



ALPS Sustainability Questionnaire Guide for Vendors

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Introduction – 1/2

What This Document Is For

This guide helps vendors understand and respond to environmental sustainability questions in sourcing events. Whether you're new to sustainability reporting or need clarification on specific requirements, this resource provides practical guidance to complete your submissions accurately.

Document Structure

This guidance is organised into two main sections:

1. General Guidelines – Covers key sustainability concepts, terminology and standards
2. Question Guidelines – Covers guidance, requirements and acceptable responses for each question

Why This Matters

Singapore is committed to achieve [net zero emissions by 2050](#). With healthcare contributing to an estimated [7% of Singapore's carbon emissions](#), it is important to work with our vendors to reduce overall emissions across the supply chain and support national sustainability goals.

These questions will help us to understand your current environmental practices, identify opportunities for collaboration and improvement and make informed procurement decisions.

Introduction – 2/2

Types of Questions You Will Encounter

- Basic Questions: Covers environmental policies and certifications, carbon emissions and renewable energy.
- Category-Specific Questions: Covers specific aspects relevant to the sourcing event such as ecolabels, waste management and sustainable logistics.

How to Approach Your Responses

Vendors at all stages of sustainability maturity are encouraged to respond. Provide accurate information about your current practices and planned improvements.

✓ Do:	✗ Don't:
Provide accurate data based on available records	Guess or provide inaccurate information
Explain your responses in detail based on guidelines	Answer “Yes” but without any explanation
Include relevant certifications and documentation	Overstate your capabilities
Ask for clarifications if questions are unclear	Submit incomplete responses

Getting Help

You may reach out to your procurement contact or [email our sustainability team](#) for more information. If you are a local SME interested in sustainability support, you may contact us about available opportunities.

Navigate to [Part 1 for General Guidelines](#) or [Part 2 for Question Guidelines](#)

Part 1: General Guidelines

ALPS Vendor Guide to Sustainability & GHG Emissions

Key Concepts

1. **GHG emissions / CO₂e:** Greenhouse gases (GHGs) trap heat in the earth's atmosphere. CO₂e (carbon dioxide equivalent) is a standard unit for measuring emissions from different gases and converting them to the equivalent impact of CO₂.
2. **Scope 1 / 2 / 3:** Scope 1 are direct emissions your company produces (e.g., fuels, company vehicles). Scope 2 are indirect emissions from purchased electricity, heat, or steam. Scope 3 are other indirect emissions across the value chain (e.g., purchased goods, business travel, freight).
3. **Carbon intensity & absolute emissions:** Absolute emissions refer to total CO₂e emitted, while carbon intensity are emissions per unit of output (e.g., tCO₂e per product or per revenue).
4. **Renewable Energy & Renewable Energy Certificate (REC):** Renewable energy are electricity from sources like solar, wind, hydro. RECs represent the attributes of 1 MWh of renewable energy generation and can be used to validate renewable claims.
5. **Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) / Product Carbon Footprint (PCF) / Environmental Product Declaration (EPD):** LCA measures total environmental impact across a product's life stages; PCF is focused on GHG emissions. An EPD is a standardised report based on LCA results.
6. **Certifications and third-party assurance:** Independent verification (e.g., ISO 14001, EcoVadis, FSC) or assurance statements confirming processes or reported data.

Sustainability Standards and Frameworks

1. GHG Protocol – For GHG emissions and standards
2. ISO Standards – For sustainability related systems
3. GRI Standards – For sustainability reporting

Additional Resources

1. CDP Standards – For sustainability disclosures
2. SBTi Standards – For emissions target setting and validation

GHG Emissions & Standards – 1/2

ISO 14064 and Greenhouse Gas Protocol are international standards for quantifying and reporting greenhouse gas emissions.

Key aspects of GHG guidelines

➤ Scope 1, 2, and 3 emissions:

- Scope 1 (Direct): includes direct emissions from sources owned or controlled by an entity (e.g., burning fuel in a company-owned vehicle);
- Scope 2 (Indirect – Energy): includes indirect emissions from the generation of purchased electricity, steam, heating, and cooling;
- Scope 3 (Other indirect): includes all other indirect emissions that occur in a company's value chain, often the largest share (e.g., emissions from the production of purchased materials or from employee travel).

➤ Emission Factors:

GHG guidelines often include emission factors, which are used to convert activity data (e.g., fuel consumption, electricity usage) into GHG emissions.

➤ Carbon Pricing:

Certain guidelines incorporate carbon pricing mechanisms (e.g. Carbon taxes), where organizations are required to pay for their greenhouse gas emissions.

➤ Seven Standards of the GHG Protocol:

The standard covers the accounting and reporting of seven greenhouse gases covered by the Kyoto Protocol – carbon dioxide (CO₂), methane (CH₄), nitrous oxide (N₂O), hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), perfluorocarbons (PFCs), sulphur hexafluoride (SF₆) and nitrogen trifluoride (NF₃).

GHG Emissions & Standards – 2/2

For many companies, Scope 3 emissions from your supply chain (purchased goods and services) may represent a significant portion of your carbon footprint.

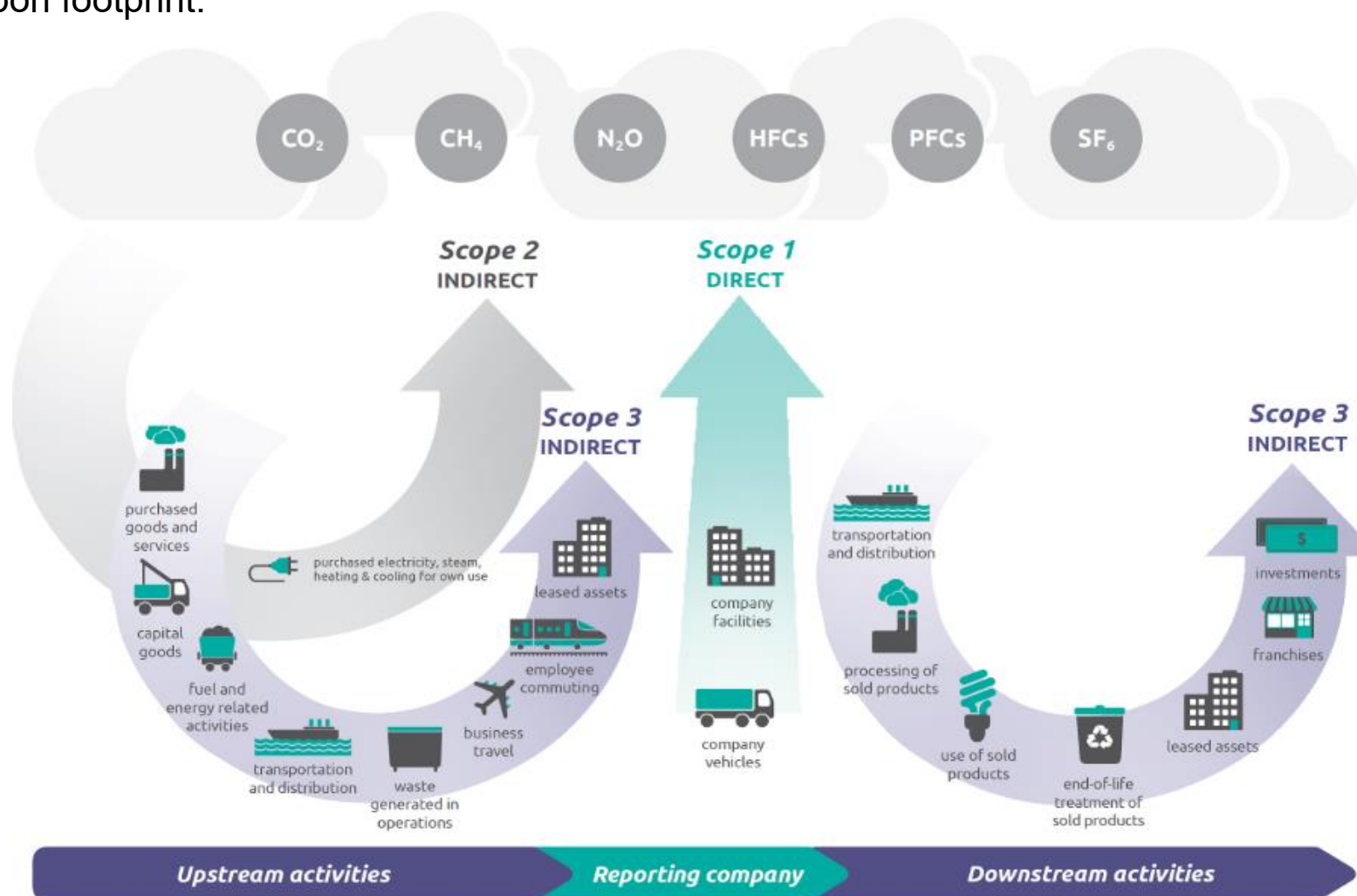


Image from:
[Greenhouse Gas Protocol](#)

ISO Standards

ISO standards are globally recognized best practices. Vendors don't need to master every detail but familiarity with standards such as ISO 14001 and 50001 will help you align with your customers' sustainability expectations. These standards are about building systems to measure, manage, and reduce environmental impacts in a credible way.

Key relevant ISO Standards

➤ Core Environmental & Energy Standards for Suppliers:

- ISO 14001 Environmental Management Systems: Most common standard, demonstrates that the company has structured processes to reduce environmental impact such as waste, emissions and resource use.
- ISO 50001 Energy Management Systems: Demonstrates ongoing energy efficiency improvements, relevant for companies with manufacturing, logistics, or large facilities.
- ISO 14064 Greenhouse Gas Inventories: Helps companies measure and report Scope 1 and 2 emissions (and optionally Scope 3).

➤ Sustainable Procurement Alignment:

- ISO 20400 Sustainable Procurement: Not certifiable, provides a framework for integrating sustainability criteria into tenders, contracts, and supplier evaluations.

➤ Product & Service-Level Impact:

- ISO 14067 Carbon Footprint of Products: Useful for evaluating lifecycle emissions of products such as medical devices, consumables, or pharmaceuticals.
- ISO 14040/14044 Life Cycle Assessment (LCA): Not certifiable, but companies using LCA can demonstrate cradle-to-grave environmental data on products, including packaging, sterilization and disposal.

➤ Optional/Sector-Specific Relevance:

- ISO 14046 Water Footprint: Relevant for companies with high water usage (e.g. textile laundering)
- ISO 26000 Social Responsibility: Not certifiable, offers a framework for companies to understand and address social responsibility such as human rights and labour practices.

GRI Standards (Global Reporting Initiative)

GRI Standards provide a structured and comprehensive framework for organisations to transparently report their sustainability performance and impacts, promoting accountability and enabling stakeholders to assess their performance. It is often used alongside frameworks like UN SDGs*, TCFD#, and ISO standards to provide a holistic view of an organisation's efforts.

Key features of GRI Standards

➤ Materiality Focus:

Organizations are guided to identify and report on their most significant economic, environmental, and social impacts.

➤ Stakeholder Inclusiveness & Engagement:

The standards emphasize the importance of considering the needs and expectations of stakeholders in the reporting process.

➤ Transparency and Accountability:

Organizations are required to report their sustainability performance in a transparent and accountable manner, thus enhance their credibility and building trust with stakeholders.

Why GRI Matters to Vendors

- Helps you understand what customers will ask for (data, policies, evidence).
- Makes it easier to showcase your sustainability progress in a structured way.
- Builds trust and transparency with your clients, regulators, and end users.

*UN SDG: The United Nations Sustainable Development Goals are a global framework of 17 interconnected goals aimed at ending poverty, protecting the planet, and ensuring prosperity for all by 2030.

#TCFD: The Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures is an international framework developed in 2015 to help companies disclose climate-related financial risks and opportunities in a consistent, transparent way.

CDP Standards (Carbon Disclosure Project)

CDP is a global disclosure system for environmental disclosures, helping stakeholders compare how well companies measure, manage, and report their climate and environmental impacts.

It plays a vital role in driving corporate environmental action and creating a more sustainable future by promoting transparency, accountability and data-driven decision making. It aligns with other key frameworks like TCFD and GRI, making it easier for companies to report on their sustainability performance.

Key aspects of CDP reporting

➤ Questionnaires:

Companies disclose information through questionnaires that cover various environmental topics.

➤ Scoring System:

CDP scores companies based on their responses, providing a benchmark for their environmental performance.

➤ Risk Management:

Helps companies identify and manage environmental risks and opportunities.

SBTi Standards (Science Based Targets initiative)

SBTi is a corporate climate action organisation that enables companies and financial institutions worldwide to contribute to combating the climate crisis. SBTi provides standards and tools for setting emissions reduction targets aligned with climate science and reach net-zero by 2050 at the latest.

Key Components of the SBTi Net-Zero Standard

➤ Near-Term and Long-Term Targets:

Rapid, deep cuts in emissions are prioritized as the most effective way to limit global warming. Companies must cut all possible emissions before 2050.

➤ Neutralizing residual emissions:

After achieving long-term targets, companies must address remaining emissions through carbon removal and storage.

➤ Beyond Value Chain Mitigation (BVCM):

Companies are encouraged to invest in emission reductions outside their value chain to support broader climate action.

Why SBTi Matters to Vendors

- Customers that adopt an SBTi-aligned target will need their suppliers to measure, report, and reduce their emissions, since Scope 3 emissions (purchased goods and services) typically represent the biggest category.
- Even if you do not commit to SBTi now, understanding your emissions and starting reductions will prepare you for future customer requests.

Summary: Global Sustainability Standards & Initiatives

What it is	Purpose	Why it matters to customers	What vendors should do
1. GHG (Greenhouse gases) Protocol	Global standard for measuring GHG emissions	Forms the backbone of carbon accounting, especially scope 3	Start collecting relevant data (emissions, targets, risks). Respond to disclosure requests if received.
2. ISO (14001, 14064, 14067, 50001)	International standards for environmental & energy management	Shows credibility & structured approach to sustainability	Start adopting ISO processes (even if not certified). Track energy, waste, emissions.
3. GRI (Global Reporting Initiative)	Global framework for sustainability reporting	Helps companies disclose their ESG impacts clearly	Be ready to share data (energy, waste, packaging). Provide examples of practices & policies.
4. CDP (Carbon Disclosure Project)	Global disclosure platform (questionnaires & scoring)	Supports transparency and benchmarking of environmental performance against peers. Provides credibility when engaging suppliers and stakeholders.	Respond to CDP questionnaires if received. Prepare to share data on emissions, targets, risks, and align disclosure with recognized standards.
5. SBTi (Science Based Target Initiative)	Initiative to validate climate targets in line with science-based pathways	Requires suppliers to support data accuracy and emissions reduction initiatives to achieve validated targets.	Understand SBTi requirements, share emission data transparently, and collaborate on reduction measures to align with validated climate goals

Quick Reference: Sustainability Terms & Acronyms

- BVCM – Beyond Value Chain Mitigation: Investments in emission reductions outside a company's direct value chain
- CDP – Carbon Disclosure Project: Global platform for environmental disclosure and scoring
- CO2e – Carbon Dioxide Equivalent: Standard unit converting all greenhouse gases to equivalent CO2 impact
- EPD – Environmental Product Declaration: Standardised report of product environmental impact based on LCA
- ESG – Environmental, Social, Governance: Framework for evaluating corporate sustainability performance
- FSC – Forest Stewardship Council: Certification for responsibly sourced wood and paper products
- GHG – Greenhouse Gas: Gases that trap heat in the atmosphere (CO2, methane, etc.)
- GRI – Global Reporting Initiative: International framework for sustainability reporting
- ISO – International Organization for Standardization: Body that develops international standards
- LCA – Life Cycle Assessment: Analysis of environmental impact across a product's entire lifecycle
- PCF – Product Carbon Footprint: Total GHG emissions from a specific product
- PPA – Power Purchase Agreement: Contract to purchase renewable electricity
- REC – Renewable Energy Certificate: Proof of 1 MWh renewable energy generation
- SBTi – Science Based Targets initiative: Organization validating corporate climate targets
- Scope 1/2/3 – Categories of emissions: Direct (1), Purchased energy (2), Value chain (3)
- TCFD – Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures: Framework for climate risk reporting
- SDGs – Sustainable Development Goals: Framework of 17 goals developed by the United Nations to end poverty and protect the planet

For full definitions, see Part 1: General Guidelines (Pages 4-12)

Reference Links

Standards

- GHG Protocol: <https://ghgprotocol.org/>
- ISO Standards: [iso.org/standards.html](https://www.iso.org/standards.html)
- GRI Standards: <https://www.globalreporting.org/standards/>
- CDP: <https://www.cdp.net/en>
- SBTi: <https://sciencebasedtargets.org/>

Local Resources

- SG Green Plan: <https://www.greenplan.gov.sg/>
- SME Sustainability Hub: <https://www.smesustainability.gov.sg/>
- NetZeroHub: <https://netzerohub.sg/>

Part 2: Question Guidelines

Guidelines to Vendors – How to use this section

(Example Q): Does your company have sustainability policies?

1. Question will be stated here

? What are “sustainability policies”?

Policies – Formal documents such as an Environmental Policy, Sustainability Policy, or ESG Strategy

2. Definitions will be stated here

? What counts as a valid answer?

Companies can answer “Yes” if they have the following:

- Reducing greenhouse gas emissions
- Waste management and recycling
- Energy efficiency improvements
- Renewable energy

3. Valid responses will be stated here

? How should I structure my answer?

1. Select Answer Yes/No:

- If yes, include title or description
- State the start date, briefly state the scope

2. Example Template:

- Yes, we have sustainability policies.
- Policy name: Environmental Policy 2025

4. Example of answer will be stated here

Guidelines to Vendors – Policy & Practices

Q: Does your company have policies, practices, initiatives related to environmental sustainability?



What are “Policies, Practices, or Initiatives”?

Policies – Formal documents such as an Environmental Policy, Sustainability Policy, or ESG Strategy

Practices – Ongoing operational methods like energy audits, using recycled materials, reducing packaging

Initiatives – Specific programs or projects like carbon offset programs, green certifications (ISO 14001), employee environmental campaigns



What counts as a valid answer?

Companies can answer “Yes” if they have efforts aimed at reducing negative environmental impact, such as:

- Reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions (scope 1, 2, or 3)
- Waste management and recycling programs
- Energy efficiency improvements
- Use of renewable energy
- Sustainable sourcing or procurement
- Water conservation
- Pollution control (air, water, land)
- Biodiversity preservation



How should I structure my answer?

1. Select Answer Yes/No:

- If yes, include title or description
- State the implementation date and scope (e.g. applies to all sites, only HQ, only operations)

2. Example Template:

- Yes, we have environmental sustainability practices.
- Policy name: Environmental Policy 2025
- Scope: Applies to all Singapore operations
- Focus: Waste segregation, energy efficiency, supplier screening
- Key initiative: Reduced packaging waste by 30% in 2027
- Certifications: Working toward ISO 14001

Guidelines to Vendors – Net Zero

Q: Does your company have net zero commitments and/or carbon reduction plans?

? What are “Net Zero Commitments” and “Carbon Reduction Plans”?

Net Zero Commitment – A formal pledge to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions to net zero by a specific year (e.g. 2050), often aligned with global climate goals.

Carbon Reduction Plan – A documented plan or roadmap outlining how your company will measure, reduce, and manage carbon emissions over time. It may include:

- Baseline emissions data (e.g. Scope 1, 2, 3)
- Emission reduction targets
- Specific strategies or actions (e.g. switch to renewable energy, energy efficiency, supplier engagement)
- Milestones or timelines
- Monitoring or reporting mechanisms

? What counts as a valid answer?

Companies can answer “Yes” if they have:

- A public or internal net zero pledge
- A carbon reduction strategy, even if not branded as “net zero”
- Ongoing efforts tied to reducing GHGs, e.g. part of ESG goals, Science-Based Targets (SBTi), CDP disclosures

? How should I structure my answer?

1. Select Answer Yes/No:

- If yes, include type of commitment (Net Zero, SBTi, Internal)
- State the target year and scope
- Brief describe current initiatives or examples, links to reports or documents (if available).

2. Example Template:

- Yes, our company has made a Net Zero Commitment.
- Target: Net Zero by 2050
- Interim Goal: 50% reduction in scope 1 & 2 emissions by 2030
- Initiatives include installing solar panels, switching to EVs, supplier engagement.
- Framework: Aligned with SBTi
- References: If any

Guidelines to Vendors – Certifications & Standards

Q: Does your company have relevant certifications, standards or sustainability ratings? (e.g. ISO 14000, 20400, EcoVadis)

? What are “relevant certifications, standards, sustainability ratings”?

Relevant certification and standards include:

- Environmental management systems (ISO 14001, EMAS)
- Sustainable procurement standards (ISO 20400)
- Energy management systems (ISO 50001)
- Carbon management standards (ISO 14064, 14068, PAS 2060)
- Other recognised local sustainability standards (GMAAP, GGBS)

Relevant sustainability ratings include:

- EcoVadis scorecards and medals
- CDP climate, water, or forest scores
- B Corporation certification
- MSCI ESG ratings
- Other recognised third-party sustainability assessments

? What counts as a valid answer?

Companies can answer “Yes” if they have:

- Recognised certifications or documentation of standards
- Proof of relevant sustainability ratings.

Does not include:

- Internal policies or commitments without third-party verification
- Industry memberships without certification requirements
- Expired or lapsed certifications
- Product-specific certifications and ecolabels (addressed separately)

? How should I structure my answer?

1. Select Answer Yes/No:

- If yes, attach supporting documentation.
- Select the type of certification, standard or rating, and provide a brief description.

2. Example Template:

- Yes. ISO 14001, EcoVadis. Attached ISO 14001 certificate and EcoVadis scorecard.
- Our company holds ISO14001:2015 for all facilities renewed in 2023, and EcoVadis silver rating in 2024 with a score of 67/100

Guidelines to Vendors – Emissions Tracking

Q: Does your company measure your carbon emissions in accordance with GHG reporting standards?

? What are “GHG reporting Standards”?

Measuring in accordance with GHG reporting standards includes:

- Systematic measurement and calculation methodology
- Coverage of direct emissions (Scope 1), energy indirect emissions (Scope 2), all other indirect emissions (Scope 3)
- Either GHG Protocol or ISO 14064-1

Optional but preferred:

- Coverage of other indirect emissions (Scope 3)
- Third-party verification of emissions data
- Uncertainty assessment and data quality management

? What counts as a valid answer?

Companies can answer “Yes” if they have:

- Measurement of any combination of scope 1, 2 and/or 3 emissions, as well as total emissions intensity per revenue.
- Clear documentation of methodology, data sources, assumptions

Does not include:

- Ad-hoc or informal emissions estimates
- Energy consumption tracking without emissions conversion with recognised standards
- Carbon footprint calculators without documentation/source, or disclosures without measurement methods.

? How should I structure my answer?

1. Select Answer Yes/No:

- If yes, attach supporting documentation.
- Briefly state how your company measures carbon emissions, and if applicable, third-party verification or additional disclosures

2. Example Template:

- Yes. Scope 1 is 1,000 tCO₂e, Scope 2 is 30,000 tCO₂e. Emission Intensity is 10 tCO₂e per \$M revenue. Attached emissions report and third-party verification statement.
- We measure our scope 1 and 2 emissions following GHG Protocol standards with third-party verification. We also track key scope 3 emissions categories.

Guidelines to Vendors – Emissions Targets

Q: Does your company have specific emissions reductions targets by 2030 (vs baseline year)?

? What are “emissions reductions targets” and “baseline year”?

Emissions reductions targets include:

- Formal, time-bound goal to reduce GHG emissions by a specific percentage by a baseline year (e.g. 2020)
- Covers Scope 1, Scope 2 or Scope 3 emissions targets
- Absolute reduction targets (e.g., reduce total emissions by 10%)

Baseline year:

- Reference year against which emission reductions are measured

? What counts as a valid answer?

Companies can answer “Yes” if they have:

- A public or internal GHG reduction target (short/medium/long-term)
- A 2030 target that specifies % reduction vs. baseline year with scope coverage clearly defined (e.g. “Scope 1 & 2”)
- Alignment with standards (e.g. SBTi, national goals with interim 2030 target)
- Documented progress-tracking or disclosure (e.g. annual sustainability report, CDP submission)

Does not include:

- Generic sustainability commitments without specific measurable targets
- Targets beyond 2030 without interim 2030 goals
- Energy efficiency targets without emissions reductions

? How should I structure my answer?

1. Select Answer Yes/No:
 - If “Yes”, fill in the targets for the respective scopes.
 - Attach supporting documentation and briefly describe the type and scope of targets, together with timeframe and current strategies.
2. Example Template:
 - Yes.
 - Scope 1: 30%, Scope 2: 20% (Baseline: 2020)
 - Our company has set a 30% absolute reduction in Scope 1, and 20% in scope 2 emissions versus our 2020 baseline. Our strategies include renewable energy transition and energy efficiency retrofits.

Guidelines to Vendors – Renewable Energy

Q: Does your company use renewable energy sources for any portion of its operations?

? What are “renewable energy sources” and “operations”?

Renewable energy includes:

- Solar, wind, biomass energy, etc.
- Includes on-site generation (e.g. solar panels) and purchased renewable energy (e.g. Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs), Power Purchase Agreements (PPAs))

Company operations includes energy consumption globally such as:

- Manufacturing facilities and production sites
- Office buildings and administrative facilities
- Warehouses and distribution centres
- Logistics and transportation where renewable energy is contracted or specified

? What counts as a valid answer?

Companies can answer “yes” if they have:

- Direct measurement (e.g. kWh consumed from renewable energy)
- Procurement contracts (e.g. renewable electricity through RECs, green power purchase agreements, or national renewable programs)
- On-site renewable generation (e.g. rooftop solar)

Renewable energy does not include:

- Natural gas (or “cleaner” natural gas)
- Carbon offsets not tied to renewable energy
- Energy efficiency measures alone

? How should I structure my answer?

1. Select Answer Yes/No:

- If yes, attach supporting documentation.
- Briefly state the renewable energy source, scope of operations, and if applicable, % of total energy.

2. Example Template:

- Yes. Attached RECs and our 2024 energy report.
- We source 30% of our total energy consumption from renewable sources, including solar panels on-site at our HQ and RECs for office locations. We have committed to increasing this to 50% by 2030.

Guidelines to Vendors – Carbon Footprint

Q: Is your company able to provide CO₂e at the product level for the goods and services sold?

? What is ability to “provide CO₂e at the product level”?

It refers to the ability to quantify and report greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, expressed as CO₂ equivalent (CO₂e), generated during the production of goods or delivery of services.

This typically includes:

- Raw material extraction and processing
- Manufacturing or assembly processes
- Packaging and on-site energy use
- Waste generated during production
- (Optionally) upstream transport of materials

Data can be based on:

- Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) or Product Carbon Footprint (PCF)
- GHG Protocol Product Standard or ISO 14067 methodologies
- Verified or estimated CO₂e per unit/product/service

? What counts as a valid answer?

Companies can answer “yes” if they have quantified CO₂e data for products or services:

- CO₂e available per product/service, supported by LCA or verified calculations
- Data available for selected products or estimated using emission factors or spend-based methods

Supporting evidence examples:

- LCA or Product Carbon Footprint report
- ISO 14064 / ISO 14067 certification
- Sustainability or GHG inventory report
- Calculation methodology or database reference

? How should I structure my answer?

1. Select Answer: Yes/No

- Supporting details: Describe the current capability or limitation e.g. methodology used, product coverage, or planned improvements.
- Evidence / attachments: Attach relevant reports, data tables, or third-party verification if available.

2. Example templates:

- Yes. CO₂e per product is calculated based on cradle-to-gate LCA in accordance with ISO 14067. Data covers material sourcing, energy use, and packaging.
- Yes. CO₂e data is available for key product lines using GHG Protocol emission factors. Expansion to all products targeted by 2026.
- No. We are exploring carbon footprint accounting with external consultants.

Guidelines to Vendors – Ecolabels

Q: Are your products sold certified by accreditation bodies e.g. Energy Star, FSC, Green Seal?



What counts as certification by accreditation bodies?

Certification or labelling granted by a recognized third-party organisation confirming that a product meets specific environmental, energy, or sustainability standards.

Examples include:

- Energy Star – Energy-efficient electrical or electronic products
- FSC / PEFC – Sustainable forestry and paper-based materials
- Green Seal / EcoLabel / UL ECOLOGO – Verified low environmental impact
- Fairtrade / Rainforest Alliance / Cradle-to-Cradle / Blue Angel – Social or environmental assurance labels
- ISO 14001 / 50001 / 14024 – Energy or environmental management certifications

Applies to product, material, or packaging level certifications.



What counts as a valid answer?

Companies can answer “Yes” if products are certified or endorsed by any recognized environmental or sustainability certification body:

- Products certified by accredited schemes
- Only certain product lines or materials are certified
- Both local and international certifications are accepted.

Examples of supporting evidence:

- Copies of valid certificates or licenses
- Product datasheets showing certification marks
- Official links to certification registry or organisation websites
- Sustainability report or supplier declarations



How should I structure my answer?

1. Select Answer: Yes/No

- Supporting details: Name the certification(s), coverage, and accredited body (e.g. “FSC-certified packaging,” “Energy Star-rated devices”).
- Evidence / attachments: Include certification documents, labels, or public links for verification.

2. Example Templates:

- Yes. Our medical-grade paper and packaging are FSC-certified, and our equipment meets Energy Star efficiency standards. Certificates attached.
- No. Our team is assessing eligibility for Green Seal and ISO14024 eco-labelling.

Guidelines to Vendors – Energy Efficiency

Q: Does your equipment/system have automatic standby/low-power modes, or other energy-saving solutions?

? What are automatic standby / low-power / energy-saving solutions ?

Any built-in design feature, system function, or operational measure that reduces electricity consumption when the equipment or system is idle, partially used, or in standby mode.

Examples include:

- Automatic sleep / standby / low-power modes after inactivity
- Auto shut-off or power-down timers
- Energy-efficient components (e.g. LED displays, inverter motors, high-efficiency compressors)
- Smart energy management systems that regulate load or usage
- Sensors (motion, occupancy, temperature-based) that optimize power usage
- Software optimization that lowers power draw during idle or off-peak periods

Applies to medical devices, lab equipment, IT systems, or building systems.

? What counts as a valid answer?

Companies can answer “Yes” if their energy-saving features or modes to reduce power consumption:

- Energy-saving or standby features are integrated
- Certain models or systems include such features

Examples of supporting evidence:

- Technical datasheets or user manuals describing standby or eco modes
- Product brochures showing power efficiency specs
- Test reports or certifications (e.g. Energy Star compliance)
- Energy performance benchmarking or internal policy documentation

? How should I structure my answer?

1. Select Answer: Yes/No:

- Supporting details: Describe the energy-saving function(s) e.g. automatic standby after inactivity, power optimization, or efficiency improvements.
- Evidence / attachments: Provide datasheets, screenshots, manuals, or certification supporting the claim.

2. Example Templates:

- Yes. Our laboratory devices include automatic standby mode after 10 minutes of inactivity and auto shut-off after 30 minutes. Energy Star certificate attached.
- Yes. Only selected product lines have built-in low-power and eco modes; newer models will include automatic standby. Product sheet attached.
- No. R&D roadmap includes smart power management features in next-gen systems.

Guidelines to Vendors – Waste Reduction

Q: Does your product and/or packaging have reuse, recycling, or end-of-life takeback programs for refurbishment?

? What counts as reuse, recycling, or end-of-life take-back?

Any initiative or program that extends the useful life of the product/packaging, recovers materials, or ensures responsible disposal.

Examples include:

- Reuse: Refillable containers, reusable transport crates, or device components
- Recycling: Collection of used packaging or materials for recycling
- Refurbishment: Reconditioning or repairing medical devices for continued use
- Take-back: Vendor or distributor programs that collect used products or packaging for recycling, safe disposal, or recovery

? What counts as a valid answer?

Companies can answer “Yes” if their product and/or packaging has any of the above programs in place:

- Program(s) implemented - Include brief description
- Pilot or limited initiative - Explain scope

Examples of supporting evidence:

- Sustainability report or circularity statement
- ISO 14001 or environmental certification
- Partnership or SOP for collection/recycling
- Photos, brochures, or links to take-back programs

? How should I structure my answer?

1. Select Answer: Yes/No:

- Supporting details: Brief description of how the product or packaging is reused, recycled, refurbished, or collected.
- Evidence / attachments: Attach or reference any supporting document, certification, or photo.

2. Example Template:

- Yes. Reusable transport crates are collected after delivery and used IV solution bags are recycled via our vendor’s take-back program.
- ISO 14001 certificate attached.

Guidelines to Vendors – Green Logistics

Q: Does your company currently have measures to reduce transportation emissions e.g. freight of materials/goods, EVs?

? What are “measures to reduce transportation emissions”?

Any initiative that reduces fuel consumption, carbon emissions, or logistics impact from transporting goods, materials, or staff.

Examples include:

- Using electric or hybrid vehicles (EVs) for delivery or fleet
- Route optimization / load consolidation to reduce empty trips
- Partnering with low-emission logistics providers
- Switching transport modes (e.g. sea freight instead of air)
- Using local suppliers to shorten delivery distance
- Implementing driver efficiency training or telematics
- Carbon offset for logistics emissions

? What counts as a valid answer?

Companies can answer “Yes” if they have active measures or plans to reduce transportation-related carbon emissions:

- Measures implemented - Describe and provide evidence
- Piloting or limited scope - Explain coverage

Examples of supporting evidence:

- Green logistics policy or roadmap
- Fleet electrification plan
- Vendor sustainability partnership (e.g. DHL GoGreen, SingPost GreenFleet)
- ISO 14001 / ISO 50001 certification
- Data on fuel reduction or CO₂ savings

? How should I structure my answer?

1. Select Answer: Yes/No:

- Supporting details: Describe what measures are in place (EV fleet, route optimization, low-emission partners, etc.)
- Evidence / attachments: Provide document, report, photo, or link as proof.

2. Example Template:

- Yes. Annual emissions data and ISO 14001 certificate attached.
- Deliveries to hospitals are done using hybrid vans. We work with a logistics partner certified under the DHL GoGreen program..

Guidelines to Vendors – Other Initiatives

Q: Are there any other examples of sustainability strategies or initiatives relevant to your product or service?

? What are “sustainability strategies or initiatives”?

- Sustainability strategies – Planned actions and approaches implemented to promote environmental, social, and economic well-being.
- These strategies aim to minimize negative impacts on the planet and society while ensuring long-term viability and responsible use of resources.
- They often focus on reducing waste, conserving energy, supporting ethical practices, and fostering innovation for a sustainable future.

? What counts as a valid answer?

Companies can answer “Yes” if they have such strategies, for example:

- Eco-friendly Materials: Using renewable, recycled, or biodegradable materials in product manufacturing to reduce environmental impact.
- Fair Trade and Ethical Sourcing: Ensuring raw materials are sourced responsibly, supporting fair wages and safe working conditions.
- Product Longevity and Repairability: Creating durable products that are easy to repair, reducing the need for frequent replacements.
- Consumer Education: Providing information and incentives to encourage sustainable use and disposal of products.

? How should I structure my answer?

1. Select Answer Yes/No:

- If yes, state the strategy or initiative and attach supporting documentation.

2. Example Templates:

- Projects that support GHG emission reduction in ingredient sourcing. e.g., partnership aiming to extract plant-based raw materials, reducing reliance on petrochemicals.
- Roadmap showcasing design approach that uses durable and standardized components (e.g., in equipment) that can be easily repaired or upgraded, extending product functional life.
- Code of conduct focusing on fair labour practices, environmental stewardship, and business integrity throughout the supply chain.
- Awareness/Incentive Programs to encourage repair, waste reduction and promote circularity.



Thank You