



Meeting the Challenge of Climate Change

In response to the growing international attention and concern, many companies have begun quantifying, managing, reducing, and reporting their industrial greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. However, many companies have discovered that one of the key challenges in this area is ensuring accurate and complete GHG data. Complexities in determining scope, base year and baseline, ownership, and quantification methods all impact a company’s ability to measure its emissions and its reduction activities.

The Value of GHG Assurance

Similar to financial audits, greenhouse gas audits provide assurance to internal and external stakeholders that a company’s reported GHG data are appropriately calculated. Confidence in the quality of the data is critical for decision making.

GHG auditing requires a combination of assurance skills and subject matter knowledge. PricewaterhouseCoopers has both. Our Climate Change Services team is founded on a vision of convergence between environmental and financial disciplines. We assist our clients in protecting and enhancing their shareholder value by developing and and maintaining reliable quantification and reporting processes, and integrating climate change risks and opportunities into core strategy and operations.

Greenhouse Gas Data Principles

The quality and credibility of GHG data relates to four basic principles: relevance, reliability, comparability, and auditability.

Relevance	The GHG information must be timely, and must meet the requirements of the user.
Reliability	The GHG data must be quantified using the correct measurement and calculation methodologies and aggregated in a manner that is free from material error.
Comparability	The reported GHG information must be comparable over time and, where possible, comparable with other reporting entities in the industry.
Auditability	The reported GHG data must be supported by appropriate records and evidence, such that an independent auditor would be able to conclude that emissions are appropriately calculated.



PricewaterhouseCoopers Climate Change Services

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Climate change strategy advisory	We can assist your company in evaluating the benefits and risks associated with climate change strategic options.
GHG data management system assessments	We can assist your company by evaluating your GHG data management systems, identifying areas of strength and areas of weakness, and providing recommendations for improvement in the controls.
Internal reports to management	We can provide independent assurance on GHG data reported internally to senior management.
Corporate reports to stakeholders	We can provide independent assurance on GHG reports prepared by your company and issued to external stakeholders.
Base-year determination/verification	We can assist your company in calculating or confirming your base year emissions in accordance with various recognized and emerging standards.
Due diligence for GHG transactions	We can assist your company in evaluating GHG credit and offset opportunities, using tried and tested due diligence practices.
Project validation and verification	We can assist your company in validating (pre-project) and verifying (post-project) GHG emission calculations for specific reduction projects.

