



Green Star – Communities and the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

The New Zealand Government is committed to the Paris Agreement and to delivering a thriving, net zero carbon economy by 2050. Local governments across New Zealand are taking action on climate change while also creating sustainable, resilient communities with equitable access to amenities, housing, and economic and social opportunities. Around the world, investors are choosing investments that can demonstrate a commitment to emissions reduction and limited exposure to the risks of a changing climate and unethical and unsustainable practices.

The UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are a globally agreed set of targets that address the impacts of climate change and seek to alleviate inequality. Green Star – Communities aligns with the UN SDGs to support projects on the path to net zero. It is an internationally recognised rating tool that provides governments and private sector developers that use it to certify their projects with guidance in setting the right targets and objectives, a robust reporting framework and independent verification that targets are achieved.


The following table shows how credits within Green Star – Communities directly align with, or contribute to, the UN SDGs. For more information about how Green Star – Communities can support your project to achieve its sustainability goals, contact the Green Star team at New Zealand Green Building Council.


SDG	GREEN STAR – COMMUNITIES CREDITS THAT MEET THE SDG	GREEN STAR – COMMUNITIES CREDITS THAT PARTLY MEET THE SDG
	Goal 1 No poverty	Adaptation & resilience 4.1 Climate adaptation 4.2 Community resilience
	Affordability 17.1 Residential affordability strategies	Corporate responsibility 5.1 Corporate responsibility
	Employment and economic resilience 18.1 Increase in local jobs 18.2A Diverse local employment – Performance pathway	Affordability 17.2 Non-residential affordability strategies 17.3 Mixed affordability strategies
	Goal 2 Zero hunger	Sustainable sites 28.1 Previously developed land
	Access to fresh food 14.1 Access to fresh food 14.2 Local food production	
	Goal 3 Good health and well-being	Design review 2.1 Site planning and layout 2.2 Urban design
	Healthy and active living 9.0 Minimum requirement – Footpaths 9.1 Active lifestyle 9.2 Recreational facilities 9.3 Healthy places	
	Safe places 15.1 Design for safety	Adaptation and resilience 4.1 Climate adaptation 4.2 Community resilience
	Heat island effect 31.1 Heat island effect	Community development 10.2 Community group 10.3 Community events 10.4 Community information
	Goal 4 Quality education	Sustainable buildings 11.1 Certified non-residential buildings 11.2 Certified residential buildings (Homestar – NZ)
	Education and skills development 19.1 Higher education facilities 19.2 Skills development programs 19.3 Industry capacity development	Digital infrastructure 22.1 High-speed broadband 22.2 Wireless Local Area Network
	Goal 5 Gender equality	Safe places 15.1 Design for safety
	Corporate responsibility 5.1 Corporate responsibility	

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	Goal 6 Clean water and sanitation	Corporate responsibility 5.2 Sustainability reporting
	Sustainable buildings 11.1 Certified non-residential buildings (Green Star) 11.2 Certified residential buildings (Homestar – NZ)	Environmental management 8.1 Environmental management system 8.2 Environmental management plan
	Integrated water cycle 24A Water sensitive urban design – Performance pathway 24A.1 Stormwater – Performance pathway 24B Water management – Prescriptive pathway 24B.1 Alternative water sources – Public open spaces 24B.2 Alternative water sources – Buildings 24B.3 Stormwater peak discharge 24B.4 Stormwater quality	Waste management 30.1 Construction and demolition waste 30.2 Operational waste
	Sustainable sites 28.2 Best practice site decontamination	
	Ecological value 29.1 Change of ecological value 29.2 Biodiversity enhancement	
	Goal 7 Affordable and clean energy	Corporate responsibility 5.2 Sustainability reporting
	Sustainable buildings 11.1 Certified non-residential buildings (Green Star) 11.2 Certified residential buildings (Homestar – NZ)	Sustainability awareness 6.1 Community users’ guide 6.2 Sustainability education facilities
	Peak electricity demand reduction 23A Reduced peak electricity demand – Performance pathway 23B On-site generation – Prescriptive pathway 23C Energy storage – Prescriptive pathway	
	Greenhouse gas strategy 25A Greenhouse gas strategy 25B.1 Energy efficiency – Infrastructure lighting 25B.2 Energy efficiency – Existing buildings 25B.3 Renewable energy production 25B.4 District heating and cooling	

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 <p>Goal 8 Affordable and clean energy</p>	<p>Corporate responsibility 5.1 Corporate responsibility 5.2 Sustainability reporting</p> <hr/> <p>Employment and economic resilience 18.1 Increase in local jobs 18.2A Diverse local employment – Performance pathway 18.2B Proximity to major city – Prescriptive pathway</p> <hr/> <p>Education and skills development 19.1 Higher education facilities 19.2 Skills development programs 19.3 Industry capacity development</p> <hr/> <p>Return on investment 20.1 Analysis of direct costs and benefits 20.2 Analysis of indirect costs and benefits</p>	<p>Affordability 17.2 Non-residential affordability strategies</p>
 <p>Goal 9 Industry, innovation and infrastructure</p>	<p>Digital infrastructure 22.1 High-speed broadband 22.2 Wireless Local Area Network</p> <hr/> <p>Peak electricity demand reduction 23A Reduced peak electricity demand – Performance pathway 23B On-site generation – Prescriptive pathway 23C Energy storage – Prescriptive pathway</p> <hr/> <p>Integrated water cycle 24A Water sensitive urban design – Performance pathway 24A.1 Stormwater – Performance pathway 24B Water management – Prescriptive pathway 24B.1 Alternative water sources – Public open spaces 24B.2 Alternative water sources – Buildings 24B.3 Stormwater peak discharge 24B.4 Stormwater quality</p>	<p>Sustainable buildings 11.1 Certified non-residential buildings (Green Star) 11.2 Certified residential buildings (Homestar – NZ)</p> <hr/> <p>Affordability 17.1 Residential affordability strategies 17.2 Non-residential affordability strategies 17.3 Mixed affordability strategies</p>


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	Goal 10 Reduced inequalities	Engagement 3.1 Stakeholder engagement strategy 3.2 Strategy implementation
	Goal 11 Sustainable cities and communities	Corporate responsibility 5.1 Corporate responsibility 5.2 Sustainability reporting
	Design review 2.1 Site planning and layout 2.2 Urban design	Sustainability awareness 6.1 Community users' guide 6.2 Sustainability education facilities
	Engagement 3.1 Stakeholder engagement strategy 3.2 Strategy implementation	
	Adaptation & resilience 4.1 Climate adaptation 4.2 Community resilience	
	Sustainable buildings 11.1 Certified non-residential buildings (Green Star) 11.2 Certified residential buildings (Homestar – NZ)	
	Culture, heritage and identity 12.1 Understanding culture, heritage and identity 12.2 Enhancing community culture, heritage and identity	
	Safe places 15.1 Design for safety	
	Affordability 17.1 Residential affordability strategies	
	Sustainable transport and movement 27A Sustainable transport and movement: Performance pathway 27A Sustainable transport and movement: Prescriptive pathway	


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	Goal 12 Responsible consumption and production	Corporate responsibility 5.2 Sustainability reporting	Sustainable buildings 11.1 Certified non-residential buildings (Green Star) 11.2 Certified residential buildings (Homestar – NZ)
		Sustainability awareness 6.1 Community users’ guide 6.2 Sustainability education facilities	Sustainable transport and movement 27A Sustainable transport and movement: Performance pathway 27A Sustainable transport and movement: Prescriptive pathway
		Integrated water cycle 24A Water sensitive urban design – Performance pathway 24A.1 Stormwater – Performance pathway 24B Water management – Prescriptive pathway 24B.1 Alternative water sources – Public open spaces 24B.2 Alternative water sources – Buildings 24B.3 Stormwater peak discharge 24B.4 Stormwater quality	Peak electricity demand reduction 23A Reduced peak electricity demand – Performance pathway 23B On-site generation – Prescriptive pathway 23C Energy storage – Prescriptive pathway
		Materials 26A Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) – Performance pathway 26B Life cycle impacts – Prescriptive pathway	
		Waste management 30.1 Construction and demolition waste 30.2 Operational waste	

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	Goal 13 Climate action	Adaptation and resilience 4.1 Climate adaptation 4.2 Community resilience	Design review 2.1 Site planning and layout 2.2 Urban design
		Peak electricity demand reduction 23A Reduced peak electricity demand – Performance pathway 23B On-site generation – Prescriptive pathway 23C Energy storage – Prescriptive pathway	Sustainability awareness 6.2 Sustainability education facilities
		Greenhouse gas strategy 25A Greenhouse gas strategy 25B.1 Energy efficiency – Infrastructure lighting 25B.2 Energy efficiency – Existing buildings 25B.3 Renewable energy production 25B.4 District heating and cooling	Sustainable buildings 11.1 Certified non-residential buildings (Green Star) 11.2 Certified residential buildings (Homestar – NZ)
		Heat island effect 31.1 Heat island effect	Materials 26A Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) – Performance pathway 26B Life cycle impacts – Prescriptive pathway
			Ecological value 29.1 Change of ecological value 29.2 Biodiversity enhancement
			Waste management 30.1 Construction and demolition waste 30.2 Operational waste

SDG	GREEN STAR – COMMUNITIES CREDITS THAT MEET THE SDG	GREEN STAR – COMMUNITIES CREDITS THAT PARTLY MEET THE SDG
	Goal 14 Life below water	Corporate responsibility 5.2 Sustainability reporting
	Integrated water cycle 24A Water sensitive urban design – Performance pathway 24A.1 Stormwater – Performance pathway 24B Water management – Prescriptive pathway 24B.1 Alternative water sources – Public open spaces 24B.2 Alternative water sources – Buildings 24B.3 Stormwater peak discharge 24B.4 Stormwater quality	Sustainability awareness 6.2 Sustainability education facilities
	Ecological value 29.1 Change of ecological value 29.2 Biodiversity enhancement	Environmental management 8.1 Environmental management system 8.2 Environmental management plan
		Sustainable buildings 11.1 Certified non-residential buildings (Green Star) 11.2 Certified residential buildings (Homestar – NZ)
		Materials 26A Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) – Performance pathway 26B Life cycle impacts – Prescriptive pathway
		Sustainable sites 28 Conditional requirement 28.1 Previously developed land 28.2 Best practice site decontamination
		Waste management 30.1 Construction and demolition waste 30.2 Operational waste

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 <p>Goal 15 Life on land</p>	<p>Sustainable buildings</p> <p>11.1 Certified non-residential buildings (Green Star)</p> <p>11.2 Certified residential buildings (Homestar – NZ)</p>	<p>Corporate responsibility</p> <p>5.2 Sustainability reporting</p>
	<p>Integrated water cycle</p> <p>24A Water sensitive urban design – Performance pathway</p> <p>24A.1 Stormwater – Performance pathway</p> <p>24B Water management – Prescriptive pathway</p> <p>24B.1 Alternative water sources – Public open spaces</p> <p>24B.2 Alternative water sources – Buildings</p> <p>24B.3 Stormwater peak discharge</p> <p>24B.4 Stormwater quality</p>	<p>Sustainability awareness</p> <p>6.2 Sustainability education facilities</p>
	<p>Materials</p> <p>26A Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) – Performance pathway</p> <p>26B Life cycle impacts – Prescriptive pathway</p>	<p>Environmental management</p> <p>8.1 Environmental management system</p> <p>8.2 Environmental management plan</p>
	<p>Sustainable sites</p> <p>28 Conditional requirement</p> <p>28.1 Previously developed land</p> <p>28.2 Best practice site decontamination</p>	
	<p>Ecological value</p> <p>29.1 Change of ecological value</p> <p>29.2 Biodiversity enhancement</p>	
	<p>Waste management</p> <p>30.1 Construction and demolition waste</p> <p>30.2 Operational waste</p>	

SDG	GREEN STAR – COMMUNITIES CREDITS THAT MEET THE SDG	GREEN STAR – COMMUNITIES CREDITS THAT PARTLY MEET THE SDG
	<p>Goal 16 Peace, justice and strong institutions</p>	<p>Engagement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3.1 Stakeholder engagement strategy 3.2 Strategy implementation <hr/> <p>Corporate responsibility</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5.1 Corporate responsibility <hr/> <p>Safe places</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 15.1 Design for safety
	<p>Goal 17 Partnerships for the goals</p>	<p>Green Star – Communities provides a common language and a framework for collaboration as well as encouraging engagement and partnerships with the community, government and other stakeholders beyond the project team. Partnerships across industry sectors and governments will be critical to progress the policies and innovation needed to achieve the UN SDGs by 2030 and Green Star – Communities offers UN SDG-aligned, best practice guidance that can help to accomplish this.</p>



For more information on adopting Green Star Communities to assess your project against a holistic set of environmental, social and economic criteria, contact;

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