

Framework for Emissions Reduction Planning: An Overview

An Emissions Reduction Plan (ERP) is essential for organizations across all sectors seeking to achieve deep Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emission reductions. This Framework for Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Planning outlines a process to ensure organizations develop a plan that is actionable and sets them up to achieve their GHG emissions reduction targets across a portfolio of buildings and fleets.

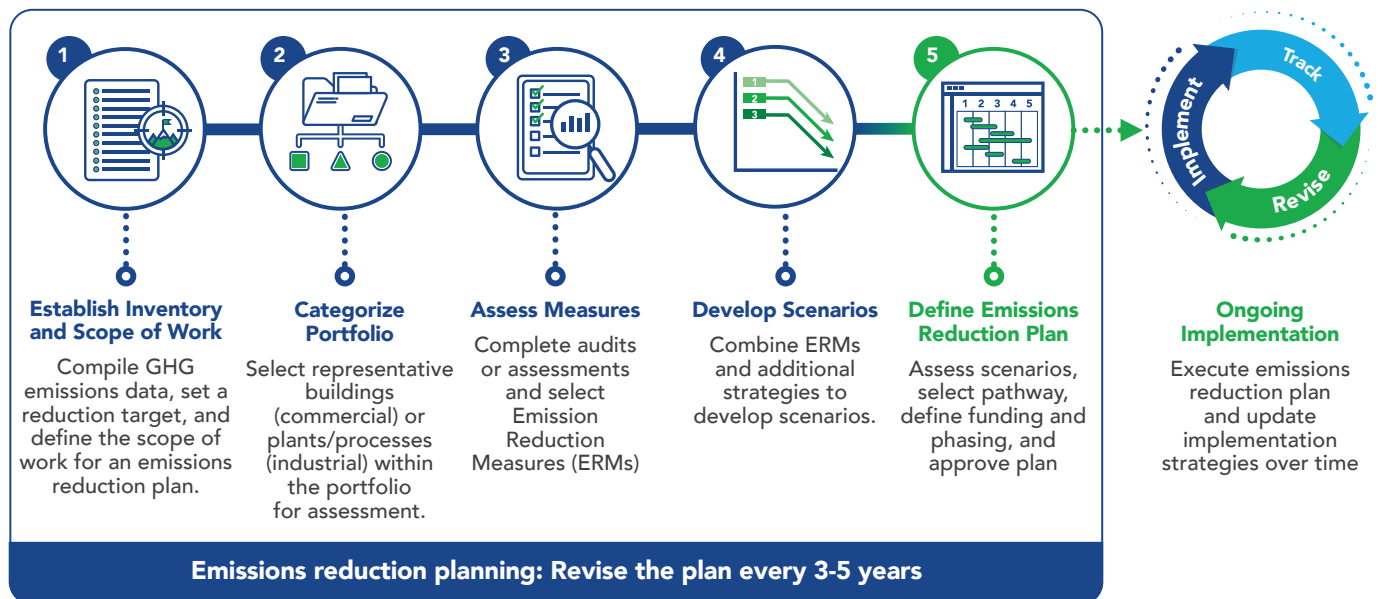
A Partner Driven Framework

Better Climate Challenge partners and stakeholders representing over 225 organizations across multiple sectors and building types contributed to the development of this framework through participation in working groups. Partners shared their insights, strategies and their own action plans to help document the emerging industry practice of portfolio-level emissions reduction planning for industrial and commercial organizations.

The Milestones of an Emissions Reduction Plan

ERPs bridge the gap between goal setting and results. An ERP extends past a broad overview of emissions reduction targets and strategies by concretely laying out how an organization will meet these targets, including project funding and timing. In practice, there are five milestones to developing an ERP as outlined in the graphic below.

These five milestones are covered in detail in the framework to support organizations in mapping out their decarbonization plans. Once an ERP has been established, organizations can achieve their GHG reduction targets through the cyclical process of ongoing implementation wherein they execute on their ERP and update their strategies over time.



Emissions reduction planning is an emerging practice. The Department of Energy has documented best practices to date and compiled them into the ERP framework for organizations to use on their path to decarbonization. The use of this resource is meant to align an organization's actions with its current decarbonization goals and unlock opportunities for continuous emissions reduction.

The Importance of an Emissions Reduction Plan for Long Term Success

An Emissions Reduction Plan enables an organization to:

- ▶ Analyze and compare multiple decarbonization scenarios to ensure the organization will meet their goals
- ▶ Execute established company decarbonization initiatives with financial, personnel, and operational support
- ▶ Assess whether emissions reductions are on track to achieve targets or if further action is needed
- ▶ Reduce the chance of committing to decisions that lock-in future emissions
- ▶ Prepare for compliance with GHG disclosure mandates

THE RESOURCES

[Framework for Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Planning: Building Portfolios](#)

[Framework for Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Planning: Industrial Portfolios](#)

[GHG Emissions Reduction Audit: A Checklist for Owners](#)

[GHG Emissions Reduction Audit Scope of Work Template](#)

