**GHG Protocol**

GHG Protocol establishes comprehensive global standardized frameworks to measure and manage greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from private and public sector operations, value chains, and mitigation actions.

Building on a 20-year partnership between the World Resources Institute (WRI) and the World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD), GHG Protocol works with governments, industry associations, NGOs, businesses and other organizations.

We offer online training on our standards and tools, as well as the "Built on GHG Protocol" review service, which recognizes sector guidance, product rules, and tools that are in conformance with GHG Protocol standards[1].

**GHG Protocol's decision-making process for updating standards and guidance?**

GHG Protocol convenes governance bodies that guide the development of its accounting and reporting standards. Our governance bodies include an Advisory Group, Technical Working Group/s, Review Group, Pilot Testing Group, and the Secretariat. More details on the roles, composition, decision-making criteria, and process are provided here.

**Who Uses GHG Protocol?**

GHG Protocol supplies the world's most widely used greenhouse gas accounting standards. The Corporate Accounting and Reporting Standard provides the accounting platform for virtually every corporate GHG reporting program in the world.

**History of GHG Protocol**

GHG Protocol arose when WRI and WBCSD recognized the need for an international standard for corporate GHG accounting and reporting in the late 1990s. Together with large corporate partners such as BP and General Motors, in 1998 WRI published a report called, "Safe Climate, Sound Business." It identified an action agenda to address climate change that included the need for standardized measurement of GHG emissions.

Similar initiatives were being discussed at WBCSD. In late 1997, WRI senior managers met with WBCSD officials and an agreement was reached to launch an NGO-business partnership to address standardized methods for GHG accounting. WRI and WBCSD convened a core steering group comprised of members from environmental groups (such as WWF, Pew Center on Global Climate Change, and The Energy Research Institute) and industry (such as Norsk Hydro, Tokyo Electric, Shell) to guide the multi-stakeholder standard development process.

The first edition of the Corporate Standard, published in 2001, has been updated with additional guidance that clarifies how companies can measure emissions from electricity and other energy purchases, and account for emissions from throughout their value chains. GHG Protocol also developed a suite of calculation tools to assist companies in calculating their greenhouse gas emissions and measuring the benefits of climate change mitigation projects.

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[1] https://ghgprotocol.org/about-us#:~:text=GHG%20Protocol%20establishes%20comprehensive%20global,value%20chains%20and%20mitigation%20actions.

The Paris Agreement, adopted within the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCC) in December 2015, commits participating all countries to limit global temperature rise, adapt to changes already occurring, and regularly increase efforts over time. GHG Protocol is developing standards, tools, and online training that helps countries and cities track progress towards their climate goals[2].

Scopes are the basis for mandatory GHG reporting. There are three categories of emissions;

- **Scope 1 emissions**— This one covers the Green greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions that a company makes directly — for example, while running its boilers and vehicles.

- **Scope 2 emissions** — These are the emissions it makes indirectly – like when the electricity or energy it buys for heating and cooling buildings, is being produced on its behalf.

- **Scope 3 emissions** — Now here's where it gets tricky. In this category go all the emissions associated, not with the company itself, but that the organization is indirectly responsible for, up and down its value chain. For example, from buying products from its suppliers, and from its products when customers use them. Emissions-wise, Scope 3 is nearly always the big one.

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[2] https://ghgprotocol.org/sites/default/files/standards/ghg-protocol-revised.pdf