Overview of Pilot Testing the GHG Protocol Land Sector and Removals Guidance

5 August 2021
Webinar Information

- Record
  - This webinar is recorded.

- Unmute
  - All participants are muted.

- Q&A
  - Please use the Q&A function in the main control to ask questions throughout the webinar.

- Email
  - Recordings and slides will be emailed after webinar.
Agenda

1. GHG Protocol overview
   - 5 min

2. Land Sector and Removals Guidance
   - 10 min

3. Pilot testing information
   - 15 min

4. Next steps: survey confirmation and assessment
   - 10 min

5. Questions and answers
   - 15 min
GHG Protocol Core Team

Amir Safaei
Manager, Climate Taxonomy

Julia Cannata
Associate, Climate Taxonomy

Pankaj Bhatia
Deputy Director, Climate Program & Director, GHG Protocol

David Rich
Senior Associate, Climate Program

Matt Ramlow
Research Associate, Climate Program

Kevin Kurkul
Research Associate

Richard Waite
Senior Research Associate, Food & Climate Programs

Jessica Zionts
Research Analyst, Food Program and GHG Protocol
Greenhouse Gas Protocol
Overview
Greenhouse Gas Protocol Standards for the Private Sector

- Corporate Standard
- Scope 2 Guidance
- Corporate Value Chain (Scope 3) Standard
- Agriculture Guidance
- Product Standard
- Project Protocol
- LULUCF Guidance for Project Accounting

Available at www.ghgprotocol.org
Current Guidance for the Land Sector

- Limited guidance for corporate GHG inventories on accounting for emissions and removals from land use, land use change and forestry
- Existing guidance:

  - Agriculture Guidance
  - Product Standard (Appendix B)
  - Mitigation Goal Standard (Chapter 6)
  - LULUCF Guidance for Project Accounting
GHG Protocol Development Approach

- Develop standards and guidance through a global, inclusive, multi-stakeholder process
- Build on existing best practices
- Pilot test draft guidance to gain real-world feedback
- Ensure rigorous and user-friendly technical design
- Include examples and case studies
Connections Between SBTi and GHG Protocol

- **SBTi - Net-Zero Foundation** (Sep 2020)
  - Definition & guiding principles of net zero
- **SBTi - Net-Zero Criteria** (current consultation)
  - Criteria for NZ targets
- **SBTi - Net-Zero Guidance** (forthcoming)
  - Formulation & implementation
- **SBTi – FLAG**
- **GHG Protocol - Land Sector and Removals Guidance** (forthcoming)
  - Guidance on GHG inventory accounting for the land sector and CO₂ removals
GHG Protocol
Land Sector and Removals Guidance
GHG Protocol Land Sector and Removals Overview

• **GHG Protocol guidance for:**
  – Land use, land use change
  – CO₂ removals and storage
  – Biogenic products across the value chain

• Corporate value chain approach, building on *Corporate Standard* and *Scope 3 Standard*

• Creates more consistency and transparency across companies, sectors and countries

• **Supports companies to:**
  – Inform mitigation strategies
  – Set targets and track performance
  – Report GHG inventories and progress toward targets
Highlights: CO$_2$ Removals in Inventories
## Highlights: Land Use Change Impacts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Approach</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **Scope 1 & Scope 3** | • Account for and report on land use change emissions on lands owned controlled by the reporting company or within their value chain  
• Report impacts at the level of direct suppliers and sourcing regions  
• Metrics  
  – Direct land use change emissions  
  – Statistical land use change emissions |
| **Land Tracking Category** | • Account for and report on the global impacts of land use, encourage more efficient land use  
• Metrics  
  – Indirect land use change emissions (t CO₂e)  
  – Carbon opportunity costs (t CO₂e)  
  – Land occupation (ha) |
### Highlights: Land Management Carbon Stock Changes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Approach</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reporting guidance</td>
<td>• CO₂ emissions → where net carbon stock decreases occur</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• CO₂ removals → where net carbon stock increases occur, in accordance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>with criteria for reporting removals (in development)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Methods considered</td>
<td>• Carbon stock change factors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Model-based approaches</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Remote sensing-based approaches</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Measurement-based approaches</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Hybrid approaches</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Forest Lands**
- Grasslands

**Croplands**
- Biomass
- Dead Organic Matter
- Soil
Other Topics

• Setting the Inventory Boundary
• Collecting Data and Quantification
• Identifying and Evaluating Mitigation Actions
• Accounting for Credited Reductions and Removals
• Target Setting and Tracking Progress
• Reporting
• Assurance
## Status and Timeline of the Project

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activities</th>
<th>2021</th>
<th>2022</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Drafting and revision through Technical Working Group and Advisory Committee</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Review Group, Pilot Testing Group and Supporting Partner recruitment</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Review by Review Group</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Pilot Testing (4 months)</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Revise incorporating feedback from pilot testing and review</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finalize and publish final standard/guidance</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Pilot Testing and Review Information

Q1 2022
Pilot Testing and Review Phase Overview

GHG Protocol Team (WBCSD & WRI)

Supporting partners

Reviewers

Pilot testing companies

Internal support

Final publication
Pilot Testing Company Activities and Deliverables

Activities

- Scope and prepare for pilot testing
- Apply guidance and develop GHG inventory
  - Complete updated scope 1, 2, 3 GHG inventory (preferred)
  - Possibility of including land sector emissions or removals for a subset of the inventory (e.g. partial scope 3 inventory)
- Provide feedback for final publication

Deliverables

- Complete and submit the pilot testing feedback questionnaire
- Submit inventory results (recommended)
- Submit case study and communication materials (optional)

Pilot testing companies who require external technical support to implement the guidance are encouraged to coordinate with their preferred consultancies to register as supporting partners.
Supporting Partner Activities

Details

- **Provide technical support** to pilot testing companies to explain and elaborate on guidance
- **Address questions** or explain relevant resources for specific geographies
- **Organize and facilitate calls** with assigned groups of sectors, or GHG source and sink categories
- **Provide resources** (such as data and tools) for pilot testing companies to implement the guidance
- **Connect pilot testing companies** with other technical experts as needed for more specific questions
- **Support the development of case studies** for final publication
- **Provide feedback** on additional GHG Protocol guidance and tools

Supporting partners should directly coordinate agreements with pilot testing companies.
## Review phase activities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activities</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Review draft guidance</strong></td>
<td>• Review the draft guidance in Q1 2022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Provide feedback</strong></td>
<td>• Provide written feedback at the discretion of the individual participant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Identify strengths and weaknesses of the guidance</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
GHG Protocol Secretariat Support During Pilot Testing

- **Organize and facilitate pilot testing webinars** and calls to further elaborate on the guidance

- **Identify available resources and tools** to implement the guidance

- **Connect pilot testing companies with supporting partners** upon availability based on the results of the pilot testing survey

- **Synthesize and incorporate feedback and case studies** into the guidance
Benefits of Participating in Pilot Testing

- **Become a front runner in sustainability reporting**, by reviewing and pilot testing the guidance prior to the publication and identifying areas for improvement. Get an early start to implement the guidance that will be the **basis for SBTi** and other initiatives.

- **Learn and exchange best practices** working closely with other business participants

- **Be recognized and listed by affiliation in the final publication** (and through the submission of a potential case study)
Survey

Confirmation and Needs Assessment
Pilot Testing Survey

• **Objectives:**
  – Confirm pilot testing companies and supporting partners
  – Identify the scope of inventories to be included in pilot testing
  – Assess capacity needs and opportunities for collaboration

• **Questions for participants:**
  – Sectors
  – Value chain location
  – Geographic representation
  – Product categories
  – Land uses
  – Traceability
  – Bioenergy utilization
  – Scope of inventory
  – GHG accounting categories
  – Technical support needed
Supply Chains and Traceability

Production → Distribution → Processing / Manufacturing → Retail

- Supply flows:
  - upstream companies to a land management unit
  - to a sourcing region
  - to a country of origin

- Material flows:
  - material flows
  - traceability

upstream companies  downstream companies
Land Use Categories

**Forest Lands**
- Forest Management
- Forest Products
- Forest Bioenergy

**Grasslands**
- Rangeland Management
- Grassland Management
- Pasture / Silvopasture

**Croplands**
- Annual Crop Production
- Perennial Crop Production
- Agroforestry

**Wetlands**
- Water Bodies
- Temporarily Flooded Land
- Paludiculture

**Settlements**
- Cities and Communities
- Infrastructure
- Commercial Development

**Other Lands**
- Desertification
- Barren Land
- Ice-covered Surfaces
GHG Accounting Categories

- Land Use Change Emissions
- Land Tracking Category
- Land Management / Agricultural GHG Emissions
- Biogenic CO$_2$ Emissions
- Land Management Carbon Stock Changes
- Temporary Product Carbon Storage / Removals
- Geologic Carbon Storage / Removals
Questions and Answers
Questions and Answers

Please use the Q&A function in the main control to ask questions.
Thank you for joining our webinar!

Confirm your participation by filling out our survey by August 20, 2021:

https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/L7756YZ

For pilot testing questions, please contact:

Julia Cannata
cannata@wbscd.org

Amir Safaei
safaei@wbscd.org

Other contact information:

David Rich
David.Rich@wri.org

Matt Ramlow
Matt.Ramlow@wri.org

Pankaj Bhatia
Pankaj.Bhatia@wri.org

Richard Waite
Richard.Waite@wri.org

Kevin Kurkul
Kevin.Kurkul@wri.org

Jessica Zionts
Jessica.Zionts@wri.org