GRIFFITH UNIVERSITY



Queensland Australia

ANNUAL SUSTAINABILITY REPORT 2025

Make it matter

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Griffith University acknowledges the people who are the Traditional Custodians of the lands on which we learn and work and pays respect to the Elders, past and present, and extends that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. Griffith University campuses sit on the lands of the Yugarabul, Yuggera, Jagera, Turrbal, Yugambeh and Kombumerri peoples. We acknowledge Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders' unique relationship with and understanding and ongoing stewardship of these lands. Through collaboration with staff, students and community members we are committed to embedding Indigenous cultures and diverse knowledge systems in our learning and teaching, research, operations, and partnerships. Griffith acknowledges Elders past and present who guide the way to a more sustainable future for all. Under the guidance of the Griffith University Elders and First Peoples Knowledge Holders Advisory Board we seek to ensure sustainability actions are aligned with First Peoples' knowledge and cultural practices.

Artwork: Sid Domic *Together*



VICE CHANCELLOR'S MESSAGE

As Griffith University marked its 50th anniversary in 2025, I would like to acknowledge the extraordinary efforts of our staff, students and partners in advancing a more sustainable future. The 2025 Sustainability Report reflects the depth of our commitment to embedding environmental, social and governance principles across every aspect of university life - from teaching and research to operations and community engagement.

This year's report demonstrates how sustainability continues to be central to our purpose. Guided by our Sustainability Strategy 2023–2030 and aligned with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, we are strengthening our impact across academic innovation, operational performance, partnerships and governance.

In 2025, Griffith achieved significant global recognition for its leadership in sustainability, including being ranked equal fourth in the Times Higher Education Impact Rankings. These results reflect the collective contribution of our community and our sustained focus on delivering meaningful impact at scale.

We have continued to make strong progress in reducing our environmental footprint. Our emissions remain substantially below our baseline as we advance towards our target of net zero by 2029. Across our campuses, initiatives in renewable energy, waste reduction, biodiversity protection and water stewardship are delivering measurable outcomes. These efforts are complemented by our work to embed sustainability into decision-making, supported by improved data systems and governance frameworks.

Our impact extends well beyond our campuses. In 2025, Griffith strengthened partnerships with government, industry and community organisations to deliver real-world solutions - from improving environmental outcomes to advancing health, wellbeing and social inclusion. Our commitment to community is also reflected in the continued growth of our community engagement activities and contribution to the Griffith Community Hours pledge.

At the same time, we remain focused on equity and inclusion. Through targeted pathways, scholarships and support programs, we are working to ensure that access to education and opportunity is expanded for those who have been historically under-represented. We continue to embed First Peoples knowledge and perspectives across our teaching, research and operations, recognising their leadership in caring for Country and shaping sustainable futures.

Looking ahead, the pace and scale of global challenges requires continued focus and collaboration. With less than five years remaining to achieve the 2030 Agenda, universities have a critical role in accelerating change. At Griffith, we will continue to build a strong culture of sustainability, deepen engagement across our community, and focus our efforts where we can have the greatest impact.

I thank all members of the Griffith community for their ongoing contributions. Together, we are making meaningful progress - and I invite you to join us as we continue to lead with purpose, innovate with impact, and create a brighter future for all.



Professor Carolyn Evans
Vice Chancellor and President

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Griffith University's 2025 Sustainability Report outlines the institution's progress in advancing environmental, social and governance (ESG) goals aligned with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The report reflects the University's commitment to embedding sustainability across its academic, operational and community engagement activities, guided by the Sustainability Strategy 2023–2030 and the Sustainability Operating Framework.

Sustainability Milestones

Our 2025 milestones and this year's Impact Stories are underpinned by interdisciplinary, cross-sector partnerships aligned with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, which emphasise collaboration to achieve real change to help create a brighter future for all.

ACADEMIC MILESTONES	
Ranked equal **4th globally in the Times Higher Education Impact Rankings** and 76th in the QS World University Rankings: Sustainability. Placed 1st in Australia for SDG 6 Clean Water and Sanitation, SDG 7 Affordable and Clean Energy, SDG 8 Decent Work and Economic Growth, SDG 14 Life Below Water, and SDG 16 Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions.	Led initiatives such as **world-first clinical trials** in spinal cord injury and Strep A vaccine development, leadership of an ARC Centre of Excellence for Transforming Human Origins Research, and **nationally and internationally recognised research** advancing global health through institutes, such as the Institute for Biomedicine and Glycomics.
Hosted **six Green Bites lunchtime webinars** to engage Griffith's community in meaningful interdisciplinary action on the SDGs. Over 150 attendees joined our own experts and invited guest speakers to reflect on sustainability across biodiversity, cities, energy, public health and integrating First Peoples knowledge into our practices.	Delivered **high-impact research across all 17 SDGs**, with particular strengths in Clean Water and Sanitation, Affordable and Clean Energy, Life Below Water, and Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions, and launched Griffith's Institute for Human and Environmental Resilience (GIHER), who have strong research partnerships, including with Ergon Energy and World Wildlife Fund.
Launched the **Sustainability Community of Practice**, with 100+ active academic and professional staff members.	Supported over **1,700 scholarships**, including targeted support for women, First Nations students, and those from disadvantaged backgrounds.
Hosted **Enviro Week** at Brisbane South, Logan and Brisbane City, featuring an array of workshops, free activities, market stalls, the Repair Café and live demonstrations.	Hosted the **LEAF Festival at Logan** with over 5,000 visitors, featuring markets, workshops, plants for sale, fun activities for kids and the Repair Café.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

OPERATIONAL MILESTONES

	Total carbon emissions were 45,489.9 tCO_2-e in 2024/25, which is **46.7% lower than the 2010/11** baseline (around 39,900 tonnes avoided annually), although up 1.7% from the previous year. Key contributors include onsite and offsite solar providing 37% of our electricity and a 42% reduction in aviation emissions from staff travel on 2024.
	**Diverted 59% of waste away from landfill**, reducing per capita landfill waste by 33% from 2024 and lowering waste-related emissions by 35% (approximately 456 tCO_2-e).
	**Eliminated ≈202,000 plastic items on the Gold Coast campus** since November 2024, with 78% of outlets using compostable coffee cups and around half using compostable lids.
	**Reduced total water consumption by 2.4%** and implemented campus-wide waterway monitoring and erosion management, including real-time water quality monitoring.
	Implemented biodiversity initiatives including tree planting, habitat management, engagement activities and improved data collection.
	Expanded **Liftango carpooling**, with accepted trips increasing by around 30% (from 689 in 2024 to 880 in 2025) and approximately 9.9 tonnes of CO_2 avoided since 2023.

ENGAGEMENT MILESTONES

	Strengthened partnerships with organisations such as City of Gold Coast, Paddle Australia, The Australian Olympic Committee, Health and Wellbeing Queensland, and Swimming Australia to support biodiversity and community health.
	Recognised with a **fifth Cygnet Award** for addressing systemic barriers for staff with disabilities through a social model of disability.

GOVERNANCE AND REPORTING MILESTONES

	Created interactive data platforms to enhance transparency, now publicly accessible alongside the Annual Sustainability Report on the **Metrics and Reports webpage**.
	An Executive-approved **Climate Action Plan** was published in 2025.
	Continued development of an ISO 14001-aligned Environmental Management System.

ABOUT GRIFFITH

Since 1975, Griffith University has addressed major social and environmental challenges through teaching and research, with social impact and environmental responsibility central to its mission. Griffith University's 2025–2030 Strategic Plan sets a bold vision, guided by four pillars and five values-informed challenges that span all 17 Sustainable Development Goals:

- **Indigenous flourishing**—creating the conditions for Indigenous Australians to thrive academically, socially and culturally.
- **A more sustainable world**—working towards a thriving environment and a just transition to a more sustainable future.
- **Better health and wellbeing**—improving the health and wellbeing of all peoples, including those who are marginalised in the current health system.
- **Inclusive, diverse and cohesive societies**—striving towards societies where all are included. This includes a commitment to continue creating pathways to Griffith for the many rather than the few.
- **Technology that improves lives**—contributing to the development, adoption and extension of new technologies in an ethical manner.

Griffith University operates across four locations in South East Queensland as well as online, serving around 39,000 students and over 300,000 alumni, and is recognised globally for teaching, research and sustainability impact.

4 locations
across South East Queensland

39,000+
students

300,000+
alumni

In 2017, Griffith joined the Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) — **Universities' Commitment**, agreeing to:

- support and promote the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
- conduct research addressing sustainable development challenges
- educate students on sustainable development
- ensure campuses and programs are environmentally sustainable and socially inclusive
- report on activities supporting the SDGs.

In 2023, Griffith joined the **Association of Commonwealth Universities**, collaborating with over 500 universities in 50 countries to advance higher education and achieve the UN SDGs. In 2024, we renewed our commitment to the **UN Global Compact** and in 2025 we deepened our involvement and continued our engagement with **Australasian Campuses Towards Sustainability** (ACTS).

GOVERNANCE

The University's governing body is the Griffith University Council and its committees. **Council** is responsible for providing leadership, governance and oversight of the University. It approves the strategic direction, monitors progress and approves the budget, policies and delegations of authority.

The Council has established **governance and management committees**, including:

- **Audit and Risk Committee**: Oversees risk management, including climate adaptation and transition risks, which are monitored quarterly.
- **Finance and Infrastructure Committee**: Oversees budget, capital programs, and sustainability targets.

Griffith is led by Vice Chancellor and President Professor Carolyn Evans, and the University Executive Group. They are supported by the **Environmental Sustainability Committee**, co-chaired by the Dean (Sustainability and Rankings) and the Chief Operating Officer. This committee coordinates the implementation of the Sustainability Operating Framework to:



Improve environmental sustainability outcomes focuses on the SDGs



Provide a forum for discussion and feedback on sustainability matters



Oversee sustainability reporting across the University

SUSTAINABILITY
OPERATING FRAMEWORK

In 2023, the University Executive Group endorsed the Sustainability Operating Framework, which supports the University to:

- develop an action plan to reach net zero by 2029
- create an integrated plan to protect campus ecosystems
- rank in the top 100 globally for Sustainable Development Goals.

The Sustainability Operating Framework guides the University in achieving its sustainability commitments. It integrates with risk management and governance to support the University's vision and strategic plan by:

- improving alignment between daily operations and the Strategic Plan's core commitments
- ensuring the University remains agile to evolving sustainability challenges and opportunities.

To provide oversight and accountability under this operating model, the Dean (Sustainability and Rankings), with support from Griffith Sustainability, coordinates implementation of the Framework.



SUSTAINABILITY
STRATEGY 2023-2030

FOCUS AREA	PRIORITY	ENABLING FRAMEWORK	KEY ACTIONS
ACADEMIC	Learning & Teaching	Education & Student Experience Plan SDG Roadmap	Co-design work-integrated learning (WIL) curriculum framework
			Co-create and deliver SDG initiatives with students, alumni and staff
			Promote Open Education Resources (OER) and encourage the development of Open Access Textbooks
	Research		Invest in areas of research and partnerships
			Support research impact and engagement through the SDG Framework, aligning with SDSs (SDG Experts, SDG Files)
OPERATIONS	Climate Action	Climate Action Plan	Net Zero by 2029
			Climate Knowledge Exchange and Empowerment
			Climate Resilient University
	Ecological Stewardship	Ecological Stewardship Plan	Learn more about campus biodiversity including ecosystems and their diverse values
			Act to protect, restore and enhance campus biodiversity and ecosystems
			Engage to promote education and build community awareness, understanding and engagement in conservation
	Integrated Water Management	Integrated Water Management Plan	Water Sensitive Urban Design and Stormwater Management
			Potable Water and Consumption Reduction
			Natural Waterway Monitoring and Management
			Pollution Prevention
	Waste Reduction & Circular Economy	Waste Reduction & Circular Economy Plan	Embed best-practice waste reduction and resource recovery across operations
			Enable campus communities to reduce waste and avoid single-use items
			Strengthen waste data, monitoring and reporting to drive improvement
	Responsible Procurement, Supply and Investment	Procurement and Supply Policy Circular Economy & Waste Reduction Plan	Reduce consumption and prioritise use of sustainable products

SUSTAINABILITY
STRATEGY 2023-2030

FOCUS AREA	PRIORITY	ENABLING FRAMEWORK	KEY ACTIONS
ENGAGEMENT	Partnerships	Griffith University Engagement Strategy SDG Roadmap	Partnerships for climate resilience, biodiversity conservation and improved waterway health
	Healthy & Inclusive Campus	Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Policy SDG Roadmap	Impact reports on pathway to Athena SWAN Silver Award
	Sustainable Commuting for Staff & Students	Sustainable Transport Strategy SDG Roadmap	Expansion of the Getting To and From Campus Program
GOVERNANCE & REPORTING	Governance	Environmental Sustainability Committee Environmental Management System Sustainability Operating Framework	Introduction of ISO-14001 aligned environment management system
	Reporting	Environmental Sustainability Policy SDG Roadmap	Annual Sustainability Report
			Investigate developing consolidated data repositories to facilitate data-driven decision-making
			National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting (NGER)
			AASB sustainability reporting and climate-related financial disclosure*

*Possible future activity, pending Queensland Treasury guideline

ABOUT
THIS REPORT

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to:

1. provide an overview of Sustainability Operating Framework implementation
2. document progress against the Griffith University Sustainability Strategy 2023–2030
3. showcase impact stories emerging from Griffith University staff and student initiatives.

Report Scope and Boundary

Unless otherwise stated, this report covers the period 1 January 2025 to 31 December 2025.

Global Sustainability Frameworks and Commitments

United Nations Global Compact

The United Nations Global Compact (UNGC) is a voluntary initiative encouraging organisations to adopt sustainable and socially responsible policies. It aligns business strategies with ten principles derived from international declarations on human rights, labour, environment and anti-corruption. Griffith joined the UNGC in 2010.

United Nations Sustainable Development Goals

The United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are a global call to action to end poverty, protect the planet and ensure peace and prosperity by 2030. Adopted by all UN Member States in 2015, the 17 SDGs have specific targets for social, economic and environmental development. These goals have shaped our Sustainability Strategy 2023–2030 and our Impact Stories (described below) highlight University initiatives that advance the SDGs.

Mandatory Climate-Related Financial Disclosures

Australia has introduced mandatory climate-related financial disclosures for large and systemic entities, with phased implementation commencing from 1 January 2025 under the Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB) sustainability standards, including AASB S2 Climate-related Disclosures, which are aligned with the International Sustainability Standards Board (ISSB) framework and overseen by ASIC. While these requirements do not currently apply to Queensland state-owned entities or government agencies, it is anticipated that public sector reporting expectations will evolve over time, with a strong focus on climate risk governance, scenario analysis and transparency around emissions, transition plans and climate-related financial risks. In anticipation of potential future alignment with AASB requirements, Griffith University has commenced preparatory activities including holding a workshop with senior leaders from Campus Life, Griffith Sustainability, Legal and Finance, and by undertaking a gap analysis in 2026 to assess readiness and inform future planning.

PROGRESS AGAINST
THE SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGY 2023-2030

The Sustainability Strategy 2023–2030 focuses on embedding sustainability in academics, operations, engagement, and governance. The Sustainability Strategy 2023–2030 builds on existing plans and outlines initiatives for a better future. Key actions include achieving net zero by 2029, protecting campus biodiversity, and ranking in the top 100 globally for sustainability.

Our Sustainability Strategy 2023–2030 provides a framework for advancing the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through our teaching, research, operations, engagement and governance. The strategy and our reporting are deliberately structured to map against all 17 SDGs, so we can measure our progress towards each one.

The Environmental Sustainability Policy, established in July 2023, aims to mitigate the University's environmental impact by adopting responsible practices, complying with legislation and developing action plans for net zero emissions, waste reduction, biodiversity protection, and pollution prevention.

The Biodiversity Conservation Plan 2022–2025 ensures biodiversity protection as the University grows. The Integrated Water Management Plan 2025–2030 ensures our campuses meet best practice Integrated Water Management and are designed and operated using Water Sensitive Urban Design principles. The Climate Action Plan 2025–2030 provides the University with measurable actions to tackle short-, medium- and long-term climate challenges, ultimately reducing its climate impact. In 2026, a Waste Management Plan will be drafted, and the SDG Roadmap will be finalised to provide guidance towards Academic, Engagement and Partnership actions.

The following tables outline our progress against the strategy.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



Our progress in learning and teaching measures our contribution to SDG 4: Quality Education through the integration of sustainability into education, work-integrated learning and career readiness.

Key Actions	Measures of Success	Progress
Co-design work-integrated learning curriculum framework, with internal and external stakeholders, including the development of a set of signature WIL experiences, which: **a.** allow purpose-driven engagement with the SDGs and mission and values of the University **b.** deliver a practicable educational experience for students **c.** create interdisciplinary opportunities for students to collaborate, partner with industry, including those working in sustainability, and engage in global international mobility programs to tackle global problems **d.** provide a suite of resources for staff to support student learning and engagement.	From 2024, evaluation tools embedded in the work-integrated learning curriculum framework—which includes new student career registration information for planning and stakeholder feedback of selected WIL courses—will provide actionable institutional knowledge to improve student career readiness, leadership skills and commitment to the mission and values of the University, including knowledge of the SDGs.	In 2025, Griffith began implementing the new **Purpose-driven, Career-ready Vision and Blueprint** addressing career readiness barriers and opportunities identified in the 2023 Career Readiness Discovery Project. This initiative aims to prepare students for professional success and community contributions in accordance with SDG 4 Quality Education. Additionally, Griffith strengthened strategic decision-making through career readiness insights, delivering the first report to inform enterprise-wide priorities, with recommendations endorsed by Learning and Teaching committee (SDG 4). The results also improve insight across diverse cohorts, helping design holistic programs and target initiatives for equity-deserving cohorts in accordance with SDG 10 Reduced Inequality.
Co-create and deliver SDG initiatives[1] with students, alumni and staff[2] to: **a.** promote social, economic and environmental sustainability literacy, learning and knowledge sharing **b.** foster interdisciplinary conversations and collaborations that meaningfully contribute to the creation of a better world **c.** identify opportunities to further integrate sustainability and the SDGs in curriculum and co-curricular activities.	Participant feedback, seminar analytics and impact stories post-seminar series will reflect high participant engagement and positive participant experience, and will include examples of environmental and social sustainability impact in initiatives undertaken by participants post seminar series.	In 2025, Griffith delivered six Green Bites webinars to 155 attendees, hosted three Sustainability Community of Practice events growing membership to over 100, convened the inaugural SDG Research Summit with more than 50 participants, and explored STARS reporting to support curriculum integration. **100+** **Sustainable Community of Practice members**
Promote Open Education Resources (OER) and encourage the development of Open Access Textbooks written by Griffith academics, providing students with resources.[3]	From 2024, there will be a 10% annual increase in OER use and downloads as measured through data analytics.	Griffith has published four OERs on **Griffith Pressbooks**, which were viewed 122,928 times by 61,762 visitors in 2025. Titles include **Leading in Health and Social Care** (12,660 visitors, 21,899 pageviews in 2025), **Introduction to Criminology and Criminal Justice** (47,127 visitors, 95,848 pageviews), **Beyond Coding** (940 visitors, 2,696 pageviews), and **InfoTech Governance, Policy, Ethics & Law** (1,035 visitors, 2,485 pageviews). Open access supports the SDGs by enabling free knowledge sharing and expanding access to education and research.

[1] Initiatives to include an SDG seminar series, activities undertaken in partnership with external organisations, Green Bites seminar series, and a Community of Shared Intent for Sustainability Education. [2] Including staff from Sustainability, Learning Futures, Careers, and University-wide working groups. [3] that "reside in the public domain or are under copyright that have been released under an open license that permits no-cost access, re-use, repurpose, adaptation, and redistribution by others" (UNESCO, 2019)

Our research progress measures our contribution to SDG 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure through research and innovation that address sustainability challenges and deliver societal impact.

Key Actions	Measures of Success	Progress
Invest in areas of research and research partnerships that deliver positive social, environmental and economic innovations and impacts for local and global communities, align with our strengths, and contribute towards attainments of the SDGs.	By 2026, Griffith University will be ranked top 50 in the Times Higher Education Impact Rankings in areas of research strength.	Griffith ranked 4th globally in the Times Higher Education Impact Rankings (equal 2nd in Australia and 1st in Queensland), including 1st in Australia across five SDGs: SDG 6 Clean Water and Sanitation, SDG 7 Affordable and Clean Energy, SDG 8 Decent Work and Economic Growth, SDG 14 Life Below Water, and SDG 16 Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions. Our full results as follows:



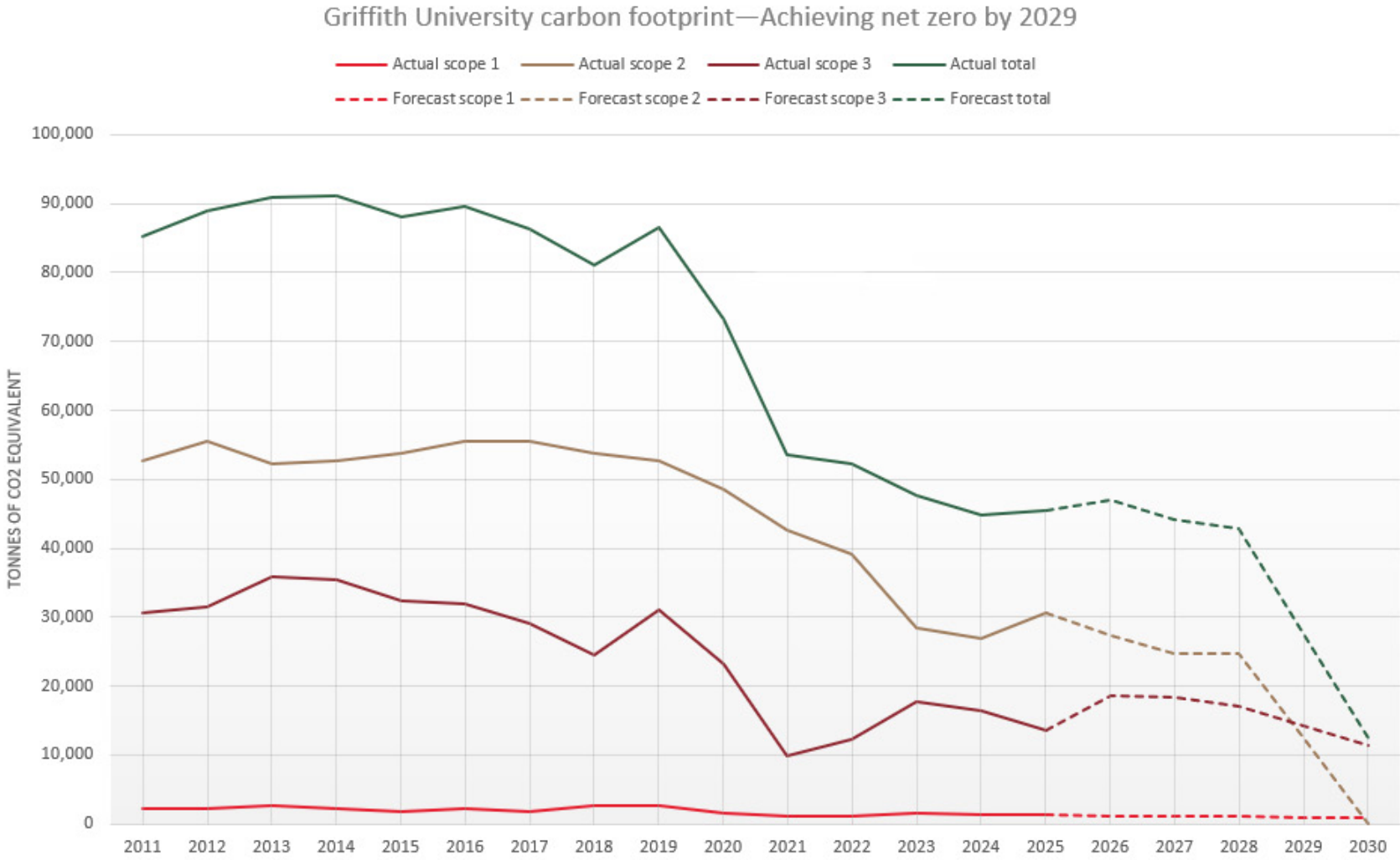
SDG 3	Good Health and Wellbeing: 13th
SDG 5	Gender Equality: 9th
SDG 6	Clean Water and Sanitation: 4th
SDG 8	Decent Work and Economic Growth: 10th
SDG 11	Sustainable Cities and Communities: 45th
SDG 12	Responsible Consumption and Production: 69th
SDG 13	Climate Action: 20th
SDG 14	Life Below Water: 4th
SDG 15	Life on Land: 3rd
SDG 16	Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions: 7th
SDG 17	Partnerships for the Goals: 21st

Support staff to articulate their research impact and engagement through the SDGs framework, align their work to the SDGs through Griffith Expert webpages, and incentivise engagement with the SDGs through SDG Files.	From 2023, there will be a 10% annual increase in submissions to SDG Files and in the proportion of Griffith Expert profile pages that are tagged with SDGs.	In 2025, there were 42 SDG File submissions (compared with 103 submissions in 2024), with work underway in 2026 to simplify submissions and better align them with other Griffith measures (e.g. Research Impact Narratives). There were 1,760 academic profiles labelled in **Griffith Experts** with SDGs (as at 24 March 2026), representing 99% of all public profiles, compared with 1,665 (94%) in March 2025.

Our climate action progress measures our contribution to SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy and SDG 13: Climate Action through emissions reduction, renewable energy, net zero initiatives and climate adaptation.

Key Actions	Measures of Success	Progress
Through the development of a Climate Action Roadmap, Griffith University will deliver a climate positive future by: **a.** reaching net zero emissions by 2029, based on the defined emissions boundaries[4] **b.** implementing a prioritised approach to organisational climate risks and adaptation **c.** preparing students of all disciplines to deal with the future impacts of climate change **d.** ensuring climate change research and engagement has local and global impact.	By 2029, Griffith University will achieve net zero emissions, based on the defined emissions boundary.	Total carbon emissions for the 2024/25 year were 45,489.9 tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (tCO_2-e). This is 46.7% below the 2010/11 baseline but 1.7% higher than the previous year. **Total carbon emissions decreased 46.7% since 2010/11** In 2024/25, **Scope 1 emissions** accounted for 3.0 per cent of the University's total carbon footprint and totalled 1,370.7 tCO_2-e (~300 passenger vehicles' annual emissions), reflecting a small year-on-year reduction due to lower gas use and vehicle fuel consumption, and a 35% decrease since 2010/11. **Scope 2 emissions**, primarily from purchased electricity, represented the largest share at 67% (30,530.6 tCO_2-e) (equivalent to ~7,000–8,000 households' electricity-related emissions), increasing by 14% compared to 2023/24 but remaining 42% below 2010/11 levels, influenced by additional load from the new CBD campus alongside increased on campus solar generation and energy efficiency measures. **Scope 3 emissions** emissions made up the remaining 30% and declined by 17% to 13,588.7 tCO_2-e (~6,000–7,000 return flights from Brisbane to Tokyo), a 55% reduction since 2010/11, driven largely by a 40% reduction in aviation emissions, already below the 2030 target. **Scope 3 Emissions declined by 17% on last year**
	From 2025, Griffith University will progress towards a climate-resilient university through the implementation of prioritised measures to adapt to climate risks, plan for the climate future and harness emerging opportunities.	In 2025, Griffith published a **Climate Action Plan** embedding climate risk into governance and operations, supporting preparedness for future mandatory climate-related reporting and building on a 2023 baseline climate risk assessment (which identified significant climate risks and opportunities for the University, with potential impacts on strategic commitments, health, safety, campus planning, course design, research, social justice, and climate leadership).

[4] Griffith University's greenhouse gas emissions boundary, set in 2008/9, includes all scope 1 and scope 2 emissions, and partial scope 3 emissions. Scope 1 covers on-campus emissions from fossil fuels and synthetic gases. Scope 2 includes emissions from imported electricity. Partial scope 3 covers emissions from waste disposal, services, equipment, flights, and electricity losses, but excludes work-from-home and commuting emissions.


Griffith University carbon footprint—Achieving net zero by 2029
Actual scope 1
Actual scope 2
Actual scope 3
Actual total
Forecast scope 1
Forecast scope 2
Forecast scope 3
Forecast total
TONNES OF CO2 EQUIVALENT
100,000
90,000
80,000
70,000
60,000
50,000
40,000
30,000
20,000
10,000
0
2011
2012
2013
2014
2015
2016
2017
2018
2019
2020
2021
2022
2023
2024
2025
2026
2027
2028
2029
2030

Our biodiversity progress measures our contribution to SDG 15: Life on Land through protecting, restoring and enhancing biodiversity and natural habitats across our campuses.

Key Actions	Measures of Success	Progress
Undertake biodiversity monitoring to learn about campus ecosystems and inform campus planning and management.	Native forests on Griffith University, as measured through bio-condition assessments, will have: **a.** at least 80% of the native forest rated as high (score 1) by 2025 **b.** an overall bio-condition score greater than the baseline year (2023) by 2030.	Forest biodiversity condition scores declined slightly at Brisbane South and Gold Coast campuses, based on an independent third-party photopoints-based assessment. Brisbane South scored 4.2 out of 5 (down from 4.4 in 2024), while Gold Coast scored 3.5 out of 5 (down from 4.0 in 2024). The decline was primarily associated with storm damage, increased weed incursions and informal track creation by Griffith and community users. Findings are informing management actions and a new Ecological Stewardship Plan.
Restore and enhance biodiversity on site through improved management and operational practices.	By 2030, there will be no loss of remnant vegetation across our campuses, other than that which is unavoidable and required under University plans. Where that loss is planned for, it will be offset by new plantings that exceed existing regularity offsetting requirements, acknowledging that replanted vegetation does not hold the same biodiversity functions and values as remnant vegetation.	Total forest area across Brisbane South and Gold Coast campuses was maintained at 155 hectares, with no net loss of remnant vegetation. Biodiversity restoration activities included ongoing weed management, ground-cover restoration, planting of more than 500 trees and plants, installation of 20 nest boxes and remediation of illegal dumping. These actions supported habitat enhancement despite localised BioCondition declines. **500+** **trees and plants planted**
Build community, student and staff awareness of the important role biodiversity conservation has within our campuses as part of broader regional ecosystems.	From 2025 onwards, there will be an annual increase in the number of students and community members engaging with biodiversity conservation on Griffith University campuses, as measured through student numbers in campus-based fieldwork subjects and number of external participants in biodiversity-specific educational events.	Community, student and staff engagement increased. Activities included BioBlitzes, wildlife monitoring, campus tours, science festivals and living-lab activities, engaging 8,000+ participants. More than 2,000 biodiversity books, 2,000 seed packs and 700 plants were distributed. Over 100 schools and more than 10,000 students participated in EcoCentre education programs. Social and traditional media engagement exceeded 550,000 interactions, reinforcing biodiversity awareness and education outcomes.

Our water management progress measures our contribution to SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation and SDG 14: Life Below Water through reducing water use and protecting waterways and aquatic ecosystems.

Key Actions	Measures of Success	Progress
Consider water-sensitive urban design in campus developments.	All new development actively seeks to manage its water cycle impacts in a sustainable way considering water-conscious building standards.	Water-sensitive design was embedded in new developments, with campus-wide waterway monitoring, erosion controls and mandated WELS-rated fixtures. Waterway monitoring and erosion protocols were published, with tree planting to reduce runoff and stormwater naturalisation investigations progressed at Gold Coast and Brisbane South.
Monitor campus water use and identify opportunities to reduce potable water consumption.	By 2030, annual potable water consumption (average per full-time equivalent staff and students) will have reduced by 10% based on 2023 consumption.	Total water consumption was 233,217 kL (7.34 kL per person) (~93 Olympic-sized swimming pools), a 2.4% reduction from 2024. **Total water consumption reduced by 2.4% from 2024** Although total water use fell, a lower campus population meant per-person consumption was unchanged from 2024, but remained below targets and sector average. Construction activities, including dust suppression, increased consumption. Further reductions expected in 2026 as demolition works conclude.
Monitor and manage natural waterways on our campuses to ensure we support healthy catchments and improved environmental outcomes.	By 2030, sensitive natural water bodies on campus will show no loss in ecological value or biodiversity, and sediment erosion monitoring will show no deterioration in levels of waterway and catchment based on bi-annual ecological surveys compared with baseline year (2025).	Monitoring devices were installed at Gold Coast, Logan and Brisbane South to establish baseline conditions and enable adaptive management. Water quality and erosion protocols were implemented, covering both temporary and permanent waterways, with event-based monitoring for bushfire or development impacts.

[5] The per person rate is calculated by taking total potable water consumption and dividing it by the on-campus population. On-campus population is calculated as Staff FTE (NA, GC, LG, MG, SB) plus EFTSL Program Campus (NA, GC, LG, MG, SB).

Operations
Integrated Water Management



Our circular economy progress measures our contribution to SDG 2: Zero Hunger and SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production through reducing food and other waste, increasing reuse and recycling, and reducing reliance on single-use materials.

Key Actions	Measures of Success	Progress
Develop a Waste Management Plan to provide practical and measurable improvements in waste management that progresses towards a circular economy and low-waste campuses by 2030.	By 2030: **a.** annual waste to landfill to be less than 30kg per full-time equivalent staff and student **b.** recycling diversion as a proportion of all waste will be greater than 25%.	Waste to landfill fell to 18.13 kg per person, with 46.7% diverted from landfill, supported by infrastructure upgrades, targeted initiatives, and reuse and recycling programs, including Warp It (which repurposed over 138,000 kg of furniture and equipment) and eWaste recycling (with over 4,000 kg of eWaste was recycled). Waste-related emissions totalled 836.3 tCO_2-e, representing approximately 2% of the University's overall carbon footprint and a reduction of 455.7 tCO_2-e (35.3%) compared to the previous year. A Draft Waste Management Plan is in development, with publication planned for 2026.
Improve waste monitoring systems across the generated waste streams on campuses and analyse waste management performance and identify opportunities to improve performance in accordance with the waste hierarchy.	From 2024, organic waste on campus will be processed on campus to produce compost.	On-campus organic waste processing continued, with 19,418kg composted in 2025. **~1–2** **small garbage trucks of organic waste composted on campus** Food and organic waste from tenancies and tea rooms is collected by cleaning staff (Brisbane South) and the Student Guild (Gold Coast) and processed through on-site composting systems, with compost and green waste mulch reused in campus landscaping. This approach improves waste diversion, reduces off-site disposal and biosecurity risks (e.g. fire ants and contaminants), and has strengthened data quality and contamination management.
Eliminate single-use plastics from campus operations aligning with State Government roadmap.	By 2030, all campuses will have zero single-use plastic across our food outlets, catering and non-medical consumables.	All food and beverage outlets complied with the Qld single-use plastics ban, with further reductions through Plastic Free Places. Every outlet made changes, two cafés are one item from Plastic Free Champion status (Okey Dokey & Coffee Major), and ≈ 202,000 plastic items have been eliminated on the Gold Coast since November 2024 **~202,000** **plastic items eliminated on the Gold Coast Campus through Plastic Free Places**

Operations

Circular Economy and Waste Management

GRIFFITH FOOD & BEVERAGE SUSTAINABILITY INITIATIVES & PRACTICES					
Total Outlets	16	Organic Waste Collection	13/16	BYO Cup Promotion	10/16
Plastic Ban Compliance	16/16	Biodegradable Packaging	14/15	Takeaway Cup Surcharge	8/12
Vegan Options Available	16/16	Dine-In Reusables	8/16	Grow Own Produce	3/16

Data reflects sustainability compliance as of Q1 2026 | Generated: March 2026



Our responsible procurement progress measures our contribution to SDG 1: No Poverty and SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth through socially responsible procurement, ethical supply chains and investment practices.

Key Actions	Measures of Success	Progress
Reduce consumption, and where consumption is unavoidable, prioritise products that: **a.** have been repurposed **b.** can be reused or recycled at the end of asset life **c.** are from local, sustainable, and ethical sources **d.** are supplied by First Nations organisations.	From 2026, 3% of suppliers will be from First Nations organisations or groups, with an annual increase in suppliers or spend from First Nations organisations or groups and from social enterprises over baseline year (2023).	Griffith is progressing towards its targets, but further effort is needed to strengthen outcomes. Category plans are in development to identify improvement opportunities, supported by continued access to diverse supplier directories (including Social Traders, Supply Nation, Black Business Finder and Buyability) and improved performance tracking through a new spend analysis platform. In FY2025, total addressable spend was $371.6 million, with social enterprise spend at $369.1k (0.10% against a 0.4% target) and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander spend at $2.29m (0.62% against a 3% target), both improving on FY2024. Spend with local suppliers ($173.6m, 47% against a 51% target) and local SMEs ($94.5m, 25% against a 30% target) declined.
	From 2026, University merchandise will be sourced, where possible, from ethical and sustainable manufacturing practices and post-consumer recycled materials.	During the reporting period, 71% of total University merchandise spend was with suppliers that publicly reference sustainable or ethical practices. **Over 70%** **of merchandise sourced from suppliers with sustainable or ethical practices** Ethical supplier checks were conducted quarterly (≈ 1,800 per quarter) and through strategic sourcing, with no active sanctions identified. Four suppliers receiving demerit points managed through risk controls. Modern slavery risk assessments were completed by 170 suppliers, with improvement plans requested from 40 (28 completed and monitored). Griffith continues to support ethical sourcing through the Mekong Club, Electronics Watch and the Australasian Universities Procurement Network.

Partnerships



Our partnerships progress measures our contribution to SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals through collaboration with communities, industry, government and other organisations to advance sustainability.

Key Actions	Measures of Success	Progress
Have one major partnership that delivers on a key sustainability metric, such as climate resilience, biodiversity conservation and improving waterway health and that delivers measurable environmental and social improvements for communities adjoining Griffith campuses.	Have one major partnership that delivers on a key sustainability metric, such as climate resilience, biodiversity conservation and improving waterway health and that delivers measurable environmental and social improvements for the communities adjoining University campuses.	In 2025, Griffith progressed a range of collaborative projects contributing to a broader multi-sector partnership agenda with government, councils, NGOs and industry to deliver environmental sustainability outcomes across South East Queensland. Key partnerships included expanded water quality monitoring with the Cities of Gold Coast and Logan, positioning Griffith as an independent environmental safeguard for recycled water releases, and a new four-year partnership with Paddle Australia supporting sustainability outcomes linked to Brisbane 2032, including development of a Sustainability Index for major sporting venues. Additional high-impact partnerships are detailed later in the report.

Healthy and Inclusive Campuses







Our progress towards healthy and inclusive campuses measures our contribution to SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being, SDG 5: Gender Equality and SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities through initiatives that promote wellbeing, equity, diversity, inclusion and accessibility.

Key Actions	Measures of Success	Progress
Complete impact reports on our pathway to an Athena SWAN Silver Award.	Complete impact reports on our pathway to an Athena SWAN Silver Award.	Griffith achieved its fifth Cygnet award, recognising sustained, institution-wide action to improve disability inclusion. This Cygnet addressed systemic barriers for staff with disabilities by applying a social model of disability, strengthening organisational systems, cultures and environments to support equitable participation, accessibility and wellbeing across campuses. Securing this fifth Cygnet, Griffith is now eligible to apply for an Athena Swan Silver Award in 2026.

Sustainable Commuting for Staff and Students

Our sustainable commuting progress measures our contribution to SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities by encouraging lower-emission, active and shared transport options for our University community.

Key Actions	Measures of Success	Progress
Expand the Getting to and from Campus Program offerings across all Griffith campuses, pending the success of the trials with suitable pathways to support sustainable commuting.	Expand the Getting To and From Campus Program offerings across all Griffith campuses, pending the success of the trials with suitable pathways to support sustainable commuting.	Liftango carpooling grew, with accepted trips increasing by ≈30% to 880, around 9.9 tonnes of CO_2 avoided since 2023, and strongest uptake at Brisbane South despite minimal promotion, suggesting potential for further growth through targeted campaigns. **Carpooling saved almost 10 tonnes of carbon emissions** Shared micromobility continued at the Gold Coast campus. End-of-trip facility use fell by a further 24% in 2025, continuing the downward trend despite expanded data coverage, with cyclist data collection planned at Brisbane South in 2026 to inf orm improvements.

Our governance and reporting progress measures our contribution to SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions through transparent sustainability governance, environmental management, monitoring and public reporting.



Key Actions	Measures of Success	Progress
Introduce an ISO-14001 aligned environmental management system to ensure compliance with environmental legislation and best practice environmental management.	Introduce an ISO-14001-aligned environmental management system to ensure compliance with environmental legislation and best practice environmental management.	Griffith's Environmental Management System (EMS) framework guides sustainability actions and practical implementation. In 2025, work continued to align the framework with ISO14001 and formalise documentation. Additionally, the EMS framework was incorporated into a postgraduate course, allowing students to test and propose improvements, enhancing both education and university sustainability. The Environmental Sustainability Policy will be updated in 2026 to reflect the new plans across all areas of sustainability operations.

Reporting

Key Actions	Measures of Success	Progress
Investigate developing consolidated sustainability data repositories within existing IT infrastructure to facilitate data-driven decision-making, share information to internal and external parties, and provide evidence basis for sustainability reporting.	Investigate developing consolidated sustainability data repositories within existing IT infrastructure to facilitate data-driven decision-making, share information to internal and external parties, and provide evidence basis for sustainability reporting.	The Griffith University **Planning and Statistics Portal** now includes an **energy consumption**, **solar production**, **utilities**, and **other dashboards**. These platforms became publicly accessible in 2025, and now sit alongside our Annual Sustainability Report on the **Metrics and Reports** page.

IMPACT STORIES

Highlighting progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals

The following section demonstrates Griffith's progress towards each of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals through selected 2025 outcomes and impact stories. It should be read alongside our progress against the Sustainability Strategy 2023–2030, which is mapped to all 17 SDGs and reports progress across our academic, operations and engagement activities.

Thank you to all staff and students who supported sustainability at Griffith and advanced the UN 2030 Agenda.

We hope the 2025 efforts featured here inspire continued collaboration for a brighter future.





Progress towards SDG 1 No Poverty

End poverty in all forms everywhere.

Griffith's progress towards SDG 1: No Poverty is demonstrated through action across our Sustainability Strategy, including initiatives that reduce financial hardship, expand opportunity and support economic inclusion.

Operations

Bridging refugee success through community partnership

The RISE Refugee Background Student Success Program embedded student voice in governance, training and community engagement. Students co-designed leadership days, mentoring, bursaries and workshops, while partnerships with Settlement Services International and the UN Association of Australia Young Professionals expanded opportunities. The End of Year Celebration brought together 86 guests—graduating students, families, and leaders from seven community and religious groups—with catering by refugee-owned businesses. The event highlighted achievement and cultural inclusion. Training built student capacity, with 11 participants completing Financial Literacy Education (seven now accredited as Financial Capability Workers), strong attendance at Mental Health First Aid and mentor training leading to casual employment.

The RISE Refugee Background Student Success Program



Refugee students attending a leadership event

Reducing barriers to employment through inclusive career-readiness initiatives

In 2025, Griffith began implementing its purpose-driven, career-ready vision and blueprint [change it back if it is the title of a report that exists], responding to barriers and opportunities identified through the 2023 Career Readiness Discovery Project. Supported by the University's first enterprise-wide Career Readiness Insights Report, the initiative identified differences in student experiences and outcomes across diverse cohorts, enabling more targeted support for equity-deserving students. By informing inclusive program design, strengthening pathways to employment and expanding access to career development opportunities, Griffith is helping students overcome structural, financial and social barriers, supporting social mobility, equitable participation and improved long-term economic outcomes.



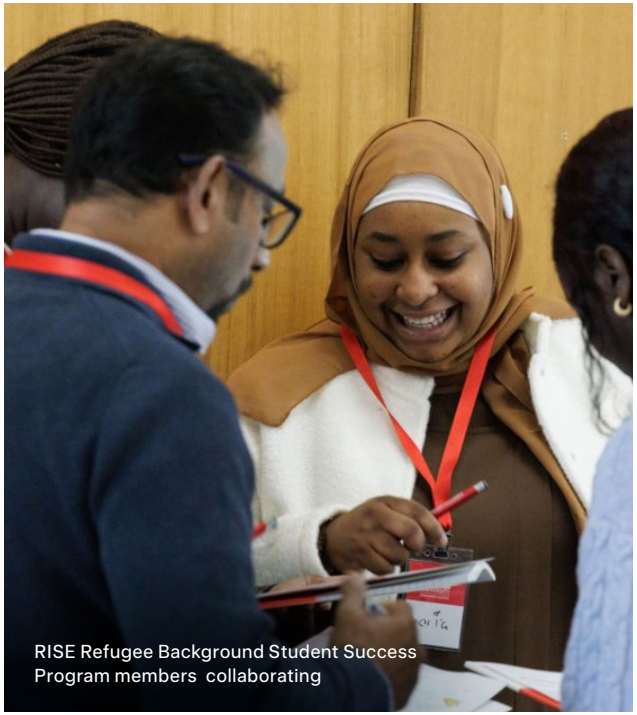
RISE Refugee Background Student Success Program members celebrating their graduation

1 NO POVERTY

Progress towards SDG 1 No Poverty

End poverty in all forms everywhere.

In 2025 Over 70% of merchandise sourced from suppliers with sustainable or ethical practices



RISE Refugee Background Student Success Program members collaborating

Griffith supports students' education through scholarships, offering over 1,700 in 2025

Protecting vulnerable workers through ethical procurement

In 2025, Griffith continued to strengthen its ethical procurement practices to support fair and responsible supply chains. During the reporting period, 71% of total University merchandise expenditure was directed to suppliers that publicly reference sustainable or ethical practices. Griffith conducted approximately 1,800 ethical supplier checks each quarter and undertook strategic sourcing reviews, with no active sanctions identified. Modern slavery risk assessments were completed by 170 suppliers, with improvement plans requested from 40 suppliers and 28 plans completed and actively monitored.

Academic

Helping alumni secure their financial literacy

In August 2025, Griffith University delivered the alumni webinar "Your Financial Future: Investment and Superannuation Strategies Across the Decades", led by Nicole Walker with contributions from Professor Rob Bianchi. Designed to build financial confidence, the session offered practical insights into managing money at every stage of life—from early investments to retirement planning. The webinar drew 1,232 alumni participants worldwide, highlighting strong demand for accessible financial education. The program reinforced Griffith's role in supporting alumni beyond their academic journey, equipping graduates with knowledge on investment basics, wealth building and superannuation management.

Your Financial Future Alumni Webinar

Engagement and Partnerships

Staff giving empowers students facing financial hardship

Griffith University's Staff Giving Program demonstrates the transformative power of collective action. More than 790 staff members contribute through simple, pre-tax payroll deductions, with every dollar matched by the University. This model ensures that 100% of donations go directly to students in need, doubling the impact of each gift. The program channels contributions into the Brighter Futures Scholarships, which provide $5,000 each to support students facing financial hardship. The impact of this initiative is evident in the stories of scholarship recipients. Students such as Zac and Jesse Zborovsky, maintain GPAs above 6.0 while balancing demanding study and athletic commitments. This highlights how staff generosity not only alleviates immediate financial pressures but also fosters resilience, excellence and long-term success.

Staff Giving and the Brighter Futures Scholarship

Research Performance

SDG 01: No Poverty	Scholarly Output	Field-Weighted Citation Impact[1]
2025	44	1.46
2024	48	1.18

The number of publications addressing SDG 1 decreased from 48 in 2024 to 44 in 2025, while FWCI increased from 1.18 to 1.46, providing a measure of progress in the University's research contribution to this goal and reflecting growth in both research activity and impact.

[1] FWCI measures citation impact relative to the world average of 1.00 for field, publication type and year. The 2025 FWCI data is dynamic, was sourced in February 2025, and is classified using Elsevier's 2025 United Nations SDG mappings. **Learn more**.



Progress towards SDG 2 Zero Hunger

End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture.

Griffith's progress towards SDG 2: Zero Hunger is demonstrated through action across our Sustainability Strategy to address food insecurity, improve access to nutritious food and advance sustainable food systems.

Operations

Tackling food insecurity on campus to improve student's focus and wellbeing

Griffith University's Student Representative Council (SRC) and Postgraduate Association (GUPSA) food support programs addressed critical student food insecurity in 2025, serving 600–700 unique students monthly and delivering over 11,000 service interactions across Brisbane, Logan, South Bank and online. Vulnerable cohorts—including postgraduates (53%) and international students (52%)—were the primary beneficiaries, with 88% of participants reporting improved academic focus and wellbeing. Program innovations such as a bookable pantry trial, point-card pantry system and integration of fresh produce reduced stigma, enhanced accessibility and strengthened retention outcomes. Strategic partnerships, notably with Allianz Partners and Foodbank Australia, provided cost savings and culturally responsive support, validating food security as a determinant of academic success and institutional equity.

Tackling Food Insecurity

Supporting sustainable food systems through on-campus composting

In 2025, Griffith continued to support sustainable food systems through the on-campus recovery and reuse of organic waste, with 19,418 kg composted across its campuses. Food and organic waste from tenancies and tea rooms is collected by cleaning staff at Brisbane South and the Student Guild at Gold Coast before being processed through on-site composting systems.

The resulting compost, together with green waste mulch, is reused in campus landscaping to improve soil health, return nutrients to the land and reduce reliance on external soil amendments. By transforming organic waste into a valuable resource, Griffith applies circular economy principles to support sustainable land management, reduce waste sent for disposal, and contribute to more resilient and environmentally sustainable food systems.

Academic

Designing robust responses to malnutrition among Indonesian mothers

Griffith University, in partnership with the Australian Embassy in Jakarta, designed the Feeding the Future: Maternal and Children's Nutrition Short Course to equip policymakers and practitioners with the tools to combat malnutrition among pregnant women, breastfeeding mothers, infants and young children. The program, led by Professor's Faruk Ahmed and Rozanne Kruger, combined workshops in Indonesia with intensive learning in Australia, fostering cross-sector collaboration between health, education and the food industry. Participants developed Award Projects that applied best practices in nutrition interventions, policy design and regulation, while drawing on First Nations experiences to integrate cultural preferences and community-based approaches. This initiative addresses stunting, wasting, undernutrition, and the growing burden of obesity and non-communicable diseases in Indonesia. By promoting dietary diversity, food security and inclusive caregiving practices, the course empowers leaders to design sustainable interventions that improve maternal and child health outcomes. The program's emphasis on mentoring, applied learning and stakeholder mapping ensures that participants not only strengthen their own institutions but also contribute to Indonesia's national priorities for nutrition and health.

Strengthening Maternal and Child Nutrition in Indonesia

Engagement and Partnerships

Cook & Connect leads practical action on nutrition education

University students often face food insecurity, poor nutrition and social isolation, which can undermine wellbeing and academic success. In response, Cook & Connect is a student-led initiative by Griffith Enactus that combines hands-on cooking workshops, nutrition education and shared meals to build food literacy, reduce food stress and foster social connection. Delivered through the Griffith Student Academy of Excellence, the program empowers students to lead sessions, gaining leadership and project management experience. Launched in 2025 and based at Griffith's Gold Coast campus, the project has engaged over 100 students and is expanding across campuses and into the wider community through partnerships with the Northern Gold Coast Rotaract Club.

Cook & Connect: Tackling Food Insecurity Through Student-Led Action



~1–2 small garbage trucks of organic waste composted on campus in 2025

Research Performance

SDG 02: Zero Hunger	Scholarly Output	Field-Weighted Citation Impact
2025	93	2.48
2024	89	1.53

The number of publications addressing SDG 2 increased from 89 in 2024 to 93 in 2025, while FWCI increased from 1.53 to 2.48, providing a measure of progress in the University's research contribution to this goal and reflecting growth in both research activity and impact.



Progress towards SDG 3 Good Health and Well-being

Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages.

Griffith's progress towards SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being is demonstrated through action across our Sustainability Strategy to improve health, wellbeing and equitable access to healthier futures.

Operations

Delivering sustainability in The Climate + Health Summit 2025

Griffith University's operational commitment to sustainability was showcased at the Climate Health Summit 2025, which it co-hosted with the Climate and Health Alliance (CAHA). The event embedded sustainable practices throughout its logistics and programming, with the Griffith community organising biodiversity tours, providing zero-waste catering and launching circular economy initiatives. Notably, the summit introduced a clothing library that diverted 44kg of textiles from landfill, avoiding 1.1 tonnes of CO_2 emissions during the event. Operational innovation was further demonstrated through carbon transparency measures. By surveying 40 attendees, organisers calculated total summit emissions at 16,987kg CO_2e, with flights, accommodation and ground transport making up the majority. Scaling up to full attendance (120 participants) projected a footprint of approximately 51 tonnes CO_2e. This benchmarking sets a foundation for future reduction targets and demonstrates Griffith's accountability in climate-conscious event operations.

Partnering for Planetary Health

In 2025, Griffith achieved its fifth Cygnet award, recognising sustained, institution-wide action to improve disability inclusion.

Gold Coast Australian of the Year raised over $2 million for cancer research

Dr Robyn Cameron was named Gold Coast Australian of the Year for her outstanding breast cancer research fundraising and advocacy. She has raised over $2 million, founded the Pink Ribbon Cup Race Day—now the National Breast Cancer Foundation's largest community event—and serves as a Foundation ambassador. Dr Cameron's work exemplifies the power of community leadership in advancing health outcomes and has had a lasting impact on cancer research and awareness, inspiring others to support life-saving initiatives.

Gold Coast Australian of the Year

Academic

Griffith University leads world-first clinical trials on spinal cord injury, Strep A vaccine and treating sepsis

Griffith University's Institute for Biomedicine and Glycomics (lead researcher Professor James St John), is leading two world-first clinical trials that showcase its commitment to translational research and global health equity. In August 2025, the Institute commenced a Phase 1 human trial for a novel cell therapy targeting chronic spinal cord injury. This pioneering approach aims to regenerate spinal tissue and restore mobility, offering hope to patients living with paralysis.

Alongside this, the Institute (lead researcher Professor Michael Good AO) is advancing a groundbreaking Strep A vaccine designed to prevent rheumatic heart disease, a condition that disproportionately impacts Indigenous and low-income communities worldwide.

Supported by a $5 million philanthropic donation from the International Leducq Foundation, the Phase 1B dose-ranging trial began in November 2023 and involves vaccinating volunteers before controlled exposure to Strep A. If successful, the vaccine could significantly reduce global mortality from rheumatic heart disease.

Griffith University is spearheading a breakthrough in sepsis treatment, a condition causing over 11 million deaths annually with no current remedy for late-stage cases. After years of research, Professor Mark von Itzstein AO and the Institute for Biomedicine and Glycomics, alongside industry and academic partners have developed STC3141—a novel drug targeting organ damage in sepsis. If successful, STC3141 could revolutionise care and is part of Griffith's wider clinical trial efforts tackling major health challenges.

University clinical trials


Professor James St John

3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

Progress towards SDG 3 Good Health and Well-being

Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages.

Engagement and Partnerships

Australia's leading vaping, alcohol and drug education program delivers

Blurred Minds is a Griffith University–developed alcohol and drug education program, led by Professor Timo Dietrich, that combines social marketing, gamification and evidence-based teaching to engage secondary students. Now delivered across all Queensland secondary schools, the program has reached more than 415,000 students and demonstrated measurable improvements in knowledge, behaviour and refusal skills. In recognition of its innovation and impact through strong school and government partnerships, Blurred Minds was awarded the 2025 Financial Review Higher Education Award for Community Engagement.

Blurred Minds – Transforming Substance Education in Schools

Team behind Papua New Guinea counselling development program recognised in 2025 Engaged Australia Excellence Awards

Griffith University's Associate Professor Jane Fowler and her team received the 2025 Engagement Australia Excellence Award for International Engagement for their seven-year initiative to strengthen counselling capacity in Papua New Guinea. Working with partners such as Australia Awards PNG, PNG Department of Education, UNICEF and local stakeholders, the project co-designed culturally contextualised psychosocial resources, graduate certificates and short courses that directly address community needs in mental health and social support. The program has created new professional pathways for counsellors, embedding sustainable systems of care that reflect local cultural contexts and priorities.

Excellence in International Engagement

Life-saving neonatal initiative in Nepal awarded Global Triple E

A Griffith University initiative led by Associate Professor Victoria Kain has been recognised with the 2025 Global Triple E SDG Impact Award for its innovative work to reduce neonatal mortality in rural Nepal. Using a culturally tailored, Nepali-language mobile simulation app, the project helps frontline health workers refresh life-saving newborn resuscitation skills through short, on-demand training. Delivered in partnership with local NGOs and the Ministry of Health, the initiative has strengthened clinical performance, supported more than 5,000 births each year, and prevented neonatal deaths in low-resource settings.

Digital Innovation to Save Newborn Lives in Nepal

Research Performance

SDG 03: Good health and well-being	Scholarly Output	Field-Weighted Citation Impact
2025	703	2.9
2024	832	4.37

SDG 3 decreased from 832 publications in 2024 to 703 in 2025, while FWCI decreased from 4.37 to 2.90, providing a measure of progress in the University's research contribution to this goal. Despite this decline, SDG 3 remains a strong research performer, with citation impact well above the global average.



Assoc Prof Victoria Kain

Progress towards SDG 4 Quality Education

Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all.

Griffith's progress towards SDG 4: Quality Education is demonstrated through action across our Sustainability Strategy to provide inclusive, accessible and high-quality education and lifelong learning opportunities.

Operations

Celebrating 50 years of "Doing Things Differently" in higher education

Griffith University marked its 50th anniversary with a year-long program of signature events, legacy projects and global alumni engagements. Highlights included international receptions in Singapore, Delhi, Hong Kong, London and Washington D.C., attracting hundreds of registrants and featuring distinguished speakers such as Julia Gillard AC and Dr Kevin Rudd AC. On campus, activities like market day pop-ups, the launch of Emeritus Professor Pat Weller's book Doing Things Differently and the Brighter Future for All Oration (with 339 attendees) fostered reflection on Griffith's progressive legacy.

The Gold Coast Leaders' Lunch brought together 132 regional leaders, while the official Community Celebration drew over 2,160 registrants and 1,000 attendees, combining alumni awards, cultural performances, reunions and interactive showcases. The anniversary program featured strong branding with a new student-designed icon from Cathy Luong, a signature video with over 5,480 YouTube impressions and a dedicated website with nearly 20,000 views. Social media content attracted over half a million views, strengthening Griffith's community pride, alumni connections and its vision for innovation and social impact.

Celebrating 50 Years

Expanding access to education through open educational resources

In 2025, Griffith expanded access to high-quality educational resources through Griffith Pressbooks, publishing four Open Educational Resources (OERs) that were viewed 122,928 times by 61,762 visitors worldwide.

By providing free and openly accessible learning materials, Griffith supports equitable access to education, enables knowledge sharing beyond traditional classrooms and creates opportunities for lifelong learning for students, educators, professionals and community members globally.



Design student Cathy Luong's 50th icon

Academic

MBA program ranked world's best in sustainability and values-driven education for sixth consecutive year

Griffith Business School's Master of Business Administration (MBA) program was ranked first globally in the 2025 Corporate Knights Better World MBA ranking. This marks the sixth consecutive year Griffith has been recognised for its leadership in sustainability and values-driven education. The program's strength lies in embedding sustainability and transparency in its core curriculum, which made up 90% of the ranking criteria. The remaining 10% recognised alumni impact, highlighting how Griffith graduates are building inclusive economies that benefit society and the planet.

Purpose-Driven Business Education



4 QUALITY EDUCATION

Progress towards SDG 4 Quality Education

Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all.

Digitising Griffith's history for future generations

In celebration of its 50-year milestone, Griffith University launched a series of initiatives that underscore its commitment to inclusive, lifelong learning. The Griffith Archive, a digital history project, offers students, staff and alumni an interactive journey through the University's evolution, spotlighting pivotal moments in equity, Indigenous success and community engagement. The Collecting the Future exhibition showcased over 190 works by alumni artists, reinforcing Griffith's role in nurturing creative excellence. In September, BEACONS—a cultural event themed around Griffith's research strengths in Climate Action, Disrupting Violence and Inclusive Futures—premiered a new graduation processional by alumnus Melody Eötvös, symbolising the University's enduring educational legacy.

Advancing Inclusive and Equitable Education Through Cultural Legacy



Collecting the Future: 50 Years of Griffith University Art Collection exhibition

Engagement and Partnerships

Millennium Fellowship Campus Recognition

Griffith University has been named a Millennium Fellowship Campus for the fifth consecutive year, placing it among the top 4% of universities worldwide and the only campus in Australia and Oceania to hold this distinction. In 2025, Griffith welcomed its largest cohort of 18 Fellows from Brisbane South and Gold Coast campuses, reflecting its commitment to sustainability, inclusion and transformative education. The Fellows lead diverse projects aligned with the SDGs.

Millennium Fellowship Campus Recognition

Helping veteran's find new pathways in higher education

In 2025, the Veteran Student Success Program enhanced access to higher education for veterans through tailored admissions and wrap-around supports, reducing barriers and promoting belonging and success. The program supported 532 veteran enrolments, including 149 new starters. Among these, 14% were from low socioeconomic statusbackgrounds, 4% were First Peoples, 55% were first-generation university students, and 20% identified as living with disability, demonstrating Griffith's commitment to inclusive pathways for veterans.

Veterans Student Success Program



In 2025 among the Veteran Student Success Program

55%	were first-generation university students
20%	identified as living with disability
14%	were from low socioeconomic status backgrounds
4%	were First Peoples

Research Performance

SDG 04: Quality Education	Scholarly Output	Field-Weighted Citation Impact
2025	182	1.42
2024	174	2.13

SDG 4 increased from 172 publications in 2024 to 182 in 2025, while FWCI decreased from 2.13 to 1.42, providing a measure of progress in the University's research contribution to this goal. Despite this decline, SDG 4 remains a strong research performer, with citation impact well above the global average.



Progress towards SDG 5 Gender Equality

Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls.

Griffith's progress towards SDG 5: Gender Equality is demonstrated through action across our Sustainability Strategy to advance gender equity, participation, opportunity and inclusion.

Operations

Griffith earns fifth SAGE Cygnet for advancing disability inclusion

Griffith received its fifth Cygnet award in 2025, recognising ongoing efforts to improve inclusion and support for staff with disability. This latest Cygnet focused on addressing systemic barriers experienced by staff with disability, guided by a social model of disability that shifts responsibility from individuals to organisational systems, cultures and environments. Griffith continues to strengthen accessibility and wellbeing across campuses. With more inclusive disability identifiers in staff surveys, the proportion of employees identifying as living with disability rose from 5% in 2021 to 15% in 2025, suggesting increased trust and visibility.

Griffith earns fifth SAGE Cygnet for advancing disability inclusion

In 2025, Griffith offered 1,796 scholarships, with 60.5% awarded to female applicants. Additionally, seven scholarships were exclusively for those identifying as female:

- **Leneen Forde Zonta Scholarship**
- **Dr Vivienne Cowlishaw-Shortell Scholarship**
- **Joshua Creamer and Kara Cook Excellence in Law Scholarship**
- **Master of Business Administration (MBA) Scholarship for Women**
- **Master of Business Administration (MBA) Scholarship for Women in Sport Leadership**

Since 2020, women have been the majority of applicants, acceptances and enrolments at Griffith. In 2025, 28, 800 (61.6%) of enrolled students were women, with most studying in the Arts, Education and Law Group and the Health Group:

- **Arts, Education and Law: 8,815 (68.9%)**
- **Business: 4,127 (52.2%)**
- **Health: 10,836 (72.3%)**
- **Sciences: 3,013 (37%)**

Academic

Disrupting Violence research initiative expands through national and global partnerships

The Disrupting Violence Beacon leads interdisciplinary research to break cycles of violence and boost security for women, children, Indigenous communities and those facing intergenerational trauma. In 2025, the Beacon expanded its reach through national and global partnerships, including a high-level roundtable on child sexual abuse, suicidality and violence, as well as international collaborations on youth justice and gender equality. During the 16 Days of Activism, the Beacon brought together over 200 practitioners, leaders and advocates in events and webinars to enhance responses to domestic and family violence, including for culturally and linguistically diverse communities. The Beacon's partnership with the Survivors & Mates Support Network highlights its dedication to survivor-centred, evidence-based approaches, applying research in real-world settings.

Disrupting Violence Beacon

Engagement and Partnerships

Putting girls in the STEM driver's seat with motorsport program

SuperGEMS, Griffith University's program for Girls Engaged in Motorsport and STEM, was highlighted on National STEM Day 2025 as an innovative way to inspire female students in Years 9 and 10. The program connects classroom learning with real-world industry experiences, giving participants the chance to collaborate with motorsport professionals, high-profile drivers and Griffith's teaching and research teams. Activities included pit experiences at the Gold Coast 500, on-campus workshops, supplier tours and industry breakfasts, all focused on hands-on STEM learning. The SuperGEMS program ends with students showcasing their learnings to female motorsport leaders, highlighting the value of representation and mentorship in STEM and inspiring young women to pursue STEM careers.

SuperGEMS Girls Engaged in Motorsport and STEM



Since 2014, most qualifications at Griffith have been awarded to women. In 2025, out of 10,527 graduates, 6,262 were women, representing 59.4% of all graduates.

Research Performance

SDG 05: Gender Equality	Scholarly Output	Field-Weighted Citation Impact
2025	133	1.75
2024	120	1.75

SDG 5 increased from 120 publications in 2024 to 133 in 2025, while FWCI remained steady at 1.75, providing a measure of progress in the University's research contribution to this goal. SDG 5 remains a strong research performer, with citation impact well above the global average.

6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION

Progress towards SDG 6 Clean Water and Sanitation

Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all.

Griffith's progress towards SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation is demonstrated through action across our Sustainability Strategy to improve water efficiency, stewardship, research and access to clean and sustainable water systems.

Operations

Putting real-time water management into practice at Logan and Gold Coast campuses

Griffith University, in partnership with TracWater Pty Ltd, has deployed advanced real-time water quality monitoring at its Logan and Gold Coast campuses. Floating buoys with multi-parameter probes deliver continuous data on key indicators such as dissolved oxygen, turbidity, conductivity, pH and temperature. This supports Griffith's "living lab" model, helping staff and researchers track waterway health and promote sustainable campus management.

Real-time water monitoring at Griffith

Academic

Developing new underwater listening tools to protect the biodiversity of our rivers

Researchers, led by Katie Turlington from the Australian Rivers Institute, have developed a semi-automated tool to detect and classify underwater sounds in freshwater ecosystems, enabling scalable, non-invasive monitoring. Tested across 22 streams in South East Queensland, the tool correctly identified nearly 90% of distinct sound types—helping researchers track biodiversity, detect ecological change and even discover new species. By separating water flow from biological and anthropogenic sounds, the tool supports SDG 6 through open science, ecosystem protection and collaborative conservation.

Listening to rivers to protect biodiversity

In 2025 Total water consumption was 233,217 kL (7.34 kL per person) (~93 Olympic-sized swimming pools), a 2.4% reduction from 2024.

Integrated Water Management Plan adopted to support sustainable water management across campus operations.



Real-time water quality monitoring



'River listening' at Warrill Creek, Kalbar

The tool correctly identified nearly 90% of distinct sound types

6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION

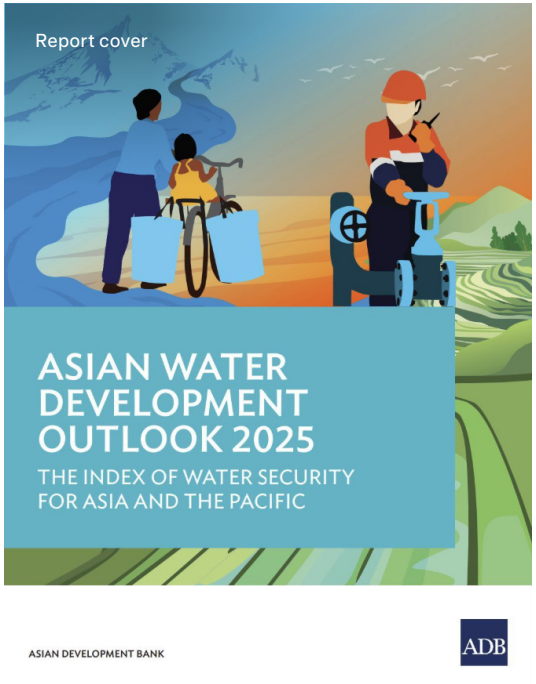
Progress towards SDG 6 Clean Water and Sanitation

Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all.

Contributing expertise to major report on water security in Asia and the Pacific

The Asian Water Development Outlook (AWDO) 2025 shows that while 2.7 billion people in Asia and the Pacific have escaped extreme water insecurity since 2013, major challenges remain. AWDO assesses water security across 50 economies, emphasising ongoing risks from climate change, environmental damage and lack of infrastructure investment. Griffith researchers from the International WaterCentre and the Australian Rivers Institute produced two of the report's five key dimensions: urban and environmental water security.

Advancing Water Security in Asia and the Pacific





Engagement and Partnerships

New water quality management partnership ahead of Brisbane 2032 Games

In 2025, Griffith formed a four-year partnership with Paddle Australia to support athlete development, wellbeing, sustainability and ecotourism ahead of the Brisbane 2032 Games. Griffith's Australian Rivers Institute also led a water quality monitoring study at Penrith Whitewater Stadium, trialling advanced real-time sensors and new detection methods with NSW Government agencies. The project improved early algal bloom detection, public health risk management and provided a scalable model for sustainable water governance at aquatic venues.

Paddle Australia and Water Quality Management

Research Performance

SDG 06: Clean Water and Sanitation	Scholarly Output	Field-Weighted Citation Impact
2025	130	2.24
2024	154	1.59

SDG 6 decreased from 154 publications in 2024 to 130 in 2025, while FWCI increased from 1.59 in 2024 to 2.24 in 2025, providing a measure of progress in the University's research contribution to this goal and reflecting growth in both research activity and impact.

7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY

Progress towards SDG 7 Afforadable and Clean Energy

Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialisation and foster innovation.

Griffith's progress towards SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy is demonstrated through action across our Sustainability Strategy to increase renewable energy, improve energy efficiency and accelerate the transition to clean energy.

Operations

Clean energy and efficiency upgrades continue as Griffith approaches its 2029 net zero pledge

Griffith University is advancing SDG 7 Affordable and Clean Energy through on-site renewable energy generation and energy efficiency upgrades across its campuses. In 2024–25, key initiatives included expanding large-scale rooftop solar, including the 2.3 MW system at the Gold Coast campus, and targeted chiller replacements and efficiency projects at Gold Coast and Logan. These investments reduce reliance on grid electricity, lower operational Scope 2 emissions and improve asset performance, supporting the University's commitment to net zero emissions by 2029.

Operational clean energy and efficiency at Griffith

In 2025 6 gigawatt-hours of on-site solar generated – 97% increase on last year

Total carbon emissions & Climate Action Plan

Total carbon emissions were 45,489.9 tCO_2-e in 2024/25, which is 46.7% lower than the 2010/11 baseline (around 39,900 tonnes avoided annually), although up 1.7% from the previous year. Key contributors include onsite and offsite solar providing 37% of our electricity and a 42% reduction in aviation emissions from staff travel in 2024.

An Executive-approved Climate Action Plan was published in 2025.

Academic

Landmark study uncovers Queensland's potential to generate biomethane at scale

In 2025, Griffith University researchers (PhD candidate Thanuja Gelanigama Mesthrige with Professors Bofu Yu, Sunil Herat and Prasad Kaparaju) delivered a landmark study revealing Queensland's capacity to generate 109 petajoules of biomethane each year—enough to meet 73% of the state's local gas demand. By mapping agricultural residues, organic waste and livestock manure at unprecedented spatial resolution, the research identified sugarcane by-products as a major driver of Australia's renewable gas potential. The study provides a practical blueprint for scaling sustainable biomethane projects, demonstrating how strategic gas-grid extension and smarter site selection can accelerate decarbonisation of the gas sector while advancing national net zero goals and SDG 7.

Turning Waste into Energy

ASEAN and Timor-Leste professionals learn latest in innovative energy transition course

Twenty-two professionals from ASEAN countries and Timor-Leste participated in Griffith University's Resources in Energy Transition short course in Brisbane and Canberra. Led by Professor Rosalind Archer, the program combined classroom instruction, site visits to renewable energy projects and Indigenous perspectives on resource management. Each participant developed a tailored Return-to-Work Plan to apply their learning in their home country. The course supports the transition to reliable, sustainable energy systems across South East Asia, fostering cross-border dialogue, entrepreneurship and policy innovation.

ASEAN–Australia Energy Transition Short Course

Engagement and Partnerships

Griffith leads urgent conference on shaping Australia's energy future

In October 2025, Griffith University's Centre for Applied Energy Economics and Policy Research (CAEEPR) and the University of Queensland's Gas & Energy Transition Research Centre co-hosted the National Electricity Market Development Conference in Brisbane. The event gathered policymakers, regulators, academics and industry to discuss reforms for Australia's National Electricity Market. Keynote speakers, including Professor Paul Simshauser AM and Associate Professor Tim Nelson, highlighted the need to balance reliability, affordability, sustainability, investor confidence and community engagement.

Shaping Australia's Energy Future

Research Performance

SDG 07: Affordable and Clean Energy	Scholarly Output	Field-Weighted Citation Impact)
2025	166	2.00
2024	169	2.38

SDG 7 decreased from 154 publications in 2024 to 130 in 2025, while FWCI increased from 1.59 in 2024 to 2.24 in 2025, providing a measure of progress in the University's research contribution to this goal and reflecting growth in both research activity and impact.

8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH

Progress towards SDG 8 Decent Work and Economic Growth

Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all..



Griffith's progress towards SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth is demonstrated through action across our Sustainability Strategy to support decent work, inclusive economic participation, employment and sustainable growth.

Operations

Lowering financial barriers for employees to higher education

Griffith University introduced discounted staff degrees and scholarships, creating accessible pathways for employees to upskill and reskill. By reducing financial barriers to higher education, Griffith empowers staff to pursue advanced qualifications that strengthen their career prospects and enhance workplace capability. This initiative reflects the University's commitment to fostering professional growth and building a resilient workforce.

Staff Development for Sustainable Growth

In 2025, 47% of Griffith's spend was with local suppliers and 25% with small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), supporting local businesses, employment and economic participation.

Inaugural professional staff development conference introduced

Griffith University recently held the inaugural Professional EDGE Conference, a comprehensive on-campus event tailored for professional staff and sponsored by Deputy Vice Chancellor (Education) Professor Shaun Ewen. Developed by staff, the conference focused on the EDGE pillars—Engage, Develop, Grow, Elevate—and featured a range of keynote presentations, practical workshops, and networking opportunities. The event attracted nearly 400 attendees.

Professional EDGE Conference

Academic

Griffith recognised as one of Australia's top five universities supporting SDGs

Griffith University was named the top research institution in marketing, strategic management, tourism and hospitality, and criminology by The Australian 2026 Research Magazine. It also ranked among Australia's top five universities supporting the SDGs, notably SDG 5 Gender Equality and SDG 8 Decent Work and Economic Growth. Eight Griffith academics were listed among the nation's top 250 researchers, with expertise in areas such as artificial intelligence, biodiversity, natural medicines, and criminology, highlighting the University's broad impact and commitment to sustainable development.

Leading Research Excellence

Peer mentoring empowers students to engage with their career development

The student experience and employability portfolio launched the pre-census Higher Education Participation and Partnerships Program (HEPPP)-funded outreach campaign. Over 3,000 students were contacted for peer-to-peer conversations with trained Student Mentors, and more than 600 engaged in meaningful discussions about their study and career options. This work helps students make informed decisions before the Week 8 census date and connects them with the wider careers support available at Griffith.

Engagement and Partnerships

Griffith Asia Institute strengthens APEC Study Centre across 20+ Asia–Pacific economies

In 2025, Griffith University expanded its Griffith Asia Institute APEC Study Centre, strengthening partnerships across 21 Asia–Pacific economies. The Centre delivers policy-relevant research and capacity-building initiatives, such as the Young Professionals Program, to support evidence-based decision-making and foster inclusive, sustainable economic growth in the region.

Griffith Asia Institute strengthens APEC Study Centre

Research Performance

SDG 08: Decent Work & Economic Growth	Scholarly Output	Field-Weighted Citation Impact)
2025	182	2.83
2024	186	2.8

SDG 8 decreased from 186 publications in 2024 to 182 in 2025, while FWCI increased from 2.80 in 2024 to 2.83 in 2025, providing a measure of progress in the University's research contribution to this goal.



Progress towards SDG 9 Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure

Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialisation and foster innovation.

Griffith's progress towards SDG 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure is demonstrated through action across our Sustainability Strategy to advance research, innovation, industry collaboration and sustainable infrastructure.

Operations

Translating interdisciplinary collaboration into real-world solutions

Griffith University prioritises innovation through interdisciplinary collaboration, translating research across fields into real-world solutions. In 2025, Griffith secured thirteen ARC Discovery Projects focused on themes like sustainability and technological advancement demonstrates the university's commitment to impactful, community-driven research. This approach enables Griffith scholars to apply knowledge in industry and community settings, directly supporting SDG 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure.

From Research to Resilience

Water-Sensitive Urban Design and sustainable infrastructure

Griffith continues to embed water-sensitive urban design principles into new campus developments to improve environmental performance and infrastructure resilience. Initiatives included campus-wide waterway monitoring, erosion controls, mandated WELS-rated fixtures, tree planting to reduce stormwater runoff and investigations into stormwater naturalisation opportunities at the Gold Coast and Brisbane South campuses. These measures support sustainable infrastructure development, improve water management outcomes and help build campuses that are better adapted to future environmental challenges.

Digital infrastructure for sustainability decision-making

The Griffith University Planning and Statistics Portal now includes an energy consumption, solar production, utilities and other dashboards. These platforms became publicly accessible in 2025 and now sit alongside our Annual Sustainability Report on the Metrics and Reports page.

Academic

World-first agriculture farming project uses robotics and machine vision to increase productivity

Professor Yongsheng Gao of Griffith University has received a 2025 Industry Laureate Fellowship to develop automated farming technologies. Backed by nearly $4 million and Australian Bay Lobster Producers Limited, his project will create the world's first automated sustainable lobster farming factory using robotics and machine vision. The innovation aims to reduce larvae mortality, optimise feeding, and cut labour costs, increasing productivity and sustainability in agriculture. Outcomes include higher yields, reduced costs, and less environmental impact, with potential for wider farming applications.

Using robotics to improve agriculture

Engagement and Partnerships

First underwater footage of humpback whale nursery supports call for greater protection of Moreton Bay

Griffith University researchers, PhD Candidate Stephanie Stack and Professor Susan Bengston Nash, working with the University of Hawaii, Quandamooka Traditional Owners, and industry partners, have documented the first underwater footage of humpback whale calves nursing in Moreton Bay. The project shows the Bay as a crucial nursery and reveals new social behaviours, while also highlighting risks from vessel traffic and propeller injuries, supporting calls for greater protection of the area.

Protecting Humpback Whale Nurseries in Moreton Bay

Strategic partnership to develop future-ready graduates for one of Australia's major banks

In 2025, ANZ deepened its commitment to Queensland's economic and workforce development by forming a strategic partnership with Griffith University, alongside the University of Queensland. This collaboration positions Griffith as a key university partner for one of Australia's major banks, joining the ranks of other financial institutions already working closely with the University. Through this agreement, ANZ and Griffith will co-develop research, training, and workforce pathways that respond to emerging industry needs, particularly in digital capability and risk management. The partnership also supports the development of future-ready graduates by creating opportunities for student placements, industry-embedded learning, and collaborative research projects that address real-world challenges.

Building a Future-Ready Workforce in Queensland

In 2025, Griffith University generated more than $42 million through commercial research, consultancy and commercialisation partnerships, demonstrating progress towards SDG 9 through industry collaboration, innovation and the translation of research into economic and societal impact.

Research Performance

SDG 09: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure	Scholarly Output	Field-Weighted Citation Impact)
2025	206	1.76
2024	187	1.84

SDG 9 increased from 187 publications in 2024 to 206 in 2025, while FWCI decreased from 1.84 in 2024 to 1.76 in 2025, providing a measure of progress in the University's research contribution to this goal. Despite this decline, SDG 9 remains a strong research performer, with citation impact well above the global average.



Progress towards SDG 10 Reduced Inequalities

Reduce inequality within and among countries.

Griffith's progress towards SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities is demonstrated through action across our Sustainability Strategy to reduce barriers and create more equitable opportunities for diverse and under-represented communities.

Operations

Supporting reconciliation through inclusive engagement and cultural competency programs

In 2025, Griffith University reinforced its commitment to Indigenous flourishing and reconciliation through sustained cultural competency programs and student support. Fifty workshops equipped nearly 700 staff to embed Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander perspectives into teaching, research and engagement, while deepening understanding of histories, protocols and systemic equity, leading to a record 233 Indigenous graduates from almost every school. This graduation event brought together proud families, Elders, Knowledge Holders and staff, with GUMURRII playing a central role in supporting students from enrolment through to graduation. Highlights included the recognition of academic excellence awarded to Juha Kinnunen (Bachelor of Design) and a powerful class address by Rachel Bywaters (Bachelor of Contemporary Australian Indigenous Art), both of which reflected the challenges and transformative rewards of higher education.

Indigenous Flourishing at Griffith

Advancing diverse genders, bodies and sexualities at Griffith

Since 2020, Griffith University has advanced inclusion for people of diverse genders, bodies and sexualities (DGBS)/(LGBTQIA+) through coordinated initiatives. This work earned external recognition, including a SAGE Cygnet Award in 2023 and Gold Tier Status in AWEI in 2024 and 2025. Staff and student consultations highlighted barriers such as digital system limitations, organisational capacity, and low awareness. Griffith responded by expanding DGBS (LGBTQIA+) inclusion training, the Ally Network, and updating policies to allow preferred names and gender changes without proof. Visibility was boosted through Pride branding, events, resources and campus crossings. Additional commitments include paid gender affirmation leave, a research symposium, and an allyship micro-credential course for health professionals, all supported by the Griffith Pride Committee.

Advancing DGBS (LGBTQIA+) Inclusion at Griffith University

Academic

Driving inclusive research by supporting research students and researchers with disability

In 2025, Griffith University advanced SDG 10 by supporting researchers with disability through the HDR Disability Scholars Program. Established in 2023, this initiative provides scholarships, mentoring and peer support, empowering higher degree by research students with disability to lead inclusive projects and address structural barriers in higher education.

Driving Inclusive Research at Griffith

Engagement and Partnerships

Supporting hidden disabilities through the Sunflower network

Griffith University has joined the Hidden Disabilities Sunflower network, allowing staff and students to use the Sunflower symbol, most commonly on a lanyard, to discreetly indicate they may need extra support. This membership offers access to awareness campaigns and training, helping the Griffith community better recognise and assist those with non-visible disabilities like chronic illness, autism or mental health challenges.

Supporting Hidden Disabilities Through the Sunflower Network

Griffith continues to engage students from diverse backgrounds and reduce inequities in access to education. In 2025:

- **4,236 of 9,900 (43%) all commencing – domestic – undergraduate students were first-generation students starting a first degree**
- **1,265 (3.3%) of domestic students were Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students**
- **2,736 (17%) of 15,768 commencing domestic students were students from low socio-economic backgrounds**
- **1,564 (9.3%) of 16,911 all commencing students were from low or lower-middle-income countries**
- **5,446 (14%) of all domestic students were students with a disability**

Research Performance

SDG 10: Reduced Inequality	Scholarly Output	Field-Weighted Citation Impact)
2025	159	2.13
2024	150	2.42

SDG 10 increased from 150 publications in 2024 to 159 in 2025, while FWCI decreased from 2.42in 2024 to 2.13 in 2025, providing a measure of progress in the University's research contribution to this goal. Despite this decline, SDG 10 remains a strong research performer, with citation impact well above the global average.



Progress towards SDG 11 Sustainable Cities and Communities

Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable.

Griffith's progress towards SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities is demonstrated through action across our Sustainability Strategy to create more inclusive, resilient and sustainable campuses, cities and communities.

Operations

Revitalising our campuses with new green spaces and sustainable facilities

Griffith University is investing in the future of its campuses with two major projects: the Gold Coast student accommodation precinct and the demolition of the Environment 2 (N13) at Brisbane South. The Gold Coast development is designed to provide modern, affordable, and purpose-built housing that supports student wellbeing and fosters a vibrant campus community. At Brisbane South, the removal of outdated infrastructure will make way for new green spaces, enhancing the campus environment and creating more inclusive, accessible areas for staff and students.

Building Sustainable Communities

Academic

ARC Centre of Excellence Transforming Human Origins established

Griffith University has been awarded the ARC Centre of Excellence for Transforming Human Origins Research, one of only eight Centres funded nationally. The Centre secured $35 million in federal funding and $50 million from partners (total $85 million), marking Griffith's first time leading a Centre of Excellence since 2007. Led by Professor Michael Petraglia, Director of the Australian Research Centre for Human Evolution, the Centre brings together 62 researchers from seven Australian universities and 30 national and international partners. It will integrate Indigenous knowledge systems with advanced scientific methods to co-design and deliver fieldwork in underexplored regions of Africa, Asia and Australia.

Transforming Human Origins Research

Sustainable Campuses, Career-Ready Graduates

Industry partners at the CBD campus are offering work-integrated learning (WIL) placements for engineering, architecture and construction management students. Architecture students are restoring the Treasury Building's original model, launching student-led initiatives to revitalise and showcase artifacts. WIL placements and projects are being expanded across disciplines as part of the campus development.

In 2025, Griffith progressed the adaptive reuse of Brisbane's heritage-listed Treasury Building into an efficient, all-electric, zero-gas campus, supporting SDG 11 through sustainable urban renewal.





Transforming Human Origins Research field work

11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES

Progress towards SDG 11 Sustainable Cities and Communities

Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable.

Engagement and Partnerships

Exploring Papua New Guinea's cultural practices through art

From November 2024 to March 2025, Griffith University Art Museum (GUAM) presented Yuriyal Bridgeman: yubilong(mi) bilongyu, an exhibition exploring cultural identity, memory and tradition through multidisciplinary works rooted in Papua New Guinea's Simbu Province. Bridgeman's practice spans photography, video, painting, and sculpture, blending portraiture and social commentary with traditional men's practices. The exhibition was accompanied by a major monograph co-edited by Angela Goddard and Bougainville Elder Aunty Sana Balai, featuring contributions from Pacific and Australian cultural leaders. With over 2,000 visitors and a vibrant public opening, the project contributes to SDG 11, SDG 4 and SDG 16, demonstrating how contemporary art can preserve cultural heritage and foster inclusive public dialogue.

Preserving cultural memory through contemporary art



Yuriyal Bridgeman: yubilong(mi)bilongyu exhibition



Craig & Karl: Double Vision exhibition

Celebrating creative duo's impact across Brisbane

In 2025, Griffith University Art Museum presented Craig & Karl: Double Vision, marking the design duo's 30-year partnership and Griffith's 50th anniversary. The exhibition, co-curated by Angela Goddard and Carrie McCarthy, featured their bold, graphic style and included citywide public art installations across Brisbane. It emphasised the impact of Griffith's Queensland College of Art and Design on creative leadership. Collaboration with Brisbane City Council, Brisbane Festival and Fish Lane Arts Precinct enabled strong public engagement and student participation, boosting recognition of Queensland's creative sector and increasing access to art.

Craig & Karl – Double Vision

67%

of Griffith's vehicle fleet are now battery or hybrid electric as of 2025

57

EV charging points are now available across Griffith campuses, with four publicly accessible as of 2025

Research Performance

SDG 11: Sustainable Cities	Scholarly Output	Field-Weighted Citation Impact)
2025	144	2.08
2024	155	3.14

SDG 11 decreased from 155 publications in 2024 to 144 in 2025, while FWCI decreased from 3.14 in 2024 to 2.08 in 2025, providing a measure of progress in the University's research contribution to this goal. Despite this decline, SDG 11 remains a strong research performer, with citation impact well above the global average.

12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION

Progress towards SDG 12 Responsible Consumption and Production

Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns.

Griffith's progress towards SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production is demonstrated through action across our Sustainability Strategy to reduce waste, advance circularity and promote more responsible procurement and resource use.

Operations

Putting the circular economy into practice at Griffith

Warp It exemplifies Griffith's circular economy by turning surplus furniture and equipment into reusable assets. As of 2025 the service has repurposed more than 138,000kg of e-waste and responsibly recycled over 4,000kg, cutting landfill and new purchases. By extending material lifespans, Warp It supports waste reduction, lowers Scope 3 emissions and proves how practical systems and small behaviour changes can achieve significant sustainability outcomes.

From Waste to Resource: The Warp It Story

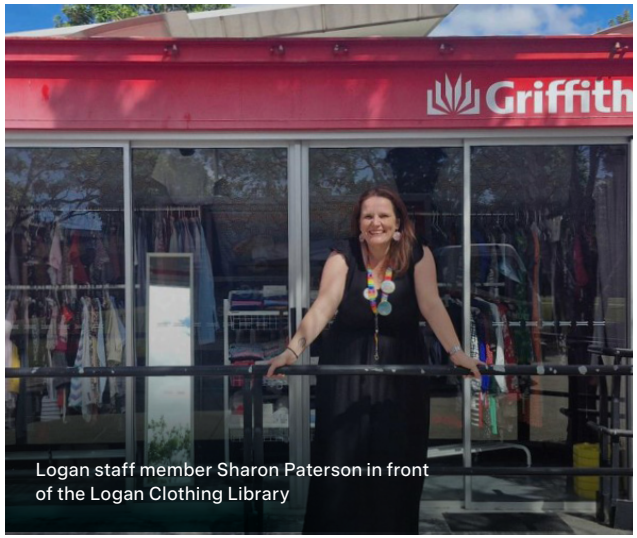


Reducing waste on-campus

Diverting textiles from landfill while supporting students

The Griffith Clothing Library at Logan campus, founded by Sophie Nakamura and Louise Hauser, tackles fast fashion waste and supports students needing clothing for placements, interviews and everyday life. In 2025, 295 students received more than 1,000 items, diverting 400kg of textiles from landfill thanks to 32 volunteers. The Library also raised $2,750—enough to fund a Brighter Futures Scholarship—through staff and community sales. Its range now includes professional, casual and children's clothing, fostering inclusivity and providing confidence and opportunity to all students.

Logan Clothing Library



Logan staff member Sharon Paterson in front of the Logan Clothing Library

Academic

Building consumer trust in refurbished devices to cut e-waste

Electronic waste is rising globally, with mobile phones a key source. In 2025 Griffith University's Dr David Fechner, Professor Sharyn Rundle-Thiele and Professor Sameer Deshpande, supported by UNEP, used behavioural science and a multilingual survey in Indonesia, Kenya, Kazakhstan and Mexico to study consumer attitudes to refurbished devices. Their pilot identified barriers like trust and availability, and motivators such as cost and environmental benefits. Fifteen interventions—including transparent labelling and financing—were tested to influence purchasing behaviour, with support from UNEP, SIDA and the Griffith Centre for Social Impact.

Advancing circular electronics through behavioural science

In 2025 59% of waste away from landfill, reducing per capita landfill waste by 33% from 2024 and lowering waste-related emissions by 35% (approximately 456 tCO_2-e).

As of 2025 eliminated ≈202,000 plastic items on the Gold Coast campus since November 2024, with 78% of outlets using compostable coffee cups and around half using compostable lids.

12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION

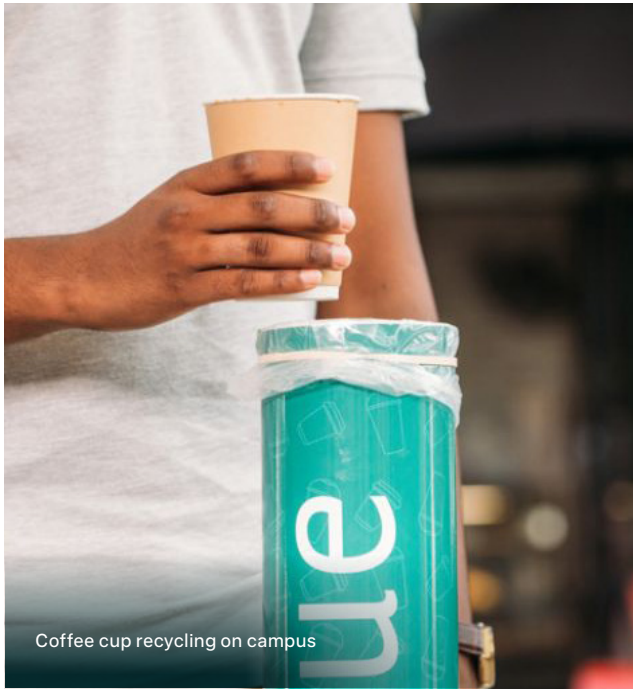
Progress towards SDG 12 Responsible Consumption and Production

Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns.

Developing early career researchers through plastic waste research

In 2025 the Student Academy of Excellence has formed a new partnership with Griffith's arm of the Solving Plastic Waste Collaborative Research Centre. Over the next ten years, the Centre will employ forty students as PhD candidates, creating a strong pathway into research, for example, a sustainable approach to managing medical plastics by mapping and analysing waste streams for selected hard and soft plastics at the Queensland Children's Hospital.

Solving Plastic Waste creates opportunities for Higher Degree Research



Coffee cup recycling on campus

Engagement and Partnerships

Supporting campus food retailers to reduce single-use plastic

Griffith University is reducing single-use plastics across its campus operations through a partnership with the Boomerang Alliance's Plastic Free Places program. In 2025, Plastic Free Places enabled the University to move beyond compliance through incremental, outlet-by-outlet change. Every outlet made improvements, with two cafés (Okey Dokey and Coffee Major) now just one item away from achieving Plastic Free Champion status. On the Gold Coast campus alone, approximately 202,000 plastic items have been eliminated since November 2024, with 78% of outlets using compostable coffee cups and around half transitioning to compostable lids.

Innovative e-waste PhD research recognised by Green Grown Awards

PhD candidate Yue Xi was recognised with a highly commended award at the Green Gown Awards Australasia 2025, for her outstanding work in recycling e-waste. Her research addresses one of the most pressing sustainability challenges by finding innovative ways to reduce waste and recover valuable materials. Her achievement showcases how Griffith researchers are tackling global environmental issues. It also highlights the role of early-career researchers in driving innovation and advancing sustainable solutions.

Student leadership in E-Waste highly commended



Professor Catherine Pickering and Yue Xi

Research Performance

SDG 12: Responsible Consumption	Scholarly Output	Field-Weighted Citation Impact)
2025	172	2.00
2024	176	2.35

SDG 12 decreased from 176 publications in 2024 to 172 in 2025, while FWCI decreased from 2.35 in 2024 to 2.00 in 2025, providing a measure of progress in the University's research contribution to this goal. Despite this decline, SDG 12 remains a strong research performer, with citation impact well above the global average.

13 CLIMATE ACTION

Progress towards SDG 13 Climate Action

Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts.

Griffith's progress towards SDG 13: Climate Action is demonstrated through action across our Sustainability Strategy to reduce emissions, build climate resilience and advance climate knowledge and solutions.

Operations

Griffith launches inaugural Climate Action Plan

Griffith University launched its Climate Action Plan 2025–2030, setting out the systemic and transformative change needed for a climate positive future. The Climate Action Plan takes a university-wide focus, weaving climate action into teaching, research, engagement and campus operations, and making sustainability part of who we are as a community. This includes reducing emissions, building climate resilience and supporting climate justice through meaningful partnerships with First Nations communities. It also means prioritising climate literacy, so every graduate is ready to lead change in their field.

Griffith launches its first Climate Action Plan

2025 emissions

Total carbon emissions for the 2024/25 year were 45,489.9 tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (tCO_2-e). This is 46.7% below the 2010/11 baseline but 1.7% higher than the previous year. In 2024/25, Scope 1 emissions accounted for 3.0 per cent of the University's total carbon footprint and totalled 1,370.7 tCO_2-e (~300 passenger vehicles' annual emissions), reflecting a small year-on-year reduction due to lower gas use and vehicle fuel consumption, and a 35% decrease since 2010/11. Scope 2 emissions, primarily from purchased electricity, represented the largest share at 67% (30,530.6 tCO_2-e) (equivalent to ~7,000–8,000 households' electricity-related emissions), increasing by 14% compared to 2023/24 but remaining 42% below 2010/11 levels, influenced by additional load from the new CBD campus alongside increased on campus solar generation and energy efficiency measures. Scope 3 emissions emissions made up the remaining 30% and declined by 17% to 13,588.7 tCO_2-e (~6,000–7,000 return flights from Brisbane to Tokyo), a 55% reduction since 2010/11, driven largely by a 40% reduction in aviation emissions, already below the 2030 target.

Academic

Griffith academics appointed to senior roles in IPCC Seventh Assessment Report Working Group

Griffith marked the appointment of two top academics to senior roles in the IPCC Seventh Assessment Report (AR7), Working Group II. Professor Brendan Mackey is Review Editor for Chapter 14 on biodiversity and ecosystems, while Associate Professor Johanna Nalau serves as Coordinating Lead Author for Chapter 4 on adaptation options. The AR7 will guide climate negotiations under the UNFCCC, including updates to the Global Goal on Adaptation and National Adaptation Plans.

Griffith academics appointed key roles on the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change

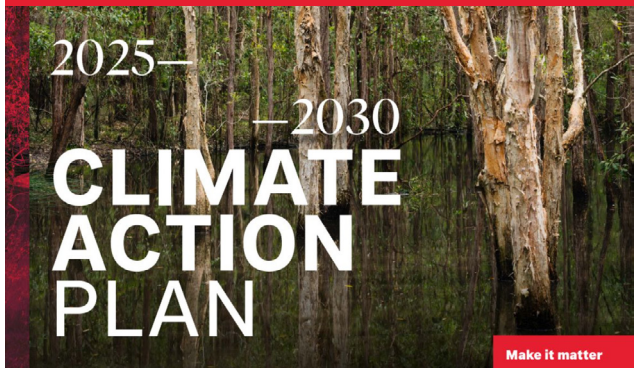
Engagement and Partnerships

Student leadership in environmental sustainability recognised

Griffith University student Natalia Drazek received the Protecting Our Environment Award at the Gold Coast Student Experience Awards for her outstanding sustainability and environmental leadership. Her initiatives, recognised during a Griffith internship overseas, mobilised hundreds of students, advanced ecosystem restoration, climate awareness and waste reduction, delivering measurable environmental impact across campus and the Gold Coast. The award demonstrates Griffith's commitment to empowering students as sustainability changemakers. Natalia's achievements highlight the impact of student-led leadership and learning, strengthening the visibility of Griffith's environmental stewardship both within the university and beyond.

Student Leadership in Environmental Sustainability

In 2025, Griffith launched its Climate Action Plan, setting a pathway to net zero by 2029 while building a more climate-resilient and climate-literate University.



In 2024/25, Griffith's carbon emissions were 46.7% below the 2010/11 baseline, with Scope 3 emissions already exceeding the University's 2030 reduction target.

Research Performance

SDG 13: Climate Action	Scholarly Output	Field-Weighted Citation Impact)
2025	192	2.32
2024	196	3.05

SDG 13 decreased from 196 publications in 2024 to 192 in 2025, while FWCI decreased from 3.05 in 2024 to 2.32 in 2025, providing a measure of progress in the University's research contribution to this goal. Despite this decline, SDG 13 remains a strong research performer, with citation impact well above the global average.



Progress towards SDG 14 Life Below Water

Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development.

Griffith's progress towards SDG 14: Life Below Water is demonstrated through action across our Sustainability Strategy to protect aquatic ecosystems and advance research, education and partnerships for healthier oceans and waterways.

Operations

Whole-of-water-cycle management adopted at Griffith

In 2025, Griffith University launched it's Integrated Water Management framework guides how water is managed across campuses to protect downstream waterways and marine ecosystems. Through a whole-of-water-cycle approach, the University applies water-sensitive urban design principles and environmental best practice to reduce water consumption, manage stormwater and prevent pollutants from entering the environment. Across campus operations, water efficiency measures, stormwater controls and incident prevention protocols are embedded into planning, maintenance and capital works. This approach supports cooler campuses, reduces flood risk and improves water quality by minimising contaminated runoff to receiving waters, including creeks, wetlands and rivers that ultimately connect to Moreton Bay.

Integrated Water Management: Protecting Waterways from Campus to Coast

Waterway monitoring

In 2025 monitoring devices were installed at Gold Coast, Logan and Brisbane South to establish baseline conditions and enable adaptive management. Water quality and erosion protocols were implemented, covering both temporary and permanent waterways, with event-based monitoring for bushfire or development impacts.

Implementing sustainable water initiatives

Water-sensitive design was embedded in new developments, with campus-wide waterway monitoring, erosion controls and mandated WELS-rated fixtures. In 2025 waterway monitoring and erosion protocols were published, with tree planting to reduce runoff and stormwater naturalisation investigations progressed at Gold Coast and Brisbane South.

Potable water consumption

In 2025 total water consumption was 233,217 kL (7.34 kL per person) (~93 Olympic-sized swimming pools), a 2.4% reduction from 2024.

In 2025 total water consumption reduced by 2.4% from 2024

Academic

Improving the monitoring efficiency of the Great Barrier Reef using survey drones

In 2024, Lizard Island on the Great Barrier Reef saw severe coral bleaching, with over 92% coral mortality. Griffith University researchers, led by Dr Vincent Raoult, used drones to efficiently map reef health, providing a scalable alternative to traditional surveys. Supported by CSIRO, Macquarie University and the Great Barrier Reef Foundation, the project received funding to expand drone surveys and track coral recovery and, in 2025,the team began linking coral health data to environmental conditions.

Using drones to monitor coral mortality and reef health

Changing recreational fishing behaviour to ensure sustainable seas for future generations

A 2025 project by Social Marketing @ Griffith, Fishing 2.0 is a Griffith University initiative that uses behavioural science and co-design to encourage voluntary catch reporting among Queensland recreational fishers. By collaborating with government, industry and the community, the project makes reporting easier and more rewarding, improving fisheries data and fostering marine sustainability.

Fishing Smarter for Sustainable Seas

Engagement and Partnerships

Social enterprise collaboration supports marine conservation

In 2025 Dr Olaf Meynecke, project manager of the Griffith co-led Whales and Climate Research Program, partnered with social enterprise Ugly Xmas Rashie to fund marine conservation. Sales of a whale-inspired, sustainably produced rashie are supporting research into climate impacts on migrating whales and raising awareness of ocean warming and biodiversity loss.

Whale of a Cause

Research Performance

SDG 14: Life Below Water	Scholarly Output	Field-Weighted Citation Impact)
2025	137	2.17
2024	135	1.11

SDG 14 increased from 135 publications in 2024 to 137 in 2025, while FWCI increased from 1.11 in 2024 to 2.17 in 2025, providing a measure of progress in the University's research contribution to this goal and reflecting growth in both research activity and impact.

Progress towards SDG 15 Life on Land

Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems and halt biodiversity loss.

Griffith's progress towards SDG 15: Life on Land is demonstrated through action across our Sustainability Strategy to protect biodiversity, restore ecosystems and improve the stewardship of natural environments.

Student and community engagement on biodiversity conservation 2025

8000+	Community, student and staff engagement increased, with 8,000+ participants involved in on-campus activities including BioBlitzes, wildlife monitoring, campus tours, science festivals and living lab projects.
2000+	More than 2,000 biodiversity books, 2,000 seed packs and 700 plants were distributed to support biodiversity education and action.
100+	Over 100 schools and more than 10,000 students participated in EcoCentre education programs focused on biodiversity and environmental stewardship.
550,000+	Social and traditional media engagement exceeded 550,000, significantly extending the reach of Griffith's biodiversity conservation initiatives beyond campus.

Operations

Closing the loop on organic waste at Griffith through composting

In 2025,Griffith University continued it's Gold Coast campus composting program applies circular economy principles to support healthy terrestrial ecosystems. Food waste from cafés is processed daily in closed-loop bacterial composting systems, then combined with green waste for use as mulch in campus gardens. This boosts soil health, reduces reliance on imported mulch, and lowers the risk of introducing invasive pests.

Advancing campus biodiversity and environmental learning

Griffith University's nest box program supports native wildlife at Brisbane South, Logan and Gold Coast by providing habitat for species such as possums, gliders and the endangered powerful owl.As of 2025 Brisbane South hosts 90 nest boxes as part of a broader biodiversity strategy that protects critical vegetation and supports the local endangered koala population. The program helps reduce impacts from urban pressures such as land clearing and pollution while engaging students and researchers in hands-on ecological monitoring.

Advancing Campus Biodiversity and Environmental Learning

Native forest BioCondition assessments

In 2025 forest biodiversity condition scores declined slightly at Brisbane South and Gold Coast campuses, based on an independent third-party photopoints-based assessment. Brisbane South scored 4.2 out of 5 (down from 4.4 in 2024), while Gold Coast scored 3.5 out of 5 (down from 4.0 in 2024). The decline was primarily associated with storm damage, increased weed incursions and informal track creation by Griffith and community users. Findings are informing management actions and a new Ecological Stewardship Plan.

Biodiversity restoration activities

Total forest area across Brisbane South and Gold Coast campuses was maintained at 155 hectares, with no net loss of remnant vegetation. In 2025 biodiversity restoration activities included ongoing weed management, ground-cover restoration, planting of more than 500 trees and plants, and remediation of illegal dumping.

500+ trees and plants planted



Protecting biodiversity on our campuses

Progress towards SDG 15 Life on Land

Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems and halt biodiversity loss.

Academic

National mapping study identifies critically endangered habitats for conservation action

In 2025 Griffith University researchers led a national study identifying habitat for 305 critically endangered terrestrial and freshwater species with extremely limited ranges. The study revealed that nearly half of this habitat—around 41,000km²—lies outside protected areas, often overlapping with land suitable for agriculture. Led by Dr Michelle Ward and involving over 20 institutions, the project provides a blueprint for conservation action and supports Australia's commitment to halt new extinctions by 2030.

Mapping habitat to halt extinction



Toohey Forest's biodiversity

Engagement and Partnerships

Engaging citizen scientists to document local biodiversity

Griffith University's BioBlitz program engages students, staff and community members in citizen science to document local biodiversity and build ecological literacy. 2025 Events at Brisbane South and Toohey Forest used the iNaturalist app to generate 4,000+ observations of 500+ species, ranging from plants and fungi to birds, reptiles, and mammals. The events not only highlighted the rich ecosystems surrounding Griffith's campuses but also reinforced its commitment to climate-positive transformation and ecological stewardship. Through this model, Griffith is cultivating a culture of active participation, where citizen scientists contribute meaningful data and deepen their connection to nature.

BioBlitz

In 2025, a new book was released: Common Vertebrates on Griffith University Campuses.

Led by Professor Catherine Pickering, with contributions from Work Integrated Learning students, the free guide documents 80 common species across Brisbane South, Gold Coast and Logan campuses.

Published as part of Griffith's 50th anniversary, the book celebrates campus biodiversity while supporting education, research and community awareness.



Native plants in Toohey Forest

Research Performance

SDG 15: Life on Land	Scholarly Output	Field-Weighted Citation Impact)
2025	155	2.16
2024	189	1.89

SDG 15 decreased from 189 publications in 2024 to 155 in 2025, while FWCI increased from 1.89 in 2024 to 2.16 in 2025, providing a measure of progress in the University's research contribution to this goal and reflecting growth in both research activity and impact.

Progress towards SDG 16 Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions

Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels.

Griffith's progress towards SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions is demonstrated through action across our Sustainability Strategy to strengthen inclusion, integrity, transparency, good governance and social justice.

Operations

Griffith's next strategic plan outlines bold vision for equity and inclusive education

Griffith University's Strategic Plan 2025–2030 sets out a bold vision to mark its 50th anniversary, anchored on the four pillars of Purpose, People, Partnerships, and Place. The plan commits to embedding values-driven education and research, expanding access through online degrees, a new Brisbane CBD campus, and pathways via TAFE and the EmpowerED program. Equity and inclusion are central, with a strong focus on increasing participation from under-represented groups and positioning Griffith as a university of choice for First Nations staff and students. Community engagement is embodied in the launch of Griffith Community Hours, pledging 1.5 million hours of free or low-cost services to Queenslanders, from health clinics to counselling. Innovation and collaboration drive the plan's research and future initiatives. Developed through extensive consultation with students, staff, alumni, and partners, the plan reaffirms Griffith's commitment to inclusive education, impactful research, and deep community engagement.

Creating a Brighter Future for All

In 2025, Griffith strengthened accountability and transparency, by launching publicly accessible sustainability performance data and introducing quarterly climate reporting to Council.

Public sustainability reporting and transparency

In 2025, Griffith strengthened institutional transparency by making sustainability performance data publicly accessible through interactive online dashboards covering energy consumption, solar production and utilities. These platforms sit alongside the University's Annual Sustainability Report and provide staff, students and the wider community with access to sustainability information, supporting evidence-based decision-making, accountability and public reporting. By improving access to environmental performance data, Griffith demonstrates its commitment to transparent governance and responsible institutional management.

Promoting accountability through ethical supply chain governance

In 2025, Griffith strengthened responsible procurement practices through ongoing supplier due diligence and modern slavery risk management. Ethical supplier checks were conducted quarterly, while 170 suppliers completed modern slavery risk assessments. Improvement plans were requested from 40 suppliers, with 28 completed and monitored during the reporting period. Through partnerships with organisations including the Mekong Club, Electronics Watch and the Australasian Universities Procurement Network, Griffith supports ethical supply chain governance and responsible institutional purchasing practices.

An independent 2025 review confirmed Griffith's strong governance structures, policies and processes - supporting accountability, transparency and SDG 16

Academic

Griffith students lead the way in New Colombo Plan grants and Asia-Pacific focused internships

Griffith University students completed international internships across Asia through New Colombo Plan (NCP) grants and the Griffith Asia Business Internships (GABI) Program. Through the program, students undertook immersive professional placements in law firms, start-ups and international organisations, supported by strong institutional partnerships and in-country oversight, building students' skills, networks and cross-cultural capability and strengthening inclusive, rules-based institutions across the region.

Global Learning, Lasting Impact



16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS

Progress towards SDG 16 Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions

Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels.



Professor John Flood

Griffith academic receives prestigious recognition for contributions to social sciences

Professor John Flood from Griffith's School of Humanities, Languages and Social Science was conferred the Award of Fellow to the Academy of Social Sciences (UK). This prestigious recognition honours his distinguished contributions to the social sciences and his influence on global academic discourse, with his research supporting stronger governance, justice systems, and social resilience.

Academy of Social Sciences Fellow

Strengthening institutions through SDG reforms in Bhutan

In September 2025, Griffith University delivered the Australia Awards South Asia and Mongolia Policy Essentials for Senior Executives (Bhutan) Short Course, supporting Bhutan's Thirteenth Five Year Plan and Gross National Happiness priorities. Twenty senior officials completed workshops, site visits and masterclasses with Australian experts, developing Return-to-Work Projects on priorities such as electricity pricing reform, health financing and foreign worker accommodation. Delivered with DFAT and Australia Awards, the course is already informing SDG-aligned reforms and strengthening institutional capacity.

Strengthening institutions

Engagement and Partnerships

Combating financial crime through strategic partnership with Westpac

In 2025, Griffith University and Westpac Banking Corporation formed a strategic partnership to strengthen Australia's response to financial crime through workforce upskilling and applied research. Delivered through Griffith's Academy of Excellence in Financial Crime Investigation and Compliance, the collaboration provides specialised micro-credentials that build practical skills in financial crime investigation, compliance and forensic analysis. By equipping hundreds of professionals with industry-relevant capabilities, the partnership supports safer financial systems, protects vulnerable communities, and demonstrates how university–industry collaboration can drive decent work, economic resilience and trust in Australia's financial sector.

Partnering to combat financial crime

Research Performance

SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions	Scholarly Output	Field-Weighted Citation Impact)
2025	242	1.72
2024	228	1.26

SDG 16 increased from 228 publications in 2024 to 242 in 2025, while FWCI increased from 1.26 in 2024 to 1.72 in 2025, providing a measure of progress in the University's research contribution to this goal and reflecting growth in both research activity and impact.

17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS

Progress towards SDG 17 Partnerships for the Goals

Create, strengthen, and maintain global and local partnerships with impact for the Goals.

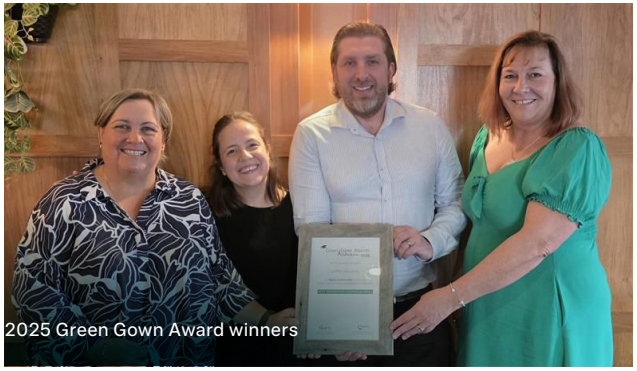
Griffith's progress towards SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals is demonstrated through action across our Sustainability Strategy to build partnerships that mobilise knowledge, resources and collective action for sustainable development.

Operations

Griffith community surpasses over 440,000 hours of community service milestone

In 2025, Griffith University's Community Hours Commitment surpassed a major milestone, with staff and students contributing more than 442,000 hours to initiatives spanning health, education, environment and cultural engagement. Impact highlights included Indigenous food innovation through on-Country learning, free dental outreach for Indigenous families in Cherbourg, and ongoing support for people living with aphasia through community connection programs. Environmental action, digital literacy, public health capacity-building and creative arts initiatives further demonstrated the breadth of Griffith's community partnerships and commitment to meaningful, place-based impact.

Partnering for Community



2025 Green Gown Award winners

Community partnership team recognised for embedding sustainability in curriculum

Griffith's Community Internships in Action team received a highly commended Green Gown Awards Australasia 2025 award for embedding sustainability into learning through community-based projects. Each year, 300+ students complete 50–80 hours with not-for-profit partners across sectors including disability, conservation, health, education and food security. Open to all students (regardless of GPA) and supported by 300+ community partners, the program builds employability, cultural competence and ethical leadership while delivering tangible benefits for communities.

Award-Winning Learning through Community Impact

Academic

Australia's Olympic Pathway University title bestowed on Griffith

Griffith University has solidified its leadership in elite athlete education through an exclusive landmark partnership with the Australian Olympic Committee (AOC), officially recognising Griffith as the Australian Olympic Pathway University. This partnership provides Olympians and pathway athletes with tailored academic support, flexible study options, credit recognition, and scholarships up to $40,000, enabling them to balance study and sport. Building on Griffith's record of producing more Olympians than any other Australian university over the past three Games, this exclusive partnership with the AOC establishes a structured pathway for athlete education and career development, supporting athletes during and after their sporting careers.

Exclusive Australian Olympic Pathway University



Australian Olympic Pathway University launch

17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS

Progress towards SDG 17 Partnerships for the Goals

Create, strengthen, and maintain global and local partnerships with impact for the Goals.

Philanthropy continues to accelerate and transform research into social impact

In 2025, increased philanthropy at Griffith University accelerated high-impact research, driving advances in spinal cord injury treatment, justice reform, battery technology, and saliva-based diagnostics. Donor support has enabled breakthroughs that deliver real-world solutions and meaningful social impact.

Philanthropy Uplift and Its Transformative Impact

Engagement and Partnerships

Griffith's 50 year legacy impacting Queensland's regional development honoured

As part of its 50th anniversary celebrations, Griffith University hosted two milestone events in October that spotlighted its enduring contributions to Queensland's development. The Partnering for Impact: Gold Coast Leaders' Lunch convened regional changemakers to honour Griffith's role in shaping the city's growth through education, research, and innovation. Keynote speaker and alumnus Anthony Miller, CEO of Westpac, underscored education as a powerful lever for change. Meanwhile, the Brisbane South (Nathan) campus welcomed alumni, staff, students, and community members to a vibrant public celebration featuring distinguished alumni including the Hon Dr Jim Chalmers and Kate Miller-Heidke. Together, these events reaffirmed Griffith's commitment to collaboration, regional prosperity, and a bold future of impact.

Celebrating Regional Impact and Community Legacy

Inaugural Impact Leadership Summit invites business leaders to embed sustainability and reconnect with human-centered values

In October 2025, Griffith Business School partnered with the Blackmore Family Foundation to deliver its inaugural Impact Leadership Summit, bringing together CEOs and founders from Australia and New Zealand for a three-day immersive experience. Set in a natural environment and facilitated by leading practitioners, the summit invited participants to step back from daily pressures and reconnect with purpose-driven leadership. Leaders reported renewed clarity and practical insights for embedding sustainability and human-centred values into their organisations, reinforcing the power of reflective, values-led leadership.

Griffith Impact Leadership Summit

In 2025, over $100 million raised through the Campaign to Create a Brighter Future for All, strengthening partnerships and collective action towards SDG 17.



Griffith Impact Leadership Summit attendees

GRIFFITH UNIVERSITY
QUEENSLAND AUSTRALIA

CRICOS: 00233E | TEQSA: PRV12076 | CCS2744

2025 and Beyond

With less than five years to go to realise the 2030 Agenda, the most recent Sustainable Development Report, the annual assessment of progress for all UN member states towards the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) calls for urgent, accelerated action. Griffith University remains committed to the UN SDGs and the United Nations 2030 Agenda.

Priorities for 2026 will continue to include an increase in engagement across the Griffith community, creating a culture of sustainability to deliver on the Sustainability Strategy 2023–2030. We will continue to showcase staff achievements in alignment with the Sustainable Development Goals, while taking action to promote environmental, social and economic sustainability through improved performance.

For more information, please contact:
sustainability@griffith.edu.au.

Griffith University is committed to making our information accessible to everyone. If you require assistance to understand this report, please contact Griffith Sustainability on **sustainability@griffith.edu.au.**