#### **COP26** UNIVERSITIES NETWORK BRIEFING / JANUARY 2021

## HOW CAN CARBON OFFSETTING HELP UK FURTHER AND HIGHER **EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS ACHIEVE NET ZERO EMISSIONS?**

# EAUC Briefing



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This publication was created in partnership with EAUC -

the alliance for sustainability leadership in education.

## The motivation

- Proliferating University net zero targets
- Emission reductions remain the top priority
- But offsetting an inevitable option for many Unis, addressing hard to abate emissions

## The framework

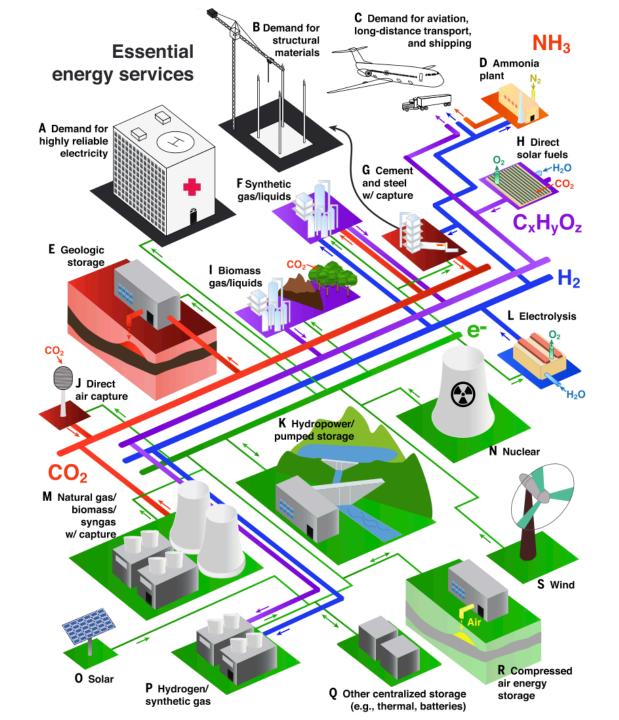
- How should we calculate and report emissions?
- How do we determine which emissions to offset?
- How do we select which offsets to purchase?

#### **UK FHE Emissions**

Student Flights 2.0 18%	<b>S3: Business Services</b> 1.1 10%	<b>S3: Other</b> 0.8 7%	<b>S3: Other</b> Manufactured 0.6 5%
<b>S3: Construction</b> 1.9 17%	<b>S3: Business Travel</b> 0.5 4%	<b>S3: IT</b> 0.4 4%	<b>S3: Waste &amp;</b> Water 0.3 3%
<b>Scope 1 and 2</b> 1.7 16%	<b>S3: Student Commuting</b> 0.5 4%	<b>S3: Manufactured</b> <b>Chemicals</b> 0.3 3%	<b>S3: Medical</b> 0.2 2%
	<b>S3: Food &amp; Catering</b> 0.4 4%	S3: Staff Commuting 0.3 3%	S3: Paper Products 0.2 2%

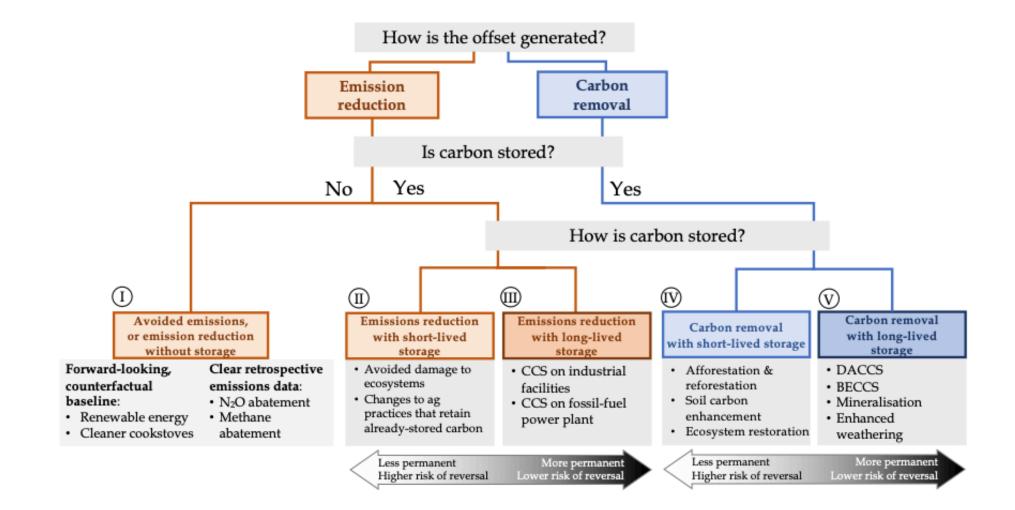
## Which emissions to offset

- Scope 3 only
- Hard-to-abate sectors
- Only those that are not practicable to abate



Davis et al 2018

## Carbon credit taxonomy



## Which offsets to purchase?

- Additionality
- Permanence
- Avoidance of double-counting
- Avoidance of carbon leakage
- Accurate carbon accounting
- Atmospheric outcome secured
- Sustainable and beneficial

#### Which offsets to purchase?

