

GHG Protocol *Land Sector and Removals Guidance* Pilot Testing

Terms of Reference for Supporting Partners

A. Introduction and overview

The Greenhouse Gas Protocol (GHG Protocol) is a multi-stakeholder partnership of businesses, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), governments, and others convened by the World Resources Institute (WRI) and the World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD). Launched in 1998, the mission of the GHG Protocol is to develop internationally accepted greenhouse gas (GHG) accounting and reporting standards and tools, and to promote their adoption in order to achieve a low emissions economy worldwide.

The Greenhouse Gas Protocol is currently developing new guidance for companies on how to account for and report emissions and removals from land use, land use change, biogenic products, technological CO₂ removals, and related activities in GHG inventories, building on the [Corporate Standard](#) and [Scope 3 Standard](#).

After the first draft of the GHG Protocol's *Land Sector and Removals Guidance* is prepared and has undergone initial rounds of review, a select group of companies and organizations will have the opportunity to test the draft guidance to ensure that it can be practically implemented, provide feedback for its improvement, and serve as important case studies in the final publication.

The Secretariat is seeking supporting partners to provide in-kind support to help the implementation of the pilot testing phase. Partners may include national and/or regional BCSDs (Business Council for Sustainable Development), national industry associations/groups, research institutions, NGOs, sustainability consultancies and GHG programs.

B. Supporting partner activities

We are seeking a group of selected organizations to support the pilot testing process as "supporting partners" during the pilots testing of the *Land Sector and Removals Guidance*. The supporting partners can provide support through providing implementation resources (such as data and tools), convening trainings for a local and/or global group of pilot testing companies, providing technical support to a company or group of companies participating in pilot testing the guidance, or other activities below. Activities may include:

- Organize and facilitate calls with assigned groups of pilot testing companies to help explain the guidance and address questions or explain relevant resources for specific geographies, sectors, or GHG source and sink categories
- Provide technical support to participants, such as answering questions or further elaborating on the guidance
- Provide resources (such as data and tools) that pilot testing companies can apply to implement the guidance
- Connect pilot testing companies with other technical experts as needed to answer more specific questions
- Develop case studies, in collaboration with the pilot testing companies
- Provide feedback on need for additional GHG Protocol guidance and tools

Please refer to the Terms of Reference for pilot testing companies to learn more about pilot testing scope and details.

C. Benefits for supporting partners

- Pilot testing provides an opportunity for supporting partners to review and test-run the guidance prior to the publication, to get an early start to implement the guidance that will be the basis for SBTi and other initiatives, and identify areas for improvement and become a front runner in sustainability reporting
- Opportunity to learn and exchange best practices working closely with other business participants
- Secretariat will provide support including webinar(s) to present pilot test draft guidance and answer questions about the guidance. More details provided under D. below.
- Supporting partners will be recognized as Pilot Testing Supporting Partners and listed by affiliation in the final publication.

D. Support during implementation

The GHG Protocol Secretariat will support pairing supporting partners with pilot testing companies based on the results of the [pilot testing survey](#). The Secretariat will provide technical support to supporting partners, such as answering questions about the guidance or further elaborating on the guidance.¹ The GHG Protocol Secretariat does not provide financial resources for pilot testing.

F. Learning from implementation

Feedback from the Pilot Testing Group will be incorporated into the final version of the guidance. The Secretariat will prepare a summary of the results from the pilot testing questionnaire and how feedback from the Pilot Testing Group informed the final version of the *Land Sector and Removals Guidance*.

F. Timeline

Activities	2021				2022			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Drafting and revision through Technical Working Group and Advisory Committee	■	■	■	■				
Review Group, Pilot Testing Group and Supporting Partner recruitment	■	■	■	■				
Review by Review Group					■			
Pilot testing (4 months)					■	■		
Revise incorporating feedback from pilot testing and review						■	■	
Finalize and publish final standard/guidance								■

¹ Note that limited resources are available for technical support. Prioritization may be necessary to work within the available budget.

G. Expression of interest

If you have any questions, please contact Amir Safaei at Safaei@WBCSD.org. Organizations can express interest to be a supporting partner by completing the [pilot testing survey](#).