

Environmental sustainability



Committed to building a brighter future for a better tomorrow

Bidcorp is environmentally conscious and responsibly committed to doing our part in building a brighter future.



To remain ahead of the demand curve, we invest in assets with state-of-the-art sustainable capabilities, all designed to lessen our environmental impact and improve our operating efficiencies. Running our business in an environmentally sensible and waste-minimising manner is financially beneficial, as our returns demonstrate.

The Bidcorp board and global team acknowledges that we are a user of energy, we operate warehouses with refrigeration, and we operate fleets of vehicles delivering our products to our customers. Accordingly, investments of time and money, are focused on long-term sustainability and are getting the focus and attention of each of our management teams. Our initiatives in low emission, energy-efficient refrigeration, trucks, and particularly in warehousing, is significant and ongoing.

Bidcorp has committed to a
**25%
REDUCTION
IN OUR
CARBON
FOOTPRINT
BY 2025***



Running our businesses in an environmentally efficient and waste-minimising manner



Demonstrating the financial benefits of being environmentally conscious and responsible



Rolling out a sustainability strategy that contributes to a long-term industry drive towards the UN's SDGs



Committed to accurate monitoring, creating efficiencies and reporting reductions in fuel consumption, electricity and water usage and impactful waste management



* Based on the 2018 reported carbon emissions on a like-for-like basis. 2018 did not include waste emissions but we have subsequently recalculated and included.

The group has adopted a "carbon efficiency ratio" calculation to measure progress against the target set. This ratio calculates the carbon emissions as a percentage of 1,000 units of revenue (in local currency). Group reporting is translated at the 2018 forex translation rates, ensuring a like-for-like comparison is maintained and emissions are measured against a relative level of growth and activity.

Our governance of environmental sustainability

The Bidcorp board is responsible for ensuring the sustainable development of the group, championing the environmental sustainability drive across the group. The board approved 2025 target has ignited the management teams throughout the group to step up and make that target our reality.

Targets are achieved through the transparent, timeous, and robust reporting and monitoring processes in place. As such, the social and ethics committee has been delegated the board responsibility of oversight of all aspects of the group-wide sustainability initiatives, including the health and safety, food safety, ethical, social, and environmental impacts of our business. The audit and risk committee have a role to play as well, in the reporting of and engagement with management through the quarterly divisional audit and risk committee meetings, where this information is gathered and presented for review. Management provides insight and qualitative updates to the progress as reported, which includes plans in place to meet these targets. The oversight provided by these committees

enables risks and opportunities to be identified proactively and in an integrated way, for group consideration and decision making.

The board acknowledges that the strength of the group's strategy, the accurate and timely identification of material risks and opportunities, the effectiveness of the role of governance and risk management, its commitment to social and environmental sustainability, and its financial performance are all inseparable elements of long-term value creation.

During the year, the Bidcorp board undertook several discussions related to the environmental sustainability initiatives that could impact our ability to create and protect value for our stakeholders and debated the group's approach to effectively mitigating and embracing the opportunities presented. These discussions are reflected in the identified material risks and opportunities, the mitigation thereof, and where possible the growth opportunities for the group through the long-term strategy implementation, as unpacked in more detail on pages 37 to 42 .



Best practice stories that set Bidfood apart

Bidfood NZ, Auckland South – Waste minimisation and recycling programme

Auckland South Branch believe that if they do their part within their business and in their community, they can contribute to a reduction in emissions and help protect the environment that we all live in.

Goal:

The ultimate end goal is to heavily reduce the Waste to Landfill through better utilisation of recycling. Prior to this project, the branch was generating approximately 6,5 tonnes of Waste to Landfill every month – the aim was to halve this by August 2021.

Implementation:

- EnviroWaste (waste supplier) conducted full waste management audit
- Rubbish stations and signage in warehouse, with colour coded lids on rubbish bins
- Continuous staff communications – driving awareness and education
- Reusable cups and drink bottles for staff – encourage & reward



- Maximising usage of the shrink wrap rolls, and reduced printing, less paper waste
- Reduced weekly skip bin collections

Championing this project was the general manager, assistant manager and shared services manager which raised the importance of this project.

Immediate Outcomes:

- ✓ In July 2021 we reported only 1,5 tonnes of Waste to Landfill
- ✓ Down to two skip bin collections per week



A transparent chain in a digital world

“Sustainable entrepreneurship has been an integral part of our business operations for many years. As Bidfood, we also commit ourselves to sustainability topics in which we as an organisation can make a difference. We do not do this alone, but together with our customers, our suppliers, and our sister companies.”

Dick Slootweg, Chief Executive Bidfood Netherlands

The starting point of our sustainability policy is transparency. In the digital world, information is a given – people want to know what's on their plate and the food professional wants to know where it came from. The story behind a product, from origin to preparation method, says something about the quality. As an online marketplace for food professionals, our goal is to connect the chef, cook, and entrepreneur directly to the source of the best products. We provide our customers with insight into the product composition and origin of our entire range, because knowledge is necessary to be able to make a conscious choice.

Bidfood Netherlands has entered into a partnership with The Sustainability Consortium (TSC), with the aim of promoting transparency and sustainability among its suppliers. This helps us in our quest to achieve a fully transparent food chain. This is not an easy process, but through a process of interactive committed engagement with all stakeholders, this vision will become a reality.



Bidfood has committed to:

✓ Cage free eggs

We have committed to eliminating caged eggs from our supply chain by 2025 – commencing with the removal of caged eggs from our Own Brand label by 2023. Bidfood's cage-free policy sets a new standard for the foodservice industry.



✓ Responsible meat sourcing

We follow strict animal welfare guidelines when it comes to our range of meat. Suppliers are accredited by all major meat and livestock programs, ensuring best practice during transport and processing. Protein products that are ethically raised, treated and processed.



✓ Sustainable seafood sourcing

Bidfood has a sustainability-based approach when procuring seafood products, working in partnership with Global Aquaculture Alliance, Marine Stewardship Council and the Aquaculture Stewardship Council. We've been recipients of multiple MSC Sustainable Seafood Awards.



Celebrating our achievements

The decentralised approach extends to the achievement of environmental sustainability, embracing the group target set, each operation sets out to understand, identify, implement, and monitor the solutions necessary to meet the target set. Some of the group entities have even started to report their achievements within their own environments and details of these achievements are available on their websites:

Bidfood UK

Winner of the 2020 Planet Mark Award – Kindness is Contagious; Winner Chef's Choice Award – Vegan Plant-based Sausage; and many other awards recognising the achievements and progress made by the team in achieving the group's mission to build a brighter future.

For a full list of awards and the other significant projects and achievements by our UK team in their environmental sustainability programmes click here for the [Bidfood UK Environmental Report](#)

Bidfood Australia

Bidfood Australia has more than tripled the number of sites that utilise solar power from three sites in 2018 to 11 sites in 2021. The generation capacity of the solar systems ranges from 90 kWh at smaller sites up to 290 kWh at larger sites.

Proud to hold accreditation under the ISO: 14001 Environmental Management Standard.

Click here for the [Bidfood Australia Environmental Report](#)

Bidfood Belgium

Becoming a responsible company is a purely voluntary process. Since 2009, Bidfood Belgium has embarked on a vast sustainable development programme. More than a project, it is a daily attitude, a fundamental value.

Click here for the [Bidfood Belgium Environmental Report](#)

Bidfood Netherlands

Bidfood Netherlands' ambition is to achieve a CO₂ reduction of 30% by 2025 compared to 2015. We believe it is important to take our responsibility in achieving the climate goals that were signed in Paris at the end of 2015. Embracing alternative bio-fuel solutions for the fleet, Bidfood Netherlands is reducing the fuel related emissions produced.

Click here for the [Bidfood Netherlands Sustainability Update](#)

These are just some of the many successes and exciting implementations of environmentally sustainable initiatives in place across the group.

Next steps in our environmental sustainability journey

Climate change poses considerable challenges to developing a sustainable food system. We are working on a broad set of solutions and targets to reduce our impact, with a particular focus on energy, refrigerants, water, waste, and packaging. Through investment in our people, technology, the community, and environmental management, we aim to make a positive contribution to real sustainability.

Continuing to invest in modern and energy-efficient infrastructure is fundamental as Bidcorp continues to drive the minimisation of our environmental footprint as well as creating capacity to cater for future growth. Our decentralised structure helps mitigate risk through our geographical spread and economic diversification. Significant responsibility and accountability has been devolved to local management teams who are driven by sustainable ESG business practices and has integrated these functions into their business-as-usual deliverable, often setting them apart within their respective markets.



Bidcorp, as a diverse and geographically spread entity, recognises that group-wide environmental sustainability is a big challenge, although we are doing work individually in each business, the group focuses on these key priorities:

- ✓ **Impact** – Taking action to minimise our impact on climate change through reducing greenhouse gas emissions and food waste
- ✓ **Responsibility** – Demonstrating responsible consumption and production, especially in the areas of sustainable sourcing and minimising our plastics footprint
- ✓ **Health and well-being** – Supporting good health and well-being, in terms of both our employees and healthier food choices for our customers
- ✓ **Partnerships** – Working in partnership with other foodservice and industry organisations to support the outcomes of the UN's Sustainable Development Goals.

Environmental sustainability

Bidcorp is proud to report a 15% decrease in total carbon emissions this year.

Group's total carbon emissions reduced to 287 982 tCO₂e in 2021 (2020: 340 730 tCO₂e).

Every Division reported a total carbon emissions reduction:

- ✓ Australasia down 17%; contributing 24% of the group's total emissions
- ✓ UK down 15%; contributing 22% of the group's total emissions
- ✓ Europe down 14%; contributing 27% of the group's total emissions
- ✓ Emerging Markets down 16%; contributing 27% of the group's total emissions

Every Scope reported a carbon emissions reduction:

- ✓ Scope 1 down 10% – fuel and gas contributed 43% of the group's total emissions
- ✓ Scope 1+ down 33% – refrigeration contributed 10% of the group's total emissions
- ✓ Scope 2 down 16% – electricity contributed 43% of the group's total emissions
- ✓ Scope 3 down 14% – waste contributed 4% of the group's total emissions

Reduced activity levels across all regions as a result of COVID lockdowns did provide some respite in the emissions produced, but the reductions achieved this year were largely due to the concerted efforts, responsible investment, and focussed determination of each of our teams to address the climate change risks. Making a difference to building a brighter future.

TOTAL

CARBON EMISSIONS (tCO₂e)

287,982 ↓ 15%

2020: 340 730*

AUS

69 543

↓ 17%

Refer page 50

UK

62 500

↓ 15%

Refer page 56

EUR

79 107

↓ 14%

Refer page 62

EM

76 832

↓ 16%

Refer page 68

For more information see divisional reviews.

SCOPE 3 EMISSIONS (tCO₂e) (excl refrigerants and aircon gases)

10 666 ↓ 14%

2020: 12 417*



Cost control, recycling and reuse remains a priority, minimising packaging consumption and choosing biodegradable organically based materials where possible.

Scope 3: Waste

	2021 Group	AUS %Δ	UK %Δ	EUROPE %Δ	EM %Δ
Waste recycled (tonnes) 2020: 19 965*	18 000	1%	(20%)	(6%)	(7%)
Waste to landfill (tonnes) 2020: 20 444*	17 511	(9%)	(39%)	(50%)	(17%)
%Δ Scope 3	(14%)	(9%)	(32%)	(47%)	(17%)
Food waste (tonnes) 2020: 3 689*	2 047	0%	(57%)	25%	(28%)

- Waste emissions, generated by Waste-to-Landfill and Waste recycling, reduced by 14% in the year
- Bidfresh UK was a significant contributor to the waste recorded by the group due to the nature of the fresh produce stocked; however with the combined impact of COVID lockdowns and the businesses right-sizing restructure during the year, activity levels were severely impacted and therefore directly impacted the amount of waste produced by operations in the year

- Similarly in Europe, the Spanish Guzman operations, also predominantly focused on fresh produce, was subject to a restructuring, and many branch closures; this combined with the COVID impact also meant less activity, less produce, and therefore less waste
- Emerging Markets, CFG implemented improved manufacturing processes, longer production runs, and better management of lot expiry; all of which improved upon the waste reported in the prior year

MUNICIPAL WATER (kilolitres)

829 907 ↓ 13%

2020: 957 270



Water towers, rain water tanks and recycling water for sanitary and cleaning purposes to reduce our consumption of water.

Water

	2021 Group	AUS %Δ	UK %Δ	EUROPE %Δ	EM %Δ
Municipal water (kilolitres) 2020: 952 865	825 609	(32%)	(32%)	(13%)	16%
Other water (kilolitres) 2020: 4 405	4 298	0%	0%	0%	(2%)

- Municipal water used has decreased by 13% in 2021, with Australasia and the UK both using 32% less water this year
- Reduced on site activity, fewer trucks on the road, and preparation of fresh produce diminished due to COVID restrictions, all contributed to the reduced water consumption recorded
- In Australia the closure of several branches has contributed to the lower usage

- Operations across the group are implementing water-wise practices and water saving devices to improve behaviour and personal awareness of water consumption to reduce water usage
- Rainwater, borehole, and other non-municipal sources of water are being implemented for on-site non-consumable water usage, eg washing of trucks and pallets; measurement of this water used is unreliable and in some instances has not been measured

SCOPE 1 EMISSIONS (tCO₂e) (excl refrigerants and aircon gases)

125 444 ↓ 10%

2020: 138 881

SCOPE 1+ EMISSIONS (tCO₂e) (only refrigerants and aircon gases)

27 565 ↓ 33%

2020: 41 268*

Scope 1: Fuel and gas

	2021 Group	AUS %Δ	UK %Δ	EUROPE %Δ	EM %Δ
Fuel (kilolitres) 2020: 49 569	44 673	(5%)	(14%)	(14%)	0%
Gas (tonnes) 2020: 2 573	2 370	1%	(33%)	(7%)	6%
%Δ Scope 1	(10%)	(5%)	(14%)	(12%)	0%
Aircon gas (tonnes) 2020: 19*	14	(39%)	6%	13%	(42%)
%Δ Scope 1+	(33%)	(53%)	(11%)	21%	(50%)

- Fuel consumption has decreased by 5% in 2021, a 7% decrease in the number of delivery vehicles in the fleet contributed, new vehicles acquired tend to be smaller, and all are more fuel-efficient contributing to this improvement
- COVID lockdowns, particularly the harsh lockdowns in the UK and Europe for a significant portion of the year, meant that there was a drop in the diesel and petrol consumption recorded
- Operations have begun to investigate ways to improve fuel efficiencies, including service levels adjustments, alternative fuels, and investing in electric trucks

- Bidfood UK reported nearly one third less emissions from natural gas usage as kitchens within branches operate on natural gas, but with lockdowns staff were working from home and on-site kitchens and canteens were on severely restricted hours
- Reporting aircon gas usage is difficult as the timing of refills is irregular, therefore annual usage reported has peaks and troughs depending on the timing of the maintenance programme
- Europe reported a 21% increase in aircon gas emissions (13% increase in usage), unfortunately the Netherlands suffered two refrigeration gas leaks following a lightning strike which required the

- facilities to be refilled; excluding these two incidents Europe would have reported a 10% decrease in aircon gas emissions in 2021
- EM reported a 50% decrease in aircon gas emissions (42% decrease in usage), however there were fewer maintenance refills in the year; emissions may increase in the new year
- Australasia reported a 53% reduction in aircon gas emissions (39% decrease in usage), this was due to two new sites opening in the prior year in Auckland north and Plymouth, both requiring a full gas refill; current year usage is considered normal usage

SCOPE 2 EMISSIONS (tCO₂e)

124 307 ↓ 16%

2020: 148 164



Significant investment in the solar panel installations will continue as we build energy-efficient sites around the world.

Scope 2: Electricity – non-renewable grid supplied

	2021 Group	AUS %Δ	UK %Δ	EUROPE %Δ	EM %Δ
Grid electricity (kWh) 2020: 295 147 908	277 092 525	(8%)	(9%)	(5%)	(3%)
%Δ Scope 2	(16%)	(22%)	(17%)	(20%)	(6%)
Non-grid electricity (kWh) 2020: 5 245 226	6 779 896	49%	(6%)	25%	–

- Grid electricity emissions in 2021 reduced by 16%
- Non-grid electricity generated by solar panels on site produced nearly 30% more power in 2021
- Reduced non-renewable electricity would have been influenced by the COVID lockdowns; however even during lockdown warehouses and cooling systems are required to continue to operate
- Australia, Belgium, and the Netherlands generated 77% of the group's total renewable energy
- New installations in the year on sites in New Zealand, Australia, and the Netherlands

- South Africa and Spain are planning their first solar installations, due to commence in 2022
- In Australia, solar installations were operational for the full year in Darwin, Colmslie, Cairns, and Bendigo, improving renewable power generated on site by nearly 50%
- All new builds are equipped with energy efficient, smart solutions, such as solar installations, LED lighting, natural light, and other green measures in the building design; many operations are also beginning to retro-fit existing sites with these energy saving solutions

* 2020 comparatives have been adjusted:

– Scope 1+: Poland identified an error in the way usage of aircon gas was calculated, disclosing the amount of gas on site as opposed to usage.

This has been corrected in the current year and prior year comparative

– Scope 3: Spain identified a misallocation of waste between Waste recycled and Waste to landfill. This has been corrected in the current year and prior year comparative

Low-carbon decision making across all activities of the Bidcorp business model is non-negotiable.

Through robust quarterly reporting, sharing best practices, and celebrating the successes, we are embedding environmental sustainability as a foundation stone within our culture.

Despite our achievements to date, we are not easing off. More than ever the determination to ensure we are delivering a demonstrable difference to our environment remains the focus of every Bidfood business around the world. The sustainability of our environment is a top priority.

Managing the impact of our global operations, our diverse supply chain, the many communities we engage with, and our natural environment in a sustainable way is essential to our success today and going forward. This is the reason that prioritising our sustainability programme across our whole business is a key group-wide mission – **Building a brighter future together.**

Building
a brighter
future