

Carbon accounting & sustainable transformation

The case of the chemical industry

Berlin – Jun 18, 2024 Alessandro Pistillo – BASF/TfS

June 7, 2024 | additional information







Sources: https://the-ethos.co/big-oat-sustainable-ads/ https://www.vogue.de/mode/artikel/adidasxallbirds-adidas-allbirds



A definition

What is a Product Carbon Footprint (PCF)?

- a measure for the climate impact of a product
- total amount of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions that is associated with a product throughout its life cycle, i.e., the product-related Scope 1, Scope 2 and Scope 3 emissions
- boundaries vary from cradle-to-gate (can be based on primary data) to cradle-to-grave



Note: Scope 1: direct emissions from owned or controlled sources Scope 2 : indirect emissions from the generation of purchased energy Scope 3: indirect emissions that occur in the value chain (not included in scope 2)



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PCF transparency fundamental to drive behavior and stimulate transformation

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No emission impact of consumer goods without scope 3 transparency; No scope 3 transparency without Product Carbon Footprints



Carbon footprint relevance of the Chemical Industry

With 6% of total contribution, the chemical industry is a large GHG emitter. In addition, chemical products impact nearly all value chains

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Over 95% of all manufactured goods rely on some form of industrial chemical process.

Most industry sectors make use of chemical products, from energy generation and transportation, to information and communication technology (ICT) and construction.

Source: 1 Hanna Ritchie, 2020 - Sector by sector: where do global greenhouse gas emissions come from? Chemical sector highlighted; 2 ICCA, 2019, The Global Chemical Industry: Catalyzing Growth and Addressing Our World's Sustainability Challenges

BASF We create chemistry "

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How to deal with carbon accounting at scale?

Three key ingredients are required to execute product-level carbon accounting



Practice-oriented, prescriptive carbon accounting standards to ensure PCF comparability

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Digital data
exchange
platforms to
enhance PCF
transparency for
Scope 3
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Digital Carbon accounting tools to generate accurate & certifiable PCF data at scale

A PCF standard for chemical and plastics materials

With Together for Sustainability (TfS), the chemical industry joined forces to establish a global sectoral guidance & enhance PCF comparability



A PCF standard for chemical and plastics materials

The TfS PCF Guideline is anchored on recognized generic standards and allows for better emission comparability of chemicals & polymers





How to deal with carbon accounting at scale?

Three key ingredients are required to execute product-level carbon accounting



Practice-oriented, prescriptive carbon accounting standards to ensure PCF comparability



Digital data exchange platforms to enhance PCF transparency for Scope 3



Digital Carbon accounting tools to generate accurate & certifiable PCF data at scale

An interoperable PCF data exchange platform

TfS is launching a digital platform to standardize data exchange and to boost scope 3 transparency in value chains



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Three key ingredients are required to execute product-level carbon accounting



Practice-oriented, prescriptive carbon accounting standards to ensure PCF comparability



Digital data exchange platforms to enhance PCF transparency for Scope 3



Digital Carbon accounting tools to generate accurate & certifiable PCF data at scale

With the growing importance of PCF as a measure of the progress towards net-zero, scalable digital accounting solutions are a must



PCF is no longer the result of a "one-off", mostly manual, expert assessment,

but of an automated, consistent, reproducible and certifiable accounting process.



PCF is no longer an add-on item in a marketing toolkit,

but a key procurement criteria and a strategic steering element of product portfolios in corporations.

BASF has developed a digital carbon accounting solution to determine PCFs at scale



LCA methodology aligned¹ with **ISO, GHG Protocol Product Standard**, as well as the **TfS PCF Guideline**





Use of **primary data**¹ instead of industry averages and standard technology benchmarks



Automated LCA calculations to calculate PCF in an efficient and consistent fashion

Strategic CO₂ Transparency Tool (SCOTT)







Enable carbon-related marketing claims

1 primary data for SCOPE 1 & 2; primary data for SCOPE 3 upstream if available for raw materials; if not, fall back to secondary data

With SCOTT, BASF can now efficiently assess and steer complex product portfolios from a carbon emission perspective



With its SCOTT tool, PCFs are no longer a concept for specialists but a steering KPI for the entire organization



BASF has brought SCOTT into the market via an ecosystem of partners to foster a standard PCF calculation and boost primary data availability



Someday soon, down the supermarket aisle...

