

# Planetary Accounting Practitioner Course

## Course Overview

### What is a Planetary Accounting Practitioner?

A Planetary Accounting Practitioner is a sustainability professional who can undertake Planetary Accounting in-house or offer Planetary Accounting services to clients.

### How is this different to our Planetary Accounting Champion and Steward course?

The Planetary Accounting Champion course is our entry level course. It is designed to provide a high-level understanding of the science on climate change, Planetary Accounting, Planetary Boundaries, and other key frameworks.

In contrast, our Planetary Accounting Practitioner course is designed for those already working in sustainability and looking to add Planetary Accounting to their sustainability tool kit.

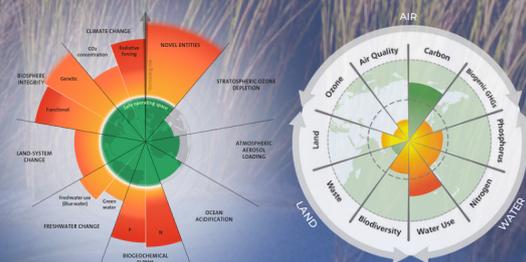
### What's involved?

The course will take place online over 6 months, with 1-2 hours of facilitated online learning, plus 2-3 hours study in your own time each week. We take a hands-on approach to learning, so come ready to get stuck into some practical activities and apply Planetary Accounting to your current organisation, projects, or other challenges.

The course concludes with an assessment for certification as a Planetary Accounting Practitioner.

Across the duration of the course, you can expect to:

- Take a deep dive into Planetary Boundaries
- Unpack the Planetary Accounting metrics
- Learn about data needs and limitations
- Analyse key frameworks and key publications
- Learn how to create the business case for sustainability
- Apply Planetary Accounting in applications such as:
  - Planetary Facts
  - Planetary Accounting for Regions and Cities
  - Nature-related Financial Disclosures
  - Planetary Science-based Targets



### Course Cost

\$5k +GST

# Course Outline

## Introduction (Week 1)

Introduction to the course, cohort, expectations, key dates, and the tools we will be using throughout the course.

### Topics

- Earth as a system
- Planetary Boundaries
- Geological history of humankind
- Tipping points & feedback loops

## Deep Dive into the Planetary Boundaries (Week 2)

Take a dive into the Planetary Boundaries.

### Topics

- Limits before the Planetary Boundaries
- Great acceleration
- The Planetary Boundaries
- Local vs global limits

## Metric matter (Week 3)

Learn why metrics matter, and how what you measure can change decisions you make.

### Topics

- DPSIR Framework
- Tragedy of the Commons
- Theories of change
- Types of metrics
- Metrics & decision making

## Planetary Accounting (Week 4)

The start of an in-depth exploration of Planetary Accounting.

### Topics

- Introduction to Planetary Accounting
- Planetary Accounting & the Planetary Boundaries

## Global Governance (Week 5)

Explore key international frameworks and their connections to Planetary Boundaries.

### Topics

- Global governance
- Key frameworks & connections to Planetary Boundaries

## Business Case for the Planetary Boundaries (Week 6)

Develop a business case for the use of Planetary Boundaries to guide sustainability strategies.

### Topics

Planetary Boundaries are the basis of:

- Doughnut Economics
- Task Force for Nature-related Financial Disclosures (TNFD)
- Product Environmental Footprint Labels
- Greenwashing mitigation

## Planetary Accounting Application (Week 7)

An introduction to developing Planetary Accounting Applications.

### Topics

- Overview of PA applications (for products, organisations, and regions).
- Methodology development process

# Course Outline Cont

## Air (Weeks 8 & 9)

A deep dive into the Air metrics (Carbon+, Biogenic Emissions, Air Quality, Ozone).

### Topics

- The metrics
- The limits
- Why these metrics are important to the planet and humans

## Water (Weeks 10 & 11)

A deep dive into Water metrics (Water, Nitrogen, Phosphorus).

### Topics

- The metrics
- The limits
- Why these metrics are important to the planet and humans

## Land (Weeks 12 & 13)

A deep dive into Land metrics (Land-use, Biodiversity, Waste).

### Topics

- The metrics
- The limits
- Why these metrics are important to the planet and humans

## Pragmatic Precision (Week 14)

Learn about the importance of pragmatic precision over perfectionism when it comes to data, and how to manage data gaps.

### Topics

- Pragmatic precision approach
- Data sources
- Managing data gaps

## Planetary Accounting for Regions & Cities (Week 15)

How Planetary Accounting can support the impact and decisions of regions and cities (PARCS)

### Topics

- Overview of PARCS
- Data requirements
- Stakeholders involved
- Considerations/ limitations

## Planetary Accounting for Organisations

(Weeks 16 and 17)

The application of Planetary Accounting for organisations (PA-O).

### Topics

- Overview of PA-O
- Data requirements
- Stakeholders involved
- Considerations/ limitations

## Planetary Facts (Week 18)

Learn how to communicate the environmental performance of products and services through Planetary Facts.

### Topics

- History of food labelling
- Consumer demand
- What are Planetary Facts
- Data requirements
- Considerations/limitations

## Intro to LCA (Week 19)

Explore the fundamentals of Life Cycle Analysis.

### Topics

- Scope, boundaries, & data
- Functional units
- Interpretation

# Course Outline Cont

## Ethics (Week 20)

A consideration of ethics and decision making.

### Topics

- Environmental ethics 101
- Ethical decision making

## Fundamentals on Targets (Week 21)

Setting targets with Planetary Accounting.

### Topics

- The importance of targets
- Methods for setting targets
- Considerations & limitations

## Planetary Accounting & Other Frameworks (Week 22)

How Planetary Accounting can be used across frameworks and measurement tools currently used to gain insights for decision making.

### Topics

- Planetary Accounting & sustainability frameworks

## Roadmaps & 'Getting to Green' (Week 23)

How to interpret results to test interventions and scenarios and build a 'Getting to Green' roadmap.

### Topics

- Counterfactual vs scientific context
- Understanding results
- Develop a pathway to green

## Introduction to Planetary Insights (Week 24)

An introduction to Planetary Accounting software, Planetary Insights.

### Topics

- Overview of Planetary Insights
- Functionality
- Linking with environmental factor databases

## Next steps for Practitioners (Week 25)

In this session we will cover the licenses needed to conduct Planetary Accounting assessments, and data quality assurance.

### Topics

- Accessing Planetary Insights / Planetary Accounting Licenses
- Following best practice
- Quality Assurance
- CPD requirements

## Recap (Week 26)

The final week of the course will be dedicated to providing a comprehensive recap of the course content, and to prepare participants for the exam.

We will also share opportunities for the cohort to continue working together.

# Course structure

## Assignments

There will be 3x assignments during the course, including a practical application of Planetary Accounting.

## Business Case

Prepare participants to meet the challenge of communicating the business case.

## Materiality Assessment

Prepare a Planetary Accounting materiality assessment for your organisation or one of PAN's member organisations.

## Planetary Accounting Assessment

Conduct Planetary Accounting Assessments under different planetary Accounting applications. Participants will use a real-world example from their organisation or one of PAN's member organisations.

## Exam

The exam is only required for participants who want to be certified.

If you are just joining out of interest and have no intention of conducting Planetary Accounting assessments, you do not need to complete the exam.

Certification requires a score of 80% or higher on the exam.

## Course content & delivery

Each week we will host 1 live lecture to cover the content. There is also 1 live Q&A session every fortnight. Live sessions will be recorded and made available to all participants via Moodle.

During the course you will also have quizzes to complete. These quizzes and other course materials will be accessible through your Moodle account.

### Videos



Participants will be provided with video content to watch across the course to build on learnings from lectures.

### Readings



Participants will be provided with readings, ranging from academic articles to frameworks.

### Additional content



We will also direct participants to additional content (which is optional to access) to help facilitate their learning, such as podcasts, films, documentaries.

## Key Contacts

### Key Speaker

Kate Meyer  
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### Course Coordinators

Gabriella Rutherford  
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