Below Zero Program

Strategy and Delivery Plan

from April 2024

20 May 2024

Below Zero Program Goals

ANU has committed to urgent action on climate change to limit our contribution, mitigate climate transition risks for the University and install adaptation measures to prepare for future climate risks. This requires changing the way the University operates in line with the global decarbonisation trajectory. Early and sustained climate action will ensure that ANU can meet increasing regulation and compliance demands, align and link our operations with research and teaching and increase the attractiveness of the University to students, staff and partners.

Below Zero Vision Statement

We have embedded climate change mitigation and adaptation throughout our campus, operations and culture, integrating research and teaching and sharing our learnings to inspire others.

Below Zero Ambition

- Interim objective: Carbon neutrality for direct on-campus and energy-related emissions (scopes 1 and 2) via a pilot project in 2025 and from 2026 onwards.
- Long-term ambition: To reach below zero emissions from our operations and value-chain (scopes 1, 2 & 3) by 2040.

Delivery plan

The table below describes the ANU Below Zero Program goals for each workstream: emissions reduction, emissions removal, emissions reporting and engagement. Goals are supported by specific actions that address the multiple factors associated with each. For more information about environmental sustainability at ANU, visit the Sustainability website.

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Australian
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Workstream	Goal		Actions
Emissions reduction	To reduce the University's emissions in line with Government regulations, ANU climate targets and improve the efficiency and effectiveness of operations and services	1.1	Update Below Zero ambition and set scope-specific, science-based emissions reduction targets by 2025, contributing to the next Environmental Management Plan (EMP)
		1.2	100% electrification of ACT buildings
		1.3	100% electrification of ACT fleet vehicles, including a pilot of electric vehicles in 2030
		1.4	100% market-based renewable electricity usage across all ANU sites by 2025
		1.5	Maximise solar PV electricity generation across all ANU sites by 2030
		1.6	50% reduction in University travel emissions from 2019 baseline by 2025
		1.7	60% reduction in non-SF_6 refrigerants and lab gas emissions from 2019 baseline by 2035
Carbon removal	To remove atmospheric carbon in line with ANU climate targets and Principles	2.1	Development and implementation of carbon removal plan, including a pilot carbon credit procurement project in 2025 and purchase of carbon credits for Scope 1&2 emissions from 2026 onwards

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Workstream	Goal		Actions
Environmental sustainability reporting	To meet current and future reporting requirements	3.1	Establish auditable greenhouse gas accounting methods by the end of 2025, including Scope 3 emissions mapping in 2024 (with mitigation plans to follow)
		3.2	Completion of compliant environmental sustainability reporting by the end of 2024 aligned with Australian Public Service (APS) / Task Force on Climate-Related Financial Disclosures (TCFD) / Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB) climate risk disclosures
Integration with research and teaching	To align and integrate the program with ANU research, teaching and internship programs, functioning as a living lab, driving innovation and contributing to the employability of graduates	4.1	Provide work-integrated learning opportunities for students
		4.2	Integrate research expertise into operations
Community engagement	To create an empowered and knowledgeable community on climate and sustainability action	5.1	Development and implementation of accessible and interactive opportunities for climate and sustainability action
		5.2	Development and implementation of motivating and inspiring communications and engagement opportunities
		5.3	Actively participate in and develop forums for discussion of sustainability action with external stakeholders

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