

our environment *it's a living thing*



SUSTAINABILITY ADVANTAGE

Vision, commitment and planning

VISION, COMMITMENT AND PLANNING



Strengthening your commitment to sustainability, especially for the long term, requires vision and planning. It requires leadership and acceptance that establishing a firm foundation among your senior management is vital to successfully adopting sustainability as a core business value.

The **Vision, commitment and planning** module in the Department of Environment and Climate Change (DECC) NSW **Sustainability Advantage** Program introduces the main concepts of environmental sustainability. You define what sustainability means for your organisation and you develop a coherent sustainability strategy.

We help you develop sustainability goals and establish a strategic plan that improves your environmental performance.

The module is strategic, leading to environmental sustainability being integrated into your corporate values, business plans and business operations. It results in ongoing environmental improvements and highly visible market recognition.

Outcomes

The **Vision, commitment and planning** module is designed for senior managers who are critical in developing and delivering business strategy. It asks them to commit to sustainability.

You will:

- create the business case for environmental sustainability in your organisation
- develop a sustainability vision and long-term goals
- prepare a plan to progress sustainability
- integrate sustainability into your business decision-making systems
- foster continual improvement.

What is involved?

Participants in this module include:

- your Sustainability Advantage champion
- senior managers
- a facilitator from DECC
- business and environmental specialists sourced by DECC
- other businesses you meet at our cluster network meetings.

VISION, COMMITMENT AND PLANNING MODULE

Workshop
– vision

Build support

Workshop
– planning

Sustainability
strategic planning

Implement
actions

Final review

Training and technical support

See the back page for a roadmap of activity for this module.

Workshop 1 – vision

This half day session starts with an assessment of your organisation's value chain. It involves high-level thinking about sustainability issues most relevant to your organisation, and your potential responses. Our sustainability contractor focuses on long-term sustainability goals and encourages you to consider the barriers and risks (real and cultural) that your organisation may face in adopting these goals. By the end of the workshop, you will have developed a draft sustainability vision and some strategic goals.

Build support and workshop 2 – planning

You have 3-6 weeks to refine your sustainability vision and long-term goals and to start to build support for them inside (and outside) your organisation.

You prepare for the second workshop by considering what specific actions are needed to reach your environmental goals.

In the second workshop you develop a sustainability strategic plan which ensures your organisation has:

- management support for your sustainability goals
- clear key performance indicators, timeframes, roles and responsibilities and budgets for each action
- tools to integrate goals into current business plans.

Sustainability strategic plan, implementation and optional training workshop(s)

You refine and implement your sustainability strategic plan during the next 18 months (and after). You develop your organisation's sustainability culture and achieve goals you identified in the workshops. This may include:

- gaining ongoing commitment for sustainability in your business and allocating responsibility and resources
- developing an environmental policy and management plan and putting them into action
- integrating and continuing to review sustainability actions as part of your business planning cycle.

You may be able to access additional one-on-one specialist support provided you are implementing your sustainability strategic plan.

Also, you can register for optional workshops to provide additional skills in:

- developing or reviewing an environmental policy
- developing key performance indicators
- preparing or reviewing an environmental management plan
- integrating sustainability plans into existing business plans.

Support

The results you achieve depend on what you put in. For you to get the most for your efforts we also offer:

- practical workshops
- guides, checklists and templates
- feedback and review of existing documents and processes
- information sharing and networking opportunities through cluster meetings with other participants
- professional support from DECC contractors, including specialist advice at key strategic points.

Recognition



You can promote your achievements through our Sustainability Advantage Partner recognition scheme. There are five levels of recognition.

Register or find out more

Vision, commitment and planning is one of seven **Sustainability Advantage** modules that guide and focus your environmental improvements. All modules help you plan and deliver lasting benefits and continuous improvement as you adopt sustainability as a core business value. The **Resource efficiency** module has the Sustainability Advantage **Energy Saver** component, which offers an energy audit and free technical support to help you save power.



Visit www.savepower.nsw.gov.au

Contact DECC's Business Partnerships by:

Email sustainbus@environment.nsw.gov.au

Phone 02 8837 6000

	Workshop – vision	Build support	Workshop – planning	Sustainability strategic planning	Implement actions	Final review
Outcomes	<p>Senior managers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> understand what sustainability means understand the environmental impacts of your organisation's value chain draft a vision and long term goals for sustainability choose a Sustainability Advantage champion 	<p>Other senior managers are consulted and support the goals identified</p> <p>Key priorities are identified</p>	<p>Senior managers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> draft strategic actions, key performance indicators, roles, budgets and reporting explore how to integrate sustainability plans into your current business plans 	<p>DECC sustainability contractor and Sustainability Advantage champion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> refine the draft sustainability strategic plan identify priorities and actions that link to other Sustainability Advantage modules 	<p>Senior managers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> develop strategic plans for long-term goals manage implementation of environmental actions into business plans integrate plans and actions into business plans <p>You can choose to take part in 3 hour workshops that provide additional skills in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> developing or reviewing environmental/ sustainability policy preparing or reviewing an environmental management plan integrating sustainability plans into business plans developing key performance indicators 	<p>Together we review your projects and successes. You set new plans based on your results</p>
Who takes part?	<p>Senior managers DECC sustainability contractor leads</p>	<p>Senior managers Sustainability Advantage champion</p>	<p>Senior managers DECC sustainability contractor</p>	<p>Sustainability Advantage champion DECC sustainability contractor</p>	<p>Senior managers</p>	<p>Sustainability Advantage champion DECC sustainability contractor</p>
What is needed?	<p>Existing policies, organisational plan, business plan, corporate strategic plan etc</p>	<p>Draft vision and long-term goals for sustainability</p>	<p>Senior managers need to understand the draft sustainability goals Business priorities for the sustainability goals</p>	<p>Draft sustainability strategic plan Engage business units to take part</p>	<p>Actions for business units Sustainability integrated to the business planning processes Progress reports</p>	<p>Results from your projects Baseline and current data demonstrating environmental outcomes</p>
Where and when?	<p>Your workplace, at the start of the module</p>	<p>Your office, 1 week after the workshop</p>	<p>Your workplace</p>	<p>Your workplace</p>	<p>Your workplace, starting after the sustainability strategic plan has been confirmed</p>	<p>Your workplace, at 18 months</p>
How long does this take?	<p>Half day</p>	<p>2-4 weeks</p>	<p>Half day</p>	<p>4-6 weeks</p>	<p>At least 18 months</p>	<p>2 hours</p>

DECC prepares a report that summarises the process and the results of the workshop

We provide practical, tailored support (workshops, training, technical assistance) to help you plan and implement your environmental projects and overcome issues. For additional support requests, you prepare a summary of your achievements to date and a short overview and supporting data explaining why you need assistance. As you undertake this module you will:

- attend 'cluster' network meetings three or four times a year, meeting with people in other businesses in your local area or industry sector
- report your progress every six months (including quantitative data, verbal reports at cluster network meetings and contributing to project reports)
- collect data and other information for evaluating projects.