

# Corporate Greenhouse Gases: Building an Internationally Accepted Measurement & Reporting Standard

*A collaboration convened by  
World Resources Institute & World Business Council for Sustainable Development*

**Objective:** *to design, disseminate, and promote the use of an international corporate protocol for measuring and reporting business greenhouse gas emissions, through an open multi-stakeholder process.*

The creation of a standardized protocol that will be used by business and others, across national borders and industries, will reduce the reporting burden of companies and improve the credibility, comparability, and utility of information.

It will also serve a range of other purposes, including: helping to illuminate greenhouse gas reduction opportunities; establishing a foundation for greenhouse gas reduction goals; providing a tool for self assessment or independent auditing; enabling stakeholders to assess progress; and providing data that enables flexible, market-oriented climate policies.

## Outputs

- *Phased delivery of 3 modules: core operations; product impacts; and carbon sequestration. Core operations module by 4<sup>th</sup> quarter 1999*
- *Implementation tools and supporting material*
- *Adoption of protocol by private sector*
- *Acceptance of protocol by inter-governmental organizations, NGO's, business associations, and national governments*

**A Two-Fold Challenge:** Although important progress has been made on the measurement and reporting of corporate greenhouse gas emissions, an international protocol that has widespread utility and acceptance across multiple jurisdictions and borders is needed. Establishing such a protocol that is consistent with, but not constrained by, national and intergovernmental initiatives involves both a technical challenge and a collaborative challenge, requiring effective public and private collaboration within an efficient and transparent process.

*The Technical Challenge:* The architecture of each module must be based on sound technical premises and an understanding of the practical considerations of collecting and reporting information. This collaboration will build on the significant progress that has already been made by existing reporting efforts. A core measurement and reporting module for greenhouse gas emissions from an organization's direct operations should be possible within a short-time frame. We anticipate that additional modules addressing, *product impacts*, and *carbon sequestration* will take longer to develop.

*The Collaborative Challenge:* This collaborative effort aims to achieve alignment on unresolved reporting issues, such as how a reporting entity is defined, who owns emissions, reporting formats, and units, how to define measurement and reporting boundaries, how to relate to national reporting and emissions inventory schemes, which conversion factors to use, and the use of verification and certification procedures. The success of the project is therefore dependent on securing input, synergy, and support from a range of key international actors.

**Methodology:** *The protocol will be designed around a structured, but flexible, modular approach, consisting of three separate but inter-linked modules: core operations, product impacts, and carbon sequestration.*

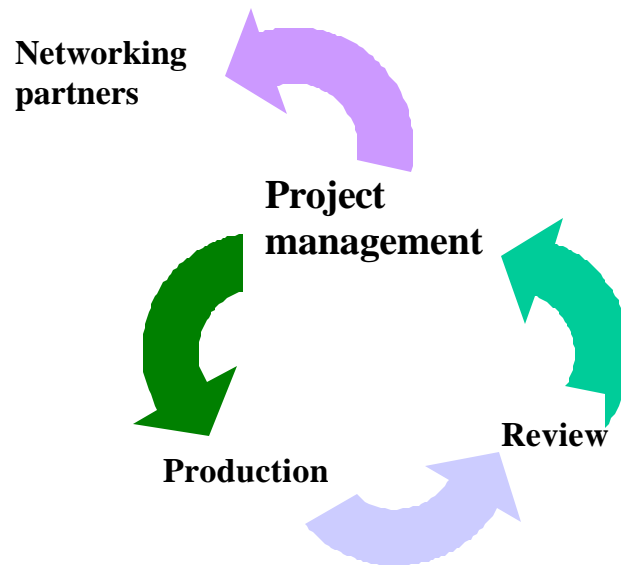
A modular approach will:

- allow a phased release and testing of parts of the protocol, as they are developed, and early interaction between teams (with the basic protocol for core operations being released in advance of more detailed modules)
- permit a smoother demand on resources and funds
- build on the positive experience gained and create a learning curve dynamic
- create a structured but flexible reporting framework that enables companies to tailor its use to their own specific needs and resources

Much of the work will be conducted in a virtual manner (e.g. the Production team experts will communicate through e-mail in developing the core protocol and in conducting the initial phases of peer review and road testing). Workshops will be held at appropriate stages of the work to finalize products, address any outstanding issues and initiate subsequent phases. The Project Management team will meet as necessary as part of the performance management and networking process. Participating companies, as well as other interested parties, will undertake 'road-tests' of the protocol modules, as they are prepared.

**Organizational Structure:** The project will be undertaken in a spirit of collaboration and will rely on achieving performance through teamwork -- based on clear roles and specific responsibilities. Responsibility for developing, reviewing, pilot testing, and dissemination will be shared among a Project Management team, Production team, Peer Review team, and Networking Partners.

Proposed Organizational Structure



The proposed responsibilities of each of the four inter-connected teams is indicated below:

Role	Responsibility
<b>Project Management</b>	Direction and performance delivery <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Convene participants, manage relationships, and facilitate teamwork</li> <li>• Network with related efforts</li> <li>• Publicize and disseminate products</li> </ul>
<b>Production</b>	Research, analysis, and production of modules <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review existing protocols and approaches</li> <li>• Identify key measurement parameters, conversion factors, and estimation procedures</li> <li>• Produce core module, produce extension modules</li> <li>• Develop supporting implementation tools and guidance</li> </ul>
<b>Peer Review</b>	Quality control and technical advice <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review modules and guidance papers</li> <li>• Test practicality of guidance &amp; compatibility with other protocols</li> <li>• Discuss issues with Project Management and Production teams</li> <li>• Support and engage in 'road testing'</li> </ul>
<b>Networking</b>	Interface with other related climate and reporting efforts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exchange information, hold joint seminars, and workshops where appropriate</li> <li>• Establish linkages to other reporting efforts</li> <li>• Disseminate and encourage uptake of protocol</li> </ul>

**Participating Organizations Include:**

Arthur D. Little, Inc	Global Environmental Management Initiative	STMicroelectronics
Australian Greenhouse Gas Office	Global Reporting Initiative	Suncor
BP Amoco plc	Imperial Chemical Industries plc	Tata Energy Research Institute
Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants	Interface Research Corporation	Tokyo Electric Power Company Inc.
CEO Coalition to Advance Sustainable Technology	International Paper	ThermoRetec
CERES	Norsk Hydro	Trexler & Associates, Inc
Center for Energy and Climate Solutions	Pew Center on Global Climate Change	UNEP
CH <sub>2</sub> M HILL	PowerGen	US Department of Energy
Clean Energy Group	Pricewaterhouse Coopers LLP	US Environmental Protection Agency
Climate Neutral Network	Public Service Enterprise Group	United Technologies Corporation
Consolidated Edison Co. of New York	Rocky Mountain Institute	WBCSD
Dow Chemical Company	Shell International	WRI
General Motors		World Wildlife Fund

**Further Information:** If you are interested in participating in this project, or would like further information, please visit the collaboration's website at: <http://www.ghgprotocol.org/>  
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