



# EAUC Scotland Annual Report

April 2022 – March 2023

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# EAUC Scotland Programme

## Year 3: April 2022 - March 2023



Delivered by our team in Scotland and funded by the Scottish Funding Council (SFC), this programme supports all Scottish FHE institutions to develop a skilled and informed, holistic approach to sustainability within governance, operations, learning and teaching, and engagement activities.

### Leadership at all levels

621 attendees joined 33 EAUC-Scotland events

24% increase in educational contacts vs 2020

Delivered Carbon Literacy Training to 58 participants

3 new SDG Accord signatories

3 new Race to Zero for Universities and Colleges signatories

### Skills, Knowledge & Data

Published 2020/21 FHE, FE and HE sector reports for PBCCD Reporting

Expanded the Public Bodies Reporting Peer Review to 19 institutions

Supported APUC's Supply Chain Climate & Ecological Emergency Strategy 2022 - 2030 development

96% of event attendees believe EAUC Scotland is helping them develop their skills and knowledge

### Partnerships and Collaborations

Engaged with 91 non-FHE organisations through events or engagement calls

90 non-Scottish FHE attendees at EAUC Scotland events

Directly engaged with 8 partner network steering/working groups

### Teaching, Research and Engagement

4 Education for Sustainability & Community Engagement TSNs held

Delivered second Realigning Curricula for the Future event series

Working with partners on QAA Research Project on ESD Monitoring and Evaluation

3 education-related consultation responses submitted

### Supporting Wider Stakeholders

Supported SFC in the development of the Net Zero Framework and quarterly environmental policy briefings

EAUC Scotland provided feedback in the development of Scottish Government's inseting and offsetting guidance to public bodies

EAUC Scotland took part one awards panel

## Introduction

The EAUC Scotland programme **Accelerating action and leadership in Scotland's universities and colleges in order to respond to the climate emergency**, running from April 2020 until March 2023, builds upon previous EAUC Scotland projects to further support Scotland's colleges and universities to develop a skilled and informed, whole-institutional and collaborative approach to leadership around carbon and resource management, social responsibility and environmental sustainability.

The Programme consists of five key outcomes:

- 1) The sector is delivering dynamic and coordinated leadership and action in response to the climate emergency at all levels of Scottish further and higher education institutions
- 2) The further and higher education sector is able to provide the right data, skills, and knowledge to contribute towards national climate targets
- 3) Universities and colleges in Scotland are able to respond collectively at a sector-based, local and national level to the climate emergency and collaborate effectively within and beyond the sector.
- 4) Students develop the knowledge, skills, values and resilience required to lead and transform Scotland's future carbon-neutral, sustainable and inclusive economy.
- 5) EAUC Scotland's expertise and knowledge on sustainability within the FHE sector is accessed and utilised by wider stakeholders, including SFC

This Annual Report, covering the period April 2022 – March 2023, reports on the work of the EAUC Scotland team under these five outcomes, highlighting progress towards the milestones and targets expected at this point in the Programme.

The Report was prepared by the EAUC Scotland Team in April 2023.

## Data Collection

Data and quotes used within this report have been gathered through a survey sent out to all EAUC Scotland contacts in March and April 2023 (27 responses) and ongoing event and email monitoring by the EAUC Scotland Staff Team.

Statistics reporting progress since the programme began in April 2020 utilises data submitted within the EAUC Scotland 2019-20 Annual Report and 2017-2020 Programme Performance Review.

## EAUC Scotland Staff and Governance

The EAUC Scotland Team deliver the Scottish Funding Council funded Programme for the EAUC. Over the past year the EAUC Scotland Team has included:

- Matt Woodthorpe, Scotland Programme Manager
- Alice Smith, Networks and Communications Officer
- Rory Hill, Central and South Scotland College Partnership Sustainability Project Manager
- Lara Fahey, Sustainability Projects Officer
- Kathrin Möbius, Sustainability Projects Officer
- Lucy Patterson, Sustainability in the Curriculum Project Officer (left October 2022)
- Rebecca Petford, Scotland Programme Manager – Sustainability Education and Engagement (Job Share; left July 2022)
- Jill Burnett, Carbon and Estates Project Officer (left June 2022)
- Jake Hepplewhite – Sustainability Content Creator, Kickstarter (left June 2022)

The staff team are supported by an Advisory Group (AG) of representatives from the sector who help steer their work, two from a university and two from a college. AG members this year included:

- Christine Calder (Dundee and Angus College) - Convenor
- Dr Roddy Yarr (University of Strathclyde)
- Billy Currie (Dumfries and Galloway College)
- Dr Craig Anderson (University of Stirling)

From 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023 the AG will consist of:

- Christine Calder (Dundee and Angus College) - *Convenor*
- Dr Roddy Yarr (University of Strathclyde) – *re-voted on following 2-year term*
- Billie Currie (Dumfries and Galloway College)
- Dr Craig Anderson (University of Stirling)

## Outcome 1: Dynamic and Coordinated Leadership at all Levels

The Leadership Outcome has two core activity areas:

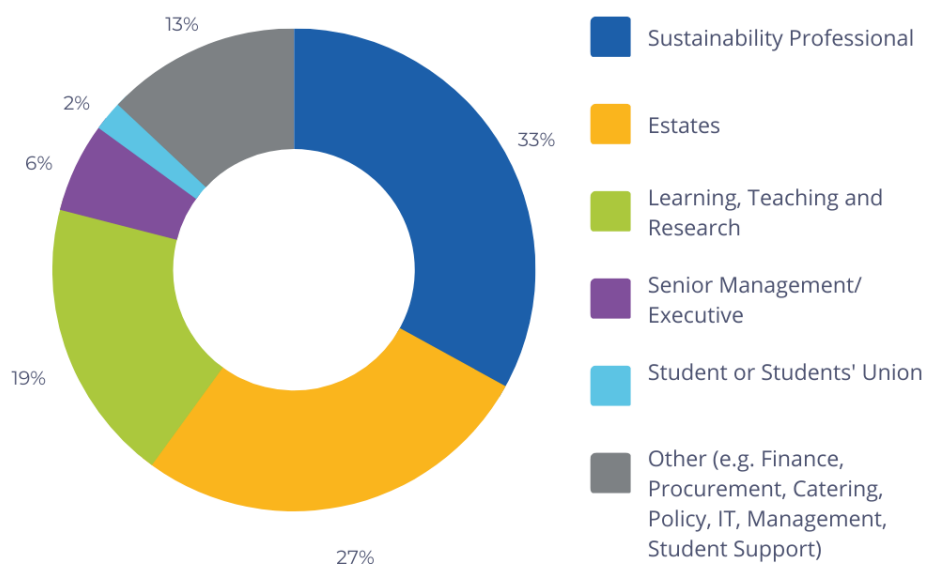
- 1) supporting staff working in different support and academic roles to feel engaged and empowered to take action, and to increase individual capacity and leadership;
- 2) encouraging senior-level commitment to address climate change and sustainability issues.

### Engaging and Empowering Professional Services and Teaching Staff

#### Key Stats:

- **24% increase in educational contacts since April 2020**
- **621 attendees joined 33 EAUC Scotland events over the past 12 months**
- **Delivered Carbon Literacy Training to 58 participants**
- **Partnered to deliver 11 external events**
- **40% of attendees came from non-Sustainability Professionals/Estates backgrounds, including 2% Student and Students' Union attendees**
- **100% of survey respondents engage with institutional colleagues outside their own department about sustainability**
- **On a scale of 1-10, people reported an empowerment level of 7/10 in terms of ability to change their own behaviour, and 6/10 on changing other people's behaviour or wider processes**

### FIG. 1 EVENT ATTENDEE JOB ROLES



EAUC Scotland's Forum Meetings, Smaller Institutions for Sustainability Meeting (SISM) group, nine Topic Support Networks (TSNs), training opportunities and dedicated Jiscmail lists are our main vehicles for sector staff to share experiences and best practice, develop resources, and set mutual sector expectations and leadership. This has been expanded further over the past year to include regional networks. Through these, EAUC Scotland supports sector staff to feel engaged and empowered to take action on climate change and sustainability.

EAUC Scotland continues to widen its network and has surpassed its 2020-23 programme aim of increasing educational contacts of all types by 10%. **Since April 2020, our educational contacts have increased by 24%** (from 1257 to 1560). Increasing our contact numbers mean more people will be receiving our bulletins and remaining up to date on sector news, but also that more people within Scotland's colleges and universities are engaging with sustainability, and with the EAUC.

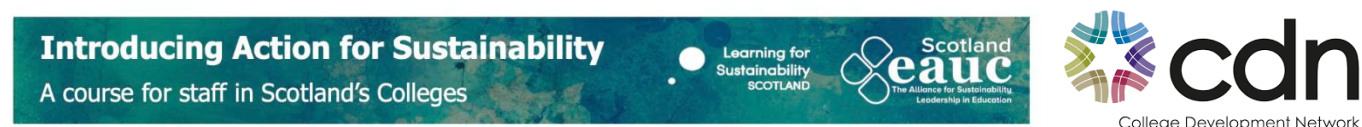
EAUC Scotland organised 33 events (including 4 training events) with 621 attendees over the last 12 months, as well as partnering on and presenting at 11 external events. Based on event data, EAUC Scotland events attract an increasingly diverse institutional audience, with participants backgrounds including (Fig. 1):

- 33% Sustainability Professional
- 27% Estates
- 19% Learning, Teaching and Research
- 6% Senior Management / Executive
- 2% Student or Students' Union / Association
- 13% Other (e.g. Finance, Procurement, Catering, Policy, IT, Management and Student Support)

## EAUC Scotland Training and Development Opportunities

Increasing understanding of sustainability throughout campus communities is crucial for holistic leadership and actions across institutions.

This year EAUC Scotland, Learning for Sustainability Scotland and College Development Network partnered together and **developed a short (30 – 45 minute) online self-study course** aimed at all staff in Scotland's colleges. Launched in August 2022 on CDN's Learn Platform at the College Expo, **Introducing Action for Sustainability allows users to understand the importance of sustainability and consider how they can play their part in supporting it.** This can be considered as the first CPD step for college staff looking to develop deeper sustainability knowledge.



EAUC Scotland also facilitates a higher level of sustainability CPD through delivery of Carbon Literacy Training (CLT). **EAUC Scotland has delivered CLT accredited by the Carbon Literacy Project to 58 participants over 4 training cohorts, with 25 participants so far taking pledges and being certified as 'Carbon Literate' by CLP.** The training utilises the open-sourced Manchester Metropolitan University CLT for Universities and Colleges training materials which EAUC Scotland has adapted to improve relevance to a Scottish sector audience. At the end of the training, participants have an awareness of the emission costs and impacts of everyday activities and the ability and motivation to reduce these emissions on an individual, community and organisational basis.

"Many thanks for 2 fantastic sessions. There has been a flurry of activity in our areas & lots of discussion around how we can make a real difference when it comes to our carbon footprint!"

*Email feedback from Carbon Literacy Training participant*

Recognising EAUC and EAUC Scotland's continued commitment to Carbon Literacy Training, the **Carbon Literacy Project has awarded EAUC Platinum status as a Carbon Literate Organisation. EAUC Scotland remains the only Scottish organisation or branch to have achieved this level of award.**

**Carbon Literate Organisation**  
Platinum

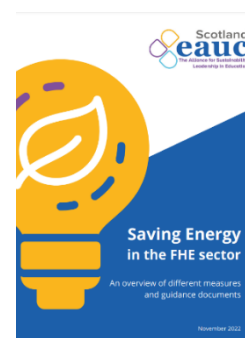




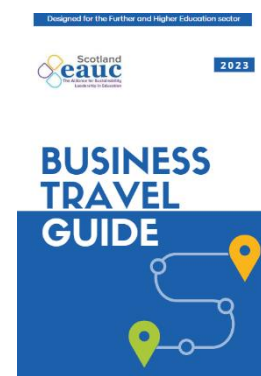
## EAUC Scotland Resource Development and Promotion

EAUC Scotland has developed and launched a range of new resources, responsive to the sector's needs this year, including:

- **[Saving Energy: A Guide for the FHE Sector](#)** – in the wake of national energy price rises, this guide provides an overview of energy reduction measures and signposting to useful guidance on saving energy for colleges and universities in the UK. The guide is tailored towards individuals and teams at colleges and universities looking to know where to start, or who want to expand their energy saving measures. It contains links and resources that enable staff to tailor energy reduction measures to their institutional context.



- **[Business Travel Guide](#)** – this comprehensive guide takes a deep-dive into business travel and sustainability to inform institutions of the Scottish policy context, reporting obligations and background information on emissions; inspire with best practice case studies from Scotland and internationally, with signposting to further resources; and provide suggested actions to take in five key areas of Leadership and Governance; Learning, Teaching and Research; Estates and Operations; Partnerships and Engagement; and, Monitoring and Evaluation.



- **[Plane Talk: Reducing Travel Emissions in Academia](#)** – following the end of the externally hosted Roundtable on Sustainable Academic Travel, EAUC Scotland, in collaboration with Wolfram Moebius at the University of Exeter and Jo Allatt from the Sustainability team at UK Research and Innovation, launched the Slack community "Plane Talk: Reducing travel emissions in academia". This community provides a platform for teaching, research and sustainability professionals who are interested in or working on reducing travel emissions in academia to ask questions and exchange knowledge.



In the previous programme (2017-20), EAUC Scotland developed or supported development of a number of resources focussed on gaining buy-in for sustainability at different levels, including the **[Engaging Professional Services Departments with Sustainability Guides](#)**, **[Business Case Guide](#)**, **[Adaptation Guide](#)** and **[Governors' Guide](#)**. These continue to be promoted through various routes including:

- Climate Commission **[FE Climate Action Roadmap](#)** (College Education for Sustainable Development Workbooks)
- Climate Commission **[HE Climate Action Toolkit](#)** (Sustainability Guide for Governors; Business Case Guide; Travel Better Package; Adaptation Guide)
- EAUC Scotland Forums & TSNs and EAUC-UK CoPs and regional meetings (Engaging Professional Services Departments Guides; Business Case Guide; Governors' Guide)

## EAUC Scotland Annual Survey Results

According to the Annual Review Survey, **100% of respondents engage with institutional colleagues outside their own department about sustainability** (vs 92% reported in the 2021-2022 Annual Report).

EAUC Scotland use the Annual Review Survey to establish how empowered our contacts feel to take action to support sustainability in their institution. On a scale of 1-10, people reported an **empowerment level of 7/10 in terms of ability to change their own behaviour** (compared to a 7.4 last year), and **6/10 on changing other people's behaviour or wider processes** (compared to a 6.5 last year). We are pleased to have maintained these scores at around the same level despite the small decrease, and hope they will increase as we continue to offer training and guidance.

When asked **what would enable them to feel more empowered** to change their own and other people's behaviour, 15% said more buy in and leadership from senior management; 44% said more financial and staff resources, which is strongly tied to the other suggestions; 7% said better internal communication and links with different departments; 15% said embedding sustainability in learning, teaching and research; and one respondent identified a need for legislative action.

## Senior Leader Engagement and Action

### Key Stats:

- **3 new SDG Accord signatories**
- **3 new Race to Zero for Universities and Colleges signatories**
- **Small decrease in whether respondents report commitment to and engagement with climate change and sustainability action is evident at a senior level (6.4/10 compared to 6.8/10 last year)**
- **Increase in percentage of sector staff who believe their institution incorporates concepts of sustainability into its policies and strategies (89% compared to 88% last year)**

According to the Annual Survey, there has been a **slight decrease in the level to which respondents report commitment to and engagement with climate change and sustainability action is evident at a senior level**, from 6.8/10 for the previous programme to 6.4/10 found in this year's findings. We will continue to develop and implement our Senior Leadership Engagement Strategy to attempt to raise this.

According to the Annual Survey, **the percentage of respondents who believe their institution incorporates concepts of sustainability into its policies and strategies has increased from the previous year's 88% to 89% this year**. EAUC Scotland will continue to work with senior leaders and other sector staff developing policies and strategies to increase this further going forward.

An updated **Senior Management Engagement Strategy** was produced in 2020 for the period of the Outcome Agreement, covering direct contact with sector senior management,

influencing strategic systems, increasing engagement through partner organisations, and supporting the EAUC's 2017-2021 Strategy. This Strategy continues to be in action, pulling together and providing structure for the elements outlined below.

## Direct Contact with FHE Senior Management

Over the past year, **25** members of Senior Management / Executive Teams attended EAUC Scotland events, and the team have engaged directly with 3 senior leaders through direct support enquiries. EAUC Scotland has also presented and directly contributed to:

- two Universities Scotland Secretaries group meetings, resulting in **direct contact with 16 University Secretaries**;
- the Committee of Scottish University Chairs autumn meeting, resulting in **direct contact with 16 University Chairs**;
- two Scottish Association of University Directors of Estates conferences, resulting in **direct contact with 14 University Directors of Estates**.

EAUC Scotland will continue to **develop individual relationships with senior leaders** when possible – through meetings or sector events, by linking senior leaders with EAUC UK activities, and by ensuring that they are kept informed about new resources, policies or opportunities which may be of relevance to them or their wider teams.

## Engaging through Partnership Organisations

Over the past year working in collaboration with partner organisations has continued to be a key area of development.

EAUC Scotland has continued to strengthen its relationship with **Universities Scotland**, with actions and outcomes including:

- Providing on-going support to Universities Scotland and committees/groups, including **presenting to the Secretaries group twice on the updated Scottish Government guidance on Public Sector Leadership on the Global Climate Emergency** and wider sector sustainability developments.
- **Supporting the development of Universities Scotland committee briefing papers on the climate emergency and scope 3 emissions.**
- **Reviewing the draft workplan for the Climate Emergency and Efficiency Committee** so as to avoid duplication of efforts with work happening elsewhere in Scotland and the UK.



EAUC Scotland was invited to present an update to the **Scottish Association of University Directors of Estates (SAUDE)** during their spring and autumn 2022 conferences. The presentations outlined the new expectations and targets set out in the latest Scottish Government guidance to public bodies, as well as signposting members to relevant new and developing resources and opportunities, such as the Carbon Coalition and Standardised Carbon Emissions Reporting Framework. Both presentations were well received and EAUC Scotland have been approached by the SAUDE Chair to support a Net Zero focussed conference in 2023.

Within the FE sector, EAUC Scotland has worked closely with College Development Network (CDN) and Colleges Scotland (CS) through CDN's **Climate Emergency Expert Group**. Primary actions taken forward through the group with EAUC Scotland support or collaborations directly with CDN include:



- **Developing and launching Introducing Action for Sustainability online training available to all Scotland college staff.**
- **Co-delivered workshop on "Engaging all College staff with Sustainability" at the CDN College Expo 2022.**
- **Initial discussions on EAUC Scotland helping design and support action research sustainability enhancement projects in the sector**, as part of CDN's Research and Enhancement Centre.



**EAUC Scotland have been developing their strategic approach to Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) over the last year**, particularly developing relationships with sparqs (who support students to demand quality education), SOS-UK (the sustainability in education charity which emerged from NUS), and the Quality Assurance Agency on both a Scottish and UK level. **EAUC Scotland are co-delivering an QAA Collaborative Enhancement Research Project on monitoring and evaluating ESD** with all the aforementioned partners, alongside the Universities of St Andrews, Edinburgh and the Highlands and Islands, which will take place from March 2022 to May 2023. Further details are provided under Outcome 4.



EAUC Scotland also **continue to develop our relationships with senior staff members within partner organisations** such as the Scottish Funding Council, Universities Scotland, College Development Network, Keep Scotland Beautiful, the Sustainable Scotland Network, APUC and Learning for Sustainability Scotland, to highlight the importance of leadership and ensure we are working collaboratively to address shared issues.



## Influencing Strategic Systems

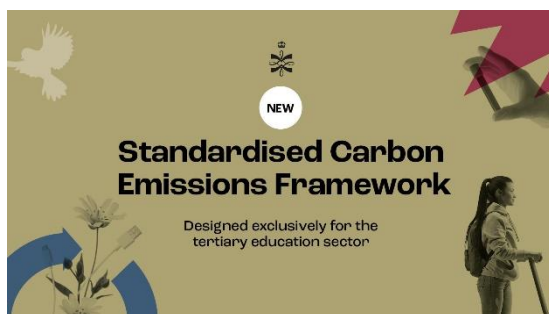
**33 Scottish institutions have now endorsed the [Race To Zero for Universities and Colleges](#)** (formally Global Climate Letter), committing to going net zero by 2050 or earlier (an increase from 31 last year). This initiative is formally recognised as part of the UNEP Race to Zero Campaign. Working with key strategic partners, particularly Principals Groups

within Colleges Scotland and Universities Scotland, has helped by getting senior endorsement for the Race to Zero for Universities and Colleges. **1 Scottish Students' Union / Students' Association has also endorsed the Race to Zero.**

## Supporting the EAUC-UK 2022 Strategy

EAUC Scotland continue to support the EAUC-UK's Strategy, which also aims to raise sustainability up the agenda for senior management. Over the last year this has included:

- Promotion of the **SDG Accord** to senior management and their colleagues, encouraging commitment to both action and reporting. So far **18 Scottish Institutions and 3 Students' Unions have signed up** (up from 15 and 3 last year, respectively), along with many individual signatories.
- Promotion of the **Race to Zero for Universities and Colleges**, with 33 Scottish institutions having signed to date.
- Promoting opportunities to showcase best practice, such as the Green Gown Awards. For the **2022 Green Gown Awards 15 Scottish entries were finalists** (18% of finalists) and **4 entries were category winners and 4 highly commended.**
- Promotion of the **Sustainability Leadership Scorecard** to encourage wider sustainability reporting. 3 Scottish Colleges piloted the new SLS platform.
- **Five Scottish institutions were working group members of the Standardised Carbon Emissions Reporting Framework project**, including as Working Group Chair.





## Outcome 2: The Skills, Knowledge and Data

The Skills and Knowledge Outcome has three outcome areas:

- 1) high quality reporting on FHE institutional sustainability progress;
- 2) strengthening individual skills and knowledge on reducing scope 3 emissions;
- 3) strengthening individual skills and knowledge on climate change mitigation and adaptation.

### Reporting on FHE Sustainability Progress

#### Key Stats:

- **Published 2020/21 FHE, FE and HE sector progress reports for PBCCD**
- **Smaller Institution Sustainability Meeting's PBCCD Peer Review expanded to 19 institutions**
- **Number of institutions reporting emissions under PBCCD has remained the same or increased for 11 emissions sources, with a decrease observed for 1 emission source**
- **15 institutions provided individual PBCCD Reporting feedback**

EAUC Scotland has continued to deliver comprehensive support to the sector and key stakeholders on PBCCD reporting with a view to improve data quality and expand what emission sources institutions report.

In June 2022 EAUC Scotland published a [Public Bodies Climate Change Duties Overview Report](#) on the 2020/21 FHE sector submissions for the Scottish Funding Council, and **individual HE and FE sector reports** for Universities Scotland, College Development Network and Colleges Scotland. The knowledge gained from production of these reports has been used to identify priorities for sector support going forward, to enhance both climate change mitigation and adaptation activity and the quality of data management and reporting.

"Thanks for your time last week and thanks also for the [PBCCD] review feedback and additional guidance, this will really help make our plan more relevant and accurate."

*Email feedback from college senior leader following 1-to-1 call*

Following the sector analysis reports, EAUC Scotland developed and **shared individual PBCCD feedback reports for 15 institutions most in need of reporting support** to meet the updated Scottish Government expectations. This prompted follow up enquiries and a 1-to-1 training call.

In addition, EAUC Scotland facilitated a fifth **successful iteration and expansion of the PBCCD Reporting Peer Review**. This year, 22 participants from 18 FHE institutions and The James Hutton Institute engaged with the Peer Review, including 11 colleges and 7 universities. The Peer Review allows participants to share experiences and best practices with each other, as well as check reporting data for errors or omissions ahead of formal submission. Participation has grown from 9 institutions in 2019, demonstrating the value participants receive from this facilitated support.

Finally, EAUC Scotland have provided regular updates to the sector on the latest Scottish Government Guidance on Public Sector Leadership on the Global Climate Emergency.

Following the publication of the Guidance, EAUC Scotland developed for the sector the Text Brief [PBCCD Reporting Guidance for 2022](#) to summarise the key expectations on colleges and universities when submitting PBCCD in November 2022, and Scottish Government key targets for embedding within institutional strategic plans. The Scottish Government Guidance and EAUC Scotland Text Brief has been shared widely through our Topic Support Networks, Forums, PBCCD Peer Review and 1-to-1 training, and newsletters, alongside strategic partners such as College Development Network and Universities Scotland.

“The work of EAUC Scotland is crucial for the FHE sector. Not having this support would make it extremely difficult, even impossible, for small and bigger institutions to embed and develop sustainability”

*Annual Review Survey  
Respondent*

## Strengthening Skills and Knowledge around Scope 3 Emissions

### Key Stats:

- **6 TSN events facilitated covering scope 3 emission areas**
- **Launched Slack Community [Plane Talk: Reducing Travel Emissions in Academia](#)**
- **Supported development of Standardised Carbon Emissions Reporting Framework (SCEF)**

Aligning with the new Scottish Government Guidance, scope 3 emissions are being increasingly recognised by institutions as an area that requires leadership, quality data and strong action given they're significant contribution to an institution's overall emissions footprint. **EAUC Scotland has hosted 6 TSN events which focus wholly, or in-part, on Scope 3 emissions with the following topics:**

- Sustainable Procurement ([APUC's Supply Chain Climate and Ecological Emergency Strategy and use of EcoVardis](#))
- Waste Management ([The Circular Economy](#))
- Energy and Water Management ([Building Retrofitting and Passivhaus EnerPHit](#))
- Travel and Transport ([Travel Internships, Car Clubs, Commuting Emissions and Business Travel](#))
- Sustainable Construction ([Net Zero Public Sector Buildings Standard Pathfinder](#))

These events support knowledge sharing and best practice both within and out-with the FHE sector. **Scope 3 emissions learning and best practice has also been shared through SISM, Forums and the PBCCD Peer Review.**

In particular, **key areas of focus** this year for scope 3 emissions have been on **procurement emissions and the travel emissions associated with business travel and internationalisation.**

EAUC Scotland has **continued to collaborate with APUC and wider stakeholders** to increase awareness of the greenhouse gas emissions associated with **procurement**, and to create frameworks for strategic action to improve reporting of these emissions by supply chain organisations and influence them to reduce emissions. Building on last year's actions on APUC working groups, EAUC Scotland has promoted APUC's published **Scottish University and College Sectors Supply Chain Climate & Ecological Emergency Strategy 2022 to 2030** and updated **Sustain Code of Conduct** through engagement

events. EAUC Scotland is furthering this work by **joining APUC's Sustainable Procurement Leadership Group**.

This year EAUC Scotland **published the best practice Business Travel Guide to support knowledge and understanding of these scope 3 emissions**. The comprehensive resource provide an understanding of the policy context for the topic, followed by how sustainability actions can be embedded holistically across college and university operations. The guide also provides a **spotlight on best practice case studies from Scottish colleges and universities, as well as sharing UK and international examples**.

As discussed in Outcome 1, following the end of the externally hosted Roundtable on Sustainable Academic Travel, EAUC Scotland, in collaboration with Wolfram Moebius at the University of Exeter and Jo Allatt from the Sustainability team at UK Research and Innovation, **launched the Slack community "Plane Talk: Reducing travel emissions in academia"**. This community provides a **platform for teaching, research and sustainability professionals who are interested in or working on reducing travel emissions in academia to ask questions and exchange knowledge**. Looking ahead, EAUC Scotland have been in early discussions with key partners on **developing a workshop series focusing on aviation within the HE sector**. The goal of the workshops is to develop sector-wide responses to the specific issue of aviation within Higher Education, in collaboration with key stakeholders with a focus on both the challenges and rewards of reducing air travel. Expected to be delivered in summer 2023, the workshops will focus on aviation and research, student recruitment and wider internationalisation operations.

## Strengthening Wider Sustainability Skills and Knowledge

### Key Stats:

- **80% of FHE institutions have attended EAUC Scotland events over the past year**
- **33 EAUC Scotland events held with 621 attendees**
- **96% of attendees believe EAUC Scotland is helping them develop their skills and knowledge**
- **92% of attendees rate knowledge sharing events as Valuable or Very Valuable**
- **20 new sustainability support resources published**
- **195 individual requests for information or support**

**Representatives from 80% of Scottish FHE institutions have attended at least one training or knowledge sharing event over the past year of the programme** (compared to 84% last year). Over the past three years, 93% of Scottish FHE institutions have attended at least one event, with a target of 80% set for the 2020-2023 Programme as a whole. EAUC Scotland will continue to encourage engagement from more remote and smaller institutions to ensure all colleges and universities benefit from the support available.



**EAUC Scotland have held 33 events in total over the last year with 621 attendees,** under the following categories:

	<b>Training</b>	<b>Knowledge Sharing Events</b>	<b>EAUC Scotland Forum Meetings</b>	<b>EAUC Scotland Conference</b>
<b>Number of Events</b>	4	24	3	1
<b>Number of Attendees (excluding EAUC)</b>	56	470	95	107

Feedback from EAUC Scotland events over the past year has been excellent, with event feedback showing **96% of attendees believe EAUC Scotland are helping them to develop their skills and knowledge.**

Within the Annual Survey, respondents were asked how valuable they had found different EAUC Scotland networking and knowledge-sharing opportunities over the last year. As shown in the table below, **92% of those who had engaged with each knowledge-sharing opportunity rated them as Valuable or Very Valuable.**

"I found the conference programming genuinely very inspiring and uplifting - hearing people talk about planetary boundaries, doughnut economics and just transitions gave me real hope!"

*Delegate feedback following EAUC Scotland Conference*

<b>Networking/Knowledge-Sharing Opportunity</b>	<b>% Respondents Engaged (/27)</b>	<b>% Engaged Responding Valuable or Very Valuable</b>
Forums / AGM	74%	90%
Topic Support Networks	93%	92%
Regional Groups	56%	93%
Smaller Institutions for Sustainability Meeting	31%	100%
EAUC-S UCCCFs JiscMail Email List	92%	83%

The EAUC Scotland **Smaller Institutions Sustainability Meeting (SISM)**, which allows colleges and small universities to share questions and ideas suitable for institutions with limited capacity and small sustainability budgets, has met quarterly for nearly five years. The group is very well attended, with several attendees commenting that this is one of the most useful groups they are part in terms of supporting their sustainability activities. **SISM's Public Bodies Climate Change Duties Peer Review**

process has again been identified as being particularly valuable and this year was expanded to include 22 participants from 19 institutions. Additional key discussion topics have included Adaptation, Space Utilisation, Travel Surveys and Offsetting. **Several SISM institutions also supported EAUC Scotland and Learning for Sustainability Scotland to**

"Topic support networks and group meetings are invaluable to share knowledge."

*Annual Review Survey Respondent*

**develop the Introducing Action for Sustainability e-learning training for Scottish college staff on behalf of CDN** (launched August 2022). The course to date has received 179 sign ups and 24 completions, showing that, while there is clear interest in the course, there may be barriers to completing it. EAUC Scotland is therefore planning to work with LfSS and CDN on refreshing and promoting the course.

EAUC Scotland has produced or collated and circulated 3 Guidance Documents, 8 Support Tools and Reports (excluding event recordings), 4 Blogs & Podcasts and 5 News Items over the last year. **These 20 new sustainability support resources are now available on the Sustainability Exchange or EAUC-UK website** for anyone to access to support their own institution's sustainability journey. EAUC Scotland has also written 4 blogs and news items for 4 external organisations.

EAUC Scotland set up a formal **Sector Helpline** in Autumn 2017, and this was relaunched in April 2022. Over the past year the Sector Helpline has received 195 requests for information or support (compared to 94 last year).

EAUC Scotland aim to be responsive to the needs of the sector. The programme target is to average above 85% over the Programme on a direct question about how well we are supporting the sector. Feedback on whether EAUC Scotland are supporting the sector from events has been excellent, showing **99% of event attendees believe EAUC Scotland are supporting the sector** (compared to 97% last year). Responses from the Annual Survey (which includes people who don't actively engage with EAUC Scotland as well as those who regularly engage) showed 93% agreement (96% last year).

**EAUC Scotland has held 3 Forum Meetings over the last year.** These events offer the opportunity for members of the sector to hear about the work of EAUC Scotland and relevant partners, provide feedback and suggestions for improvement, and share knowledge or requests for support with others within the sector, as well as hear case studies of outstanding projects from their peers. Participation at the Forum Meetings has been consistently strong this year with 95 attendees over the three events.

## Outcome 3: Partnerships and Collaborations at Scale

The Partnerships and Representation at Scale Outcome has three activity areas:

- 1) facilitating sharing of knowledge and experience within and beyond the FHE sector;
- 2) improving the capacity of institutions to access EAUC Scotland and other support organisations on a city/regional basis;
- 3) supporting Scotland's FHE sector to develop a reputation for leadership in carbon management and sustainability.

### Facilitating Knowledge Sharing

#### Key Stats:

- **20 new sustainability support resources published**
- **Launched Slack Community [Plane Talk: Reducing Travel Emissions in Academia](#)**
- **90 EAUC Scotland event attendees from non-Scottish FHE organisations**
- **71.6K impressions on Twitter**
- **1,455 subscribers to the EAUC Scotland Newsletter**

EAUC Scotland Topic Support Networks (TSNs) are reviewed regularly with convenors to ensure the events are of value to the sector. Over the past year, EAUC Scotland has facilitated 11 TSN events, with 190 attendees, including 163 FHE attendees and 27 external non-FHE speakers and attendees. Overall, this year's event feedback shows **96% of attendees believe EAUC Scotland are helping them to develop their skills and knowledge** (compared to 95% last year). Responses from the Annual Survey (which also goes out to people who don't actively engage with EAUC Scotland) showed 89% agreement (compared to 72% last year). This upward trend demonstrates our commitment to ensuring that members are getting the development they need from our events.

More widely, 90 attendees from non-Scottish FHE organisations have engaged with EAUC Scotland through attending events such as our TSNs and Forums as participants or speakers, or through direct engagement with the EAUC Scotland team. This wider engagement ensures sharing of ideas and best practice across multiple sectors.

As mentioned above, EAUC Scotland has produced or collated and circulated 3 Guidance Documents, 8 Support Tools and Reports (excluding event recordings), 4 Blogs & Podcasts and 5 News Items over the last year. **These 20 new sustainability support resources are now available on the Sustainability Exchange or EAUC-UK website** for anyone to access to support their own institution's sustainability journey. EAUC Scotland has also written 4 blogs and news items for 4 external organisations.

"Great to meet the team so far and I look forward to joining forums, networking and future conferences. The one in Feb was great to kick off network building."

*Member feedback through the Annual Survey.*

What will you take away from today's session?

"Great knowledge sharing that I can share with my colleagues who are shaping our Estates Strategy."

*Member feedback following SISM event.*

To provide sector-wide updates of sustainable news EAUC Scotland uses **three main communication channels**:

- Fortnightly Scotland-focused Newsletters are sent using Mailchimp, sharing news and opportunities from the sector. EAUC Scotland currently has 1,455 subscriptions to our newsletter.
- Twitter is used as our main social media platform. Over the course of this programme, our Twitter following has increased by 20% from 2,222 to 2,656 with 71.6K Twitter impressions (views) over the last year.
- The EAUC Scotland JISCMail List (UCCCfs) has 188 subscribers. This list is used by the EAUC Scotland team to share information with the sector, and by individuals within the sector to share information and questions with each other.

## Supporting a Place-Based Response to the Climate Emergency

### Key Stats:

- **Piloting a new shared sector staffing resource framework through the Central and South Scotland College Partnership**
- **Facilitated 5 Regional Workshops to better understand regional sector needs**

### **EAUC Scotland, in partnership with Borders College, Forth Valley College and West Lothian College, has developed a new shared-services framework to increase sustainability staffing capacity within each of the college partners.**

Known as the Central and South Scotland College Partnership, the three colleges are funding for 18 months a shared 1 FTE Sustainability Project Manager based within EAUC Scotland to deliver sustainability projects and develop sustainability strategies within each college, and also to share ideas and experiences between the three and EAUC Scotland for the benefit of all. Over the past year, the role has delivered approximately £250,000 of outcomes at a collective cost of £60,322 (£20,107 cost per college), including:

- Securing pre-capital funding (£98,451) through [Scottish Green Public Sector Estate Decarbonisation Scheme](#) (GPSEDS) for two colleges to undertake feasibility studies. The results of these studies will feed into capital funding applications within GPSEDS.
- Securing GPSEDS capital funding for Borders College (£10,051.06) to upgrade the BMS system at Hawick Campus.
- Developing new net zero and sustainability strategies for Forth Valley College and West Lothian College, in line with the latest Scottish Government guidance for public body leadership.
- Developing updated Strategic Travel Plan for Forth Valley College.
- Developing Strategic Climate Risk Assessment with Borders College, with learning to be shared with Forth Valley College and West Lothian College.
- Completing mandatory [Public Bodies Climate Change Duties](#) (PBCCD) reporting for Borders College and West Lothian College, improving their level of detail and including new fields such as adaptation, commuting emissions and supply chain emissions.

The partnership is currently developing a business case to continue the role for a further 18 months. EAUC Scotland will also be exploring the opportunity to open the shared-services model more widely across Scotland.



**Five regional workshops were organised by the EAUC Scotland Team** for June 2022 to gather feedback on the 2020-23 Programme and scope the sustainability support needs of universities and colleges going forward to assist in planning the EAUC Scotland programme from April 2023 onwards. Overall, the top institutional sustainability priorities identified based on scoring were:

1. Energy
2. Leadership
3. Travel
4. Student Engagement
5. Staff Engagement and HR
5. Policy and Strategy
6. Training and Support
6. Link to Curriculum / Learning and Teaching
6. Procurement and Supplier Engagement

The differences between the priorities discussed at different workshops directly correlated to the roles of those in the room, rather than demonstrating any clear difference between priorities on a regional level.

The only discussion point where regionality affected opinions was whether EAUC Scotland events should at least partially return to face to face or are better online, with UHI and Aberdeenshire institutions preferring an online approach but those around the centre and south of Scotland generally keen for at least some face to face engagement. The results of the workshops have fed into EAUC Scotland's funding bid to SFC and informal regional networking sessions have been organised for May 2023 to support face-to-face sector connections.

"Stronger networks and better personal relationships through the EAUC Scotland network build wider resilience through collaborations and developing collective sector confidence"

*Member feedback during EAUC Scotland regional workshop.*

# Developing a Reputation for Scottish Sustainability Leadership

## Key Stats:

- **15 Scottish Green Gown Award Finalists and 8 Winners / Highly Commended**
- **3 new SDG Accord signatories**
- **3 new Race to Zero Universities and College signatories**
- **90 non-Scottish FHE attendees and 91 non-FHE sector attendees at EAUC Scotland events**

In April 2020, **EAUC Scotland updated its Relationships and Communications Strategy**. The strategy is designed to promote the sustainability work of Scottish institutions within the UK and beyond, and aligned with wider EAUC UK-wide strategies. This Strategy covers three areas:

- sharing Scottish successes;
- attracting UK and international delegates to Scottish events;
- partnerships with and participation in global FHE sustainability networks.

Through this strategy, EAUC Scotland continue to **promote national and international sustainability initiatives for institutions to engage with to demonstrate leadership and best practice**. Figure 2 explains some of the methods use to do this.

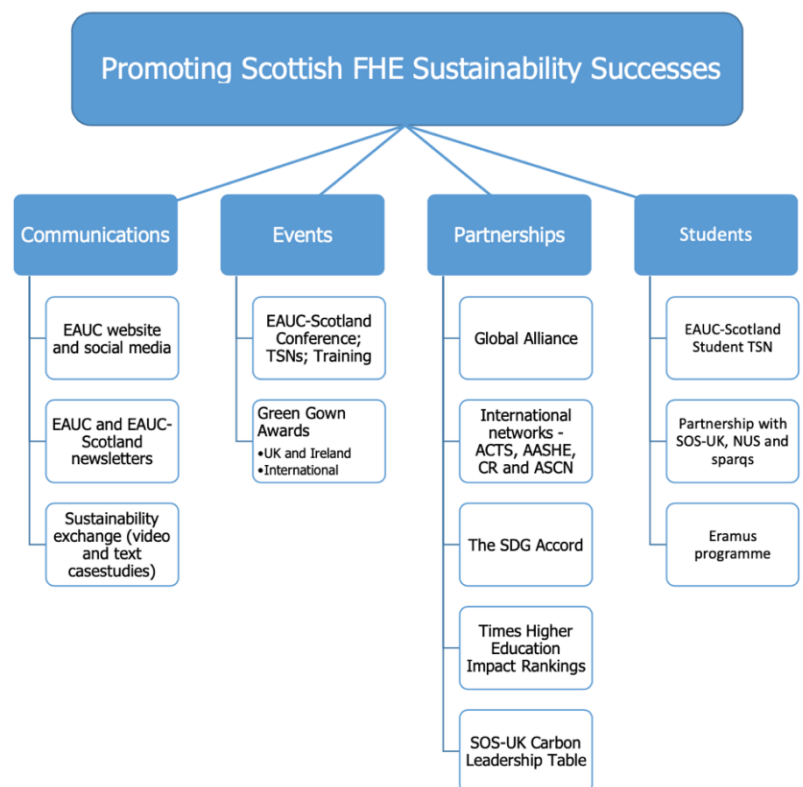


Figure 1: The ways EAUC Scotland promotes FHE successes

## Green Gown Awards

**Green Gown Award** applications from Scotland made up **22% of the total in 2022** (vs. programme target of >15% of applications). 15 of the 22 applicants made the final (18% of finalists), with 8 Scottish overall Winners / Highly Commended:



- **2030 Climate Action** – Borders College – Our Sustainability Journey (*Winner*)
- **Diversity, Equity and Inclusion in Sustainability** – Glasgow Caledonian University – A climate justice focus on gender and mental health (*Highly Commended*)
- **Money for Good** – University of Edinburgh – Supporting local action for a better Edinburgh (*Highly Commended*)
- **Research with Impact (Institution)** – University of Aberdeen - Cool Farm Tool - Cropping global emissions from agriculture (*Winner*); The Lighthouse Field Station: Navigating marine species protection in the era of renewable energy (*Highly Commended*)
- **Research with Impact (Student)** – University of Edinburgh – Jiacheng Sun (*Winner*)
- **Student Engagement** – University of Strathclyde – Strathclyde’s Climate Education Kick-Off (*Winner*); Edinburgh College Students’ Association - Edinburgh College Students’ Association Go Green (*Highly Commended*)

EAUC Scotland will continue to encourage Scottish institutions to submit projects to the Green Gown Awards, and share the projects submitted by Finalists at Forum and Network Meetings to encourage good practice within the Sector.

## The SDG Accord and Race To Zero for Universities and Colleges

In addition to success at the Green Gown Awards, there have been **3 new SDG Accord signatories and 3 new Race to Zero for Universities and Colleges signatories**. The SDG Accord commitment was developed by the Global Alliance for adoption by tertiary education institutions worldwide, with an annual reporting requirement which feeds into the United Nations High Level Political Forum. In addition, the Race to Zero for Universities and Colleges has been formally recognised by the United Nations Environment Programme in its Race To Zero campaign.

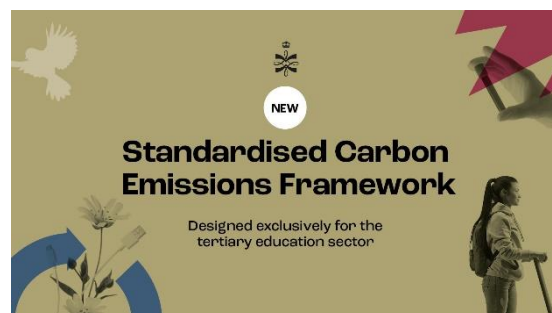




## Wider Engagement

**EAUC Scotland and five Scottish institutions were working group members of the [Standardised Carbon Emissions Framework for Further and Higher Education \(SCEF\) project](#), including as Working Group Chair. Delivered by EAUC and Energise, with organisational partners AOC, GuildHE, UUK, AUDE and BUFDG, and supported by the Department for Education and The Royal Anniversary Trust, SCEF provides:**

- 1) guidance to FHE institutions on how to calculate and report emissions data
- 2) a framework for consistency in environmental data reporting
- 3) increased emissions transparency and accuracy across the FHE sector, allowing peer-to-peer review
- 4) increased capacity in the FHE sector through sharing of best practice.



The involvement of EAUC Scotland and best practice Scottish institutions for emissions reporting has ensured Scottish sector experience is recognised and shared across the UK and Ireland FHE sector. The Framework has also been shared with SSN's network to support the wider public sector within Scotland on PBCCD emissions reporting.

This year EAUC Scotland events have welcomed **90 educational attendees from England, Wales and Ireland over the last year**. In addition, **91 individuals have attended EAUC Scotland events from partner organisations or the private sector**, as either delegates or speakers – an increase of 52% on last year.



## Outcome 4: Teaching, Research and Engagement

The Teaching, Research and Engagement Outcome has two activity areas:

- 1) facilitating sharing of knowledge and experience on embedding sustainability in teaching, research and engagement; and
- 2) supporting students to develop their sustainability knowledge and skills, and further interest in working in sustainability-related roles following graduation.

### Facilitating Teaching, Research and Engagement Knowledge Sharing

#### Key Stats:

- **2 Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) TSN events hosted with 41 participants.**
- **100% of ESD event attendees who provided feedback believe EAUC Scotland is helping them develop their skills and knowledge.**
- **70% of Annual Review Survey respondents either Agree or Agree Strongly that their institution tries to embed the concept of sustainability within its learning and teaching activities**

#### Events and programmes for teaching staff

As outlined above, EAUC Scotland Topic Support Networks (TSNs) are reviewed on a regular basis. The **Education for Sustainable Development TSN is performing well**, with regular meetings and excellent engagement, run in collaboration with Learning for Sustainability Scotland (LfSS) as well a team of engaged convenors from three institutions. Over 2022-23 the group has held two meetings:

- April 2022 – [Implementing ESD across Institutions](#) – 22 attendees
- November 2022 - [Strengthening and Supporting Approaches to ESD in Universities and Colleges](#) – 23 attendees

The ESD TSN Convenors have plans for the next two TSNs, with the next to take place in April 2023 discussing student-led approaches to ESD.

Resulting from a presentation given at one of the TSNs with the aim to ensure wide accessibility of ESD to newcomers, EAUC Scotland developed an [ESD resource overview](#) which is available on the Sustainability Exchange

EAUC Scotland have continued delivery of their **Realigning Curricula for the Future series**, which aims to create collaborative networks of teaching staff who are working to embed ESD in their curriculum in the same subject across different institutions. The events consist of one or two case study presentations, followed by interactive discussions and exercises. The subjects the series has covered so far are Hairdressing and Beauty, Law, Art and Design, Mathematics, Accounting, Philosophy and Theology, and Business. **A total of 96 participants from universities and colleges have participated in these events and feedback has been highly positive, with 98% agreeing that the EAUC is supporting their knowledge and skills development,**

“I hope to share the simple curriculum mapping document with colleagues (...). I have also been impressed by the resources available and events advertised on your website.”

*Feedback following the Mathematics Realigning Curricula for the Future session.*

**and 91% rating the respective event as good or excellent.** Due to their subject specific nature, these events support our outreach to new contacts and create a wider awareness of EAUC Scotland's work on ESD and beyond.

EAUC Scotland and Learning for Sustainability Scotland have collectively approached College Development Network to discuss funding for refreshing and delivering the **Learning for Sustainability Champions programme** for Scottish Colleges. CDN have agreed to fund refreshment of the course if there is interest from colleges in taking the programme forward, but currently the cost of delivery (£4,500 per institution) is proving to be a barrier for several colleges, while others are prioritising Carbon Literacy Training. In the face of these barriers, **EAUC Scotland are currently discussing the possibility to co-develop a follow-up course to Introduction to Action for Sustainability** (see Outcome 1) that focusses more specifically on an Introduction to Embedding Learning for Sustainability, in collaboration with LfSS and CDN.

**70% of Annual Review Survey respondents either Agree or Agree Strongly that their institution tries to embed the concept of sustainability within its learning and teaching activities** (vs 96% last year).

**EAUC Scotland held discussions with Learning for Sustainability Scotland and SFC to look at opportunities for a student-facing sustainability essentials course available to all Scottish FHE students.** A combination approach of a generalized online course supported by optional in person workshops adapted to the institution running them was proposed. Both LFSS and SFC supported the idea of the course being for both HE and FE but it was acknowledged this may make applying for external funding from organizations such as CDN and Universities Scotland more difficult. This project idea is paused until a clear funding source can be identified.

**EAUC Scotland delivered two bespoke ESD-related workshops at its Conference in February 2023,** including a session titled *ESD competency-building through innovative pedagogies: analysing practice*. The outputs from the session have been made available to the whole sector as a [resource pack via the Sustainability Exchange](#) to ensure learning within the sector beyond conference attendees. The resources include video and audio recordings of sector teaching staff embedding experiential / applied learning approaches within teaching delivery. This has sparked a variety of conversations and enquiries about support around teaching methods, evidencing that there is a need for further guidance around this in the sector. To meet this demand, EAUC Scotland are supporting ESD-focussed sessions at the EAUC UK conference in Bath in June, and have been involved in the planning of a workshop around teaching tools.

"Your facilitation demonstrated an ESD approach perfectly, and I thought that the workshop content was wonderfully varied, interesting and perfect for such a broad audience."

*Feedback on the pedagogy workshop at the EAUC Scotland conference in February 2023*

## Strategic collaborations and policy work

EAUC Scotland have been further developing their strategic approach to ESD over the last year, particularly **further deepening our relationships** with sparqs (who support students to demand quality education), SOS-UK (Students Organising for Sustainability, which emerged from NUS), SQA (who accredit college modules), and CDN's new Learning &

Teaching Lead (collaborating with colleges to integrate Learning for Sustainability). Regular interorganisational catch ups on Students & Sustainability with sparqs, SOS-UK, and LfSS; and Colleges & Sustainability with CDN, SQA, and LfSS were set up and are administered by EAUC Scotland, and the process to add sparqs as an official strategic partner has been put in motion.

As part of these collaborations, EAUC Scotland **promoted SOS-UK's Global Goals Teach-In** again this year. This month-long campaign seeks teaching staff to link their course content to sustainability and the SDGs. Over 1284 educators pledged to include the SDGs into their education, across 23 countries globally, reaching over 121,000 students across 128 institutions, including several Scottish colleges and universities.

**With Scotland within a pivotal period regarding policy changes around education and the Green Jobs agenda, EAUC Scotland have:**

- responded to the **Advance HE professional standards framework consultation** (July 2022) and the **National Discussion of Scottish Education** (December 2022),
- co-drafted a response to the **GTCS Proposed Draft Standard for Provisional Registration** with LfSS (October 2022),
- contributed a Scottish perspective to a UK-wide response by EAUC to the **Office of National Statistics** consultation on a definition of Green Jobs (October 2022),
- participated and provided input to the **Climate Emergency Skills Action Plan education subgroup**, highlighting the importance of ensuring the inclusion of teaching methods to support skills and values development beyond knowledge transfer in climate and sustainability education (ongoing).
- participated and provided input in two workshops around the **Learning for Sustainability Action Plan refresh**, successfully arguing for a whole learner journey perspective that looks beyond primary and secondary education and emphasising the importance of accessible language around sustainability. The plan will be published in April 2023.

## Supporting evaluating and monitoring ESD

EAUC Scotland are co-delivering an QAA Collaborative Enhancement Research Project on monitoring and evaluating ESD in collaboration with LfSS, SOS-UK, sparqs, the University of St Andrews and the University of Edinburgh. The project outcomes will include a simple-to-use handbook, two workshops hosted by QAA in June 2023, and an academic paper.

An online workshop to co-develop a monitoring and evaluation framework has been delivered in April 2022 with strong engagement, resulting in a flexible six-step framework in form of a learning spiral. This framework provides guidance for institutions while allowing them to adapt the framework as needed. EAUC Scotland has conducted research interviews with teaching and management staff at the two collaborating universities to further understand current approaches to M&E of ESD and has been developing a handbook laying out the framework as well as useful tools and processes for every step. The current plans and development have received highly positive feedback and the need for a framework and clear, practical tools and process for monitoring has been highlighted with interview participants and beyond, clearly evidencing the need and timeliness of this work.

One of the proposed monitoring tools has been co-developed by the University of St Andrews, LfSS, and EAUC Scotland to measure the eight sustainability competencies. There is no such tool to date, further highlighting the innovative and needs-based nature of the project. The tool is currently being piloted in four Scottish institutions.

## Supporting Student Skills, Interest and Knowledge

### Key Stats:

- **Updated Students' Union / Association emissions calculator with latest conversion factors**
- **Supported and secured an EAUC Kickstarter 6-month placement in the role of Sustainability Content Creator**
- **Updated EAUC Scotland Careers Guide**
- **Planned a Topic Support Network session looking at student-led approaches to ESD to highlight students' contributions and skills.**
- **Survey respondents rated the extent to which EAUC Scotland supports students and recent graduates to gain knowledge, skills, and experiences of working in the area of sustainability as 6.2/10**

## Providing learning opportunities and resources

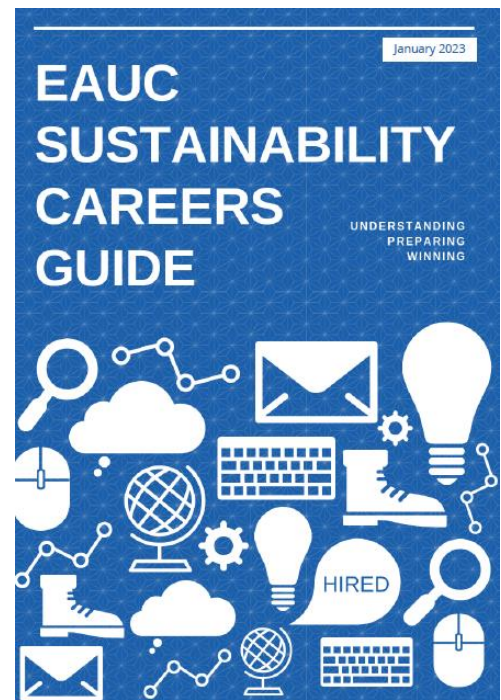
Through the UK Government's Kickstarter Scheme, **EAUC Scotland and EAUC UK partnered with Change Agents UK to successfully secure funding for a paid 6-month Sustainability Content Creator placement** (25 hours per week). The scheme provided funding to employers to create jobs for 16 – 24-year-olds receiving Universal Credit and are at risk of long-term unemployment. EAUC Scotland also received funding from University of Edinburgh to support office equipment costs and to uplift the Sustainability Content Creator's salary from the national minimum wage to the [Real Living Wage](#). The Sustainability Content Creator placement will run from 31<sup>st</sup> January to 31<sup>st</sup> July 2022 and they supported EAUC Scotland and EAUC UK Communications Leads researching and creating various content types champion sustainability work happening within colleges and universities. Feedback from Jake Hepplewhite was very positive, highlighting the placement increased their confidence and supported their decision to reapply to join a university course which they were successful in.

As a fringe event to our conference, **EAUC Scotland partnered with Climate Fresk to provide two free Climate Fresk workshops** for students and the wider community, organised in collaboration with the University of Strathclyde. The 3-hour Climate Fresk workshops use engaging methods to teach the fundamental science behind climate change and empower participants to take action. Over 30 students based within the Glasgow region joined the fringe workshops.

The Careers in Sustainability Project was launched in 2017, with three webinars and three Careers Guides added to the Sustainability Exchange for access by students, careers advisors, and teaching staff. Over the last four years, **the homepage for the Careers in Sustainability Project has had over 21,000 views.** The resources were updated in January 2023 to fix out-of-date web links. EAUC Scotland continue to share the resources through our communication channels and via sector partners. This year EAUC Scotland has also had interest from non-Scottish institutions to develop a resource for Careers Services exploring greenwashing and how staff can better screen potentially employers.

EAUC Scotland have been invited by institutions **to present to classes or participate in careers fairs.** This has resulted in a presentation as part of a class at the University of St Andrews on the realities of supporting sustainability within universities, and signposting SRUC to the EAUC Sustainability Careers Guide to promote through their career services.

EAUC Scotland also **updated the EAUC Scotland Students' Union / Association Emissions Calculator with the latest government conversion factors.** This resource is publicly available on the Sustainability Exchange and is also included in the SOS UK Green Impact for Students' Union's Programme, supporting a UK-wide network of students' unions.



## Supporting and showcasing student work

Students play an important role in shaping their education and learning opportunities to ensure they gain the knowledge and skills they will need for current and emerging challenges. EAUC Scotland this year has put a spotlight on student work through case studies and events featuring student contributions to sustainability.

As part of showcasing good practice in their current work on a Circular Economy Guide, EAUC Scotland conducted an interview and wider data collection for a **case study of the Glasgow University Environmental Sustainability Team (GUEST).** This **student-staff collaboration** works across the university to embed sustainability in areas such as food, travel, and community engagement, with one of their current successful projects being an evening wear exchange platform for students. EAUC Scotland stayed in touch with GUEST to support their work further, adding them to the Student Leaders Network, connecting them to other organisations such as CDN and SOS-UK, inviting them to local sustainability events, and supporting their event promotion.

To further showcase some great work by student bodies, EAUC Scotland invited a **representative from Edinburgh College Students Union to present at our winter forum.** The presentation was received with great enthusiasm and feedback from the event attendees was positive. EAUC Scotland further **invited SOS-UK to deliver a workshop** and contribute to a second one at the conference in February 2023, both of which according to participants' feedback, were well received and stimulated conversations.

The upcoming **ESD TSN in April 2023 specifically engages participating staff and students around the topic of student-led approaches** to ESD and sustainability. EAUC Scotland and the TSN convenors have set up an engaging agenda filled with presentations by SOS-UK and sparqs around how they support students, case studies from students' sustainability projects at Scottish universities and colleges, and reflection prompts for staff on the role students play in their institutions and further and higher education more widely.

EAUC Scotland are committed to continuing to improve our engagement with students and student groups, working directly and in partnership with organisations such as SOS-UK, Learning for Sustainability Scotland and sparqs, and to communicating more widely about this area of our activities.



## Outcome 5: Supporting Wider Stakeholders

The Supporting Wider Stakeholders Outcome has two activity areas:

- 1) supporting the Scottish Funding Council to have a more thorough understanding of the opportunities and challenges of supporting sustainability in the sector; and
- 2) the sector voice is represented through relevant engagement activities including government consultation processes and organisational steering groups.

### Supporting the Scottish Funding Council

#### Key Stats:

- **Quarterly Environmental Sustainability Policy Briefings developed and shared with SFC, CDN and US**
- **Published 2020/21 FHE, FE and HE sector PBCCD progress reports**
- **Developed and published template for informing SFC about individual institutional sustainability activities and progress**
- **Member of the Climate Emergency Skills Action Plan Education Sub-Group (co-chaired by SFC)**

Over the past year EAUC Scotland has continued its engagement with SFC, principally around informing early development of its Net Zero Framework; institution sustainability profiles; sector benchmarking; and relevant sustainability policy updates.

In June 2022 EAUC Scotland published a [Public Bodies Climate Change Duties Overview Report](#) on the 2020/21 FHE sector submissions for the Scottish Funding Council, and **individual HE and FE sector reports** for Universities Scotland and the College Development Network. EAUC Scotland have also published and shared with SFC a **follow up report on Current Reporting of Activities Supporting the UN SDGs within Scottish Higher and Further Education**.

Building from these reports, EAUC Scotland updated its **annual institutional overview detailing individual institutional sustainability activities and progress to date**. These have been shared with regional SFC Outcome Agreement Managers during summer 2022 and will be updated annually **to ensure Outcome Managers have a clearer understanding of institutional activities and progress**, relative to Scottish FE and HE sector averages where applicable.

The **Networks and Communications Officer has produced four quarterly sustainability briefings for SFC and wider partners**. These briefings focus on legislative changes, policy developments and wider sector news relating to environmental sustainability. These briefings have been well received by partners and have also been published on the SFC staff intranet. EAUC Scotland also make them available to the wider sector through our [website](#).

Beyond the Outcome Agreement, EAUC Scotland has also provided SFC support in a number of new areas, including:

- **supporting SFC staff enquiries (e.g. understanding climate change reporting landscape and policy interaction; delivering a presentation on benchmarking within the sector)**
- **linking SFC with the Department for Education on the Standardised Emissions Reporting Framework;**

- **as member of the Climate Emergency Skills Action Plan Education Sub-Group;**
- **inviting SFC to participate as panellists and speakers at the EAUC Scotland Conference to promote SFC developments to the sector.**

## Representing the Sector Voice

### Key Stats:

- **EAUC Scotland directly engages with 8 partner network steering groups or working groups**
- **EAUC Scotland provided feedback to inform Scottish Government's inseting and offsetting guidance to public bodies**
- **5 EAUC Scotland responses to relevant consultations**
- **EAUC Scotland participated as a judge with the CDN Awards**

EAUC Scotland has been represented on **3 Steering or Advisory Groups** for the following national organisations over the past year:

- Learning for Sustainability Scotland
- Scotland's SDG Network
- Sustainable Scotland Network

We also participated in **5 Networks / Working Groups**:

- APUC Climate Emergency Procurement Working Group
- CDN Climate Emergency Expert Group
- Climate Emergency Skills Action Plan Education Sub-Group
- Way to Work Partnership
- Scottish Association of University Directors of Estates (through AG member)

These collaborations ensure that EAUC Scotland can advocate for institutions on their behalf, as well as link institutions directly with relevant support organisation activities. The Annual Review Survey asked participants to suggest additional groups where EAUC representation of the sector would be valuable, and the EAUC Scotland Team will investigate potential to join the groups mentioned over the next few months.

This year through engagement on the SSN Steering Group, EAUC Scotland provided feedback to the Scottish Government on the development of their [insetting and offsetting guidance for public bodies](#) (published February 2023). In particular, the guidance will support institutions with more ambitious net zero targets (vs national targets) and the guidance on offsetting international aviation emissions is welcomed to support institutions in developing their internationalisation and sustainability strategies. EAUC Scotland is now working with EAUC to scope the opportunities for the sector to access offsetting credits through the Carbon Coalition, whilst meeting the conditions set out in the Scottish Government guidance.

**EAUC Scotland has submitted 5 responses to Scottish Government and sector organisational consultations, including:**

- responding to the **Advance HE professional standards framework consultation** (July 2022) and the **National Discussion of Scottish Education** (December 2022),



- co-drafting a response to the **GTCS Proposed Draft Standard for Provisional Registration** with LfSS (October 2022),
- contributing a Scottish perspective to a UK-wide response by EAUC to the **Office of National Statistics** consultation on a definition of Green Jobs (October 2022),
- responding to the Scottish Government consultation on **Delivering Scotland's circular economy (Circular Economy Bill)** (August 2022)
- participating and providing input in two workshops around the **Learning for Sustainability Action Plan refresh**, successfully arguing for a whole learner journey perspective that looks beyond primary and secondary education and emphasising the importance of accessible language around sustainability. The plan will be published in April 2023.

EAUC Scotland Team members have also been judges on the **Award Panel for the 2022 College Development Network Awards**, and continue to encourage sector members to apply for awards such as these and the EAUC Green Gown Awards to gain external recognition for their sustainability successes.

## Financial Information

Find below the financial information and commentary for the programme covering Programme Years 1 to 3 – April 2020-March 2023.

Project	Income £			Expenditure £			Balance	
	Actual	Original Budget	Variance	Actual	Original Budget	Variance	Actual	Original Budget
Year 1 (20/21)	162,497.18	157,852.18	4,645.00	122,558.18	133,934.49	-11,376.31	39,939.00	23,917.69
Year 2 (21/22)	150,423.57	142,000.00	8,423.57	139,375.52	144,062.95	-4,687.43	11,048.05	-2,062.95
Year 3 (22/23)	200,554.13	142,000.00	58,554.13	220,318.20	150,755.27	69,562.93	-19,764.07	-8,755.27
<b>Total</b>	<b>513,474.88</b>	<b>441,852.18</b>	<b>71,622.70</b>	<b>482,251.90</b>	<b>428,752.71</b>	<b>53,499.19</b>	<b>31,222.98</b>	<b>13,099.47</b>

Project	SFC Income £			Project	Matched Income £		
	Actual	Original Budget	Variance		Actual	Original Budget	Variance
Year 1 (20/21)	127,000.00	127,000.00	0.00	Year 1 (20/21)	28,852.18	30,852.18	-2,000.00
Year 2 (21/22)	128,000.00	128,000.00	0.00	Year 2 (21/22)	29,068.57	14,000.00	15,068.57
Year 3 (22/23)	128,000.00	128,000.00	0.00	Year 3 (22/23)	72,554.13	14,000.00	58,554.13
<b>Total</b>	<b>383,000.00</b>	<b>383,000.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>130,474.88</b>	<b>58,852.18</b>	<b>71,622.70</b>

Total income for Year 3 was £200,554.13 against a budgeted £142,000.00, resulting in a positive variance of £58,554.13. Income included:

- £128,000 programme funding from SFC
- £13,410 income generation through events (Conference & Carbon Literacy Training)
- £1,250 income generation through resource development services
- £62,788 income generation through Central and South Scotland College Partnership (shared-services model)

Total expenditure for Year 3 was £220,318.20 against a budgeted £150,755.27, resulting in a negative variance of -£69,562.93.

The observed variance in expenditure was primarily due to:

- increasing staff capacity within the team to meet increase in project work aligned to programme delivery
- costs attributed to delivery of the Central and South Scotland College Partnership (shared-services model)

Overall actual staffing costs for Year 3 were £187,833 against a budgeted £111,141.