



PUBLIC DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

MONASH GRADUATE ASSOCIATION

ORGANISATION CERTIFICATION

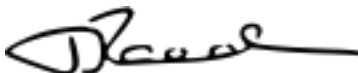
CY2023

Australian Government
Climate Active
Public Disclosure Statement



An Australian Government Initiative



NAME OF CERTIFIED ENTITY	Monash Graduate Association Inc
REPORTING PERIOD	Calendar Year 1 January 2023 – 31 December 2023 Arrears report
DECLARATION	<p><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></p> 
	<p>Jenny Reeder Executive Officer 18/04/2024</p>



Australian Government
**Department of Climate Change, Energy,
 the Environment and Water**

Public Disclosure Statement documents are prepared by the submitting organisation. The material in the Public Disclosure Statement document represents the views of the organisation and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Commonwealth. The Commonwealth does not guarantee the accuracy of the contents of the Public Disclosure Statement document and disclaims liability for any loss arising from the use of the document for any purpose.

Version February 2024.



1. CERTIFICATION SUMMARY

TOTAL EMISSIONS OFFSET	185 tCO ₂ -e
CARBON OFFSETS USED	100% VCUs
RENEWABLE ELECTRICITY	18.96%
CARBON ACCOUNT	Prepared by: Green Moves (Aust) Pty Ltd
TECHNICAL ASSESSMENT	Not applicable – Small organisation

Contents

1. Certification summary	3
2. Certification information	4
3. Emissions boundary	5
4. Emissions reductions	7
5. Emissions summary	9
6. Carbon offsets	11
7. Renewable Energy Certificate (REC) Summary	13
Appendix A: Additional Information	14
Appendix B: Electricity summary	15
Appendix C: Inside emissions boundary	19
Appendix D: Outside emissions boundary	20

2. CERTIFICATION INFORMATION

Description of organisation certification

This organisation certification is for the business operations of Monash Graduate Association Inc, ABN 86 800 958 958. This certification has been based on the Climate Active Small Organisation fixed emission boundary using an operational control approach in arrears.

This Public Disclosure Statement includes information for CY2023 reporting period.

Organisation description

This Climate Active Carbon Neutral Organisation certification covers the Australian business operations of Monash Graduate Association Inc., ABN 86 800 958 958.

This certification covers the business operations of the Australian business whose main office location is Room 157, First Floor, Campus Centre, 21 Chancellors Walk, Monash University, Clayton Victoria 3800

The Monash Graduate Association Inc. (MGA) is an independent incorporated body that is responsible for, and answerable to, the Monash University graduate student community.

The MGA is the cross-campus representative body that provides services and support to over 28,000 graduate students across Australia.

MGA website: <https://mga.monash.edu/>



3.EMISSIONS BOUNDARY

This is a small organisation certification, which uses the standard Climate Active small organisation 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

Quantified

- Accommodation
- Carbon neutral products and services
- Cleaning and chemicals
- Electricity
- Food
- ICT services and equipment
- Motor vehicles
- Professional services
- Office equipment and supplies
- Postage, courier and freight
- Refrigerants
- Stationary energy and fuels
- Transport (air)
- Transport (land and sea)
- Waste
- Working from home

Non-quantified

- Water

Outside emission boundary

Excluded

- None

4. EMISSIONS REDUCTIONS

Emissions reduction strategy

Monash Graduate Association commits to reduce emissions across its value chain (scope 1, 2 and 3) by at least 15% by 2025, and 30% by 2030 from our CY2021 base year. As MGA is growing, we will measure our reductions against our Key Performance Indicator (KPI) of emissions per FTE. MGA aims to continue to reduce emissions by implementing the following emissions reduction plan.

CY21 emissions / FTE - 12.8 base year

CY22 emissions / FTE - 10.1 equivalent to an 11% reduction on base year emissions

CY23 emissions / FTE - 9.6 equivalent to a 25% reduction on base year emissions (2025 target achieved)

Emission reduction action plan	Target Date
We will purchase Carbon neutral paper from June 2023 for general office use. Where suitable carbon neutral company, products or services are not available, we aim to use those that have environmental policies and procedures in place or carry other environmental credentials.	June 2024
General purchasing policies – We will review policies to formally preference certified carbon neutral products and services where possible.	June 2025
We aim to reduce advertising printing and associated emissions by 90% over the next 2 years. This will be achieved by minimising print and focusing on digital advertising.	June 2025
Update travel policy on interstate staff flight travel to only travelling when needed and to carbon offset all flights with certified offsets when booking.	Dec 2026
We aim to reduce emissions from road travel through use of public transport and electric vehicles where possible. This will be measured using a KPI of emissions / FTE against our CY22 emissions (Using CY22 as CY21 was severely COVID impacted and not a realistic measure to reduce against)	Dec 2030
We aim to reduce waste emissions per FTE by at least 10% by 2025 and 30% by 2030 from our CY 2021 base year. We aim to achieve this by increasing recycling and reducing waste into the office	Dec 2030

Emissions reduction actions

Actions undertaken over the period are noted below.

Emission reduction actions completed	Completed
Monitoring our greenhouse gas emissions annually and seeking to reduce them. We will continue to recertify annually and monitor our emissions.	Ongoing
Transitioned to the use of Electric Vehicles for the majority of association transport needs.	Jul 2023
Transitioned to vegetarian-only catering at MGA events across the Caulfield and Clayton campuses and 90% vegetarian catering at Peninsula campus due to lack of available options.	Dec 2023
We have reduced our travel emissions by installing conference quality AV systems at the two main offices eliminating avoidable business travel by utilising video conferencing where possible.	Dec 2023

5. EMISSIONS SUMMARY

Emissions over time

Emissions since base year		
	Total tCO ₂ -e (without uplift)	Total tCO ₂ -e (with uplift)
Base year: 2021	176.4 tCO ₂ e	185.3 tCO ₂ e
Year 1: 2022	173.9 tCO ₂ e	182.7 tCO ₂ e
Year 2: 2023	175.6 tCO ₂ e	184.3 tCO ₂ e

Significant changes in emissions

Significant changes in emissions			
Emission source	Previous year emissions (t CO ₂ -e)	Current year emissions (t CO ₂ -e)	Reason for change
Electricity (market-based method, scope 2)	36.693	46.405	Estimation method refined and offices are electricity only - accuracy improved
Food & catering	46.688	64.709	Increased events resulting in increased food purchases

Use of Climate Active carbon neutral products, services, buildings or precincts

Certified brand name	Product/Service/Building/Precinct used
Winc	Carbon neutral paper
Virgin	Flight offsets

Emissions summary

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

Emission category	Sum of Scope 1 (t CO ₂ -e)	Sum of Scope 2 (t CO ₂ -e)	Sum of Scope 3 (t CO ₂ -e)	Sum of Total Emissions (t CO ₂ -e)
Accommodation and facilities	0.00	0.00	5.76	5.76
Cleaning and chemicals	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Climate Active carbon neutral products and services	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Electricity	0.00	46.41	5.73	52.13
Food	0.00	0.00	64.71	64.71
ICT services and equipment	0.00	0.00	4.62	4.62
Machinery and vehicles	0.00	0.00	1.79	1.79
Office equipment and supplies	0.00	0.00	8.08	8.08
Postage, courier and freight	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Professional services	0.00	0.00	17.30	17.30
Refrigerants	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Stationary energy (gaseous fuels)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Transport (air)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Transport (land and sea)	0.00	0.00	11.67	11.67
Waste	0.00	0.00	4.28	4.28
Water	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Working from home	0.00	0.00	5.21	5.21
Total	0.00	46.41	129.15	175.55

Uplift factors

An uplift factor is an upwards adjustment to the total carbon inventory to account for relevant emissions that cannot 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
Mandatory 5% uplift for small organisation applied	8.78
Total of all uplift factors (tCO ₂ -e)	
Total emissions footprint to offset (tCO₂-e) <i>(total emissions from summary table + total of all uplift factors)</i>	184.33

6. CARBON OFFSETS

Eligible offsets retirement summary

Offsets retired for Climate Active certification

Type of offset units	Eligible quantity (used for this reporting period)	Percentage of total
Verified Carbon Units (VCUs)	185	100%

Project description	Type of offset units	Registry	Date retired	Serial number (and hyperlink to registry transaction record)	Vintage	Stapled quantity	Eligible quantity retired (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 (%)
REDD project in Brazil nut concessions in Madre de Dios, Peru	VCU	Verra	5 April 2024	11011-267315422-267315606- VCS-VCU-263-VER-PE-14-868- 01012013-31122014-0	2013- 2014	-	185	0	0	185	100%
Total eligible offsets retired and used for this report										185	
Total eligible offsets retired this report and banked for use in future reports									0		

Co-benefits

Sustainable practices of the concessions project are protecting biodiverse ecosystems and rainforests from being cleared in Peru while reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

Deforestation in Peru has been increasing since 2001, with around 80% of it being illegal. It has caused a surge in greenhouse gas emissions and loss of the incredible biodiversity in rainforest habitats. The concessions project in Madre De Dios, where Brazil nut harvesting is a traditional activity, protects land from being cleared for agriculture.

Project Key Facts

Type: Avoided deforestation

Location: Madre De Dios, Peru

Status: In operation, credits available

Emissions Reduction: 2,086,089 tonnes of CO₂e per annum

Vintage: 2013-14

Certification: Verra Verified Carbon Standard

Positive impacts

- 291,566 ha of rainforest protected from deforestation
- Increased carbon stocks
- Greatly improved legal frameworks and representation for concessioners
- Preservation of biodiversity and biomonitoring
- Training and employment opportunities for local community
- Biomonitoring of wildlife to preserve biodiversity

8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH



Decent work and economic growth

Employment opportunities for rural communities.

12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION



Responsible consumption and production

Improved forest and Brazil nut concession management and processing.

13 CLIMATE ACTION



Climate action

Reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by avoiding large-scale deforestation.

15 LIFE ON LAND



Life on land

Protection and sustainable management of forests.

7. RENEWABLE ENERGY CERTIFICATE (REC) SUMMARY

Renewable Energy Certificate (REC) summary

N/A

APPENDIX A: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Energy - MGA has some unique challenges to energy emission reduction due to the organisation having 'rooms' within the Monash University sites, where they have no control over energy and only occupy a small portion (<3%) of the building which also contains food courts and university halls and rooms.

The University and the University's 35% Greenpower from their Power Purchase Agreement cannot be applied to MGA's carbon inventory. However, our actions include advocacy to the building management in support of transitioning to an electricity supply that is 100% renewable energy. MGA continues to actively lobby and support the University to invest in green energy infrastructure on campus and support the use of SSAF Capital Development funds to implement change.

Products - MGA are also working towards identifying and purchasing sustainable Australian-made merchandise in preference to international products. This aims to support local providers who provide sustainable products which may (or may not) decreased supply chain emissions.

Transport - The MGA will continue to lobby the Victorian State government to provide public transport concessions to graduate students, in line with concessions provided to graduate students in other states. If successful, this will make use of public transport more affordable for students and support them to choose a more sustainable transport option.

APPENDIX B: ELECTRICITY SUMMARY

There are two international best-practice methods for calculating electricity emissions – the location-based method and the market-based method. Reporting electricity emissions under both methods is called dual reporting.

Dual reporting of electricity emissions is useful, as it provides different perspectives of the emissions associated with a business's electricity usage.

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.

For this certification, electricity emissions have been set by using the **market-based approach**

Market Based Approach Summary			
Market Based Approach	Activity Data (kWh)	Emissions (kg CO ₂ -e)	Renewable Percentage 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)	0	0	0%
GreenPower	0	0	0%
Climate Active certified - Precinct/Building (voluntary renewables)	0	0	0%
Climate Active certified - Precinct/Building (LRET)	0	0	0%
Climate Active certified - Precinct/Building jurisdictional renewables (LGCs surrendered)	0	0	0%
Climate Active certified - Electricity products (voluntary renewables)	0	0	0%
Climate Active certified - Electricity products (LRET)	0	0	0%
Climate Active certified - Electricity products jurisdictional renewables (LGCs surrendered)	0	0	0%
Jurisdictional renewables (LGCs surrendered)	0	0	0%
Jurisdictional renewables (LRET) (applied to ACT grid electricity)	0	0	0%
Large Scale Renewable Energy Target (applied to grid electricity only)	13,404	0	19%
Residual electricity	57,291	52,135	0%
Total renewable electricity (grid + non grid)	13,404	0	19%
Total grid electricity	70,695	52,135	19%
Total electricity (grid + non grid)	70,695	52,135	19%
Percentage of residual electricity consumption under operational control	100%		
Residual electricity consumption under operational control	57,291	52,135	
Scope 2	50,995	46,406	
Scope 3 (includes T&D emissions from consumption under operational control)	6,296	5,729	
Residual electricity consumption not under operational control	0	0	
Scope 3	0	0	

Total renewables (grid and non-grid)	18.96%
Mandatory	18.96%
Voluntary	0.00%
Behind the meter	0.00%
Residual scope 2 emissions (t CO₂-e)	46.41
Residual scope 3 emissions (t CO₂-e)	5.73
Scope 2 emissions liability (adjusted for already offset carbon neutral electricity) (t CO₂-e)	46.41
Scope 3 emissions liability (adjusted for already offset carbon neutral electricity) (t CO₂-e)	5.73
Total emissions liability (t CO₂-e)	52.13
<i>Figures may not sum due to rounding. Renewable percentage can be above 100%</i>	

Operations in Climate Active buildings and precincts

Operations in Climate Active buildings and precincts	Electricity consumed in Climate Active certified building/precinct (kWh)	Emissions (kg CO ₂ -e)
N/A	0	0
<p><i>Climate Active carbon neutral electricity is not renewable electricity. These electricity emissions have been offset by another Climate Active member through their building or precinct certification. This electricity consumption is also included in the market based and location based summary tables. Any electricity that has been sourced as renewable electricity by the building/precinct under the market based method is outlined as such in the market based summary table.</i></p>		

Climate Active carbon neutral electricity product

Climate Active carbon neutral product used	Electricity claimed from Climate Active electricity products (kWh)	Emissions (kg CO ₂ -e)
N/A	0	0
<p><i>Climate Active carbon neutral electricity is not renewable electricity. These electricity emissions have been offset by another Climate Active member through their electricity product certification. This electricity consumption is also included in the market based and location based summary tables. Any electricity that has been sourced as renewable electricity by the electricity product under the market based method is outlined as such in the market based summary table.</i></p>		

Location Based Approach Summary						
Location Based Approach	Activity Data (kWh) total	Under operational control			Not under operational control	
Percentage of grid electricity consumption under operational control	100%	(kWh)	Scope 2 Emissions (kg CO2-e)	Scope 3 Emissions (kg CO2-e)	(kWh)	Scope 3 Emissions (kg CO2-e)
ACT	0	0	0	0	0	0
NSW	0	0	0	0	0	0
SA	0	0	0	0	0	0
VIC	70,695	70,695	55,849	4,949	0	0
QLD	0	0	0	0	0	0
NT	0	0	0	0	0	0
WA	0	0	0	0	0	0
TAS	0	0	0	0	0	0
Grid electricity (scope 2 and 3)	70,695	70,695	55,849	4,949	0	0
ACT	0	0	0	0		
NSW	0	0	0	0		
SA	0	0	0	0		
VIC	0	0	0	0		
QLD	0	0	0	0		
NT	0	0	0	0		
WA	0	0	0	0		
TAS	0	0	0	0		
Non-grid electricity (behind the meter)	0	0	0	0		
Total electricity (grid + non grid)	70,695					

Residual scope 2 emissions (t CO2-e)	55.85
Residual scope 3 emissions (t CO2-e)	4.95
Scope 2 emissions liability (adjusted for already offset carbon neutral electricity) (t CO2-e)	55.85
Scope 3 emissions liability (adjusted for already offset carbon neutral electricity) (t CO2-e)	4.95
Total emissions liability (t CO2-e)	60.80

APPENDIX C: INSIDE EMISSIONS BOUNDARY

Non-quantified emission sources

The following emissions sources have been assessed as relevant, are captured within the emissions boundary, but are not measured (quantified) in the carbon inventory. 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	Justification reason
Water	Immaterial <1% and data unavailable.

Data management plan for non-quantified sources

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

APPENDIX D: OUTSIDE EMISSIONS BOUNDARY

Excluded emission sources

The below emission sources have been assessed as not relevant to this 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.

Excluded emissions sources summary

Emission sources tested for relevance	Size	Influence	Risk	Stakeholders	Outsourcing	Justification
N/A						





An Australian Government Initiative

