PUBLIC DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

SOUTH POLE

SERVICE CERTIFICATION
CY2020

Australian Government

Climate Active
Public Disclosure Statement

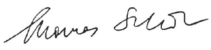
An Australian Government Initiative

NAME OF CERTIFIED ENTITY: South Pole

REPORTING PERIOD: 1 January 2020 – 31 December 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	22nd November 2021
Name of Signatory	Tom Schroder		
Position of Signatory	Director		

Australian Government
Department of Industry, Science, Energy and Resources

Version number February 2021

1. CARBON NEUTRAL INFORMATION

Description of certification

This certification covers professional consulting services provided to clients by South Pole and complements our Climate Active Organisation certification. The emission inventory in this public disclosure summary covering the 1 January 2020 – 31 December 2020 reporting period has been developed in accordance with the Climate Active Carbon Neutral Standard for Organisations.

"In Australia, it makes sense for us to make our local operations carbon neutral as a way to lead by example and 'walk the talk'."

The operational boundary has been defined based on an operational control approach. The boundary covers all entities where South Pole Australia has operational control, including its offices in Sydney and Melbourne.

The table below presents general information about the company and its reporting period.

Table 1. Company information

Company information	
Website	www.southpole.com/sp-australia
Business area	Consultancy
Number of full-time employees (FTEs)	12[1]

Our emissions inventory incorporates the seven greenhouse gases listed under the Kyoto Protocol: carbon dioxide (CO2), methane (CH4), nitrous oxide (N2O), hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), perfluorocarbons (PFCs), sulphur hexafluoride (SF6) and nitrogen trifluoride (NF3). This inventory presents them as carbon dioxide equivalents (CO2e) and classifies scope 1, 2, and 3 emissions where applicable.

The functional unit for this certification is kgCO2-e per hour of consultancy service provided.

Organisation description

South Pole Australia is the Australian subsidiary of South Pole Asset Management (South Pole), headquartered in Switzerland. South Pole is a leading climate change solutions provider. Initially focused on the development of premium emissions reduction projects, the company now offers a wide spectrum of sustainability services, including climate policy and strategy advisory. Its expertise covers the areas of climate change, forests & land use, water, and sustainable cities and buildings, as well as renewable energy and energy efficiency. South Pole is determined to help its clients grow their business with ground-breaking climate and sustainability solutions, which positively impact the environment, economy and

[1] 7 FTEs in the Sydney office and 5 FTEs in the Melbourne office

society.

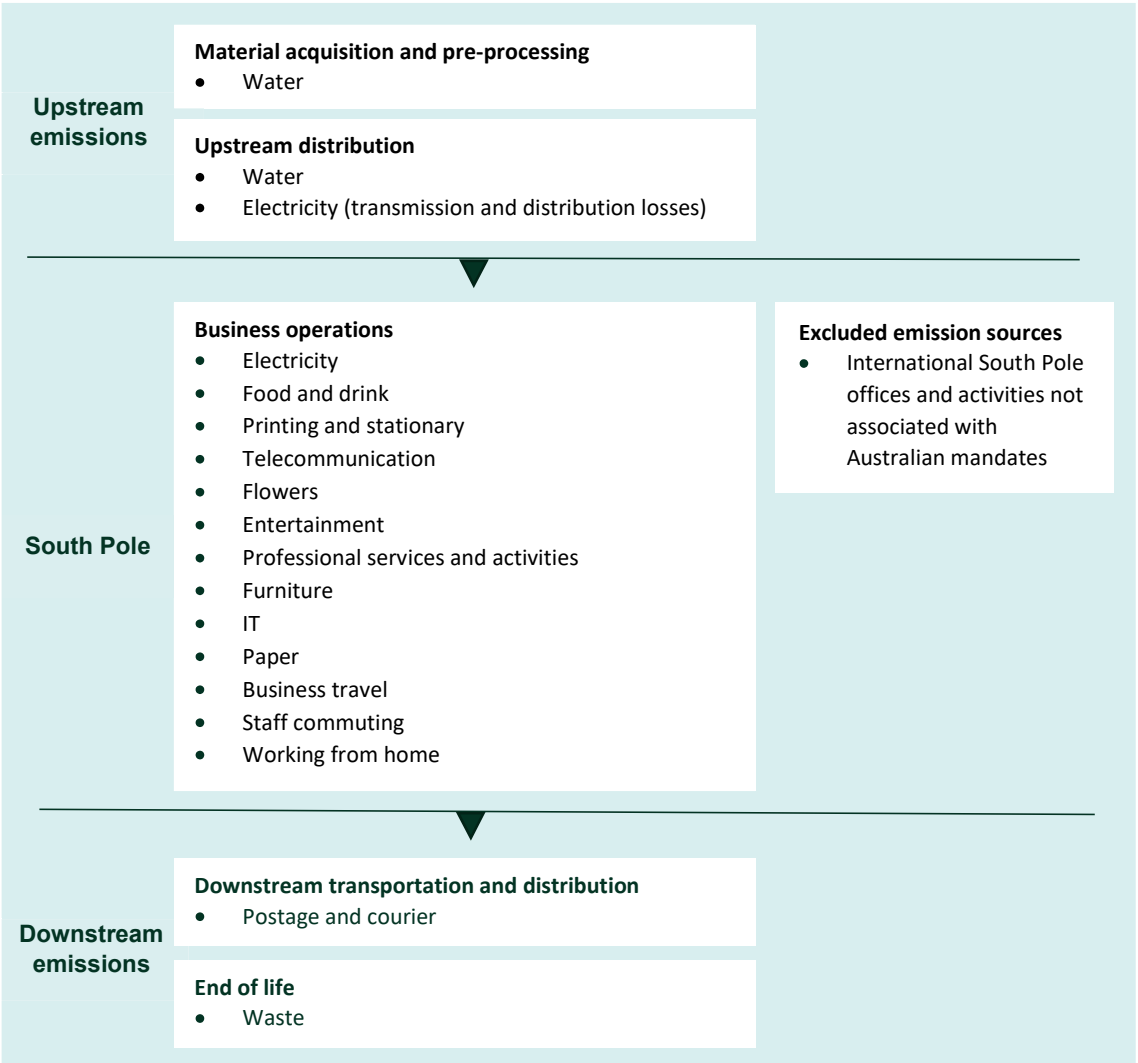
South Pole's Australian presence covers all areas of expertise, from consulting and marketing, to sales and portfolio. The local Australian team is well connected to South Pole's global network of experts. South Pole Australia's offering includes consulting, marketing and product services across five key areas: carbon credits, renewable energy, sustainability consulting, data solutions, and funds and platforms.

This involves providing both the public and private sector with carbon offsets, renewable energy certificates and services including sustainable supply chains and Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures (TCFD) advisory.

In addition, South Pole provides advisory on carbon pricing, climate finance, smart cities and climate policy/Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) for the public sector.

Product/service process diagram

The following diagram is cradle to grave



2. EMISSION BOUNDARY

Diagram of the certification boundary

Quantified

Electricity

Food and drink

Printing and stationary

Telecommunication

Flowers

Entertainment

Professional services

Furniture

Postage and courier

IT

Paper

Business travel

Staff commuting

Working from home

Paper

Water

Waste

Non-quantified

Refrigerants

Natural gas

Overseas South Pole consultants working on Australian mandates

Non-attributable

International South Pole offices and activities not associated with Australian mandates

Attributable non-quantified sources

South Pole was unable to obtain information about the technology used in the air conditioning (AC) systems and any natural gas consumption of the buildings where South Pole had its offices in 2019.

These emission sources are estimated to each be immaterial (<1% of the total emissions) and are thus non-quantified in the carbon inventory.

The emissions associated with international consultants working on Australian mandates are considered to be attributable to this service certification. A calculation has been undertaken based on the percentage of time spent on Australian mandates and international office emissions to estimate the emissions from international consultants attributable to South Pole Australia's services. This estimate is approximately 1.6% of South Pole Australia's total emissions. Given the small nature of these emissions and the large time investment required to more accurately quantify these emissions, it was determined to be appropriate to apply an uplift to South Pole Australia's emissions instead.

"In Australia, it makes sense for us to make our local operations carbon neutral as a way to lead by example and 'walk the talk'."

Data management plan

Not applicable.

Excluded sources (within certification boundary)

None.

Non attributable sources (outside certification boundary)

Emissions from the activities of international South Pole employees, with the exception of employees contributing to South Pole Australia mandates are considered to be non-attributable to the service certification boundary.

3. EMISSIONS SUMMARY

Emissions reduction strategy

South Pole is taking environmental responsibility for its operations through its Sustainability Policy and Action Plan. It continuously measures its climate impact and encourages the development and diffusion of environmentally-friendly technologies. In January 2020, a number of sustainability targets and goals that have an impact on South Pole's greenhouse gas emissions in Au to each of stralia were set for the year 2025. While these targets are for South Pole's global operations, South Pole Australia is respo nsible for contributing these targets.

South Pole Australia's progress is positive for most targets, with the exception of % of total waste recycled and sheets of paper printer per employee.

Table 2. Sustainability targets and goals

2018-2025 Objectives	Key Performance Indicator (KPI)	2025 Target	South Pole Australia Progress to 2020	Emissions savings from 2018-2020
Goal 1: Reduce, compensate, and report our carbon emissions				
Power operations with renewable electricity	% of renewable electricity sources per total electricity sources	100% of electricity purchased is procured from renewable sources, in offices where we have control	100.00% of office electricity made renewable through REC purchase	16.20 tCO2e
Reduce South Pole office energy consumption through energy efficiency measures	MWh/employee	20% reduction in MWh/employee	78.42% reduction in MWh/employee due to extended office closures during COVID	
Reduce carbon emission from business travel	km/employee	10% reduction in km/employee from business travel by all transport modes	91.32% reduction in km/employee due to fewer business trips during COVID	52.42 tCO2e
	km/employee	15% reduction in km/employee from business travel by air	91.71% reduction in km/employee due to fewer business trips during COVID	

Climate neutral and climate positive company	tCO2e	Achieve climate positive status	100.00% of emissions offset (climate neutral)	0.00 tCO2e (carbon neutrality achieved from 2018-2020)
Goal 2: Water consumption				
Reduce water consumption in South Pole operations	m3/employee	20% reduction in m3/employee in offices where we have control	-77.70% reduction in m3/employee due to extended office closures during COVID	0.15 tCO2e
Goal 3: waste and recycling				
Reduce waste generation within South Pole offices	kg waste/employee	15% reduction in kg waste/employee	-55.15% reduction in kg waste/employee due to extended office closures during COVID	-0.26 tCO2e (increase in emissions)
Recycle all possible materials produced within South Pole operations	% recycled waste per total waste	20% recycled waste	10.00% recycled waste	
Goal 5: zero deforestation				
Paperless office	paper sheets/employee	50% reduction in paper sheets/employee	275.61% increase in sheets/employee compared to 2018 due to increased printing requirements, ie. brochures, factsheets, and reports but 17.63% decrease in sheets/ employee compared to 2019	-0.03 tCO2e (increase in emissions)
Purchase of only recycled and certified paper	% of certified or recycled paper	75% certified or recycled paper purchased	100.00% recycled paper purchased	
Goal 8: Employee engagement				
Promote sustainable	% of employees	90% of South Pole employees commuting	99.54% employees commuting via public	1.15 tCO2e

commuting practices	commuting via public transport, bicycle, or walking	via public transport, bicycle, or walking	transport, bicycle, or walking

Emissions over time

Table 3. Emissions since base year

Emissions since base year			
	Base year: 2019	Year 1: 2019	Current year Year 2: 2020
Emissions per functional unit (tCO2e)	0.38	0.38	0.07

Emissions reduction actions

Table 4. Reasons for change

Emission source	% change from previous year activity data	Reason for change	Detailed reason for change
Electricity	-57.25% reduction in total tCO2e	Natural disaster	Decreased electricity consumption in offices due to extended office closures during COVID.
Food and drink	-53.4% reduction in total spend	Natural disaster	Decreased number of employees travelling for business due to COVID and less spend on meals during trips.
Printing and stationary	-72.4% reduction in total spend	Natural disaster	Decreased number of meetings, conferences, and workshops due to COVID and less spend on printing marketing materials, ie. brochures, factsheets, and posters. Previous year's activity data includes one-off printing of new business cards for all staff.
Telecommunication	-89.8% reduction in total spend	Natural disaster	Decreased number of employees travelling for business due to COVID and less spend on local sim cards, roaming charges, and skype credits.
Flowers	N/A	N/A	Not assessed in the previous year. Flowers was allocated to office supplies.
Entertainment	N/A	N/A	Not assessed in the previous year. Office outings were allocated to meals and transport, ie. spend was assumed to be transport to venue and meals during outings.
Professional services	N/A	N/A	Not assessed in the previous year.
Furniture	N/A	N/A	Not assessed in the previous year. Increased number of employees working from home due to COVID purchasing furniture for home offices.
Postage and courier	-81.74% reduction in total spend	Natural disaster	Previous year's data includes one-off postage of marketing materials

			to clients and delivery of equipment, ie. laptops, kitchen appliances to offices. Less deliveries to the office due to COVID
IT	-33.33% reduction in number of laptops -92.31% reduction in number of monitors -24.07% reduction in total spend	Organic growth	Different methodology used to collect data and more IT aggregated into spend. Less growth in employees and increased reuse of existing laptops and monitors for new employees. Activity data in the previous year includes one-off purchase of equipment for new office.
Paper	9.81% increase in total weight.	Organic growth	Increased paper usage from early in the year for conferences and brochures for events in January and February 2020
Business travel	-91.32% reduction in total distance travelled and -73.94% reduction in guest nights	Natural disaster	Decreased number of employees travelling for business due to COVID.
Staff commuting	-29.57% decrease in total distance travelled	Natural disaster	Increased number of employees working from home for extended periods due to COVID.
Working from home	N/A	Natural disaster	Not assessed in the previous year. Increased number of employees working from home due to COVID.
Water	-6.53% decrease in total volume	Natural disaster	Decreased water consumption in offices due to extended office closures during COVID.
Waste	25.74% increase in total weight	Organic growth	Increase proportional to growth of employees.

Functional units

Table 5. Functional units

	Number of functional units
a) Number of functional units sold this period	307.5
b) Number of functional units to be forward offset demonstrating commitment to carbon neutrality (true-up to be conducted at the end of the reporting period)	0*

*functional units have been offset through South Pole's Climate Active Organisation certification.

Emissions summary (inventory)

Table 6. Emissions summary (inventory)

Emission source category	tonnes CO_2-e
Accommodation and facilities*	1.35
Air Transport (km)*	6.35
Bespoke*	1.29
Electricity*	6.70
Food*	4.41
Horticulture and Agriculture*	0.03
ICT services and equipment*	0.81
Land and Sea Transport (km)*	1.21
Office equipment & supplies*	0.83
Postage, courier and freight*	0.02
Professional Services*	0.46
Waste*	0.53
Water*	0.16
Working from home*	-2.53
1. *Total inventory emissions*	21.63
a. *Number of functional units represented by the inventory emissions*	307.5
2. *Emissions per functional unit (based on the number of functional units represented by the inventory)* *Total tCO2-e divided by the number of functional units in 1a.*	0.07

3. *Carbon footprint (Emissions per functional unit (2)* number of functional units (a or b from table 2))*	21.63
4. *Carbon footprint to be offset (total footprint (21.63) – parent (21.63) = child (0)*	0

* Note the above emission sources have already been offset through South Pole's Organisation Certification so have been excluded from the calculations of emissions required to be offset.

Uplift factors

Table 7. Uplift factor

Reason for uplift factor	tonnes CO_2-e
1.56% to account for international South Pole consultants contributing to Australian mandates	0.34
Total uplift factors	1.56%
Total to offset *(Carbon footprint + total uplift factors)*	0.34

Carbon neutral products

None.

4. CARBON OFFSETS

Offsets strategy

Table 8. Offsets strategy

The details of the offsets are in the parent Organisation PDS: https://www.climateactive.org.au/buy-climate-active/certified-members/south-pole-australia

Co-benefits

The Kariba REDD+ Project protects almost 785,000 hectares of forests and wildlife on the southern shores of Lake Kariba, near the Zimbabwe-Zambia border. One of the largest registered REDD+ projects by area, it sits between the Chizarira, Matusadona and Mana Pools National Parks (also a World Heritage Site), and Zambia's Lower Zambezi National Park. The project connects these four national parks and eight safari reserves, forming a giant biodiversity corridor that protects an expansive forest and numerous vulnerable and endangered species – including the African elephant, lion, hippo, lappet-faced vulture and southern ground hornbill.

Kariba REDD+ is a community-based project, administered by the four local Rural District Councils (RDCs) of Binga, Nyaminyami, Hurungwe and Mbire in Zimbabwe. The project supports a range of activities beyond environmental protection, promoting the independence and wellbeing of these communities. Improved clinic amenities provide better healthcare, infrastructure including new roads and boreholes improve daily life, and school subsidies are offered to the poorest quartile of the population. Project activities in conservation agriculture, community gardens, beekeeping training, fire management, and ecotourism create jobs and facilitate sustainable incomes, benefiting the entire region.

Below is the contribution to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals of the Kariba REDD++ Project:

View the Kariba REDD++ project factsheet:
https://www.southpole.com/uploads/media/0990.pdf

Offsets summary

The details of the offsets are in the parent Organisation PDS: https://www.climateactive.org.au/buy-climate-active/certified-members/south-pole-australia

5. USE OF TRADE MARK

Table 10. Use of trademark

Description where trademark used	Logo type
Company website	Certified service
Company marketing material	Certified service
Certification certificate displayed at Sydney office	Certified service

6. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

South Pole is a registered B Corporation in Australia. This registration by B Lab endorses South Pole Australia as a company that meets rigorous social and environmental standards, and a commitment to goals beyond shareholder profit.

APPENDIX 1

Non-attributable emissions for products and services

Table 11. Relevance test

Relevance test					
Non-attributable emission	*The emissions from a particular source are likely to be large relative to the organisation's electricity, stationary energy and fuel emissions*	*The emissions from a particular source contribute to the organisation's greenhouse gas risk exposure.*	*Key stakeholders deem the emissions from a particular source are relevant.*	*The responsible entity has the potential to influence the reduction of emissions from a particular source.*	*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.*
International South Pole offices and activities not associated with Australian mandates	Yes	No	No	No	No

APPENDIX 2

Non-quantified emissions for products/services

Table 9. Non-quantification test

Non-quantification test				
Relevant-non-quantified emission sources	*Immaterial <1% for individual items and no more than 5% collectively*	*Quantification is not cost effective relative to the size of the emission but uplift applied.*	*Data unavailable but uplift applied. A data management plan must be put in place to provide data within 5 years.*	*Initial emissions non-quantified but repairs and replacements quantified*
Refrigerants	Yes	No	No	No
Natural gas	Yes	No	No	No
Overseas South Pole consultants working on Australian mandates	No	No	Yes	No

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