

# Absa Group Limited

Sustainability Limited  
assurance definitions 2025



Your story matters



## Sustainability Limited assurance definitions

Limited assurance was provided following our selected criteria, marked with a Limited Assurance - External Assurance (LA-EA) on the relevant pages in the 2025 Sustainability and Climate Report. The selected sustainability information described below has been prepared in accordance with our sustainability definitions.

No	Key Subject Matter	Reporting criteria
1	Total energy use (kWh)	<p>Total energy use is the sum of non-renewable (electricity, natural gas, diesel) and renewable energy (solar photovoltaic and wind) used in kWh for the 12-month period ended 31 December 2025.</p> <p>This excludes all residential properties, parking lots, ATMs, undeveloped land, signage, certain warehouses, sports, recreation facilities and mobile units. NB: Excludes mobile units which falls under scope 1</p>
2	Total non-renewable energy use (kWh)	<p>Total non-renewable energy usage:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Electricity (Group-wide). This excludes all residential properties, parking lots, Automatic Teller Machines (ATMs), undeveloped land, signage, certain warehouses, and sport, recreation facilities and mobile units.</li> <li>Natural gas (South African operations)</li> <li>Diesel (South African operations and Africa Regions (AR)), excluding mobile units</li> </ul>
3	Total renewable energy use (kWh)	<p>Total energy produced through Absa renewable energy systems, excluding mobile units:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Solar photovoltaic (South African operations)</li> <li>Wind energy (South African operations)</li> </ul>
4	Total greenhouse gas emissions (tCO <sub>2</sub> e)	<p>Total of Scope 1, 2 and 3 greenhouse gas emissions (Greenhouse Gas Protocol: operational control boundary) in tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>e for the 12-month period ended 31 December 2025.</p>
5	Scope 1 greenhouse gas emissions (tCO <sub>2</sub> e)	<p>The total emissions from direct combustion of diesel fuel from back-up generators (invoiced) and electricity from natural gas combustion as well as from fuel used for company-owned/fleet vehicles (South African operations).</p>
6	Scope 2 greenhouse gas emissions – location based (tCO <sub>2</sub> e)	<p>The total emissions of purchased electricity from the grid both metered and calculated. The Africa Regions' (all locations except South Africa) emissions are calculated using location-based method.</p> <p>This excludes all residential properties, parking lots, ATMs, undeveloped land, signage, certain warehouses, sports and recreation facilities and mobile units.</p>



7	Scope 3 greenhouse gas emissions (tCO <sub>2</sub> e)	<p>Total greenhouse gas emissions from business travel (air travel, travel claims and car hire) and greenhouse gas emissions associated with electricity transmission and distribution losses. Coverage in reporting includes the below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local and international flights (Group-wide)</li> <li>• Car hire captured from service providers and employee kilometre travel claims (South African operations)</li> <li>• Transmission and distribution from grid electricity (Group-wide).</li> </ul>
8	Total water consumption (KL)	<p>Total volume of water withdrawn in Absa owned and operated facilities, including corporate offices, retail branches, data centres, warehouses etc. From the following sources:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Third-party supply: Municipal water supplies or other water utilities as applicable</li> <li>• Ground water: Borehole water.</li> </ul>
9	Recycled water (greywater) (KL)	<p>Includes both water that was treated prior to reuse and water that was not treated prior to reuse.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Greywater harvested from basins, showers etc.</li> </ul>
10	Water savings (KL)	<p>As an organisation we are committed to reduce our water withdrawal, consumption, discharge, and associated impacts, through efficiency measures, such as water recycling and reuse, and installation of water efficient fittings.</p> <p>Total greywater consumed on site plus potable water saved through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grey water harvested (KL)</li> <li>• Water smart toilets (PropelAir toilets) (KL).</li> </ul>
11	Total waste generated (tonnes)	<p>Total amount of waste generated within our managed facilities such as corporate sites, data centres, warehouses etc.</p> <p>Note: this excludes waste in retail sites (both freeholds and leaseholds) and ATMs, as waste at these sites is managed by the respective landlords and municipalities.</p>
12	Scope 3 financed emissions (tCO <sub>2</sub> e)	<p>Scope 3 financed emissions for the Group in tCO<sub>2</sub>e i.e., are indirect emissions associated with a bank's loans, investments, and other financial services for coal, oil and gas sector, residential property and commercial property finance.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fossil fuels: oil and gas – gCO<sub>2</sub>e/MJ (December 2024)</li> <li>• Fossil fuels: coal (December 2024).</li> <li>• Real estate - Residential mortgage (December 2025)</li> <li>• Real estate – Commercial property finance (December 2025)</li> </ul> <p>They fall under scope 3, category 15 of the Greenhouse Gas Protocol (GHGP) - the international greenhouse gas accounting framework. The financed emissions are calculated in line with the PCAF methodology.</p>



13	Women in senior leadership (%)	All women across the Absa Group at the Senior Management level, specifically those at the Principal and Managing Principal corporate grades (excluding members of the Absa Group Executive Committee).
14	Sustainable bonds (ZAR)	<p>The financial value of underlying projects that have been funded/allocated through the Sustainable Bond issuances (as at 31 December 2025):</p> <p>Aligning with the Use of Proceeds Eligibility Criteria outlined in the Absa Sustainable Finance Issuance Framework (SFIF): <a href="#"><b><i>Absa-Sustainable-Finance-Issuance-Framework-December-202356.pdf</i></b></a></p> <p>Adhering to the commitments in the SFIF with regard to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Selection of projects</li> <li>2. Management of proceed</li> <li>3. Reporting on allocation.</li> </ol>
15	Green deposit (ZAR)	<p>The financial value of underlying projects that have been funded/allocated through the Green Deposit (as at 31 December 2025):</p> <p>Aligning with the Use of Proceeds Eligibility Criteria outlined in the Absa SFIF: <a href="#"><b><i>Absa-Sustainable-Finance-Issuance-Framework-December-202356.pdf</i></b></a></p> <p>Adhering to the commitments in the SFIF with regard to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Selection of projects</li> <li>2. Management of proceeds</li> <li>3. Reporting on allocation.</li> </ol>
16	Syndicated green loans (SFIF)	<p>The financial value of underlying projects that have been funded/allocated through the Sustainable (Green or Social) loans (as at 31 December 2025):</p> <p>Aligning with the Use of Proceeds Eligibility Criteria outlined in the Absa SFIF: <a href="#"><b><i>Absa-Sustainable-Finance-Issuance-Framework-December-202356.pdf</i></b></a></p> <p>Adhering to the commitments in the SFIF with regard to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Selection of projects,</li> <li>2. Management of proceeds, and</li> <li>3. Reporting on allocation.</li> </ol>
17	Aggregated ESG Loans	<p>A. The financial value of underlying projects that have been funded/allocated through the Sustainable (Green or Social) loans (as at 31 December 2025):</p> <p>Aligning with the Use of Proceeds Eligibility Criteria outlined in the Absa SFIF: <a href="#"><b><i>Absa-Sustainable-Finance-Issuance-Framework-December-202356.pdf</i></b></a></p> <p>Adhering to the commitments in the SFIF regarding:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Selection of projects,</li> </ol>



		<p>2. Management of proceeds, and</p> <p>3. Reporting on allocation; or</p> <p>B. ESG loans provided by Development Finance Institutions and relationship banks, as of 31 December 2025. These loans adhere to the Loan</p> <p>Market Association’s (LMA) guidelines for social, green, and sustainability-linked loan principles.</p>
18	Drawn exposure Fossil fuel sector: Coal	The portion of an approved facility that has already been utilized by the customer and is currently outstanding. It reflects the amount of funds actually disbursed and owed to the bank, excluding any undrawn balances.
19	Drawn exposure Fossil fuel sector: Oil	The portion of an approved facility that has already been utilized by the customer and is currently outstanding. It reflects the amount of funds actually disbursed and owed to the bank, excluding any undrawn balances.
20	Drawn exposure Fossil fuel sector: Gas	The portion of an approved facility that has already been utilized by the customer and is currently outstanding. It reflects the amount of funds actually disbursed and owed to the bank, excluding any undrawn balances.
21	Number of employees that received training for the prevention of financial crime curriculum	The number of employees that received training on preventing financial crime curriculum for the reporting period ending 31 <sup>st</sup> December 2025.
22	Investment in Financial Education	<p>Investment in consumer education reflects the funds invested by Absa to empower individuals with financial knowledge and skills that enable them to make informed decisions and improve their overall financial well-being.</p> <p>These investments include initiatives delivered directly by Absa colleagues (where relevant) and accredited training providers, covering areas such as financial literacy, personal money management, responsible borrowing, savings, and access to financial services.</p> <p>The consumer education investment spend report is compiled by Group Centre Finance and is based on invoice payment disbursements made to accredited training providers and third-party organisations, as recorded in the finance general ledger system.</p>
23	Investment in Entrepreneurship education and youth employability	<p>Investment in entrepreneurship education and youth employability reflects the funds invested by Absa to support initiatives that equip young people and entrepreneurs with the education, skills, and experiences required to access income-generating opportunities and build sustainable livelihoods.</p> <p>This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Youth employability: programmes aimed at improving access to quality higher education, developing work readiness skills, technical skills, and practical experiences that improve young people’s ability to transition into self-employment and formal employment.</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Entrepreneurship education: programmes aimed at developing entrepreneurial mindsets, intent and action by instilling business development skills, exposure to the entrepreneurial landscape, access to industry networks for youth and microenterprises led by youth and women.</li> <li>• The entrepreneurship education and youth employability investment spend report is compiled by Group Centre Finance and is based on invoice payment disbursements made to accredited implementing partners and third-party organisations, as recorded in the finance general ledger system.</li> </ul>
24	Equator Principle - Transaction	<p>The total number of transactions assessed under the Equator Principles that reached financial close. Criteria: As per Equator Principles IV:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Project Finance: Total project capital costs are US\$10m or more.</li> <li>2. Project-Related Corporate Loans (PRCL): All of the following three criteria are met:             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. The majority of the loan is related to a Project over which the client has effective operational control (either direct or indirect).</li> <li>ii. The total aggregate loan amount and the Equator Principles Financial Institution's (EPFI's) individual commitment (before syndication or sell down) are each at least US\$50 million.</li> <li>iii. The loan tenor is at least two (2) years. PRCL's exclude export finance in the form of supplier credit (as the client has no effective operational control). Furthermore, PRCL's exclude other financial instruments that do not finance an underlying Project, such as asset finance, acquisition finance, hedging, leasing, letters of credit, general corporate purposes loans, and general working capital expenditures loans used to maintain a company's operations.</li> </ol> </li> <li>3. Bridge Loans: Tenor less than two years that are intended to be refinanced by Project Finance or PRCL that is anticipated to meet the criteria described above.</li> <li>4. Project Finance Advisory Services: Total Project capital costs are US\$10m or more</li> <li>5. Project Related Refinance and Project-Related Acquisition Finance: The following three criteria are met:             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. The underlying Project was financed in accordance with the Equator Principles framework.</li> <li>ii. There has been no material change in the scale or scope of the Project.</li> </ol> </li> </ol>



		<p>iii. Project Completion has not yet occurred at the time of the signing of the facility or loan agreement.</p>
25	Own carbon emissions reduction (2018 baseline – 2025)	<p>Own carbon emissions represent the total greenhouse gas emissions (tCO<sub>2</sub>e) for the 12 months ended 31 December 2025, in relation to the 2018 baseline.</p> <p>This includes emissions from non-renewable sources such as natural gas, electricity and diesel, as well as emissions from travel and transmission and distribution.</p> <p>This excludes all residential, parking, ATMs, undeveloped land, sports and recreation facilities, and all other mobile units except mobile units reported under Scope 1 (company cars).</p>

**absa.africa**

## Contact information

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