# Carbon Reduction Plan

Supplier name: Accenture

Publication date: 30/09/22

### Commitment to achieving Net Zero

Accenture is committed to achieving Net Zero emissions by 2025.

### **Baseline Emissions Footprint**

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

**Baseline Year: 2016** (01/09/2015 through to 31/08/2016)

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

Accenture is a global business with operations and activities across many countries. Our environmental commitments and targets are set at a global level, with strategies and direction cascaded to the local market unit (MU) level. Environmental reporting is completed by each MU and then aggregated, and internally and externally verified to provide the global dataset. Accenture UK is part of the UKI (UK & Ireland) MU. For clarity, in this document, the emissions data provided will be focused on Accenture UK operations rather than Accenture global. Ireland emissions data will not be included.

Accenture's reporting period begins on 1 September and ends on 31 August the following year in line with the financial year. Our baseline year for emissions is financial year 2016, also known as FY16, therefore the reporting period covers 1 September 2015 through 31 August 2016. This is also the baseline year for our Science-Based Target (SBT), which aims to reduce our absolute greenhouse gas emissions by 11% against our 2016 baseline by 2025, including a commitment to reduce absolute scope 1 and 2 emissions by 65%, and a 40% per unit of revenue intensity reduction for scope 1, 2 and 3 emissions over the same time period.

This document covers Accenture's full UK operational scope for the specified period including a number of subsidiaries owned by Accenture. The carbon footprint of subsidiaries is measured and included in the numbers presented below, and in general as part of the company's UK carbon footprint reporting. These subsidiaries are all subject to the same carbon reduction commitments and initiatives laid out below and includes Karmarama Limited. Avanade UK Limited is a joint venture between Accenture and Microsoft and Avanade UK have published a separate CRP which is available on their website.

NOTE: Accenture UK frequently acquires other companies. The acquired entities appear as wholly owned subsidiaries for a period of time between six months to two years after acquisition whilst the business is integrated into Accenture. After integration is complete the entities are put into liquidation. NOTE: Out of the subset of five Scope 3 emissions categories requested as per the PPN 06/21 Technical Standard, only '6. Business travel' is applicable to how Accenture currently reports on carbon emissions related to our operations. For further details on our Scope 3 emissions data, please see section C6.5 (page 47-51) of our Accenture 2021 CDP Response. Carbon emissions from our Upstream activities are part of our Purchased Goods and Services (PG&S) – our PG&S data is available to be shared if requested.

NOTE: Our methodology for measuring our carbon footprint is compliant and done in accordance with the Greenhouse Gas Protocol. All emissions from greenhouse gases (GHGs), including those in the Kyoto Protocol basket of GHGs, are measured and converted into metric tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent.

 $mtCO_2e = metric tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent.$ 

### Baseline year emissions (Accenture UK data): FY16 (01/09/2015 to 31/08/2016)

<b>EMISSIONS</b>	TOTAL (mtCO₂e)
Scope 1	Scope 1 total = 0.08 mtCO <sub>2</sub> e
Scope 2	Scope 2 total = 927.06 mtCO <sub>2</sub> e
	(This was measured on a Market-based approach)
Scope 3 (Included sources)	Scope 3 total = 25,884.45 mtCO <sub>2</sub> e
	4. Upstream transportation and distribution = not relevant, explanation provided
	<b>Explanation</b> : Accenture is a global professional services company with leading capabilities in digital, cloud and security. Due to the nature of our business, we primarily provide our clients with services and solutions rather than goods, and as such, transportation and distribution of goods are not relevant for us
	5. Waste generated in operations = not relevant, explanation provided
	<b>Explanation:</b> Accenture is a global professional services company with leading capabilities in digital, cloud and security. Due to the nature of our business, waste generation is not a material source of GHG emissions.
	6. Business travel = 25,884.45 mtCO₂e
	Breakdown of source(s):
	Air travel = 15,908.19 mtCO <sub>2</sub> e
	Rail travel = 353.2 mtCO <sub>2</sub> e
	Taxi travel = 590.30 mtCO <sub>2</sub> e
	Company/rental cars = 354.63 mtCO <sub>2</sub> e
	Personal cars = 8,678.13 mtCO <sub>2</sub> e
	7. Employee commuting = not relevant, explanation provided
	<b>Explanation:</b> Employee-funded commuting is not within Accenture's operational boundary/control and is not generally in scope for our environmental measurement programme. In some instances where employee commuting is reimbursed by Accenture, it is included in our Scope 3 methodology

as Business Travel. In our annually audited ISO14001 Aspects Assessments, employee commuting is not considered a significant environmental aspect. Due to the nature of our work, the majority of our

Total Emissions (FY16)	26,811.6 mtCO <sub>2</sub> e (0.08 + 927.06 + 25,884.45)
	<b>Explanation:</b> Accenture is a global professional services company with leading capabilities in digital, cloud and security We offer Strategy and Consulting, Interactive, Technology and Operations services—all powered by the world's largest network of Advanced Technology and Intelligent Operations centres. We do not transport or distribute a material amount of.
	9. Downstream transportation and distribution = not relevant, explanation provided
	employees' travel is to client sites. Where this is reimbursed travel it is included in our Scope 3 methodology reported under Business Travel.

# **Current Emissions Reporting**

Reporting year emissions (Accenture UK data): FY21 (01/09/2020 to 31/08/2021)		
EMISSIONS	TOTAL (mtCO <sub>2</sub> e)	
Scope 1	Scope 1 total = 0	
	<b>Explanation:</b> Diesel generators are the only potential source of emissions here. We reported no emissions related to this due to no activity taking place.	
Scope 2	Scope 2 total = 290.41 mtCO₂e	
	(This was measured on a Market-based approach)	
Scope 3 (Included sources)	Scope 3 total = 1749.77 mtCO₂e	
	4. Upstream transportation and distribution = not relevant, explanation provided	
	<b>Explanation</b> : Accenture is a global professional services company with leading capabilities in digital, cloud and security. Due to the nature of our business, we primarily provide our clients with services and solutions rather than goods, and as such, transportation and distribution of goods are not relevant for us	
	5. Waste generated in operations = not relevant, explanation provided	
	<b>Explanation:</b> Accenture is a global professional services company with leading capabilities in digital, cloud and security. Due to the nature of our business, waste generation is not a material source of GHG emissions.	
	6. Business Travel = 1749.77 mtCO2e	
	Breakdown of source(s):	
	Air travel = 811.76 mtCO <sub>2</sub> e	
	Rail travel = 231.87 mtCO <sub>2</sub> e	
	Taxi travel = 10.68 mtCO <sub>2</sub> e	
	Company/rental cars = 566.24 mtCO <sub>2</sub> e	

	Personal cars = 129.22 mtCO <sub>2</sub> e
	7. Employee commuting = not relevant, explanation provided
	Explanation: Employee-funded commuting is not within Accenture's operational boundary/control and is not generally in scope for our environmental measurement programme. In some instances where employee commuting is reimbursed by Accenture, it is included in our Scope 3 methodology as Business Travel. In our annually audited ISO14001 Aspects Assessments, employee commuting is not considered a significant environmental aspect. Due to the nature of our work, the majority of our employees' travel is to client sites. Where this is reimbursed travel it is included in our Scope 3 methodology reported under Business Travel.  9. Downstream transportation and distribution = not relevant, explanation provided
	<b>Explanation:</b> Accenture is a global professional services company with leading capabilities in digital, cloud and security We offer Strategy and Consulting, Interactive, Technology and Operations services—all powered by the world's largest network of Advanced Technology and Intelligent Operations centres. We do not transport or distribute a material amount of products.
Total Emissions	2040.18 mtCO <sub>2</sub> e
(FY20)	(0 + 290.41 + 1749.77)

### **Emissions reduction targets**

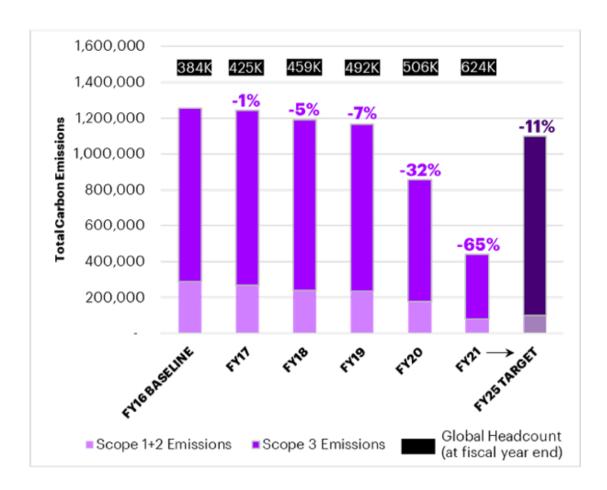
Accenture is making progress towards achieving Net Zero carbon emissions by 2025.

We will continue to focus on actual reductions in our emissions by meeting our electricity needs at all our offices with 100% renewable electricity by 2023 (we have already achieved 100% renewable electricity in our UK offices since FY20), engaging key suppliers to reduce their emissions, and equipping our people to make climate-smart travel decisions.

To address remaining emissions, with all reduction routes exhausted, we are investing in a portfolio of proprietary, nature-based carbon removal solutions that will directly remove carbon emissions from the atmosphere.

In addition to removing greenhouse gases from the atmosphere these projects deliver material cobenefits which support the delivery of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDGs).

The graph below illustrates Accenture's progress as of fiscal 2021 when total emissions reflecting continued impacts from the pandemic—decreased by 65% from our baseline. Scope 1 and 2 were reduced by 72% and emissions per unit of revenue were reduced by 76%.



NOTE: Accenture's UK operations contribute to the data above which is a snapshot of a larger inventory of emissions data and reduction activities at the global level. The data captured in this graph represents activities outside the scope of PPN 06/21 such as emission data from other market units and further scope 3 emissions categories (including purchased goods & services, for example).

## Climate change programs

Accenture has implemented the following climate change projects (relevant to our UK operations) since the 2016 baseline:

- Procuring 100% renewable electricity in our locations by 2023 (RE100). We have already achieved this across our UK operations from FY20 onwards. Globally we are at 53% renewable electricity as of December 2021.
- Implementing climate resiliency plans: Reducing the impact of flooding, droughts and water scarcity on our business and our people in high-risk areas. This global programme is in progress as we focus on readiness against our action plan to ensure that Accenture is adaptive to any risks related to climate change
- Achieving ISO 14001 and ISO 50001 Environmental and Energy management system certifications
- Setting a Science-Based Target: Accenture's Science-Based Target aims to reduce our absolute greenhouse gas emissions by 11% against our 2016 baseline by 2025
- Employee engagement and upskilling: Offering a range of engagement activities such as our Sustainability Innovation Challenge, Sustainability Quotient training, Carbon + Climate training, Eco Action campaign and eco-volunteering opportunities

- Requiring 90% of our key suppliers vendors that represent a significant portion of our 2019 Scope 3 emissions - to disclose their targets and actions
- Operational updates at our UK offices such as an ongoing smart meter installation programme across our offices, ongoing LED lighting upgrades, rainwater harvesting implementation and energy saving zip taps.

The above projects contribute towards the 65% reduction in carbon emissions in FY21, against the 2016 baseline. This percentage relates to our global aggregated data, to which our UK operations contribute.

Accenture UK is committed to reducing the carbon footprint of our operations in the future through continuing to uphold the activities related to our climate commitments, standards and goals. These include:

Maintaining and advancing our environmental commitments, driving improvements on all of the initiatives outlined above continue to reduce our carbon emissions, with a view to meeting / exceeding our SBT.

Promoting and accelerating low-carbon technologies amongst our clients to design innovative and sustainable solutions:

- Digital has transformed business as we know it. Embedding sustainability into our core business has the power to do the same. We also know that there is no silver bullet to address the climate and biodiversity emergencies. It requires a complete transformation of our economies and societies, and collaboration across all actors
- However, technology can, and should be, part of the solution. Professional services companies with a significant technology delivery capability like Accenture, are uniquely positioned to drive innovation through the application of technology and data driven insights, and designing solutions with our clients to drive more sustainable decisionmaking and consumption
- For example, Accenture works with clients to help them take a cloud first approach that benefits both their business and the planet. Green Cloud positions clients to deliver on new commitments such as carbon reduction and responsible innovation. Companies have historically driven financial, security, and agility benefits through cloud, but sustainability is becoming an imperative. Drivers like greater workload flexibility, better server utilisation rates, and more energy-efficient infrastructure all make public clouds more cost efficient than enterprise-owned data centres.

Leveraging employee engagement to further decarbonise our business by empowering our people with knowledge on sustainability:

Our inaugural 'Sustainability Innovation Challenge' saw over 2,300 of our people globally work together in 2021 to generate over 1,200 ideas to address global environmental challenges. Seven of the ideas were progressed into Accenture's Social Innovators Accelerator, where the teams were supported with mentoring and funding. We have continued this initiative into 2022, enabling our people to deliver on the promise of technology and human ingenuity, leveraging their skills and expertise to tackle the most pressing sustainability challenges of the modern world. Reimagine, Rewild was one of seven winning ideas in 2021, aiming to accelerate the rewilding of land. The mobile app leverages augmented reality to bring to life the opportunity for rewilding, by encouraging users to visualise what their local environment could look like if nature was enabled to thrive

- We will continue to engage our people through learning and development, such as the expansion of our 'Sustainability Quotient' and 'Carbon + Climate' training programmes
- We will grow our offering of green benefits and tools available to our people to ensure that they have more options and incentives to take low-carbon modes of travel, participate in our cycle to work and electric vehicle schemes or to try more plant-based diets in our offices
- We will review our travelling processes and introduce carbon reduction travel projects. This year we introduced a programme to encourage high-speed train usage instead of aeroplane flights in the UK. With the launch of our beta release aviation carbon calculator—which shows our people the different emissions for specific flight alternatives for business travel at the time of booking—our people now have a better understanding of the impact of their travel decisions. In September 2021, we were one of 60 companies to sign the World Economic Forum's Clean Skies for Tomorrow sustainable aviation fuel (SAF) pledge.

#### Developing an industry-leading offsetting plan which will help to achieve Net Zero in 2025:

- To achieve net-zero emissions by 2025, we'll focus first on actual reductions across our scope 1, 2 and 3 emissions. To address remaining emissions, we will invest in naturebased carbon removal solutions that directly remove carbon emissions from the atmosphere
- In September 2021, we announced our investments in nature-based carbon removal projects. Our projects will broadly align with our geographic footprint, and will reforest land, rebuild biodiversity, make agriculture more sustainable, help create green jobs and allow natural ecosystems to rebound and thrive—all while removing CO2 from the atmosphere. Over the next 20 years, this program is expected to physically remove more than 13 million metric tonnes of carbon from the atmosphere
- All our nature-based carbon removal projects will support and respect the universal principles of the UNGC in the relevant areas of human rights, labour, environment, anticorruption and the UN SDGs. Our projects will be registered under the Sustainable Development Verified Impact Standard where technically feasible, verifying SDG outcomes along with the carbon removals.

## **Declaration and Sign Off**

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

Emissions have been reported and recorded in accordance with the published reporting standard for Carbon Reduction Plans and the GHG Reporting Protocol corporate standard<sup>1</sup> and uses the Government emission conversion factors and vendor-specific factors where appropriate for greenhouse gas company reporting<sup>2</sup>.

Scope 1 and Scope 2 emissions have been reported in accordance with SECR requirements, and the required subset of Scope 3 emissions have been reported in accordance with the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> https://ghgprotocol.org/corporate-standard

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/government-conversion-factors-for-company-reporting

published reporting standard for Carbon Reduction Plans and the Corporate Value Chain (Scope 3) Standard<sup>3</sup>.

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

Signed on behalf of the Supplier:

Date: 30/09/2022

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> https://ghgprotocol.org/standards/scope-3-standard