

TOITŪTANGA SUSTAINABILITY



At Te Herenga Waka, we value sustainability, both individually and collectively, and recognise that we have a moral imperative to do better.

In 2023 we launched Te Parahia, our Sustainability Outcomes Framework, which provides a clear and collective direction—a set of target outcomes—that everyone in the University community can work towards, in the areas most relevant to them. Our Living Pā project—a redevelopment of the marae complex that puts mātauranga Māori and sustainability at the heart of the University—provides inspiration for Te Parahia. Over the past year we made good progress towards delivering our target outcomes.

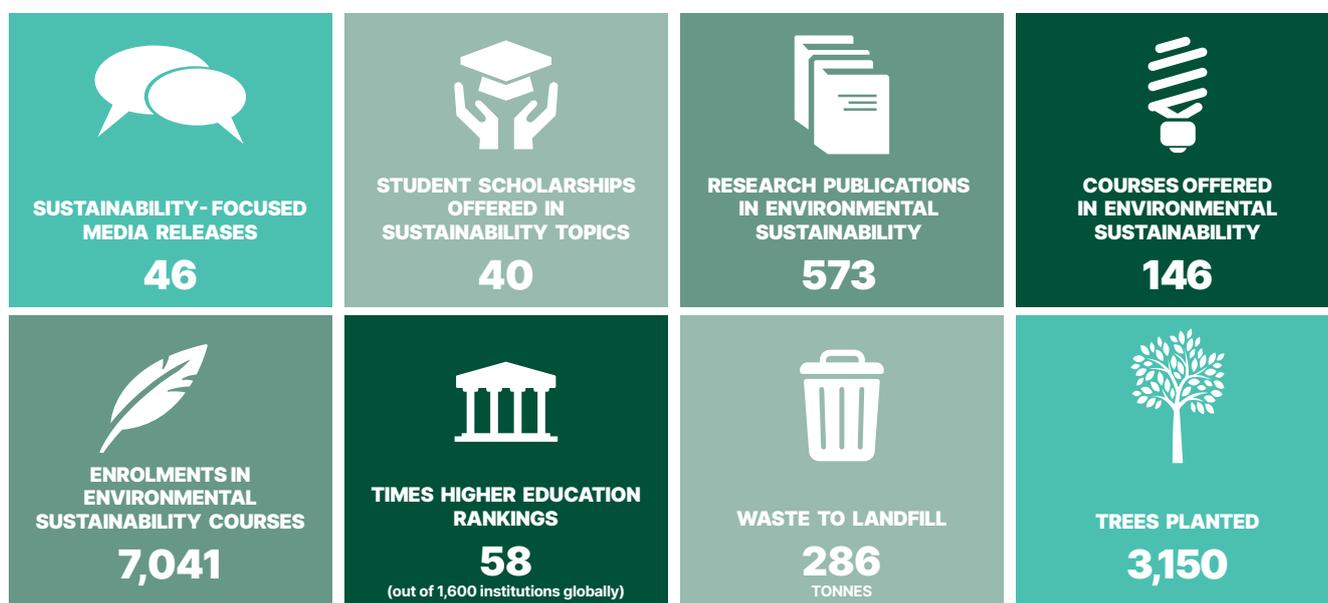
We provided our students with the skills needed for the transition to a sustainable future across the hundreds of courses and numerous qualifications we offer that have a focus on sustainability. We continue to deliver numerous extra-curricular opportunities for students to participate in sustainability action alongside their studies, which means our students get recognition for their achievements in sustainability. Caitlin Hartnett-Poelman was awarded the New Zealand Institute of Landscape Architects Scholarship for her research on the design of therapeutic landscapes, and Maria Walker was named the New Zealand Green Building Council Future Thinker of the Year. To build on our student success we launched our Pakohe scholarships in 2023, which were awarded to 28 school-leavers who demonstrated sustainability leadership and will become our next cohort of sustainability champions.

We continued to deliver research across a range of disciplines that connect to sustainability ranging from sea-ice records in Antarctica to Me Tū ā-Uru—an action plan for better environmental governance developed by leading Māori researchers and practitioners. We shared some of our academic expertise in a sustainability podcast series featuring researchers and practitioners from across Te Herenga Waka who discussed climate action, biodiversity, clean water, circular economics, equity and partnerships.

We continued work on implementing our Zero Carbon Plan. Air travel is a major source of emissions for the University and our work to ensure the need to fly is carefully considered has meant that air travel volumes are still well below pre-pandemic levels. Along with other climate actions, such as the installation of 400 solar panels at Te Aro campus, this means that our 2023 greenhouse gas emissions are well below our 2017 baseline. Find our latest greenhouse gas inventory online: wgtn.ac.nz/carbon-footprint

In 2023 we also commenced work on developing our climate adaptation plan, leading a collaborative project with other New Zealand universities, Te Pūkenga and Wānanga to explore how climate change will impact the sector over the rest of the century.

We intend to include a disclosure of our climate-related risks and opportunities in future annual reports.



Our pathway to climate-related disclosures

	2022 AND EARLIER	2023	2024	2025
Governance	Emissions reduction reporting to University Council		Establish governance responsibilities and processes for climate risk for University Council	
Strategy	Zero Carbon Plan launched, and management responsibilities allocated	Led development of future climate scenarios for tertiary education sector	Quantify impacts of climate scenarios for the University, including financial impacts Prioritise risks and opportunities, and identify actions	Allocate responsibilities for climate adaptation and embed in processes and strategies
Risk management	Climate impacts on campus infrastructure assessed	Climate risk included in strategic risk register	Incorporate climate risks into overall risk management processes	Incorporate disclosures into Annual Report
Metrics and targets	Emissions reduction targets set and greenhouse gas (GHG) inventory audited	Link to GHG inventory included in the Annual Report	Develop risk and opportunity assessment metrics as part of the financial statement audit	