



28 September 2023

STARS Steering Committee
Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education
Suite 102
2401 Walnut Street
Philadelphia, PA 19103
United States of America

Dear Members of the STARS Steering Committee

TAFE Queensland is pleased to present our inaugural Sustainability Tracking, Assessment and Rating System (STARS) submission for rating consideration and associated reporting.

TAFE Queensland is the largest, most experienced training and education provider in Queensland, Australia. We deliver practical, industry-relevant training across a range of industries from entry-level certificates to bachelor degrees, at more than 60 locations in Queensland.

The TAFE Queensland Robina campus, located on the Gold Coast is one of those locations. Robina Campus opened its doors to students in July 2022 and is leading the way as a sustainable vocational institution in Australia. Sustainability is embedded into every aspect of campus operations including campus design, fit out, course curriculum, culture, campus operations and student life. One feature of our commitment to sustainability is operating four live ecofriendly training facilities (a restaurant, a café, a gym and event centre), focussed on responsible consumption and waste minimisation.

Our efforts in the sustainability space have already attracted global attention and in 2022, TAFE Queensland received a silver award in the World Federation of Colleges and Polytechnics (WFCP) Awards of Excellence Construction category for its excellence and delivery of the Robina Campus. As part of that, TAFE Queensland were invited to contribute to the World's Best Practice Guide Volume 4 which outlines the modern construction practices considered and implemented. In 2023, TAFE Queensland Robina Campus, won the WFCP silver award for our work with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). A research study on Robina Campus was completed by the Danish Institute on 'The Role of Centres of Vocational Excellence in the Green Transition', which has also informed international best practice.

Cascading from the TAFE Queensland Social and Environmental Sustainability Action Plan, the Robina Campus Strategy aims to address the economic, social and ecological issues holistically.

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Our Robina Campus Strategy goals are to:

1. Embed sustainability into every aspect of Campus operations and curriculum.
2. Create a culture of sustainability, where staff and students are actively involved in sustainability activities.
3. Create facilities with flexible rooms and the latest technology.
4. Transform service delivery models to deliver seamless virtual and blended training experiences.
5. Successfully deliver five (5) ecofriendly live training facilities.
6. Measure everything we do to appraise our performance and improve.
7. Collaborate with likeminded local partners.

Our strategies to achieve these goals will focus on campus, curriculum, training, reporting, community, workplace and culture.

These strategies will only be realised by collaborating with likeminded local partners. To that end, we are very proud of the partnerships we have built to mutually pursue driving social and environmental change. We are grateful for the support we receive from the traditional custodians of the land we work on, the Yugambeh Language Group, and believe working alongside our First Nations communities will continue to build long-term sustainability.

Our STARS report highlights the work of a large number of dedicated staff and students at Robina Campus who live and breathe our commitment to sustainability. Anyone that visits the Robina Campus will be impressed by the culture of innovative practices that are nurtured there. Working alongside our community and industry partners we are all about making sure sustainability is embedded in everything we do at the Robina Campus to ensure a better world for all.

If you have any queries or feedback regarding our initiatives and STARS reporting, please contact me at Karen.dickinson@tafeqld.edu.au.

Yours sincerely



Karen Dickinson
General Manager
TAFE QUEENSLAND GOLD COAST