

our environment *it's a living thing*



# SUSTAINABILITY ADVANTAGE

**Climate change**

Department of **Environment & Climate Change** NSW



# CLIMATE CHANGE



Carbon trading, carbon neutral, price of carbon, carbon sequestration, carbon footprint, offsets...  
Make sense of the jargon.

The **Climate change** module in the Department of Environment and Climate Change (DECC) NSW **Sustainability Advantage** Program helps you:

- measure your carbon footprint
- identify ways to reduce your greenhouse gas emissions
- analyse risks and opportunities from climate change
- understand the impact of new legislation on your business.

You will identify how to reduce your risk from climate change, considering costs and regulation.

You can complete this module at the same time as the **Vision, commitment and planning** module and **Resource efficiency** module. By doing so, you will establish meaningful goals aligned to clear, achievable targets and key performance indicators.

## Outcomes

The **Climate change** module is for managers who want to deliver a proactive response to climate change for their organisations. You will:

- gain a better understanding of climate change as a business risk and opportunity
- develop a greenhouse gas inventory (a quantified list of the organisation's emissions and sources)
- identify measures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions
- develop a climate change risk strategy
- develop a climate change opportunity plan.

## What is involved?

The module is tailored to deliver general information on global warming issues. You gain a comprehensive understanding of your organisation's greenhouse inventory and a business case for action. You can also address special areas of interest such as auditing, verification and carbon neutrality.

Participants in this module include:

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

## CLIMATE CHANGE MODULE

Introduction  
– awareness,  
business case  
and guide to  
greenhouse gas  
inventory

Greenhouse  
gas inventory

Workshop  
– priority areas

Climate change  
strategy

Implement  
actions

Final review

Training and technical support

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

## Introductory session – awareness, business case and greenhouse gas inventory

The module starts with a facilitated session for managers and relevant staff. We explore climate change and what it means to businesses today. We also provide information, guidance and templates for you to develop a greenhouse gas inventory.

After the session, you have about six weeks to develop a draft greenhouse gas inventory. We offer feedback and support while you develop the inventory.

## Workshop your priority area

Together we identify your organisation's highest priority so you can take part in the workshop(s) most relevant to you, including:

- Minimising your greenhouse gas footprint
- Climate change risk management
- Realising business opportunities from climate change.

Your priorities depend on your organisation's circumstances and what you have already achieved, as in the table.

CHOOSE YOUR PRIORITY <small>(check box if yes to the questions)</small>	
<b>Minimising your greenhouse gas footprint</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Does your resource efficiency action plan need more work?</b>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Resource efficiency action plan has not considered renewable energy, fuel switching and energy efficiency.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Do you have no or a limited greenhouse gas inventory?</b>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Does it mainly focus on Scope 1 and 2 <sup>(1)</sup> (emissions from fuels used on-site and electricity)?
<b>Climate change risk management</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Do you use significant amounts of energy and/or emit significant greenhouse gases?</b>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Must your business comply with specific energy and greenhouse gas regulations?
<input type="checkbox"/>	Will rises in energy price impact your business?
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Is your business in:</b>
	Banking, telecommunication services, real estate, utilities, agriculture, food and staples retailing, healthcare equipment and services, capital goods (incl. construction and engineering), insurance energy sector, metals and mining?
<b>Realising business opportunities</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Do you have a well developed resource efficiency action plan?</b>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Does it consider renewable energy, fuel switching, energy efficiency and carbon offsets?
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Do you have a well developed greenhouse gas inventory?</b>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Does it include major Scope 3 <sup>(1)</sup> emissions (emissions from sources such as waste management and emissions generated by suppliers and contractors)?

## Climate change strategy, implementation and optional workshops

After the workshops you will develop a climate change strategy for your priority areas.

During the next 18 months, as you finalise and implement your strategy, you may be able to access additional one-on-one specialist advice.

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

- complicated boundary issues
- auditing and verification
- carbon neutrality.

## 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

**Climate change** 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](http://www.savepower.nsw.gov.au)

Contact DECC's Business Partnerships by:

**Email** [sustainbus@environment.nsw.gov.au](mailto:sustainbus@environment.nsw.gov.au)

**Phone** 02 8837 6000



<sup>(1)</sup> For a description of "Scopes 1, 2 and 3" refer to The Greenhouse Gas Protocol [www.ghgprotocol.org](http://www.ghgprotocol.org)

	Introduction – awareness, business case and guide to greenhouse gas inventory	Greenhouse gas inventory	Workshop – priority areas	Climate change strategy	Implement actions*	Final review
Outcomes	<p>Senior managers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>understand what climate change means to the businesses</li> <li>have a business case to proactively respond to climate change</li> <li>choose a Sustainability Advantage champion</li> </ul>	<p>Senior managers and Sustainability Advantage champion develop draft greenhouse gas emissions inventory (emission sources)</p> <p>DECC's climate change contractor reviews the draft greenhouse gas emissions inventory. Senior managers and Sustainability Advantage champion revise the draft emissions inventory if required</p>	<p>Staff take part in a workshop most relevant to your business priority:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minimising your greenhouse gas footprint</li> <li>Climate change risk management</li> <li>Business opportunities from climate change</li> </ul>	<p>DECC climate change contractor supports the Sustainability Advantage champion to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>develop a draft climate change strategy for your priority area</li> <li>draft actions, goals, roles, budgets and reporting</li> <li>submit the final plan to DECC</li> </ul>	<p>Senior managers and Sustainability Advantage champion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>develop strategic plans for long-term goals</li> <li>manage implementation of actions</li> <li>integrate plans and actions into the business planning cycle</li> </ul> <p>* Optional additional areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– complicated boundary issues</li> <li>– auditing and verification</li> <li>– carbon neutrality</li> </ul>	<p>Together we review your projects and successes. You set new plans based on your results</p>
Who takes part?	Senior managers DECC climate change contractor leads	Senior managers Staff Sustainability Advantage champion	Staff identified by senior managers and the Sustainability Advantage champion DECC climate change contractor	Senior managers Sustainability Advantage champion DECC climate change contractor	Senior managers Unit managers Sustainability Advantage champion	Sustainability Advantage champion DECC climate change contractor
What is needed?	Information about your current energy and raw materials use (if available)	DECC's templates and guide to develop inventory	Draft greenhouse gas emissions inventory Business plan Sustainability strategic plan (SA Vision, commitment and planning) Resource efficiency action plan (SA Resource efficiency)	Final actions for your chosen area	Actions for business units Climate change actions integrated to the business planning processes Progress reports	Results from your projects Baseline and current data demonstrating environmental outcomes
Where and when?	Your workplace, or other venue	Your workplace	Your workplace	Your workplace	Your workplace, starting after the climate change strategy has been confirmed	Your workplace, at 18 months
How long does this take?	Half day	2-3 weeks	2-3 weeks Half day	4-6 weeks	At least 18 months	2 hours

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.