate industrial waste like some of the corporate actors we engage with to promote corporate accountability (mining companies, oil and gas operations, pulp mills, etc.) nor do we have anywhere near their industrial levels of emissions, even from our most contaminating activities. And whether an NGO has 30 team members as we did several years ago, or just a handful as we do today, what is most important in all cases is that at our own level and in our own sphere of influence, we act responsibly and set the example for the rest of society to follow.



1. (left and center) CHRE plants two additional trees in Florida during 2017 to offset CO₂ Emissions; 2. (right) CHRE Director plants trees in Colombian *páramo*—wetlands (11/2018)

Sustainability “materiality” (what is important for us) for an NGO like CHRE has to do mostly with emissions generated from travel (principally air and car travel), and to a lesser degree also with the environmental friendliness (or not) of the materials we consume in the office environment. When we were a team of 30 this consumption was more significant, but now that we are just a handful to team members, it is less material, *but not irrelevant* and it's always important to set example. Sometimes overlooked, sustainability for an NGO *also* has to do with human rights applied in our office environment. What governs our office relations? How do we manage relations? And how do we resolve our disputes? These human relations issues are “material” to our sustainability.

Another issue that came up in the last few years that related to our public image and which has brought up legitimate questions for our stakeholders is the political persecution that we have suffered with the false accusations and persistent judicial persecution of our founder and the relationship that it has had with CHRE. Our partners or colleagues that may not know us well may have doubts about our integrity when they read information about us in

smear campaigns that have been leveled our way. Answering question and responding to these public concerns and gaining social confidence amongst our peers, with our beneficiaries and with our donors, are also an important part of our own *social responsibility*.

One sustainability area that is always difficult for any organization, and this is perhaps even more difficult for public interest-focused NGOs, is **defining stakeholders** that might be concerned about the organization's social and environmental impacts. Generally speaking, crowds don't gather at our doorstep to condemn us for not carpooling, or for not recycling or for buying bleached printer paper or for not offsetting our CO₂ emissions. Few people ask NGOs



about their *discrimination policy* or if we have a *human rights policy*, or if we have a grievance mechanism to deal with complaints that might be filed by our own team members against our own organizations. We are usually the ones filing complaints about others, but rarely do we look inwards to see if we are doing things as we should! These sorts of public inquiries about institutional operations which would more naturally occur for large multinational companies, simply do not occur for NGOs, except for a few instances where a partner may ask us about whether or not we've offset emissions, or maybe a funder asks us about the details of our legal documents because they are important for their capacity to give us a grant. No funder or partner, for example, has ever asked us if "we" uphold human rights or if we take actions to reduce our emissions. We are mostly left to ourselves to act as responsibly *or as irresponsibly* as we like, an unfortunate reality that may lead to lax practices amongst the very groups that should be first to set the example.

CHRE's Director drives a "zero emissions" fully electric vehicle, greatly reducing CO₂ emissions from local travel

In the early 2000s (keeping in mind that back then society was not as attune to these issues as it is now), we identified *international global travel* as our key area for concern. In just a very short time, and in order to carry out our advocacy work, our team members had traveled many times around the world, generating significant per-capita CO₂ emissions as compared to a person that did not regularly travel for work. We also realized that we were consuming a significant per-capita amount of Styrofoam cups in our daily coffee and lunch consumption. We didn't recycle paper nor did we reutilize ink cartridges. More worrisome however, is that CHRE didn't have a *human rights policy*, or an *anti-discrimination clause* in our charter or in our bylaws. We were simply living and working as we saw fit, with little or no institutional guidance to help us set a course for achieving our own institutional sustainability. In fact, we were operating in a way quite similar to many of the contaminating corporations we were targeting with pressure to be more sustainable!



Some of the Native Tree Seedlings Planted in Florida during 2017 (above)

Growth of accessible trees as viewed in November 2018 (below)

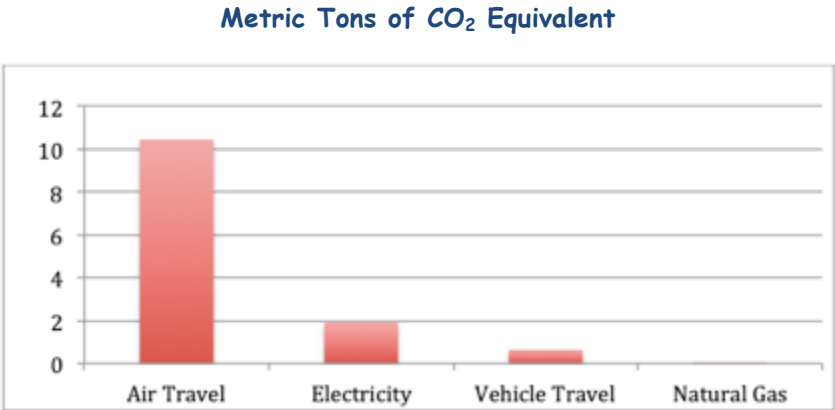
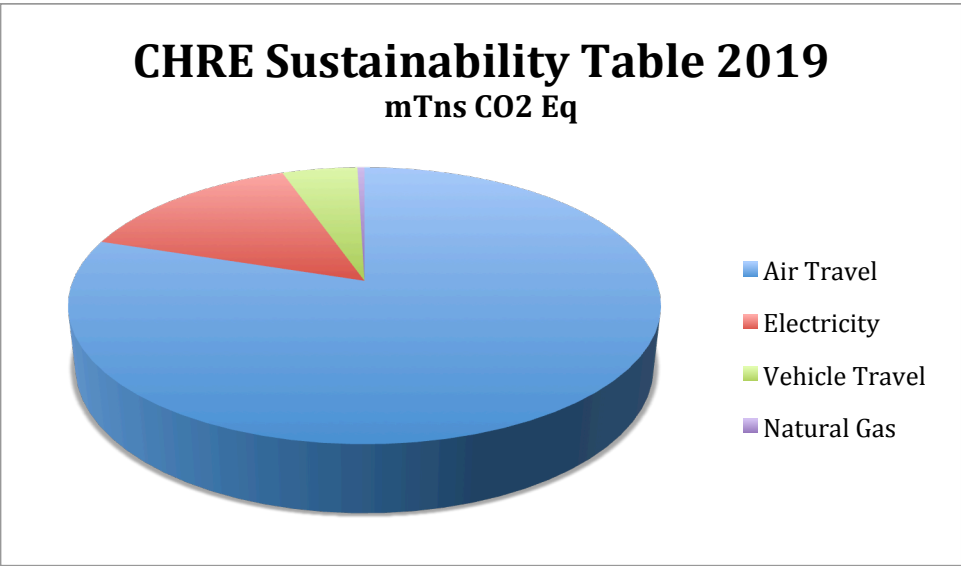


Our engagement with the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) in the early 2000s, and thinking about how business should handle *their* reporting, helped us find a path towards defining our own dimensions of sustainability. And it was at that time that we developed our first [*Office Policy*](#), our first *Human Rights Commitments*, an *Anti-Discrimination Policy*, and that we set targets for impact reductions. We talked to our local coffee and lunch suppliers to stop utilizing Styrofoam cups and began utilizing more sustainable office products. We began reducing printing and started recycling office paper. We also began recycling our printer ink cartridges, monitoring our water use, and quantifying our emissions. Our CO₂ emissions concern led us to identify a local organization working on reforestation in the highlands of Cordoba Province in Argentina, and we began a yearly exercise of donating for reforestation, and actually going ourselves to plant trees to offset our emissions. These outings had the added benefit of helping solidify team relations with extracurricular outdoor activity.

Since then, we have produced a yearly Sustainability Report, suspending this activity at certain times unfortunately due to budget and team constraints but always committed to the sustainability of our operations and to following our sustainability policies. In 2012 we decided to move CHRE into to a *virtual* work environment, eliminating the office we maintained in Cordoba, greatly reducing our material impacts from the office environment. In 2015 we moved to the USA and decided to introduce an "integrated" annual report, that is, a single report that *not only* reports on financial and programmatic activity but that also informs on sustainability evolution, social and environmental impacts and progress to meet sustainability targets. It makes for a longer report, but in the end, we are glad to devote a little extra digital space if we can focus on sustainability issues alongside our programmatic reporting. In 2015 we

utilized GRI's G4 Guidelines as the framework for our report, and in 2016, we delved into GRI's new *Sustainability Standards* format (something that we helped create through membership in GRI's GSSB Board).

Utilizing a [web-based carbon calculator](#), we identified that in 2019 that we generated about 13.08 metric tons of CO₂ equivalent deriving from air and land travel for the year and from gas and electricity consumption. For each year of our operations, we have been planting trees to offset our emissions. During 2017 and in 2018 we planted 5 trees each year (see pictures above). For our 2019 impact we will be planting 4 trees. On the policy side of things, in 2016 we reviewed, adapted and updated [CHRE's Office Policy](#) and updated the [CHRE-Mandments](#) (our institutional rules to live by). Below are our sustainability tables which we update each year. To produce these we've created in-house methodologies (shown below) that we will use to monitor and report progress as time evolves.



CHRE Environmental Footprint 2015 - 2019					
CO2 Eq					
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Electricity (kWh)	1.69	1.68	1.91	1.84	1.92
Natural Gas (Therms)	0.12	0.14	0.1	0.06	0.06
Vehicle Kilometers	0.73	0.79	0.76	0.69	0.64
Air Travel	7.4	16.25	14.21	12.95	10.46
TOTAL	9.94	18.86	16.98	15.54	13.08
Water Use (gal)	21,200	40,200	40,000	36,400	33,200
Trees to Offset*	3	6	5	5	4
carbon emissions / trees calculator: http://treescharlotte.org/tree-education-resources/charlotte-tree-resources/					

Human Rights

- CHRE upholds, protects and promotes the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the Universal Bill of Human Rights and all internationally accepted human rights treaties, conventions, resolutions, etc. in and outside the work place and in all of its administrative and programmatic activities.
- CHRE and CHRE Team Members shall not tolerate or accept witnessed human rights violations, and shall strive within their power and responsibilities to make such violations visible and work to address them.
- If knowledgeable of a human rights violation CHRE Team Members shall inform the appropriate authorities of such violations, including, where necessary, local or international police or judicial authorities.

Anti-Discrimination Policy

- CHRE and CHRE Team Members shall not tolerate any form of discrimination based on gender, race, nationality, religion, sexual orientation, civil status, or internal administrative hierarchies.
- No person working at, for or with CHRE shall be deprived of the right to express their opinion or share their ideas.
- CHRE Team Members shall strive to obtain the opinions of all Team Members in all matters and circumstances where they would like to offer an opinion.

Measuring Our Impact

CHRE shall measure its social and environmental impacts on a yearly basis and produce a sustainability report along with its regular institutional reporting, based on the Global Reporting Initiative standards (or equivalent reporting framework).

CHRE shall strive to identify the material aspects of sustainability pertinent to its work, and also consider the view of interested stakeholders, including (but not limited to) the general public, partner organizations, other public interest groups, direct beneficiaries of CHRE activities (communities, individuals, etc.) or funders.

Material Consumption

As a Human Rights and Environmental Organization dedicated to promote sustainable development, CHRE also encourages its own Team Members to live sustainably, reduce consumption whenever possible, and to promote the use of environmentally friendly products. As an organization, we promote environmentally friendly consumption whenever possible.

- Electricity
 - All appliances used for CHRE activities shall be turned off when not in use.
 - CHRE will purchase low-energy appliances whenever possible.
- Plastics and other Petroleum derived products
 - CHRE shall avoid whenever possible the purchase of petroleum derived products
 - CHRE shall avoid the use of disposable supplies whenever possible.
- Paper
 - When available, CHRE shall utilize chlorine free, non-white, or other types of environmentally friendly printing paper for its printing needs. CHRE Team Members shall recycle paper utilized for CHRE activities whenever possible.
 - Whenever possible, CHRE Team Members will prefer to use digital documents instead of printed ones.
- Water
 - CHRE is committed to reducing water consumption whenever possible.
 - CHRE upholds the right to water in all of its activities.
 - CHRE Team Members commit to reporting water leaks to the responsible authority.
- Travel
 - CHRE and CHRE Team Members commit to utilizing renewable energy source travel whenever possible and reasonable to do so.
 - CHRE Team Members commit to utilizing local public transportation whenever possible and reasonable to do so.
 - CHRE is aware of the impacts caused by the work related travel of its Team Members. To this end CHRE shall monitor the impacts of this travel and carry out activities to offset them, such as planting trees or other equivalent activity.
- Repairing our damage. CHRE realizes that its own actions cause social and environmental impacts and we shall take measures within our reasonable reach to offset such impacts.
- All Team Members at CHRE shall carry out CHRE related activities in the most sustainable way possible within the reach of the organization and in a reasonable context.
- All Team Members shall apply the precautionary principles in all of CHRE's activities both within and outside of the organizations.

Excerpts From Our Office Policy

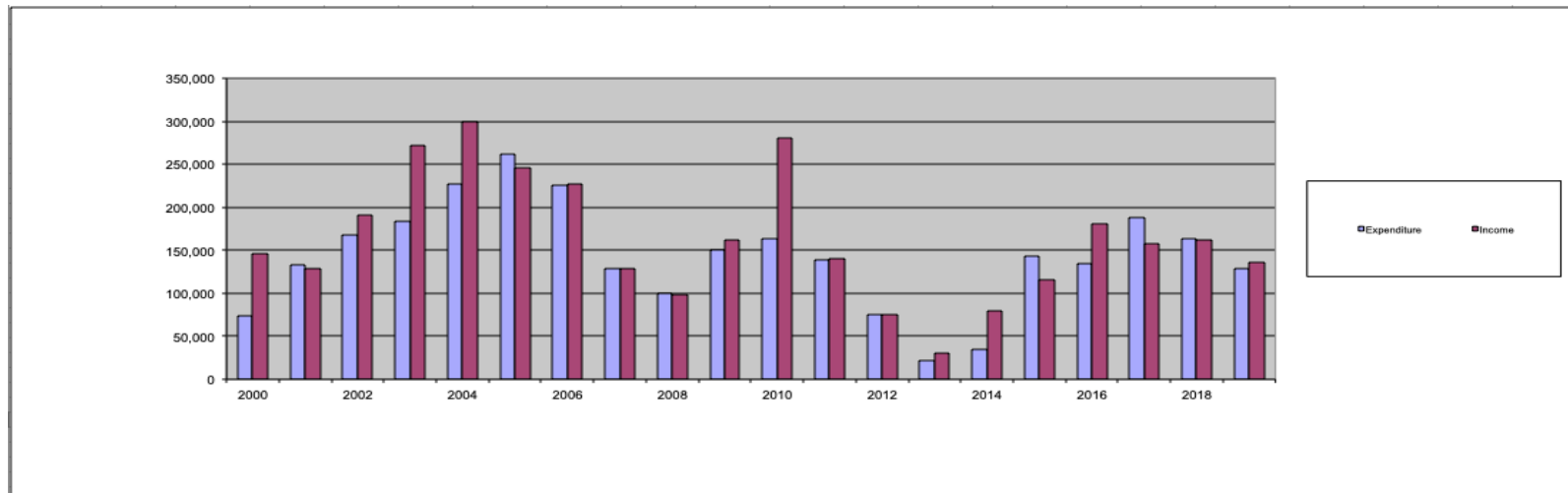
Finances

CHRE receives donor funds primarily from institutional donations as well as small individual grants. CHRE's budget has varied over the years (previously as Argentina-based CEDHA reporting to Argentine fiscal authorities) and since 2015 as a USA-based organization reporting to USA federal authorities.

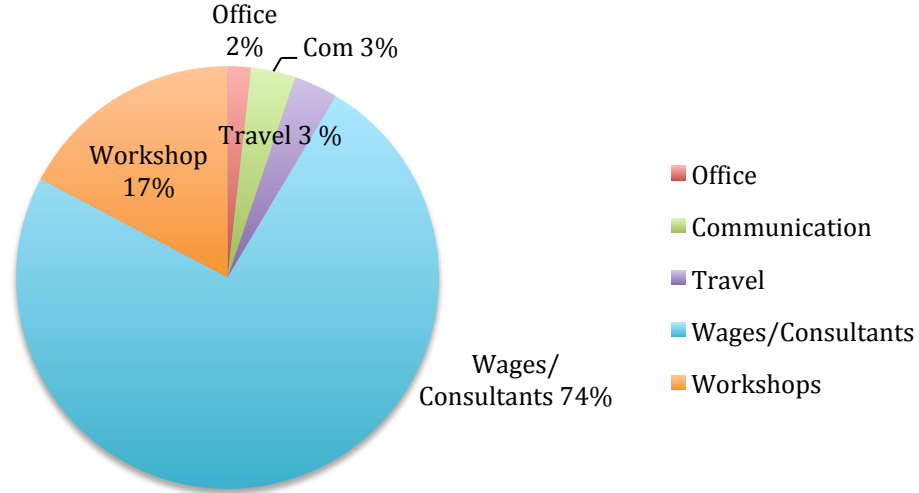
Below is the historic evolution of CHRE's finances, recalling that prior to 2015, these funds were granted to the previously constituted NGO in Argentina, CEDHA. As of 2015, funds are held and administered solely through a CHRE account in the USA. Average *historical* income for CHRE is US\$162,909, reflecting a slight decrease from last year. Expenditures for 2019 dropped a significant 22% (a continued drop from the previous year) to US\$136,200. While CHRE was on a steady income growth from 2013 through 2017, this year's income marks a second year in a row of significant decline. Our income for 2019 was US\$128,210, below our historical institutional average of US\$142,133. Despite exhaustive efforts in 2019 at fundraising, with dozens of inquiry letters sent to philanthropic organizations, and several meetings and calls held with potential funders, the failure to secure sustainable financing for the immediate future places severe constraints on CHRE's ability to continue engagement and activity through the next 4 year planning cycle (2019-2022). While a minimal operating budget of basic office expenses (with minimal wage allowance) is secure for 2020, the scenario beyond 2020 is worrisome.

CHRE Historical Income and Expenditures (Figures in US\$)

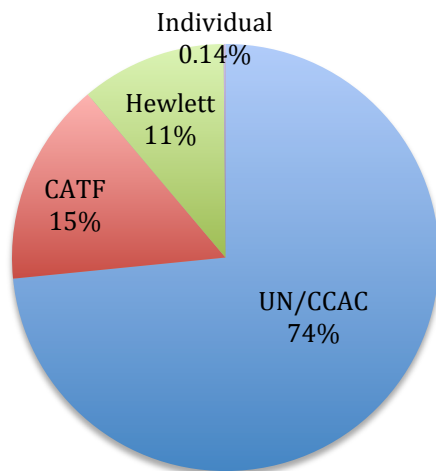
	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	Average
Expenditure	73,129	133,238	167,949	184,338	226,329	261,291	225,372	128,848	99,940	150,084	163,349	138,275	74,700	22,408	34,932	143,099	135,089	188,695	163,376	128,210	142,133
Income	145,936	128,800	191,539	271,565	298,645	246,063	226,795	128,848	98,677	162,561	281,014	140,229	75,677	29,845	79,888	115,467	180,550	157,238	162,636	136,200	162,909
Balance	72,807	-4,438	23,590	87,227	72,316	-15,228	1,423	0	-1,263	12,477	117,665	1,954	977	7,437	44,956	-27,632	45,461	-31,457	-740	7,990	



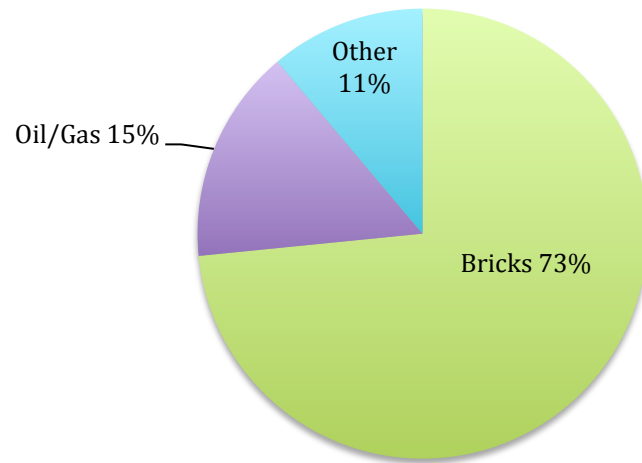
CHRE 2019 Expenditures by Type



CHRE 2019 Income by Donor



2019 Project Funding Income % by CHRE Program



Anticipated Income Expected for 2020			
CATF		25,000	Pending
UN/CCAC - PAN LAC		60,000	Pending
Other		25,000	Pending
TOTAL		110,000	

Third Party Tax Review and Filing

CHRE's legal tax review and filings, which include our yearly budget, expenses, income and other financial matters, is carried out by: Vault Financial LLC [2019 Return Filing Completed]. A Comfort letter is also provided to funders upon request, indicating that receipts and bank balances have been reviewed and that tax filings are as per national tax obligations for 501 c3 non-for-profit organizations.

Electronic Filing Information Worksheet		2019
Keep for your records		
Name(s) shown on return Center for Human Rights and Environment Incorporated	Identifying number 47-3973062	
Part I – State Electronic Filing:		
Check this box to force state only filing for all states selected to be filed electronically <input type="checkbox"/>		
Part II – Electronic Return Originator Information		
The ERO Information below will automatically calculate based on the preparer code entered on the return.		
For returns that are prepared as a "Non-Paid Preparer" (XNP) or "Self-Prepared" (XSP) enter the EFIN for the ERO that is responsible for this return. ▶ 653820		
For returns that are marked as a "Non-Paid Preparer" (XNP) or "Self-Prepared" (XSP) enter a PIN for the ERO that is responsible for filing return. ▶		
ERO Name Vault Financial LLC	ERO Electronic Filers Identification Number (EFIN) 653820	
ERO Address 1983 PGA Blvd. #102	ERO Employer Identification Number 46-1275091	
City Palm Beach Gardens	State FL	ZIP Code 33408
Country	ERO Social Security Number or PTIN	
Part III – Paid Preparer Information		
Firm Name Vault Financial LLC	Preparer Social Security Number or PTIN P01009420	
Preparer Name Matt Ringle	Employer Identification Number 46-1275091	
Address 1983 PGA Blvd. #102	State FL	ZIP Code 33408
City Palm Beach Gardens	Phone Number (561) 223-3252	
Country	Fax Number	
Preparer E-mail Address mattr@vaulttax.com		

Conclusion

The year 2019 has reaffirmed our advocacy agenda operating with a base in the USA now for 5 years (following our previous 15 years in Argentina).

It is our fifth year in existence as a USA-based 501C3. While we have established a smooth operational transition as a USA-based non-profit organization, meeting our legal and taxation requirements (at the federal and state level), and we are in compliance with local laws, we are concerned with the recent trend of progressively lower yearly income for CHRE.

In terms of our advocacy work, we are very much in line with our institutional mandate and objectives, but have not had the success in fundraising to sustain activities and the growth of demand for our engagement and activities. Our priority areas continue to be cryoactivism, climate change, and focus sectors on contamination from oil and gas and artisanal brick production.

We have begun to focus on North America-based issues, such as glaciers and periglacial features in the US Western areas. And have begun to look closer at Florida-based policies and politics for future advocacy action. We have also joined North America-based coalitions such as the Sierra Nevada Alliance, and are reaching out to policy actors at a State level in Florida and beyond.

While our US and North America advocacy front widens, we are still very much in demand for our expertise on glacier protection in particular to mining risks to glaciers as well as cryoactivism requests and assistance in brick kiln policy and efficiency as well as advocacy on oil and gas sector emissions for the Latin America region.

Our hope is that 2020 will help identify new institutional financing for our ongoing and future activities.

Jorge Daniel Taillant
Chairman and Executive Director
The Center for Human Rights and Environment

Publication Date: March 2020
CHRE ©

Annex: GRI Sustainability Standards with Index Table References

CHRE presents this report as its *2019 Integrated Annual Report*, offering information on programmatic activities, financial data and sustainability data. It is intended to be a "Comprehensive" report, as established by the GRI Sustainability Standards, containing the organization's reporting of core indicators as well as the organizations' strategy and analysis, governance structure, ethics and integrity. Financial data is assured by Vault Financial.

(Institutional descriptive portions of this section are taken in part from the 2016 and other reports as they are still relevant and applicable.)

GRI 101: Foundation and Reporting Principles

GRI establishes "reporting principles" to guide the reporting process and content of all organizations.

Principles for Defining Report Quality

Stakeholder Inclusiveness

Sustainability Context

Materiality

Completeness

Principles for Defining Report Quality

Balance

Comparability

Accuracy

Timeliness

Clarity

Reliability

Stakeholder Inclusiveness

As explained in the Sustainability Section of this Integrated Annual Report (pp. 21-26), the identification of the main stakeholders for a non-profit public interest oriented organization and their engagement is not always a simple task. Stakeholders for a non-profit dedicated to environmental advocacy and human rights protection do not generally have community stakeholders knocking on their doors to demand accountability, to reduce contamination or to be more sustainable in daily operations. Stakeholders for advocacy groups, particularly ones working for a general public interest are sometimes intangible and less understood. Our financial contributors (our funders) are stakeholders. We are also accountable to the general public as we are "public interest groups". The communities we assist are also our stakeholders and could be considered the equivalent to a business organization's "client". Other NGOs

(partners that we work with) could also be considered our “stakeholders” as they depend on, and are affected by, our work. But because we have little demand for accountability from these groups, we try to publish as much information as possible about our work, offering transparent information about our income and expenditures, about our governance and about our own internal policies governing our behavior.

Sustainability Context

NGOs don't generate voluminous amounts of industrial waste like some of the actors we are engaging with and whom we push to promote corporate social and environmental accountability (mining companies, oil and gas operations, pulp mills, etc.) nor do we have anywhere near industrial levels of emissions, even from our most contaminating activities that are generally related to travel. In the specific case of CHRE, we should also stress that we have gone virtual not too long ago, from a team of about 30 staff a decade ago with many volunteers also contributing to our work activities, to a mere handful of individuals, greatly reducing the significance of our environmental and social footprint, as well as the challenges of managing it. Nonetheless, we continue to focus on internal sustainability as a priority and setting example for others to follow.

Materiality

Since we are not a large industrial polluter, we must carefully identify those areas where we *do* leave a footprint, and also in which by policy and action, we can make an important contribution to creating a more sustainable society, and setting an example of conduct for our peers and for the greater community. In considering this footprint, our “per capita” contamination will be more relevant than our overall contamination, and should be a long-term indicator to determine where we can make a difference to reduce our footprint. We have a work environment with Team Members (including volunteers) and trust that they are happy in their work environment, and we travel quite frequently, generating *on a per capita basis*, significant CO₂ emissions. We also consume office products, utilize utility resources (electricity, natural gas, water, etc.) and have work habits that contribute (or detract) from sustainable development. All of our team members work from home, or from mobile satellite locations, such as public spaces. Calculating utility usage and expenses hence, can be a challenge. For home based work, we generally presume that a fixed percentage of utilities (about 20%) are consumed during working hours, which also means that about 20% of the home space utilized for work can and should be considered as utilized by the organization. That means that we take 20% of the home's electricity, water, and gas bills and tabulate them as belonging to CHRE. A similar formula is utilized for calculating vehicular usage. We've chosen to focus most of our attention in our sustainability reporting on the fairness and nature of our work environment (a core human rights issue) and on our efforts to measure and address what we consider to be our most significant environmental impact: emissions from travel (particularly air travel). We also consider our utility resource consumption (electricity, gas, water, etc.) and our material consumption although we recognize that our impact in quantitative terms in this area is frankly negligible. When we say that an indicator is “Not Material” it means that either it really is non-existent, or its' relevance is negligible for our operations, such as for instance, “Nitrous Oxide Emissions”, so while there may be inherent NO_x emissions indirectly related to our travel, it is not an area where we are generating significant impacts to the point that we consider that we should report these emissions. “Not Applicable” however is different, and refers to indicators that simply have no relevance or relationship whatsoever to CHRE's operations, such as “Human Rights Security Personnel Training”.

Completeness

We chose the route of a “comprehensive” report, offering in each issue case and on each indicator where we *feel we can and should* evaluate our performance, information about our sustainability, even if simply to indicate that these indicators are not material in our case.

Comparability

Over the years, and since 2003, CHRE has collected sustainability data. For a few years in more recent times, and due to budgetary and staff constraints, we were obliged to cease reporting on sustainability. For 2015 and onwards, we decided to reinstate this practice, offering year-by-year data showing where and how our sustainability issues and results are evolving.

Other Principles

CHRE is committed to providing a publicly accessible yearly account of its sustainability that is Accurate, Timely, Clear, and Reliable for our stakeholders to be able to evaluate our performance, engage with us if they identify areas where we should improve.

GRI 102: General Disclosures

Disclosures

102-1: Name of the Organization

The Center for Human Rights and Environment (CHRE); sometimes referred to by its Spanish name, *El Centro de Derechos Humanos y Ambiente (CEDHA)*. One important clarification, as of 2016, the original Argentine NGO equivalent (El Centro de Derechos Humanos y Ambiente) continues its activities under new and independent leadership *and management*. It was of mutual agreement with CEDHA Argentina's management and leadership that from 2016 onward, the Argentine NGO will be referred to as "CEDHA Argentina", while we in the United States will be referred to simply as CHRE or CEDHA. No formal, legal, administrative, financial or management ties between the organizations remain as of 2016.

102-2: Activities Brands Products and Services

Environmental protection and advocacy, human rights protection and defense, research, educational publications, communication about human rights and environmental issues, complaint filings, public policy promotion, transparency promotion, stakeholder training, engagement with public authorities, engagement with corporate actors.

102-3: Location of Headquarters:

Palm Beach Gardens, FL USA; as we have a virtual operating environment, we also utilize team members from locations around the world.

102-4: Location of Operations

Non-geographic specific; This reporting year Argentina, Paraguay, Colombia, Mexico, Spain, USA; some activities are geared to address "globally" relevant topics

102-5: Ownership and Legal Form

Non-profit corporation, established under Florida USA State and Federal law. 3-person board. (p.20)

102-6: Markets Served

Environmentally affected communities usually in developing countries, some activity in industrialized countries.

102-7: Scale of Organization

Employees: 2 Full time (Florida), o/w 1 volunteer; varying number of non-paid part time team members; occasional hired consultants; (p.21)

Net revenues in 2019: US\$136,200; (p. 28)

102-8: Information on Employee and Other Workers

a) One permanent full time, one volunteer full time, five part time volunteers (p. 20)

b) Executive Staff: 1 male / 1 female; Board: 2 female / 1 male

c) Total Number of Employees by type two full time 4 males / 1 female

d) A portion of the work of the organization (10-30%) is performed by non-paid volunteers;

e) Variations in team composition is dependent on individual availability, sometimes related to off-school (University) months

f) Small number of team members does not need complex data collection and is provided by director knowledge of day to day management

102-9: Supply Chain

Direct purchasing of office equipment; public services provided locally by main public service providers; flights bought online or from travel agent;

102-10: Significant Changes to the Organization and its Supply Chain

Not Applicable

102-11: Precautionary Principle Approach

Contained in Office Policy p. 8 for material consumption and stressed in all advocacy activity decisions

102-12: External Initiative

Universal Bill of Human Rights and GRI Sustainability Standards (see Office Policy p. 4)

102-13: Membership of Associations

OECD Watch, GRI (GSSB), Banktrack, ESCR Net, AIDA, IUCN, Climate and Clean Air Coalition (CCAC), PAN LAC (Latin American Policy Advisory Network on Clean Brick Production), ALFF (Alianza Latinoamericana Frente al Fracking), Sierra Nevada Alliance.

102-14: Statement from Senior Decision-Maker

see P.2

102-15: Key Impacts, Risks and Opportunities

see pp. 33-34

102-16: Values, Principles, Standards, and Norms of Behavior

A CHRE [Office Policy](#) governs Team Member relations, methods and conduct of work, ethics, banning discrimination and human rights violations, etc.. [CHRE-mandments](#) are rules to live by encouraged for Team Members. Bylaws and Conflict of Interest Policy govern Board Member behavior. Management consults/consulted with all Team Members in original development of policies. All new team members/volunteers receive and must confirm that they have read these policies and must accept each of these policies by signing a copy in order to begin engagement with CHRE.

Link to OFFICE POLICY 2016: <http://wp.cedha.net/wp-content/uploads/CHRE-Office-Policy-2016.pdf>

Link to CHRE-MANDMENTS: <http://wp.cedha.net/wp-content/uploads/CHRE-Mandments.pdf>

102-17: Mechanisms for Advice and Concerns about Ethics

- a. Description of internal and external mechanisms for:
 - i. seeking advice about ethical and lawful behavior and organizational integrity;
 - ii. reporting concerns about unethical or unlawful behavior, and organizational integrity;

Stipulated in Office Policy, grievance mechanism is explained. Internal relations managed internally. All perceived unlawful acts to be reported to police authorities.

102-18: Governance Structure

a) Governance Structure of the Organization including committees of the highest governance body.

Bylaws (Art.5&7) w/Three - Person Board of Directors; Jorge Daniel Taillant (Chairman); Romina Picolotti (Director); Stephanie Daveris (Director)

b) Committees responsible for decision-making on economic, environmental, and social topics

Executive team lead by Executive Director responsible for all decision-making on economic, environmental and social topics;

102-19: Delegating Authority

a) Process for delegating authority of economic, environmental, and social topics from the highest governance body to senior executives and other employees.

Board delegates authority to Executive Director (presently Jorge Daniel Taillant); see Bylaws Art.7 (d)

102-20: Executive-level responsibility for economic, environmental and social topics

a) Whether the organization has appointed an executive-level position or positions with responsibility for economic, environmental and social topics. Sustainability Officer not specifically contracted. Executive Director is Responsible for all sustainability performance.

b) Whether post holders report directly to the highest governance body.

Yes

120-21: Consulting stakeholders on economic, environmental, and social topics

a) Process for consultation between stakeholders and the highest governance body on economic, environmental, and social topics.

Stakeholder engagement is carried out by Executive Director and an additional board member as needed.

b.) If consultation is delegated, describe to whom it is delegated and how the resulting feedback is provided to the highest governance body.

Not Applicable

102-22: Composition of the highest governance body and its committees

a) Composition of the highest governance body and its committees by:

i. Executive or non-executive;

ii. Independence

iii. Tenure on the governance body

iv. Number of each individual's other significant positions and commitments, and the nature of the commitments;

v. Gender

vi. Membership of under-represented social groups

vii. Competence relating to economic, environmental and social topics;

viii. Stakeholder representation

Board Member (Chairman): Jorge Daniel Taillant - Executive Director, remunerated - Male/Latin American; Expert Competence in all related matters, Dependent; not of under-represented social group

Board Member: Romina Picolotti - Climate Advisor / Volunteer (*ad honorem*) - Female/Latin American; Expert Competence in all related matters; non-executive, Independent, Works as Independent Consultant for IGSD (non-related); not of under-represented social group

Board Member: Stephanie Daveris, no Programmatic Functions, Volunteer (*ad honorem*) - Female/Latin American/Professional Competence in all related matters; non-executive, Independent; not of under-represented social group

102-23: Chair of the highest governance body

a) Whether the chair of the highest governance body is also an executive officer in the organization

b) If the chair is also an executive officer, describe his or her function within the organization's management and the reasons for this arrangement

Yes. Jorge Daniel Taillant is both Chair of the Board and the Highest Executive Office, and is in charge of all programmatic and administrative responsibilities and activity. JD Taillant is the founder of CHRE and its most active officer since its founding in 1999 (as CEDHA, in Argentina). He has at

times been the sole employee of the organization and at others managed a team of 30+. He has at times worked as a volunteer and also as a paid staff member, as well as the non-remunerated President of CEDHA with another paid Executive Director (eg. 2006-2012).

102-24: Nominating and selecting the highest governance body

- a) Nomination and selection processes for the highest governance body and its committees.
- b) Criteria used for nominating and selecting highest governance body members, including whether and how:
 - i. Stakeholders (including shareholders) are involved
 - ii. Diversity is considered
 - iii. Independence is considered
 - iv. Expertise and experience is relating to economic, environmental and social topics are considered

Nomination criteria: In Bylaws Article V; Conflict of Interest Policy is considered in naming; there is no stakeholder participation in the hiring decision. Knowledge of environmental/human rights background is a traditional (but not mandatory) precondition. Independence for a balanced number is preferred.

102-25: Conflicts of Interest

- a) Processes for the highest governance body to ensure conflicts of interest are avoided and managed
- b) Whether conflicts of interest are disclosed to stakeholders, including as a minimum:
 - i. Cross-board membership;
 - ii. Cross-shareholding with suppliers and other stakeholders;
 - iii. Existence of controlling shareholder;
 - iv. Related party disclosure.

By legal requirements of the US Tax authorities (IRS), CHRE has a Conflict of Interest Policy, which is reviewed and signed yearly by board members. While conflicts of interest are not disclosed, none of the minimum listed issues (i. – iv.) is pertinent to CHRE. One issue that was disclosed to tax authorities in the creation of the CHRE is the marital relationship between two of the board members. However, as these two individuals are independently globally recognized for their environmental advocacy, and as they have worked together on environmental issues and advocacy for over two decades, this issue was explained to the authorities and accepted by them, allowing for the organization to be created and to operate, disregarding this relationship. This relationship is of common public knowledge to our stakeholders and has never presented any manifest concern either to the public, to stakeholders or to authorities overseeing the organization.

102-26: Role of the highest governance body in setting purpose, values, and strategy

- a) Highest governance body's and senior executive's roles in the development, approval, and updating of the organization's purpose, value or mission statements, strategies, policies and goals related to economic, environmental, and social topics.

CHRE's Board receives, reviews and approves mission, values, strategies, policies, etc. Executive Director is generally responsible for overseeing the development of these policies including purpose, values, strategy, etc..

102-27: Collective knowledge of highest governance body

a) Measures taken to develop and enhance the highest governance body's collective knowledge of economic, environmental, and social topics

Board members were/are chosen with knowledge of sustainability issues; information about CHRE's sustainability engagement are sent regularly to board members.

102-28: Evaluating the highest governance body's performance

a) Processes for evaluating the highest governance body's performance with respect to governance of economic, environmental and social topics;

b) Whether such evaluation is independent or not, and its frequency;

c) Whether such evaluation is a self-assessment

d) Actions taken in response to evaluation of the highest governance body's performance with respect to governance of economic, environmental and social topics, including as a minimum, changes in membership and organizational practice.

No evaluation of performance has been stipulated to date for highest governance body. An evaluation may be developed in the future.

102-29: Identifying and managing economic, environmental, and social impacts

a) Highest governance body's role in identifying and managing economic, environmental and social topics and their impacts, risks, and opportunities - including its role in the implementation of due diligence processes.

b) Whether stakeholder consultation is used to support the highest governance body's identification and management of economic, environmental, and social topics and their impacts, risks, and opportunities.

The CHRE Board Chairman (as Executive Director) is charged with risk management; stakeholder consultation not utilized although may change in future

102-30: Effectiveness of risk management processes

a) Highest governance body's role in reviewing the effectiveness of the organization's risk management process for economic, environmental and social topics.

CHRE's governance body is informed yearly of risk management issues through bi-weekly updates on executive activity, in yearly sustainability reports and in other related CHRE documents.

102-31: Review of economic, environmental, and social topics

a) Frequency of the highest governance body's review of economic, environmental, and social topics and their impacts, risks and opportunities.

The CHRE's governance body is informed yearly of EES issues.

102-32: Highest governance body's role in sustainability reporting

a) The highest committee or position that formally reviews and approves the organization's sustainability report and ensures that all material topics are covered.

CHRE's Executive Director (who also serves as governance board chairman) prepares, and sends to Board for Review and Approval

102-33: Communicating Critical Concerns

a) Process for communicating critical concerns to the highest governance body.

Anyone at CHRE or in the general public may contact the Board to present concerns; contacts are provided to all team members, partners, etc.

102-34: Nature and total number of critical concerns

a) Total number and nature of critical concerns that were communicated to the highest governance body.

None for the reporting period.

b) Mechanism(s) used to address and resolve critical concerns.

Not Applicable

102-35: Remuneration Policies

a) Remuneration policies for the highest governance body and senior executives for the following types of remuneration:

i. Fixed pay and variable pay, including performance-based pay, equity-based pay, bonuses, and deferred or vested shares:

ii. Sign-on bonuses or recruitment incentive payments;

iii. Termination payments;

iv. Clawbacks;

v. Retirement benefits, including the difference between benefit schemes and contribution rates for the highest governance body, senior executives and all other employees.

b) How performance criteria in the remuneration policies relate to the highest governance body's and senior executives' objectives for economic, environmental and social topics.

Rate paid to the Executive Director was reduced in 2019 due to diminishing institutional income; to misc. consultants hired for some tasks (bricks); no other paid full time team member in 2019

No sign-on bonuses are offered, or recruitment incentive payments.

No termination payments are offered to CHRE team members.

No clawbacks are paid.

No Retirement benefits offered.

Board members are not paid for their "board" related services. They may be paid if they take on executive functions (as is the case for the executive director) either as full time team members or as consultants.

Board members or senior executives are paid based on experience, qualifications in the topics of activity and as per funding availability and approval of work by funders.

102-36: Process for determining remuneration.

a) Process for determining remuneration

CHRE pays team members and consultants competitive rates for the non-profit sector and for similar international advocacy activity at international organizations (such as UN, OAS, World Bank, etc.)

b) Whether remuneration consultants are involved in determining remuneration and whether they are independent of management

Not involved and independent of management.

c) Any other relationships that the remuneration consultants have with the organization.

None

102-37: Stakeholders Involvement in Remuneration

a) How stakeholders' views are sought and taken into account regarding remuneration

The only stakeholders that may weigh in on remuneration are funders, who on occasion may approve/observe team salary rates provided in grant information. Such rates are generally displayed in grant applications sent to funders.

b) If applicable, the results of votes on remuneration policies and proposals.

Not Applicable

102-38: Annual total compensation ratio.

a) Ratio of the annual total compensation for the organization's highest-paid individual in each country of the significant operations to the median annual total compensation for all employees (excluding the highest paid individual) in the same country.

- identify the highest paid individual for the reporting period, as defined by total compensation.
- calculate the median annual total compensation for all employees, except the highest paid individual;
- calculate the ratio of the annual total compensation of the highest paid individual to the median annual total compensation for all employees.

As CHRE only has one paid employee, with the remainder either volunteer or consultants hired for short term projects, with fees determined by project this indicator is not applicable.

102-39: Percentage increase in annual total compensation ratio

a) Ratio of the percentage increase in annual total compensation for the organization's highest paid individual in each country of significant operations to the median percentage increase in annual total compensation for all employees (excluding the highest paid individual) in the same country.

Not Applicable

- identify the highest paid individual for the reporting period, as identified by total compensation.

The Executive Director

- calculate the percentage increase in the highest paid individual's compensation from prior period to the reporting period;
0%.

- calculate median annual total compensation for all employees except the highest paid individual; Not Applicable
- calculate the percentage increase of the median annual total compensation from the previous reporting period to the current reporting period; Not Applicable
- calculate the ratio of the annual total compensation percentage increase of the highest paid individual to the median annual total compensation percentage increase for all employees. Not Applicable

102-40: List of all stakeholder groups

a) a list of all stakeholder groups engaged by the organization.

Partners, networks, funders, general public

102-41: Collective bargaining agreements

a) Percentage of total employees covered by collective bargaining agreements.

0%

102-42: Identifying and selecting stakeholders

a) The basis for identifying and selecting stakeholders with whom to engage

Partners/networks/funders that have worked or work closely w/CHRE or which have known of our operations for considerable time

102-43: Approach to stakeholder engagement

The organization's approach to stakeholder engagement, including frequency of engagement by type and by stakeholder group, and an indication of whether any of the engagement was undertaken specially as part of the report preparation process.

Not systematized; occurs as necessary. For this past reporting period, we sent CHRE's 2015 report to a group of about 20 persons to receive feedback. Responses were very limited (2). CHRE will work on developing more systematized and better targeted stakeholder outreach in the future.

102-44: Key topics and concerns raised.

None.

102-45: Entities included in the consolidated financial statements

a) An explanation of the process for defining the report content and the topic Boundaries.

b) An explanation of how the organization has implemented the Reporting Principles for defining report content.

Report content is defined by management led with previous CEDHA staff engaged in consultation, research and drafting. A report was produced in mid 2000s examining sustainability relevance for non-profit sector. That [report](#) initially informed and guided the definition and constitution of CHRE's report boundaries. New boundaries have been developed or redefined over the years as needed and as issues were identified and arose. This report covers CHRE activities/finance/impacts for 2019 although in some cases, data is available from the 2000-2015 period, which has been included. Some specific

references are made throughout to former Argentine embodiment CEDHA related to 2000-2014 period as relevant to evolutionary nature of activities and past issues that may have carried over to US-based CHRE.

102-47: List of material topics

a) List of the material topics identified in the process for defining report content.

CO₂ emissions from travel, utilities consumption (electricity, natural gas, water, etc.), human right/office policies, sustainability of material consumption, smear campaign against CHRE

102-48: Restatements of information

a) The effect of restatements of information given in previous reports, and the reasons for such restatements.

For the most part, the same sustainability issues are monitored and reported on for each subsequent year. The only significant issue that has come up in the past that we have been grappling with for a number of years is the smear campaign leveled against our founder. This has been a recurring issue that we are addressing through communication and transparency.

102-49: Changes in reporting

a) Significant changes from previous reporting periods in the list of material topics and topic boundaries.

CO₂ emissions from travel increased considerably from 2015 to 2016 (10 to 19mtns) but dropped for 2017 to 17 mtns and then again down to 15.54 mtns in 2018 and subsequently down to 13.08 in 2019, due to reduced travel by CHRE's Executive Director. The increase in 2016 is due to the fact that CHRE moved and was established as a new organization in 2015, with activities starting up midway through that year (implying that CHRE's operations were reduced to about 60% of normal activity during the 2015 reported year). More engagement and activity in 2016 resulted in more travel to international destinations, while a slight decrease occurred in 2017 and 2018, along with a reduced proximity of distance traveled to engaged countries. As we do each year, we are addressing our footprint by continuing our retribution to the environment through tree planting. Additionally, in 2016, CHRE's Executive Director purchased a fully electric vehicle, lowering emissions to *zero* for local travel. CHRE planted trees in Florida and in Colombian *paramos* (*high mountain wetland areas*) during 2018 (see p.23 photo).

102-50: Reporting period

a) The reporting period for the information provided.

Calendar year 2019

102-51: Date of most recent report

a) If applicable, date of most recent previous report.

The 2018 report was made public in January of 2018 and this report for 2019 will be made public in April of 2020.

102-52: Reporting cycle

a) Reporting cycle

Annual.

102-53: Contact point for questions regarding the report

Jorge Daniel Taillant, Executive Director, CHRE

jdtailant@gmail.com

+1 415 713 2309

102-54: Claims of reporting in accordance with the GRI Standards

This report has been prepared in accordance with the GRI Standards: Comprehensive option

102-55: GRI Content Index

This section of the report is intended to be the GRI Context Index. When deemed appropriate, or where information is not provided in this section, a page reference is included with each indicator to identify the location of the information requested.

102-56: External Assurance

CHRE obtains financial assistance of its financial reporting to the tax authorities through local tax services providers. For 2019 Vault Financial will review and assure our financial information to ensure that it is in proper form and content. The report is generally updated with this assurance after it takes place. See p. 31.

GRI 103: Management Approach

103-1: Explanation of material topic and its boundary

For each material topic, the reporting organization shall report the following information:

a) An explanation of why the topic is material.

b) The Boundary for the material topic, which includes a description of:

where the impacts occur;

the organization's involvement with the impacts. For example, whether the organization has caused or contributed to the impacts, or is directly linked to the impacts through its business relationships.

c) Any specific limitation regarding the topic Boundary.

Material topics are explained in detail on pages 22-27 and 33-37 of this report. Management studies (and *monitors*) the evolution of CHRE's impacts in each area of impact, and devises institutional policies (such as CHRE Office Policies, or CHRE-mandments) to address team behavior that influences institutional impacts in these areas with a view to help reduce these impacts over time. PP. 7-8 of the CHRE Office Policies outline CHRE's approach to material consumption and sustainability responsibility.

The preparation of an integrated sustainability report such as this one is an example of a way we chose to monitor this impact and evaluate our own progress towards achieving greater levels of sustainability.

In sum, material topics are:

CO₂ emissions from travel and utilities consumption

Utility resource consumption (electricity, gas, water, etc.)

Human rights of team members

Sustainability of material consumption (paper, cups, ink, etc.)

Ethical integrity

103-2: The management approach and its components

For each material topic, the reporting organization shall report the following information:

a) An explanation of how the organization manages the topic.

CO₂ emissions from travel and utilities consumption: Management monitors emissions (CHRE Office Policy p. 13) and establishes policies/practices to reduce them (CHRE Office Policy and CHRE-Mandments); emission quantities are taken from online calculators utilizing point of departure and arrival as variables for calculating CO₂.

Human rights of team members: Management developed non-discrimination and human rights policies (CHRE Office Policy p.3) and ensures team reads, understands and abides by them (each team member receives and signs policies at first engagement)

Sustainability of material consumption: Management developed CHRE [Office Policy](#) [CHRE-mandments](#) to define institutional culture (CHRE Office Policy pp.7-8)

Ethical integrity as per smear campaigns against CHRE team members: Regular communication to the public about continued persecution

b) A statement of the purpose of the management approach.

Management sets policy to steer team culture and practice. The idea is that each team member understand, agree to, and assume the institutional culture that is sought by the policy, such as, respecting each other's rights, or attempting to reduce excessive material consumption or choosing a less contaminating means of transportation.

In the CHRE Office Policy (p.4), the following statement sets out the guiding elements and goals of institutional culture:

Team Member Relations

CHRE and CHRE Team Members strive to create a unified, collaborative, and harmonic team, respecting individuality, privacy, cultural differences, in a general atmosphere of tolerance and respect. Our objective is to promote and advance towards CHRE's institutional goals and mandate, grounded on the idea of creating a more sustainable global and local environment, respectful of human rights and the environment, which we also apply to the work place and to CHRE Team relations.

c) A description of the following, if the management approach includes that component:

- Policies (CHRE [Office Policy](#) guides institutional behavior and establishes rules about resource use, [CHRE-Mandments](#) sets out a general approach to inter-team behavior and expectations)
- Commitments: abiding by the precautionary principle (OP p.8), respecting ant-discrimination and human rights (OP p.3), minimizing resource consumption (OP pp.7-8), opting when possible for low-emissions travel (OP p.8)
- Goals and targets: Overall goals and targets are set in the CHRE Office Policy, such as in cited above statement (OP p.4)
- Responsibilities: While generally not mandated by law, CHRE voluntarily aims to set an exemplary standard on its approach to sustainability culture within the institutions and of its team members. We promote a work environment that we expect to be responsible, and that all team members abide the expected responsibility of the organization. Our internal rules for internal and external behavior are set generally throughout CHRE [Office Policy](#) and are generally observed by management and all team members. Team members are regularly asked to give their views, opinions and suggestions for team relations. Review occurs on an ongoing basis.
- Resources: Resources devoted to sustainability issues are mostly human resources in time allotted to preparation of reports, collection of data, and

other analytical exercises to develop reports and implement sustainability actions. Some minor economic resources may be devoted to offsetting impacts, such as the purchase of plants/trees for reforestation to offset emissions. Reports are generally not printed, but rather placed online for public access.

- Grievance mechanisms

CHRE has a grievance procedure in its Office Policy on pp. 13-14 (see image). Management of the grievance mechanism is handled directly by the Executive Director. Over the 20 years of the existence of CHRE (previously CEDHA), only a handful of grievances have been presented, addressed. Most of them were minor team relation issues. All of them have been successfully resolved. One (dating back to 2005) involved a labor dispute after justified termination of a contract and was resolved in an out-of-court agreement to the mutual acceptance of the parties. We have not determined that a more active, engaged or independent grievance mechanism is necessary for the size and nature of CHRE operations. Our present system suffices to handle the types of issues that may arise in our day-to-day activities.

- Specific actions, such as processes, projects, programs and initiatives
Yearly tree planting to offset emissions.

Grievances/Complaints/Conflicts

CHRE shall attempt to resolve all work-related conflicts between Team Members in work related scenarios. Those Team Members involved in the conflict shall attempt to communicate their unease with the Team Member they have the conflict with, in a respectful, friendly and professional manner in order to avoid escalation of the conflict and act by the following means.

- a. When circumstance permits, those involved in a conflict shall strive to resolve it amicably between each other without need of having others intervene.
- b. If this is not possible, the Team Member with the complaint shall approach management and present the issue.
- c. Management shall attempt to resolve the problem through a means deemed appropriate which may include bringing the parties of the conflict together to seek a mutual resolution.
- d. Management shall attempt to maintain the conflict confidential when this is possible and advisable.
- e. All conflicts involving illegal activity perpetrated by a CHRE Team Member shall be reported to the competent authority.

103-3: Evaluation of management approach

For each material topic, the reporting organization shall report the following information:

- a. An explanation of how the organization evaluates the management approach, including:
 - i. the mechanisms for evaluating the effectiveness of the management approach;
 - ii. the results of the evaluation of the management approach;
 - iii. any related adjustments to the management approach.

Because of the present small size of the organization, the director evaluates the effectiveness of management approach and adjusts policies and programs accordingly on a regular and unsystematic basis. In the past, when staff was > 20 team members, a specific committee or program (usually the Corporate Accountability Program, or a team of interns specifically brought aboard for this task) was tasked with preparing sustainability reports. Either CHRE-wide retreats, or staff meetings were arranged to carry out such evaluation. On one occasion an external team evaluated CHRE's performance and shared results. At present, no such approach is included or programmed, until CHRE size and team scope might change.

GRI 201: Economic Performance

Management Approach:

CHRE's Economic Performance is managed by its Executive Director in consultation with the Board. Besides the general and overall goals of utilizing our resources (obtained solely through donations) wisely and to the benefit of the public good, and specifically to promote environmental protection and related human rights protection, we also aim to utilize our resources with the intent to minimize as best as possible the environmental and social impacts caused by the utilization of those resources. Utilizing the guidance set forth in our CHRE [Office Policy](#) and [CHRE-Mandments](#) is one way to achieve these goals. Additionally, in 2015, at the onset of our embodiment as a US based 501 C3 non-profit organization, we also set out a 4-year Strategic Plan (covering 2015-2018) and revised this plan in early 2019 to cover the 2019-2022 period (see page 4). In this plan (as well as the former) we also laid out some *economic goals and targets*, oriented to ensure our economic performance and sustainability over time. For 2019-2022 these include:

- to achieve medium-term institutional, programmatic financial and administrative sustainability for CHRE
- to diversity CHRE's financing base, to include foundations, governments, and individual donors
- to generate savings of 15-20% of CHRE's average budget to secure operations during funding shortfalls
- to maintain remuneration for staff and management at a competitive rate

In order to achieve these goals, CHRE's management team (lead by its Executive Director) is consistently working to achieve these targets. In 2017, we moved steadily to achieve these goals. Not only has our transition from Argentina to the USA been completed but we have been operating sustainably in terms of income and expenditures. In 2016 we had a slight surplus of revenues vs. expenditures (approximately 25%: well above our 15-20% target), which was offset in 2017 with a modest deficit of \$31,457 (or about 20% of income). In 2018 we showed a negligible deficit of \$740 (or about .05 of 1% of income) indicating a fully balanced budget. For the 2019 period we have a surplus of US\$7,990 (or nearly 6% of income), however we are concerned with the marked drop in income between 2018 and 2019 from US\$162,636 to US\$136,200, a drop of over 16%. (see pp. 28-30)

While we have generally been able to pay our management team a competitive wage, increasing steadily towards a competitive market rate each year since 2015 (when we were unable to pay a wage for select months), in 2019 we had to substantially reduce our Executive Director pay due to lack of institutional financing. This is not a sustainable trend for CHRE. We have also decided to eliminate waged staff, and will now only pay our hired team members as consultants and as funding permits. We will have to continue to review this evolution for the next year to determine if more severe adjustments are necessary.

201-1: Direct economic value generated and distributed

a) Direct economic value generated and distributed (EVG&D) on an accruals basis, including the basic components for the organization's global operations as listed below. If data are presented on a cash basis, report the justification for this decision in addition to reporting the following basic components:

- i. Direct economic value generated: revenues; US\$136,200 (grant income)
- ii. Economic value distributed: operating costs, employee wages and benefit, payments to providers of capital, payments to government by country, and community investments; US\$128,210 (operational expenses)
- iii. Economic value retained: 'direct economic value generated' less 'economic value distributed'. US\$7,990

b) Where significant, report EVG&D separately at country, regional, or market levels, and the criteria used for defining significance.

Not applicable

201-2: Financial implications and other risks and opportunities due to climate change

a) Risks and opportunities posed by climate change that have the potential to generate substantive changes in operations, revenue, or expenditure, including:

- i. a description of the risk or opportunity and its classification as either physical, regulatory, or other;
- ii. a description of the impact associated with the risk or opportunity;
- iii. the financial implications of the risk or opportunity before action is taken;
- iv. the methods used to manage the risk or opportunity;
- v. the costs of actions taken to manage the risk or opportunity.

As we have a climate advocacy program, increased climate change trends stands to increase available grant financing for advocacy. As such, one of our more robustly funded programs is our engagement on traditional brick contamination done with the UN's Climate and Clean Air Coalition, as well as work by our non-remunerated board member working with partner IGSD on Short Lived Climate Pollutants (such as methane, black carbon, HFCs, etc.). Much of CHRE's work is hence oriented to address climate change from an advocacy perspective. Our actions, on the contrary, do not have a significant climate impact, although as we have indicated, CO₂ emissions resulting from our team travel are our most significant sustainability impact area, for which we are devising actions (such as reducing emissions, or tree planting) to offset our emissions. The costs of these measures/actions is negligible to the organizational budget.

201-3: Defined benefit plan obligations and other retirement plans

The reporting organization shall report the following information:

- i. If the plan's liabilities are met by the organization's general resources, the estimated value of those liabilities. NO
- ii. If a separate fund exists to pay the plan's pension liabilities: NO
 - the extent to which the scheme's liabilities are estimated to be covered by the assets that have been set aside to meet them;
 - the basis on which that estimate has been arrived at;

when that estimate was made.

- iii. If a fund set up to pay the plan's pension liabilities is not fully covered, explain the strategy, if any, adopted by the employer to work towards full coverage, and the timescale, if any, by which the employer hopes to achieve full coverage. NO
- iv. Percentage of salary contributed by employee or employer. 0%
- v. Level of participation in retirement plans, such as participation in mandatory or voluntary schemes, regional, or country-based schemes, or those with financial impact. NONE

CHRE does not offer benefits plans, although we have provided some assistance to cover limited optical expenses including glasses, eye exams, etc..

201-4: Financial assistance received from government

- a) Total monetary value of financial assistance received by the organization from any government during the reporting period, including:
 - tax relief and tax credits; NONE
 - subsidies; NONE
 - investment grants, research and development grants, and other relevant types of grant; NONE
 - awards; NONE
 - royalty holidays; NONE
 - financial assistance from Export Credit Agencies (ECAs); NONE
 - financial incentives; NONE
 - other financial benefits received or receivable from any government for any operation. NONE
- b) The information in 201-4-a by country. Not Applicable
- c) Whether, and the extent to which, any government is present in the shareholding structure. NONE

In previous years some government grants have been received.

GRI 202: Market Presence

Management Approach:

CHRE competes with other NGOs in similar areas of work, particularly on fracking, mining, and climate change issues. CHRE promotes collaboration with partners and respect for territorial presence of partners where we operate. (See Office Policy pp.10-11). While in the past, we've had a much larger team, of over 30 individuals, and dozens of interns in a given calendar year, today we are a handful of individuals in our team, with only one remunerated team member and several volunteers, and an occasional short term consultant paid for very time and product specific work. Given this small operational team, there is not much depth involved in the financial management of our team or in the extent of our considerations of market presence, areas or regions of

operations, etc. For the most part, we are engaged in regional issues throughout Latin America such as mining, bricks, fracking, glaciers, etc., global issues such as climate change or oil and gas contamination, and also glacier protection, some emerging locally specific issues such as fracking in Florida and now as a Sierra Nevada Alliance member, we have partners and institutional colleagues in the Western United States. Our team members are extracted from around the globe, and hence are not tied to a locally specific ethnic, professional or gender based criteria. We hence operate on an activity-based dynamic, taking on team members, remunerating them when applicable, as projects arise and as the need occurs. Over CHRE (and CEDHA's) history, women have dominated the gender profile of our management teams, or our programmatic teams and of our intern base. We have also been a very diverse group in terms of gender and sexual preference, having no conflicts related to any discrimination of any type whatsoever.

202-1: Ratios of standard entry-level wage by gender compared to local minimum wage

- a) When a significant proportion of employees are compensated based on wages subject to minimum rules, report the relevant ratio of the entry -level wage by gender at significant locations of operations to the minimum wage. NOT APPLICABLE
- b) When a significant proportion of other workers (excluding employees) performing the organization's activities are compensated based on wages subject to minimum wage rules, describe the actions taken to determine whether these workers are paid above the minimum wage. NOT APPLICABLE
- c) Whether a local minimum wage is absent or variable at significant locations of operation, by gender. In circumstances in which different minimums can be used as a reference, report which minimum wage is being used. NOT APPLICABLE
- d) The definition used for "significant locations of operation". NOT APPLICABLE

CHRE does not have a "minimum wage". We pay our team members according to their qualifications at competitive market rates that are in all cases, always above minimum wage. As of 2020, we will eliminate all wage earning staff, and move to consultant payment only for hired help.

202-2: Proportion of senior management hired from the local community

100%; our only hired senior manager is the Executive Director. He resides in Palm Beach Gardens, FL, USA, where CHRE is constituted.

GRI 203: Indirect Economic Impacts

Management Approach:

Our programmatic work aims to improve community knowledge and capacity, among other issues, about industrial activity taking place at or near the community. We pick engagement in opposition to industrial projects or confronting government or industry to reduce contamination of these projects according to various criteria, including significance of impact, relevance of the issues to sustainability, the potential of the case to influence the sector to have some greater value to society. Due to financial constraints we cannot always make management decisions based on what we would consider to be the *best* projects to engage on. Sometimes management decisions on which cases we engage on follow the likelihood of funding availability to engage on the

project. In some cases, CHRE will utilize its own institutional resources to pursue an issue irrespective of whether or not there is sustained funding to do so (such as in our advocacy around glacier protection), but these cases are not the majority, since without sustained funding for a program, it is difficult to sustain advocacy around a case or topic in the medium/long term. We periodically review areas of engagement regarding to large industry projects that affect local communities and which would have direct or indirect economic impacts to those communities, positive or negative, long or short term.

203-1: Infrastructure investments and services supported:

a) Extend of development of significant infrastructure investments and services supported.

CHRE provides advisory assistance to communities about third party investments (such as a mining company wishing to exploit a mine and establish local infrastructure operations, or an oil and gas company intending to drill and set up industrial operations in the locality) but does not make any infrastructure investments itself.

b) Current or expected impacts on communities and local economies, including positive and negative impacts where relevant.

Areas where we are more actively engaged to avoid negative local environmental and social impacts (and where economic investments could be stalled due to our advocacy) presently include:

Argentina generally due to existing artisanal brick kiln operations (climate impacts, air quality, human health, biodiversity, etc.)

San Juan Province (Argentina), related to intended mining operations such as Pascua Lama, Veladero, El Pachon, Los Azules, Altares, Del Carmen, Constelación, and other mining projects

Catamarca Province (Argentina), related to intended mining operations such as Filo Colorado, Agua Rica, et.al. as well as potential future lithium mining

La Rioja Province (Argentina), related to intended mining operations such as Famatina.

Neuquén Province (Argentina), related to intended fracking operations for the Vaca Muerta project

Kyrgyzstan, related to intended mining operation at the Kumtor mining project

Mexico (Jalisco, Oaxaca, Morelos, Guanajuato, Michoacan, Veracruz) – due to existing artisanal brick kiln operations (climate impacts, air quality, human health, biodiversity, etc.), and potential fracking operations

Paraguay – engaging on contamination from artisanal brick kilns could affect producers

Colombia – due to oil and gas infrastructure and to potential fracking operations

Chile– due to mining operations affecting glaciers, and possible fracking operations in southern region

Uruguay – due to a nascent interest in addressing contamination from artisanal bricks kilns (something that CHRE spurred on) could affect producers

Florida, USA – due to possible fracking operations

California and Western United States generally.

Other US States (California, Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Pennsylvania) due to ongoing and future fracking operations.

c) Whether these investments and services are commercial, in-kind, or pro bono engagements.

All are pro-bono engagements. CHRE never charges local communities for our services.

203-2: Significant indirect economic impacts:

- a) Examples of significant identified indirect economic impacts of the organization, including positive and negative impacts.
- b) Significance of the indirect economic impacts in the context of external benchmarks and stakeholder priorities, such as national and international standards, protocols, and policy agendas.

Our programmatic work aims to improve community knowledge and capacity, among other issues, about industrial activity taking place at or near the community. This knowledge may result in local opposition to local industrial/commercial investments, which in turn, if community opposition is generated, may result in major projects to stall. One example is the recent stalling of a US\$10 billion+ mining project investment in San Juan Argentina (Barrick Gold's Pascua Lama Project or its Veladero gold mining project). CHRE contributes to the development of local knowledge and education about the impacts of such projects. While we are not the sole cause of the stalling of these projects, we do contribute significantly to generating information and alarming society to the risks and impacts these projects cause. We understand that while communities may lose out on such investments because of our activity, particularly the short term economic benefits they may provide (such as job creation), many negative economic externalities caused by such investments are actually *positive externalities* in the long term, as the typical environmental contamination and negative social impacts caused by these investments make them unsustainable in the long term.

GRI 204: Procurement Practices

Management Approach:

CHRE's Office Policy informs procurement practices and management, focusing on sustainability in material purchasing of office consumption. (see p.28)

204-1: Proportion of spending on local suppliers

100% Nearly all or most supplies purchased are purchased locally. Some occasional internet purchases derive from other regions.

GRI 205: Anti-Corruption

Management Approach:

CHRE has no specific policy or management approach on anti-corruption nor has corruption been identified as a material topic for CHRE's management, team members, or institutional history, nor have there been any cases meriting action. The only issue ever brought to CHRE involved non-CHRE activities but related to one of the founding board members, accused in 2007 by a political opposition party (for past activity when she served as Environment Secretary of Argentina for alleged mis-appropriation of Funds). Despite lack of merit rulings, she has been unfairly persecuted politically and judicially for 10 years, long surpassing statute of limitations; she is defending herself in an Argentine federal court and will file international complaint against Argentina at Inter-American Commission on Human Rights. CHRE is helping her to clear her name as it has strongly influenced our perceived integrity as a public interest institution. Also CHRE has moved from Argentina to the USA in 2015 due to the persecution, harassment and threats faced by CHRE and staff. We occasionally publish communication related to her case to showcase the persecution she has suffered. The 2015 Annual Report had a page dedicated to this issue.

205-1: Operations assessed for risks related to corruption; NOT APPLICABLE

205-2: Communication and training about anti-corruption policies and procedures. NOT APPLICABLE

205-3: Confirmed incidents of corruption and actions taken. NONE

GRI 206: Anti-Competitive Behavior

Management Approach:

CHRE promotes open, transparent and collaborative engagement with partners in field (Office Policy on pp. 10-11), emphasizing the importance of sharing information, respecting territorial presence of other institutions, valuing historical institutional relations, citing partner activity and academia, etc. CHRE has no specific management approach on anti-competitive behavior nor has this been identified as a material topic for CHRE's management, team members, or institutional history, nor have there been any cases meriting action.

206-1: Legal actions for anti-competitive behavior, anti-trust, and monopoly practices. NONE/NOT APPLICABLE

GRI 301: Materials

Management Approach:

Management developed [CHRE Office Policy](#) [CHRE-mandments](#) to define institutional culture (CHRE Office Policy pp.7-8). In these documents, expected institutional culture regarding material consumption is detailed and outlined. (see image to right). The principle underlying our approach is that as an environmental policy organization dedicated to sustainability we should set an example to others, despite the relatively insignificant contribution we make as a small service organization to global impacts. We also encourage our team members to adopt our sustainability approaches in their own lifestyles.

301-1: Materials used by weight or volume
NEGLIGENT or NOT APPLICABLE

301-2: Recycled input material used
CHRE recycles printed paper in preparation of travel report, in registering receipts, etc.

301-3: Reclaimed products and their packaging materials
NOT APPLICABLE

Material Consumption

As a Human Rights and Environmental Organization dedicated to promote sustainable development, CHRE also encourages its own Team Members to live sustainably, reduce consumption whenever possible, and to promote the use of environmentally friendly products. As an organization, we promote environmentally friendly consumption whenever possible.

- a. Electricity
 - i. All appliances used for CHRE activities shall be turned off when not in use.
 - ii. CHRE will purchase low-energy appliances whenever possible.
- b. Plastics and other Petroleum derived products
 - i. CHRE shall avoid whenever possible the purchase of petroleum derived products
 - ii. CHRE shall avoid the use of disposable supplies whenever possible.
- c. Paper
 - i. When available, CHRE shall utilize chlorine free, non-white, or other types of environmentally friendly printing paper for its printing needs.
 - ii. CHRE Team Members shall recycle paper utilized for CHRE activities whenever possible.
 - iii. Whenever possible, CHRE Team Members will prefer to use digital documents instead of printed ones.
- d. Water
 - i. CHRE is committed to reducing water consumption whenever possible.
 - ii. CHRE upholds the right to water in all of its activities.
 - iii. CHRE Team Members commit to reporting water leaks to the responsible authority.
- e. Travel
 - i. CHRE and CHRE Team Members commit to utilizing renewable energy source travel whenever possible and reasonable to do so.
 - ii. CHRE Team Members commit to utilizing local public transportation whenever possible and reasonable to do so.
 - iii. CHRE is aware of the impacts caused by the work related travel of its Team Members. To this end CHRE shall monitor the impacts of this travel and carry out activities to offset them, such as planting trees or other equivalent activity.
- f. Repairing our damage. CHRE realizes that its own actions cause social and environmental impacts and we shall take measures within our reasonable reach to offset such impacts.
- g. All Team Members at CHRE shall carry out CHRE related activities in the most sustainable way possible within the reach of the organization and in a reasonable context.
- h. All Team Members shall apply the precautionary principles in all of CHRE's activities both within and outside of the organizations.

GRI 302: Energy

Management Approach:

CHRE has identified electricity, natural gas used in office operations as material, and monitors utility bills/consumption on a yearly basis. We have explored office environment adjustments such as closing shades, opening windows, installing natural ventilation options to avoid air conditioning during working hours. We have also installed shaded screens on certain sun-facing windows to avoid heat capture in specific rooms. One very effective measure taken in 2017 was to install a garage screen door to allow opening the garage door facing opposite sliding doors with screens, to promote airflow in the building. This has greatly improved conditions lowering indoor temperature and reducing reliance on air conditioning. CHRE's Executive Director purchased an all electric zero emissions vehicle in early 2016, reducing our land vehicular emissions in half by the end of 2016 and to zero in 2017. Our management approach is informal, exploratory, and constantly seeking ways to reduce energy consumption through creative day-to-day solutions.

302-1: Energy consumption within the organization

- i. Total fuel consumption within the organization from non-renewable sources, in joules or multiples, and including fuel types used.
Gasoline: 5,032 km traveled in 2019 (vs 4,712 in 2018 and 5,273 km traveled in 2017), utilizing vehicular gasoline of 93 octane, equivalent to 0.64 tns of CO₂ equivalent (vs. 0.69 in 2018 and 0.76 in 2017)
Natural Gas: 10.84 Therms (vs. 11.44 in 2018, 19.38 in 2017 and 25.62 in 2016), equivalent to 0.06 tns CO₂ equivalent (approximately equal to consumption in 2018 and vs. .1 tns in 2017 and .14 tns in 2016)
the significant reduction in 2018 of 40% was due to the purchase of a more sustainable electric water heater;
- ii. Total fuel consumption within the organization from renewable sources, in joules or multiples, and including fuel types used.
In March of 2016, the Executive Director purchased an all electric zero emission vehicle, traveling for CHRE. For this mobility, 20% of the vehicle use is attributed to CHRE related activity.
- iii. In joules, watt-hours or multiples, the total:
 - i. electricity consumption (3,907 kWh, vs. 3,811 kWh in 2018; 3,813 in 2017; and 3,297 in 2016)
 - ii. heating consumption (NOT APPLICABLE)
 - iii. cooling consumption (NOT APPLICABLE)
 - iv. steam consumption (NOT APPLICABLE)
- iv. In joules, watt-hours or multiples, the total:
 - i. electricity sold (NOT APPLICABLE)
 - ii. heating sold (NOT APPLICABLE)
 - iii. cooling sold (NOT APPLICABLE)
 - iv. steam sold (NOT APPLICABLE)
- v. Total energy consumption within the organization, in joules or multiples.
13.08 tons of CO₂ equivalent in 2019 vs 15.54 tons of CO₂ equivalent in 2018 (a 16% drop from the previous year) considering a 8.5% decrease between 2018 and 2017.
- vi. Standards, methodologies, assumptions, and/or calculation tools used.

- vii. <http://www.carbonfootprint.com/calculator.aspx>
Source of the conversion factors used.
<http://www.carbonfootprint.com/calculator.aspx>

302-2: Energy consumption outside the organization

a) Air travel 10.46 CO₂ equivalent, vs 12.95 CO₂ equivalent in 2018 or a 19% decrease since the previous year (see page 27).

b) <http://www.carbonfootprint.com/calculator.aspx>

c) <http://www.carbonfootprint.com/calculator.aspx>

302-3: Energy intensity

a) 13.08 tns of CO₂ equivalent vs. 15.54 tns of CO₂ equivalent in 2018 / 2 full time persons; 6.54 tns per person vs 7.77 tns in 2018, 8.13 in 2017 and 9.43 in 2016

b) full time staff

c) fuel (kms traveled), electricity (kWh), natural gas (therms), air travel (jet fuel), all converted to CO₂ equivalent

d) both inside and outside

302-4: Reduction of energy consumption

Summary CHRE Energy Consumption 2015-2018

	2015	CO ₂ Eq	2016	CO ₂ Eq	2017	CO ₂ Eq	2018	CO ₂ Eq	2019	CO ₂ Eq
Electricity (kWh)	2,922	1.69	3,297	1.68	3,813	1.91	3,811	1.84	3,907	1.92
Natural gas (Therms)	22.96	0.12	25.62	0.14	19.38	0.10	11.44	0.06	10.84	0.06
Kms	8,518	0.73	5,395	0.79	5,273	0.76	4,712	0.69	5,032	0.64
Air Travel		7.4		16.25		14.21		12.95		10.46
TOTAL		9.94		18.86		16.98		15.54		13.08

a) following a spike in energy consumption between 2015 and 2016, energy consumption decreased in CO₂ equivalent, in 2017 from 18.86 to 16.98 and then again in 2018 to 15.54 and down further to 13.08 in 2019. The spike in 2015 had to do with two main factors, the principle being that CHRE activities in early 2015 were greatly reduced, having just moved to the USA including the late creation of the organization in late April of 2015. As activities began to regularize in mid to late 2015, we got back into full swing. Hence, measurements for 2015 should more appropriately be considered as a half-year cycle. In 2016, CHRE had a "normal" year of operations, with increased air travel in 12 months compared to the relatively few trips in 2015 due to a late start. In 2017, the slight decrease has to do with the proximity of activities carried out in the year vs. those in the previous years. If we consider kms traveled locally, we see a reduction from 8,518 to 4,712 in 2018 and then slightly higher to 5,032 in 2019.

- b) The type of energy reduced during the period was vehicular gasoline (93 octane).
- c) Calendar Year. CHRE always measures impacts on a calendar cycle. See note in point (a) above regarding late 2015 start.
- d) <http://www.carbonfootprint.com/calculator.aspx>

302-5: Reductions of energy requirements in products and services
NOT APPLICABLE

GRI 303: Water

Management Approach:

CHRE monitors volume of water utilized, calculated as 20% of residency consumption. Our water consumption is negligible in real terms. We nonetheless check for leaks, attempt to minimize running water use in bathrooms and kitchen.

303-1: Water withdrawal by source

a) Total volume of water withdrawn, with a breakdown by the following sources:

- i. Surface water, including water from wetlands, rivers, lakes, and oceans;
- ii. Ground water: 33,200 liters, taken from municipal water supply (slightly down from 36,400 liters in 2018 and substantially down from 40,000 in 2017)
- iii. Rainwater collected directly and stored by the organization;
- iv. Waste water from another organization;
- v. Municipal water supplies or other public or private water utilities.

b) Standards, methodologies and assumptions used.

Information taken from Seacoast Utility bill.

303-2: Water sources significantly affected by withdrawal of water: "0"

303-3: Water recycled and reused: "0"

GRI 304: Biodiversity

Management Approach:

N/A Not Material for Sustainability Reporting

304-1: Operational sites owned, leased, managed in, or adjacent to, protected areas and areas of high biodiversity value outside protected areas
CHRE rents/shares home in authorized Residential Ecological Reserve - OK for homes

304-2: Significant impacts of activities, products, and services on biodiversity; N/A - "0"

304-3: Habitats protected or restored

Habitats Protected/Restored; CHRE is promoting protection of freshwater turtles in area; produced report in 2015 and engaged public officials. In the 2017 calendar year, CHRE took action on protecting the Florida Panther.

304-4: IUCN Red List species and national conservation list species with habitats in areas affected by operations

GRI 305: Emissions

Management Approach:

CHRE determined that one of its areas of main concern is CO₂ Equivalent Emissions from travel, we are monitoring, reporting, and working to lower emissions/reduce travel as much as possible. To this end, we measure our emissions each year and offset them through tree planting each year. Emissions are measured by collecting information from utility bills and monitoring local vehicular travel as well as international travel.

305-1: Direct (Scope 1) GHG Emissions

a) Gross direct (Scope 1) GHG emissions in metric tons of CO₂ Equivalent: 13.08 in 2019, down from 15.54 in 2018; from 16.98 in 2017 and from 18.86 in 2016)

b) Gases included: CO₂, CH₄,

c) Biogenic CO₂ emissions: N/A

d) Base year for calculation: 2015 (9.94)—see 302-4 (a) for explanation of significant increase

e) Source of the emissions factor, vehicular and air travel, office environment heating, office electricity consumed;

f) Consolidation approach for emissions; whether equity share, financial control, or operational control; N/A

g) Standards, methodologies, assumptions, and/or calculations tools used.

<http://www.carbonfootprint.com/calculator.aspx>

305-2: Energy indirect (Scope 2) GHG Emissions

As CHRE's consumed energy is negligible, to avoid any double counting, all energy related emissions are reported in 305-2

305-3: Other indirect (Scope 3) GHG Emissions

N/A

305-4: GHG Emissions Intensity

13.08 tns of CO₂ equivalent / 2 full time persons; 6.54 tns in 2019, down from 7.77 tns in 2018, from 8.49 tns in 2017 and from 9.43tns in 2016); Gases included: CO₂, CH₄;

305-5: Reduction of GHG Emissions

See 302-4 (a) for explanation of increase/reduction of emissions from 2015 to 2016

305-6: Emissions of Ozone Depleting Substances (ODS)

CHRE does not specifically calculate emissions of ozone depleting substances, while some emissions may be included in natural gas consumption (CH₄) and in air conditioning utilized which would fall under electricity consumption. These emissions are not a significant portion of our emissions. Nonetheless, we have reduced air conditioning use considerably in 2016 (and subsequently for 2017 and for 2018) by introducing natural air flow patterns in our office environment by placing a screen garage door opposite sliding doors in the office environment. This creates air circulation, helping considerably in not needing to utilize artificial air conditioning.

305-7: Nitrogen Oxides (NO_x), Sulfur Oxides (SO_x), and other significant air emissions

N/A

GRI 306: Effluents and Waste

Management Approach:

N/A Not Material for Sustainability Reporting; we only provide a basic description of water and office materials used and procedures for disposal

306-1: Water discharge by quality and destination

Ground water: 33,200 liters in 2019, down from 36,400 liters taken from municipal water supply for normal office/garden use (down considerably from 40,200 in 2016 and from 40,000 in 2017)

306-2: Waste by type and disposal method

Standard office waste, paper, ink cartridges, cardboard, plastics, metals (municipal collection and recycling); CHRE recycles letter sized paper for reuse in monthly finances, reports, etc; non-recyclable waste goes to local landfill administered by municipality. CHRE recycles ink cartridges with local supplier (Office Depot);

306-3: Significant spills;

N/A

306-4: Transport of hazardous waste

N/A

306-5: Water bodies affected by water discharges and/or runoff

N/A; wastewater goes to municipal sewer or drainage treatment

GRI 307: Environmental Compliance

Management Approach:

N/A Not Material for Sustainability Reporting

307-1: Non-compliance with environmental laws and regulations

CHRE has no cases on non-compliance

GRI 308: Supplier Environmental Assessment

Management Approach:

N/A Not Material for Sustainability Reporting

308-1: New suppliers that were screened using environmental criteria

N/A

308-2: Negative environmental impacts in the supply chain and actions taken
N/A

GRI 401: Employment

Management Approach:

Over the course of CHRE's past history (previously as CEDHA in Argentina), with 30+ team members, employment was an important dimension of our sustainability reporting. Today, in a virtual environment, with only one remunerated full time team member and one volunteer full time member, as well as only a handful of international volunteers and an occasional consultant hired for very short term assignments, our employment reporting has taken on a less significant relevance. CHRE's [Office Policy](#) and [CHRE-Mandments](#) provide the framework for our employment criteria, rules, sustainability issues, etc. Each new team member receives copies of these policies. They are reviewed and formally accepted by each team member at the onset of engagement. These policies set out human rights obligations, and provide a guidance for general team relations to guide employment practices and team interaction.

401-1: New employee hires and employee turnover

During this period, CHRE took on 1 new non-remunerated team members to work on diverse programmatic activities and hired consulting services for select activities. Other team members have left the organization after completing their internships/volunteerships.

401-2: Benefits provided to full-time employees that are not provided to temporary or part time employees. NONE

401-3: Parental leave

N/A [all full and part time remunerated employees are entitled to parental leave]

GRI 402: Labor/Management Relations

Management Approach:

N/A Not Material for Sustainability Reporting

402-1: Minimum notice periods regarding operational changes

N/A Not Material for Sustainability Reporting

GRI 403: Occupational Health and Safety

Management Approach:

N/A Not Material

403-1: Worker representation in formal joint management-worker health and safety committees

N/A

403-2: Types of injuries and rates of injury, occupational diseases, lost days, and absenteeism, and number of work-related fatalities

CHRE has never had a work-related injury

403-3: Workers with high incidence or high risk of diseases related to their occupation

N/A

403-4: Health and safety topics covered in formal agreements with trade unions

N/A

GRI 404: Training and Education

Management Approach:

CHRE team member occasionally undergo training or education. The nature of our work involves permanent education on the matters and issues we address. CHRE is open to any proposed training as our programmatic agenda evolves.

404-1: Average hours of training per year per employee

N/A for reporting period

404-2: Programs for upgrading employee skills and transition assistance programs

N/A for reporting period

404-3: Percentage of employees receiving regular performance and career development reviews
N/A for reporting period

GRI 405: Diversity and Equal Opportunity

Management Approach:
CHRE is an equal opportunity employer, and we have had diversity in terms of gender, race, sexual preference and religion on our team since our founding (originally as CEDHA in Argentina, in 1999).

405-1: Diversity of governance bodies and employees
Currently our board includes 2 females and 1 male (all in 40s) of which three Latin Americans. In terms of project team members, this number is constantly changing. Presently, there are 5 males and 3 females. In 2017 there was a slight majority of females.

405-2: Ratio of basic salary and remuneration to women.
N/A for reporting period; only one full or part time remunerated team member

GRI 406: Non-Discrimination

Management Approach:
CHRE is an equal opportunity employer, and has a specific policy of non-discrimination (Office Policy p. 3)

- Anti-Discrimination Policy**

 - a. CHRE and CHRE Team Members shall not tolerate any form of discrimination based on gender, race, nationality, religion, sexual orientation, civil status, or internal administrative hierarchies.
 - b. No person working at, for or with CHRE shall be deprived of the right to express their opinion or share their ideas.
 - c. CHRE Team Members shall strive to obtain the opinions of all Team Members in all matters and circumstances where they would like to offer an opinion.

406-1: Incidents of discrimination and corrective actions.

CHRE has never registered an incident of discrimination.

GRI 407: Freedom of Association and Collective Bargaining

Management Approach:

N/A Not Material

407-1: Operations and suppliers in which the right to freedom of association and collective bargaining may be at risk

N/A Not Material

GRI 408: Child Labor

Management Approach:

N/A Not Material

408-1: Operations and suppliers at significant risk for incidents of child labor

N/A Not Material

GRI 409: Forced or Compulsory Labor

Management Approach:

N/A Not Material

409-1: Operations and suppliers at significant risk for incidents of forced or compulsory labor

N/A Not Material

GRI 410: Security Practices

Management Approach:

N/A Not Material

410-1: Security personnel trained in human rights policies or procedures

N/A Not Material

GRI 411: Rights of Indigenous Peoples

Management Approach:

N/A Not Material

411-1: Incidents of violations involving rights of indigenous peoples

N/A Not Material

GRI 412: Human Rights Assessment

Management Approach:

CHRE is a human rights organization. Our Office Policy leads with a commitment to human rights protection (p.3). Human rights are infused in everything that we do.

Human Rights

- a. CHRE upholds, protects and promotes the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the Universal Bill of Human Rights and all internationally accepted human rights treaties, conventions, resolutions, etc. in and outside the work place and in all of its administrative and programmatic activities.
- b. CHRE and CHRE Team Members shall not tolerate or accept witnessed human rights violations, and shall strive within their power and responsibilities to make such violations visible and work to address them.
- c. If knowledgeable of a human rights violation CHRE Team Members shall inform the appropriate authorities of such violations, including, where necessary, local or international police or judicial authorities.

412-1: Operations that have been subject to human rights reviews or impact assessments

N/A Not Material

412-2: Employee training on human rights policies or procedures

CHRE's work is focused on human rights protection, so much of our engagement, team advocacy etc. centers on human rights issues and training.

412-3: Significant investment agreements and contracts that include human rights clauses or that underwent human rights screening

N/A Not Material

GRI 413: Local Communities

Management Approach:

CHRE works to protect local communities. Generally, our advocacy that involves local communities is demand driven. That is, local community representatives contact CHRE for our assistance to address social and environmental impacts caused by industrial or other activity. On occasions, we take on actions by our own choosing without invitation, in which case we generally seek out allies and representatives in those communities who are aware of, or interested in engaging on the advocacy issues we promote. An example is our work on glacier protection. Since glaciers are oftentimes very far from communities we may seek out communities downstream from glaciers to engage. We do not conduct social impact assessments or community impact assessments, as our activities are designed precisely to help those communities avoid impacts from other actors.

413-1: Operations with local community engagement, impact assessments, and development programs

Glacier Protection in San Juan Province (Argentina), Catamarca Province (Argentina), La Rioja Province (Argentina), California, Washington State

Advocacy to Reduce Fracking Impacts in Patagonia, Mexico, Colombia, USA et.al. involve community engagement.
Brick Kiln Impacts in Mexico, Colombia, Peru, Chile, Argentina, Paraguay, Guatemala, Brazil, Uruguay, et.al. engage local producers and government officials

413-2: Operations with significant actual and potential negative impacts on local communities
N/A Not Material

GRI 414: Supplier Social Assessment

Management Approach:
N/A Not Material

414-1: New suppliers that were screened using social criteria
N/A Not Material

414-2: Negative social impacts in the supply chain and actions taken
N/A Not Material

GRI 415: Public Policy

Management Approach:
N/A Not Material

415-1: Political contributions
N/A Not Material

GRI 416: Customer Health and Safety

Management Approach:

N/A Not Material

416-1: Assessment of the health and safety impacts of product and service categories

N/A Not Material

416-2: Incidents of non-compliance concerning health and safety of products and services

N/A Not Material

GRI 417: Marketing and Labeling

Management Approach:

N/A Not Material

417-1: Requirements for product and service information and labeling

N/A Not Material

417-2: Incidents of non-compliance concerning product and service information and labeling

N/A Not Material

417-3: Incidents of non-compliance concerning marketing communications

N/A Not Material

GRI 418: Customer Privacy

Management Approach:

CHRE's activities and engagement with communities, victims of human rights violations or environmental contamination are maintained in secrecy if so desired by the individuals we engage.

418-1: Substantiated complaints concerning breaches of customer privacy and losses of consumer data
CHRE has never had a complaint concerning breaches of client privacy.

GRI 419: Socioeconomic Compliance

Management Approach:
N/A Not Material

419-1: Non-compliance with laws and regulations in the social and economic area
CHRE has never had a complaint concerning social or environmental non-compliance.