



PUBLIC DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

URBIS PTY LTD

**ORGANISATION CERTIFICATION
FY2021–22**

Australian Government

Climate Active Public Disclosure Statement



An Australian Government Initiative



NAME OF CERTIFIED ENTITY	Urbis Pty Ltd
REPORTING PERIOD	Financial year 1 July 2021 – 30 June 2022 Arrears report
DECLARATION	<i>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.</i>  Benjamin Pollack Urbis CEO 19 October 2022



Australian Government
**Department of Industry, Science,
Energy and Resources**

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Version March 2022. To be used for FY20/21/CY2021 reporting onwards.

1.CERTIFICATION SUMMARY

TOTAL EMISSIONS OFFSET	2,856.68 tCO ₂ -e
OFFSETS BOUGHT	14.00% ACCUs, 45.75% CERs, 40.25% VCU
RENEWABLE ELECTRICITY	Not applicable
TECHNICAL ASSESSMENT	18 October 2022 Heidi Fog Carbon Neutral Pty Ltd Next technical assessment due: October 2025
THIRD PARTY VALIDATION	Type 1 30 September 2022 Ben Tardrew-Munday Tardrew Partners

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2. CARBON NEUTRAL INFORMATION

Description of certification

The Climate Active Carbon Neutral certification covers the Australian business operations of Urbis, ABN 50 105 256 228. The operational boundary of the carbon account has been defined based on the operational control approach.

This Public Disclosure Statement represents the reporting period 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2022 (FY2021-22).

The carbon account has been prepared in accordance with the Climate Active Carbon Neutral Standard for Organisations. This entails using recognised emission factors and methods for carbon accounting published in Australia, such as the National Greenhouse Accounts (NGA) Factors, and the work of the international corporate accounting and reporting standard The Greenhouse Gas Protocol.

The greenhouse gasses included in the carbon account are the seven gasses reported under the Kyoto Protocol: carbon dioxide (CO₂), methane (CH₄), nitrous oxide (N₂O), hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), perfluorocarbons (PFCs), sulphur hexafluoride (SF₆) and nitrogen trifluoride (NF₃). These gasses are expressed in carbon dioxide equivalents (CO₂-e), providing the ability to present greenhouse gas emissions as one unit.

“Urbis shapes cities and communities for a better future – and there is no bigger threat to our cities and communities than climate change.”

Organisation description

Urbis is Australia's preeminent advisor on cities and communities.

Urbis Pty Ltd (ABN 50 105 256 228, ACN 105 256 228) was registered on 25 June 2003, although the business practice originated in 1963. Urbis Pty Ltd is a private company, which is owned by a group of stakeholders, all of whom work within the business.

Urbis Pty Ltd trades in Australia a 'Urbis'. The trading subsidiaries of Urbis Pty Ltd in Australia are:

- Urbis Services Pty Ltd (ABN 24 105 273 505)
- Urbis Valuations Pty Ltd (ABN 28 105 273 523)
- Urbis Investment Management Pty Ltd (ABN 29 631 758 677)
- Urbis QLD Pty Ltd (ABN 94 105 273 489).

Urbis Pty Ltd also has three non-trading Australian subsidiaries:

- Urbis Policy Pty Ltd (ABN 53 655 456 518)
- Urbis Property Services Pty Ltd (ABN 63 007 375 082)
- Cistri Pty Ltd (ABN 96 105 273 498).

Urbis employs approximately 700 people across Australia. We lease offices in the following locations:

- Brisbane (Level 32, 300 George Street, Brisbane QLD 4000)
- Geelong (8 James Street, Geelong VIC 3220)
- Gold Coast (Level 2, 64 Marine Parade, Southport QLD 4215)
- Melbourne (Olderfleet, Level 10, 477 Collins Street, Melbourne VIC 3000)
- Parramatta (Level 5, 80 George Street, Parramatta NSW 2150)
- Perth (Level 14, 1 William Street, Perth WA 6000)
- Sydney (Angel Place, Level 8, 123 Pitt Street, Sydney NSW 2000).

3.EMISSIONS BOUNDARY

Inside the emissions boundary

All emission sources listed in the emissions boundary are part of the carbon neutral claim.

Quantified emissions have been assessed as relevant and are quantified in the carbon inventory. This may include emissions that are not identified as arising due to the operations of the certified entity, however are **optionally included**.

Non-quantified emissions have been assessed as relevant and are captured within the emissions boundary, but are not measured (quantified) in the carbon inventory. All material emissions are accounted for through an uplift factor. Further detail is available at Appendix C.

Outside the emissions boundary

Excluded emissions are those that have been assessed as not relevant to an organisation's operations and are outside of its emissions boundary or are outside of the scope of the certification. These emissions are not part of the carbon neutral claim. Further detail is available at Appendix D.

Inside emissions boundary		Outside emission boundary
Quantified	Non-quantified	Excluded
Accommodation Cleaning Electricity Natural gas Food and entertainment IT hardware and software IT technical services Telecommunications Office equipment (including hire and lease, repairs and maintenance) Printing and stationery Office paper Storage services Subscriptions and periodicals Marketing Business services Accounting services Advertising services Insurance Legal services Parking and tolls Air travel Storage services Business related travel (including ride share) Staff commute to and from work Staff working from home	N/A	N/A

Data management plan for non-quantified sources

There are no non-quantified sources in the emission boundary that require a data management plan.

4.EMISSIONS REDUCTIONS

Emissions reduction strategy

Urbis is committed to reduce our FY22 carbon footprint by at least 25%, evident when our Climate Active FY29 carbon account is produced and submitted to Climate Active by 31 October 2029.

Actions we have already implemented into our business as usual include:

- Moved to a 100% **renewable electricity product** in our Geelong, Melbourne and Sydney offices effective as at 1 July 2022. This equates to approximately 49% of our total electricity usage and has the ability to save an annual 557tCO₂-e or 19.5% of our total carbon footprint based on our FY22 base year.
- Incorporation of green **building measures** into new premises in Brisbane, Melbourne and Sydney including low energy light fittings, lighting motion sensors and end of trip facilities.
- Reduction of our **corporate fleet** to a total of two vehicles, both of which are required for the transport of equipment to fieldwork as part of our archaeology services.
- Moving to a **paper-light business** through the introduction of laptops across the company for all staff, with the exception of a small number of design staff, significantly reducing our paper consumption.
- Procurement of 100% Climate Active **carbon neutral office paper**.
- Appointing Blue Connections as our **laptop reseller and lifecycle management partner** to ensure laptops are securely returned, remarketed or recycled at the end of their use by Urbis.
- Negotiation with our current provider of staff laptops, Lenovo, to **offset all carbon** created by the lifecycle of a laptop from production through to end of life.
- Moving from a two stream to a four stream **waste system**, with specialist recycling arrangements for coffee cups, mobile parts and batteries, and coffee pods in most offices.
- Reduction in procurement of **single use serving equipment** through our catering suppliers.

We pledge to action by July 2023:

- Investigate ways to reduce energy use in our **Brisbane, Parramatta and Perth** offices, which are currently unable to be transitioned to renewable energy products. This will include reducing the footprint of our Perth office.
- Incorporation of green **building measures** into new premises in Parramatta.
- Investigate our **energy consumption after hours** to eliminate avoidable demand, with the aim of reducing our out-of-hours IT related kWh usage by 50% by end of 2025.

- Review our requirements for refrigeration with an aim to cut our **fridge capacity** by 20-25% by end of 2025.
- Continue to avoid and minimise the requirement for **air travel**. All air travel under 400km will be avoided as company policy unless urgently required.
- Investigate ways to cut 25% of our **air travel emissions** based on our FY22 base year, reducing our annual carbon emissions by 23 tCO₂-e.
- Prepare and adopt an organisation-wide **Sustainability Policy**.
- Prepare and adopt a **Climate Conscious Procurement Policy**, including:
 - A companywide requirement to sight a potential supplier's Sustainability Policy prior to contract negotiation.
 - Providers with Climate Active certified carbon neutral product(s) or service(s) to be allocated a weighted preference.
 - Locations for future offices not connected to natural gas and buildings with a low energy base building consumption will be prioritised.
 - Only purchasing whitegoods with the highest possible energy rating and never to invest in glass fridges or vending machines due to their energy inefficiencies.
- Undertake detailed analysis of staff travel survey data and commence development of a **Green Travel Plan** to reduce emissions associated with staff commuting.
- Build **knowledge, commitment, engagement and action** among colleagues, clients and suppliers to support our carbon reduction strategies.
- Uphold our status as a **Climate Active** carbon neutral certified organisation.

5.EMISSIONS SUMMARY

Use of Climate Active carbon neutral products and services

1,062 reams of Opal Australian Paper (Winc).

Organisation emissions summary

The electricity summary is available in the Appendix B. Electricity emissions were calculated using a location-based approach.

Emission category	Sum of total emissions (tCO ₂ -e)
Accommodation and facilities	33.99
Air transport (km)	91.50
Cleaning and chemicals	34.17
Construction materials and services	3.86
Electricity	1,110.27
Food	160.26
ICT services and equipment	338.09
Land and sea transport (km)	278.96
Office equipment & supplies	48.90
Postage, courier and freight	23.18
Professional services	517.63
Stationary energy	87.64
Waste	16.56
Water	1.58
Working from home	110.11
Total	2,856.68

Uplift factors

An uplift factor is an upwards adjustment to the total carbon inventory to account for relevant emissions, which can't be reasonably quantified or estimated. This conservative accounting approach helps ensure the integrity of the carbon neutral claim.

Reason for uplift factor	tCO ₂ -e
N/A	
Total of all uplift factors	0.00
Total footprint to offset <i>(total net emissions from summary table + total uplifts)</i>	2,856.68

6. CARBON OFFSETS

Offsets retirement approach

In arrears		
1.	Total emissions footprint to offset for this report	2,857
2.	Total eligible offsets purchased and retired for this report	2,857
3.	Total eligible offsets banked to use toward next year's report	0

Co-benefits

Paroo River North Environmental project, Australia

The Paroo River is one of the most pristine rivers in south west Queensland and feeds into the Ramsar wetlands of the Currawinya lakes. The project regenerates ex-agricultural land to native vegetation that restores biodiversity whilst sequestering large amounts of carbon.

The table indicates how this project contributes to the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals.

UN Sustainable Development Goals					
Goal 3: Good Health and Well-being					
Goal 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth					
Goal 13: Climate action					
Goal 14: Life Below Water					
Goal 15: Life on land					

Rimba Raya Biodiversity Reserve, Indonesia

The Rimba Raya Biodiversity Reserve Project in Central Kalimantan, Indonesian Borneo is protecting 65,000 hectares of tropical peat swamp forest. It is the home of a rich array of species, including the endangered orangutan, which are culturally connected to the community.

The Rimba Raya project has verified contributions to all 17 of the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals.

The table below summarises some of these.

Co-benefits category	Core co-benefit	Co-benefit description/nature of potential co-benefit	UN Sustainable Development Goals	
Environment	Biodiversity	Indonesia has the largest number of threatened mammal species on Earth, and the fourth largest total across flora and fauna species types.	Goal 15: Life on land	
	Water Quality/Community	By minimising changes in land use, the project is helping to prevent downstream flooding. A successful pilot program has helped deliver clean water filters, protecting the community from lethal, waterborne diseases.	Goal 6: Clean Water and Sanitation	 
Economic	Local Employment and Skills	The project is building community centres offering facilities for park and project staff as well as for community organisations. Educational initiatives include creating a Scholarship fund, the construction of libraries, and providing school materials and monetary donations.	Goal 3: Good Health and Well-being Goal 4: Quality Education Goal 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth Goal 17: Partnerships for the goals	 
Social	Zero hunger	Training on growth of cash crops such as fruit trees offers communities an alternative source of income, while also addressing food security concerns in local communities. It also provides a higher density of natural food sources for the endangered and repatriated orangutans of Rimba Raya	Goal 3: Good Health and Well-being Goal 17: Partnerships for the goals	

Metro Delhi Project, India

The development of the Delhi Metro provides a transit system that reduces greenhouse gas emissions and air pollutants by replacing conventional forms of transport.

The table indicates how this project contributes to the United Nation SDGs.

UN Sustainable Development Goals	
Goal 3: Good Health and Well-being	   
Goal 9: Industry, innovation and infrastructure	
Goal 11: Sustainable cities and communities	
Goal 13: Climate action	

Eligible offsets retirement summary

Offsets cancelled for Climate Active Carbon Neutral Certification											
Project description	Type of offset units	Registry	Date retired	Serial number (and hyperlink to registry transaction record)	Vintage	Stapled quantity	Eligible quantity (tCO ₂ -e)	Eligible quantity used for previous reporting periods	Eligible quantity banked for future reporting periods	Eligible quantity used for this reporting period	Percentage of total (%)
Paroo River North Environmental Project. Australia	ACCUs	ANREU Registry	18 October 2022	8,340,568,723 – 8,340,569,122	2021-22		400	0	0	400	14.00%
Rimba Raya Biodiversity Reserve Project, Indonesia	VCUs	Verra Registry	18 October 2022	6979-362273425-362274574-VCU-016-MER-ID-14-674-01012014-30062014-1	2014		1,150	0	0	1,150	40.25%
Metro Delhi Project, India	CDM CERs	ANREU Registry	18 October 2022	239,746,090 – 239,747,396	CP2		1,307	0	0	1,307	45.75%
Total offsets retired this report and used in this report										2,857	
Total offsets retired this report and banked for future reports									0		

Type of offset units	Quantity (used for this reporting period claim)	Percentage of total
Australian Carbon Credit Units (ACCUs)	400	14.00%
Verified Carbon Units (VCUs)	1,150	40.25%
Certified Emissions Reductions (CERs)	1,307	45.75%

7. RENEWABLE ENERGY CERTIFICATE (REC) SUMMARY

Renewable Energy Certificate (REC) summary

N/A.

The following RECs have been surrendered to reduce electricity emissions under the market-based reporting method.

1. Large-scale Generation certificates (LGCs)*	0
2. Other RECs	0

* LGCs in this table only include those surrendered voluntarily (including through PPA arrangements), and does not include those surrendered in relation to the LRET, GreenPower, and jurisdictional renewables.

Project supported by LGC purchase	Eligible units	Registry	Surrender date	Accreditation code (LGCs)	Certificate serial number	Generation year	Quantity (MWh)	Fuel source	Location
Total LGCs surrendered this report and used in this report							0		

APPENDIX A: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Not applicable.

APPENDIX B: ELECTRICITY SUMMARY

Electricity emissions are calculated using a location-based approach

Location-based method

The location-based method provides a picture of a business's electricity emissions in the context of its location, and the emissions intensity of the electricity grid it relies on. It reflects the average emissions intensity of the electricity grid in the location (State) in which energy consumption occurs. The location-based method does not allow for any claims of renewable electricity from grid-imported electricity usage.

Market-based method

The market-based method provides a picture of a business's electricity emissions in the context of its renewable energy investments. It reflects the emissions intensity of different electricity products, markets and investments. It uses a residual mix factor (RMF) to allow for unique claims on the zero emissions attribute of renewables without double-counting.

Market Based Approach Summary

Market Based Approach	Activity data (kWh)	Emissions (kgCO ₂ e)	Renewable % of total
Behind the meter consumption of electricity generated	0	0	0%
Total non-grid electricity	0	0	0%
LGC Purchased and retired (kWh) (including PPAs and Precinct LGCs)	0	0	0%
GreenPower	5,126	0	0%
Jurisdictional renewables (LGCs retired)	0	0	0%
Jurisdictional renewables (LRET) (applied to ACT grid electricity)	0	0	0%
Large Scale Renewable Energy Target (applied to grid electricity only)	239,402	0	19%
Residual electricity	1,043,271	1,038,017	0%
Total grid electricity	1,287,799	1,038,017	19%
Total electricity consumed (grid and non grid)	1,287,799	1,038,017	19%
Electricity renewables	244,528	0	
Residual Electricity	1,043,271	1,038,017	
Exported on-site generated electricity	0	0	
Emissions (kgCO ₂ e)		1,038,017	
Total renewables (grid and non-grid)	18.99%		
Mandatory	18.59%		
Voluntary	0.40%		
Behind the meter	0.00%		
Residual Electricity Emission Footprint (TCO₂e)	1,038		
<i>Figures may not sum due to rounding. Renewable percentage can be above 100%.</i>			

Location Based Approach Summary

Location Based Approach	Activity Data (kWh)	Scope 2 Emissions (kgCO ₂ e)	Scope 3 Emissions (kgCO ₂ e)
NSW	419,956	327,566	29,397
Vic	304,249	276,867	30,425
Qld	261,561	209,249	31,387
WA	302,033	202,362	3,020
Grid electricity (scope 2 and 3)	1,287,799	1,016,043	94,229
NSW	0	0	0
Vic	0	0	0
Qld	0	0	0
WA	0	0	0
Non-grid electricity (Behind the meter)	0	0	0
Total Electricity Consumed	1,287,799	1,016,043	94,229
Emission Footprint (TCO₂e)	1,110		
Scope 2 Emissions	1,016		
Scope 3 Emissions	94		

Climate Active Carbon Neutral Electricity summary

Carbon Neutral electricity offset by Climate Active Product	Activity Data (kWh)	Emissions (kgCO ₂ e)
N/A	0	0

Climate Active carbon neutral electricity is not renewable electricity. The emissions have been offset by another Climate Active member through their Product certification.

APPENDIX C: INSIDE EMISSIONS BOUNDARY

Non-quantified emission sources

The following sources emissions have been assessed as relevant, are captured within the emissions boundary, but are not measured (quantified) in the carbon inventory. These emissions are accounted for through an uplift factor. They have been non-quantified due to one of the following reasons:

1. **Immaterial** <1% for individual items and no more than 5% collectively
2. **Cost effective** Quantification is not cost effective relative to the size of the emission but uplift applied.
3. **Data unavailable** Data is unavailable but uplift applied. A data management plan must be put in place to provide data within 5 years.
4. **Maintenance** Initial emissions non-quantified but repairs and replacements quantified.

Relevant-non-quantified emission sources	(1) Immaterial	(2) Cost effective (but uplift applied)	(3) Data unavailable (but uplift applied & data plan in place)	(4) Maintenance
Not applicable				

APPENDIX D: OUTSIDE EMISSIONS BOUNDARY

Excluded emission sources

The below emission sources have been assessed as not relevant to an organisation's operations and are outside of its emissions boundary. These emissions are not part of the carbon neutral claim. Emission sources considered for relevance must be included within the certification boundary if they meet two of the five relevance criteria. Those which only meet one condition of the relevance test can be excluded from the certification boundary.

Emissions tested for relevance are detailed below against each of the following criteria:

1. **Size:** The emissions from a particular source are likely to be large relative to the organisation's electricity, stationary energy and fuel emissions
2. **Influence:** The responsible entity has the potential to influence the reduction of emissions from a particular source.
3. **Risk:** The emissions from a particular source contribute to the organisation's greenhouse gas risk exposure.
4. **Stakeholders:** Key stakeholders deem the emissions from a particular source are relevant.
5. **Outsourcing:** 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.

Emission sources tested for relevance	(1) Size	(2) Influence	(3) Risk	(4) Stakeholders	(5) Outsourcing	Included in boundary?
Not applicable						



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