



SME SUSTAINABILITY SELF-EVALUATION



Carbon accounting can be hard and needs a good plan. We have made a checklist with seven sections to help businesses start their carbon accounting. The checklist covers the main steps and things to think about. By using the checklist, you can have a clear and complete plan for your carbon footprint.



CONSIDERATIONS

These questions are designed to help you assess and guide your sustainability and decarbonization journey. While it's natural to want to answer as many questions as possible positively, it's crucial to remember that the number of positive responses alone doesn't determine your progress or success.

Here's why:

- **Uniqueness of your journey:** Every Small and Medium Enterprise (SME) is unique. Your industry, size, location, and existing practices all play a role in shaping your sustainability path. Some questions may be more relevant to your situation than others.
- **Specific goals:** The checklist covers a wide range of aspects related to sustainability and decarbonization. Your goals may focus on specific areas, and you might prioritize certain actions that align with those goals.
- **Quality matters:** What truly matters is the quality of your actions and strategies. Even if you can't answer every question positively, taking meaningful steps in the right direction and implementing strategies effectively can have a significant impact.

So, rather than solely aiming to answer all questions positively, focus on these key principles:

- **Alignment:** Ensure your actions align with your sustainability vision and goals.
- **Continuous improvement:** Embrace a mindset of continuous improvement. Regularly revisit and adjust your strategies based on performance and changing circumstances.
- **Impact:** Measure the impact of your efforts. Effective sustainability actions, even if fewer in number, can lead to substantial positive changes.

Remember that sustainability and decarbonization are ongoing journeys. Use the checklist to assess where you are, identify areas for improvement, and guide your decisions. It's not about quantity; it's about the quality and effectiveness of your actions on your path to a more sustainable future. And with Carbon Analytics in tow, the assessment process becomes even more straightforward, as it offers comprehensive insights tailored to your business's unique characteristics, simplifying your path ahead.



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1. What is our sustainability vision?

- ☐ Have we clearly articulated our commitment to sustainability?
- ☐ Have we set specific environmental goals aligned with our vision?

2. Have we assessed our carbon emissions?

- ☐ Have we measured our current carbon emissions across operations?
- ☐ Have we identified emission sources and their relative impact?

3. Identify Stakeholders and Responsibilities:

- ☐ Have we developed Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, and Time-bound goals?
- ☐ Are our goals aligned with our assessment findings and overall vision?

4. Have we chosen our decarbonization strategies?

- ☐ Have we evaluated various strategies, including:
 - ☐ Energy Efficiency: Have we identified areas for improvement in energy use?
 - ☐ Renewable Energy Adoption: Have we explored solar, wind, or hydro options?
 - ☐ Waste Reduction: Have we implemented waste management and recycling initiatives?
- ☐ Have we selected strategies that align with our goals, budget, and timeline?



5. Have we planned our finances and incentives?

- ☐ Have we assessed our budget for sustainability initiatives?
- ☐ Have we explored financing options like green loans, grants, or subsidies?
- ☐ Have we investigated tax credits and incentives for renewable energy adoption?

6. Do we understand the regulatory landscape?

- ☐ Are we staying informed about local and national environmental regulations?
- ☐ Are we ensuring compliance with reporting and emissions reduction requirements?

7. Have we developed an emissions reduction plan?

- ☐ Have we created a comprehensive plan outlining how we'll achieve our sustainability goals?
- ☐ Does our plan include timelines, responsibilities, and key milestones?

8. Are our employees engaged and trained?

- ☐ Are we educating employees about sustainability initiatives and goals?
- ☐ Are we encouraging employees to contribute ideas and adopt eco-friendly practices?
- ☐ Have we provided training on energy-saving measures?

9. Are we optimizing our supply chain?

- ☐ Are we collaborating with suppliers to reduce carbon emissions throughout our supply chain?
- ☐ Are we prioritizing sustainable sourcing, transportation, and packaging options?



10. Are we measuring, analyzing, and adjusting?

- ☐ Have we implemented digital tools like Carbon Analytics for real-time emissions tracking?
- ☐ Are we regularly analyzing data and adjusting strategies based on performance?
- ☐ Have we considered third-party audits for validation?

11. Are we communicating our sustainability journey?

- ☐ Are we sharing our sustainability efforts and progress with stakeholders?
- ☐ Are we highlighting our commitment to sustainability in marketing and communications?
- ☐ Are we engaging customers, employees, and partners in our sustainability story?

12. Are we celebrating milestones and achievements?

- ☐ Are we recognizing and rewarding successes in emissions reduction and sustainability?
- ☐ Are we using achievements as motivation to keep advancing our sustainability journey?
- ☐ Are we showcasing our sustainability awards or certifications?

13. Are we embracing emerging trends?

- ☐ Are we staying informed about sustainability trends like circular economy practices and renewable energy innovations?
- ☐ Are we open to incorporating new strategies as they evolve?

14. Do we remember that every step counts?

- ☐ Do we know that even small changes contribute to a more sustainable future?
- ☐ Does our commitment to sustainability position our SME for long-term success and competitiveness?



ABOUT

CarbonAnalytics

Carbon Analytics empowers sustainable journeys through integrated carbon accounting. Our platform enables transparency, helping you make informed decisions across the value chain. Through complex data insights, we ensure precise carbon accounting using primary and secondary data. This approach creates a comprehensive sustainability profile of your organisation and your value chain.

Ready to Dive Deeper into Carbon Accounting?

Embarking on your carbon accounting journey doesn't have to be overwhelming. With the right tools and guidance, your business can navigate the carbon landscape with precision and clarity.

Take the next step with CarbonAnalytics. Sign up for free and harness the power of data-driven insights to make your carbon accounting journey seamless and effective.

[Sign up](#)

