

Science Based Targets: achieving meaningful reductions in greenhouse gas emissions



ADAS consultants work with businesses and their supply chains to set, measure and achieve Science-based Targets (SBTs), using the framework outlined in the SBT manual to ensure consistency with other organisations. We work with and support our clients in the development and implementation of effective greenhouse gas emission reduction strategies, that often include scope 3 emissions (i.e. through the supply chain) to drive innovation, cost-savings and reputational credibility of the client.

Key drivers for implementing SBTs

- ✓ Demonstrate leadership to tackle climate change
- ✓ Enhances corporation credibility and reputation
- ✓ Cost savings through efficiency and reduced energy use
- ✓ Build business resilience and increase competitiveness
- ✓ Drive innovation and transform business practices
- ✓ Influencing and preparing for shifts in public policy



Whilst many governments, businesses and communities have taken some steps to reduce GHGs, current levels of action still fall short of that required, to avoid catastrophic climate change. GHG emissions reduction targets are considered “science-based” if they are in line with the level of decarbonisation required to keep global temperature increase within 2°C of pre-industrial levels. Setting greenhouse gas emission reduction targets in line with climate science is an important way to future-proof growth.

Scope 1: All direct GHG emissions

Scope 2: Indirect GHG emissions from consumption of purchased electricity, heat or steam

Scope 3: Other indirect emissions, such as in the supply chain

A Science Based Target has three main components:

- Carbon budget (defining the overall amount of GHGs that can be emitted to limit warming to within 2°C);
- Emissions scenario (defining the magnitude and timing of emissions reductions);
- Allocation approach used (defining how the budget is allocated to companies), covering 5-15 years from the date the target is publicly announced.

Scope 1 and 2 emissions should be science-based, whilst, scope 3 targets need not be science-based, but should be ambitious, measurable, and clearly show how a company is addressing the main sources of GHG emissions within its value chain.

How can ADAS help your business establish Science Based Targets?

Define the business case | ADAS can assess your current footprint using a range of carbon calculators and tools to understand baseline emissions and use these to focus reduction ambitions

Determine suitable method | ADAS assess the most appropriate method to use (e.g. to calculate targets as a percentage reduction in absolute emissions; or emission intensity per: unit of economic output / amount of physical product). ADAS can also support on assessment and measurement of scope 3 emissions.

Support internal buy-in | ADAS support our clients throughout the target-setting process to prioritise goals, assess feasibility, and co-create practical implementation plans

Implement steps to meet SBT | ADAS can help to outline specific measures and strategies to meet your SBT, working and communicating with large value supply chains effectively to address scope 3 emissions

Monitor progress | ADAS work with our clients to communicate the SBT to external stakeholders, ensuring monitoring of progress is timely, and demonstrates leadership and corporate responsibility of the client