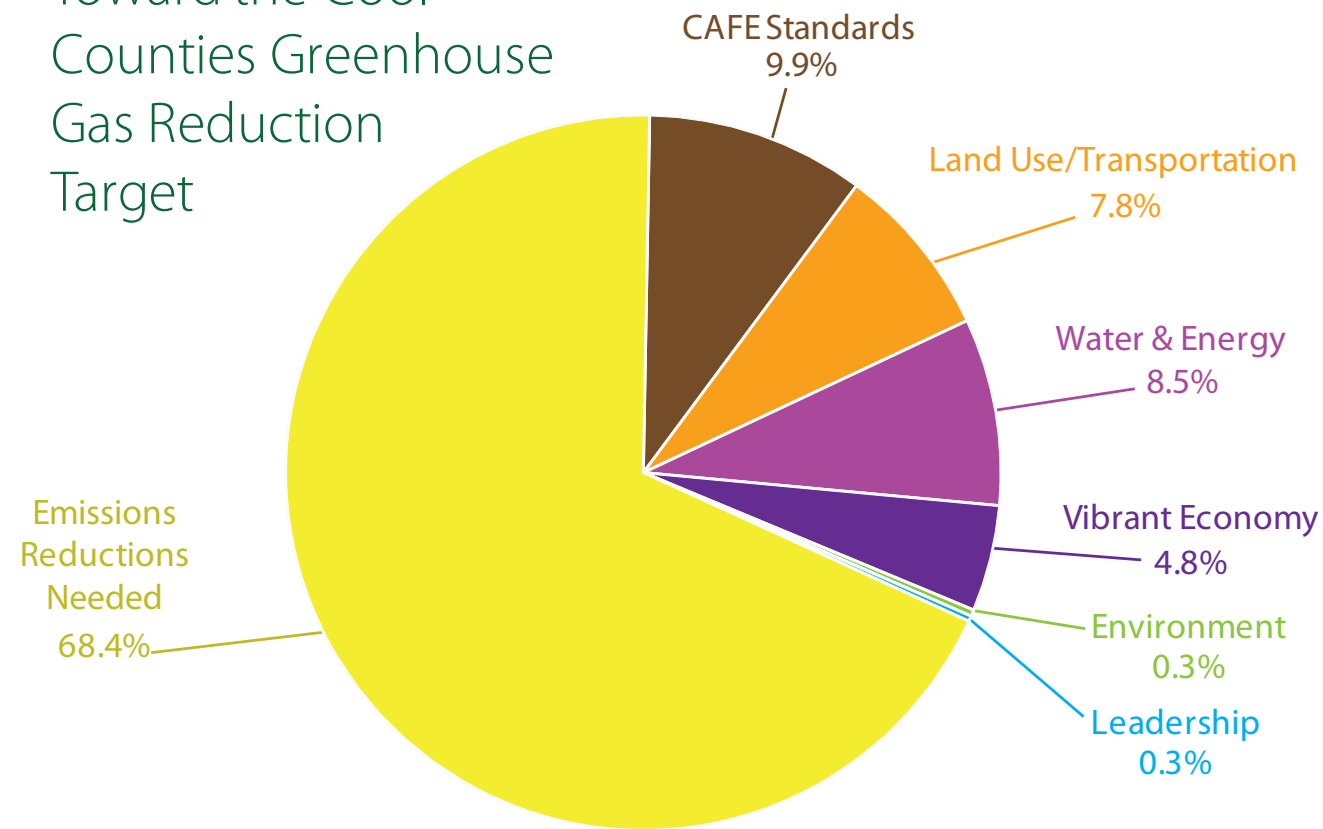




GreenPrint Contribution Toward the Cool Counties Greenhouse Gas Reduction Target



The scope of *GreenPrint* can hardly be overstated; its development encompassed the soaring ambition of our aspirational goals, the grueling challenges of a battered economy and the relentless synthesis of seemingly limitless input. Countless hours were spent researching best practices and gathering stakeholder input. During the course of the year, nearly 100 public meetings were held, and approximately 360 new and existing initiatives were evaluated. The success of this plan hinges on our ability to harness this community's proud history of environmental stewardship and elevate ourselves to a new generation of sustainability missions.

GreenPrint 2010 gave us the opportunity to unify many of the good steps we are taking and chart a single path to a sustainable future. Never before has one County document detailed the impact of so many projects and processes. *GreenPrint* connects the dots, weaving regulations and plans into a clear vision with measurable goals. It is consistent with the Comprehensive Development Master Plan, so our actions will not be in conflict. These are the tools to guide attentive decision making. As a community we have reached a whole new level of awareness that will influence and impact future planning and decision making.

GreenPrint details 137 specific sustainability initiatives. Twenty-seven of those directly impact carbon dioxide emissions, estimated to result in approximately 1.5 million metric tons of CO₂ equivalent reductions and 2.9 million metric tons of CO₂ equivalents (mt CO₂e) avoidances, as detailed in the Climate Action Plan.

Our Cool Counties target is aggressive and long term: achieve an 80 percent reduction in emissions from our 2008 emissions by 2050. Keeping this in mind, *GreenPrint* 2010 represents the first five years of a 40-year journey. Without *GreenPrint*, our "business as usual" scenario projections assume that our Countywide emissions would increase to approximately 36 million metric tons of CO₂ equivalents by 2015. Our Cool Counties reduction commitment, when translated into a short-term 2015 target, is a 10 percent, or 6.8 million metric tons of CO₂ equivalents reduction below our 2008 value of about 32 million metric tons of CO₂ equivalents.

Is the glass half empty or half full?

Although the *GreenPrint* strategies amounting to a reduction of 1.5 million mt CO₂e may not reach the 6.8 million mt CO₂e target, they are the initial steps on that 40-year path. We are making progress despite the worst economic conditions in modern history. This is our beginning.

We also know that important benefits of our sustainability plan were not able to be quantified in this first *GreenPrint* plan, since they are new and developing. For example a county-specific energy master plan, solid waste master plan, local green economy action plan and specific sea-level-rise planning scenarios must be developed. We are laying the foundation for thoughtful and data-driven decision making to reach our goals. In light of our economic conditions, our sprawling development patterns and projected population growth of 30,000 annually, we believe our glass is half-full. Our initiatives today will have impacts far beyond the short-term assumptions and calculations.

Every time we revisit *GreenPrint*, new tools will have emerged, such as CAFE standards and clean energy technologies that will accelerate GHG reductions and propel us to that sustainable future. These will impact *GreenPrint* 2015, *GreenPrint* 2020, and beyond. With better economic conditions and those better tools and technologies, we can sprint from these first steps. We are doing this for us, and for the next generation of green leaders.

We see tomorrow's leaders committed to a sustainable agenda in a healthy, well-planned Miami-Dade County, where we balance the needs of a diverse community, a vibrant economy, in a beautiful environment. Do you see it too?

