



SCIENCE
BASED
TARGETS

DRIVING AMBITIOUS CORPORATE CLIMATE ACTION

OPEN CALL: VALIDATION COUNCIL MEMBERS

March 2024

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Summary

The Science Based Targets Initiative (SBTi) is calling for interested candidates to apply to be considered as members of the SBTi Validation Council.

The SBTi Validation Council is an independent deliberation and decision-making body, with delegated authority from the SBTi Board of Trustees to oversee the governance of the target validation work and approve the standard operating procedures for conformity assessments in compliance to SBTi standards and related instruments, including monitoring and resolving issues of impartiality, fairness, quality of client services and conformity assessments and compliance to data protection, rights to privacy and other regulatory matters.

The Validation Council will be recruited by the SBTi and through the governance evolution of the SBTi, the Council will be transferred to SBTi Services Limited. SBTi Services Limited is the name of SBTi's separate validation entity, a wholly owned subsidiary of the SBTi, a charity registered in England and Wales (charity number 1205768) and a limited company (company number 14960097).

About the SBTi

The SBTi drives corporate climate action by enabling businesses and financial institutions globally to set science-based greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reduction targets. It was formed as a collaboration between CDP, the United Nations Global Compact, World Resources Institute (WRI), the World Wildlife Fund (WWF), and the We Mean Business Coalition.

The SBTi's goal is to enable companies worldwide to do what climate science requires of the global economy: to halve emissions by 2030, and achieve net-zero before 2050. The SBTi develops criteria and provides tools and guidance to enable businesses and financial institutions to set greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reduction targets in line with what science tells us is needed to keep global heating below 1.5°C. The SBTi offers a range of target setting resources and assesses and approves companies' targets in conformity to the SBTi standards and related instruments.

Responsibilities of the Validation Council

1. Approves the *Standard Operating Procedure for SBTi Target Validation*, and ensures that validation decision making follows the Operating Procedures.

2. Ensures that decisions taken by SBTi Target Validation are consistent with *Standard Operating Procedure for SBTi Target Validation* work as adopted by the SBTi Board of Trustees.
3. Monitors, provides risk mitigation strategies, and oversees key decisions on serious incidents in breach of SBTi's policies and code of conduct, including applicable laws and regulations.
4. Monitors and oversees that commercial, financial or other pressures do not compromise the integrity of SBTi's Target Validation, through the allegation, complaint and appeals processes. Enables the public, private and civil society trust and confidence in the conformity assessments made.
5. Responds to appeals about SBTi Validation decisions if the initial responses from the SBTi Target Validation are unsatisfactory.
6. Ensures that all members of the Validation Council follow the *Conflict of Interest and Conflict of Loyalty Policy* and the *Principles for the Code of Conduct of the Validation Council*.

Commitments for Validation Council members

1. Adhere to the *Terms of Reference* of the Validation Council;
2. Conduct in line with the Validation Council *Principles of the Code of Conduct*;
3. Know the SBTi mission, purpose and goals and the environment in which the organisation operates;
4. Always act in the interest of the SBTi and not in the interest of individual members;
5. Dedicate an appropriate amount of time to the Validation Council;
6. Attend Validation Council meetings (physical and/or virtual) and adequately prepare for meetings and discussions;
7. Allocate sufficient time to prepare to read written deliberations on SBTi Validation decisions;
8. Declare all conflicts of interest at nomination and before taking part in decision-making processes in line with the SBTi Validation Council *Conflict of Interest and Conflict of Loyalty Policy*.

Selection Criteria for candidates (Essential experience)

- **Demonstrated technical competence and knowledge of conformity assessments:** high level of knowledge, technical competence and experience in conformity assessments or third party certification, and/or been a member of independent certification or verification body or an impartiality committee of such bodies. A broad base of skills, experience and perspectives is needed, therefore Validation Council members may also have professional backgrounds that reflect a diverse range of expertise and roles that are relevant to the mission of the SBTi.

- **Ability to analyse:** Members of the Validation Council should have demonstrated the ability to analyse issues and consider the implications of that analysis for the decision-making process.
- **Communication skills:** Effective oral and written communication skills are necessary. These skills include the ability to communicate effectively in private meetings with members of the Validation Council, in public meetings, and in written materials, speeches, articles, memos and external correspondence. Communication skills also include the ability to listen to and consider the views of others. While a working knowledge of English is necessary, there should be no discrimination in selection against those for whom English is not their first language.
- **Judicious decision-making:** Members of the Validation Council should be capable of considering varied viewpoints, weighing the evidence presented in an impartial manner, and reaching well-reasoned and supportable decisions in a timely fashion.
- **Awareness of the climate environment:** Members of the Validation Council should have an understanding of the global economic environment in which SBTi operates. This global awareness should include awareness of sustainability, climate mitigation, business and financial reporting issues that are relevant to the mission of the SBTi in the various capital markets worldwide.
- **Ability to work in a collegial atmosphere:** Members should be able to show respect, tact and consideration for one another's views and those of third parties. Members must be able to work with one another in making deliberations based on the objective of the SBTi to develop high-quality and transparent validations. Members must be able to put the objective of the SBTi above individual philosophies and interests.
- **Integrity, objectivity and discipline:** The credibility of members should be demonstrated through their integrity and objectivity. This includes intellectual integrity as well as integrity in dealing with fellow members of the Validation Council and others. Members should demonstrate an ability to be objective in reaching decisions. Members should also demonstrate an ability to show rigorous discipline.
- **Commitment to the SBTi's mission:** Members should be committed to achieving the objective of the SBTi of establishing validation decisions that are of high quality, comparable and transparent

Term and time commitments

- Members of the Validation Council are appointed by the SBTi's Board of Trustees for a term of three years, with a two-term limit for any member.
- The Validation Council convenes as required, and at least once every six months.

- Validation Council members may expect to commit five to six days per year to SBTi Validation Council activities.

How to apply

- Send your resume, relevant certifications, and cover letter detailing how your profile adjusts to the outlined experience and skills required and why you wish to be considered for the validation council to kris@climate17.com with the subject "Validation Council Member Application" by March 22nd

Selection process

- Climate 17 will conduct an assessment of candidates applications (review of documentation)
- Selected candidates will be contacted for panel interviews by SBTi
- The SBTi will present a list of selected candidates to the SBTi Nominations Committee and the Board of Trustees for consideration, approval and appointment to the Validation Council

