

QUT Carbon Reduction Strategy 2024

This Carbon Reduction Strategy provides the overarching direction QUT will take to continue our journey of reducing GHG emissions.

Alignment with Global Action

QUT aims to meet the United Nations (UN) Call to Action (Glasgow 2022), which is to reduce gross emissions by 50% by 2030 and reach net-zero emissions by 2050.

Alignment with Queensland State Government

QUT's ability to achieve its emission reduction targets are dependent on the Queensland State Government's broader climate and renewable energy actions. QUT's interim targets are aligned with the [Queensland State Government's targets](#).

Carbon Emission Reduction Targets

1. Reduce total gross emissions (scope 1 & 2) from a base year of 2018 by:
50% by 2025 70% by 2030 95% by 2035
2. Achieve net-zero (scope 1, 2 & 3) emissions by 2049.

Priorities

Reduce gross carbon emissions across scope 1,2 & 3 emission sources.
Offset only after other actions to reduce emissions have been implemented.

Approach to reducing emissions

Through consultation and engagement with our stakeholders QUT will:

- Identify opportunities to avoid carbon emissions across the organisation.
- Identify opportunities to reduce emissions across the organisation.
- Identify opportunities to substitute carbon intensive activities with low carbon alternatives across the organisation.
- Continue to procure and increase the percentage of renewable electricity beyond the current 50%, as part of QUT's electricity supply agreement.
- Continually work with staff, students and business partners to improve data collection, to educate and to identify opportunities for reducing emissions.

Commitment

Based on consultation and engagement outcomes, QUT will:

- Develop a Carbon Management Plan by 2024, that sets out how the goals and targets will be achieved.

Measuring Success and Reporting

QUT will measure success through our real emissions performance for scope 1 & 2 emissions and through improved data collection and reporting of scope 3 emissions and report progress annually through the Sustainability Action Plan Progress Report.

Definitions

Scope 1 greenhouse gas emissions - are (direct emissions) released to the atmosphere as a direct result of an activity, or series of activities at a facility level: including for example, fuel combustion (diesel, petrol, and natural gas), and fugitive gas emissions (such as refrigerants).

Scope 2 greenhouse gas emissions - are (indirect emissions) released to the atmosphere from the indirect consumption of metered electricity purchased from the grid.

Scope 3 greenhouse gas emissions - are (indirect emissions other than Scope 2 emissions) that are generated in the wider economy. They occur because of the activities of a facility, but from sources not owned or controlled by that facility's business. Included are sources such as the use of sold products and services, commercial air travel by staff, and freight of goods.

Gross emissions - are the direct and indirect greenhouse gas emissions of the organisation in one year before accounting for any reductions in that year from sequestration of carbon in trees and soils, offsets by suppliers, carbon neutral products and services purchased or Australian Carbon Credit units (ACCUs) or other offset units purchased and surrendered or the purchase and surrender of large-scale generation certificates (LGCs).

Net emissions - are the total emissions of the organisation in one year after accounting for any reductions in that year from the sequestration of carbon in trees and soils, offsets by suppliers, carbon neutral products and services purchased or purchase and surrender of ACCUs or LGCs.