

The SBTi Training & Certification Program

The Science Based Targets initiative (SBTi) enables companies and financial institutions to play their part in combating the climate crisis by reducing their greenhouse gas emissions in line with science.

Developing the knowledge, skills and understanding of the SBTi's standards, tools, guidance and validation services amongst key stakeholders is a critical part of enabling businesses worldwide to take ambitious climate action. Which is why the SBTi is launching a first-of-its-kind science-based targets training and certification program in Q3 2025.

The program is designed to:

DEVELOP

learners' understanding of the SBTi, its standards, tools, and guidance.

ACCELERATE

the adoption of science-based targets, especially in less-represented countries.

EXPAND

understanding of science-based targets through modules tailored to both beginners and specialists.

ENHANCE

the quality of target submissions to streamline the validation processes for businesses.

The training program consists of three distinct learning hubs, with each hub tailored to meet the unique needs of different learners:

SBTi Onboarding Hub

For newcomers

Outlines foundational concepts, technical principles and outline guidance on how to start setting a science-based target.

SBTi Practitioner's Hub

For intermediates

Designed to expand upon foundational knowledge through two learning routes:

Exploring: Free modules to explain existing SBTi resources.

Applying: Advanced, paid modules for practitioners and specialists to apply learnings.

SBTi Services Certification Hub

For specialists

Proves differentiated science-based targets expertise through accreditation.

Join us to build a world-class training program that will help shape the future of climate action.

Introducing SBTs

Explores the SBTi's origin, purpose, growth, and role as a standard setter. Examines the scientific basis for its ambition requirements, the value of science-based targets globally and for organizations, and the critical role of the private sector in global decarbonization.

Understanding Technical Concepts

Introduces the principles of GHG accounting and its relevance to setting science-based targets. Covers key concepts underpinning near-term and net-zero science-based emission reduction targets and outlines sector-specific standards most relevant to organizations.

Starting your Target-Setting Journey

Outlines the six-step process to set science-based targets, from registration through to communication of targets. It also covers the expectations of companies undergoing SBTi Services validation, and critical steps for preparing to set science-based targets, including costs, resources, and organizational readiness.

Introduction to FLAG

Explains the process of setting and submitting FLAG targets for validation. Outlines the rationale behind the FLAG Guidance, its requirements for separating land-based and energy and industrial emissions, and the differences between the FLAG sector commodity pathways.

Introduction to SME route

Describes the process of setting and submitting targets through the SME target validation route. Defines which organization qualifies as an SME, explains the purpose of this route and how it differs from the main corporate validation route, and best practices for reporting data, selecting targets, and registering with SBTi Services.

SBTi Practitioner's Hub

Exploring the GHG Protocol

Explains the role of the Greenhouse Gas Protocol in science-based target-setting, highlighting its connection to SBTi and outlines best practices for creating scope 3 GHG inventories that align with the SBTi requirements.

Exploring Corporate Near-Term Targets

Covers the requirements and expectations outlined in the SBTi's Corporate Near-Term Criteria. Explores key concepts, methodologies, and best practices for developing and submitting near-term science-based targets.

Exploring Corporate Net-Zero Targets

Introduces core concepts and guidance related to setting and communicating net-zero targets. Covers key concepts, including the mitigation hierarchy and BVCM, eligible long-term target types, and neutralization of residual emissions.

Applying the GHG Protocol

Deepens your understanding of the GHG Protocol, covering complex organizational boundaries scenarios, key inclusions and exclusions when developing inventories, and best practices for high-quality GHG data.

Applying Corporate Near-Term Targets

Provides you with valuable insights into how to set ambitious and feasible near-term targets and how to avoid common mistakes in target-setting. You will put these insights into action by assisting a fictitious organization to set valid near-term SBTs.

Applying Corporate Net-Zero Targets

Covers an organization's transition from near-term to long-term targets by introducing long-term target setting, neutralization, and BVCM. You will also learn how to calculate neutralization milestones.

The SBTi Professional Certification enables experienced sustainability practitioners and consultants to showcase proficiency in science-based target-setting through a rigorous, assessment-based pathway.

Key features

Comprehensive Coverage

Key competencies tested from building of GHG Protocol-aligned inventories, selecting correct SBTi standards, submitting targets; to navigating post-validation requirements.

Bridging Theory & Practice

Access premium e-learning modules exploring the SBTi's resources to help you up skill and prepare for assessment. Prepare using our readiness checklist & reading lists.

Professional Recognition

Earn an official SBTi Certified Professional Certificate, gain formal recognition of your expertise, and demonstrate your credentials on our Certification Directory.

Why become an SBTi Certified Professional?

Credibility and Recognition

Demonstrate your SBTi expertise with a globally recognized credential that builds your professional reputation and signals deep knowledge to clients, employers, and peers.

Career Advancement

There is a growing demand for professionals who can guide companies through target setting. Show your value to employers and clients by preparing comprehensive, high quality target submissions.

Join a Global Community

Get listed in our public directory, hosted on the SBTi website, of certified professionals, proving your competence and gaining visibility to new clients and employers.

There are seven sections of the assessment. Each section will ask the user technical multiple-choice questions, which will be taken from a wider pool of questions. Users are to complete at least one section per sitting, and are able to save their progress and return at another point in time to complete the next section(s). Each user gets two attempts per section.

1. GHG inventory creation

Evaluates knowledge of building a GHG inventory aligned with the GHG Protocol. Covers setting organizational boundaries, assessing data quality, and allocating scope 3 emissions - core steps in preparing for science-based target setting.

2. Selecting the correct guidance

Assesses ability to select the correct SBTi guidance and service offering for different company scenarios. Includes questions on the applicability of sector-specific guidance documents and aligning submissions with the correct validation service offerings.

3. Identifying target types

Tests understanding of the different target-setting methodologies and their key characteristics. Includes understanding the requirements for overlapping targets and assessing approaches to target aggregation.

4. Modeling targets

Focuses on formulating targets that meet SBTi ambition and coverage criteria. Includes choosing suitable intensity metrics, applying base year adjustments and forward-looking ambition.

5. Completing submission question

Assesses the ability to complete submission forms with accuracy and sufficient detail. Emphasizes appropriate data granularity, consistency, and thorough responses across all required sections of the submission form.

6. Answering validation questions

Measures understanding of the validation process and how to address non-conformities raised during technical review. Focuses on meeting current SBTi Services validation expectations through well-reasoned and thorough responses

7. Post-validation requirements

Tests application of post-validation requirements, including re-baselining, triggered target recalculations, and formal updates to approved targets. Scenarios reflect common real-world changes requiring adjustments to target submissions.