Our journey so far & looking ahead – Year 2

We are proud to share that AES Experiential Learning and Living has once again achieved the Planet Mark Business Certification for sustainable business, marking the second year of our formal sustainability journey. This recognition reflects our company-wide commitment to measuring, reducing, and transparently reporting our environmental and social impact.

Planet Mark is an internationally recognised sustainability certification for businesses that demonstrate continuous improvement, measurable carbon reduction, and a genuine commitment to driving positive environmental and social change.

Sustainability commitments, achievements and Progress (Year 2):

COMMITMENT	2024 PROGRESS
5% YEAR-ON-YEAR REDUCTION IN SCOPE 1 AND 2 EMISSIONS	21.1% achieved, 75% of all electricity supply has been from 100% renewable sources
SUSTAINABLE FLEET & TRAVEL	14,000 miles
FLEET ELECTRIFICATION	Electrified & hybrid fleet in operation
REDUCTION IN SCOPE 3 (PROGRAMME RELATED TRAVEL AND COMMUTE)	31,720 miles commute saved through Virtual Internship programme
REDUCTION IN SCOPE 3 (BUSINESS TRAVEL)	6,640 hours/year through Green Travel Programme
EMBEDDING SUSTAINABILITY INTO PROGRAMMES	 1 dedicated sustainability course and 3 sustainability related modules on offer 3x ESG workshops available for all students in construction, media and journalism and international finance 36 students attended ESG in business workshop
SDG CONTRIBUTION	9 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) addressed in 2024, up from 4 in 2023.
WASTE REDUCTION	35% reduction achieved through sustainable procurement, waste reduction policies, and disposable plastic-free policy.

Social Value Commitments and progress

In 2024, we generated £144,234 in Social Value, equivalent to £1,823 per employee, as assessed using the National TOMs framework via Planet Mark. Our contributions span across:

COMMITMENT	PROGRESS IN 2024
INCREASE INVESTMENT ON ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY	£72,045
INCREASED IN COMMUNITY & VOLUNTEERING PROJECTS	£44,142 through collaboration with NGOs and support for local charities and community
INVESTMENT ON STAFF TRAINING AND WELLBEING PROGRAMMES	£23,275
INCREASED ENGAGEMENT WITH STAKEHOLDERS	20% increase in workshops, orientations, and educational programmes. Significant support for student and partner engagement through workshops, toolkits, placements, and mentoring
CHARITY PROJECTS	£ 4,773 Donated to Charities
INCREASE IN VOLUNTEERING AND COMMUNITY HOURS	70+ hours worked on volunteering projects
RAINFOREST SAVED	19 acres of rainforest preserved through climate action initiatives

Highlights of 2024

- AES became a CANIE Accord signatory, with 48 commitments.
- Sustainability themes were integrated into pre-departure materials, welcome packs, orientations, and free workshops available to all students.
- Student events were launched to encourage community and environmental engagement.
- Workshops were initiated for partners and stakeholders to support collaborative sustainability efforts.
- Sustainability content was embedded across curricula and dedicated courses introduced.
- We received Silver Awards for Corporate Social Responsibility and a Sustainability Award at the SME London Business Awards 2025 (London Chamber of Commerce and Industry).

Goals and alignments 2025 & 2027

STRATEGY	PLANNED ACTIONS
100% RENEWABLE ENERGY TRANSITION	Further shift to renewable sources across all operations
ANNUAL 5% GHG REDUCTION	Continue monitoring and reduction of Scope 1, 2, and 3 emissions by at least 25% based on baseline
EXPAND ESG & SUSTAINABILITY EDUCATION	Introduce additional courses and modules across all programmes.
GROW ESG WORKSHOPS	Increase both the number and reach of ESG sessions.
VIRTUAL INTERNSHIP EXPANSION	Broaden access to remote work placements and virtual programmes
DEEPEN REFORESTATION PARTNERSHIPS	Expand with Just One Tree, Eden Project, and other NGO partners
ENGAGE STAKEHOLDERS ACTIVELY	Conduct annual surveys on sustainability, co-create solutions with students, staff, partners and suppliers
GROW SDG IMPACT	Strategically align initiatives to maintain and exceed contributions to the current 9 SDGs and beyond.