

GSMA

Climate Disclosure Webinar Series

Questions and Answers

June 2023



This is a Whitepaper of the GSMA

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Questions and Answers

Webinar 1 – Introduction to CDP

Question: *If an organisation completes the minimum version of the questionnaire do, they still get a rating?*

Answer: If you are an organisation responding to only a supply chain member request (e.g. GSMA), then you will receive a score. If you are also responding to an investor request, this will not be scored. The reason for this is that investors usually ask larger companies to disclose, and CDP would like to encourage transparency and drive ambition.

Question: *If an organisation does not reach the \$250million USD/ EUR threshold, can they use the minimum version?*

Answer: If you are first time discloser or fall beneath \$250million USD/ EUR threshold, you are eligible to complete the minimum version. If you are not automatically assigned the minimum version, please log in and contact the [CDP help centre](#).

Webinar 2 – Changes to the Questionnaire

Question: *Can SMEs publish their score in their annual report?*

Answer: Yes, organisations can publish the score, once an organisation has received their score it can be communicated to stakeholders.

Question: *Which of the questionnaire changes account for the biggest impact to an organisations score?*

Answer: Please review CDP's [questionnaire changes](#) document and [2023 scoring methodology](#). The scoring methodology changes every year. The climate change scoring weighting can be found [here](#).

Question: *What are the new fees that CDP are bringing in?*

Answer: In 2023 there are no new administrative fees for organisations requested to disclose to CDP via a CDP Supply Chain member. Therefore, if you are only responding to GSMA's request, this will remain free as GSMA is a Supply Chain Member. Administrative fees may be applicable for any organisation requested to disclose to CDP via Investor Signatories, further information can be found [here](#).

Question: *Is the biodiversity section of the questionnaire scored this year?*

Answer: The CDP take a light approach to new questions of the questionnaire. This section will not be scored in the 2023 disclosure cycle as this is a new aspect of sustainability strategies. This will be reassessed next year as all questions are assessed each year.

Question: *Do companies have to provide an emissions breakdown for all their subsidiaries?*

Answer: You should aim to break down scope 1 and 2 emissions for all subsidiaries that fall within your organisation's reporting boundaries, if you are not able to, you should at a minimum provide those for the subsidiaries that have been requested to respond. All subsidiaries linked to your account appear on your dashboard. If there is a subsidiary that is missing from your dashboard, please let CDP know by contacting the [CDP help centre](#).

Question: *What if subsidiaries are not showing on the dashboard?*

Answer: If you have a subsidiary that is not on the reporting dashboard, please get in touch with the [CDP help centre](#).

Question: *Rather than reporting per subsidiaries, can you break it down by country or activity?*

Answer: Yes, this is possible. C7.2, C7.3a, C7.3b, C7.3c, C7.5, C7.6a, C7.6b, C7.6c, C7.7a

Webinar 3 – Renewables and Energy

Question: *What is the process of a company generates renewable energy but sells it to the grid?*

Answer: This would be counted if you are selling grid because you are adding capacity. If your organisation is producing renewables that isn't based on fuel, then you should add this within the consumption section. Please also refer back to the [CDP scoring methodology](#).

Question: *What is the difference between electricity from the grid that is low-carbon and electricity from the grid that has a high percentage of renewable energy?*

Answer: More context is needed here to answer this in more detail. It sounds like you are describing the difference between Scope 2 location-based and Scope 2 market-based without realising. We would recommend taking a deep-dive into the difference between these two Scope 2 categories and then compare that to the contracts/products that you are procuring. Alternatively, you can investigate [CDP's Reporter Services membership](#) for more guidance.

Question: *Is nuclear energy marked as renewable in the CDP questionnaire?*

Answer: According to CDP reporting guidance in C8.2e, nuclear is marked as a 'low-carbon technology type'.

Question: *There is a threshold for facilities that can acquire PPA's in our country that leaves to a percentage of our facilities not being able to run on renewables due to small energy requirements below 100kw. Can we only indicate our RE targets for eligible facilities.*

Answer: No, coverage should be 100% facilities. RE100 signatories are asked C8.2m that asks what challenges you are experiencing in sourcing renewables. We recommend that you note your challenges in the explanation fields where you can in your response, i.e the targets etc.

Question: *What will happen to organisations that may not be able to pay fees as they are implemented in time?*

Answer: CDP has not implemented any new fees in 2023. Only those companies that are requested by investors are paying a fee this year.

Webinar 4 – Scope 3 Reporting

Question: *Which are the most common categories under scope 3 covered by Telecommunication companies?*

Answer: Purchased goods and sectors are a common majority however GSMA will provide a document to measure scope 3 emissions for telecom companies.

Question: *Will companies have access to CO2 AI platform that captures product- level data?*

Answer: If you are requested by one or more customers then the supplier has free access to the CO2 AI platform. This can also be accessed via SC 4.1 in the Climate Change questionnaire.

Question: *If a company's perimeter changes in 2022 due to external growth, should the numbers for 2021 be restated to try to include this larger perimeter allowing year on year comparison or can the boundary be changed in 2022.*

Answer: As the boundary has changed, you would need to restate this. CDP offers consultative support through their [reporter services](#) department which can offer tailored guidance on this.

Question: Which category will the tower companies fall under?

Answer: Tower companies can look at the guidance that the GSMA, GeSI and the ITU have developed. The guide has been written to support mobile network operators however it will answer most questions you may have on measuring and calculating your scope 3 emissions. Please see CDP's [Reporting guidance](#) for C6.5 on how to report on your scope 3 emissions as well as [CDP's Technical Note on the Relevance of Scope 3 Categories by Sector](#).

Webinar 5 – Science-Based Targets for Nature: An Introduction

Question: When will Science Based Targets for Nature be included into CDP questionnaires?

Answer: Over time, CDP will be integrating the questionnaires to create a more holistic environmental score. More information on this can be provided in [CDP's 2025 Strategy](#).

Question: Should GSMA create a specific guide for members for biodiversity and nature?

Answer: This will be discussed in the upcoming task group and could be provided in the future.

Question: What is the target for how many countries would adopt nature and biodiversity targets and by when?

Answer: Companies would be adopting this instead countries and targets are internal.

Question: Is there a guide to assess our impact as a company on biodiversity and nature?

Answer: Encore has a user-friendly tool that allows an organisation to assess the impacts and dependencies of their economic activities across the 5 pressure points outlined in the presentation. Understanding your biodiversity impacts will require data gathering.

Webinar 6 – Credible Climate Transition Planning

Question: Does CDP require a separate document to have a valid transition plan?

Answer: CDP is of the opinion that a stand-alone document shows best practice, but this is not a requirement. A stand-alone transition plan can be attached to C3.1. This document should be updated regularly and reviewed any five years.

Question: Does a board of directors satisfy the monitoring of a transition plan?

Answer: In C3.1, the board of directors is a valid feedback mechanism.

Question: Will CDP consider integrating transition plan guidance from UNHLAG and further net zero recommendations in their questionnaires in the future?

Answer: CDP will be considering integrating nature-based transitions plans and will be exploring the position company can occupy in the future.