

Climate Terminology

Climate: the **average** conditions of temperature, precipitation and wind.

Weather: the temperature, precipitation and wind at any given time.

Atmosphere: the thin covering of gas on our planet. Atmospheric composition is:

Nitrogen	78.084 %	(inert gas)
Oxygen	20.946 %	
Argon	0.934 %	(inert gas)
Carbon Dioxide	0.040 %	
Plus other gases	traces	

inert means non-reactive

Hydrosphere: all water on our planet (oceans, lakes, rivers, streams, ground water, atmospheric water (water vapour and clouds))

Carbon Footprint: the amount of carbon dioxide produced per person*.

Carbon Sink: a sink is anything that absorbs, carbon sinks collect and trap carbon

Greenhouse Gases: any gas that traps solar radiation and heat on our planet (water vapour, carbon dioxide, methane, nitrogen oxides, others)

Anthropogenic: anything that has a human source