



BOGAWANTALAWA

CLIMATE POSITIVE AND BEYOND

SURPASSING CARBON NEUTRALITY, BOGAWANTALAWA ACHIEVES CNG CLIMATE NEUTRAL CERTIFICATION & CLIMATE POSITIVITY MILESTONE FOR 6TH CONSECUTIVE YEAR

Renowned for its Climate-positive Teas and esteemed for its unwavering commitment to sustainable cultivation and manufacturing practices, **Bogawantalawa has long been recognized as a leader in global sustainability efforts, predating the unveiling of the UN SDG-2030 initiative.** Recently, Bogawantalawa further solidified its position by obtaining the Climate Neutral Certification (CNC) from the Climate Neutral Group (CNG) in the Netherlands, adding to its impressive array of accolades. These include the Climate Positive, Carbon Neutral, Rainforest, Fairtrade, and 100% Renewable Energy Certifications. This latest accomplishment distinguishes Bogawantalawa as the world's first tea-growing, manufacturing, and marketing company to achieve the climate-positive standard and highest standards of sustainability across its operations.

The CNG is part of the Anthesis Group and has been at the forefront of combating climate-change for nearly two decades. Anthesis is the world's leading purpose-driven, digitally enabled, science-based activator for guiding clients to sustainable performance. By aiding clients in reducing and offsetting/in-setting greenhouse gas emissions, CNG plays a pivotal role in raising awareness about climate issues. The Climate Neutral Certification Program, overseen by third-party Certification Bodies (CBs), provides a framework for organizations to mitigate their global warming impact in line with the Paris Agreement.

Under this program, Bogawantalawa has committed to gradually reducing its CO₂e emissions and increasing in-setting capacities. Through meticulous audits conducted by international and national auditors, Bogawantalawa demonstrated its dedication to meeting these targets, with a focus on reducing emissions associated with tea production. During the audit process, Bogawantalawa's baseline footprint for CNG, CNC was established in 2020, with an annual reduction target set at 5%. Remarkably, the company achieved a significant reduction, with the actual footprint for the previous audit in 2023 translating to a reduction of 0.57 kg of CO₂e per kg of tea compared to the baseline. The offsetting of emissions on the balance sheet was effectively managed through the integration of Gold Standard Carbon Credits generated via its own hydro-power plant. This serves as a tangible illustration of genuine sustainable practices, in stark contrast to the prevalent greenwashing tactics employed by many others who simply purchase carbon credits to offset their emissions.

The rigorous audit results, overseen by key stakeholders including Dr. Thusitha Bandara, The Director of Low Country Operations, Sustainability, and R & D of Bogawantalawa and Auditors from the Certification Body, culminated in a positive certification decision on December 16th, 2023. Bogawantalawa was awarded the Certificate of Compliance (Cert-20005848-23-Prod-1-PBN), affirming its commitment to sustainability and environmental stewardship. Bogawantalawa's attainment of the CNG Climate Neutral Certification not only underscores its dedication to reducing its environmental footprint but also sets a precedent for the tea industry and beyond. By championing sustainable practices, Bogawantalawa paves the way for a more environmentally conscious future, aligning with global efforts to combat climate-change and preserve our planet for future generations.

Recently, **Bogawantalawa attained another significant milestone by earning the Climate-positive certificate for the sixth consecutive year, highlighting its outstanding endeavors in combating climate-change.** The award ceremony took place on 12th March 2024 at the Ministry of Environment under the leadership of the Secretary of the Ministry of Environment, with the participation of senior management from Bogawantalawa. This accolade serves as a testament to Bogawantalawa's dedication to environmental stewardship, evidenced by its adherence to rigorous criteria including the retention of excess carbon credits, utilization of renewable energy, sustainable nutrient management practices, participation in afforestation and reforestation initiatives, efficient waste management, and adoption of management strategies aimed at achieving a climate-positive impact. Through these initiatives, Bogawantalawa has firmly established itself as a frontrunner in environmental conservation.



Furthermore, Bogawantalawa has been **honoured with the Carbon Neutral Certificate from the Sri Lanka Climate Fund, for its consecutive 8th Year as the World's First Tea Company certified for its Uncompensated Carbon Neutral Status,** recognizing its commitment to in-setting its organization's greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions, totaling 7600 tCO₂e. Following the ISO 14064-1:2018 methodology, Bogawantalawa meticulously quantified and verified its emissions, subsequently in-setting them via carbon credits generated through Mini Hydro-Power Projects and the Bogawantalawa Solar PV Bundle Projects.

In addition to its carbon-neutral and climate-positive initiatives, **Bogawantalawa has attained the prestigious Net Zero Energy Certification, highlighting its remarkable achievement in balancing energy consumption with renewable energy production throughout the previous year, thereby significantly reducing its carbon footprint.** By harnessing renewable energy sources, Bogawantalawa demonstrates its steadfast commitment to sustainable practices and environmental responsibility.

Bogawantalawa's comprehensive approach to environmental sustainability, encompassing carbon neutrality, climate positivity, net-zero energy consumption, and voluntary carbon offsetting, serves as **a beacon of inspiration for fostering a greener and more sustainable future.** As Bogawantalawa continues to lead by example, it sets a compelling precedent for other organizations to follow in mitigating climate-change and safeguarding our planet for future generations.

Bogawantalawa diligently monitors emissions across all scopes, including direct emissions from combustion processes (Scope 1), indirect emissions from purchased electricity (Scope 2), and other indirect emissions throughout the supply chain (Scope 3). **Employing meticulous data collection, emission factor calculations, and verification processes, Bogawantalawa ensures the accuracy and reliability of its emissions data, offering a transparent view of its environmental impact.**

Aligned with the Greenhouse Gas Protocol (GHG Protocol), **Bogawantalawa employs a structured set of tools and methodologies for monitoring and measuring relevant greenhouse gas emissions. Following the GHG Protocol's scope definitions, emissions are categorized into three scopes.** Scope 1 includes direct emissions from sources under Bogawantalawa's ownership or control, such as combustion processes. Scope 2 involves the evaluation of indirect emissions resulting from purchased electricity. Scope 3 extends to other indirect emissions, including those from the supply chain, business travel, and employee commuting. In the current reporting year, Bogawantalawa emitted 7,599.4 tCO₂e, with Scope 1 emissions accounting for 47.8% of the total, primarily from combustion processes and fugitive emissions. Indirect emissions, categorized under Scope 2 and Scope 3, constituted 54.5% of the total emissions.

Understanding these emissions is crucial for Bogawantalawa to formulate **effective strategies for reducing its carbon footprint and achieving sustainability goals through continuous improvement and the integration of new technologies.** Bogawantalawa's commitment to continuous improvement is evident in its approach to emission monitoring and measurement practices. The organization regularly refines data collection methods, updates emission factors to align with the latest standards, and integrates new technologies to further reduce greenhouse gas emissions. This dedication underscores Bogawantalawa's role in mitigating climate-change and

Our value-added offering to the global consumer:

- **Ideal Terroir and Elevation (4,500 – 6,000 ft) to yield the perfect cup of Tea**
- **Guaranteed Garden-Fresh Product with 100% Traceability sourced directly from the globally renowned Golden Valley of Ceylon**
- **Climate-Neutral certified 100% in-setting of the Scope 1, 2 and 3 carbon emission right up to the shelf**
- **A limited-edition range of products with Climate-Positive Status, zero plastic, 100% Compostable & 100% Biodegradable**

"Our journey in calculating our carbon footprint began in 2009, stated Dr. Bandara. Following this, Bogawantalawa Teas embarked on the development of its Biodiversity Conservation Zone and initiated organic farming in the subsequent year. In 2012, we initiated Energy Improvements to transition to 100% renewable energy sources. By 2013, we had commenced measuring our waste footprint using the 3R system and implementing Sustainable Soil Development and Regenerative Agricultural Practices to promote Climate-Smart Agriculture. In 2015, the first phase of our Solar project for Domestic Consumption was initiated, and in 2016, the second phase of our 'Solar for Tea' initiative was completed. By the conclusion of 2016, Carbon-Neutral status and in 2019, Climate-Positive Certification were received. **He remarked, "Our unwavering dedication to safeguarding nature's resources has led us to embrace Climate-Smart Agriculture in our efforts to address the challenges posed by climate-change.** In light of the palpable effects of climate-change that surround us, Bogawantalawa takes great pride in implementing ecologically sound practices to harness the finest offerings of the natural world".



Mr. Almas Marikkar,
Director & CEO
Bogawantalawa Tea
Ceylon (Pvt) Ltd.

“Mr. Almas Marikkar, the Director & CEO of Bogawantalawa Tea Ceylon, endorsed the sustainability efforts on the plantations and praised Dr. Bandara for his sustainability accomplishments which have elevated the Bogawantalawa name to a status beyond carbon-neutrality. He mentioned a major shift in global demand for sustainable teas and stated that he is “truly overjoyed with this milestone achievement”.



Dr. Thusitha Bandara,
Director of Low
Country Operations,
Sustainability,
and R & D
Bogawantalawa Tea
Estates PLC.

He went on to highlight the exclusive Bogawantalawa and Ceylon Tea Gardens collections and added that the company is **the trusted partner to provide turnkey solutions to discerning, premium brands around the world,** making Bogawantalawa the one stop destination for all-round teas. "Tea consumers and purveyors on the global stage now have a unique opportunity to experience our value-added range", he said. Mr. Marikkar said and added that "our international reputation and accolades are not only significant achievements on how we manage our carbon footprint but also a cause for national pride."

With a Sustainable Value Chain seamlessly integrated into our Business Strategy, Bogawantalawa Teas stands at the forefront of the Ceylon Tea Industry. Being aligned with international market dynamics and consumer behaviour, positions us ahead of global trends. We are poised to elevate the industry to greater heights, setting a benchmark for excellence and sustainability.



From left to Right:
Mr. Feroze Majeed, CEO - Bogawantalawa Tea Estates PLC; Ms. Margaretha Haglind - Marketing Manager for Europe; Dr. Thusitha Bandara, Director of Low Country Operations, Sustainability, and R & D of Bogawantalawa Tea Estates PLC; Mr. B.K. Prabath Chandrakeerthi - Secretary of the Ministry of Environment; Mr. Lalith Munasinghe, the Executive Director of Bogawantalawa Tea Estates PLC; Mr. Abhishek Ambani - Director Business Development (US region) - Bogawantalawa Tea Ceylon (Private) Ltd.; Mr. Almas Marikkar, Director & CEO and Mr. Dhammika Perera, Director /COO - both of Bogawantalawa Tea Ceylon (Private) Ltd. and Mr. Michael Haglind, Director of Bogawantalawa Teas.