Australia's National
Science Agency



Sustainability Report 2025–26

As Australia's national science agency, science is at the heart of everything we do and we honour its long history on these lands.

From time immemorial, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples have been working together to ask profound questions of the universe; seeking answers through observing the abundance of the natural world, the relationships between animals, plants, place and time; and innovating and inventing, adapting and creating in an environment that can be extraordinarily harsh and is, at all times, unpredictable and constantly changing.

Such enduring knowledge systems are built through careful observation, refinement and communication across generations, and through applying that knowledge for the benefit of those yet to come.

As the world's oldest continuing cultures, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples are Australia's First Scientists, demonstrating enduring knowledge, innovation and stewardship that continue to shape what meaningful impact can look like.

Today, we are honoured to work in partnership with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples towards a sustainable future for all. We pay our respects to Elders past and present and acknowledge all Traditional Owners across the many lands, seas and waterways across Australia in which we now operate.



'Eternal Wisdom, Infinite Innovation' artwork by Rachael Sarra, working with Gilimbaa.

Contents

About CSIRO 1

Our sustainability report 2

Highlights 3

Our progress and performance 4

- Governance and transparency 4
- Excellent and impactful science 6
- Our people and capability building 7
- Sustainable property portfolio 8
- Transition to a clean energy future 10
- Responsible value chain and resource use 16

Appendix 18

Cover top: CSIRO's Energy Centre in Newcastle, NSW. Credit: Luke Amann

Cover bottom: Cleaning the heliostats in the solar thermal research facility at CSIRO's Energy Centre in Newcastle, NSW.

About CSIRO

We are Australia's national science agency, the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO). Our Corporate Plan 2025–26 outlines our purpose: delivering the science Australians need for a nation that is productive, sustainable, healthy and secure. Established under the *Science and Industry Research Act 1949* as a Corporate Commonwealth Entity, we work with government, research organisations, industry and the community to deliver national benefit through science, technology and innovation. Underpinned by scientific excellence and integrity, our work contributes to improving the life of every Australian.

We operate in a changing environment shaped by climate and sustainability challenges, evolving stakeholder expectations, regulatory and policy requirements and growing demand for trusted science. Public research organisations are increasingly expected to demonstrate transparent environmental and social performance, manage climate and nature-related risks and support Australia's transition to a resilient, low-emissions and resource-efficient economy.

Our operations span a diverse portfolio of research infrastructure, including laboratories, field sites, farms, vessels and a wide range of specialist equipment, as well as our offices, digital systems, procurement activities, travel and supply chains. Sustainability is therefore central to both our operations and the contribution our science, infrastructure and partnerships make to environmental, social and economic outcomes.

This report outlines our progress in improving operational sustainability and demonstrates how our actions support our purpose, strategic objectives and delivery of national benefit.

Sustainability Strategy 2020–2030

Our Sustainability Strategy 2020–2030[1] provides the framework for improving the environmental, social and governance performance of our operations while supporting the organisation's purpose and Corporate Plan objectives. It was informed by a materiality assessment undertaken in 2020, which drew on peer benchmarking, internal and external stakeholder engagement, reviews of policies and strategies, industry trends and media analysis. The findings were tested through stakeholder workshops and validated by the executive team.

The materiality assessment identified 20 material topics grouped into 5 themes: Foundations, Excellent Science, Environmental and Social Impact, Partnerships and Engagement, and Our People. A subsequent gap assessment identified the greatest opportunities to strengthen our response to material sustainability topics, resulting in 6 strategic focus areas: governance and transparency, excellent and impactful science, our people and capacity building, sustainable property portfolio, transition to a clean energy future, and responsible value chain and resource use.

1 Our Sustainability Strategy 2020–2030 is located on our website at https://www.csiro.au/en/about/strategy/sustainability/Sustainability

Our sustainability report

This sustainability report provides an update on our performance against our Sustainability Strategy 2020–2030 focus areas for the 2025–26 financial year, continuing our commitment to transparency. The information in the report supplements sustainability-related compliance reporting in our Annual Report 2025–26 and Climate Disclosure 2025–26.

Additional compliance reporting obligations have led to changes in our reporting approach this year. Our Climate Disclosure 2025–26 includes climate-related disclosures and progress toward net zero. Our Annual Report 2025–26 (page 167) contains our *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* section 516A (EPBC Act) response and links to both this report and the Climate Disclosure report. Table 1 below explains the purpose of each report and where it can be found.

This report is limited to performance and progress against the focus areas of our Sustainability Strategy 2020–2030 and therefore does not cover all material topics. Information on other material areas can be found in our Annual Report 2025–26.

Some 2025–26 data presented in this report is provisional and may be updated as billing cycles close and data is finalised. Where complete data was unavailable at the time of reporting, the report uses the best available data and, where appropriate, estimates based on documented methodologies. We are continuing to improve data governance, validation and assurance-readiness across sustainability reporting to support more complete, consistent and reliable disclosures in future reporting periods. This report has not been subject to third-party assurance. More information on our data quality, limitations and improvement progress is provided in the Appendix.

Greenhouse gas emissions inventory and associated tables are provided in our Climate Disclosure 2025–26 report with supplementary information provided in this report.

Table 1 Sustainability reporting

REPORT	URL	PURPOSE
Annual Report 2025–26	https://www.csiro.au/en/about/Corporate-governance/annual-reports	*Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* section 516A compliance statement (page 167)
Climate Disclosure 2025–26	https://www.transparency.gov.au/portfolio-entities-companies/industry-science-and-resources/commonwealth-scientific-and-industrial-research-organisation	Commonwealth Climate Disclosure report against Tranche 1 Year 2 Requirements including greenhouse gas emissions inventory and net zero target data tables
Sustainability Report 2025–26	https://www.csiro.au/en/about/strategy/sustainability/Sustainability-report	Performance against Sustainability Strategy focus areas, metrics and targets. Provides supplementary information to the Climate Disclosure 2025–26 and EPBC Act statement in the Annual Report 2025–26

Highlights

Key metrics

82%
reduction in Scope 1 + 2 emissions from 2018–19 baseline (market-based)[2]

87%
electricity from renewable generation + purchase 2025–26[3]

39%
reduction in domestic flight kms from 2018–19 baseline

329
second-hand laptops redeployed
20.3% of purchases

Key achievements

Climate governance
Completed an enterprise-wide climate risk and opportunity assessment to strengthen planning and decision making.

Asset resilience
Commenced asset-level physical climate risk assessment across projected hazards using Indra Foresight.

Scope 1 data
Improved scope 1 activity data through automated fuel invoice extraction, refrigerant audits and laboratory gas data collection.

Demand management
Progressed electricity demand-management initiatives at Pawsey and Clayton to improve efficiency and reduce peak demand.

Renewable procurement
Expanded jurisdictional procurement planning and maintained progress towards 100% renewable electricity.

Operational electrification
Decommissioned gas-powered space and water heating at Newcastle to fully electrify operational plant on site.

Lower-emissions fleet
Reduced CSIRO fleet from 214 to 183 vehicles and increased percentage of low-emissions vehicles to 22.4%

Waste avoidance
Reduced waste generation from target waste streams by 15.4% and promoted reuse through redeployment of second-hand IT equipment.

Water data quality
Improved completeness and restated prior-year data; total water use fell 13.8%.

Sustainable capital works
New formal procedure and registered 4 Green Star projects.

2 See pages 10–12 for detail on emissions reductions, and appendix for further information on data.

3 See page 14 for detail on renewable electricity.

Our progress and performance

KEY FOCUS AREA 1

Governance and transparency

Increase transparency around sustainability performance through improved governance processes and systems, including regular public reporting aligned to the Sustainable Development Goals.



Strategic context and management approach

Governance and transparency provide the foundation for credible sustainability performance, decision making and public reporting. This focus area responds to growing expectations from government, stakeholders and the community for clear accountability, reliable data, transparent disclosure and evidence-based management of sustainability-related impacts, risks and opportunities.

The strategic context for this focus area continues to evolve as Commonwealth Climate Disclosure requirements, emissions reporting obligations, environmental reporting obligations and broader sustainability reporting expectations mature. Our efforts to strengthen governance, data quality and assurance-readiness address these obligations, improve decision making and demonstrate progress towards the targets in our Sustainability Strategy 2020–2030.

Targets and metrics in our Sustainability Strategy 2020–2030 are aligned to focus areas and address specific gaps within our material topics. They are reviewed through management and board forums, including the sustainability steering committee, executive team and board. These committees support decision making, prioritisation, accountability and escalation, and help integrate sustainability considerations into planning, property, procurement, investment, reporting and operational decisions.

We report progress and challenges to the sustainability steering committee, executive team, board audit and risk committee and board. Our Chief Operating Officer is the executive sponsor of the Sustainability Strategy, and our Director Business and Infrastructure Services is responsible for overall implementation.

Progress and performance in 2025–26

In 2025–26, we strengthened the foundations for sustainability governance, reporting and assurance-readiness. We elevated the Sustainability function to report directly to the Director Business and Infrastructure Services, appointed an Executive Manager Sustainability, and updated the governance and reporting structure to reflect these changes.

Our current sustainability governance and reporting structure is set out in Figure 1.

We met sustainability-related compliance reporting obligations during the year, including *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* section 516A, Year 1 Commonwealth Climate Disclosure and emissions reporting requirements which were published in our Annual Report 2024–25 (Appendix C). We also met our National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting Scheme reporting and National Pollutant Inventory reporting obligations. This supports transparency, accountability and consistency across our public reporting suite.

We continued to improve data governance and management processes across sustainability reporting. This year, we reviewed priority data sources, identified quality issues and strengthened controls to improve accuracy, consistency and assurance-readiness for future reporting. More information on our data management processes is provided in the Appendix to this report.



Figure 1 Sustainability governance and reporting structure

We completed an enterprise-wide climate risk and opportunity assessment, with outcomes published in our Climate Disclosure 2025–26. The assessment considered physical and transitional climate-related risks and opportunities across our operations, assets, services and strategic objectives. It also provides an evidence base to strengthen climate-related governance, planning and decision making across risk, property, business continuity, procurement and investment.

Table 2 summarises the status of our progress against *Governance and transparency* focus area key initiatives, targets and measures.

Table 2 Status of key initiatives, targets and measures – Governance and transparency

REF	KEY INITIATIVES, TARGETS AND MEASURES	METRIC	STATUS
1	Reports to Board Committees	Minimum 2 per year	Achieved
2	Reports to Executive Team	Minimum 2 per year	Achieved
3	Reports to Steering Committee	Minimum 3 per year	Achieved
4	Compliance reporting submitted on time and to satisfaction of governing body	100% compliance	Achieved

KEY FOCUS AREA 2

Excellent and impactful science

Apply CSIRO's technical expertise to solve internal challenges and respond to global priorities by creating internal and external partnerships that contribute to the SDGs.



Strategic context and management approach

Excellent and impactful science is central to how we deliver the Sustainability Strategy 2020–2030 and create national benefit through our operations. This focus area recognises that our scientific capability can help solve internal sustainability challenges while also contributing to broader environmental, social and economic outcomes through research, innovation and partnerships.

We address this focus area by connecting sustainability priorities with relevant research capability across CSIRO. The Sustainability function works with research teams, enterprise services and operational areas to identify opportunities to utilise our scientific and technological expertise to innovate the way we manage our property portfolio, emissions, climate risks, biodiversity impacts and resource use.

Opportunities are prioritised where they address a material sustainability issue, support operational decision making, strengthen data quality or reporting, demonstrate practical application of our science or create an evidence base that can be shared more broadly. Progress is supported through internal partnerships, project governance, engagement with relevant business areas and reporting through Sustainability Strategy performance processes.

Progress and performance in 2025–26

Engagement between our scientists and sustainability team has led to 3 new projects that apply our science to operational sustainability challenges: an asset-level physical climate risk assessment (see page 9), development of a more complete scope 3 greenhouse gas emissions inventory (see page 13) and a biodiversity assessment to better understand nature-related impacts and opportunities across our property portfolio. We continued our engagement with the Smart Building Data Clearing House,[4] which has improved access to operational data.

In a collaboration between our environment research unit and sustainability team, we continued to improve our understanding of biodiversity-related impacts across our operations by updating and refining our previous organisation-wide biodiversity assessment. This work provides a more accurate biodiversity baseline across our sites, strengthening the evidence base for future land management, restoration activities, property planning and nature-related decision making. This work complements climate risk and emissions reduction initiatives by recognising the interdependence of climate, nature and long-term organisational resilience.

Table 3 summarises the status of our progress against the *Excellent and impactful science* focus area key initiatives, targets and measures.

Table 3 Status of key initiatives, targets and measures – Excellent and impactful science

REF	KEY INITIATIVES, TARGETS AND MEASURES	METRIC	STATUS
1	Opportunities identified and deployed into operations	Minimum 2 by 2030	Achieved

4 See Smart Building Data Clearing House: https://ihub.org.au/ihub-initiatives/smart-building-data-clearing-house/

KEY FOCUS AREA 3

Our people and capability building

Create a culture that supports our highly capable and diverse workforce on sustainable practices, and promote capability building and understanding of sustainability issues through community and industry engagement.



Strategic context and management approach

Building sustainability capability across our workforce supports delivery of the Sustainability Strategy 2020–2030 and helps embed sustainable practices into decision making, operations and culture. This focus area recognises that progress depends on people understanding sustainability issues, applying relevant skills in their roles and contributing to a culture that supports responsible, inclusive and place-based outcomes.

We manage this focus area through targeted engagement, capability-building activities, governance training and collaboration with relevant business areas, committees and leadership groups. Our approach includes building awareness of sustainability obligations, strengthening climate risk and opportunity capability, supporting Indigenous engagement and partnerships and developing the skills needed to improve sustainability performance and reporting over time.

Capability-building priorities are identified through sustainability governance processes, emerging compliance and disclosure requirements, engagement with operational and research areas, and the skills needed to support implementation of the Sustainability Strategy. Progress is monitored through Sustainability Strategy performance reporting, committee engagement and delivery of priority initiatives.

Progress and performance in 2025–26

This year, our capability-building focus was climate risk and opportunity management awareness and training. Members of the executive team, sustainability steering committee, assurance governance committee, board audit and risk committee and the board were supported with training resources. Work commenced on a formal sustainability skills matrix for the sustainability steering committee.

We also established a continuous professional development (CPD) program for our capital works team and support staff, to provide ongoing training in environmentally sustainable design. This program received strong participation, with a 78%[5] foundational training completion rate. Work has commenced to formally integrate this CPD program into annual training plans.

Table 4 summarises the status of our progress against the *Our people and capability building* focus area key initiatives, targets and measures.

Table 4 Status of key initiatives, targets and measures – Our people and capacity building

REF	KEY INITIATIVES, TARGETS AND MEASURES	METRIC	STATUS
1	Staff trained in sustainability	Formal compliance training program implemented by 2027	In progress
2	Sustainability skills embedded in key roles – All Senior Management Levels and Committees	Key leadership roles include skill competencies by 2027 Key Committees assessed for skill competencies by 2027	In progress

5 78% of full-time equivalent CSIRO capital works project management staff.

KEY FOCUS AREA 4

Sustainable property portfolio

Ensure fit-for-purpose buildings, aspiring to net zero carbon impact, that stimulate excellent science and improve staff health and well-being.



Strategic context and management approach

Our property portfolio enables safe, effective and sustainable science across Australia through research infrastructure, laboratories, offices, field sites, vessels and specialist facilities. Its scale, age and complexity create sustainability impacts, risks and opportunities across emissions, energy demand, climate resilience, water, resource efficiency, biodiversity, accessibility, staff experience and long-term asset performance. Our diverse property portfolio is explained in more detail in our Annual Report 2025–26 (pages 8–9).

We manage this focus area through property strategy, asset planning, capital works governance, sustainability controls and engagement across the sustainability team, business and infrastructure services, research programs and project teams.

Progress and performance in 2025–26

Since January 2020, we have delivered a total reduction in gross floor area of approximately 138,324 square metres (m^2) across our property portfolio. This year, we reduced our gross floor area by approximately 4,904 m^2. Our total remaining gross floor area is approximately 593,835 m^2. The reduction in gross floor area since 2020 includes sites both within and outside our operational control boundary.

The handover of operational control of our Lindfield site to the Department of Industry, Science and Resources on 30 June 2025 has contributed to notable overall reductions in key metrics this year, such as electricity consumption (−9.5% compared with 2024–25 financial year results). This has not influenced any change to our scope 2 market-based emissions this year due to our purchase of renewable electricity for the site in previous years.

This year we introduced and formalised new internal controls, including an executive-approved procedure that applies industry benchmarks, such as Green Star[6] ratings, to integrate sustainability and climate change into the planning, capital allocation, and oversight of all construction projects.

4
Green Star registered projects

$400M
Registered project value

6 Green Building Council of Australia's Green Star ratings: https://new.gbca.org.au/green-star/exploring-green-star

Green Star project registration represents an important step in embedding recognised sustainability standards into our capital works. Registered projects commit to a pathway to independently benchmark design and delivery against criteria such as energy, water, materials, indoor environment quality, resilience, procurement and innovation. This provides a robust metric that allows us to measure and improve the sustainability performance of our capital works.

We commenced an asset-level physical climate risk assessment using the CSIRO Indra Foresight product to identify how projected hazards – including extreme heat, bushfire, inland flooding, coastal inundation, severe wind and water stress – may affect individual sites and assets. The detailed asset-level assessment will be completed by October 2026 and will provide practical evidence to inform property strategy, master planning, asset management, business continuity, maintenance prioritisation, capital investment and future climate-related reporting.

We will continue initiatives in 2026–27 to uplift our capacity to integrate sustainability and climate into our property planning, development and operations. Our aim is to ensure a compliant, consistent and enduring organisational approach to sustainability as we continue to create a property portfolio that is safe, fit for purpose, sustainable, optimally utilised and future-focused.

Table 5 summarises the status of our progress against *Sustainable property portfolio* focus area key initiatives, targets and measures.

Table 5 Status of key initiatives, targets and measures – Sustainable property portfolio

REF	KEY INITIATIVES, TARGETS AND MEASURES	METRIC	STATUS
1	Physical and transitional climate risk assessment completed and an action plan developed	New risk assessment completed in 2026, with annual review	Achieved
2	Property Strategy Implementation Plan reviewed and updated where applicable	Annual review	Achieved
3	Consolidated and sustainable property portfolio in accordance with Property Strategy Performance Measures	Annual reduction in gross floor area	Achieved
4	New buildings designed to maximise net zero carbon impact	Implement Sustainable Capital Works Procedure by 2026	Achieved

KEY FOCUS AREA 5

Transition to a clean energy future

Improve energy demand management and efficiency to support the transition to net zero emissions.



Strategic context and management approach

The transition to clean energy is central to reducing our operational greenhouse gas emissions and aligning with Australian Government net zero commitments. We manage this focus area through our net zero roadmap. Progress is monitored through emissions inventories, data management, sustainability reporting, climate disclosure processes and governance oversight.

We are committed to achieving net zero for scope 1, 2 and material scope 3 emissions by 2050. We also have an interim target to achieve net zero emissions for scope 1 and 2 emissions by 2030, based on our 2018–19 emission baseline. The organisational boundary for these targets extends to CSIRO Australian operations within our operational control, including our research units, enterprise units and subsidiaries.

The Towards Net zero factsheet[7] on our website provides more information on our net zero targets and how we are approaching our review of net zero in the context of climate and nature. In 2022, we developed a net zero roadmap to support the achievement of our interim target of net zero scope 1 and 2 emissions by 2030. We are now undertaking a review and testing its underlying assumptions with the intention of developing an updated net zero roadmap in 2027.

Data completeness for all scope 1 activities remains a challenge despite significant improvements made each year to source new activity data for our emissions inventory. Information on our data quality, limitations and improvement progress is provided in the Appendix.

Progress and performance in 2025–26

Net zero emissions – scope 1 and 2

We are continuing to work towards net zero emissions for scope 1 and 2. Market-based emissions have reduced by 82% from the 2018–19 baseline, supported by the net zero roadmap, which includes renewable electricity purchasing, on-site solar PV, energy efficiency, electrification, fleet optimisation and property consolidation.

This year we electrified heating and hot water plant at our Newcastle site, reducing natural gas consumption and scope 1 emissions while providing a practical demonstration for electrification of other sites.

Our energy audit of the Pawsey Centre this year identified efficiency and decarbonisation opportunities for one of our most energy-intensive facilities. At Pawsey, we also progressed a demand response initiative to reduce or shift electricity demand during periods of grid constraint and market events while maintaining critical research computing services.

Electricity load demand management application software was also implemented at Clayton during the summer peak demand season to reduce network tariffs and support our demand-management activities.

We continued to improve energy data quality through metering, submetering and billing review processes. These activities support greater accuracy in reporting, earlier detection of anomalies and improved operational insights into energy use across the portfolio.

7 Toward Net Zero factsheet: https://www.csiro.au/en/about/strategy/sustainability/Sustainability

Table 6 represents our annual progress toward our scope 1 and 2 (market-based) interim net zero emissions target. The emissions data tables should be read together with the information in the Appendix on data quality, limitations and improvement progress.

The reduction between 2019–20 and 2020–21 represents a combination of the introduction of our power purchase agreement (renewable electricity) and decarbonisation activities. The increase in 2024–25 is solely due to a change in accounting methods for recognising the relevant year for reporting the purchase and surrender of large-scale generation certificates (renewable electricity).

Figure 2 below represents our progress towards our target of net zero emissions (scope 1 and 2) by 2030.

Table 6 Net zero 2030 market-based target progress

NET ZERO 2030 TARGET	2018–19	2019–20	2020–21	2021–22	2022–23	2023–24	2024–25	2025–26
Scope 1 and 2 emissions, market-based (kt CO_2e)	109	99	20	21	19	19	24	19
% change compared with previous year	n/a	–9%	–80%	8%	–9%	–3%	30%	–21%
% change against baseline year	n/a	–9%	–82%	–80%	–82%	–83%	–78%	–82%

Notes: **1.** The CO_2e emission calculation is based on the emission factors, global warming potential and methodology outlined in National Greenhouse Accounts Factors. **2.** The sources of emissions are listed in Table 10 Emissions by source, below. **3.** This data is aligned with our operational control boundary. **4.** The sum of individual emission sources may differ from 'total' due to rounding. **5.** This table reflects the market-based emissions methodology. **6.** Our emissions include those from off-grid generation. **7.** See the Appendix from more information on our data quality, limitations and improvement progress.

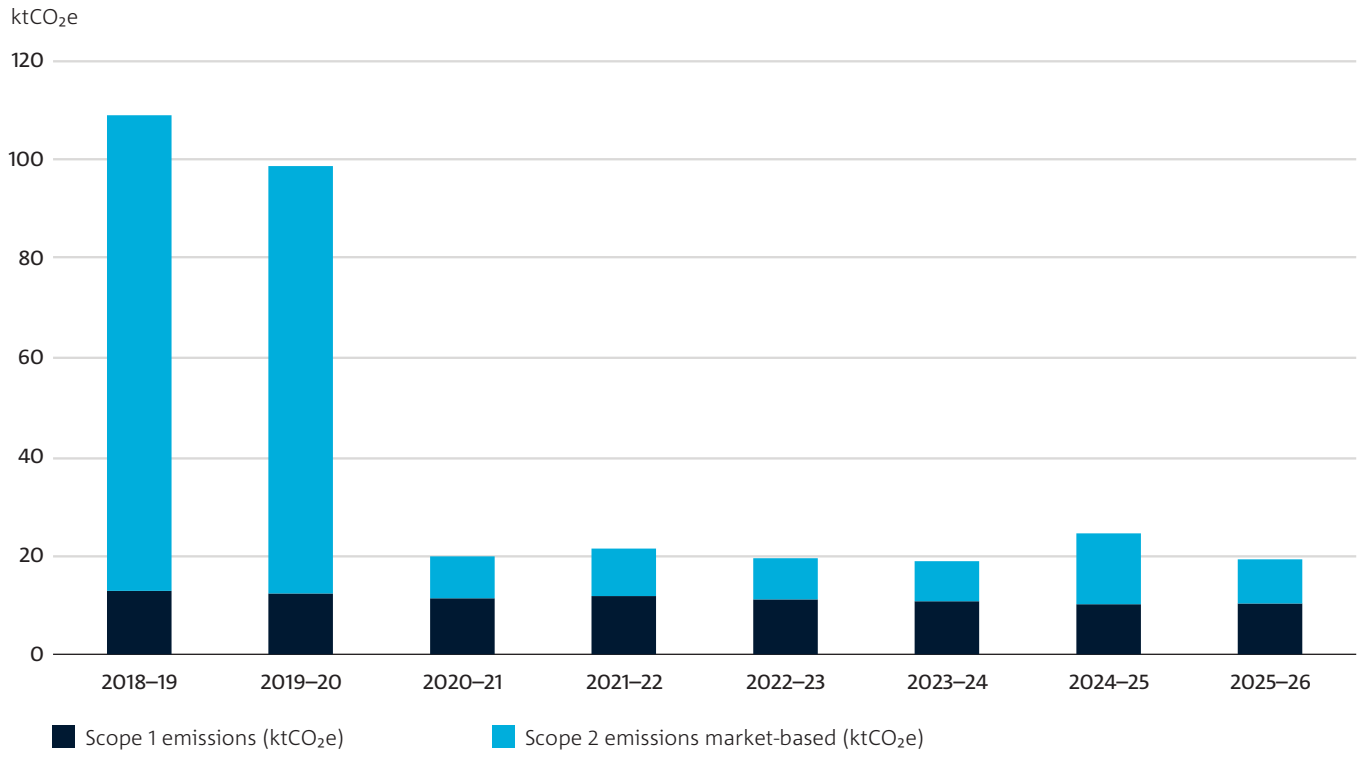


Figure 2 Net zero emissions progress scope 1 and 2 by 2030 (market-based)

For transparency, we have provided details below of our location-based and market-based emissions, fuel and energy sources.

Table 7 Comparison of location-based emissions and market-based emissions

NET ZERO TARGET SCOPE 1 & 2 FROM BASELINE	2018–19 (kt CO_2E)	2025–26 (kt CO_2E)	% CHANGE
Total location-based emissions (scope 1 and 2)	109	65	–41%
Total market-based emissions (scope 1 and 2)	109	19	–82%

Notes: **1.** Our net zero emissions targets are market-based. The information in this table is provided for comparison purposes. **2.** See Table 6 for other relevant notes.

Table 8 Location-based scope 1 and 2 emissions summary

SCOPE 1 AND 2 EMISSIONS SUMMARY (LOCATION-BASED, kt CO_2e)	2018–19	2019–20	2020–21	2021–22	2022–23	2023–24	2024–25	2025–26
Scope 1 emissions	13	12	11	12	11	11	10	10
Scope 2 emissions	96	86	82	77	65	64	62	54
Total scope 1 and 2	109	99	93	89	76	74	72	65

Notes: **1.** Our net zero emissions targets are market-based (not location-based); the information in this table is provided for comparison purposes. **2.** See Table 6 for other relevant notes. **3.** Due to new emissions sources introduced in 2025–26, scope 1 emissions between 2018–19 and 2024–25 may be restated as additional data become available. **4.** From 2018–19 through to 2022–23 scope 1 natural gas and scope 2 electricity emissions included estimations for missing source data (invoices) with a range of 1–2%. **5.** Refer to the Appendix for information on data quality and limitations.

Table 9 Market-based scope 1 and 2 emissions summary

SCOPE 1 AND 2 EMISSIONS SUMMARY (MARKET-BASED, kt CO_2e)	2018–19	2019–20	2020–21	2021–22	2022–23	2023–24	2024–25	2025–26
Scope 1 emissions	13	12	11	12	11	11	10	10
Scope 2 emissions market-based	96	86	8	10	8	8	14	9
Total scope 1 and 2 market-based emissions	109	99	20	21	19	19	24	19

Notes: **1.** See Table 6 for relevant notes.

Table 10 below shows our reduced emissions against our baseline for relevant emissions sources.

Table 10 Emissions by source against 2018–19 baseline

EMISSIONS BY SOURCE (kt CO_2e)	2018–19	2025–26	% CHANGE
Natural gas	10	8	–23%
Stationary fuel (diesel, petrol and LPG)	1.1	0.9	–16%
Transport fuel (incl diesel, petrol and LPG)	1.3	0.6	–56%
Other emission sources in Scope 1 (e.g. waste incineration, SF_6, etc.)	0.03	0.05	73%
Refrigerant	-	0.74	N/A
Laboratory gases (CO_2, CH_4 and SF_6)	-	0.04	N/A
Electricity (location-based)	96	54	–43%
Electricity (market-based)	96	9	–91%

Notes: **1.** See Table 6 for relevant notes. **2.** Table shows total emissions reduction against 2018–19 baseline, by emissions source. **3.** Other emissions sources in scope 1 and laboratory gases are not included in the emissions inventory reporting within our Climate Disclosure 2025–26 as the Emissions Reporting Framework for Commonwealth entities does not include these sources. **3.** Refrigerant data was collected for the first time in 2024–25, further data was collected in 2025–26 and prior-year data will be restated in future reporting; see Appendix for more information. **4.** Laboratory gas use data (bottled) have been collected for the first time in 2025–26; see Appendix for more information.

Net zero emissions – material scope 3 emissions

This year we continued to improve data sources and processes to support improved data collection for scope 3 emissions categories (upstream and downstream). Under the Emissions Reporting Framework[8] for Commonwealth entities, we are required to report on limited scope 3 emissions sources. Table 11 below demonstrates the progress made, noting that the emissions sources do not represent all material emissions and do not include all relevant emissions sources for each of the scope 3 categories shown.

We also commenced a project to estimate scope 3 emissions using FY2024–25 data from our finance system and an Environmentally Extended Input-Output (EEIO) methodology. This recognised top-down approach combines financial data with industry-average emissions factors to estimate emissions across our value chain.

Our Phase 1 assessment used FY2024–25 financial records and the Global Resource Input-Output Assessment (GLORIA)[9] database to apply EEIO methods at an organisational scale. The assessment covered 10 of the 15 GHG Protocol scope 3 categories and successfully established a workflow and project scope to improve source data completeness and automate classification steps.

In 2026–27 will aim to produce a scope 3 baseline for all 15 GHG Protocol categories and commence an assessment of materiality and focus. Future phases will improve data flows to strengthen the accuracy and completeness of our scope 3 emissions inventory.

Table 11 Scope 3 emissions sources

GHG PROTOCOL SCOPE 3 CATEGORY	SCOPE 3 EMISSIONS SOURCE	2023–24 (kt CO_2E)	2024–25 (kt CO_2E)	2025–26 (kt CO_2E)
3: Fuel- and energy-related activities not included in scope 1 or scope 2	Indirect emissions from the extraction, production, transportation, transmission and distribution of the energy source	—	7.4	6.3
5: Waste generated in operations	Solid waste to landfill	1.4	1.4	1.2
6: Business travel	Air travel domestic commercial	6.1	4.6	3.1
	Accommodation domestic travel	1.6	0.8	0.7
	Hire car domestic	0.1	0.1	0.1
13: Downstream leased facility	RV *Investigator*	5.8	5.0	7.1
	Subtotal Scope 3 emissions	15.0	19.3	18.5

Notes: **1.** Emissions data for domestic air travel and accommodation are sourced from the Australian Government's central booking system. **2.** Hire car data was sourced directly from Hertz and compared against the central booking system. Other hire car data was available from central booking system but was incomplete for the purposes of assessing emissions. **3.** The solid waste to landfill data excludes gaseous, liquid and hazardous waste, and all resource recovery and recycling waste streams. **4.** This table does not represent a complete assessment of our emissions under each scope 3 category. **5.** RV *Investigator* as a downstream facility is an emissions source that is material for CSIRO; however, the Emissions Reporting Framework for Commonwealth entities does not cover scope 3 category 13 and therefore it is not included in our emissions inventory reported as part of our Climate Disclosure 2025–26.

8 Emissions reporting framework for Commonwealth agencies: https://www.finance.gov.au/government/climate-action-government-operations/commonwealth-emission-reporting/emissions-reporting-framework

9 GLORIA is explained in Lenzen M et al. (2022) 'Implementing the material footprint to measure progress towards Sustainable Development Goals 8 and 12', *Nature Sustainability*, 5(2): 157–166.

Renewable electricity target

Our renewable electricity target boundary relates to CSIRO sites where we have direct control of electricity accounts. As shown in Table 12, this year 87% of our total electricity needs were met from renewable energy sources. This included:

- electricity supplied through the National Renewable Power Percentage (RPP) and Jurisdictional Renewable Power Percentage in ACT (JRPP)
- 5300 MWh generated and consumed from both on-site and off-grid solar photovoltaic (PV) systems that are not registered to create large-scale generation certificates (LGCs)
- 46,383 MWh of renewable electricity supported through the surrender of LGCs, including certificates purchased through our Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) for NSW, ACT and VIC, and certificates generated from our registered renewable energy power station at Pullenvale.

Energy procurement activity also supported the transition to a clean energy future, including work to maintain renewable electricity supply pathways, prepare future procurement approaches for jurisdictions not yet covered by voluntary renewable electricity arrangements and manage contract risks following changes to existing power purchase arrangement.

Table 12 Renewable electricity target detail

RENEWABLE ELECTRICITY SUPPLY SOURCE	MWH
National Renewable Power Percentage (RPP)	15,136
Jurisdictional Renewable Power Percentage (JRPP)	16,697
Renewable Energy Certificates – voluntary LGCs surrendered	46,383
Behind-the-meter and off-grid solar PV consumption	5,300
Total electricity consumption	96,116
Renewable electricity supply (%)	87%

Notes: **1.** This data relates to sites where CSIRO has operational control. **2.** Total electricity consumption includes behind-the-meter solar PV consumed and is different to the location-based electricity consumption in the electricity greenhouse gas emissions table within our Climate Disclosure 2025–26; this is due to the Emissions Reporting Framework for Commonwealth entities excluding behind-the-meter solar PV consumption. **3.** The total consumption also includes off-grid energy use at the Murchison site. **4.** Approximately 0.05% of bills from suppliers have yet to be received at time of finalising this disclosure, and no estimates have been included.

We are continuing to transition to clean electricity for our operations through enhancing our solar PV capacity and working towards procurement of renewable energy for our operations in all Australian states and territories. The status of our procurement in each jurisdiction is set out in Table 13.

Table 13 Status of renewable electricity procurement by jurisdiction

JURISDICTION	CURRENT STATUS 2025–26	PLANNED APPROACH (FORWARD LOOKING)
New South Wales	100% renewable electricity	New arrangement commencing in 2026–27 financial year for voluntary renewable electricity via retailer agreement for purchase and surrender of LGCs.
Victoria	100% renewable electricity	
South Australia	100% renewable electricity	
Australian Capital Territory	100% renewable electricity	Commence Whole of Australian Government arrangement including voluntary purchase and surrender of LGCs in 2026–27 financial year.
Queensland	Mandatory renewable electricity target	Commencing voluntary renewable electricity in 2027–28 financial year via retailer agreement for purchase and surrender of LGCs.
Tasmania	Mandatory renewable electricity target	Commence Whole of Australian Government arrangement including voluntary purchase and surrender of LGCs in 2028–29 financial year
Western Australia	Mandatory renewable electricity target	Commencing voluntary renewable electricity in 2026–27 financial year via retailer agreement for purchase and surrender of LGCs.
Northern Territory	Mandatory renewable electricity target	Commence Whole of Australian Government arrangement including voluntary purchase and surrender of LGCs in 2027–28 financial year.

Notes: **1.** Our power purchase agreement ceased 6 July 2026. **2.** Mandatory renewable electricity target (RET) refers to the Renewable Power Percentage (RPP) for 2025(17.91%) and 2026 (16.67%).

Reduced air travel kilometres against 2018–19 baseline

Compared with our 2018–19 baseline year, we saw a 39% reduction in 2025–26 in domestic flight kilometres and a 51% reduction in international flight kilometres. This represents a –7% change compared with the 2024–25 data for domestic flights and a –15% change for international flights.

Percentage of low-emissions fleet vehicles

This year we continued to remove under-utilised vehicles from our fleet, reducing the fleet by 31 vehicles, 30 of which were internal combustion engine vehicles. This reduced the total fleet from 214 to 183 vehicles. The overall percentage of low-emissions vehicles increased to 22.4% due to the removal of under-utilised vehicles.

We will continue to assess utilisation rates of our fleet vehicles and the suitability of new models of low-emissions vehicles. Further installation of charging infrastructure will be considered following the review of our property strategy.

Table 14 Air travel km against 2018–19 baseline

AIR TRAVEL KM	2018–19	2024–25	2025–26	% CHANGE FROM BASELINE	% CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS YEAR
Domestic travel (km)	50,959,548	33,361,249	31,078,666	–39	–7
International travel (km)	58,980,413	33,850,972	28,667,310	–51	–15

Notes: **1.** The data extends to flights travelled for CSIRO staff and affiliates as provided via the Commonwealth government's travel management provider.

Table 15 Our fleet

OUR FLEET	30 JUNE 2023	30 JUNE 2024	30 JUNE 2025	30 JUNE 2026
Number of zero-emissions vehicles	15 (14 electric and 1 hydrogen vehicle)	16 (14 electric and 2 hydrogen vehicles)	11 (9 electric and 2 hydrogen vehicles)	12 electric vehicles
Number of hybrid vehicles	41	39	31	29
Number of internal combustion engine vehicles (includes diesel and unleaded vehicles)	191	186	172	142
Total fleet vehicles (includes passenger, SUV, light and heavy commercial vehicles)	247	241	214	183
% low-emissions vehicles in fleet	22.7%	22.8%	19.6%	22.4%

Notes: **1.** Low-emissions fleet vehicles include zero-emissions vehicles and hybrid vehicles.

Table 16 summarises the status of our progress against *Transition to a clean energy future* focus area key initiatives, targets and measures.

Table 16 Status of key initiatives, targets and measures – Transition to a clean energy future

REF	KEY INITIATIVES, TARGETS AND MEASURES	METRIC	STATUS
1	Define the organisational emissions boundary	Review complete 2025, and annual update thereafter	Achieved
2	Net zero scope 1 and 2 emissions by 2030 (market-based)	Emissions reduction against FY2018–19 baseline	In progress
3	Net zero scope 1 and 2 and material scope 3 emissions by 2050	Complete scope 3 GHG emissions inventory, baseline and define target	In progress
4	100% renewable electricity supply by 2030	100% renewables	In progress
5	NZE roadmap to achieve targets defined	Review of NZE roadmap by 2027	In progress
6	Reduced air travel kilometres against 2019 baseline	Reduction in domestic flight kms by 2030	In progress
7	Increase percentage of low-emissions fleet vehicles (LEV)	Percentage of LEVs relative to total fleet	In progress

KEY FOCUS AREA 6

Responsible value chain and resource use

Understand the environmental and social impacts of purchase decisions and embed circular economy thinking and the highest standards of responsible procurement.



Strategic context and management approach

Responsible value chain and resource use focuses on reducing environmental and social impacts across our operations and supply chain. This includes how we procure goods and services, manage waste and water, use materials and work with suppliers to support responsible procurement and circular economy outcomes.

We manage this focus area through procurement processes, supplier due diligence, waste and resource management, improved data collection and engagement with procurement, facilities, finance, research and operational teams. Our approach prioritises better visibility of value chain impacts, practical controls in purchasing and contract management, improved waste diversion and more reliable data to support reporting, decision making and future improvement.

Progress and performance in 2025–26

In 2025–26, we progressed responsible procurement controls, waste management and resource-use reporting and improved waste and water data quality to support more reliable reporting and future decision making.

A new business process was introduced this year to encourage the reuse of suitable IT equipment before new purchases are made. The process supports consideration of second-hand laptops, helping extend the useful life of existing devices, reduce demand for new equipment and support waste-avoidance objectives. This complements broader work on responsible procurement, circular economy outcomes and disposal pathways for plant, equipment and consumables. A total of 329 second-hand laptops were purchased, representing 20.3% of all laptops purchased.

Waste performance

Our 80% diversion from landfill target applies to solid waste streams at sites where we manage waste. It excludes liquid, gaseous and hazardous waste streams and tenant sites, except where our national waste contractor provides specified waste services. We use this boundary because it is the most reliable indication of our operational waste impact and is supported by invoiced data. The 2023–24 financial year is the baseline for measuring progress.

Table 17 Progress toward our target of average 80% diversion from landfill (by weight) by 2030

TARGET METRICS	2023–24	2024–25	2025–26	% CHANGE FROM 2023–24 BASELINE
Waste generation limited streams[1] (tonnes)	1,267	1,245	1,053	–17%
Rate of diversion from landfill (%)	32	30	29	–8%

Notes: **1.** ‘Waste generation’ (tonnes) in Table 17 excludes liquid, gaseous and hazardous waste streams and excludes sites where we are a tenant (except where our national waste contractor provides waste stream services). **2.** ‘Diversion’ of waste means diverting from landfill using the principles of the waste hierarchy.

Waste generation from our target waste streams in 2025–26 was 1,053 tonnes, representing a 15.4% decrease compared with 2024–25. The total weight of our target waste streams has been reducing year on year; however, our waste diversion from landfill rate has fallen 3 percentage points since our 2023–24 baseline, to 29% in 2025–26.

Our internal Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Strategy prioritises waste avoidance and reuse initiatives, which are ongoing. Our resource recovery and recycling rate, however, is represented in terms of diversion of waste from landfill, and this remains an important metric for improving our environmental performance. In 2026–27 we will undertake a more detailed review of our waste avoidance and resource recovery target and test previous assumptions.

Table 18 summarises our progress against targets and measures identified in our Sustainability Strategy for the *Responsible value chain and resource use* focus area.

Table 18 Status of targets and measures – Responsible value chain and resource use

REF	TARGETS AND MEASURES	METRIC	STATUS
1	Average 80% diversion from landfill (by weight) of target waste streams by 2030	% diversion rate compared to FY24 baseline	Not achieved

Water performance

Water consumption at our owned and managed sites is measured using water authority invoices. Where data was unavailable at the time of reporting, consumption was estimated using previous invoices for comparable periods and is included in Table 19.

Table 19 Mains water usage and intensity

RESOURCE AND OPERATIONAL METRICS	2022–23	2023–24	2024–25	2025–26
Mains water usage (megalitres)	282	335	408	352
Mains water usage intensity (kilolitres/FTE)	47	54	69	67

Notes: **1.** 13% of water data has been estimated for 2025–26 water use.

Water use data for 2024–25 has been restated following the availability of additional actual data in 2025–26. Historical water use records for 2022–23 and 2023–24 are being reviewed to ensure major irrigation sites across CSIRO have been included. These figures are expected to be restated in 2026–27. Further information on water data calculation and limitation is provided in the Appendix.

Total water use decreased by 13.8% in 2025–26 compared with the restated 2024–25 figure, while water use per staff member decreased by 3%. The reduction was primarily driven by lower irrigation water use and the closure of 2 sites at the end of 2024–25. Irrigated farming undertaken for research purposes remained a significant contributor, accounting for approximately 36% of our total water use, as shown in Table 20.

Table 20 Mains water by usage type

WATER USE METRICS (ML)	2024–25	2025–26
Main water usage for irrigation purpose	149	126
Main water usage for offices and residential purpose	259	226

Notes: **1.** 24% of irrigation water data and 7% of office/residential water data has been estimated for 2025–26 water use.

Appendix

Data quality, limitations, and improvement progress.

We document our processes, data sources, methodologies, limitations and assumptions in an audit-ready basis of preparation. Our priority is to continually improve the relevance, completeness, consistency, accuracy, transparency and assurance-readiness of sustainability data sources and reporting. Strengthening this foundation will support future climate disclosure, compliance reporting, operational decision making, performance monitoring and the review of our net zero roadmap.

In recent years we have improved the categorisation, completeness and accuracy of our emissions inventory, as documented in our previous annual sustainability reports. In alignment with the GHG Protocol and the Emissions Reporting Framework for Commonwealth entities, we are committed to the continuous improvement in the quality and integrity of our emissions source data and collection methodologies, along with the review and testing of assumptions. This will also be a critical input to our net zero roadmap review in 2027.

We are a complex scientific and industrial research organisation conducting research for and on behalf of a wide range of Australian industries and for the benefit of all Australians. Our research-related process emissions and agricultural emissions are currently not collected for our scope 1 emissions inventory. We are committed to developing a clearer understanding of process and agricultural emissions from our research programs in 2027. The following section outlines the improvements made to our 2025–26 emissions inventory.

Scope 1

Additional scope 1 data sources and more accurate activity data were added to our greenhouse gas emissions inventory this year. Although this is reflected in our 2025–26 results, we have not restated our annual greenhouse gas emissions from our 2018–19 baseline year through to 2024–25 reporting year. In 2026–27 we will undertake a process to assess previous year emissions inventories, once we have undertaken external verification.

Fuel data

SAP is our primary finance system and stores invoice transaction data. In 2024–25, our sustainability team manually reviewed transaction descriptions and worked with our finance team to extract relevant fuel information from invoices. This approach had significant limitations. Manual data extraction and analysis were error prone and prohibitively resource-intensive. Invoices were not readily accessible and transaction descriptions often failed to provide relevant information. In 2025–26, the sustainability team worked with our information management and technology team to automate this process through the development of a bot that scans invoices individually and extracts actual fuel usage data. In 2026–27 we will follow the same methodology to improve the quality and accuracy of fuel usage data for previous financial years back to our baseline.

Refrigerant data

In 2025–26, our access to actual refrigerant data was vastly improved through data captured in asset validation audits at 21 of our sites. The audit identified 8,288.88 kg of refrigerants, including R-134A, R-22, R-410A and other refrigerant types. Where asset-level refrigerant data was unavailable, quantities were estimated by matching manufacturer and model information against the existing database. We will continue to improve the quality of our refrigerant data for future emissions reporting and inventory purposes.

Laboratory gases

In 2025–26, we engaged with our research teams to develop a better understanding of how specific bottled gases that have a global warming potential are used in research activities. We have used this data to develop an interim methodology to assess potential emissions. We will continue to assess the validity of the laboratory gases methodology and our assumptions through more thorough engagement with our research teams. Once the methodology has been confirmed and independently verified, we will include the emissions in our greenhouse gas inventory and the method in our basis of preparation.

Scope 2 market-based

Treatment of large-scale generation certificates

Since the 2024–25 reporting year, our methodology for reporting voluntary large-scale generation certificates (LGCs) has been aligned with the Emissions Reporting Framework for Commonwealth agencies. This means that renewable electricity is only counted for the financial year if voluntary LGCs have been surrendered and accepted by the Clean Energy Regulator before 30 June of the reporting year. Prior to 2024–25, voluntary LGCs, purchased monthly under our PPA to match electricity consumption, were surrendered to the Clean Energy Regulator prior to the publication of our annual sustainability report.

The impact of the new methodology means that for the 2024–25 reporting period we have not included the purchase and surrender of LGCs to match May and June 2025 electricity consumption for our sites in NSW, ACT and VIC. This equates to 10,314 MWh of verified renewable electricity purchases that are not included in our market-based greenhouse gas emissions reporting for 2024–25; these purchases are instead recognised in the 2025–26 reporting year. Therefore the 2025–26 reporting year reflects LGCs purchased against consumption for NSW, ACT and VIC from May 2025 to April 2026.

Going forward, the reporting of LGCs will be further refined to meet calendar-year surrender processes by our electricity retailers. Our renewable electricity purchasing planning will be reviewed as the market moves toward Guarantee of Origin methods.

Water data limitations

Our water use is primarily associated with 2 operational purposes: office and residential activities, and irrigation to support research farming. Farm irrigation activities are undertaken at our Forest Hill and Irymple properties and are significant contributors to our overall water consumption. Further investigation is underway to gather water usage data from our Woodstock and Armidale (Chiswick) farms, to improve the completeness of reporting.

Annual water reporting is affected by the quarterly billing cycle for water invoices, particularly for irrigation water. As a result, some water use figures are estimated for reporting purposes where final invoice data is unavailable prior to submission. Seasonal and weather-related variability can also affect water use, meaning estimates may not fully reflect actual consumption for the reporting year. These figures are reviewed and restated in subsequent years when more complete data becomes available.

In 2026–27, we will work with relevant internal and external parties to improve water data collection and analysis processes and minimise data gaps.

Glossary

TERM	DEFINITION
Australian Government Emissions Reporting	This refers to the requirement for Australian Government (Commonwealth) entities and companies to report their greenhouse gas emissions from operations in Australia within their annual reports. See Emissions Reporting Framework.
CCD	Commonwealth Climate Disclosure is an Australian Government initiative requiring Commonwealth entities and companies to publicly report their exposure to climate-related risks and opportunities and the actions they take to manage them.
Circular economy	An economic system that keeps products, materials and resources in use at their highest value for as long as possible, while reducing material consumption, waste and environmental impacts through approaches such as reuse, repair, refurbishment, remanufacture and recycling.
CO_2e	Carbon dioxide equivalent, written CO_2-e or CO_2e, is a metric used to express the emissions of different greenhouse gases in a common unit by converting them according to their global warming potential.
CPD	Continuing professional development is ongoing learning and training undertaken to maintain, improve and broaden a person's professional knowledge, skills and competence.
CSIRO	The Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation is Australia's national science agency and an Australian Government statutory authority that carries out scientific research for the benefit of Australian industry and the community and to support national objectives.
EEIO	Environmentally Extended Input-Output methodology is an economic modelling approach that links transactions between industries with environmental data to estimate the environmental impacts associated with the production or consumption of goods and services, including impacts occurring through value chains.
Emissions	When referred to throughout this report means greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, unless otherwise stated.
Emissions Reporting Framework	The Emissions Reporting Framework (the Framework) is the methodology for Commonwealth entities and Commonwealth companies to use when producing their annual greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions inventories. The Framework enables tracking progress towards the APS Net Zero 2030 Target (refer to Net Zero in Government Operations (NZGO) Strategy). It is also a key part of the Commonwealth Climate Disclosure (CCD) initiative, specifically the Metrics and Targets pillar. The Framework is designed for reporting agencies to follow and implement emissions reporting and will involve a continuous improvement cycle as reporting matures. Over time, the emissions reporting boundary may expand to encompass additional emissions sources as data quality and methodologies improve. Source: https://www.finance.gov.au/government/climate-action-government-operations/commonwealth-emission-reporting/emissions-reporting-framework
EPBC Act	The *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (Cth) is Australia's principal national environmental legislation. Section 516A establishes environmental annual reporting obligations for all Commonwealth entities.
FTE	Full-time equivalent, a unit expressing a person's working hours as a proportion of the hours worked by a full-time employee.
GHG	Greenhouse gases, see our Towards net zero emissions factsheet for information on the greenhouse gases in our emissions inventory. (https://www.csiro.au/en/about/strategy/sustainability/Sustainability)
GHG Protocol	The GHG Protocol supplies the world's most widely used greenhouse gas accounting standards and guidance. Source: https://ghgprotocol.org/
GLORIA	Global Resource Input-Output Assessment is a multi-regional input-output database that combines economic information with environmental, resource and social indicators to support analysis of resource flows and environmental footprints across countries and supply chains. GLORIA is explained in: Lenzen, M., Geschke, A., West, J., Fry, J., Malik, A., Giljum, S., Milà i Canals, L., Piñero, P., Lutter, S., Wiedmann, T., Li, M., Sevenster, M., Potočnik, J., Teixeira, I., Van Voore, M., Nansai, K., & Schandl, H. (2022). Implementing the material footprint to measure progress towards Sustainable Development Goals 8 and 12. *Nature Sustainability*, 5(2), 157–166. https://doi.org/10.1038/s41893-021-00811-6
kW	Kilowatt, a unit of power equal to 1,000 watts.
kWh	Kilowatt-hour, a unit of energy equal to the energy transferred or used at a constant rate of one kilowatt for one hour.
kt CO_2e	Kilotonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent. One kt CO_2-e equals 1,000 t CO_2-e.
LEV	Low-emissions vehicle, a vehicle that produces lower operational greenhouse gas emissions than a comparable conventional internal combustion engine vehicle.
LGC	A large-scale generation certificate is a tradable certificate created for eligible renewable electricity generated by an accredited large-scale renewable energy power station. One LGC represents one megawatt-hour of eligible renewable electricity generated or displaced.

TERM	DEFINITION
Location-based emissions	Scope 2 greenhouse gas emissions calculated using average electricity-generation emission factors for the geographic grids in which electricity consumption occurs.
Market-based emissions	Scope 2 greenhouse gas emissions calculated using emission factors associated with qualifying contractual instruments and electricity products purchased or selected by the reporting organisation.
Materiality	CSIRO's 2020 materiality assessment focused on impact materiality. Impact materiality considers the actual and potential positive and negative impacts that an entity has, or may have, on people, society and the environment through its activities, operations, research and partnerships. A matter is considered impact material where the significance, scale, scope and, where relevant, likelihood of the impact means that it could reasonably influence the decisions and assessments of stakeholders.
ML	A megalitre is a unit of volume equal to one million litres, or 1,000 cubic metres.
MWh	A megawatt-hour is a unit of energy equal to one megawatt of power supplied or consumed continuously for one hour, equivalent to 1,000 kilowatt-hours.
Net zero emissions	Condition in which metric-weighted anthropogenic greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions are balanced by metric-weighted anthropogenic GHG removals over a specified period. The quantification of net zero GHG emissions depends on the GHG emission metric chosen to compare emissions and removals of different gases, as well as the time horizon chosen for that metric. Source: IPCC Glossary (https://apps.ipcc.ch/glossary/)
Net zero emissions targets	Targets to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and balance any residual emissions with eligible removals or offsets so that net emissions reach zero by a specified date and within a defined organisational and operational boundary. See 'Key focus area 5 – Transition to a clean energy future' for a description of our emissions targets and our Towards net zero emissions factsheet. (https://www.csiro.au/en/about/strategy/sustainability/Sustainability)
NZGO	Net Zero in Government Operations is the Australian Government strategy for reducing operational greenhouse gas emissions and achieving net zero emissions across the Australian Public Service by 2030.
PPA	A power purchase agreement is a contract under which electricity is purchased from an electricity generator or supplier under agreed terms.
PV	Photovoltaic is a technology that converts light energy from the sun directly into electricity through the photovoltaic effect. The term is commonly used in reference to solar panels, modules and electricity-generating systems.
Responsible procurement	Responsible procurement includes our obligations under the Commonwealth Procurement Rules and prescribed procurement-connected policies including the Environmentally Sustainable Procurement Policy, see https://www.finance.gov.au/government/procurement/buying-australian-government/policy-framework.
RET	Renewable electricity target is an Australian Government scheme intended to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from the electricity sector and increase renewable electricity generation by creating a market for tradable renewable energy certificates.
RPP	Renewable power percentage is the annual percentage used to calculate the number of large-scale generation certificates that liable entities must surrender to meet their obligations under the Large-scale Renewable Energy Target.
Scope 1, scope 2 and scope 3 emissions	Under the GHG Protocol, scope 1 emissions are direct greenhouse gas emissions from sources owned or controlled by the reporting organisation. Scope 2 emissions are indirect emissions from the generation of purchased or acquired electricity, steam, heating and cooling consumed by the organisation. Scope 3 emissions are all other indirect emissions occurring in the organisation's value chain.
Solid waste	Discarded or abandoned solid or semi-solid materials, including office waste, construction and demolition waste, packaging, metals, plastics, organic waste and hazardous waste. For the purposes of CSIRO's waste target, hazardous waste and grease-trap waste are excluded. Gaseous emissions, wastewater and stormwater are also outside the target boundary.
Sustainable development	Development which meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.
Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)	The 17 Sustainable Development Goals are at the heart of the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, adopted by all United Nations Member States in 2015.
t CO_2e	Tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent.
Waste hierarchy	A nationally recognised framework to support efficient resource use, waste minimisation and circular economy outcomes. Avoidance, reduction and reuse feature at the top of the hierarchy, then recycling and recovery, with treatment and disposal at the bottom as the least efficient options.

CSIRO is Australia's national science agency, delivering solutions for a productive, sustainable and secure future.

CSIRO. Improving the life of every Australian.

Contact us
1300 363 400
csiro.au/contact
csiro.au

For further information
CSIRO Sustainability
sustainability@csiro.au
csiro.au/about/strategy/Sustainability

B&D | 26-00216