

NET ZERO SIMPLIFIED

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Welcome!

Here is some information if you're new to Net Zero and wonder why it's important to talk about it.

No matter the size of your company, we can tell you the different needs and barriers that small and medium sized organisations face when looking to reduce their impact on the planet, and what exactly can be done about it.



Natasha Carlin

Head of Strategy

Net Zero at a glance

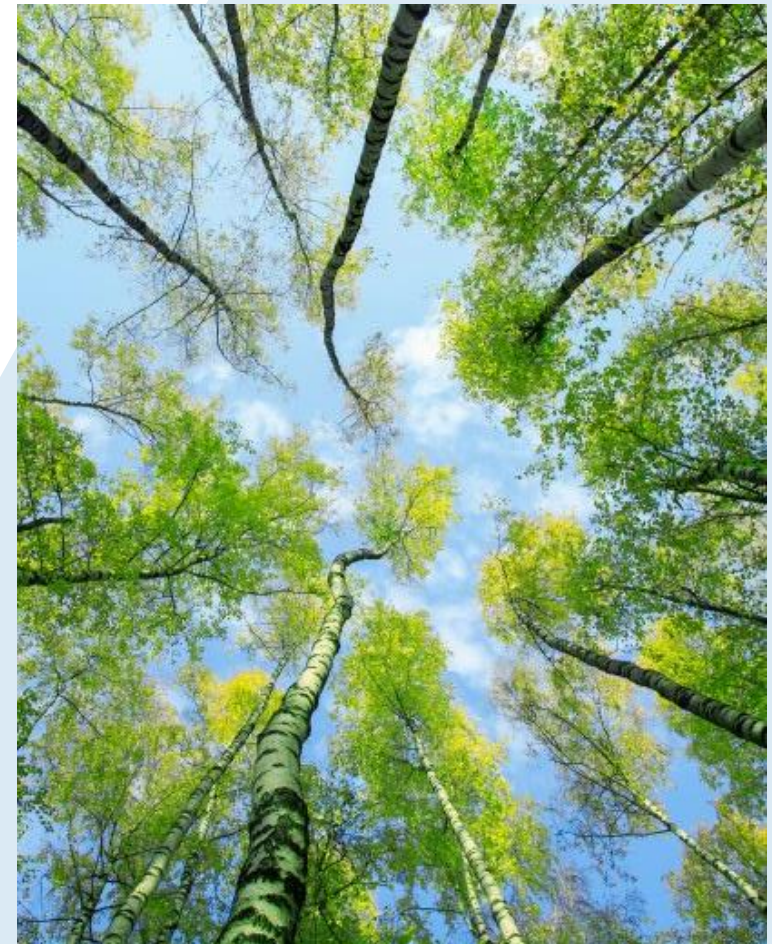
WHAT IS NET ZERO?

Net Zero means drastically cutting down on pollution that's warming the planet, fast enough to stop the temperature from rising more than 1.5 degrees Celsius. Any pollution we can't avoid needs to be balanced out by removing carbon dioxide from the air. It's a key target that every business can reach and was negotiated in 2015 by the Paris Agreement and adopted by 194 States and the EU.

WHERE DID IT COME FROM?

Many of us are aware about climate change and that this is the greatest environmental challenge facing the world. Many regions are already experiencing unprecedented and frequent extreme weather. Even though action has often been slow to take off, the UK has been establishing its place in the decarbonisation and adaptation conversation for the past 15 years.

After the Paris Agreement, the UK became the first major world economy to legislate for Net Zero emissions, aiming to end the negative contribution of economic activities toward climate change over the next 30 years.



Net Zero at a glance

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR BUSINESSES?

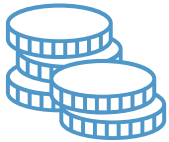
From the perspective of businesses, incorporating an environmentally-friendly strategy and reduced emission operations is also a wise decision. It helps us with:

- Stringent customer demands as organisations take steps to reduce their supply chain emissions
- Stakeholder expectations as 72% believe sustainability should be 'a top priority for business over the next five years'
- Ongoing wealth transfer and purchase power to younger, more sustainability-minded generations, like millennials and Gen Z
- Opportunity for financial and productivity gains and reputational distinction from your competitive peers



Challenges for SMEs

According to a survey by OnePoll, “41% of organisations surveyed intend to start their net zero journey but face challenges that are hard to navigate without extensive and time-consuming research.” Those challenges primarily include:



RISING COSTS

Increased cost of resources, materials, and logistics that hits smaller companies harder and makes return on sustainable technology investments by SMEs difficult to quantify.



GAP IN CARBON LITERACY

Understanding the difference in Scope 1, 2 and 3 emissions and how to measure them accurately. To do so requires learning a new set of terminologies and concepts to better deliver sustainability projects and progress.



CONTENT OVERLOAD

There are plenty of sources on sustainability action and planning, but maneuvering the carbon accounting landscape to identify what is the best approach can feel overwhelming.

Useful tools



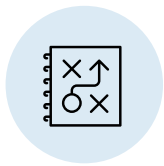
CARBON LITERACY WORKSHOPS

Learning about carbon, climate, and sustainability provides the knowledge and terminology to help you on your journey. This will aid in engaging with stakeholders.



CARBON FOOTPRINTING

Your organisation's annual carbon footprint across scopes 1, 2 and 3 emissions helps produce a foundation to build action plans as well as ongoing reporting to decarbonise.



A REDUCTION PLAN

Assessing available opportunities for your organisation, sector and operations to reduce scope 1, 2 and 3 emissions.



NET ZERO TARGET

Model various scenarios including expected technology advancements, rate of implementation, and top-down policy change to identify a suitable, achievable Net Zero target.



RESPONSIBLE OFFSETS LIBRARY

Access to a bank of curated offset projects that can be purchased to counterbalance emissions that can benefit the planet and the communities they are rooted in.



Thank you!

I hope you enjoyed this guide on Net Zero. If you are keen to understand more around climate change and decarbonisation, I recommend watching our Net Zero Strategy webinar with Vibhati Bhatia and Peter Michel, two of our expert consultants, on our YouTube channel.

[Learn More Here](#)

Additionally, if you'd like to get in touch or have questions about this guide, please contact us at:

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We hope to hear from you!



Natasha Carlin
Head of Strategy



SUSTEMIC

SUSTAINABILITY SIMPLIFIED



OUR ACCREDITATIONS



Our science-based target is approved by the Science Based Targets initiative. We are very pleased to join more than 1000 companies who are walking the talk on climate science.



We are proud to have scored 105.2 out of 200, compared to 50.9 for a typical business and the minimum of 80 needed to qualify.