



Sustainable Development Goals

Impact Report 2021



Griffith University acknowledges the people who are the traditional custodians of the land, pays respect to the Elders, past and present, and extends that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.





Vice Chancellor's Message

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development was adopted by all United Nations Member States in 2015. At its core are the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) which provide a framework for achieving economic prosperity, social inclusion, environmental sustainability and good governance for all. The Goals cover the themes of people, planet, prosperity and peace, underpinned by the need for meaningful and effective partnerships to mobilise action. Universities have a critical role to play in creating positive impact for a sustainable future. The mixture of research, learning and engagement activities, combined with large asset portfolios make them uniquely placed to champion action through the SDGs.

Sustainability is a core value of Griffith University, as reflected in our 2020–2025 Strategic Plan – Creating a Future for All. It reflects our commitment to transforming lives and adding to human knowledge and understanding through the principles of excellence, ethical behaviour and engagement. The Strategic Plan recognises that it is through partnerships that Griffith will be able to play a key role in driving economic, social, environmental, cultural and health benefits for our communities. Creating a Future for All also outlines our four main values: First Peoples, environmental sustainability, diversity and inclusion and social justice. These values guide our commitments and actions as a futures-focused organisation driven to achieve positive impact. This commitment is further reflected in Griffith's position as a signatory to the United Nations Global Compact and in our 2021 global ranking of 38th in the Times Higher Education Impact Rankings for the SDGs.

The SDGs, and their overarching principle of 'no one left behind' are an important guiding framework as we continue to strive for sustainability excellence across teaching and learning, research, operations and external leadership. This is particularly true in 2021, as our communities experience the ongoing impacts of COVID-19 and a growing sense of urgency around climate action.

This report provides a snapshot of some of the remarkable achievements of Griffith staff and students across all four pillars of sustainability. From innovative research, creative solutions and world class teaching and learning, these stories are examples of the positive impacts being made. Most importantly, they demonstrate that it is through meaningful partnerships that we will continue to drive the agenda of the SDGs and achieve a better, more sustainable future for all.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Carolyn Evans". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Professor Carolyn Evans
Vice Chancellor and President



1 NO POVERTY

End poverty in all its forms everywhere

Griffith is committed to reducing poverty and improving economic outcomes for all across our research, partnerships and programs.

Over **\$560,000** donated through the staff giving program, assisting 220 students facing financial hardship (2014-2020)

Since starting in Trimester 2, 2019, 54 student tax advisers have been part of Griffith Tax Clinic and have answered almost 500 enquiries and held more than 20 community presentations, including to local schools.

PROVIDING AN INNOVATIVE HOME FOR START-UPS

Launched in 2021, Homebase is an innovative platform for start-ups and scale-ups. Merging the work of an incubator and an accelerator, Homebase supports inclusive and impact-led businesses with both social and economic community benefits. It provides development support and connects participating businesses with a community of impact-led entrepreneurs and organisations. Located at Griffith's Logan campus, Homebase is jointly funded by the City of Logan and Griffith University. Throughout 2021, Homebase delivered a range of free upskilling events, a 20-week impact enterprise accelerator program, and a fully-subsidised three month mentoring program.

SUPPORTING STUDENTS THROUGH SCHOLARSHIPS



Griffith provides more than **600** scholarships to facilitate pathways to university and remove some of the financial pressures associated with tertiary study. In 2021 the Financial Planning Association (FPA) Women in Finance and Economics Scholarships supported 27 Griffith students to pursue their finance studies.

FREE TAX ADVICE

At Griffith Tax Clinic, student advisers provide free advice to anyone without a registered tax agent, to complete tax returns and answer tax queries under the supervision of experienced tax practitioners. The clinic complements a new Taxation major as part of Griffith's Bachelor of Business. Contract, gig economy and home-based work have all increased throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, and the clinic provides the Griffith community with a safe environment to ask questions and receive advice. Since starting in Trimester 2, 2019, 54 student tax advisers have been part of Griffith Tax Clinic and have answered almost 500 enquiries and held more than 20 community presentations, including to local schools.

SUPPORTING BANKING IN THE SOUTH PACIFIC

Founded in 2016 Griffith's South Pacific Centre for Central Banking (SPCCB) brings together world class economic and finance experts to build capacity for research and policy formulation in the South Pacific Central Banks. In 2021, SPCCB collaborated with the World Bank Group to host a regional forum. The forum focused on investment challenges faced by official sector asset manager in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

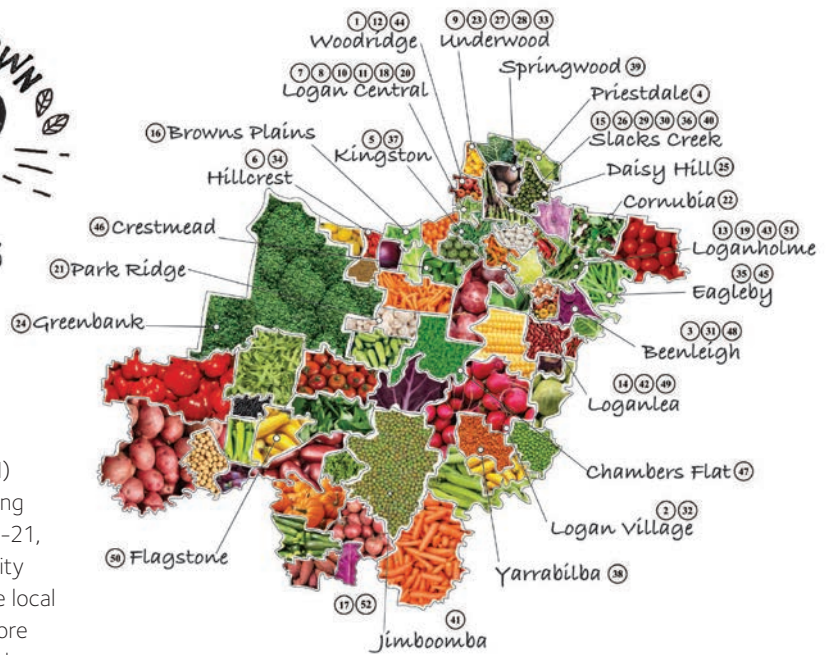


End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture

Griffith is driving innovative partnerships and programs, informed by leading research, to reduce hunger and improve access to nutrition.



Over **200** subsidised fruit boxes provided to students by the Student Representative Council



Griffith's Digital Earth and Resilient Infrastructure (DERI) Research Team facilitates community led decision-making and initiatives around food resilience. Throughout 2020-21, DERI collaborated with Griffith's Yunus Centre, Logan City Council and the Regional Innovation Data lab to map the local food bowl in Logan as part of efforts to encourage a more resilient, local food supply ecosystem. This was launched in 2021 at the Logan LEAF Festival. This project enhances more robust local food access options for Logan's most vulnerable community members and supports the vibrant and multiculturally diverse identity of this major growth corridor.

THE POWER OF FOOD FOR GOOD

Healthy Primary Care (HPC) is a research team at Griffith led by Associate Professor Lauren Ball, who was named as a Queensland Young Tall Poppy in 2021. Associate Professor Ball's research is based on the concept of using the power of food for good and improving dietary advice delivered through the healthcare system. HPC works with community members, healthcare professionals, education providers and professional bodies to improve primary healthcare through research and education. Its Nutricare program provides a practical support program helping doctors and nurses to integrate nutrition into routine care. In 2021, HPC conducted an international review of published health studies from across Europe and Australia that demonstrated the importance of personalised support and community-based care in improving health and nutrition. The study also demonstrated the long-term social and economic savings that result from this approach.

PROVIDING STUDENTS WITH FRESH FRUIT AND VEGETABLES

In 2021, the Student Representative Council, in partnership with the Fruit Box Group provided Griffith students with fresh, low-cost fruit and vegetables. Introduced in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the program recognises increased financial pressures on students.

PANDEMIC NUTRITION AND FOOD SECURITY IN SRI LANKA

In 2021, Griffith University delivered a six-month nutrition and food security teaching program in collaboration with the Australian Government and Sri Lankan University partners. Responding to the increasing stress placed on local food systems and supply changes as a result of the pandemic, this course highlights Griffith's commitment to capacity building around the SDGs in the Asia Pacific region. Program participants included 23 emerging and middle management leaders from Sri Lanka's government, non-government and private sector organisations with existing responsibilities for the formulation and implementation of nutrition and food security policy and programs.



3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING



To ensure healthy lives and promote wellbeing at all ages

Griffith is driving world class health and wellbeing outcomes through innovative research and a commitment to increasing the health and wellbeing of our staff, students and communities.

Number 1 in
Australia and
Number 2 in the world for
Nursing and Midwifery



*“It’s opening up new pathways
into the career I want to choose”*

*Taliyah Hawkins Year 12 Ormeau
Woods State High School*

FIRST PEOPLES HEALTH CAMP

Griffith First Peoples Health Unit is committed to increasing Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander student success. In 2021 it hosted a First Peoples Health Camp for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander, providing participants with an experience of university study and the opportunity to learn more about potential careers in allied health. The camp was hosted in partnership with the Institute of Urban Indigenous Health.

WORLD-LEADING VACCINE RESEARCH

In 2021, Griffith researchers at the Institute for Glycomics finalised the development of a broad-spectrum vaccine against malaria. The vaccine can be freeze-dried, making it suitable for deployment in malaria-endemic countries. With existing malaria control strategies becoming increasingly less effective due to growing resistance against insecticides and anti-malaria drugs, this breakthrough is a significant advancement in the fight against the disease.

NEW CHEMICAL COMPOUND LIBRARY

This year GRIDD became the new home for a uniquely curated library of 329 000 chemical compounds used to advance drug research in Australia. In an agreement with the Australian Lead Identification Consortium, the Australian Drug Discovery Library relocated from Scotland to the GRIDD Compounds Australia facility. GRIDD Director Professor Katherine Andrews explains this initiative, “strengthens national capability in drug discovery and epidemic preparedness, facilitating new collaborative opportunities that aim to improve human health.”

‘In 2021, Griffith researchers at the Institute for Glycomics finalised the development of a broad-spectrum vaccine against malaria.’

LEADING RESEARCH ON MASS GATHERINGS AND DISASTER HEALTH

In 2021, Griffith researcher Dr Jamie Ranse was recognised by the Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing (Sigma) as one of three Emerging Nurse Researchers globally. Dr Ranse’s research examines evidence-based approaches to inform policy and guidelines for mass gatherings and disaster events. He leads the development of the Queensland Industry Framework for Safe events, which sets out key principles event organisers should consider when planning events during the pandemic.

GRIFFITH TRANSFORMING MENTAL HEALTH

Over the next five years, Griffith is part of a new, national mental health initiative prioritising people with lived experience of mental illness at the forefront of research. Launched by the federal government in 2021, the National Academy of Lived-Experience (ALIVE) will transform Australia’s mental health care system by operating as a virtual network across 14 university partners, government bodies and community organisations from all states and territories, working with more than 2200 members with lived experience of mental illness and carers. Griffith’s Professor Amanda Wheeler, co-lead of the Menzies Health Institute Queensland Changing Health Systems, is one of the project’s chief investigators.

GRIFFITH’S AWARD-WINNING SCIENTISTS 2021

Griffith’s world class STEM researchers and teachers this year included:

- Sally McPhee, STEM Outreach Manager and Program Leader in the office of the Pro Vice Chancellor (Sciences) and Kate Kingston, Honours candidate in the School of Environment and Science who were Highly Commended in the 2021 Queensland Women in STEM Prize
- Dr Martina Barzan was awarded the Queensland Fresh Scientist award in October 2021 for her work informing surgeries to address hip deformities in children.



4 QUALITY EDUCATION

To ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all

Griffith provides world-class education in sustainability and the SDGs through degrees, courses, programs, work-integrated learning (WIL) and volunteer opportunities.



29th in the world
in the 2021 Times Higher Education Young University Rankings

Top 250 in the world for the 2021 Times Higher Education World University Rankings

‘The Global Citizenship program... has honestly been one of the most valuable learning experiences of my entire undergraduate degree! I would highly recommend it to everyone, from any degree. It is so valuable to learn about the world, leadership, inter-cultural connection, and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals...’

Jasmine Mente-Cammarano, Bachelor of Psychology (Honours)

GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP PROGRAM

Griffith’s Global Mobility, through Griffith International, supported 116 Griffith students, representing 31 different nationalities, in the 2021 Global Citizenship program. Alongside peers from universities in Australia, Malaysia and Bangladesh, participants developed the skills they need to address some of the world’s most pressing problems through the lens of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

GRIFFITH BUSINESS SCHOOL LEADING THE WAY

Griffith Business School’s MBA program achieved top ranking in the Corporate Knights 19th annual Better World MBA Ranking in 2020 and 2021. Griffith was ranked first place due to an increase in core courses and faculty research aligned with the UN’s Sustainable Development Goals and recognised improvements in gender and racial diversity among its faculty. It is the only Australian MBA program to be ranked in the top 10 in the world and the only Queensland program in the top 40. Griffith Business School’s Bachelor of Business embeds the SDGs throughout first year courses with a curriculum underpinned by:

- Application of the SDGs
- Respect for and knowledge of First Nations Peoples
- Diversity and inclusion
- Mental Health and Wellbeing

Other sustainability focused degrees, majors and courses include:

- Master of Business Administration – aiming to build globally responsible leaders
- Bachelor of Business – supporting students to build skills for sustainable economic approaches
- Bachelor of International Tourism and Hotel Management – understanding the tourism sector from a sustainable perspective
- Sustainable Business majors – teaching students the triple bottom line approach to business, balancing profits, people and the planet.

SUSTAINABLE SCHOOLS NETWORK PARTNERSHIP

Griffith’s School of Education and Professional Studies students were unable to complete their practicums at local schools during 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Dr Ali Sammel initiated a partnership with the Sustainable Schools Network to allow students to participate in an online community of practice based around the Sustainable Development Goals. The final program consisted of an 80-hour course; deepening students’ knowledge of the SDGs and allowing them to develop teaching and learning resources to embed the SDGs in their practice.

WORK INTEGRATED LEARNING

Griffith's work-integrated learning experiences provide students with the ability to undertake work placements, internships and collaborative projects, building transferable skills valued by future employers. As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, Griffith pivoted to offer Remote Global Internships. In 2020-21, 29 students worked remotely with host organisations in Hong Kong, Indonesia, Japan, Korea and Malaysia as part of the Griffith Asia Business Internship Program (GABI), offered by the Griffith Asia Institute. During the program, students gained skills, knowledge, and industry connections and developed their cultural capacity through a comprehensive Asia Ready Program which included history, culture, education and language classes and industry partner sessions.

IMPROVING OUTCOMES FOR STUDENTS WITH AUTISM

In 2021, Griffith Institute for Educational Research and Autism Centre of Excellence completed a 7-year project focusing on the developmental and behavioural trajectories of children on the Autism Spectrum. This longitudinal study collected data from parents, children and educators. Insights from the research will include ongoing work into removing environmental barriers to participation for school children on the autism spectrum.



'In 2020-21, 29 students worked remotely with host organisations in Hong Kong, Indonesia, Japan, Korea and Malaysia as part of the Griffith Asia Business Internship Program (GABI).'



MATURE AGE STUDENT

Griffith UNIVERSITY

Griffith UNIVERSITY Australia

Griffith UNIVERSITY Queensland, Australia



5 GENDER
EQUALITY



Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls

Griffith's partnerships, programs, teaching and research to support gender equity.



62.2%

Female staff (2020)

DISRUPTING FAMILY VIOLENCE

The Disrupting Violence Beacon launched in 2021, led by Griffith Law School and the School of Health Sciences and Social Work. The Beacon will focus on three main themes: understanding violence, translating research outcomes into policy and practice, and access to justice. Beacon researchers will examine how the cycle of violence impacts and interacts with factors such as structural disadvantage and discrimination, and focus on issues of gender, race, conflict, and human security in both national and international contexts.

GENDER EQUALITY RESEARCH NETWORK

The Gender Equality Research Network (GERN) is an interdisciplinary network of Griffith's academic and higher degree scholars dedicated to gender equity research. GERN enhances inter-discipline collaboration and connection through Research Empowerment Program and conducts online seminars and events. In 2021, GERN continued to produce The Gender Card podcast series, focusing on a range of topics, including World Refugee Day, the gender equity of the Federal budget, and inclusive education. GERN received the Excellence of a Research Group or Team award in the Pro Vice Chancellor's Research Excellence Awards 2021.

GRIFFITH GENDER AND EQUITY LEADERS

Some of Griffith's outstanding gender and equity leaders driving social change through Griffith in 2021 include:

- GERN co-convenor, Professor Sara Davies, is a member of the Gender and COVID-19 Working Group, a global group of researchers, health practitioners, policy actors and advocates established in response to the pandemic. The group shares resources and expertise – contributing to a growing global knowledge and research base around the gendered impacts of COVID-19. Throughout 2021, Professor Davies, work highlighted the long-term impact of the pandemic on progress of the Sustainable Development Goals, particularly those relating to gender equality.
- Dr Elise Stephenson, Griffith's 2020 Outstanding Young Alumnus, led several key events highlighting gender and equity in 2021 including: a livestream event on International Women's Day, on the topic of Women in Leadership: achieving an equal future in a Covid-19 world; and Next Gen Policy Change, a week-long program of digital events in the lead up to the Business Innovation and Improvement in Government (BiG) Conference in Brisbane.
- Director of Griffith's Policy Innovation Hub, Professor Susan Harris Rimmer, is at the forefront of social justice and policy change across a range of contexts. Along with Dr Stephenson, Professor Harris Rimmer led the Climate Action, Deep Listening Tour, for Griffith's Climate Action Beacon in 2021. The tour captures people's Climate Justice stories and the impacts of climate change in communities now and into the future.



Professor Carolyn Evans is the first woman to hold the role of Vice Chancellor and President at Griffith University.



Professor Cindy Shannon is the first Pro Vice Chancellor (Indigenous) to be appointed at any Queensland university.

Griffith demonstrated its commitment to LGBTIQ+ inclusion during Pride Month 2021 with a new Progress Pride Flag crossing at Nathan campus.



Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all

Griffith leads research, partnerships and programs facilitating sustainable water management globally.

Australian Rivers Institute rated number 1 global water security think tank

A white icon of a water tap with a single drop of water falling from it, positioned to the right of the text.



‘Water is not a privilege.’

*Professor Stuart Bunn
Director of the Australian
Rivers Institute*

AUSTRALIAN RIVERS INSTITUTE

The Australian Rivers Institute (ARI) is a world leader in research and education on rivers, coasts and catchments. In 2020 ARI was announced as the Number One Global Water Security Think tank by the independently curated Global Go To Think Tank Index Report. This award recognised ARI’s ability to provide high-quality research and strategic efforts to work with industry, decision makers and communities around the world to improve the management of our freshwater resources. In 2021, ARI, in partnership with Zeotech, a leading mineral processing technology company, established a research program to develop agricultural product applications for carbon markets and nutrient management.

GRIFFITH’S INTERNATIONAL WATER CENTRE (IWC)

- Water and wash program: The International Water Centre (IWC), based at Griffith, works to harness the diverse expertise of Australia’s leading water professionals and to build capacity to respond to water challenges in innovative ways. In April 2021, the IWC hosted the Water and WASH (Water, Sanitation and Hygiene) Futures Forums. The forums aimed to educate and empower individuals, communities and organisations and build capacity to respond to water challenges during the COVID 19 pandemic. A WASH and the COVID-19 Pandemic Virtual Symposium was also held in 2021, exploring response and recovery for a resilient future.

The IWC supports professional education opportunities include:

- The Graduate Certificate in Water Leadership, a formal postgraduate program enrolled through Griffith University.
- The Water Leadership Program (WLP), an award-winning nine-month program helps emerging leaders to develop the ability to exert influence, drive change and advance challenging integrated water management projects.



7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY



Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all

Griffith is committed to halving our emissions by 2030 and reaching net zero emissions by 2050. We are also leaders in innovative energy research and partnerships.

2020/21 emissions are **37%** below our 2010 baseline

Almost 95 000kWh of energy generated from onsite renewables



GENERATING OUR OWN RENEWABLE ENERGY

Close to 900kW of renewable technology has already been installed across our campuses, through solar panel and wind turbine installations. A large number of additional solar installation projects will be delivered by 2025. Our buildings include the Sir Samuel Griffith Centre on the Nathan campus—a 6-star green star building powered by solar and hydrogen technologies, and the Gold Coast campus multistorey carpark that features a 100kW solar array and a 10kW wind turbine. Our Engineering, Technology and Aviation building, also at the Nathan campus, is an innovative new building considered a ‘living laboratory’, where more than 30 sensors relay information about the building’s energy, water and structural performance in real-time to students, ready for use within their studies.

INVESTING IN OFFSITE RENEWABLES

Griffith has entered into an agreement with CS energy to ensure 50% of our electricity needs are provided by renewables from 2022. Purchasing green power through this deal will help to ensure Griffith meets its target of halving 2010 carbon emissions by 2030 and remains in alignment with the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change recommendations. Renewable power will be provided by the Columboola Solar Farm, currently in construction between Chinchilla and Miles in the Western Downs Region of Queensland.

DRIVING CLEAN ENERGY RESEARCH

Griffith University has established the Clean Energy Initiative, a key group of researchers using cross-disciplinary approaches to develop novel solutions to current and emerging problems in the energy sector. As part of this initiative, Griffith Business School’s Sustainable Energy Policy Cluster has been engaging with industry partners to pursue a range of projects and partners, including through RACE 2030, a Cooperative Research Centre that brings together government, industry and research partners to address the challenge of bringing clean, sustainable and affordable energy to market.

Our Engineering, Technology and Aviation building, also at the Nathan campus, is an innovative new building considered a ‘living laboratory’, where more than 30 sensors relay information about the building’s energy, water and structural performance in real-time to students, ready for use within their studies.



8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH



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

Griffith partners with industry and communities to drive sustainable economic growth through research, teaching and employment opportunities.

Griffith Business School was the 1st in Australia to sign up to the UN Global Compact's Principles for Responsible Management in Education



GRIFFITH BUSINESS SCHOOL LEADS THE WAY IN SUSTAINABILITY

On top of their number one global MBA ranking, Griffith Business School (GBS) is committed to embedding the SDGs across all of its initiatives. Its annual Principles for Responsible Management (PRME) Report outlines how GBS aligns its teaching and learning, research and engagement with the six PRME principles and the UN SDGs. PRME engages business and management schools to ensure they provide future leaders with the skills needed to balance economic and sustainability goals, whilst drawing attention to the SDGs and aligning universities with the work of the UN Global Compact.

GRIFFITH INSTITUTE FOR TOURISM INITIATIVES

Griffith supported COVID-19 pandemic recovery in the global travel and tourism industries with a free micro-credential short course in 2021. Developed by Dr Sarah Gardiner from Griffith Institute for Tourism (GIFT), the Tourism-Ready for Recover course provides participants with key insights, information, scenarios and activities to assist in the development of a recovery action plan. Participants receive a digital badge upon completion and the knowledge to emerge as more competitive and resilient in the post-pandemic context. Other key research in 2021 included the release of the first Australia's Silo Art and Wellbeing Report.

Griffith supported COVID-19 pandemic recovery in the global travel and tourism industries with a free micro-credential short course in 2021

WORKING TO END MODERN SLAVERY

Griffith's commitment to protecting human rights is demonstrated our Modern Slavery statement developed in 2021 following comprehensive work to address modern slavery risks in our operations and supply chains. Griffith's Finance Department collaborated with Australian Universities Procurement Network, helping to build a sector-wide understanding of modern slavery issues and to develop a data set for use by universities across Australia.

MURWEH WORLD WAR TWO AIR BASE

Griffith Institute for Tourism is working in partnership with local communities to showcase unique tourism experiences. Associate Professor Brent Moyle led a 2021 project to revitalise a tour of World War Two relics from a top-secret United States Airbase at the edge of the small town of Murweh in outback Queensland. The research team developed immersive prototypes which included the use of 3D scanning to bring the stories of those who lived on the airbase during World War Two to life in augmented and virtual reality. New opportunities have been created out of this project, not only for the local community, but also for Griffith students who worked on the project.





9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION
AND INFRASTRUCTURE



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

Griffith is leading research and developing partnerships and programs to inform resilient infrastructure and sustainable industrialisation.

7 dedicated innovation spaces across all campuses to inspire creativity and collaboration





Launched in 2020, Professor Jorg Baumeister oversees a range of innovative, ongoing Sea Cities projects, including the UN Habitation project which is considering the potential of floating systems to support land-based settlements

SEACITIES – LIFE ON WATER

More than 400 million people globally live in land areas where the elevation is less than 5 metres above sea level. In the context of increasing climate change, this situation requires consideration of both the risks and opportunities for cities, including the development of urban extensions and aquatic food production. Griffith's Cities Research Institute is leading research into SeaCities, examining innovative design solutions for future water-adapted architecture and cities. Launched in 2020, Professor Jorg Baumeister oversees a range of innovative, ongoing Sea Cities projects, including the UN Habitation project which is considering the potential of floating systems to support land-based settlements.

GRIFFITH LEADS INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGY

Griffith Health is recognised internationally for its innovation and quality in health education and research and includes the Griffith Centre of Biomedical and Rehabilitation Engineering (GCORE) – conducting cutting edge research in biomedical and rehabilitation science, design and engineering. The \$150 million Griffith Health Centre is strategically located next to the Gold Coast University Hospital and is part of the Gold Coast Health and Knowledge Precinct. In 2021, Griffith welcomed three global technology companies to the Gold Coast Health and Knowledge Precinct, including one behind the world's first rotary artificial heart.

The Institute for Integrated and Intelligent Systems conducts multidisciplinary research in bioinformatics and health and environmental informatics, supporting the development of frontier technologies, smart information use, to develop innovative, sustainable use of Australia's biodiversity; respond to climate change and variability, and transform existing industries and practices. In 2020 this Institute, Griffith Business School and Griffith's Department of Business Strategy and Innovation hosted the first International Summit on Leading Digital Innovation for Sustainable Future. With more than 50 participants from the university, health, business and government sectors, this event focused on co-creation of new ideas, alliances, and collaborations to take some real actions for tangible outcomes that contribute towards the UN's SDG. In 2021, the Institute hosted key industry events including:

- an international, virtual symposium on automated technology;
- a Smart Agriculture Symposium bringing together key stakeholders to discuss AI and smart technology to drive farm productivity and disease prevention;
- the EDOC 2021 Conference to address the use of enterprise computing in health care, manufacturing, environmental sciences, sustainable agriculture and compliance with related human rights, ethics and legal contexts.



10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES



Reduce inequalities within and among countries

Griffith is committed to reducing inequalities through our teaching, research, leadership and governance.

Largest Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander student population of any Queensland university



Second highest number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander academic staff in Australia

REVOLUTIONISING REHABILITATION AND REDEFINING DISABILITY

Launched in 2021, Griffith Inclusive Futures (GIF) is a University-led, collaborative alliance focused on making significant improvements to the lives of people with a disability. Bringing together knowledge from experts and key research, education, industry and healthcare organisations, the alliance is crossing boundaries and promoting innovation for people with disabilities. GIF will leverage the capabilities of Griffith's new Advanced Design and Prototyping Technologies Institute, which integrates digitally enabled data, design diagnoses and additive manufacturing.

THE HIDDEN INITIATIVE

The Hidden Initiative, was launched as a Millennium Fellowship project in 2020 by Co-Founders D'Arcy Smith and Claire Doherty to raise awareness and understanding for those living with disabilities and mental and/or physical health conditions that aren't apparent to the naked eye. The project has since raised over \$2,000 on behalf of local community organisations, including the Literacy Foundation for Children and the Stepping Stone Clubhouse and, as part of Millennium Fellowships in the Class of 2021, Indio Myles, D'Arcy Smith and The Hidden Initiative's dedicated committee continues to work hard on building local partnerships and programs for 2022.

THE DIGNITY PROJECT

The Dignity Project is a digital engagement and analysis platform where people with disabilities can share, reinterpret and analyse collective experiences, enabling them to generate service and design innovations for the future. A joint initiative between Griffith University's Hopkins Centre and Metro South Health, the project aims to build a supportive community that protects the dignity of people with a disability and supports more inclusive environments. Over 70 regular contributors share resources and support researchers to understand the challenges that need solving.

FIRST NATIONS LEADERSHIP

Griffith has the largest Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander student population of any Queensland university, and the second largest number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander academic staff in Australia. In 2020, Professor Cindy Shannon, a descendent of the Ngugi people was appointed as the University's first Pro Vice Chancellor (Indigenous). In 2021, Griffith reconised Haylene Grogan as Outstanding First Peoples Alumnus. Ms Grogan is Queensland's first Chief Aboriginal and Torres Strait Health Officer and Deputy Director-General. Griffith also supports future student leaders through its GUMURRI Unit. GUMURRI is a dedicated student support unit for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students throughout their Griffith journey to facilitate success and future employability.





11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES
AND COMMUNITIES



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

Griffith contributes to all aspects of safe, affordable, accessible urban living and support and protect our cultural and natural heritage through innovative, relevant research, education and practices.

2200



intercampus bus trips taken by staff and students in 2021



IMPROVING SUSTAINABLE HOUSING

Griffith's Social and Affordable Housing Program (SAHP) is a collaboration between Australian & international academics, researchers, practitioners, policymakers and the National Affordable Housing Consortium. It conducts research, dialogue and training to develop innovative solutions to support social and affordable housing. In 2021 SAHP, in partnership with the Sustainable Built Environment National Research Centre, led the development of a national framework on affordable and accessible social housing through high-density urban solutions and precincts.

In 2021, Cities Research Institute's Dr Stefen MacAskill conducted research into green building policies and standards. He found that implementing a green-building mandate within a federal affordable housing financing scheme would improve rental affordability and achieve broader sustainability outcomes.

"By connecting affordable housing policy with green building principles, tenants not only save money but also contribute to Australia's environmental sustainability objectives."

DRIVING CULTURAL OUTCOMES

Griffith's Queensland College of Arts, Film School and Conservatorium play key roles in generating, supporting and protecting the cultural expressions and natural heritage that contribute to community health and wellbeing, reduced inequalities, gender equity and decent work and economic growth. The creativity and imagination of Griffith students and staff was on display with:

- The world's largest acoustic guitar, The Immersive Guitar (TIG); created by lecturers from both the Queensland Conservatorium Research Centre and Griffith Sciences, as part of the 2021 Curiosity Festival in Brisbane. TIG was 12 times the size of an ordinary guitar and could seat 25 people.
- An eye-catching public art trail through Ipswich's city centre commissioned by Ipswich City Council to showcase the Aboriginal culture and history of the area and created by Queensland College of Art (QCA) graduates Kim Ah Sam and her niece Kyra Mancktelow.
- The launch of the Griffith Centre for Creative Industries at the Gold Coast campus. The Centre connects the Gold Coast creative industries community with Griffith graduates and the university and is committed to supporting the living arts and building creative communities.
- Queensland Conservatorium Research Centre Director Professor Brydie Leigh-Bartleet's ground-breaking research on the social impact of music, including significant contributions to the Music Connects.

SUSTAINABLE WORK AND TRAVEL

The university has 65 hybrid vehicles, nine electric utility carts and one electric vehicle, as part of a strategy to replace all conventional petrol cars in the pool fleet with more environmentally friendly alternatives. The University's Fleet vehicle booking service includes the option to 'Share a Ride' with other colleagues. Additionally, Griffith has free public EV charging stations and both Nathan and Griffith Campuses.

In 2021, Griffith launched a new Work Location Policy and associated guides and resources to support staff in flexible and remote working arrangements. Researchers from the Centre for Work, Organisation and Wellbeing also led an extensive, cooperative research project to examine the impacts of working arrangements in universities that have arisen as a result of the pandemic. The COVID-19 Home Working by University Staff Survey (CHUSS) was developed by researchers across Australia and Canada, who are also contributing to a growing, collective data and research bank around this issue.



12 RESPONSIBLE
CONSUMPTION
AND PRODUCTION



Ensuring sustainable consumption and production

Griffith supports sustainable resource use and production across our campuses and through our research.

Over

55,000kg 

of Griffith's clinical and medical waste is diverted from landfill per year



RIGHT TO REPAIR MOVEMENT

In May 2021, Griffith University Law Futures Centre hosted the inaugural Australian Repair Summit bringing together stakeholders across government and industry. The right to repair movement contributes to a circular economy and advocates smarter design, progressive manufacturing, and policies to drive change. Griffith supports the movement through the Repair Australia initiative delivered by a range of Griffith experts and external leaders from community, not-for-profit and start-up groups.

GRIFFITH SOCIAL MARKETING DRIVING BEHAVIOUR CHANGE

Griffith Social Marketing (GSM) is the world's largest university-based social marketing centre, working in partnership with social change practitioners, thinkers and scientist to help ensure that people and planet are prioritised. GSM have driven a variety of projects and partnerships to promote responsible consumption. The O-IT project, delivered with NACRO and the Queensland Government aims to help facilitate a new movement promoting circular fashion, making donated goods fashionable attractive and desirable. In 2021, GSM also delivered No Time to Waste, a webinar series delivered in partnership with Plastic Oceans Australia. The event focused on sharing circular solutions through reducing carbon emissions and plastic waste.

SOCIAL ENTERPRISE REDUCING E-WASTE

Griffith's Yunus Centre works with Substation 33, an award winning social enterprise based in Logan. Substation 33 was established in 2013 to create employment pathways for jobseekers experiencing disadvantage through recycling e-waste. Since its inception, over 1 million kilograms of e-waste has been diverted from landfill through the work of Substation 33. The Yunus Centre collaborated with Substation 33 to develop an outcomes framework to help them to hone their mission, track outcomes and deepen opportunities for future employment pathways.

TEACHING AND LEARNING FOR A CIRCULAR ECONOMY

The Griffith Centre for Sustainable Enterprise is driving research to inform the transition to a circular economy through programs and short courses, including:

- The Master of Business Administration majoring in Sustainable Business
- The Transformative Circular Economy Leadership Masterclass



Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts

Griffith is working with partners across government, community and industry to address the climate emergency.

Ranked **4th** 
globally for publications on
climate change adaptation
in 2021

CLIMATE ACTION BEACON

Launched in 2020, Griffith's Climate Action Beacon conducts interdisciplinary research and collaborates on cross-sectoral practice to facilitate collective climate action on climate change. The Beacon's Climate Ready Initiative is guided by an Australian-first board of experts who inform the development of new strategies, partnerships and investment for climate action. Projects in 2021 included the Climate Action Survey which will provide deep insights into what Australians think, feel and do about climate change. The Beacon has also worked extensively with state and local government partners on climate risk and associated issues.

COLLABORATING ON CLIMATE CHALLENGES

In 2021 Griffith collaborated with community, government and business on a number of key climate action projects, including:

- **EcoCommons** – a world-first collaborative platform for analysing and modelling ecological and environmental challenges. The platform will facilitate research and provide the data, tools and resources for decision-making around climate action.
- **Binna Burra Lodge** – ecotourism site Binna Burra was destroyed in the 2019/2020 "Black Summer" bushfires. As its Lead University Partner, Griffith collaborated with Binna Burra, Scenic Rim Council and the local community to support disaster resilience and recovery. In 2021, an interactive, community informed exhibit designed by Griffith researchers was launched at the site. The Fire Stories Pavilion shared extraordinary tales of survival and highlighted areas for improvement during future bushfire emergencies.

SUPPORTING PATHWAYS TO NET ZERO

Science-based targets provide a clearly-defined pathway for organisations to drive decarbonisation on a trajectory to net zero. In 2021, Dr Rob Hales, Director of Griffith's Centre for Sustainable Enterprise launched a study on science-based targets in Australia. Developed in partnership with WWF-Australia and the UN Global Compact, the study highlighted effective processes for implanting science-based targets, providing case studies and examples.

CLIMATE ACTION EVENTS

Throughout 2021, Griffith hosted a range of webinars, thought leadership events and discussions around climate action. Griffith's Climate Action Research Group, a cross-disciplinary team with climate action expertise across science, health, business, creative arts and law presented the "Difficult Conversations Series" at the State Library of Queensland. The event included expert workshops and public forums around major themes of climate justice. In 2021, Griffith also hosted its second webinar series on "Aviation Reimagined – Decarbonising Flight." Delivered by Griffith Institute for Tourism and Griffith Aviation, the sessions explored research, innovation and best practice in the aviation sector with regards to the transition to a low carbon economy.





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

Griffith supports education, partnerships and research to promote the conservation of ocean environments.



Australia's first marine wildlife cell bank launched



LEADING MARINE RESEARCH AND EDUCATION

Griffith's leading marine education and research outcomes in 2021 included:

- The launch of Australia's first marine wildlife cell bank. Cell samples from every marine species on the planet will be collected, providing a platform for the international community to research these often-threatened animals. Housed at Griffith's Gold Coast campus, the marine cell cultures are available to researchers worldwide.
- Delivery of CoastEd, a hands-on school holiday program that provides students with the opportunity to discover more about marine biology and coastal environments.
- A world-first trial of less invasive whale tracking devices led by Dr Olaf Meynecke. The study utilised temporary tags which also allowed for the tracking of whales in real time using GPS technology.
- A study by a team of researchers led by Griffith University, including Dr Mischa Turschwell investigating undersea ecosystems, including seagrass. The researchers found that poor water quality and destructive fisheries practices are contributing to the global decline of seagrass meadows which are vital habitats and food sources for marine species and act as climate regulators.

SUPPORTING SUSTAINABLE FISHING


Griffith is driving innovative research into sustainable fisheries and coastal ecosystems. Research by the Environmental Futures Research Institute and the School of Environment & Science in 2021 revealed that the loss or injury of coastal birds of prey was almost completely avoidable communities change behaviour and adopt the fishing practices set out by Government authorities. Griffith is also a partner in the Blue Economy Cooperative Research Centre, a collaboration of 40 industry, government and research partners from ten countries with expertise in aquaculture, marine renewable energy and maritime engineering.

Research by the Environmental Futures Research Institute and the School of Environment & Science in 2021 revealed that the loss or injury of coastal birds of prey was almost completely avoidable communities change behaviour and adopt the fishing practices set out by Government authorities.



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

Griffith plays a key role in developing and implementing crucial knowledge and practices necessary for environmental education and research that will protect and restore our unique ecosystems.

Griffith campuses are home to more than  **20** species of birds, almost **700** species of native plants and over **575** animals



Copper backed frog by Griffith's Guy Castley

GRIFFITH'S AMAZING BIODIVERSITY

As part of Sustainability Week 2021, Griffith's School of Environment launched its new, interactive Biodiversity webpages. Led by Professor Catherine Pickering the webpages were developed to improve student and community education about the flora and fauna that grows and thrives on our unique campuses through videos, soundscapes and other information. The webpages also feature important information about the First Nations knowledge, history and cultural significance of the Yugarabul, Yuggera, Jagera, Turrbal, Yugambah and Kombumerri lands upon which Griffith is built.

PROTECTING OUR KOALAS

More than 575 species of animals live on Griffith campuses, including Koalas. In 2021 Griffith researchers played an important part in protecting one of our national icons through:

- The expansion of a successful social marketing campaign to help save koalas from preventable deaths and injuries co-designed by Social Marketing @ Griffith (SM@G).
- The use of AI to develop 'facial recognition' technology at koala crossing locations across South East Queensland to determine how koalas use them and help protect the declining population.

DISCOVERING NEW SPECIES

In 2021, Griffith's Centre for Planetary Health and Food Security made some important biodiversity discoveries including:

- The identification of a new chocolate frog species, *Litoria mira*, that provides evidence of ancient links between Australia and New Guinea.
- The importance of continuous air monitoring in the Antarctic after findings revealed increasing pollution.
- The impact of increasing greenhouse gases from insect driven forest decay on climate change.

LEADING MANGROVE RESEARCH

The economic value of mangroves was highlighted in 2021 through new research and an app that projects carbon emissions globally. The team of researchers led by Griffith University focused on the key drivers of carbon emissions from mangrove loss. Results of the research indicated the regions in need of policy actions to address emissions arising from mangrove loss and the drivers that could be managed to prevent them. The Mangrove Carbon app developed through the project allows users to explore the contribution of mangrove protection to mitigating carbon emissions.

More than 575 species of animals live on Griffith University campuses, including Koalas.



16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS



Promote peaceful, accountable, fair and inclusive societies and institutions for sustainable development

Griffith conducts rigorous research into and supports the highest standards of ethics, justice and accountability through education, research, governance and operational practices.

In 2020 and 2021, Griffith was named a United Nations Millennium Fellows Campus. Fellows receive training, connections and credentials as they take action to advance the UN SDGs



DISRUPTING VIOLENCE BECAON

The Disrupting Violence Beacon launched in 2021, led by Griffith Law School and the School of Health Sciences and Social Work. The Beacon will focus on three main themes: understanding violence, translating research outcomes into policy and practice, and access to justice. Beacon researchers will examine how the cycle of violence impacts and interacts with factors such structural disadvantage and discrimination, and focus on issues of gender, race, conflict, and human security in both national and international contexts.

DRIVING SOCIAL JUSTICE OUTCOMES

Social justice initiatives in 2021 included:

- The MATE Bystander project – MATE (Motivating Action Through Empowerment) is a program designed to encourage individuals to take action against violence and disrespect through leadership, training and positive bystander action.
- Research by the Law Futures Centre investigating the future of law, legal institutions, and legal education in the face of 21st Century change. The Centre helps societal challenges caused by global shifts, environmental threats, and the rapid innovation of technology. Important work in 2021 research on how Intellectual Property law can facilitate better access to digital goods and services and the impact of COVID-19 on a range of human rights issues.

STUDENT STORIES FOR PEACE

In 2020 and 2021, Griffith was named a United Nations Millennium Fellows Campus. Fellows receive training, connections and credentials as they take action to advance the UN SDGs. They are connected through an international network of over 2000 fellows from 136 campuses in 30 countries. Griffith Millennium Fellow, Kimberley Bates developed a project called The Power of Youth – Stories for Peace. This culminated in an e-publication presenting stories of triumph over adversity from young people around the world in celebration of peace.





Create, strengthen and maintain global partnerships for sustainable development

Griffith collaborates with internal and external partners to raise awareness, understanding and support for the SDGs and the changes necessary for sustainable development.



Griffith University
Ranked 5th globally
for SDG 17

*‘One of the best immersive
games or learning events
I’ve participated in.’*

*Professor Jim Woodburn, Head of
School, School of Health Sciences
and Social Work*

PARTNERING WITH OUR SCHOOLS AND COMMUNITIES

Griffith supports education and awareness about the SDGs through the 2030 SDGs GAME delivered by SDGs trained facilitator, Ms Delwyn Langdon, Manager of Griffith’s EcoCentre. The 2030 SDGs Game is a multiplayer, in-person, card-based game that simulates taking the “real world” into the year 2030. In 2021, the game was delivered to staff and students of Griffith, along with representatives from government, health, community groups and education facilities.

The EcoCentre also delivers community awareness and education programs, in partnership with industry, government and the community. In 2021, it hosted over 9000 primary and secondary students, providing immersive sustainability education experiences.

A FUTURE-FOCUSED SUSTAINABILITY WEEK

In 2021, Griffith’s Sustainability week delivered a range of initiatives to prompt staff, students and the community consider their role in shaping a future for all. Key initiatives included:

- **The Museum of Futures** – a pop-up exhibition delivered in partnership with artist and experiential futurist, Claire Marshall. Participants engaged with 10 objects telling the story of two possible futures: a utopia where we tackle climate change and a dystopia where the extreme climate has changed our current way of life forever.
- **The SDG Pledge Wall** – Towards 2025: Working with the SDGs. Students and staff at Logan and Nathan campus were invited to write a pledge to make a difference by sharing their commitment to sustainability with the Griffith Community.

- **Our Perspectives** – A collaborative art piece for the Museum of Futures by the Tallowood and Baronia Kindergartens Nathan Campus. Children created a collaged artwork reflecting their observations of their environment & community now (2021) and what it might look like in the future (2051). The children visited Nathan Campus to share and talk about their artwork and what sustainability means to them.

*“Sustainability is... looking after the world
and each other”*

INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE SDGS

In 2021, Griffith’s Asia Institute, led by Professor Caitline Byrne, launched the collaborative Australia-Indonesia Program reinforcing Griffith’s commitment to engaging with Indonesia through a strategic and mutually beneficial way. The bilateral Program brings together expertise and coordinates opportunities across the two nations with the focus on sustainable development and climate change.

*I promise to fight for education for all
I’ll bring my own coffee mug
I’m going to grow native plants
I’ll buy local products*

