



THE UNIVERSITY
of EDINBURGH



**Social Responsibility
and Sustainability**

Procurement carbon emissions

Refining scope 3 carbon reporting at the University of
Edinburgh

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Procurement Office and SRS

Zero by 2040 commitments



- adopting best practice and seeking to take the lead through our carbon and sustainability reporting
- refining and expanding our reporting of Scope 3 carbon emissions: staff and student commuting, procurement, international students

The University will develop carbon reporting capabilities in order to deliver refined data and a sound evidence base for action, applying a whole institution approach that includes harnessing the power of our students in living lab projects to solve reporting challenges

Carbon Reporting Project 2018-2020

1. Researching best practice – SRS staff research volunteer; Procurement Office intern; other universities using spend-based approach but GHG protocol guidance ...
2. Scoping data – what do we have/can we get? Can our Ecometrica reporting platform incorporate new scope 3 categories and calculate emissions (yes!)
3. Methodology – considering 1 and 2, what is the best approach for University of Edinburgh to take?


ZERO BY
2040

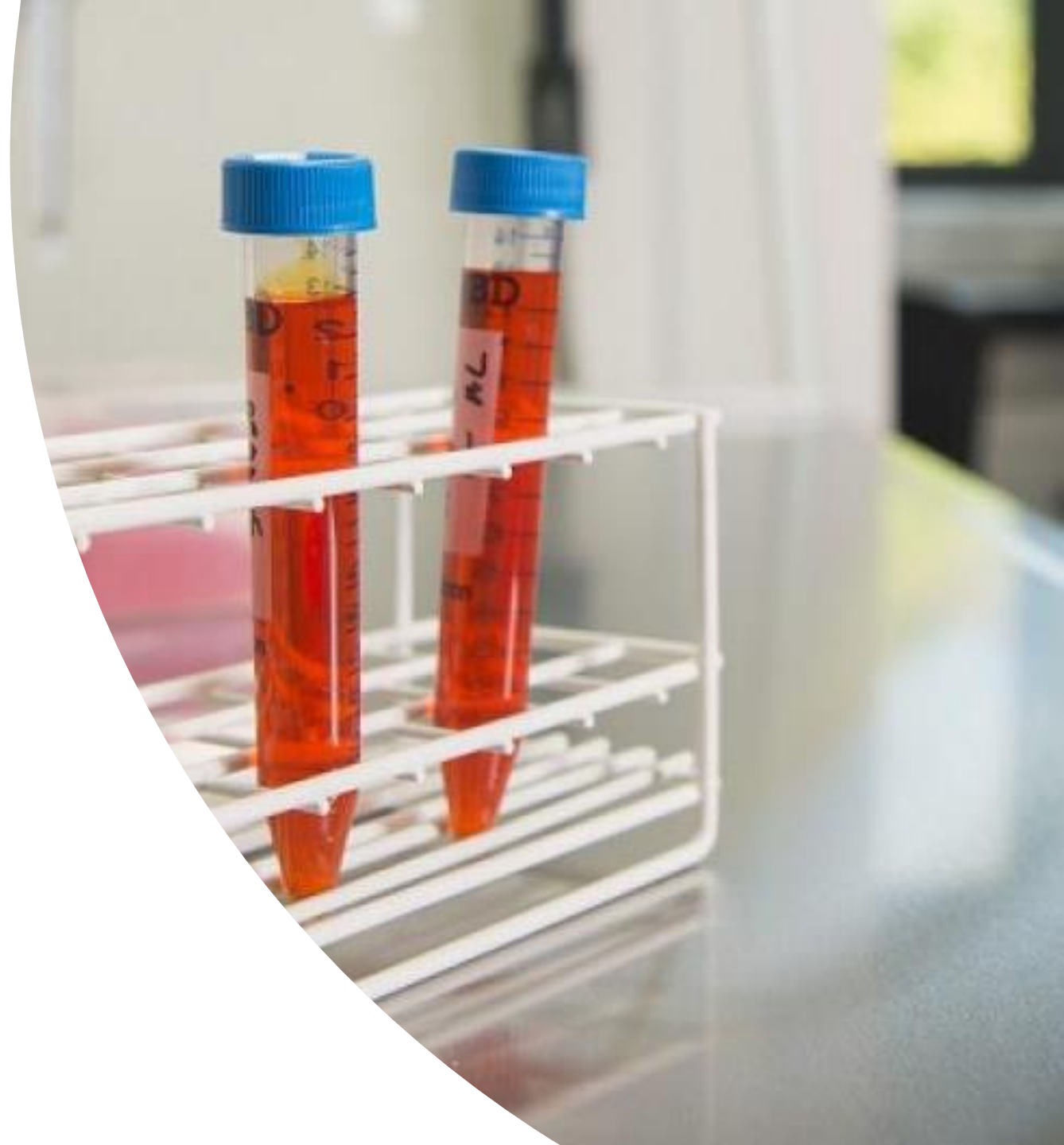
Climate Strategy
2016-26

UNIVERSITY

Procurement pilot project – testing non-spend approaches

A spend-based methodology is recommended by HESA. We will test non-spend methodologies based on GHG Protocol guidance (e.g. supplier specific, hybrid and average data), in areas where data are most robust: **Deliveries, Food, Construction**. We will include comparison of emissions calculated using these methods to spend method calculations.

- **Calculate it differently** (with GHG methods), working with suppliers to gather required data → **illustrate potential savings, and conduct comparison with spend approach**
- Specify key business partners correlated with main emissions
- Provide carbon savings and consider innovative off-setting activities related to sequestration and biodiversity that align with our biodiversity strategy and its tools (GI mapping application)



Supported by students & consultancy work

Student project objectives:

- Work with different internal departments and external companies
- Focus on Logistics, Food, Construction
- Apply GHG Protocol guidance to determine the respective emissions
- Identify and compare differences in outcomes between non-spend and spend approaches
- Determine highest saving potentials with respect to carbon savings and financial aspects

Ecometrica consultancy project idea:

To provide an outline of carbon emission figures based on procurement spend data across 15 categories



Future work

- Labs procurement contract
- Guidance and tool development?
- Sharing and collaboration with other universities

Thank you!

