

A photograph of several wind turbines in a field during sunset. The sky is a mix of orange, yellow, and blue. The foreground is a grassy field with some dry grass. A large, dark green diagonal shape is overlaid on the left side of the image.

# **Ecorys Carbon Reduction Plan 2022/2023**

## Commitment to achieving Net Zero

Ecorys UK is committed to achieving Net Zero emissions by 2030 and playing its part in the wider global efforts to protect the natural environment. Ecorys UK supports the UN Sustainable Development Goals; the UK Climate Change Act 2008; and the rules stipulated in the Paris Agreement and aims to contribute to global efforts in limiting global warming to well below 2°C.

Ecorys UK has implemented an Environmental Management System (EMS), which forms part of our ISO14001 framework. Ecorys UK was certified and accredited with ISO14001 in 2021. Ecorys UK aims to maintain and continuously improve the standards set in our ISO14001 framework. The standard covers all business units and includes all the functions within all Ecorys UK offices (Birmingham, Leeds and London). The certificate can be found on our web-site <https://www.ecorys.com/uk-environment>

As part of the ISO14001 certification, Ecorys UK measures its carbon footprint, sets annual reduction targets and is planning on offsetting the emissions that cannot be avoided or reduced.

This Carbon Reduction Plan is presented in accordance with the GHG Protocol's Corporate Standard, where our carbon footprint accounts for emissions within our operational boundary, and it uses the following methodologies:

- *Financial Control:* Most reported carbon emissions are from sources over which Ecorys UK has financial control. This includes services where the company has the ability to direct the financial and operating policies of the service with a view to financially managing its activities.
- *Operational Control:* All reported carbon emissions are from sources over which Ecorys UK has operational control. This includes services where the company has full authority to introduce and implement its operating policies.
- *Equity share:* Our company accounts for GHG emissions from operations according to its share of equity in the operation (where applicable).

## Baseline Emissions Footprint

Baseline emissions are a record of the greenhouse gases that have been produced in the past and were produced prior to the introduction of any strategies to reduce emissions. Baseline emissions are the reference point against which emissions reduction can be measured.

**Baseline Year: 2019**

### **Additional Details relating to the Baseline Emissions calculations.**

**Ecorys UK Ltd.** calculates its greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) as part of the Environmental Management System (EMS) certified by the ISO14001 standard. The Carbon Reduction Plan will not replace the existing emission calculation plan and will only represent a summary of the emission monitoring and measuring practices already put in place. The emissions are calculated in line with the GHG Protocol and align with the government conversion factors for greenhouse gas reporting method. The GHG emissions are reviewed and updated annually in line with the

company's Environmental Policy and EMS. This Carbon Reduction Plan is specific to the bidding entity Ecorys UK. This Carbon Reduction Plan will be reviewed and updated within 6 months of our organisation's financial year-end.

Please note, the GHG emission calculation for 2019-2021 contains the emission categorisation as per PPN 06/21 CRP (Scope 1,2 and 3 (five categories)). However, we recognise the need for constant improvement in our data collection and reporting when it comes to company emissions. Therefore, we aim to improve and expand our emission calculation method to ensure maximum accuracy and integrity. Therefore, we will be categorising our emissions differently as of 2022 reporting, so that Scope 3 is integrated and represented more extensively in our calculation (beyond the mandatory 5 categories of Scope 3). The goal is to capture the most accurate picture of the company's direct and indirect emissions by revising all 15 categories of the Scope 3 and applying the relevant ones.

**Scope 1** direct emissions:

- **Company Facilities:** we are tenants in all of our buildings. The data linked to our energy consumption linked to the building will be reported in Scope 2 (data provided from suppliers).
- **Company Vehicles:** we do not have any company vehicles, so there are no emissions from this category included in our emissions data.
- **Printing:** paper and toner that we use for printing.

**Scope 2:** includes indirect emissions associated with the purchase and consumption of local electricity, heating and cooling energy. Scope 2 emissions are mainly calculated based on volumes of purchased and consumed electricity and heating energy (KWh and cubic m) in each region of operations. These are the consequence of organisation's energy use and occur at sources outside company's control.

**Scope 3:** encompasses other indirect emissions as follows:

Upstream transportation and distribution – Ecorys UK is a service provider and does not purchase any specific products required for our services. We do not have any purchased goods from our tier 1 suppliers which would result in transportation and distribution figures. This category is therefore not applicable.

Waste generated in operations - Ecorys UK is a service provider and does not produce physical goods. This category is therefore not applicable.

Business travel – this is part of our transport emissions category and is the largest GHG emitting category for Ecorys UK. We have updated the company's Travel Policy to curb the travel generated. This is being closely monitored and reported in our emission calculator.

Employee commuting – this is part of our transport emissions, and the emissions are based on transport used data (from surveys) which makes the distinction between public transport and personal car transport.

Downstream transportation and distribution – Ecorys UK is a service provider and does not produce or sell physical goods/products for the end consumer. This category is therefore not applicable. However, as part of our plans to explore all subcategories of Scope 3 and expand our GHG emission methodology, we are exploring how our projects might impact the environment.

Baseline year emissions: 704.2 tCO <sub>2</sub> e	
EMISSIONS	TOTAL (tCO <sub>2</sub> e)
Scope 1	0.9
Scope 2	87.0
Scope 3 (Included Sources)	617.2
<b>Total Emissions</b>	<b>704.2 tCO<sub>2</sub>e</b>

### Current Emissions Reporting

Reporting Year: 2021	
EMISSIONS	TOTAL (tCO <sub>2</sub> e)
Scope 1	0.9
Scope 2	257.3
Scope 3 (Included Sources)	209.9
<b>Total Emissions</b>	<b>467.8</b>

### Emissions reduction targets

Ecorys UK aims to become **a carbon-neutral company by 2030**. To achieve this goal, it will:

- ▶ **Measure its carbon footprint** – Ecorys’ environmental team will measure Ecorys UK’s carbon footprint based on all aspects of the business, determine annual CO<sub>2</sub> emission targets, and develop monitoring tools and practices to measure CO<sub>2</sub> emissions per business activity.
- ▶ **Reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions of in-house operations** – several actions will be implemented to reduce in-house emissions including: changing to greener suppliers, promoting environmental practices to change stakeholders’ behaviour and practices, improving

our recycling and waste management practices, reducing our energy consumption from non-renewable sources etc.

- ▶ **Offset CO2 emissions that are not possible to eliminate completely** – Ecorys UK will find local projects to offset CO2 emissions that cannot be fully reduced, for example: CO2 emissions generated by international travel.

To monitor, measure and evaluate progress against this long-term objective we use these following indicators for which data is collected in our monitoring tool.

- Number of CO2 tonnes produced yearly
- Emission of CO2 tonnes per FTE
- % of CO2 tonnes reduce compared to previous year
- % of CO2 emissions offset per year and per FTE

Due to COVID-19, the CO2 emissions produced in 2020 compared to 2019 were considerably reduced as we did not travel for projects. We might experience an increase in the total number of CO2 emissions in 2022 and 2023. However, we aim to reduce our office and home-office emissions<sup>1</sup> and compensate our travel emissions as necessary. To measure and evaluate our environmental performance, we will use 2019 as a baseline.

To achieve carbon neutrality, Ecorys UK needs to reduce its yearly carbon footprint by working towards the **following five short-term objectives**:

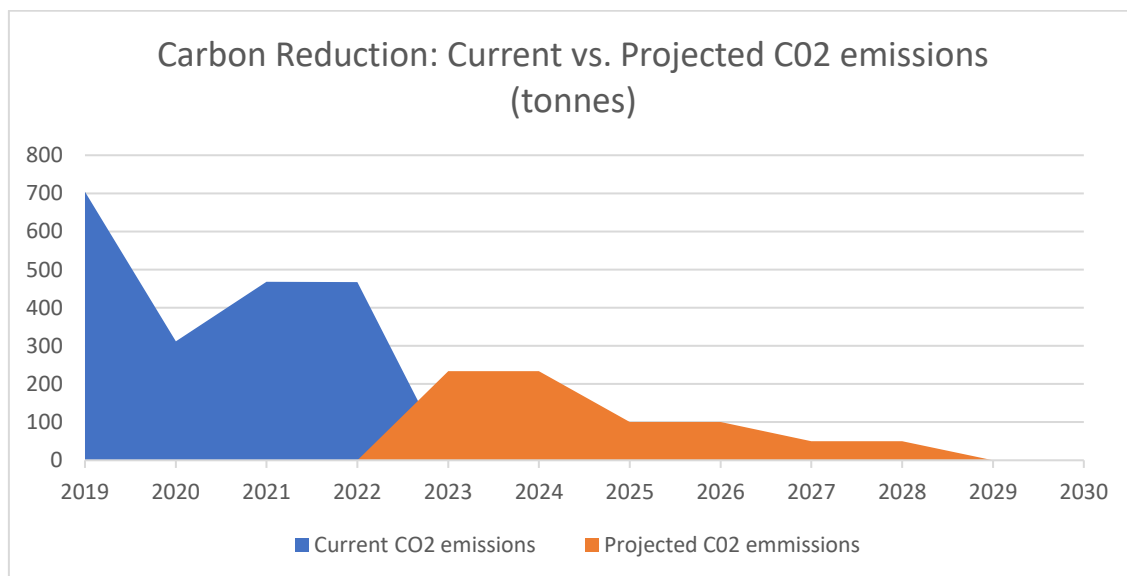
- 1. Minimise travel** by, for example: promoting the use of virtual tools for client meetings, planning for longer fieldwork or groups of meetings/interviews on the same trip and organising fieldwork for several projects in the same location at the same time.
- 2. Monitor, measure and analyse Ecorys' carbon footprint.** It is important to continue building our internal capacity and tools to monitor and measure our impact on the environment and analyse how we can work towards carbon neutrality. Having good monitoring and measurement practices and tools in place will enable us to draw from lessons learnt each year and improve our environmental performance.
- 3. Ensure and promote environmental responsibility through our work.** Ecorys UK will comply with legal environmental requirements, strengthen tendering practices (e.g. continuously improving upon a social value statement and providing tools to calculate project CO2 emissions at proposal and delivery stages) and ensure suppliers and partners have established environmental commitments.

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<sup>1</sup> The home office CO2 emissions data for 2020 are estimated numbers as we don't know which providers Ecorys UK staff use for gas and electricity at home. We used CO2 emissions factors developed by Bulb UK. The aim is to carry out an annual survey to ask staff how many days they are planning to work from home next year and which gas/electricity provider they use.

4. **Align Ecorys policies and strategies with Ecorys' environmental policy objectives and actions.** Ecorys UK aims to align all policies and strategies with its environmental objectives. Ecorys UK's environmental team will review and contribute to the development of relevant policies and strategies such as our travel and hybrid-working policies.
5. **Find opportunities to reduce and offset CO2 emissions.** There may be a need to offset some of the CO2 emissions that cannot be reduced completely. We will work closely with Ecorys NL which is already a carbon-neutral company, to identify the best opportunities to reduce and offset our CO2 emissions.
6. **Raise awareness and promote environmentally friendly practices (incl. environmental policy) among stakeholders.** Ecorys UK aims to inform and make all employees aware of our environmental ambitions. We will work on raising awareness and communication activities to promote Ecorys UK's long-term goal of becoming a carbon neutral company by 2030 while also promoting changes in employees' and stakeholders' behaviour towards more sustainable and green business practices and activities.

We prepare an annual Social Value Report which includes our progress towards achieving our environmental objectives and how well we have fulfilled our compliance obligations. Ecorys UK's Social Value Report 2021 can be found [here](#). The report contains our carbon footprint data and evaluation of how we are progressing towards our long-term objective. The figure below shows the current versus the projected CO2 emissions to reach our carbon neutrality target by 2030.



Source: Own calculations

## Carbon Reduction Projects

### Completed Carbon Reduction Initiatives

The following environmental management measures and projects have been completed or implemented since the 2019 baseline. The carbon emission reduction achieved by these schemes equate to 236 tCO<sub>2</sub>e, a 33% reduction against the 2019 baseline and the measures will be in effect when performing contracts through this Framework.

- Ecorys UK received the ISO14001 certification in December 2021. We are continuously working on maintaining and improving the standard and strive to achieve the set long term goal of carbon neutrality by 2030. As part of this, we have updated most of our internal policies to integrate environmental considerations.
- We encouraged staff to minimise project travel and use green transport alternative when we need to travel for projects.
- We have successfully led conversations with our London office building management and convinced the landlord to switch to a renewable energy provider. This has contributed to a significant emission mitigation. Our Birmingham and Leeds office buildings were already using renewable energy suppliers in 2019 and the mitigated emissions for those two offices in 2020 was 25.3 t CO<sub>2</sub> eq.
- We are supporting cycling to work via different internal initiatives and awareness raising internal campaigns. Ecorys takes part in the Cycle2Work scheme which is a government initiative offering the most cost-effective way to get new bicycles and cycling equipment. We also are offering locked-up parking for bikes and shower facilities in the office.

In the future we hope to implement further measures such as:

- Switch to a sustainable pension investment scheme
- Identify reliable carbon offsetting companies and select offsetting projects
- Continue revising our GHG emission methodology to ensure accuracy. Integrate Scope 3 emissions to a larger extent even if that might lead to an increase in the company emission totals
- Revise the travel policy further, to set more stringent travel requirements

## Declaration and Sign Off

This Carbon Reduction Plan has been completed in accordance with PPN 06/21 and associated guidance and reporting standard for Carbon Reduction Plans.

Emissions have been reported and recorded in accordance with the published reporting standard for Carbon Reduction Plans and the GHG Reporting Protocol corporate standard<sup>2</sup> and uses the appropriate Government emission conversion factors for greenhouse gas company reporting<sup>3</sup>.

Scope 1 and Scope 2 emissions have been reported in accordance with SECR requirements, and the required subset of Scope 3 emissions have been reported in accordance with the published reporting standard for Carbon Reduction Plans and the Corporate Value Chain (Scope 3) Standard<sup>4</sup>.

This Carbon Reduction Plan has been reviewed and signed off by the board of directors (or equivalent management body).

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<sup>2</sup><https://ghgprotocol.org/corporate-standard>

<sup>3</sup><https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/government-conversion-factors-for-company-reporting>

<sup>4</sup><https://ghgprotocol.org/standards/scope-3-standard>

**Signed on behalf of the Supplier:**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'N. Smith'.

Nicola Smith, Statutory Director.

Date: ...27/07/2022.....