

Abatement

Measures that companies take to prevent, reduce or eliminate sources of GHG emissions within their value chain. Examples include reducing energy use, switching to renewable energy and retiring high-emitting assets. (based on [SBTi Corporate Net-Zero Standard](#))

Absolute Target

Targets that specify emissions reductions measured in metric tons, relative only to a historical baseline. (based on [GHG Protocol](#))

Absolute Zero Emissions

A situation achieved when no GHG emissions are attributable to a company's activities across all scopes. Under this definition, no offsets or balancing of residual emissions with removals are used. (based on [Net Zero Climate](#))

Additionality

A criterion for assessing whether a project has resulted in GHG emission reductions or removals in addition to what would have occurred in its absence. This is an important criterion when the goal of the project is to offset emissions elsewhere. (based on [GHG Protocol](#))

Allocation

The process of partitioning GHG emissions from a single facility or other system (e.g., vehicle, business unit, corporation) among its various outputs.

For example, a single production facility may produce many different products and co-products, while activity data (used to calculate GHG emissions) is collected for the plant as a whole. In this case, the facility's energy use and emissions need to be allocated to its various outputs. (based on [GHG Protocol](#))

Avoided Emissions

Emission reductions that occur outside of a product's life cycle or value chain, but as a result of the use of that product. Avoided emissions is a relative metric estimated by comparing the climate impacts of a given product, activity or service against the climate impacts of a reference product, activity or service. (based on [GHG Protocol](#))

Beyond Value Chain Mitigation (BVCN)

Mitigation action or investments that fall outside a company's value chain. This includes activities outside of a company's value chain that avoid or reduce greenhouse gas emissions, or that remove and store greenhouse gases from the atmosphere. (based on [SBTi Corporate Net-Zero Standard](#))

Boundaries

Limits that determine which emissions are accounted and reported by the company. GHG accounting and reporting boundaries can have several dimensions, i.e. organizational, operational, geographic, business unit, and target boundaries. (based on [GHG Protocol](#))

Carbon Credit

An emissions unit that is issued by a carbon crediting program and represents an emission reduction or removal of greenhouse gases. Carbon credits are uniquely serialized, issued, tracked, and cancelled by means of an electronic registry. (based on [IPCC](#))

Carbon Dioxide (CO₂)

A naturally occurring gas that is also a by-product of burning fossil fuels (such as oil, gas and coal), of burning biomass, of land-use changes (LUC) and of industrial processes (e.g., cement production). It is the principal anthropogenic greenhouse gas (GHG) that affects the Earth's radiative balance. It is the reference gas against which other GHGs are measured and therefore has a global warming potential (GWP) of 1. (based on [IPCC](#))

Carbon Insetting

Carbon reduction or removal projects that are either wholly contained within a Scope 3 supply chain boundary of a company, partially within their Scope 3 supply chain boundary (spanning their supply chain and other companies' supply chains) or adjacent to a supply chain boundary. (based on [SBTi Corporate Net-Zero Standard](#))

Carbon Intensity

The amount of emissions of carbon dioxide (CO₂) released per unit of another variable such as gross domestic product (GDP), output energy use or transport. (based on [IPCC](#))

Carbon Negative

A term indicating that an entity is taking or causing action beyond carbon neutrality by removing GHGs from the atmosphere or reducing emissions to the atmosphere such that the aggregated reductions and removals exceed the unabated emissions from the subject. (based on [CarbonNeutral Protocol](#))

Carbon Neutrality

Any carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions into the atmosphere associated with a supplier entity, product or activity are balanced with the same amount of renewable energy credits (RECs) and/or carbon dioxide removals from the atmosphere over a specified period. (based on [IPCC](#))

Carbon Price

The price for avoided or released carbon dioxide (CO₂) or CO₂-equivalent emissions. This may refer to the rate of a carbon tax, or the price of emission permits. In many models that are used to assess the economic costs of mitigation, carbon prices are used as a proxy to represent the level of effort in mitigation policies. (based on [IPCC](#))

Carbon Offsetting

Balancing of carbon emissions within the target boundary with an equivalent amount of carbon credits originated from activities that avoid or remove emissions somewhere else. (based on [SBTi Corporate Net-Zero Standard](#))

Climate Justice

A concept that links development and human rights to achieve a human-centered approach to addressing climate change, safeguarding the rights of the most vulnerable people and sharing the burdens and benefits of climate change and its impacts equitably and fairly. (based on [IPCC](#))

CO₂ Equivalent (CO₂e)

The universal unit of measurement to indicate the global warming potential (GWP) of each greenhouse gas, expressed in terms of the GWP of one unit of carbon dioxide. It is used to evaluate releasing (or avoiding releasing) different greenhouse gases against a common basis. (based on [GHG Protocol](#))

Decarbonization

The process by which CO₂ emissions associated with electricity, industry, and transport are reduced or eliminated. (based on [SBTi Corporate Net-Zero Standard](#))

Greenhouse Gases (GHGs)

For the purposes of the GHG Protocol standard, GHGs are the seven gases covered by the UNFCCC: carbon dioxide (CO₂); methane (CH₄); nitrous oxide (N₂O); hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs); perfluorocarbons (PFCs); sulphur hexafluoride (SF₆); and nitrogen trifluoride (NF₃). (based on [GHG Protocol](#))

Intensity Target

A target defined by reduction in the ratio of emissions to a business metric over time. (based on [GHG Protocol](#))

Nature-Based Solutions (NbS)

Ecosystem conservation, management and/or restoration interventions intentionally planned to deliver measurable positive climate adaptation and/or mitigation benefits that have human development and biodiversity co-benefits. (based on [WWF](#))

Net Negative Emissions

A situation achieved when, as result of human activities, more greenhouse gases are removed from the atmosphere than are emitted into it. Where multiple greenhouse gases are involved, the quantification of negative emissions depends on the climate metric chosen to compare emissions of different gases (such as global warming potential, global temperature change potential, and others, as well as the chosen time horizon). (based on [IPCC](#))

Neutralization

The act of removing carbon from the atmosphere and permanently storing it to counterbalance the impact of emissions that remain unabated. (based on [SBTi Corporate Net-Zero Standard](#))

Paris Agreement

A legally binding international treaty on climate change. It was adopted by 196 Parties at COP 21 in Paris on 12 December 2015 and entered into force on 4 November 2016. Its goal is to limit global warming to well below 2, preferably to 1.5, degrees Celsius, compared to pre-industrial levels. To achieve this long-term temperature goal, countries aim to reach global peaking of greenhouse gas emissions as soon as possible to achieve a climate neutral world by mid-century. (based on [UNFCCC](#))

Removals

Measures that companies take to remove carbon from the atmosphere and permanently store it within or beyond the value chain. Examples include, but are not limited to: Direct Air Capture (DAC) and storage; Bioenergy with carbon capture and storage (BECCS); Improved soil management; Improved forest management; Land restoration, e.g., of peatland, terrestrial forests or mangroves. (based on [SBTi Corporate Net-Zero Standard](#))

Renewable Energy

Energy taken from sources that are inexhaustible, e.g. wind, water, solar, geothermal energy, and biofuels. (based on [GHG Protocol](#))

Renewable Energy Credit or Certificate (REC)

A contractual instrument that represents information about the origin of the energy generated. It allows markets to track renewable energy production and permits consumers to make credible claims of renewable energy use. Typically, a credit or certificate represents each megawatt-hour (1 MWh or 1,000 kilowatt-hours) of renewable electricity generated and delivered to a power grid.

Science-Based Target (SBT)

An emissions target that is in line with what the latest climate science says is necessary to meet the goals of the Paris Agreement, i.e., to limit global warming to well-below 2°C above preindustrial levels and pursue efforts to limit warming to 1.5°C. (based on [SBTi Corporate Net-Zero Standard](#))

Scope 1

Emissions from operations that are owned or controlled by the reporting company. (based on [GHG Protocol](#))

Scope 2

Emissions from the generation of purchased or acquired electricity, steam, heating or cooling consumed by the reporting company. (based on [GHG Protocol](#))

Scope 3

All indirect emissions (not included in scope 2) that occur in the value chain of the reporting company, including both upstream and downstream emissions. (based on [GHG Protocol](#))

Value Chain Emissions

A company's scope 1, 2, and 3 emissions as defined by the GHG Protocol accounting standard. (based on [SBTi Corporate Net-Zero Standard](#))

References

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