SBTi Call to Action Guidelines

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About the Science Based Targets initiative

The Science Based Targets initiative champions science-based target setting as a powerful way of boosting companies' competitive advantage in the transition to the low-carbon economy. It is a collaboration between CDP, World Resources Institute (WRI), the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF), and the United Nations Global Compact (UNGC) and one of the We Mean Business Coalition commitments. The initiative defines and promotes best practice in science-based target setting, offers resources and guidance to reduce barriers to adoption, and independently assesses and approves companies' targets. Learn more about us on our website.

Why join the Science Based Targets initiative?

How can business help prevent dangerous climate change?

The Paris agreement in 2015 saw near 200 of the world's governments commit to prevent dangerous climate change by limiting global warming to well-below 2°C. This signaled an acceleration in the transition to a low carbon economy. Many companies are already demonstrating they have the skills, expertise and ingenuity to make this a reality - but need ambitious emissions reduction targets that ensure the transformational action they take is aligned with current climate science. Targets adopted by companies to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions are considered "science-based" if they are in line with the level of decarbonization that, according to science, holds likely chances of reaching the goals under the Paris Agreement.

The Science Based Targets initiative enables companies to demonstrate their leadership on climate action by publicly committing to science-based GHG reduction targets. As more and more companies join the initiative it will create a critical mass that will drive an increase in science-based target setting throughout the private sector. The overall aim of the initiative is that by 2020 science-based target setting will become standard business practice and corporations will play a major role in ensuring we keep global warming well-below a 2°C increase.

Benefits of setting science-based targets

In addition to preventing the adverse effects of climate change, science-based targets are advantageous for companies as well. Ambitious targets increase innovation; reduce regulatory uncertainty; strengthen investor confidence and credibility; and improve profitability and competitiveness. For more information on the benefits of setting science-based targets, refer to our 'Why Set a Science Based Target?' page.

Benefits of joining the SBTi Call to Action

The SBTi defines and promotes best practice in science-based target setting and offers resources and guidance to reduce barriers to adoption. The initiative is backed by four of the more prestigious environmental organizations, including CDP, UNGC, WRI and WWF. Through the initiative, these organizations conduct a comprehensive quality assessment of the targets and provide multiple opportunities of showcasing for approved targets.

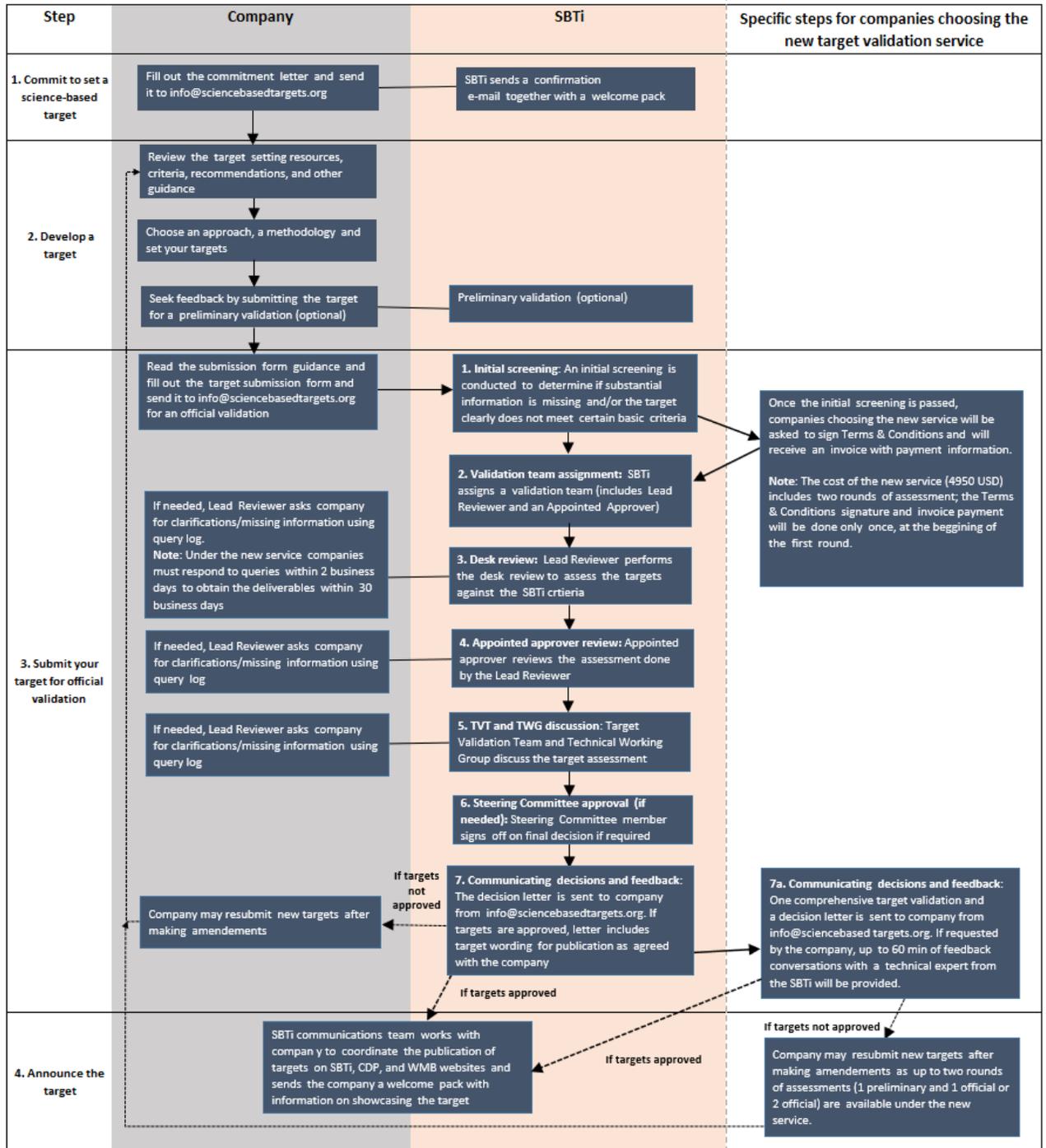**Who can join the Science Based Targets initiative?**

The Science Based Targets initiative promotes corporate climate action and encourages companies from all sectors to demonstrate their leadership by setting science-based emissions reduction targets. The initiative particularly welcomes efforts from the highest emitting sectors as they play a crucial role in ensuring the transition towards a low-carbon economy.

Currently, the initiative does not engage with cities, local governments, public sector institutions, educational institutions or other types of non-profit organizations. However, the initiative encourages interested stakeholders to reference science-based target setting methods when developing their greenhouse gas emissions targets.

In addition, the SBTi cannot accept targets submitted by companies in certain sectors in which further methodological work is required to validate the level of ambition of the target against a 2°C decarbonization trajectory at the moment. This includes financial institutions and oil and gas companies (with exploration/production activities). For the details of how the SBTi defines a financial institution please refer to this document. Further development work is also being conducted in other sectors (e.g. apparel and chemicals) to refine sector-specific guidance and/or improve available reduction pathways. Companies in these and other sectors are encouraged to visit the Sector Development section on our website to learn about ongoing sectoral development work and to contact the initiative to learn about opportunities to engage in these efforts.

Overview of the SBTi Call to Action process

The infographic below outlines the different steps in the SBTi Call to Action process, from committing to having an approved target announced.

Step	Company	SBTi	Specific steps for companies choosing the new target validation service
1. Commit to set a science-based target	Fill out the commitment letter and send it to info@sciencebasedtargets.org	SBTi sends a confirmation e-mail together with a welcome pack	
2. Develop a target	Review the target setting resources, criteria, recommendations, and other guidance Choose an approach, a methodology and set your targets Seek feedback by submitting the target for a preliminary validation (optional)	Preliminary validation (optional)	
3. Submit your target for official validation	Read the submission form guidance and fill out the target submission form and send it to info@sciencebasedtargets.org for an official validation If needed, Lead Reviewer asks company for clarifications/missing information using query log. **Note:** Under the new service companies must respond to queries within 2 business days to obtain the deliverables within 30 business days If needed, Lead Reviewer asks company for clarifications/missing information using query log If needed, Lead Reviewer asks company for clarifications/missing information using query log Company may resubmit new targets after making amendements	**1. Initial screening:** An initial screening is conducted to determine if substantial information is missing and/or the target clearly does not meet certain basic criteria **2. Validation team assignment:** SBTi assigns a validation team (includes Lead Reviewer and an Appointed Approver) **3. Desk review:** Lead Reviewer performs the desk review to assess the targets against the SBTi crtieria **4. Appointed approver review:** Appointed approver reviews the assessment done by the Lead Reviewer **5. TVT and TWG discussion:** Target Validation Team and Technical Working Group discuss the target assessment **6. Steering Committee approval (if needed):** Steering Committee member signs off on final decision if required **7. Communicating decisions and feedback:** The decision letter is sent to company from info@sciencebasedtargets.org. If targets are approved, letter includes target wording for publication as agreed with the company	Once the initial screening is passed, companies choosing the new service will be asked to sign Terms & Conditions and will receive an invoice with payment information. **Note:** The cost of the new service (4950 USD) includes two rounds of assessment; the Terms & Conditions signature and invoice payment will be done only once, at the beggining of the first round. **7a. Communicating decisions and feedback:** One comprehensive target validation and a decision letter is sent to company from info@sciencebased targets.org. If requested by the company, up to 60 min of feedback conversations with a technical expert from the SBTi will be provided.
4. Announce the target	SBTi communications team works with company to coordinate the publication of targets on SBTi, CDP, and WMB websites and sends the company a welcome pack with information on showcasing the target		Company may resubmit new targets after making amendements as up to two rounds of assessments (1 preliminary and 1 official or 2 official) are available under the new service.

If targets not approved

If targets approved

If targets approved

If targets not approved

Step 1: Commit to set a science-based target

How to commit

Companies that wish to commit to set a science-based target should review and complete the commitment letter and send it to info@sciencebasedtargets.org. Financial institutions should use the commitment letter that is specific to their sector. Companies that have committed will receive a "Communications Welcome Pack" with more information on how to communicate their commitment.

We Mean Business

We Mean Business, a coalition of organizations working with thousands of the world's most influential businesses and investors, provides a platform for businesses and investors to be recognized for their climate action. Through the We Mean Business campaign, companies can commit to setting science-based targets as well as other actions such as procure 100% of electricity from renewable sources or put a price on carbon. By default, companies that commit to the Science Based Targets initiative count towards the We Mean Business Campaign. However, companies that commit to set science-based targets through the We Mean Business Commit to Action Campaign are required to sign the SBTi commitment letter to be formally recognized by the initiative.

Companies that have already committed to other closely-related We Mean Business initiatives such as RE100 or EP100 are likely well-suited to set a science-based target. Likewise, those committed to science-based targets should consider how committing to 100% renewable power or improving their energy productivity would support their emission reduction efforts.

Benefits of committing

Signing the commitment letter indicates that the company will work towards setting a science-based emission reduction target. If the company already has an emissions reduction target, the letter confirms its interest in having its existing targets verified against a set of criteria developed by the Science Based Targets initiative.

After a company submits its commitment letter to info@sciencebasedtargets.org, it will be recognized as "Committed" on our Companies Taking Action webpage, as well as the We Mean Business and CDP websites. Companies who are engaging in the UN Global Compact will also be recognized on this website.

Step 2: Develop a target

Once a company signed the commitment letter, it will have up to 24 months to develop a science-based target. The target has to be in line with the criteria the SBTi considers critical for qualifying a target as "science-based." The SBTi has developed a suite of tools and guidance to help companies understand how to meet these criteria.

## Review the latest target-setting resources

General guidance

Appendix I of this document provides resources on standards for calculating a company's GHG inventory, science-based target setting methods and how to set a science-based target. Companies should review relevant materials to ensure their inventory is calculated properly and is in line with the latest GHG accounting protocols, standards, and recommendations. The SBTi will support companies to understand which resources are available and which are the most appropriate for their needs. To stay up-to-date on our latest resources, events and other developments, companies are encouraged to join our newsletter by clicking 'sign up for updates' on our website, and/or visit our website regularly.

CDP Questionnaire

Companies can also be recognized for their science-based target setting efforts through the CDP disclosure platform. CDP considers targets approved by the initiative to reflect best practices in science-based target setting. Accordingly, CDP is incentivizing the adoption of science-based targets in its Climate Change Questionnaire. Targets approved by the SBTi earn leadership points, which are the highest scoring level in the questionnaire. For further information, please see the CDP Technical Note on Science-Based Targets. A 2019 version will version will be released in February 2019.

SBTi criteria and recommendations

Targets must meet all of the SBTi criteria in order to be approved. Companies should follow the recommendations that accompany the criteria wherever possible, though they are not required. The criteria and recommendations were developed using the GHG accounting and mitigation expertise of the Science Based Targets initiative partner organizations, with support from the SBTi's Technical Advisory Group. Note that the SBTi criteria will be updated on an annual basis as per the timeline below starting in 2019. Companies should make sure they are using the latest version of the criteria when developing their targets.

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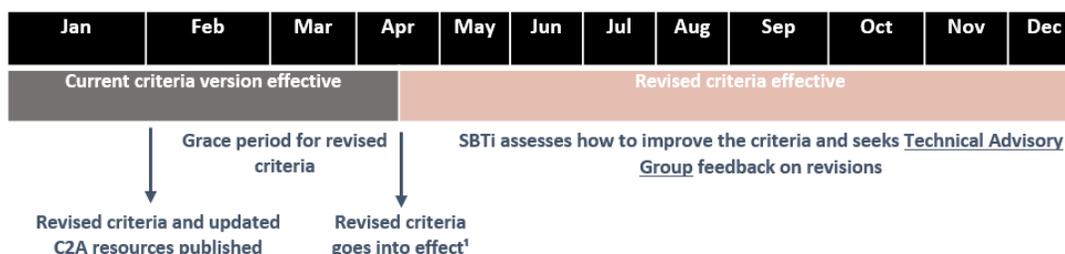
[1]The criteria will go into effect one day after the deadline to submit targets for CDP scoring, which is typically April 15th. The 2019 deadline will be confirmed as soon as possible through communications on the SBTi website and CDP's 2019 Technical Note on SBTs.

Choose an approach and a methodology

Once companies have reviewed the relevant guidance, they need to choose an approach and then a methodology to set their science-based target. The Methods page provides a detailed explanation of the different approaches and methodologies available, as well as recommendations for setting science-based targets. The Draft Science-based Target Setting Manual is being updated to reflect current best practices. In the meantime, please refer to the SBTi criteria for information on how the SBTi validates targets and best practices in setting them. In addition, please note it is highly recommended that when a company is developing its target, it remains in contact with the initiative to ensure it has the latest information on resources and recommendations.

Companies must also align their science-based targets with the requirements established through sector development work approved by the SBTi, and are encouraged to consider additional recommendations. Please visit the SBTi website "Sector Development" section for information on the sector-specific existing resources.

Targets do not necessarily have to be developed using one of the listed science-based target setting methods on our website as long as they meet all the SBTi criteria. However, if the target was developed using a recognized or recommended method, it should be noted in the target submission form to help in the target validation process.

Developing a Sector Pathway

The Sectoral Decarbonization Approach (SDA) for science-based target-setting, a method developed by the SBTi partners with support from Ecofys, covers a number of sectors. However, it needs to cover additional sectors, and more nuanced trajectories for sectors currently included need to be developed. The Science Based Targets initiative invites interested stakeholders to contribute to the expansion of the SDA methodology as established in the Sector Development Framework, which sets the guidelines to be followed by organizations interested in developing a science-based emissions reduction pathway or sector guidance to be considered for inclusion in the SDA.

Engaging with the SBTi throughout the target development process

It is highly recommended that when a company is developing its target, it remains in contact with the initiative to ensure it has the latest information on resources and recommendations, as there may be refinements before the initiative is able to update the guidance documents. After reviewing all the available resources, companies can send any questions to info@sciencebasedtargets.org. Companies that have sent questions should ensure this address is added to their contacts so that emails do not get filed in their spam folder.

Preliminary vs. official validations

To receive detailed feedback and determine the likelihood that targets would be considered science-based, companies may fill out the target submission form and submit the target for a 'preliminary validation'. The table below outlines the differences between preliminary and official validations. Note that companies that are CDP responders should select official validation in order for it to be considered for CDP scoring.

Item	Preliminary validation	Official validation
Who can be assessed	- Any company.	- Any company except financial institutions and oil and gas companies.
Scope	- Evaluation of a company's target(s) against all SBTi criteria. - Evaluation of partial targets (e.g. only scope 3 targets)	- Evaluation of a company's target(s) against all SBTi criteria.
Target submission form	- Submission form must be completed as required per the validation requested.	- Entire submission form must be completed.
Reviewed by	- TVT and TWG, and if needed SC	- TVT and TWG, and if needed SC
Priority	- Same level of priority than official validations, evaluated on a first come, first served basis, except between March to July[2] when official validations for CDP scoring are prioritized.	- Same level of priority than preliminary validations, evaluated on a first come, first served basis, except between March to July when official validations for CDP scoring are prioritized.
Level of feedback provided	- Detailed feedback is provided. - A feedback letter is issued (not a final decision).	- Detailed feedback is provided. - A final decision letter is issued.
Validity of decision	- Targets submitted for preliminary validation will not be published by the SBTi but if the feedback provided is that targets meet the criteria, the decision is valid for six months from when the company received the feedback letter. This means if the company resubmits the exact same targets that were preliminary approved within six months, they should pass the official validation. - Targets modeled using an old version of a tool/methods must be submitted for official validation within six months after the revision date of the most recent tool/method. After that period, the targets must be recalculated using the new tool/method.	- Approved targets modelled with an old version of a tool/method are valid only within six months after the issuance date of the most recent tool/method. After that period, the targets must be recalculated using the new tool/method.
Communications	- No results communicated publicly.	- Only targets that passed the official validation will be included in communications materials. Companies must announce approved targets publicly within six months of the approval date (when decision letter was sent).

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[2] The SBTi receives a high number of target submissions for CDP scoring between these months each year. In order to finalize those target validations on time for CDP scoring, official validations submitted for CDP scoring will be prioritized during this period.

Step 3: Submit your target for validation

Official validation of a company's target ensures that it meets a set of rigorous criteria defined by the Science Based Targets initiative. It is the company's responsibility to make the case that the target is science-based and clearly provide appropriate information. The section below provides an overview of the validation process.

Submit the target for an official validation

How company information is treated

The Science Based Targets initiative safeguards the confidentiality of all information provided by the company to assess its targets. This means that information provided will not be shared with external stakeholders or used for any other purpose than validating the target.

The new target validation service

The SBTi is introducing a new service for target validations. With this paid service the initiative aims to provide a faster target validation process and additional feedback to companies. Detailed information on this can be found in our FAQs page, Section E.

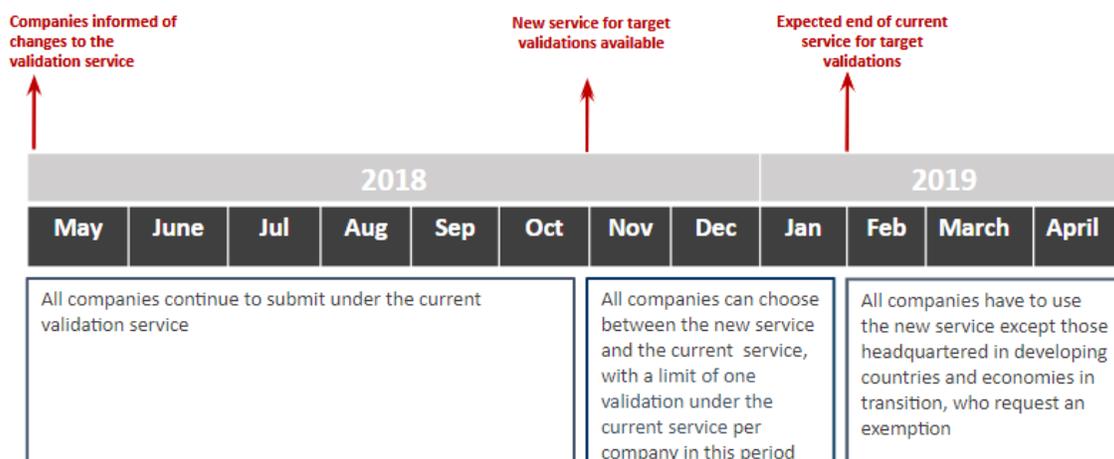### Availability of the new and current target validation service

The option to elect a new service is expected to be available from October 2018.[3] The current free service option will still be available until the end of January 2019. Under the free target validation, companies will still receive a standard decision letter following their target submission, but they will not benefit from the faster validation process or additional in-depth feedback from target reviewers. **Note that there will be a limit of one free target submission per company (including preliminary target validations) between October and 31 January 2018.**

From February 2019, free validations will no longer be available except to companies headquartered in economies in transition and developing countries.[4] Please refer to the timeline below for a summary on the availability of each service in 2018/2019.

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[3]The exact date is TBD but further information will be provided on the SBTi website as soon as possible.
[4] As defined by the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat in the World Economic Situation and Prospects 2018. See FAQ E7 for more information.

2018								2019			
May	**June**	**Jul**	**Aug**	**Sep**	**Oct**	**Nov**	**Dec**	**Jan**	**Feb**	**March**	**April**

Companies informed of changes to the validation service

New service for target validations available

Expected end of current service for target validations

All companies continue to submit under the current validation service

All companies can choose between the new service and the current service, with a limit of one validation under the current service per company in this period

All companies have to use the new service except those headquartered in developing countries and economies in transition, who request an exemption

Current service vs. new service

Starting from October 2018[3], companies wishing to obtain further feedback and a faster turnaround time will be able to opt for the new target validation service for a fee. Differences between the current and the new service are summarized in the table below.

Item	Current service	New service
Who can be assessed	- Any company until 31 January 2018 - Note that there will be a limit of one free target submission per company (including preliminary target validations) between October and 31 January 2018.	- Any company that passes the initial screening - Note that the cost for companies headquartered in developing countries and economies in transition can be waived.
Target submission form	- Submission form must be completed as required per the validation requested.	- Submission form must be completed as required per the validation requested, indicating that the company elects to use the new target validation service.
Reviewed by	- TVT and TWG, and if needed SC	- TVT and TWG, and if needed SC
Level of feedback provided	- A feedback letter or a final decision letter is issued.	- Detailed feedback is provided for each round of assessment[5] through a: o Comprehensive target validation report including recommendations to address non-compliances if applicable o Written decision letter (official validations) or

[5]The standard cost of the new service will be 4950 USD and include two rounds of assessments. Each round of assessment includes the following: the submission form is completed by the company; the submitted targets are assessed against the SBTi criteria; a report, a letter and a feedback call are provided. Please our FAQs page, Section E for more information.

Item	Current service	New service
		feedback letter (preliminary validations) o Up to 60 min of feedback conversations with a technical expert from the SBTi
Turnaround times		- Written decision letter and target validation report within 30 working days
Communications	- Assistance with formulating the final wording of a target for official validations only (if approved)	- Assistance with formulating the final wording of a target for official validations only (if approved)

Target submission form

Companies that wish to submit targets to be evaluated should download the latest target submission form and guidance and fill it out as clearly, completely, and accurately as possible. It is highly recommended that companies consult the guidance available to complete the form, including the target language guidance (Annex I and II) before filling out the form. Companies must indicate in the target submission form if they wish to use the new target validation service. Additional documents should be attached only if they are directly related to the information requested. Companies should reference the specific page numbers, figures or text that is being referred to in accompanying documents. Missing, unclear, or erroneous information will result in the validation process being delayed.

It is the company's responsibility to ensure the integrity of the information provided. Once the form is completed, companies should send it together with any supporting documents in one email to info@sciencebasedtargets.org.

Validation process

Process overview

After the target is submitted, the target validation process follows the steps described below. Specific information related to the new validation service is indicated in blue boxes. For processes and timelines regarding validations for CDP scoring companies can refer to the CDP Technical Note on Science-based Targets. A 2019 version with updated details on timelines will be released in February 2019.

I. Initial screening
A member of the SBTi team performs a review to ensure that the company has properly and completely filled-out the Target Submission Form, and that certain basic SBTi criteria (ex. C4 on Timeframe) is met. The form may be sent back to the company outlining sections of the form that are missing and/or unclear. Once the form is deemed complete, a Validation Team is assigned. If basic criteria are not met, the company will receive a decision letter at this point.

For companies choosing **the new target validation service**, the initial screening will be performed before the Terms & Conditions are signed and before the invoice is sent to the company, to ensure basic criteria is met. If the initial screening is met, companies choosing the new target validation service in their submission form will be asked to sign the Terms & Conditions and will receive an invoice with payment information after the signature process.

II. Validation team assignment

The SBTi will assign a Validation Team for the target which includes a Lead Reviewer (LR), who is a qualified professional from one of the SBTi's partner organizations, and an Appointed Approver (AA) who is a qualified professional from a different partner organization as the reviewer. The LR will be the main point of contact between the company and the SBTi. Teams are assigned in a way that ensures that any real or perceived conflicts of interest are avoided. Note that if the company had submitted a preliminary or official validation previously, the same reviewer will be assigned whenever possible.

III. Desk review

The Lead Reviewer will thoroughly assess the accuracy, relevance, completeness, consistency, and transparency of the information provided by the company in the submission form and any accompanying documents. The LR may send clarifications or information requests to the company summarized in a query log. The company must respond in writing to the query and send it back to the SBTi. After all queries are answered, the LR evaluates the company's target against the SBTi criteria and fills out a target validation report with her/his decision and sends it to the Appointer Approver.

Note that for companies choosing **the new target validation service**, queries received from the validation team throughout the process must be answered within 2 business days if the company wishes to receive the validation deliverables within 30 business days.

IV. Appointed Approver review

The Appointed Approver reviews the assessment done by the Lead Reviewer and also completes the target validation report confirming that all validation criteria have been assessed. If he agrees with the recommendations from the Lead Reviewer, the Lead Reviewer sends the report for discussion within the Target Validation Team (TVT) and the Technical Working Group (TWG).

V. TVT and TWG discussion and approval

The LR submits the target validation report for discussion to the SBTi's TVT and TWG. If needed, the Lead Reviewer may ask the company for further information. Once all comments from the TVT and the TWG are addressed, the LR forwards the recommendations for final sign-off on the validation outcome. On specific cases where the validation process is particularly complex, the target discussion will be escalated to the Steering Committee for appraisal and final sign-off on the validation outcome.

VI. Steering Committee approval (if needed)

For specific cases where reaching a decision is particularly complex, the TVT and TWG might request that the Steering Committee provides final sign off on the validation decision. In those cases, the SC discusses the case and makes the final decision on the target submission.

VII. Communicating decisions and feedback

Once sign off on the target decision is obtained, under the current service, a final decision letter (for

official validations) will be sent to the company from info@sciencebasedtargets.org. If approved, the letter will include the wording of the target to be made public as agreed upon by the SBTi and the company. If one or more of the criteria have not been met, the decision letter will indicate which criteria and why. For preliminary target validations, companies will only receive a feedback letter.

> For companies choosing **the new target validation service**, for each assessment, they will receive, one comprehensive target validation report including recommendations to address non-compliances if applicable, and a written decision letter within 30 working days. Companies choosing the new service will also benefit with up to 60 min of feedback conversations with a technical expert from the SBTi for each assessment if requested; these feedback conversations may happen within the 15 business days after the decision or feedback letter is sent.

Resubmission

In any case, companies whose targets didn't meet the criteria are encouraged to address the comments in the decision letter and resubmit their targets for validation.

> For companies choosing **the new target validation service**, two rounds of assessments will be provided for the cost of USD 4950. That means a company will be able to submit twice if needed, under that service. For example, if the company's first submission is not approved, it has the opportunity to update its targets considering the recommendations and feedback received and resubmit them for a second round of assessment. Note however that for companies choosing the resubmission price (USD 2490), only one round of assessment will be included.

Step 4: Announce the target

Shortly after the official approval letter is sent, a member of the SBTi communications team will contact the company to coordinate the public announcement of the target. A "Welcome Pack" will be sent to the company, which outlines how the target can be showcased/ communicated, how the SBTi logo may be used, and how the SBTi approval may be referenced. Once timing is agreed, the company will be listed as a company with an "approved target" on our Companies Taking Action webpage as well as on our partners' websites at We Mean Business and CDP. The SBTi can embargo the release/announcement date of an approved target, but it should be announced within six months from the approval date (when the decision letter was sent).

Glossary

Appointed Approver (AA): A technical expert, directly employed by one of the SBTi partners, who performs target validations and reviews assessments made by Lead Reviewers. Within a Validation Team for a specific target, the AA is from a different organization than the LR.

Initial screening: A review for completeness of the target submission form, to ensure the company has provided all information required to assess the target and if the target meets certain criteria that is assessed at this stage (e.g. boundary, timeframe).

Lead Reviewer (LR): A technical expert, directly employed by one of the SBTi partners, who performs target validations including the following activities: reviews submission forms, assesses targets against SBTi criteria, liaises with companies, and submits assessments and recommendations.

New target validation service: A new and enhanced target validation paid service that will aim to provide a faster process and additional feedback to companies.

Query log: A record of questions or requests for further information sent to the company and the company's response.

Resubmission: When the company sends a new or improved target back to the SBTi for evaluation after a previous official validation determined that the target did not meet one or more of the criteria.

Round of Assessment: Process from when the company sending a completed submission form to when the SBTi issues a decision on proposed targets and the related deliverables after the targets have been assessed against the SBTi criteria.

Science Based Targets initiative partners (SBTi partners): The Science Based Targets initiative is a joint initiative by CDP, the UN Global Compact, the World Resources Institute (WRI) and the World Wide Fund For Nature (WWF), hereafter referred to as the partners.

Steering Committee: The decision-making body of the SBTi initiative, composed of one representative from each of the four SBTi partner organizations. One of its functions is to provide the final sign-off on target validation decisions that are particularly complex.

Target submission form: The form the company fills out with its inventory and target information. The SBTi uses the information on the form to determine if the targets meet its criteria during a preliminary or official target validation.

Target validation (official): Evaluation process that a target must pass in order for the SBTi to endorse it as science-based. Only positive results are communicated publicly. The target validation is not a negotiation of a company's target(s), rather an assessment of the target(s) against the SBTi criteria.

Target validation (preliminary): Evaluation process that can be used to determine if a target or part of a target is in line with the SBTi criteria. No results are communicated publicly. The target validation is not a negotiation of a company's target(s), rather an assessment of the target(s) against the SBTi criteria.

Target Validation Team (TVT): The technical arm of the SBTi that conducts target validations. Lead Reviewers are typically members of the TVT but they might be supported by the TWG to act as AA and/or external consultants hired to assist with the desk review portion of the target validation process.

Technical Working Group (TWG): The technical arm of the SBTi that develops tools and sector-specific developments. The TWG might also support the TVT as Appointed Approvers.

Appendix I - Target-setting resources

The Science Based Targets initiative highly recommends companies review the resources below before setting their emissions reduction targets. Please note that this list is comprehensive but not exhaustive.

GHG accounting standards and guidance
The Greenhouse Gas Protocol is the most used global standard for how to measure, manage, and report greenhouse gas emissions. Before setting a science-based target, companies should first ensure that their inventory is accurately calculated following these standards and guidance or other equivalent standards.

- GHG Protocol Corporate Standard: A step-by-step standard that companies can use to quantify and report their GHG emissions.
- GHG Protocol Scope 2 Guidance: How to measure emissions from purchased or acquired electricity, steam, heat, and cooling.

General guidance
- What is a science-based target?: The short video below provides a high-level overview of main science-based targets concepts.

Methods and approaches
- Draft Science-based Target Setting Manual: Guidance for companies that are considering setting a GHG emissions reduction target, in the process of developing a new target, or adjusting a previous target. The Manual is being updated to reflect latest best practices. In the meantime, please refer to the SBTi criteria for the requirements targets are assessed against.
- Methods: Basic information on the different methods and approaches for setting science-based targets. It includes an animated infographic explaining the three approaches and links to resources/tools specific to each method.
- The SDA tool allows companies to enter their data and determine their science-based targets according to the SDA method and is regularly updated with recent ETP data.
- The Transport tool can be used to model science-based targets for direct and indirect transport emissions, with an accompany supportive and explanatory document, Transport science-based target setting guidance.

Scope 3
- GHG Protocol Corporate Value Chain (Scope 3) Accounting and Reporting Standard: A standard that provides requirements and guidance on calculating and reducing value chain emissions.
- GHG Protocol Scope 3 Guidance: Links to more detailed guidance on calculating emissions in each of the 15 scope 3 categories.
- Scope 3 Evaluator: A web-based tool developed by the GHG Protocol and Quantis to estimate (i.e. screen) scope 3 emissions.
- CDP Supply Chain Program: This membership program provides a platform for companies and their suppliers to capture climate change data, which can be useful for emissions reductions related to purchased goods and services.

Document History

Version	Change/update description	Date finalized	Effective Dates
1.1	Original version of the SBTi C2A Guidelines	March 2017	March 2017 to February 16th 2018
1.2	Small updates on timelines and other details	February 16th 2018	February 16th, 2018 to June 1st 2018
1.3	Added the criteria revision timeline and adapted to criteria version 3.0	June 1st 2018	June 1st 2018
1.4	Integrated information on the new target validation service and other details	October 15th 2018	October 15th 2018