

## Net Zero Certification

The Net Zero Certification awarded by the Green Building of South Africa is aimed at projects that go beyond the partial reductions that are recognised in the Green Star Certification tools, and have taken the initiative to reach the endpoint of completely neutralising or even positively redressing their carbon emissions; water consumption; solid waste to landfill and their negative ecological impacts.

A Net Zero building will implement efficiency measures and interventions first and then offset the remaining demand through either on-site solutions, off-site solutions, or offsets, such as carbon credits and similar initiatives.

At Ecolution Consulting, we guide building projects through the Net Zero certification submission to ensure they are as sustainable as possible, meet the certification requirements and are recognised as such.

### What rating tools are available?

Projects can target Net Zero or Net Positive certification in:



#### **CARBON**

A Net Zero Carbon building is one which is already highly energy efficient, and the remaining energy demand is supplied by renewable energy, preferably on-site production but this can be offset with off-site production too. This will result in Net Zero carbon emissions on annual basis or, if excess renewable energy is supplied than used on site, this is Net Positive.



#### **WATER**

A Net Zero Water building is one which is designed, constructed and operated to greatly reduce its water consumption and then offset its remaining water demand with harvested, recycled and reused water such that the volume of water consumed is the same as that produced, or even Net Positive where the water recycled/harvested is greater than that consumed.



#### **WASTE**

A Net Zero Waste building is one which reduces, reuses, and recovers its waste streams to convert them to valuable resources with zero solid waste being sent to landfills over a period of 12 months. Alternatively the building can take waste from other sites and divert it for reuse, making the building Net Positive regarding waste.



#### **ECOLOGY**

A Net Zero Ecology project is one which does not reduce the ecological value of the site during development for greenfield sites. Alternatively, a Net Positive Ecology project increases the ecological value of the site for brownfield sites, greenfield sites and/or existing developments.

## What are some of the benefits?



Enhanced marketability



Lower operating costs



Opportunity for higher rental rates



Future proofing your building



Quality tenants and reduced churn



Reduced environmental footprint

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## Why Choose Ecolution Consulting to be your Green Star Accredited Professionals?

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We have had early involvement with the Net Zero certification tool giving us a competitive advantage with Net Zero experience and fine-tuning of the pilot tool.

We were involved in Two Dam Sustainable's Net Zero Carbon certification. This project was one of the first four pilot projects to have been certified Net Zero in South Africa in October 2017. Two Dam Sustainable is an off-grid, responsibly operated trout farm that produces ethically made trout products and runs almost entirely off of renewable energy. The majority of the energy used for the farm is provided by a 31 kW photovoltaic panel array and a 'high pressure, low water volume' micro-hydro turbine that generates up to 1kW of continuous electricity. The small percentage of energy-use that is supported by the LP gas powered generator for lengthy cloudy days, is then offset through the CarbonGreen Africa : Kariba REDD+ Project (validated by VCS).

WE'RE HERE TO HELP! CONTACT US TO DISCUSS HOW WE ASSIST  
YOUR TEAM WITH A NET ZERO CERTIFICATION

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