

A GUIDE TO CLIMATE ACTION

For Industry



Scientific understanding of climate change and its likely impacts demands an urgent and substantial response from governments, organisations and individuals to cut greenhouse gas emissions and transition to Net Zero economy.

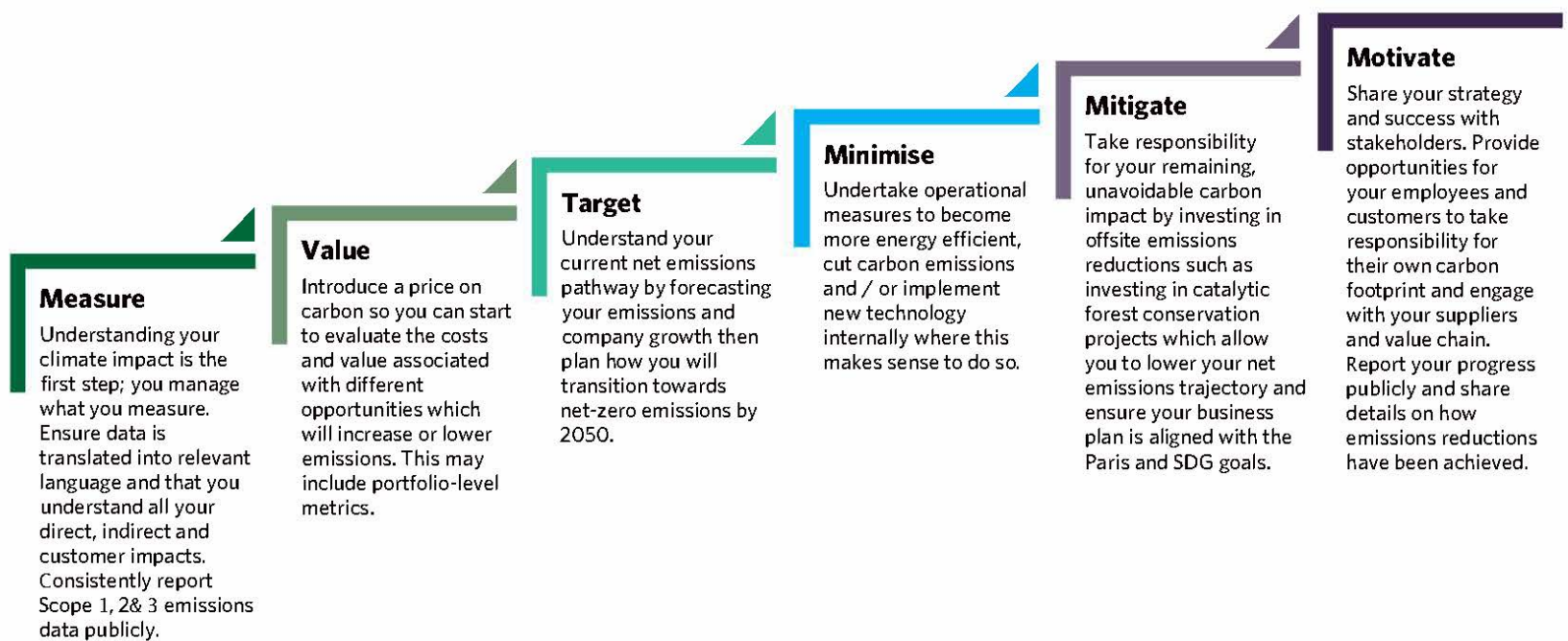
Achieving this requires a comprehensive climate action and carbon management strategy. Businesses have an opportunity to transition to sustainable business model.

And we are talking about a transition. Companies need to start to take action now to lower emissions with the target of net-zero carbon emissions by 2050, preferably much sooner. Carbon management is the implementation of a thorough and transparent organisation-wide process to measure greenhouse gas emissions, identify and implement actions to reduce internal emissions, and can include the use of carbon credits to compensate for unavoidable emissions as part of the transition strategy. 'Buying in' emissions reductions by using the carbon market can often represent a more economically attractive option and a way to reduce emissions whilst companies phase out high-emitting businesses or operations and products and introduce new ones. When companies compensate their unavoidable emissions with carbon credits from natural climate solutions they also deliver key core benefits that also have incredible storytelling potential for businesses to engage their stakeholders, employees and customers to also change their own behaviour.

A successful climate strategy

Responding to the risks and opportunities climate change poses is critical for industry today. Generally, there are six key stages that are applicable across all businesses to designing a robust and holistic climate strategy:

6 STEPS TO A ROBUST AND HOLISTIC CLIMATE STRATEGY



Source: Ecosphere+

ecosphere+

Internal emissions reductions are undoubtedly essential to any credible climate change approach. But even with the best intentions, for the vast majority of businesses, it will take too long for emissions reductions to come on-stream, or there are simply no available of cost-effective alternatives, and there will still be significant unavoidable emissions.

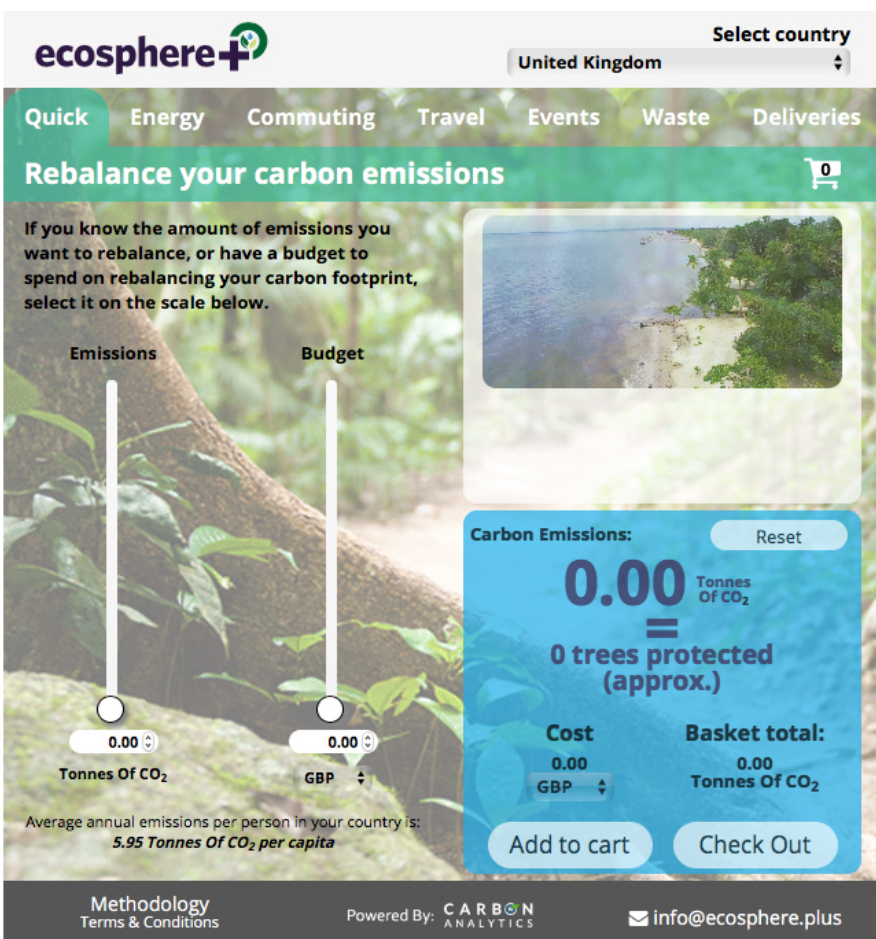
This is where the flexibility to be able to buy in emissions reductions becomes valuable as part of a rigorous carbon management strategy, to compensate for unavoidable emissions. Remember the atmosphere doesn't care where the emissions are reduced, just that the overall global total is coming down. The emissions reductions you buy finance projects that avoid emissions offsite, such as our projects that avoid deforestation or restore wetlands.

Carbon Footprinting

There are tangible business benefits of both reporting your companies carbon footprint (often referred to as disclosure) and taking concrete action to manage it, especially when it comes to long-term sustainability and profitability. It is best practice for companies to consider all their relevant emissions when calculating their carbon footprint. In GHG reporting terms this means measuring and disclosing Scopes 1, 2 and 3 (as defined by the WRI/WBCSD GHG Protocol www.ghgprotocol.org). If a company is measuring a product or service, they should use Life Cycle Analysis.

- Scope 1 refers to an organisations direct emissions such as fuel combustion and company vehicles
- Scope 2 refers to an organisations indirect emissions such as purchased electricity, heat and steam
- Scope 3 refers to other indirect emissions such as the use of sold products, waste disposal and business travel like flights. This could also include supply chain emissions including deforestation.

If a company does not disclose all scope 1, 2 and 3 emissions it is best practice to be clear what is and what is not included in a companies report and to be clear about any uncertainties associated with their carbon footprint.



Do you want to understand the carbon footprint of your business? We do not currently provide carbon footprinting services but we partner with carbon measurement specialists Carbon Analytics (a fellow B-Corp) to develop a free and easy to use carbon calculator to allow businesses to understand the impact of different business activities and then take action to compensate for the climate impacts e.g. the impact of corporate travel and events, for example.

We also have a free carbon calculator for individuals to use.

For larger companies or those wanting a more in depth analysis Carbon Analytics' have their own dedicated platform that gives companies a detailed analysis of their carbon footprint, including information about their value chain through suppliers, tracking improvements over time and compensating for your unavoidable emissions.

* Carbon Analytics default RFI for calculating air travel emissions is what the UK Government BEIS recommends, 1.9 multiplier on CO2 fraction.

Start taking action

There are four simple steps you can take to start reducing carbon threats and managing future risk, right away. Get in touch to see if we can help you!

Step 1
Calculate your carbon footprint and start looking at emissions across your value chain.

Step 2
Reduce your emissions. Are there cost-effective activities that you could invest in – such as bringing in new energy efficiency measures across your business? Could you switch to renewable energy supply? Can you set a target?

Step 3
Take action to start reversing your carbon footprint today, Ecosphere+ can help you to use carbon credits to protect threatened forests and the communities that depend on them.

Step 4
Report your progress. Tell your customers, employees, investors, partners about your actions.

Why? Real-life reasons industry is taking climate action

There are many brand and business reasons why industry is taking climate action, working towards climate neutrality and purchasing carbon offsets.

- + **Climate leadership:** Some companies see an opportunity for making a statement on facilitating a climate safe future and mitigating the climate impact of their operations
- + **Responsible business:** Taking accountability for one's climate impact aligns with and gives credibility to goals of being a responsible business
- + **Stakeholder engagement:** Forest carbon assets, particularly, pose an opportunity for engagement beyond just carbon with customers especially on how businesses are helping to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals
- + **Talent attraction:** People care deeply about the values of the company they work for so this helps in attracting, engaging and keeping talented employees
- + **Addressing risks in the supply chain:** Understanding deforestation in the supply chain and working to eliminate this can be paired with investing in saving threatened forests for a true net zero, or even net positive, impact
- + **To achieve climate targets:** Carbon offsets can help companies achieve their climate targets, such as becoming carbon neutral or science based targets, and provides experience for upcoming regulatory obligations
- + **Market differentiation:** Some companies recognise the amazing storytelling value of supporting forest carbon projects and see this as a marketing opportunity
- + **Investor pressure:** There is increasing pressure for companies to disclose climate risk and strategies to manage this from investors and other stakeholders. [Read more here](#)
- + **Pre-compliance:** Many industries are preparing for emissions regulation and purchase offsets to understand the market and gain access to a cheaper product by acting early
- + **Regulation:** Various regulatory emissions trading systems around the world put a price on carbon and require businesses to purchase credits to cover emissions.

How Ecosphere+ can help

We work with companies to mitigate their climate impacts, risks and opportunities. Placing a price on forests and critical ecosystems, so that they are worth more alive than dead, accounts for their true value to society, health, sustainable development, biodiversity and, of course, climate change.

We supply high quality carbon credits verified through both the Voluntary Carbon Standard (VCS) and the Climate, Community and Biodiversity Standard (CCB), to the gold level. This ensures that all our credits are excellent quality. We can either transfer the carbon credits to a companies registry account or permanently retire them on their behalf. We will always provide companies with a link to the registry when the carbon credit has been retired and recommend companies include these links in their own public reports along with the details of which emissions are being offset and the projects the company is supporting.

Ecosphere+ supplies a range of materials and advice to support companies with their reporting and communications.

We are developing new and innovative ways to finance forest carbon. We can help your business achieve carbon neutral status, launch a new 'zero-carbon' or 'deforestation-free' product, develop a circular economy approach, reach your broader environmental and social goals, or engage your customers and staff. We do this through offering straight-forward purchase agreements or access to more structured products such as a forest bond. Contact us today to find out how we can help you.



Contact Us

info@ecosphere.plus