

Net Zero Plan

Delivering on our commitment
to be a net zero organisation



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Cover image:
Roof top garden, Arup office, London, UK

Arup office images:
Los Angeles, USA and Sydney, Australia.

Glossary: Definitions and Clarifications

Baseline year

Arup's baseline year for greenhouse gas accounting and monitoring our science-based targets. This is the financial year running from 1 April 2018 to 31 March 2019, also referred to as the 2019 baseline year.

Reporting year

When referring to a year we mean the financial year ending on the 31 March during that period, e.g. 2019 is the year ending 31 March 2019. Arup's financial year runs from 1 April to 31 March.

GHG

Greenhouse gases (GHG) are a group of gases that contribute to global warming and climate change. The main types of greenhouse gases include carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide, and fluorinated gases. They are measured in terms of carbon dioxide equivalents (CO₂e).

Science Based Targets initiative

The Science Based Targets initiative (SBTi) is a corporate climate action organisation. They develop standards, tools and guidance that enables organisations to set and report on GHG emissions targets aligned with action required to achieve net zero emissions globally by 2050.

Scope 1 emissions

Direct greenhouse gas emissions from sources that are owned or controlled by us, such as emissions from fuel combustion in company-owned vehicles, and onsite energy generation and refrigerant losses.

Scope 2 emissions

Indirect greenhouse gas emissions associated with the generation of purchased electricity, steam, heating, and cooling consumed in our offices. These emissions occur at the facilities where our energy is produced.

Scope 3 emissions

All other indirect greenhouse gas emissions that occur in our value chain, including both upstream and downstream activities. This includes emissions from purchased goods and services, capital goods, business travel, employee commuting, and waste disposal.

Arup office image:
Warsaw, Poland



Foreword

Taking climate action to shape a better world

Taking meaningful climate action requires clear goals, processes and oversight. This Net Zero Plan sets out how we will take our next steps to decarbonise Arup's operations and reach our net zero goal. It also summarises the progress we've made, when we began this journey.

We have a great deal more to do, but we should celebrate our successes along the way. We will continue to drive emissions reduction to become a science-based net zero organisation by 2040 - or sooner - aligned with requirements of the Science Based Targets initiative.

Our technical experts play an increasingly vital role in enabling our clients to adopt the most efficient and cost-effective ways to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions.

Alongside enabling emissions reduction for our clients, we are focused on the design of climate-resilient infrastructure, particularly critical assets and networks upon which all rely.

Expanding our capability to deliver market-leading emission mitigation alongside resilience planning and design services lies at the heart of our 2025-2030 corporate strategy.

It is through work for our clients that we shape a better world.

Image:
View from Arup office London, UK



Jerome Frost
Chair, Arup Group



Introduction

Building on progress: updating our plan

Our Net Zero programme has been successful in driving change within our organisation. It's the right time to raise our ambitions building on what we've learned to date.

In 2019, Arup announced ambitious greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reduction targets: a 30% reduction in absolute Scope 1 and 2, and absolute Scope 3 emissions against a 2019 baseline, along with a commitment to becoming a net zero organisation. In September 2020 we published our Net Zero Carbon Strategy which has served as the roadmap for our decarbonisation journey to date.

We have made significant progress in decarbonising our operations, reducing our overall emissions across all three scopes since the baseline year despite our headcount growing in the same period. We are proud of the progress we have made against our emissions reduction targets, and while this marks a significant milestone, it is a step in our longer journey toward becoming a Net Zero organisation by 2040.

We cannot do this alone. Our suppliers are critical partners in us achieving our net zero ambition and we must work with them to accelerate their own efforts to set ambitious net zero targets and achieve them. As such our plan embraces the need for collaboration, support and influence.

This Net Zero Plan reflects the definition for 'science-based net zero' published by SBTi¹ – the achievement of long-term science-based target (reducing emissions by more than 90%) across the full value chain and the neutralisation of any residual emissions through verified carbon removal credits.

What's in the Plan?

Our Net Zero Plan addresses the GHG emissions associated with the corporate operations of our firm. This includes our offices, travel and supply chain.

Key assumptions and external factors

What reporting standards do we use?

We follow the GHG Protocol Corporate Accounting and Reporting Standard² for our data collection and analysis.

What emissions are included?

A breakdown of the emission categories and sources relevant to Arup is provided in the Appendix A.

What is our baseline?

Our baseline year is the financial year from 1 April 2018 to 31 March 2019 (referred to as 2019). We use the emissions figures calculated for the baseline year to track emissions reduction over time.

Why have our figures changed ?

According to the GHG Protocol any changes to methodology or data collection that result in a significant impact (a 5% or greater change) on the baseline year emissions data necessitate re-baselining. As such, we carried out a re-baselining exercise in 2024. This and any future material changes to our reporting and methodologies will be clearly defined and explained in our Annual Financial Statements.

Our guiding policies

Our Net Zero Plan is guided by our company policies. Sustainable Development Policy; Climate, Nature, and Environment Policy; and Net Zero GHG Emissions Statement.

We have developed a suite of methodologies to provide transparency and consistency for our data collection and reporting in line with the GHG Protocol.



Arup office image:

Real-time sensor data collection Tokyo, Japan.

Our journey *so far*

Our efforts to date have delivered significant emissions reductions, improved efficiency and engagement with key stakeholders.



Arup office images:

An electric car provided for staff for business travel at our Cardiff office; and our Ho Chi Minh City office, Vietnam.

What we have done so far

We recognise the threat to the planet posed by human-caused climate change and are committed to reducing our operational carbon emissions. Some of the key actions and progress that we have made since the publication of our 2020 Net Zero Carbon Strategy include:



Our offices

100% renewable electricity³

We have purchased 100% renewable electricity to power our properties since 2023 and continue to invest in improving the energy efficiency of our portfolio. Please see Appendix B for details on Arup's approach to renewable electricity.

Gas-powered building transitions

We have transitioned several offices out of gas-heated buildings. We are exploring the feasibility of retrofitting or exiting all gas-heated buildings by 2030.



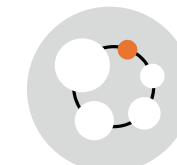
Our travel

Reduced business travel emissions

We have reduced our business travel emissions by 34% through the implementation of our global travel protocol and widespread adoption of improved technology for virtual meetings.

Reduced commuting emissions

We have reduced commuting emissions by 50% through implementing hybrid working and relocating a number of our offices to city centre locations with improved access and connectivity.



Our supply chain

Global supplier engagement

We have implemented a global supplier engagement programme to better understand and influence emissions from our wider value chain and explore collaboration opportunities for emissions reduction.

Whole Life Carbon

We have enhanced accounting methodologies, and integrated Whole Life Cycle Assessment (WLCA) into supply chain emissions accounting. This has resulted in enhanced data visibility and more precise, actionable insights for improved decision making.



Governance and funding

Arup Carbon Levy and Fund

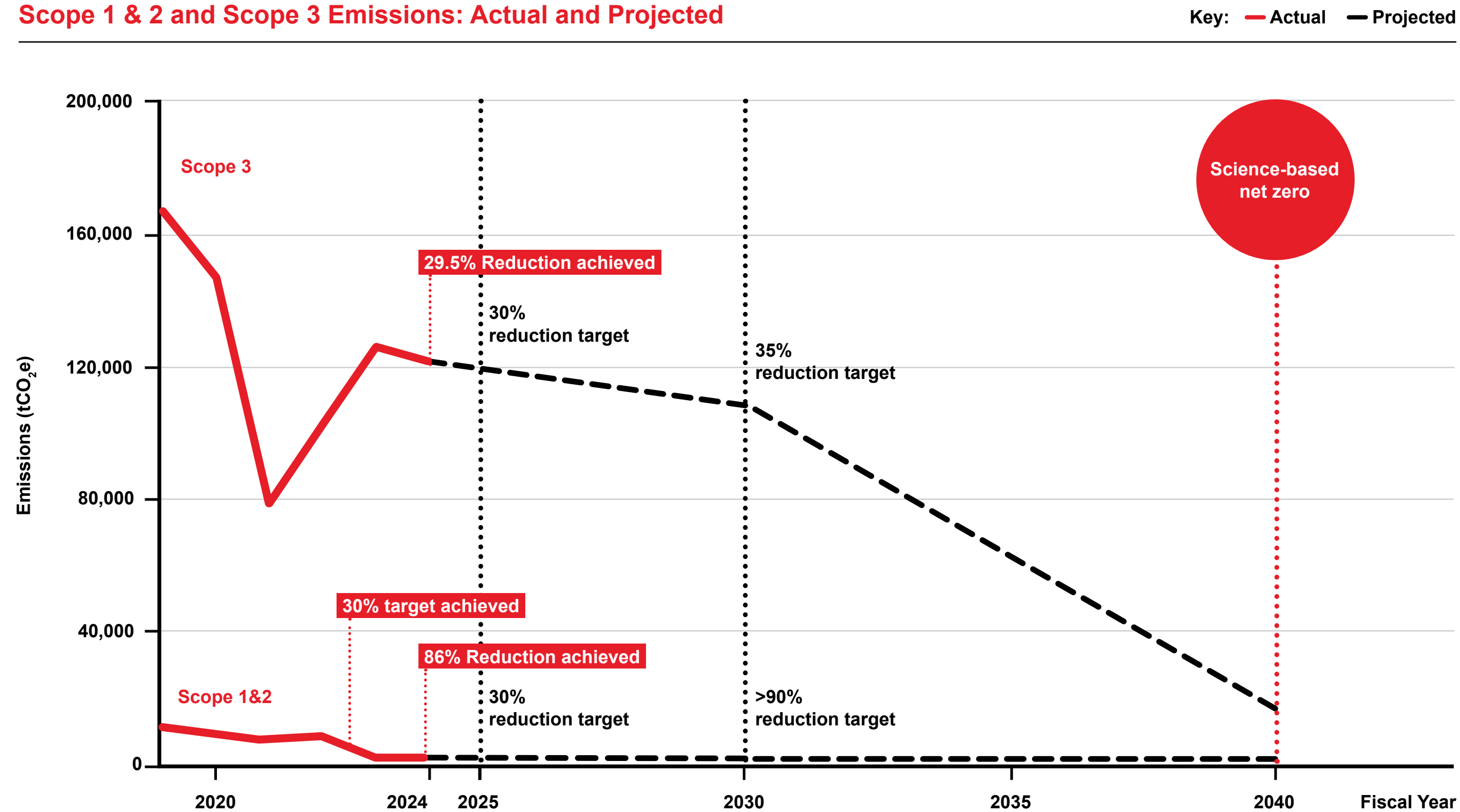
We have invested the funds collected through our carbon levy⁴ to support projects such as installing solar panels on office rooftops, as a way of accelerating our decarbonisation journey.

Robust assurance

We have received third-party assurance for our 2023 and 2024 emissions data, confirming that our GHG reporting methodologies are fully aligned with the GHG Protocol and industry best practices.

Charting our progress

Scope 1 & 2 and Scope 3 Emissions: Actual and Projected

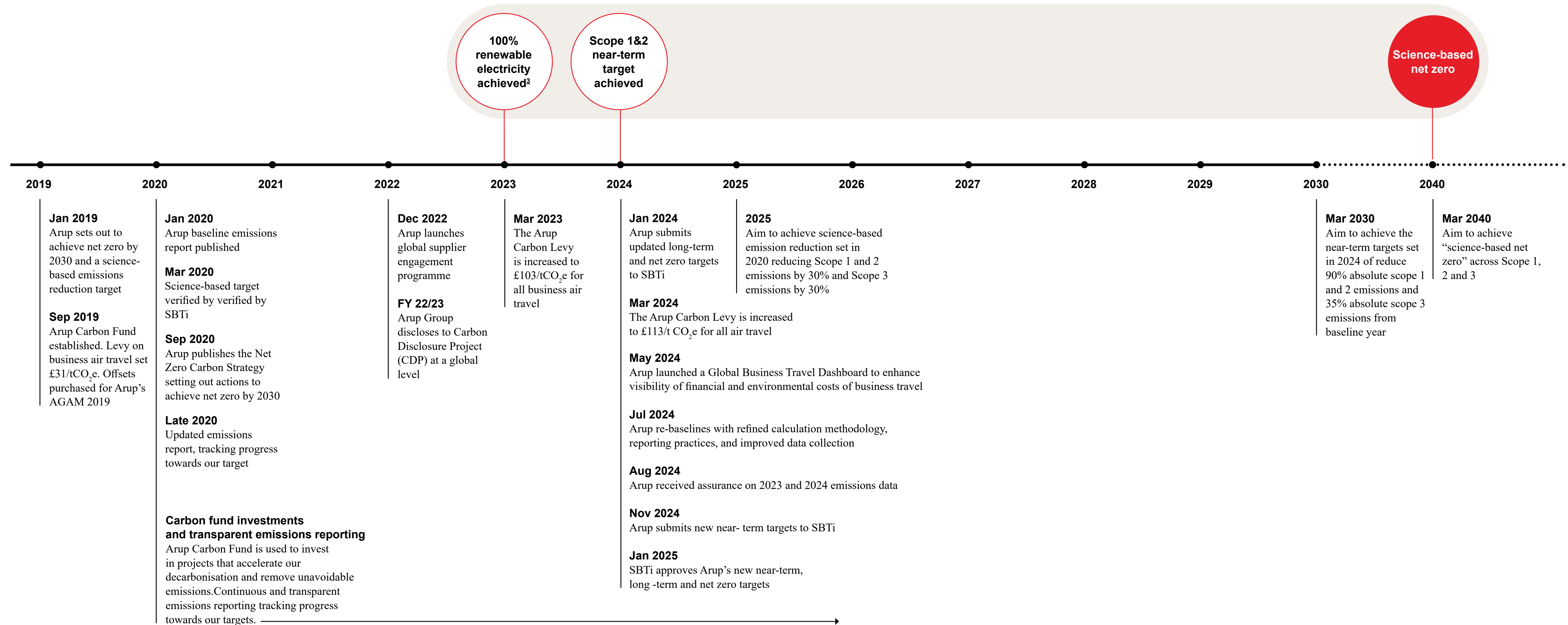


Our 2020 Net Zero Strategy set out the actions needed to achieve a reduction in absolute emissions by 30% in scope 1 and 2, and 30% in scope 3 by 2025 from 2019 baseline. We are proud to have achieved our Scope 1 and 2 target a full year ahead of schedule recording 86% reduction in 2024 and to have reached our goal of sourcing 100% renewable electricity from 2023³. We are also well on track to achieving our Scope 3 target recording a 29.5% reduction in 2024. Our headcount grew by 22% over the same period demonstrating that we are making significant progress in decoupling emissions from our firm's revenue and operational growth.

During the pandemic, we experienced a notable change in our operations as a result of restrictions on movement and business activity experienced worldwide. This is reflected by the sudden decrease in emissions during this period. We have used this as an opportunity to formalise measures that saved carbon during the pandemic, such as hybrid working and reduced business travel.

Looking ahead, this plan sets out the action require to achieve our 2030 near-term and 2040 long-term targets by fully decarbonising our value chain and neutralising any remaining emissions. Our ambition is to achieve a science-based net zero across the full value chain by 2040.

Our timeline of activity



Our targets

We are committed to achieving a science-based net zero for our operations⁵ across our full value chain by 2040.

* From a 2019 baseline

** Scope 3 relates to those emission categories within the SBTi target reporting boundary including purchased goods and services, capital goods, waste, business travel and employee commuting. Arup also monitors additional Scope 3 categories, but these are outside of the SBTi target reporting boundary.

Scope 1 & 2: SBTi Absolute emission reduction targets*

30%
Target
(By 2025)

86% Achieved in 2024

>90%
Target
(By 2030)

>90%
Maintained
(Through to 2040)

Achieve science-based net zero

Scope 3**: SBTi Emission reduction targets*

30%
Target
(By 2025)

29.5% Achieved in 2024

35%
Target
(By 2030)

>90%
Target
(By 2040)

Achieve science-based net zero

The SBTi has validated our near and long term emissions reduction targets.⁶

According to SBTi Corporate Net Zero Standard V1.2 (March 2024)¹, a company will be considered to have reached net zero when it has achieved its long-term science-based target (cut emissions by more than 90%) and neutralised any residual emissions with verified carbon removal credits.

Our commitment to science-based net zero applies to Scope 1, 2 and 3 by 2040. However we are committed to achieve this sooner by 2030 for Scope 1 and 2.

Additional commitments

We can't achieve our goals alone. We need to be transparent and to work with the global community. Our Net Zero Plan is reinforced by our public commitments, such as the World Green Building Council (WGBC) Net Zero Carbon Buildings Commitment, Race to Zero and the Climate Pledge. These commitments hold us accountable for addressing climate change collaboratively and ambitiously – across industries and sectors.

See more about our net zero commitments [here](#).

Arup office image:

Rooftop solar panels at our Leeds, UK office.



Meeting our targets

We are reducing emissions in the places and ways that we work, as well as throughout our supply chain.

We prioritise our activities by applying the carbon management hierarchy of avoid - reduce - replace - offset, and determining what is in our control and influence. Through this we have identified our three strategic priority areas as our offices, travel and supply chain.

We also have commitments to invest in high quality certified carbon credits to neutralise our residual emissions.

In this section:

Key actions

Priority area 1: Our offices

Priority area 2: Our travel

Priority area 3: Our supply chain

Our residual emissions



Arup office images:
Bogotá, Columbia and Melbourne, Australia.

Key actions

Our offices



Renewable energy

- Action 1:** Electrify our Arup owned offices by 2030
- Action 2:** All new leases to be for electric buildings and exit existing gas building leases where possible.
- Action 3:** Continue to purchase 100% renewable electricity.
- Action 4:** Implement on-site renewables where feasible.



Carbon footprint

- Action 5:** Maximise the utilisation of our property portfolio.
- Action 6:** Continue to implement energy efficiency measures.

Our travel



Business travel

- Action 7:** Continue to reduce fossil fuel fleet, and transition to electric owned or leased vehicles by 2030.
- Action 8:** Promote responsible decision making through the implementation of our Global Travel Protocol and provide access to business travel analytics and performance data.
- Action 9:** Continue to apply the Arup Carbon Levy to the emissions associated with business air travel.



Commuting travel

- Action 10:** Locate offices in locations with good connectivity and access to public transport and cycling facilities.
- Action 11:** Continue to monitor commuting patterns through regular member surveys and use insights to influence behaviours, where possible.

Our supply chain



Supplier engagement

- Action 12:** Continue targeted supplier engagement to gather information on sustainability and emission reduction goals.
- Action 13:** Provide support and guidance to SMEs to support net zero target uptake.



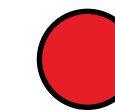
Criteria and data

- Action 14:** Selection criteria to include sustainability criteria and emission commitments.
- Action 15:** Progressive introduction of sustainability criteria for supplier contracts.
- Action 16:** Continue improving data quality, including supplier specific data where possible.



Our offices

Click to view more images:



Priorities going forward

To reduce emissions related to our offices we will take measures to reduce both operational and embodied carbon. Operational carbon is emitted through the daily use of a building: lighting, heating, electricity and generation of waste. The embodied carbon of a building or office refurbishment is the carbon footprint before and during construction or retrofit.

Operational carbon

We will strive to occupy energy efficient buildings with the highest sustainability ratings available and continue to invest in operational energy efficiency performance and circularity of our existing properties. We will phase out fossil fuel heating sources for our owned properties by 2030.

Embodied carbon

Any office move or fit-out will have embodied emissions and we are committed to reducing these by including emissions avoidance in the earliest design stages, material choice and embedding circular economy principles.

Sharing whole life carbon best practice

We will use our learning from whole life carbon assessments carried out as part of our WGBC Net Zero Carbon Buildings Commitment to continue to reduce the emissions intensity of our office moves and refurbishments. We will co-create globally applicable lessons learned and guidance.

Exploring renewables opportunities

Following our Arup Carbon Fund funded project to install solar panels and battery storage at our Durban Office we will continue to explore opportunities to increase our proportion of on-site renewables in other office locations.

Influencing our landlords

As we primarily occupy office space in multi-tenanted buildings there are situations where we are unable to directly manage our own electricity supply. However, we are committed to continuing engagement with our landlords to improve our access to high-quality renewable electricity options.

Our travel

Priorities going forward

Sustainable travel is a key focus for us. Whether it's meeting with partners on the other side of the world, or commuting across town for a meeting, we will act to avoid unnecessary travel and reduce emissions and, when travel is necessary, encourage public transport or lower-carbon alternatives

Informing travel decisions

We encourage virtual meetings whenever possible and work with our clients to evaluate the necessity of travel according to our global travel policies.

However, we recognise that air travel is more necessary in some locations than others due to distances and/or the availability of low-carbon options. For this reason we give our members access to our travel emissions data through the Global Business Travel Dashboard so they can make more informed decisions on travel.

Behavioural influence around business travel

We will work with our members and influence behaviour by making our business travel emissions data visible through our business travel dashboard and regular reporting. We will use this data as a key consideration in strategic decision making relating to growth, office locations and management of our projects.

Hybrid working

Through the implementation of our Work Unbound hybrid working policy we have reduced commuting emissions by 50% since the baseline year. We are committed to maintaining this reduction and exploring additional ways to decrease commuting emissions through the analysis of insights gained through our regular global commuting and homeworking surveys.

Office locations

As we review our office portfolio and consider moving, a key priority for any new location will be good connectivity and access to public transport, walking and cycling facilities.



Image: Cycle store facilities at our Sydney, Australia office.

Our supply chain

Priorities going forward

Like most businesses, our supply chain is our largest source of emissions, making collaboration with our supply chain to reduce emissions a key priority. This includes suppliers who provide products and services for our operations, such as IT hardware, furniture and catering. However the majority of our supply chain is comprised of sub-consultants contracted to support the delivery of services on behalf of our clients.

Supplier choice

We will prioritise relationships with suppliers who share our net zero ambitions. This will include reviewing emission reduction commitments as part of our supplier selection criteria and, over time, collaborating with our suppliers on achievable net zero aligned emissions reduction targets.

Increase supplier engagement

In 2022 we engaged with the top 40% of our supply chain by spend. We will continue to expand our supplier engagement program to encourage our suppliers to commit to ambitious emissions reductions aligned with our own. We aim to build long term relationships with our suppliers and support them to set and achieve ambitious targets for carbon reduction.

Improve data accuracy

We will continue to enhance our data collection processes and increase automation to simplify the management of supply chain emissions data. This will enable us to provide greater insights into our hotspots and monitor the suppliers that are critical to achieving our targets.



Image: Social enterprise, Streat, operate a café within our office in Melbourne, Australia.

Our residual emissions

As we progress on our net zero journey, Arup will be left with an annually decreasing volume of hard-to-abate residual emissions.

Since 2019, Arup has procured high-quality certified carbon credits to match the tonnes of emissions we generate through business air travel, and we will continue to do so.

Our science-based net zero target includes counterbalancing other residual, hard-to-decarbonise emissions with high-quality certified carbon removal credits, in line with SBTi standards.

We recognise that the quality of carbon credits varies significantly, and we are committed to purchasing the highest quality credits that also positively impact communities and nature.

We apply a rigorous approach to procurement through use of trusted brokers, third-party rating schemes and applying our own due diligence. We also align with recognised leading practices and certification processes where appropriate. To support this, we apply a criteria-driven approach to identify, source, and purchase a portfolio of high-quality offset credits.

The key criteria of Arup's approach to procuring carbon credits are provided in Appendix C.

Image: CommuniTree Carbon Program, Central America

2019

Carbon credits for emissions for aviation travel.

2030

Carbon credits for emissions from aviation travel, Scope 1 and 2 and upfront embodied carbon of Arup office fit outs.

2040

Carbon credits for emissions from aviation travel, Scope 1 and 2, upfront embodied carbon of Arup office fit outs and Scope 3.



Governance and funding

We have a Global Net Zero Team in place that collaborates with our members to make effective change happen.

Images:

Project site, London, UK and the circadian lighting system in our Toronto, Canada office.



Champions for change

Arup's Global Net Zero Team drives our decarbonisation initiatives, providing centralised support for implementation, analytics and reporting on our global progress. They work closely with dedicated net zero leads in each region and across key functions including local office management, finance, facilities management and procurement to embed our plans and targets into operational business practice, share implementation lessons-learned and promote best practice. The Global Net Zero Team benefits from access to our in-house net zero experts who advise our clients, bringing world-class insights on best practice for corporate decarbonisation.

The Global Net Zero Team is accountable to and reports bi-monthly to the Commercial Executive, which forms parts of our Operations Executive and is responsible for implementation. Strategic oversight and direction on our Net Zero targets and Net Zero GHG Emissions Statement are the responsibility of the Arup Group Board, under the guidance of our Global Sustainable Development Director. Progress towards achieving our targets and associated commitments, as well as fulfilling legal, regulatory and other requirements is reported quarterly to Arup Group Board.

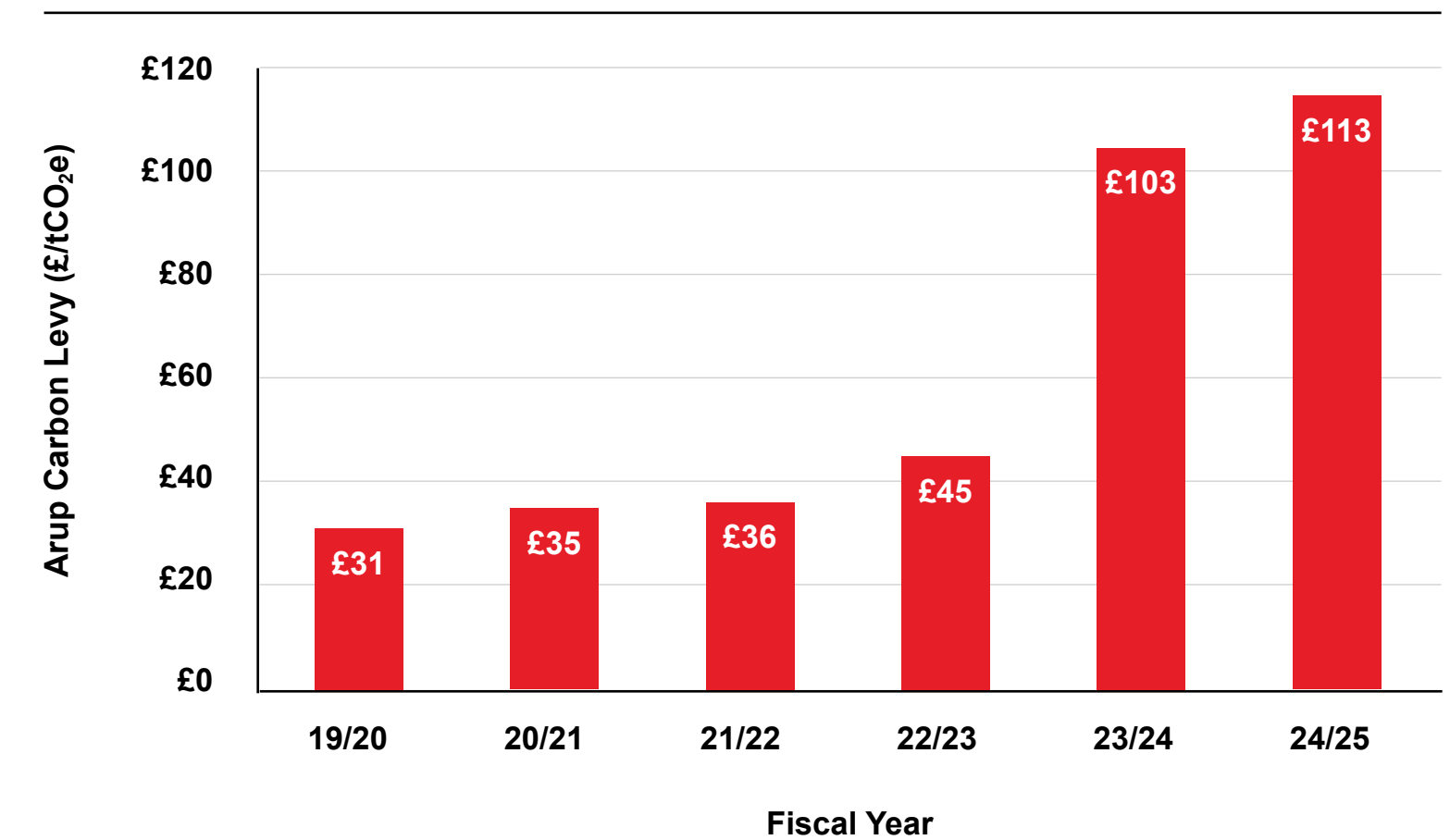
Funding for the Global Net Zero Team is provided centrally. Activities to deliver the ambitions of our Net Zero Plan are included within region and corporate function annual budgets, and additional financial support is available through the Arup Carbon Fund.

Arup Carbon Fund

The Arup Carbon Levy is a charge applied per tonne of CO₂e for all emissions from business air travel. The purpose of the Arup Carbon Levy is to discourage unnecessary business travel which is a key component of our scope 3 emissions. It is intended to raise awareness of the carbon impact of travel and associated costs, whilst generating funds to invest in further reducing our carbon footprint. The levy amount for FY24/25 is currently £113/tCO₂e and is reviewed annually to reflect increases in market pricing of carbon emissions.

The funds generated through the levy accumulate in the Arup Carbon Fund and are used to finance projects that either accelerate Arup's operational decarbonisation, or enable us to invest in GHG removal projects, or buy carbon credits to offset business air travel emissions.

Arup Carbon Levy



Measuring and reporting on our progress

We're committed to measuring and reporting our progress with consistent, transparent information.

Transparency is at the heart of science-based emissions targets, and Arup maintains a robust system of measuring and reporting our progress on an annual basis. We communicate our progress to clients and stakeholders through our statutory reports and annual report available [here](#).

We disclose our emissions each year via the Climate Disclosure Project (CDP), and our results undergo limited assurance verification by an independent third party to maintain accuracy and credibility.

To ensure the continued relevance and effectiveness of this Net Zero Plan, we will review it annually and make changes if they are needed.

Continuing to improve our data

Local efforts with global consistency

We have embraced international collaboration to bring consistency to our decarbonisation approach across our countries and regions adopting an One Arup approach. Our ambition is to drive continual improvement across the firm while respecting local nuances, such as varying access to renewable energy and low emission transport.

Data Quality

High-quality data is critical to our success. We have invested in strengthening our data management and storage approaches, increasing automation and providing our members with better access to emissions data relevant to their roles. We will continue to build on this work and further increase automation of our processes in the coming years, while also ensuring strong data integrity and governance for data assurance and verification purposes.

Going beyond our operations

We are a key part of an industry-wide effort to decarbonise the built environment.

Our commitment to decarbonisation extends beyond our own operations. The built environment accounts for 37% of global energy-related carbon dioxide emissions⁷, and these emissions are still rising. An industry-wide effort is needed to accelerate decarbonisation involving action and advocacy. We are working with our clients, partners and others to reduce the emissions associated with our service and influence the industry at large.

At COP26, we committed to not take on any new energy commissions involving the extraction, refinement, or transportation of hydrocarbon-based fuels except the manufacture of hydrogen. to focus our efforts on energy transition. This includes growing our renewable energy business and improving energy efficiency in buildings, and infrastructure.

Our well-established climate and sustainability services are an integral part of the support we offer our clients, helping them to address the specific challenges they face to decarbonise their assets, and their organisation.

We also committed to assessing our global building design portfolio using whole life carbon (WLC) techniques.

Our [WLC case study](#) shares progress and lessons learnt from collecting data from over 1,000 projects over two years. We are working with others including WBCSD and WGBC to accelerate market transformation through standardisation of carbon accounting, data and standards.

Arup works to shape a better world, and no one can do that alone. Our [strategic partnerships](#) help us to collaborate with government, business and civil society to influence global discourse, policy and industry standards. These collaborations enable us to tackle issues like energy efficiency, the circular economy agenda and infrastructure resilience.

We are committed to breaking down barriers to sustainable development in the markets in which we operate by collaborating with others to influence systemic change.

To learn more please refer to our [website](#).

Appendices



Arup office images:
Dublin, Ireland and Johannesburg, South Africa.

Appendix A: Emissions Reporting Boundary

This appendix offers an overview of each emissions scope and category, detailing our rationale for their inclusion or exclusion.

Scopes 1 & 2	Description	Applicability	Disclosure	Rationale for inclusion or exclusion
1	Direct GHG emissions	Yes	Yes	These GHG emissions result directly from Arup's operational activities, including emissions from fleet vehicles, gas usage, and refrigerant loss where Arup has operational control.
2	Indirect GHG emissions	Yes	Yes	Scope 2 includes indirect emissions from the generation of energy such as electricity, steam, heating, and cooling, where Arup has operational control.
Scope 3 categories	Scope 3 Category (upstream)	Applicability	Disclosure	Rationale for inclusion or exclusion
3.1	Purchased goods and services	Yes	Yes	Arup has significant purchased goods and services expenditure within our operational control.
3.2	Capital goods	Yes	Yes	Arup has significant capital goods expenditure within our operational control.
3.3	Fuel and energy related activities	Yes	No	Emissions from this category represent <1% of our scope 3 emissions and have been excluded on the basis of materiality.
3.4	Upstream transportation and distribution	Yes	No	Emissions from this category are aggregated within Category 1 (Purchased Goods and Services) but we are working to disaggregate these emissions with our supply chain.
3.5	Waste generated in operations	Yes	Yes	Arup has offices which generate and dispose of waste within our operational control.
3.6	Business travel	Yes	Yes	Business travel is fundamental to the delivery of Arup's services as a global firm, and within our operational control.
3.7	Employee commuting	Yes	Yes	Arup can influence employee commuting decisions through office location decisions and flexible working policies.
3.8	Upstream leased assets	No	No	Emissions from leased assets are reported in scopes 1 and 2, so there are no emissions to report in this category.
3.9	Downstream transportation and distribution	No	NA	Arup does not sell and transport goods to our clients; therefore, this category is not applicable to us.
3.10	Processing of sold products	No	NA	Arup does not sell and transport goods to our clients; therefore, this category is not applicable to us.
3.11	Use of sold products	No	NA	Arup does not sell and transport goods to our clients; therefore, this category is not applicable to us.
3.12	End-of-life treatment of sold products	No	NA	Arup does not sell and transport goods to our clients; therefore, this category is not applicable to us.
3.13	Downstream leased assets	Yes	No	Emissions from this category represent <0.1% of our scope 3 emissions and have been excluded on the basis of materiality.
3.14	Franchises	No	NA	Arup do not own or operate any franchises as part of our business operations.
3.15	Investments	No	NA	Arup does not provide financial services therefore this category is not applicable to us

Appendix B: Our approach to renewable electricity

Arup has procured 100% renewable electricity since 2023 and we are committed to maintaining this by taking the following actions, depending on their suitability, for each of our offices:

1. Source 100% renewable electricity supply contracts directly where we can manage this directly.
2. Request that our landlords provide 100% renewable electricity to our leased offices.
3. Increasing uptake of onsite renewables, funded through the Arup Carbon Fund.
4. Procure EACs where we do not have control or influence over our electricity supply. Apply rigorous criteria to the EACs we purchase in line with the GHG Protocol's Scope 2 Guidance.

Arup office image:
London, UK.





Image:
Climate Labs Kukumuty
Program, Mozambique

Appendix C: Our residual emissions key criteria

Greenhouse gas removal

Priority given to projects that remove carbon from the atmosphere, in alignment with our overarching objective of becoming a net zero and nature positive business.

Emphasis on durable projects

Priority given to projects with longer duration storage credits, exceeding 1,000 years, with a minimum lifespan requirement of 40 years.

No Harm

Projects will be vetted to ensure they do not result in unintended harmful consequences for people or the environment.

Geographic considerations

Preference given to carbon credits attributed to projects in a national boundary where an Arup office is located.

Alignment with accredited registries

Credits ideally sourced from schemes aligned with registries accredited by the International Carbon Reduction and Offset Alliance (ICROA) or undergoing accreditation.

Third-party rating

Priority given to credits rated by third-party entities (such as BeZero and Sylvera) with a minimum rating of ‘A’ (indicating a high likelihood of achieving one tonne of CO₂e removed).

Avoidance of double claiming

To mitigate the risk of double claiming sequestration benefits, we will ensure credits are not sourced from schemes linked to a product or national government until further assurances are available.

Compliance with international standards

Carbon credits prioritised from schemes compliant with or undergoing the process to become Carbon Credit Programme (CCP)-Eligible under the Integrity Council for the Voluntary Carbon Market (ICVCM) framework.

Temporal considerations

Priority will be given to carbon credits which demonstrate GHG removal within recent years (e.g. last three years) (ex-post) or which will be certified in the upcoming years (e.g. next five years) (ex-ante).

Co-Benefits

Priority is given to credits which provide a range of wider benefits such as biodiversity net gain and social benefits.

Abbreviations

AGAM

Arup Group Annual Meeting.

CCP

Core Carbon Principles.

CDP

Carbon Disclosure Project.

EACs

Energy attribute certificates. These are certificates which represent 1MWh of renewable electricity and are used to verify renewable electricity claims.

ICROA

International Carbon Reduction and Offset Alliance.

ICVCM

Integrity Council for the Voluntary Carbon Market.

Arup office image:

Brise soleil to reduce heat gain at our Adelaide, Australia office.

SBTi

Science Based Targets initiative.

SMEs

Small and midsize enterprise.

WBCSD

World Business Council for Sustainable Development.

WGBC

World Green Building Council.

WLC

Whole Life Carbon.

VCM

Voluntary Carbon Market.





Arup office image:
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Endnotes

- 1 Science-based net zero definition: Reducing scope 1, 2, and 3 emissions to zero or an aligned residual level under 1.5°C scenarios and offsetting any remaining emissions by the net-zero target date and beyond. Refer to SBTi Corporate Net Zero Standard Version 1.2 March 2024 (<https://sciencebasedtargets.org/net-zero>)
- 2 <https://ghgprotocol.org/corporate-standard>
- 3 This includes procurement of Energy Attribute Certificates (EACs) where necessary, for example where renewable electricity tariffs are unavailable, or we do not have ownership over the supply contract.
- 4 The Arup Carbon Levy is an internal carbon price which is charged against each tCO₂e generated by Arup's air business travel. This was initially set at USD \$40/tCO₂e and converted to regional currencies. For regional comparison and consistency carbon prices were standardised to GBP in 2023.
- 5 Operations are defined as our offices, travel and supply chain – it excludes our professional services to clients on our projects
- 6 The official net-zero science-based target language:

Overall Net-Zero Target: Arup Group Ltd. commits to reach net-zero greenhouse gas emissions across the value chain by FY2040.

Near-Term Targets: Arup Group Ltd. commits to reduce absolute scope 1 and 2 GHG emissions 90% by FY2030 from a FY2019 base year. Arup Group Ltd. also commits to reduce absolute scope 3 GHG emissions 35% within the same timeframe.

Long-Term Targets: Arup Group Ltd. commits to maintain at least 90% absolute scope 1 and 2 GHG emissions reductions from FY2030 through FY2040 from a FY2019 base year. Arup Group Ltd. also commits to reduce absolute scope 3 GHG emissions 90% by FY2040 from a FY2019 base year.

SBTi Target dashboard: <https://sciencebasedtargets.org/target-dashboard>

- 7 <https://www.unep.org/resources/report/global-status-report-buildings-and-construction>

ARUP

Please reach out to us at:

www.arup.com