



# Navigating Net Zero Commitments

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# Topic Overview

## ▶ Current Drivers

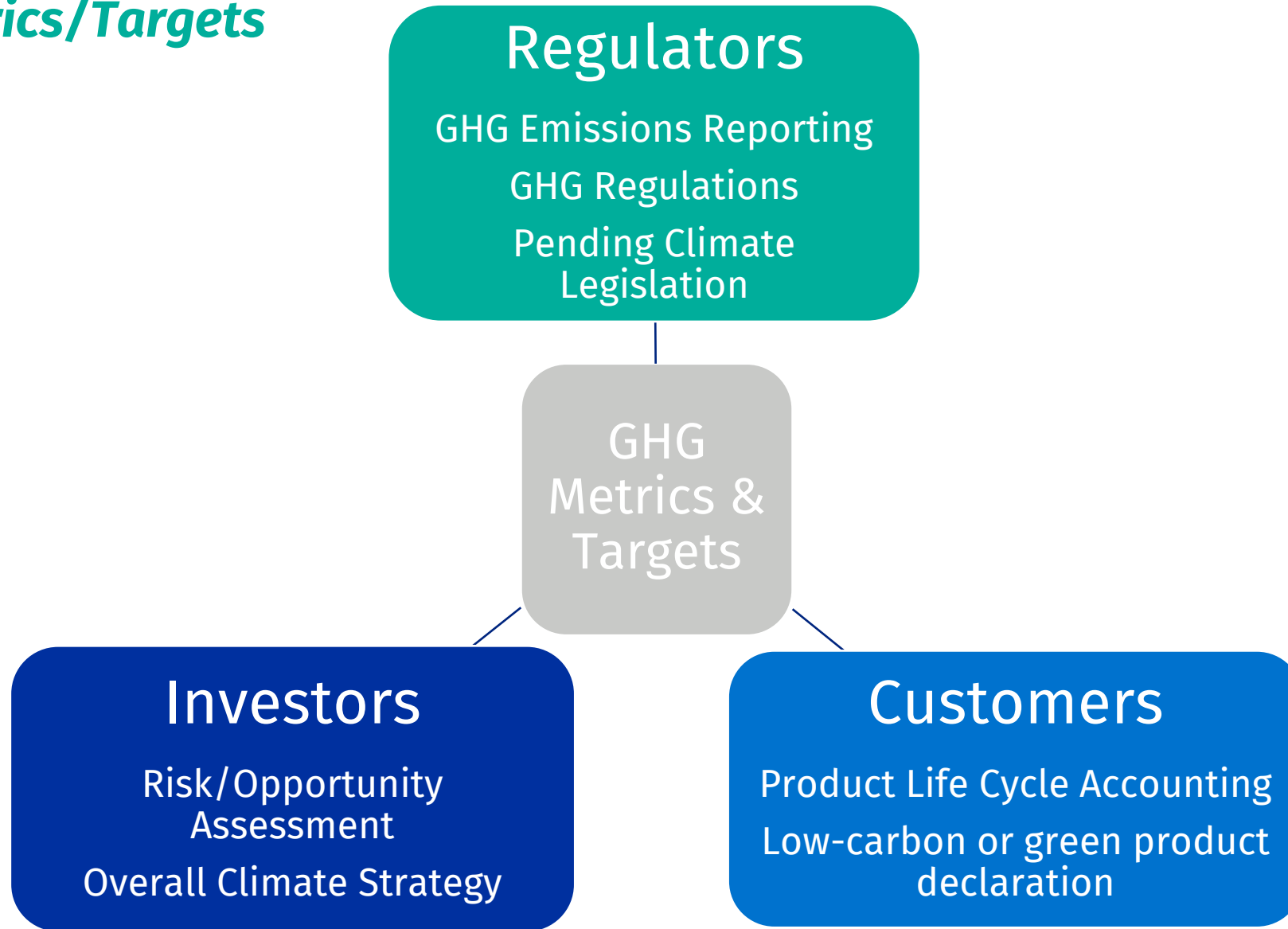
## ▶ Setting Corporate GHG Targets

- Establishing a Baseline
- Assessing Transition to Low Carbon Economy
- Identifying/Assessing Mitigation Strategies
- Science-Based Targets
- What is Net Zero

## ▶ Pathways to Achieving Targets

# Drivers for GHG Metrics/Targets Reporting

## *Metrics/Targets*



# Why Set GHG Reduction Targets?

- ▶ Assess and manage relevant climate-related risks & opportunities
- ▶ Stimulate innovation and navigate costs associated with transition to low-carbon economy
- ▶ Prepare for future regulations and policy shifts
- ▶ Demonstrate leadership and corporate responsibility
- ▶ Participate in voluntary reporting programs

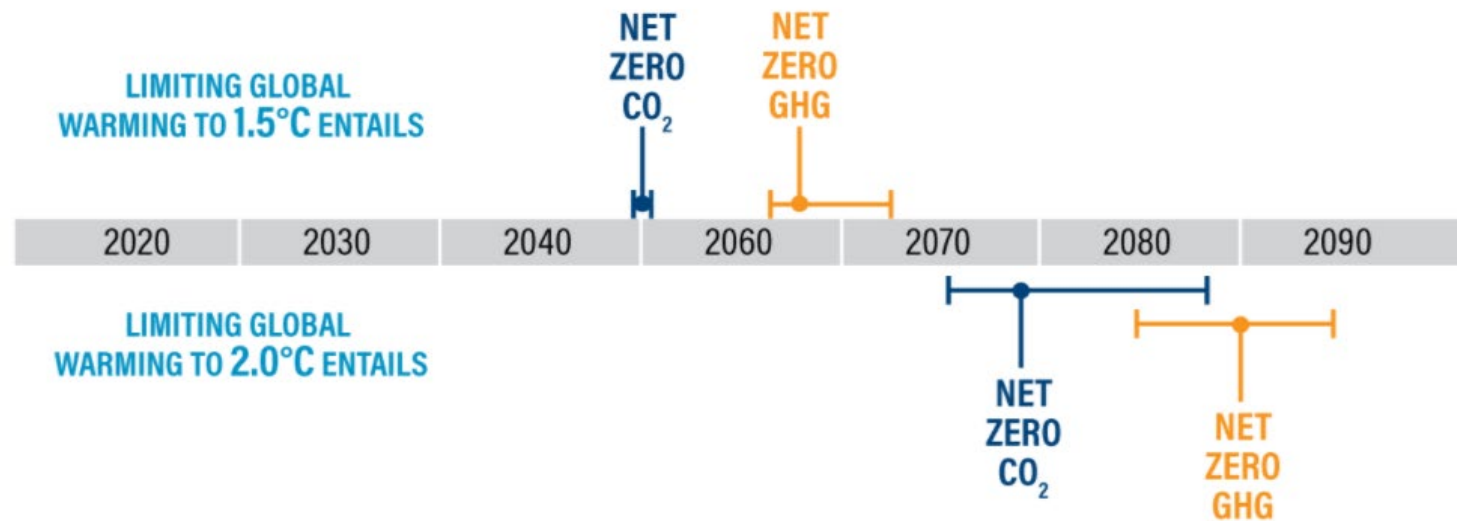


The number of companies making climate-neutral or net zero pledges has doubled during the COVID-19 pandemic

# Global GHG Reduction Targets

- ▶ Paris Agreement Temperature Goal: Limit warming to below 2°C, ideally below 1.5 °C
- ▶ Timeline to achieve:

Global timeline to reach net-zero emissions



Source: IPCC Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5°C

# Example Targets

## Amazon

- Net Zero Carbon by 2040
- 100% Renewable Energy by 2025
- 50% Shipment Zero by 2030

## WalMart

- SBT – Reduction of 18% by 2025
- Zero Emissions by 2040 (without offsets)

## AT & T

- Reduce absolute Scope 1 & Scope 2 GHG 26% by 2030
- Ensure 50% of suppliers set SBTs on Scope 1 & 2 by 2024
- Carbon Neutrality by 2035

## Ford Motor Co.

- Reduce CO<sub>2</sub> from manufacturing by 30% per vehicle produced by 2025
- Carbon Neutrality by 2050

## Boeing

- Carbon Neutral Growth from 2020
- Reduce carbon emissions 50% over 2005 levels by 2050

# Setting Corporate GHG Targets

## Step 1: Establish a Baseline

**Develop comprehensive GHG Inventory**

**Determine what sources and GHG are material**

**Use to inform target boundaries**



## Step 2: Assess Impacts of Low Carbon Economy

**Obtain Management/Internal Stakeholder Input**

**Benchmark Peers**

**Assess impacts of evolving climate policies and regulations**

**Research avenues to decarbonization**



## Step 3: Assess Mitigation Strategies

**Determine technical feasibility, % reduction**

**Estimate costs & rank alternative strategies based on \$/MT CO<sub>2</sub>e**

**Assess Timeframe for implementation – available now vs. emerging technologies**



## Step 4: GHG Target Setting

**Informed by Step 1, Step 2 & Step 3**



# Step 1: Baseline Emissions

## *Current Status of GHG Accounting at Many Facilities*

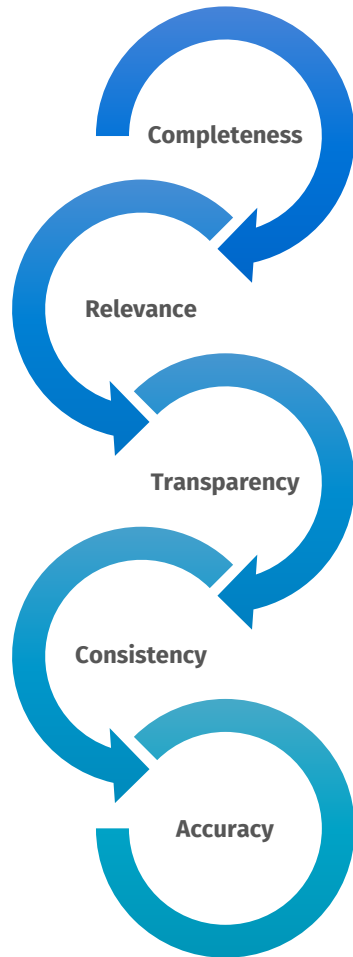
- ▶ Regulatory reporting aimed at developing future regulation – cap and trade or carbon tax
- ▶ 40 CFR Part 98 : GHG Mandatory Reporting Rule (MRR)
  - MRR Reporting began in 2010/2011
  - Limited scope of emission sources (e.g., 25,000 MT CO<sub>2</sub>e threshold for most subparts, all direct sources not covered)
  - Outdated GWP (IPCC, AR4)
  - Outdated emission factors for certain sectors
  - Potentially limited accuracy (e.g., Subpart C options)





# Step 1: Baseline Emissions

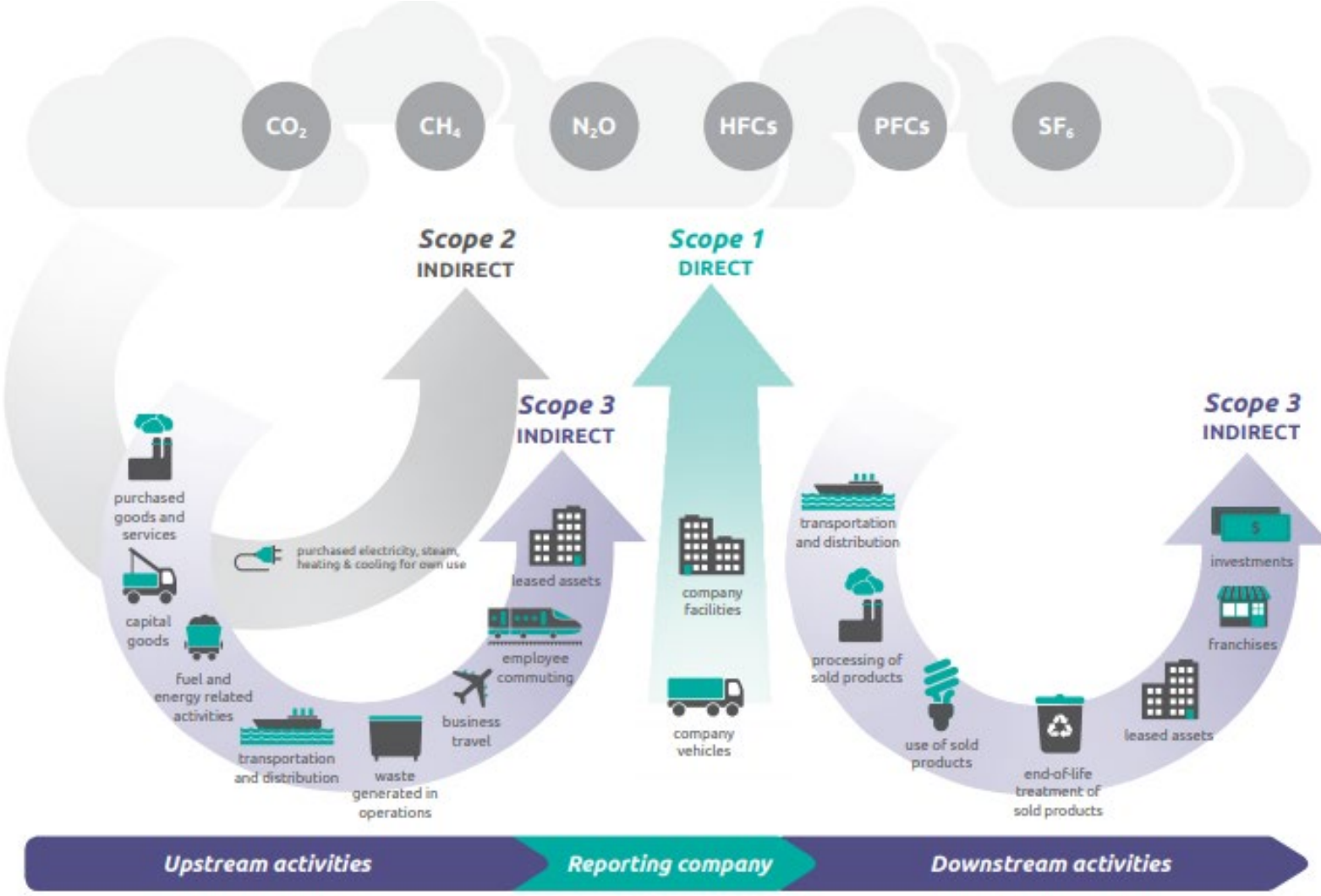
## Best Practices



- ▶ Initial baseline should be comprehensive (including all emissions that are material and relevant) for internal purposes
  - Scope 1 + Scope 2
  - Scope 3: assess categories; screening tool available
  - All GHG pollutants
- ▶ Develop written inventory protocol document to establish:
  - Baseline boundaries & timeframe
  - Materiality & significance thresholds
  - Calculation methodology & key assumptions
  - Target boundaries & time horizon(s)

# Step 1: Baseline Emissions

## GHG Protocol Scopes & Emissions Across the Value Chain



Source: [https://ghgprotocol.org/sites/default/files/standards/Corporate-Value-Chain-Accounting-Reporting-Standard\\_041613\\_2.pdf](https://ghgprotocol.org/sites/default/files/standards/Corporate-Value-Chain-Accounting-Reporting-Standard_041613_2.pdf)



# Step 2: Assess Impacts of Low Carbon Economy

## Overview

- ▶ Obtain Management Support/Direction
  - Level of aspiration
  - Financial commitment
- ▶ Interview Internal Stakeholders
  - Business priorities (near and long term)
  - Anticipated market changes/business viability in low carbon economy
  - Current mitigation strategies
- ▶ Review Current and Evolving Policies/Regulations
  - Company-specific impacts
- ▶ Benchmark Industry Peers
  - Competitor practices and targets
- ▶ Review Published Decarbonization Studies
  - Impacts related low carbon economy transition



# Step 2: Assess Impacts of Low-Carbon Economy

## *Key Considerations for Industry*

- ▶ Increased energy efficiency
  - Producing same products with less energy
  - Better insulation, reuse of waste heat, etc.
- ▶ Electrification to greatest extent possible
  - Assumes greening of electric grid
  - Barriers: cost and infrastructure challenges
- ▶ Biomass for bio-based products and energy
- ▶ CO<sub>2</sub> capture, utilization and storage
- ▶ Hydrogen for carbon-free energy and decarbonization of certain processes
- ▶ Reduced non-CO<sub>2</sub> GHG emissions (methane, SF<sub>6</sub>, HFCs)
- ▶ Enhanced Land Sinks

# Step 3: Assess Mitigation Strategies

## Overview



- ▶ Identify mitigation strategies for each emissions source identified in inventory
- ▶ For each identified strategy, assess:
  - Technical feasibility
  - Economic viability – consider initial and ongoing costs
  - Current status of research, development, and deployment of emerging technologies
- ▶ Develop matrix of baseline emissions by source category and information on viable mitigation strategies associated with each source category, including:
  - Estimated timeframe for implementation
  - Estimated percent GHG reduction achievable
  - Estimated cost (\$/ton CO<sub>2</sub>e reduced) for competing strategies



# Step 3: Assess Mitigation Strategies

## Basic Types of Mitigation Strategies

*Within the company's value chain*

### **Abatement**

Measures that prevent, reduce, or eliminate GHG emissions within the value chain

*Outside the company's value chain*

### **Compensation**

Offsetting emissions with GHG reductions outside the value chain (e.g., financing clean energy projects, purchasing credits)

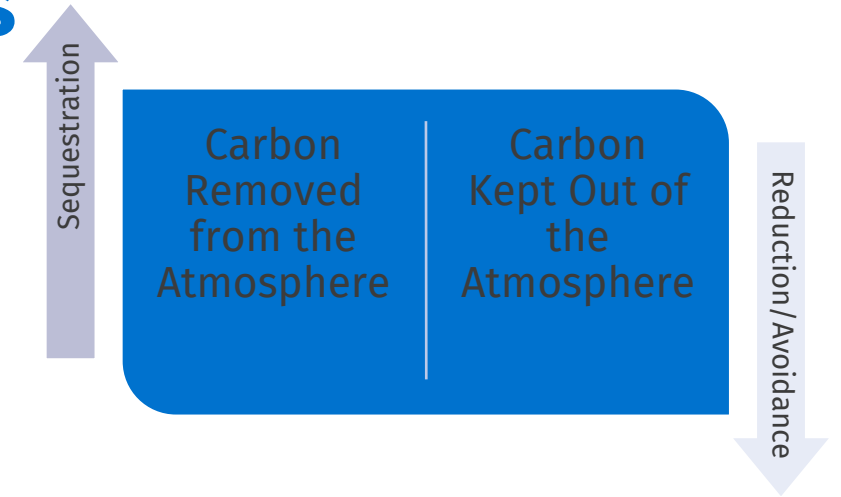
### **Neutralization**

Carbon dioxide removal (CDR) from the atmosphere within or beyond value chain through enhancements of natural sinks (afforestation/reforestation) or through chemical/physical capture and sequestration

# Step 3: Assess Mitigation Strategies

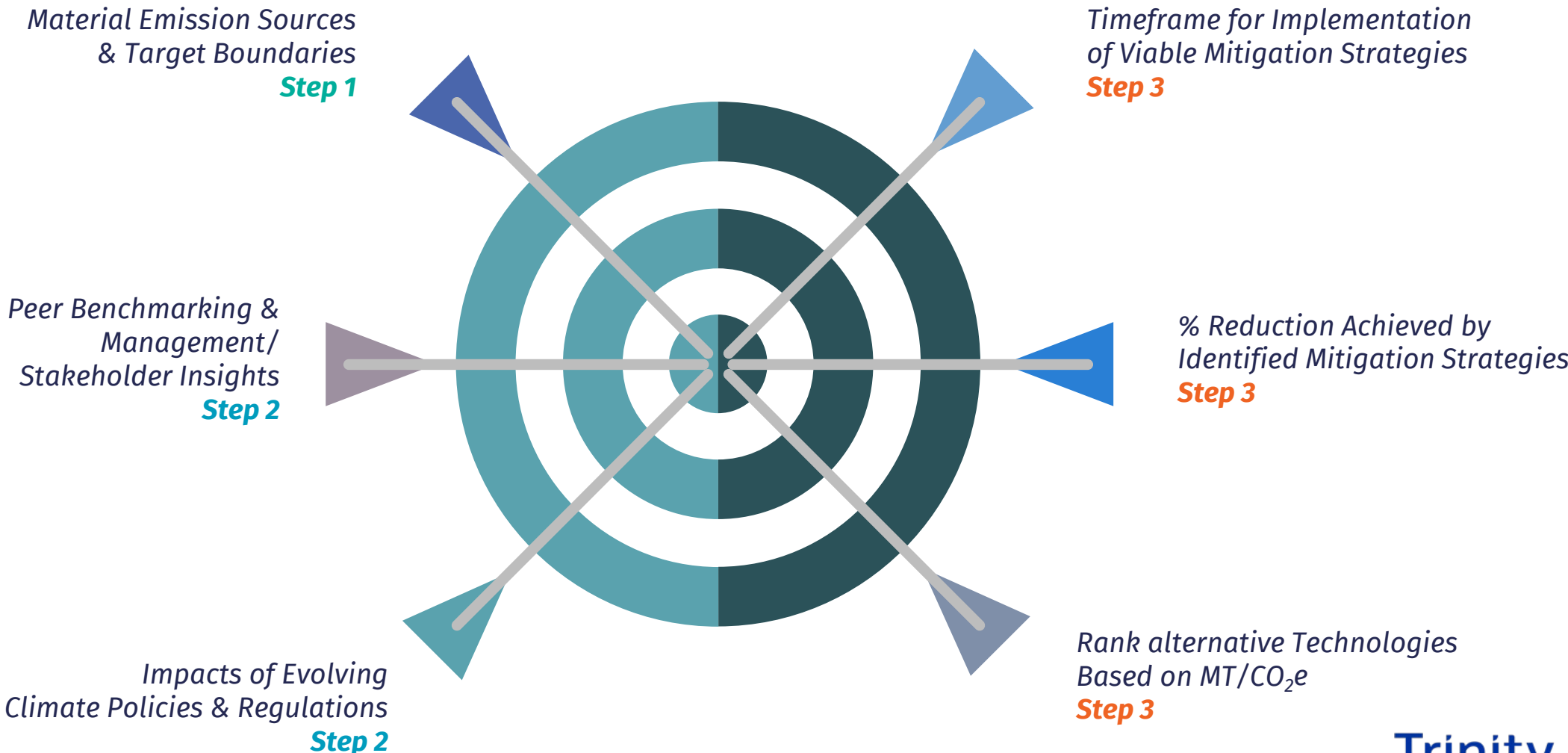
## Offsets & Credits

- ▶ Offsets are discrete GHG reductions used to compensate for (i.e., offset) GHG emissions elsewhere
- ▶ Targets referred to as “carbon-neutral” or “climate-neutral” generally refer to practice of balancing a company’s emissions with equivalent amount of offsets or credits
- ▶ Reduction/Avoidance should make up the largest portion of your climate strategy, but you will likely still have residual carbon
- ▶ Short-term goals often rely on compensation/offsets to provide more time for a company to employ strategies for long-term abatement of emissions



# Step 4: GHG Target Setting

## Overview





# Step 4: GHG Target Setting

## Form of Target

### ► Targets should:

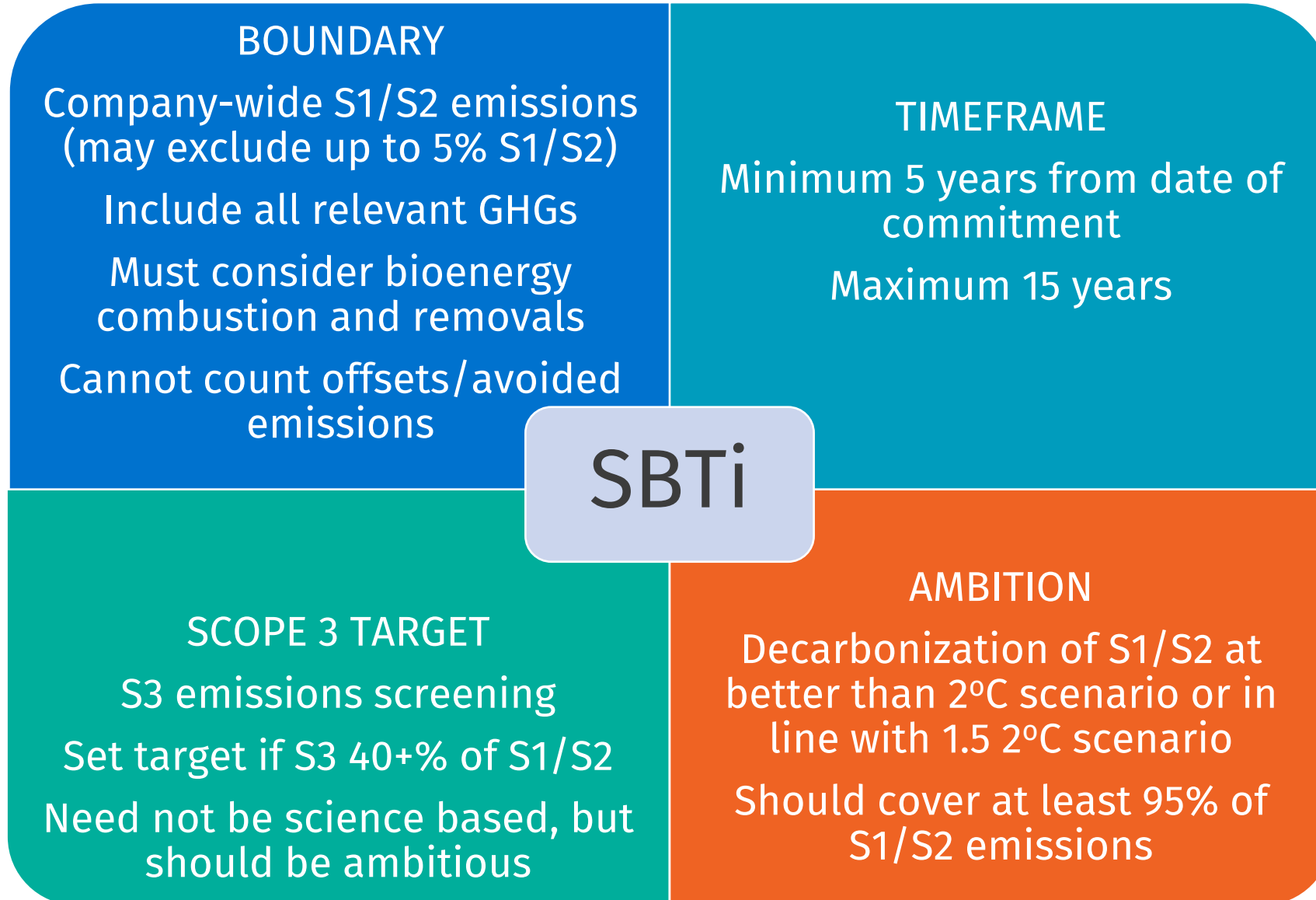
- Include a base year and a target year
- Describe the boundaries included (global operations, domestic operating facilities, Scope 1 & 2, etc.)
- Be science-based
- Set a target level with a clearly defined basis:
  - ◆ Absolute based (e.g., “reduce GHG emissions by 25% over 2020 levels by 2030”)
  - ◆ Intensity based (e.g., “reduce GHG emissions per ton of product below 1% by 2030”)

### ► Targets can:

- Have both a long-term aspiration goal as well as short-term/intermediate targets
- Be multi-faceted (e.g., separate goals for different core businesses) and have an industry- or company-specific focus
- Ultimately be to attain “Net Zero”

# Step 4: GHG Target Setting

## SBTi Overview



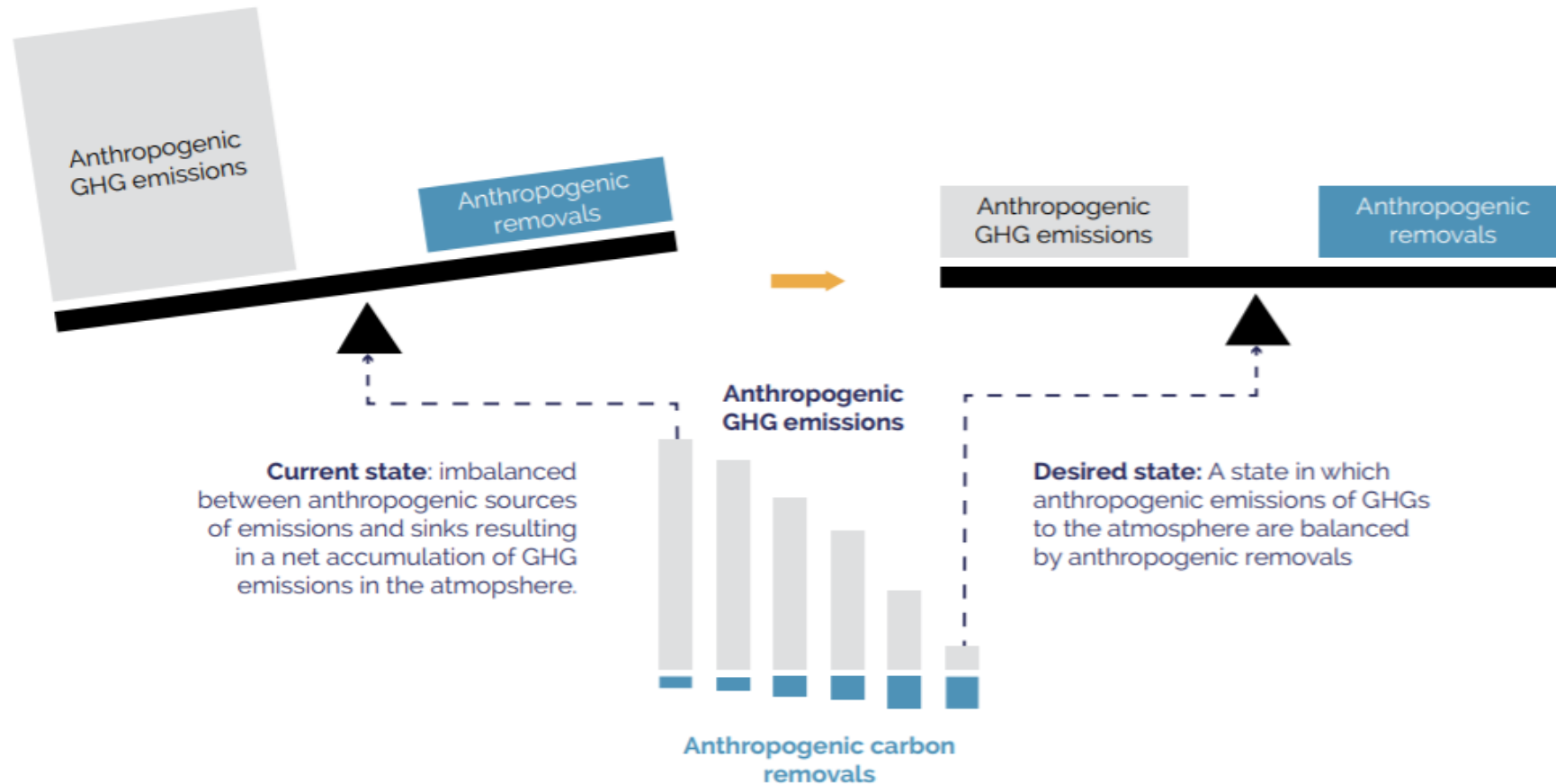
# Step 4: GHG Target Setting

## SBTi Target-Setting Approaches

- ▶ Absolute Emissions Contraction:
  - % reduction in absolute emissions required is applied to all companies equally
  - Target overall reduction in amount of absolute GHG emitted by target year relative to base year
- ▶ Sectoral Decarbonization Approach (SDA):
  - Global carbon budget is divided by sector
  - SDA sets intensity targets (i.e., tonne CO<sub>2</sub>e per tonne of product produced) for given sector; recommended for energy-intensive sectors
- ▶ Economic Intensity Contraction:
  - Carbon budget equated to global GDP
  - Company's share of emissions determined by gross profit ; target is intensity reduction of tCO<sub>2</sub>e/\$ value added

# Step 4: GHG Target Setting

## What is Net Zero?



Source: <https://sciencebasedtargets.org/resources/legacy/2020/09/foundations-for-net-zero-full-paper.pdf>

# Setting a Corporate GHG Reduction Target

## *Net Zero Targets - Areas for further development*

- ▶ CDP/SBTi working to develop standard practice for setting corporate net zero goals
- ▶ Areas for further development:
  - Standard criteria for setting science-based net-zero target in corporate sector;
  - Validation protocol; and
  - Detailed guidance for setting targets and making credible claims



# Pathways to Achieving Targets

- ▶ Publicize commitment through formal disclosure
- ▶ Establish senior level management ownership & accountability
- ▶ Commit to capital expenditures
- ▶ Enhance monitoring practices
- ▶ Increase frequency & scope of emissions assessments
- ▶ Carry out routine performance checks as well as internal/external communications of status
- ▶ Update/Revise Targets as needed
- ▶ Establish internal carbon pricing



# Questions?

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