

SUSTAINABILITY REPORT







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INTRODUCTION

Edu Connect is an organisation driven by the mission to provide equitable, high-quality education to students and professionals, empowering them to achieve their full potential regardless of background. Recognising the transformative power of education, Edu Connect integrates sustainability principles into its mission and operations, aligning closely with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

As an advocate for sustainability, Edu Connect commits to reducing its environmental footprint and achieving Net Zero by 2050. This report outlines the alignment of the organisation's mission with SDGs, its approach to sustainable practices, and how it supports communities, clients, and employees through innovative training, technological advancements, and cross-sector collaboration.

A MESSAGE FROM OUR LEADER

As the Director of Edu Connect, I am proud to present this report outlining our steadfast commitment to aligning our mission and vision with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and our dedication to achieving Net Zero by 2050. At Edu Connect, we believe in the transformative power of education to break barriers, empower individuals, and drive meaningful change.



Ashley Liddle
Executive Director

This report demonstrates how our organisation integrates sustainability into every facet of its operations, from offering innovative learning solutions to fostering inclusive environments for both employees and clients. As global challenges become increasingly complex, the role of education as a driver of equitable progress has never been more critical. By embedding principles of sustainability and the circular economy into our practices, leveraging technology to reduce our environmental impact, and maintaining a safety-first culture, we are positioning Edu Connect as a leader in ethical and sustainable education. Furthermore, our emphasis on diversity, inclusion, and community engagement underscores our belief that education should be a tool for empowerment accessible to all.

Achieving Net Zero by 2050 is a significant milestone, but it is only one step in a larger journey of environmental stewardship and societal impact. As we move forward, Edu Connect remains committed to working collaboratively with our stakeholders, clients, and communities to build a brighter, more sustainable future for everyone.

Thank you for your continued support as we work to "shape tomorrow's leaders today."

OUR MISSION AND VISION ALIGNMENT WITH SDGS

Edu Connect believes in a world where individuals have equal access to quality education and opportunities to thrive. By providing innovative short courses (both in-person and e-learning), Edu Connect breaks down barriers, promotes social mobility, and nurtures the leaders of tomorrow.

The organisation operates in the context of a rapidly evolving education landscape, focusing on equipping students and professionals with the skills and knowledge to succeed while retaining talent within the UK.



Edu Connect strives to create an educational ecosystem that not only meets the needs of today but also anticipates the challenges of tomorrow.

PRIORITY SDGS

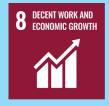
There are 17 SDGs and 169 targets in total. While they are all important and interrelated, we have prioritised the following specific SDGs. These are demonstrated through our alignment with our internal strategy and goals.



Tailored short courses and programs for students and executives to promote lifelong learning.

Consultancy services to foster inclusive corporate cultures and reduce gender disparities.





Leadership training to drive organisational success and create job opportunities.

Courses on leveraging digital technologies for sustainable industrialisation.





Leadership training to drive organisational success and create job opportunities.

Training programs to help businesses adopt sustainable consumption practices and reduce waste in their operations.





Providing guidance and tools for organisations to minimise their carbon footprint and transition to environmentally friendly practices.

Ethical leadership training to build accountable, inclusive organisations.



OUR CARBON REDUCTION COMMITMENT

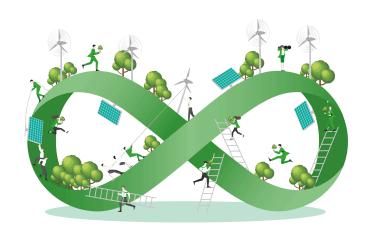
we recognise the importance of sustainable practices and are deeply committed to reducing our environmental impact. As part of our dedication to a greener future, we have established a clear and actionable plan to achieve Net Zero emissions by 2050. Our <u>Carbon Reduction Plan</u> outlines our baseline emissions, current progress, reduction targets, and the steps we're taking to create meaningful change.

The 2024 baseline emission footprint serves as a starting point for Edu Connect's journey toward Net Zero. Our organisation has committed to monitoring and reporting greenhouse gas emissions across all operations, including direct and indirect emissions, and identifying key areas for improvement.

BASELINE YEAR EMISSIONS

SCOPE 1	SCOPE 2	SCOPE 3	TOTAL
50 tCO2e	30 tCO2e	120 tCO2e	200 tCO2e

Understanding our baseline emissions is the first step in our journey to Net Zero



EMISSIONS REDUCTION TARGETS

.In order to continue our progress to achieving Net Zero, we have adopted the following carbon reduction target:

We project that carbon emissions will decrease over the next five years to 150 tCO2e by 2029. This is a reduction of 25%.

We will monitor progress annually and provide transparent reporting on emissions reductions

CARBON REDUCTION PROJECTS

INITIATIVE	ACTIVITY / PROJECT	
ONE	Transitioning to energy-efficient lighting and heating systems in all facilities by 2030.	
TWO	Procuring 100% renewable electricity by 2032.	
THREE	Encouraging hybrid and remote training programmes to reduce travel-related emissions by 30% by 2027.	
FOUR	Minimising paper usage by promoting digital materials and resources by 2026.	
FIVE	Working closely with suppliers to reduce Scope 3 emissions by 20% by 2028.	

SUSTAINABLE PRACTICES AND THE CIRCULAR ECONOMY

Edu Connect integrates the circular economy model into its operations by prioritising resource efficiency, waste reduction, and sustainable procurement. The organisation sources environmentally friendly materials for training materials and ensures minimal waste in course delivery. Our portfolio includes sustainability-focused consultancy and training programs, providing clients with tools to adopt green practices and reduce their environmental impact.

TECHNOLOGICAL ADVANCEMENTS FOR SUSTAINABILITY

We recognise the critical role of technology in advancing sustainability, reducing environmental impact, and improving access to quality education. By integrating digital tools and platforms into its operations, we not only reduces our carbon footprint but also align it with global goals for innovation and sustainable industrialisation.

We have adopted various digital tools to reduce the environmental impact of our operations. Transitioning to e-learning platforms significantly minimises the need for physical infrastructure and reduces the emissions associated with travel for inperson training. This approach supports SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure) by embracing innovation while maintaining resilient educational delivery methods.

By strategically integrating these technologies, we reinforce our role as a leader in sustainable education and a driver of green innovation within the industry. These efforts will help the organisation and our people meet our Net Zero goals while providing clients, employees, and learners with cutting-edge tools to thrive in an environmentally conscious world.

SAFETY-FOCUSED CULTURE AND PRACTICES

We are committed to embedding the principles of the circular economy into our operations, ensuring that the organisation's practices prioritise sustainability, resource efficiency, and waste reduction. The circular economy aims to move away from the traditional linear economy, take, make, dispose, and instead emphasizes keeping resources in use for as long as possible, extracting maximum value, and recovering and regenerating products and materials at the end of their lifecycle. This approach aligns closely with SDG 12 and 13. We have begun to integrate these principles into the design and delivery of its educational programs to reduce resource consumption and environmental impact.



01 — Digital-First Course Materials

By adopting digital learning materials, we eliminate the need for printed textbooks and handouts. This reduces paper waste, conserves water, and minimises the energy used in the production and transportation of printed materials.



02 — Reusability of Course Content

Courses are designed to be modular, allowing for the reuse and adaptation of materials across multiple programs. This not only reduces the time and resources needed to create new content but also ensures that materials are used efficiently.



03 — Eco-Friendly Physical Materials

For any necessary physical course materials, we use biodegradable or recyclable packaging to minimize waste and environmental impact.

DIVERSITY, INCLUSION, AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

To drive a culture of sustainability, we prioritise awareness and training for employees, stakeholders, and clients. Regular workshops and internal campaigns educate employees on sustainable practices and encourage the adoption of eco-conscious behaviours at work and home. Stakeholder engagement initiatives, including newsletters and sustainability-focused events, foster collaboration and shared responsibility for achieving environmental goals. Progress is measured through sustainability metrics and detailed annual reports, ensuring transparency and continuous improvement. By embedding circular economy principles into every aspect of our operations, we not only reduces our environmental footprint but also positions ourself as a leader in sustainable education, equipping learners and clients with the tools needed to contribute to a greener, more equitable future.



We promote diversity and inclusion by providing equal employment opportunities and implementing inclusive policies. Regular training sessions raise awareness of unconscious biases, ensuring a respectful workplace. By encouraging employee feedback and open dialogue, we build a collaborative community that drives success through diverse ideas and experiences.

NGOs to promote societal change through community engagement initiatives. Our mentorship programs and Community Skills Masterclasses focus on practical skills that foster personal growth and improve employability. These masterclasses cater to the unique needs of diverse communities, providing interactive and



OUR CONTRIBUTION TO CUSTOMERS' SUSTAINABILITY JOURNEYS

Recognising that businesses play a pivotal role in achieving a greener future, we offer comprehensive consultancy services and training programs designed to facilitate clients' transitions toward environmentally conscious operations. By embedding sustainability into their organisational strategies, our consultants equip businesses with the tools, knowledge, and frameworks needed to drive meaningful change, whether through adopting renewable energy, optimising supply chains, or implementing green technologies. These initiatives not only address immediate environmental challenges but also prepare businesses to thrive in a future shaped by sustainable practices and ethical leadership.

Promoting Sustainable Business Practices in Client Organisations

We have expanded our offering to help businesses in adopting sustainable practices by offering extensive consultancy services. This encompasses the integration of renewable energy sources and the improvement of supply chains to boost sustainability.

Supporting Customers in Transitioning to Environmentally Friendly Operations

We deliver training on key topics including green technology, ethical leadership, and sustainable consumption. This equips our clients to engage in and contribute positively to the global green economy.

CONCLUSION

Edu Connect aligns its mission and activities with the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), showcasing a strong commitment to sustainability, inclusivity, and social impact. By incorporating innovative technologies, emphasizing safety, and nurturing a culture of diversity, Edu Connect progresses towards a Net Zero future while supporting global objectives.

ALIGNMENT WITH UN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



- Through cross-cultural competency training, consultancy services, and executive courses, we support businesses and individuals in adopting sustainable and inclusive strategies that drive long-term impact.
- We have mapped our mission and vision to key SDGs to create equitable learning
 opportunities and promote inclusive practices.

COMMITMENT TO ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY AND NET ZERO GOALS



- Implementation of a Carbon Reduction Plan using 2024 as our baseline emission footprint sets targets to achieve Net Zero by 2050 through energy efficiency, resource optimisation, and adopting green technologies.
- Circular economy principles are embedded across our operations, with initiatives such as digital-first learning, waste reduction in office practices, and partnerships with sustainable suppliers to reduce our environmental impact.

EMPOWERING CLIENTS AND COMMUNITIES FOR A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE



- We support customers' sustainability journeys by offering tailored consultancy services, executive training, and actionable frameworks that promote responsible consumption, resilient infrastructure, and ethical leadership.
- We prioritise diversity, inclusion, and community engagement by providing equal opportunities for employees and learners, creating a positive societal impact while fostering innovation and collaboration.

Together, we can drive positive change, reduce our collective carbon footprint, and build resilient,

sustainable businesses and communities.