



PUBLIC DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

EDUCATION SERVICES AUSTRALIA

**ORGANISATION
FY19-20**

Australian Government
Climate Active
Public Disclosure Statement



NAME OF CERTIFIED ENTITY: Education Services Australia

REPORTING PERIOD: 1 July 2019 – 30 June 2020

Declaration

To the best of my knowledge, the information provided in this Public Disclosure Statement is true and correct and meets the requirements of the Climate Active Carbon Neutral Standard.

Signature

Date: 22 April 2021

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "A. Smith".

Name of Signatory: Mr Andrew Smith

Position of Signatory: Chief Executive Officer



Australian Government
Department of Industry, Science,
Energy and Resources

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1. CARBON NEUTRAL INFORMATION

Description of certification

Education Services Australia (ESA), ABN 18 007 342 421 is certified for its Australian business operations in FY19-20. ESA is committed to implementing practices and policies to minimise its environmental impact and to support environmental sustainability. ESA believes this is a responsible and ethical course for a modern organisation and therefore endeavor to maintain carbon neutrality. ESA have an Environment Policy which provides direction for the company's environment program, all environmental activity is reported back to the board.

“ESA educates its staff to take up sustainable practices in the workplace and in their daily lives.”

Organisation description

Established in March 2010, Education Services Australia is a national not-for-profit company owned by the state, territory and Australian Government education ministers. The company has a tenancy in the Melbourne CBD where its 130 staff are housed over two floors.

Its role as a leading education service provider is to work collaboratively in the interests of all Australian education jurisdictions to provide technology-based services for education. ESA develops cost-efficient products and services that can be adapted in response to emerging technologies and changing needs of the education and training sector.

ESA provides:

- development, sharing and deployment of nationally owned technical data and assessment systems
- digital teaching and learning resources, tools and services
- information and communications technology services.

Organisational and Operational Boundaries

ESA uses the Operational Control method to determine its boundaries.

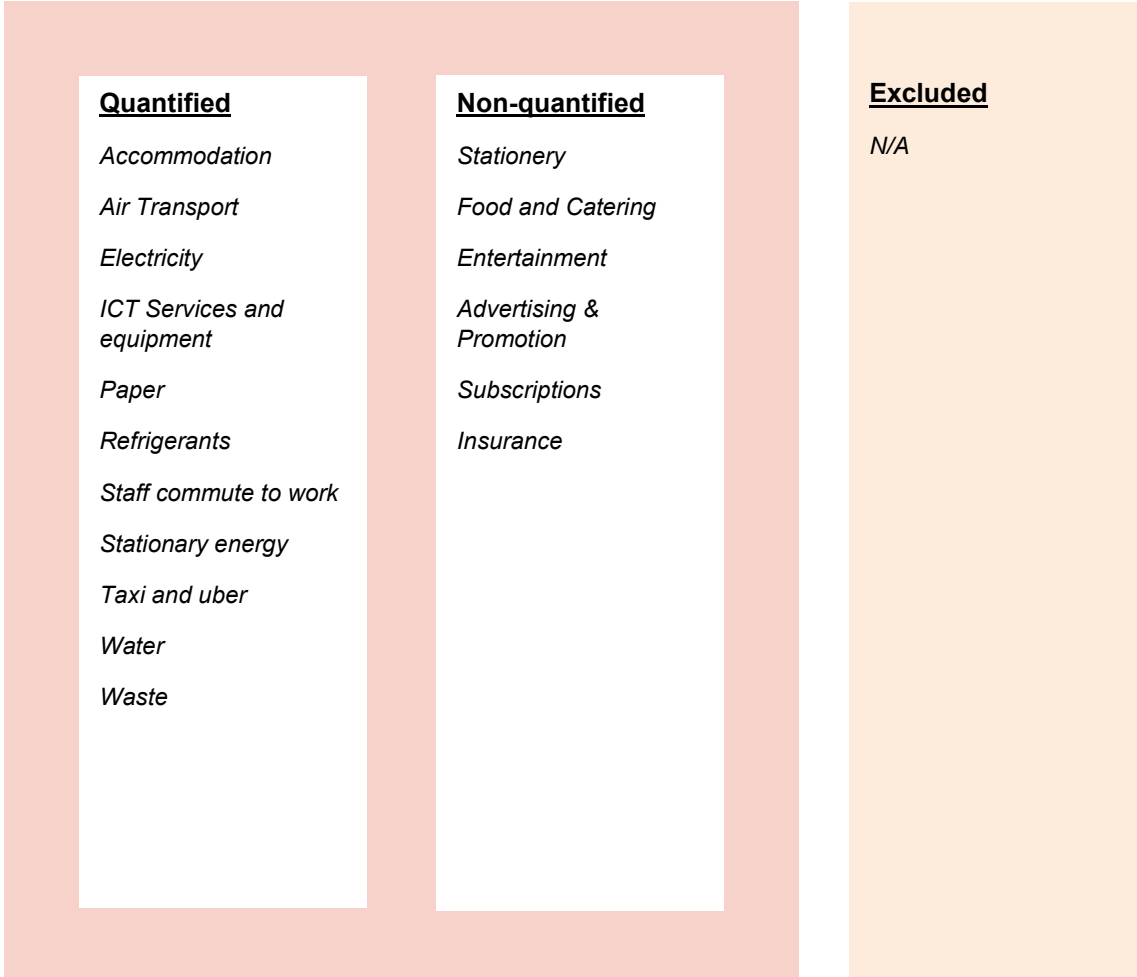
ESA is a single legal entity so has no consolidation of companies to consider. ESA also acts as the legal entity for the Education Council Secretariat, comprising 4 members of staff, who occupy office space in Carlton, however as ESA has no operational or financial control over this Secretariat, it has been excluded from ESA's organisational boundary.

All activities relating to ESA are included within its organisational boundary and ESA includes its office in Melbourne in its emissions inventory.

ESA's operational boundaries include all scope 1 and scope 2 emissions, and all material and relevant scope 3 emissions.

2. EMISSION BOUNDARY

Diagram of the certification boundary



Non-quantified sources

The categories listed under non-quantified in the certification boundary diagram were tested for relevance and are deemed immaterial as emissions are considered less 1% for individual items and no more than 5% collectively

Data management plan

N/A

Excluded sources (outside of certification boundary)

N/A

“ESA believes that being carbon neutral is the responsible and ethical course for a modern organisation. By being Climate Active we can achieve this”

3. EMISSIONS SUMMARY

Emissions reduction strategy

Education Services Australia is demand driven, responding to the needs of the Australian ministers with responsibility for education. As such, its business activities may fluctuate significantly from year to year. The main driver in ESA's emission reduction strategy is therefore an absolute decrease in emissions.

ESA's strategy involves:

- The installation, use and maintenance of energy efficient lighting, office equipment and appliances.
- Reduction in waste
- Recycling of paper, office stationery, printer cartridges and computer equipment
- Minimising paper usage in business transactions
- Minimising staff travel for meetings through use of meeting technologies
- Encouraging staff to develop environmentally-friendly habits both at work and home.

Emissions over time

This reporting period shows a 11.56% decrease in total emissions in comparison to the prior year and also a 14.41% decrease against base year. This fluctuation is primarily the result of a full office closure due to the COVID-19 pandemic, which commenced at the end of March 2020 and is still ongoing. As all staff shifted to a work from home routine the organisational habits also adjusted and as a result ESA saw an overall reduction across the various activity data categories. Although the total emissions reduced across the period, ESA's floor space expanded by an additional 358.4 m² in August 2019 and the average FTE increased from 113 to 130 in comparison to the prior year. The activity data generated from this growth has been more than offset by the lack of activity from the office closure and therefore the variances above are the result after considering the movements of activity throughout the period.

Table 1

Emissions since base year	Base year:	Year 1:	Year 2:	Year 3:	Current year
	2015/2016	2016/2017	2017/2018	2018/2019	2019/2020
<i>Total tCO_{2e}</i>	851.22	729.5	702.67	823.76	728.56

Emissions reduction actions

The current reporting period resulted in ESA's emissions dropping to its lowest since the 2017-18 report. A 14.41% decrease in emissions in comparison to base year was as unforeseeable as was the office closure during the current reporting period.

As a whole the organisation and staff had to adapt to remote working relying more heavily on technology to meet commitments and fulfil projects as all operations continued whilst staff worked from home. As a result the office closure contributed to a noticeable drop in electricity and stationary energy emissions for both scope 2 and 3 usage. Staff travel and accommodation ceased from April 2020 and beyond, along with the use of taxis and Ubers. As expected, the staff commute also came to a halt.

Aside from the unforeseeable temporary work practice changes made in response to COVID-19, other emission reduction actions taken by ESA in the reporting period were the upgrade and replacement of desktop computers with laptops, which commenced during 2018-19 and continued into the current period. In total, approximately 90% of the workstation computers were replaced. The standard sized desktops, which have a power rating of 240W, were replaced with laptops and desktop mini's which have a power rating of 65W each.

ESA has continued to encourage the use of less paper where ever possible. Communications and marketing are done via social media and have increasingly replaced paper-based campaigns in this reporting year. Furthermore, staff are encouraged to use video/audio conferencing, where possible, instead of travelling.

In addition to the TerraCycle program ESA encourages staff to reduce the use of soft plastics by making available a space dedicated to reusable shopping bags, included in this space are dedicated bins for recycling soft plastics, coffee cups, used cosmetics packaging and batteries.

Emissions summary (inventory)

Table 2

Emission source category	tonnes CO2-e
Accommodation & Facilities	17.74
Air Transport	94.60
Carbon neutral products and services	-
Electricity	382.84
Food	-
ICT services and equipment	121.30
Land and Sea Transport (fuel)	-
Land and Sea Transport (km)	50.86
Office Equipment & supplies	0.90
Postage, courier and freight	-
Refrigerants	1.12
Stationary Energy	27.20
Taxi and Uber	1.39
Waste	29.69
Water	0.93
Total Net Emissions	728.56

Uplift factors

Table 3

Reason for uplift factor	tonnes CO ₂ -e
N/A	
<i>Total footprint to offset (uplift factors + net emissions)</i>	

Carbon neutral products

No carbon neutral products were used.

Electricity summary

Electricity was calculated using a Location based approach.

The Climate Active team are consulting on the use of a market vs location-based approach for electricity accounting with a view to finalising a policy decision for the carbon neutral certification by July 2020. Given a decision is still pending on the accounting way forward, a summary of emissions using both measures has been provided for full disclosure and to ensure year on year comparisons can be made.

Market-based approach electricity summary

Table 4

Electricity inventory items	kWh	Emissions (tonnes CO ₂ e)
Electricity Renewables	63,579	0.00
Electricity Carbon Neutral Power	0	0.00
Electricity Remaining	278,242	300.81
Renewable electricity percentage	19%	
<i>Net emissions (Market based approach)</i>		300.81

Location-based summary

Table 5

State/ Territory	Electricity Inventory items	kWh	Full Emission factor (Scope 2 +3)	Emissions (tonnes CO ₂ e)
Vic	Electricity Renewables	-	-1.12	0.00
Vic	Electricity Carbon Neutral Power	-	-1.12	0.00
Vic	Netted off (exported on-site generation)	-	-1.02	0.00
Vic	Electricity Total	341,820	1.12	382.84
	<i>Total net electricity emissions</i>		0.00	382.84

4. CARBON OFFSETS

Offset purchasing strategy: in arrears

Offsets summary

Table 7

1. Total offsets required for this report				729					
2. Offsets retired in previous reports and used in this report				30					
3. Net offsets required for this report				699					
Project description	Type of offset units	Registry	Date retired	Serial number (and hyperlink to registry transaction record)	Vintage	Quantity (tonnes CO2-e)	Quantity used in previous report	Quantity banked for future years	Quantity used in this report
Delta Regeneration Project (Human-Induced Regeneration of a Permanent Even-Aged Native Forest)	ACCU	ANREU	1 Nov 2019	3,789,227,613 – 3,789,228,144	2019-20	532	502	0	30
Thaa-Nguigarr Carbon Project (Savanna Burning – Indigenous co-benefits)	ACCU	ANREU	26 Feb 2021	3,800,966,433 – 3,800,967,152	2019-20	720	0	21	699
<i>Total offsets retired this report and used in this report</i>									729
<i>Total offsets retired this report and banked for future reports</i>									21

5. USE OF TRADE MARK

Table 8

Description where trademark used	Logo type
Sustainability report	Certified organization
Company email signatures	Certified organization
Company website	Certified organization
Company annual report	Certified organization

6. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

N/A

APPENDIX 1

Excluded emissions

To be deemed relevant an emission must meet two of the five relevance criteria. Excluded emissions are detailed below against each of the five criteria.

Table 9

Relevance test					
Excluded emission sources	<i>The emissions from a particular source are likely to be large relative to the organisation's electricity, stationary energy and fuel emissions</i>	<i>The emissions from a particular source contribute to the organisation's greenhouse gas risk exposure.</i>	<i>Key stakeholders deem the emissions from a particular source are relevant.</i>	<i>The responsible entity has the potential to influence the reduction of emissions from a particular source.</i>	<i>The emissions are from outsourced activities previously undertaken within the organisation's boundary, or from outsourced activities typically undertaken within the boundary for comparable organisations.</i>

N/A

APPENDIX 2

Non-quantified emissions for organisations

Table 10

Non-quantification test				
Relevant-non-quantified emission sources	<i>Immaterial <1% for individual items and no more than 5% collectively</i>	<i>Quantification is not cost effective relative to the size of the emission but uplift applied.</i>	<i>Data unavailable but uplift applied. A data management plan must be put in place to provide data within 5 years.</i>	<i>Initial emissions non-quantified but repairs and replacements quantified</i>
Stationery	Yes	No	No	No
Food and catering	Yes	No	No	No
Entertainment	Yes	No	No	No
Advertising & promotion	Yes	No	No	No
Subscriptions	Yes	No	No	No
Insurance	Yes	No	No	No