

# UNLOCKING THE POWER OF SCIENCE-BASED TARGETS FOR BUILDINGS

**A Deep Dive Webinar**

October 17, 2024



# HOUSEKEEPING

- This is a **zoom webinar**. Your camera and microphone are automatically muted.
- **Ask questions in the Q&A box** at the bottom of your screen.
- A **recording** will be published on SBTi's YouTube channel.
- The **slides** will be published on our website.

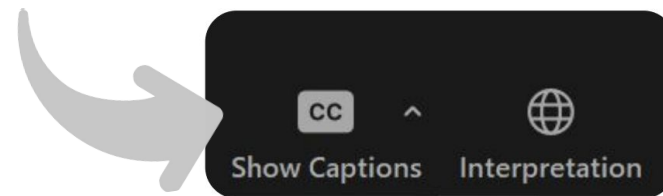


## LIVE TRANSLATIONS

This webinar is **being translated** into different languages:

- **1st session:**
  - Mandarin
- **2nd session:**
  - Spanish
  - Portuguese

Choose your preferred language using the button at the bottom of your screen.





# AGENDA

- Opening remarks
- Introduction to the Science Based Targets initiative
- The SBTi Buildings Criteria
- In-use operational targets
  - Live Q&A
- Upfront embodied emissions targets of new constructed buildings
  - Live Q&A
- Closing remarks



# TODAY'S WEBINAR TEAM



ALBERTO CARRILLO  
PINEDA  
**Chief Technical Officer**  
SBTi



AYLA DİNÇAY  
**Buildings Lead**  
SBTi



MARÍA GARCÍA  
**Technical Buildings  
Manager**  
SBTi



JIHYUN (JUNE) KIM  
**Stakeholder  
Engagement Manager**  
SBTi



DIANA FARMER  
**North American  
Regional Lead**  
SBTi



STEPHAN ZIVEC  
**Project Manager**  
SBTi



PAULINA MORENO  
**Communications  
Manager**  
SBTi

# SCIENCE-BASED TARGETS FOR BUILDINGS | OPENING REMARKS



**Alberto Carrillo Pineda**

Chief Technical Officer  
SBTi



# ABOUT THE SBTi

The Science Based Targets initiative (SBTi) is a corporate climate action organization that enables companies and financial institutions worldwide to play their part in combating the climate crisis.

We develop standards, tools and guidance which allow companies to set greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reductions targets in line with what is needed to keep global heating below catastrophic levels and reach net-zero by 2050 at latest.

The SBTi is incorporated as a charity, with a subsidiary which will host our target validation services. Our partners are CDP, the United Nations Global Compact, the We Mean Business Coalition, the World Resources Institute (WRI), and the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF).

## PARTNERS



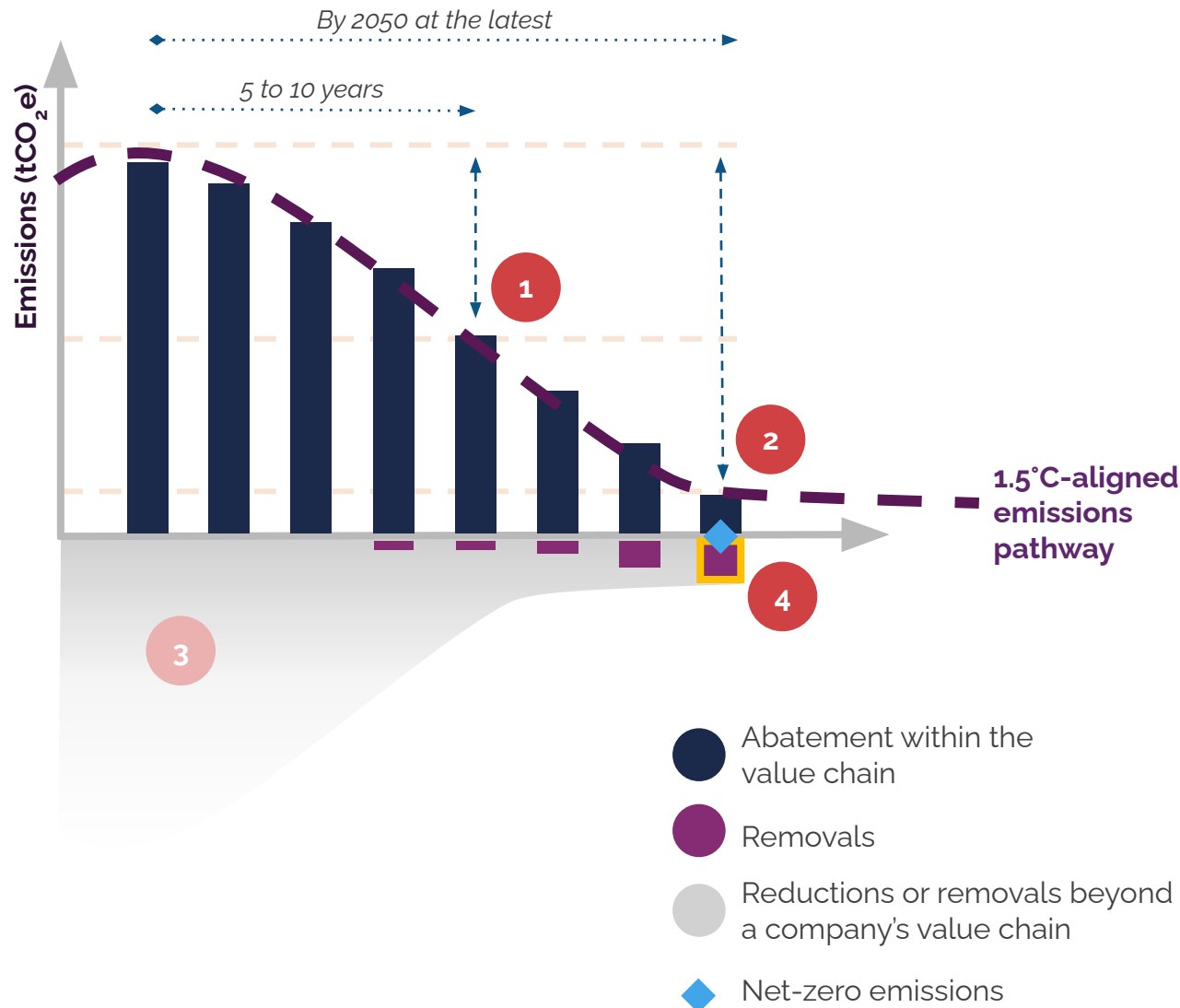
United Nations  
Global Compact



WORLD  
RESOURCES  
INSTITUTE



# FOUR KEY ELEMENTS OF THE SBTi CORPORATE NET-ZERO STANDARD FRAMEWORK



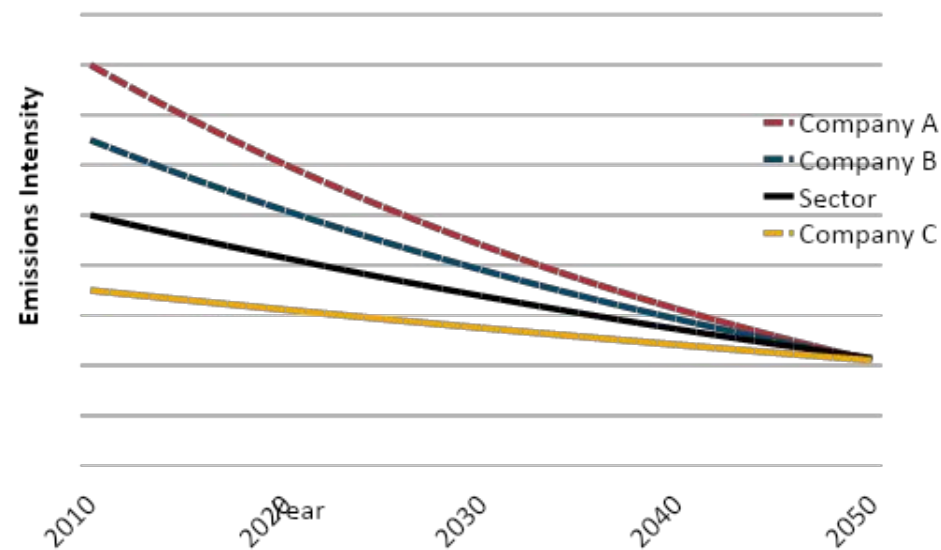
- To set near-term science-based targets:**  
5-10 year emission reduction targets in line with 1.5°C pathways
- To set long-term science-based targets:**  
Target to reduce emissions to a residual level in line with 1.5°C scenarios by no later than 2050
- Beyond value chain mitigation:**  
In the transition to net-zero, companies should take action to mitigate emissions beyond their value chains. For example, purchasing high-quality, jurisdictional REDD+ credits or investing in direct air capture (DAC) and geologic storage
- Neutralization of residual emissions:**  
GHGs released into the atmosphere when the company has achieved their long-term SBT must be counterbalanced through the permanent removal and storage of carbon from the atmosphere



# TARGET-SETTING APPROACHES

## Intensity-based approach

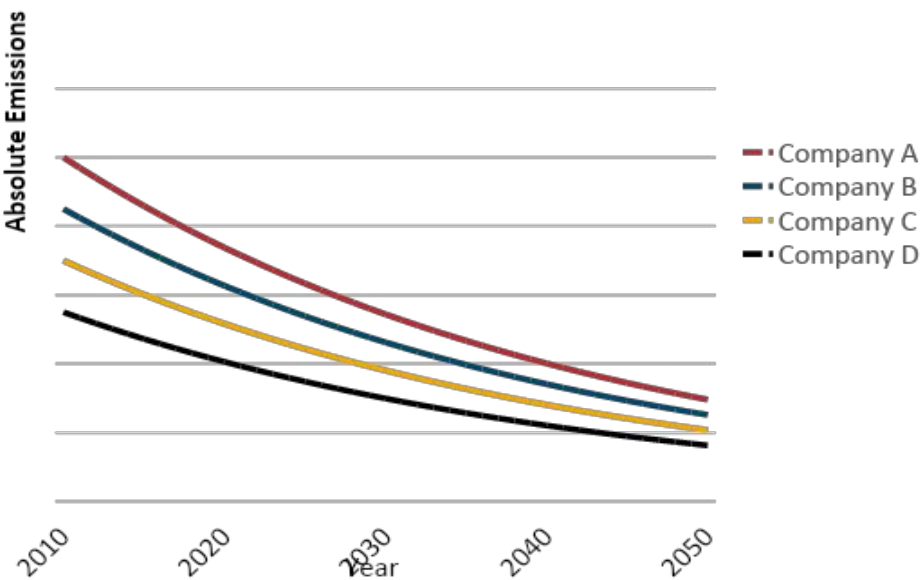
- Homogeneous sectors
- Different % of reduction
- Sectoral carbon budgets (e.g. IEA)



**Sector-specific intensity convergence** or  
Sectoral Decarbonization Approach (SDA)

## Absolute-based approach

- All sectors (except power gen)
- Equal % of reduction
- IPCC carbon budgets scenarios



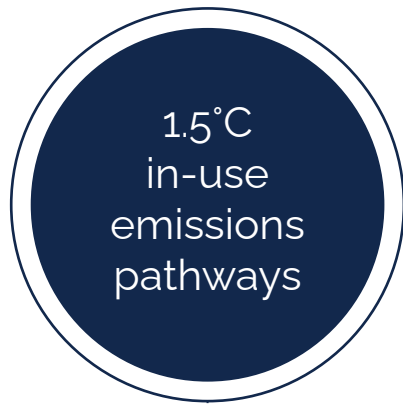
**Absolute contraction**



# INTRODUCTION TO THE SBTi BUILDINGS CRITERIA

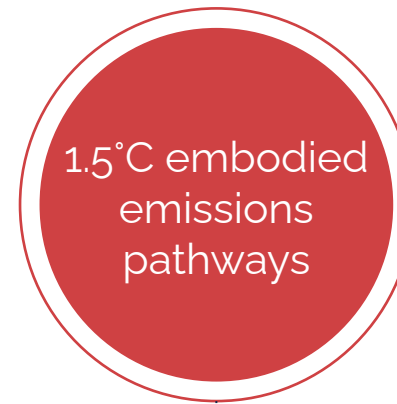


# OBJECTIVES OF THE SBTi BUILDINGS PROJECT



## Objective 1:

Granular 1.5°C aligned pathways for in-use emissions of global buildings sector developed together with CRREM. Pathways published in January 2023.



## Objective 2:

Global 1.5°C aligned pathways for embodied emissions of new construct buildings.



## Objective 3:

Issue **criteria and guidance** for emissions accounting, reporting, and target-setting for all stakeholders within the sector.

A buildings-specific target-setting **tool** to calculate targets using the new buildings pathways.

# SBTi BUILDINGS PROJECT: MAIN TECHNICAL OUTPUTS

AVAILABLE ON THE SBTi BUILDINGS PAGE



**Normative criteria** that companies in the sector are **required to follow** when developing science-based targets and submitting them for validation.



**Informative guidance** providing further advice on how to set science-based targets. Does not include mandatory requirements.



**Background information** on how the **embodied emissions pathways were developed**. Does not include any mandatory requirements.

SBTi Buildings Target-Setting  
Version: 1.0

**A: In-use Operational Targets**

**Section A1. Enter preferred units** (also applies to calcs of Upfront Embodied Target)

\*\*\*\*\* (tons are metric)

**Section A2. Select geography**

☒ Africa ☐ Americas ☐ Asia ☐ Europe ☐ Oceania

Please, review input

**Section A3. Select building type**

\*\*\*\*\* Please, review input Refer to the Expl

**Section A4. Enter emissions and activity data**

Select base year	*****	
In-Use Operational emissions in base year	*****	#N/A
Floor area in base year	*****	#N/A
Base-year intensity	*****	kgCO <sub>2</sub> e / m <sup>2</sup>
Select target year	*****	Target year must
Floor area in target year	*****	#N/A

☐ Use "fixed market share" method

**Section A5. Review target modelling results**

Target modelling results - 1.5C (In-Use Operational)

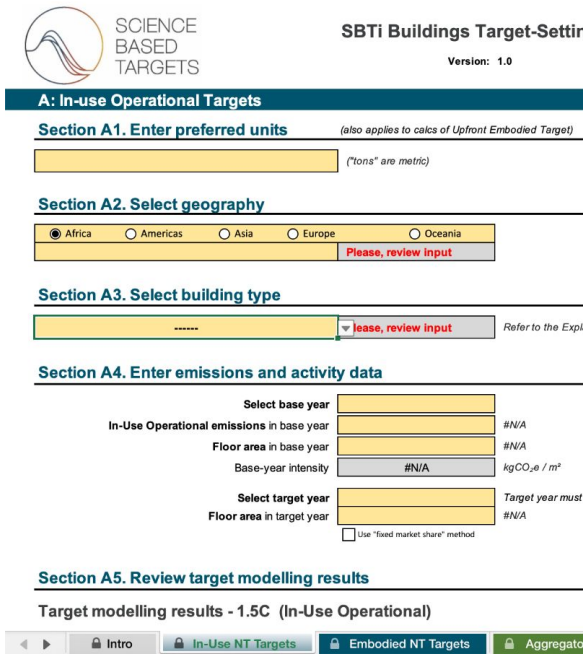
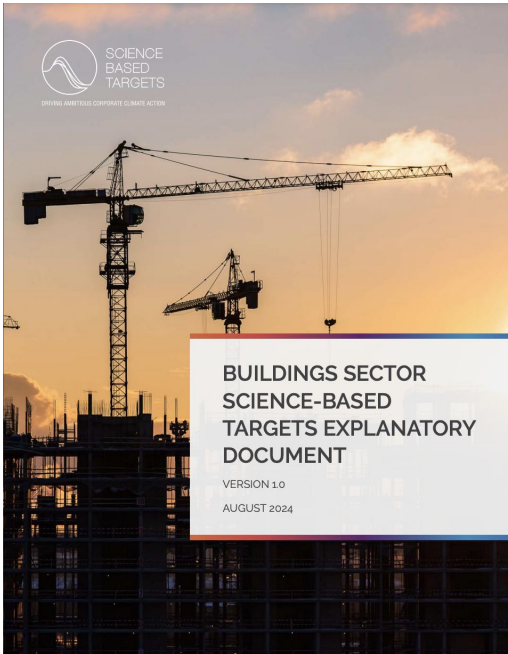
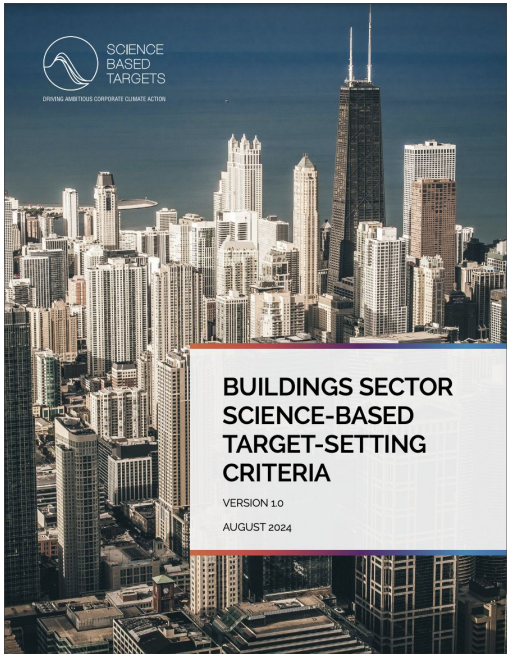
Intro In-Use NT Targets Embodied NT Targets Aggregate

**Tool** to help to **formulate and aggregate SDA and sector-specific absolute reduction targets** using the sector-specific pathways.



# SBTi BUILDINGS PROJECT: MAIN TECHNICAL OUTPUTS

AVAILABLE ON THE SBTi BUILDINGS PAGE



## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES



- [Buildings Criteria in Brief](#)
- Validation services resources:
  - [Buildings Criteria Assessment Indicators](#)
  - [Buildings Annex](#)
- Other background documents

# SBTi BUILDINGS PROJECT: CRITERIA AND RECOMMENDATIONS

## 1.1 COMPANIES REQUIRED TO COMPLY WITH THE BUILDINGS CRITERIA

- Buildings-C1 - Threshold for in-use operational emissions
- Buildings-C2 - Threshold for upfront embodied emissions of new constructed buildings
- Buildings-C3 - Intended user categorization

## 1.2 PERMITTED TARGET-SETTING METHODS

- Buildings-C4 - Permitted target-setting methods

## 1.3 GHG ACCOUNTING AND TARGET BOUNDARIES

- Buildings-C5 - Choosing pathway
- Buildings-C6 - Whole building approach
- Buildings-C7 - Fugitive emissions
- Buildings-R1 - Location-based accounting approach
- Buildings-C8 - Required scope 3 categories
- Buildings-C9 - Base year for upfront embodied emissions targets
- Buildings-R2 - Additional disclosure of upfront embodied emissions of completed developments
- Buildings-R3 - Upfront embodied emissions of franchises
- Buildings-C10 - Denominator for intensity-based targets
- Buildings-R4 - Calculating floor area
- Buildings-C11 - Building lifetime assumptions
- Buildings-R5 - Recommendation for building lifetime assumptions
- Buildings-R6 - Grid decarbonization

## 1.4 TARGET AGGREGATION AND VALIDATION

- Buildings-C12 - Target aggregation
- Buildings-R7 - Base years for upfront embodied and operational in-use emissions

## 1.5 ADDITIONAL DISCLOSURE TO INCREASE TRANSPARENCY

- Buildings-C13 - Disclosing buildings-related emissions with the location-based approach
- Buildings-R8 - Additional disclosure for increased transparency
- Buildings-R9 - Disclosure of absolute emissions

## 1.6 ADDITIONAL COMMITMENTS

- Buildings-C14 - No new fossil fuel equipment
- Buildings-R10 - Energy efficiency commitments

**14**  
criteria

**10**  
recommendations

## 1.1 COMPANIES REQUIRED TO COMPLY WITH THE BUILDINGS CRITERIA

Thresholds and criteria was needed to filter the **companies with significant amount of emissions coming from buildings** and should therefore use the sector criteria. All other companies are invited to use the general Corporate Net-Zero Standard and/or Financial Institutions' Near-term Criteria.

1

Share of in-use  
operational  
emissions in the  
GHG inventory

2

Share of  
emissions from  
the production  
of new buildings

3

Business  
operations that  
are specific to  
the sector



## 1.1 COMPANIES REQUIRED TO COMPLY WITH THE BUILDINGS CRITERIA

### BUILDINGS-C1 - THRESHOLD FOR IN-USE OPERATIONAL EMISSIONS



**In-use operational emissions of owned or managed buildings** exceed 20% of total scope 1, 2 and 3 category 1-14 emissions in the base year.

- Company must follow the SBTi Buildings Criteria.
- Company must set a target on in-use operational emissions.

## 1.1 COMPANIES REQUIRED TO COMPLY WITH THE BUILDINGS CRITERIA

BUILDINGS-C2 - THRESHOLD FOR UPFRONT EMBODIED EMISSIONS OF NEW CONSTRUCTED BUILDINGS

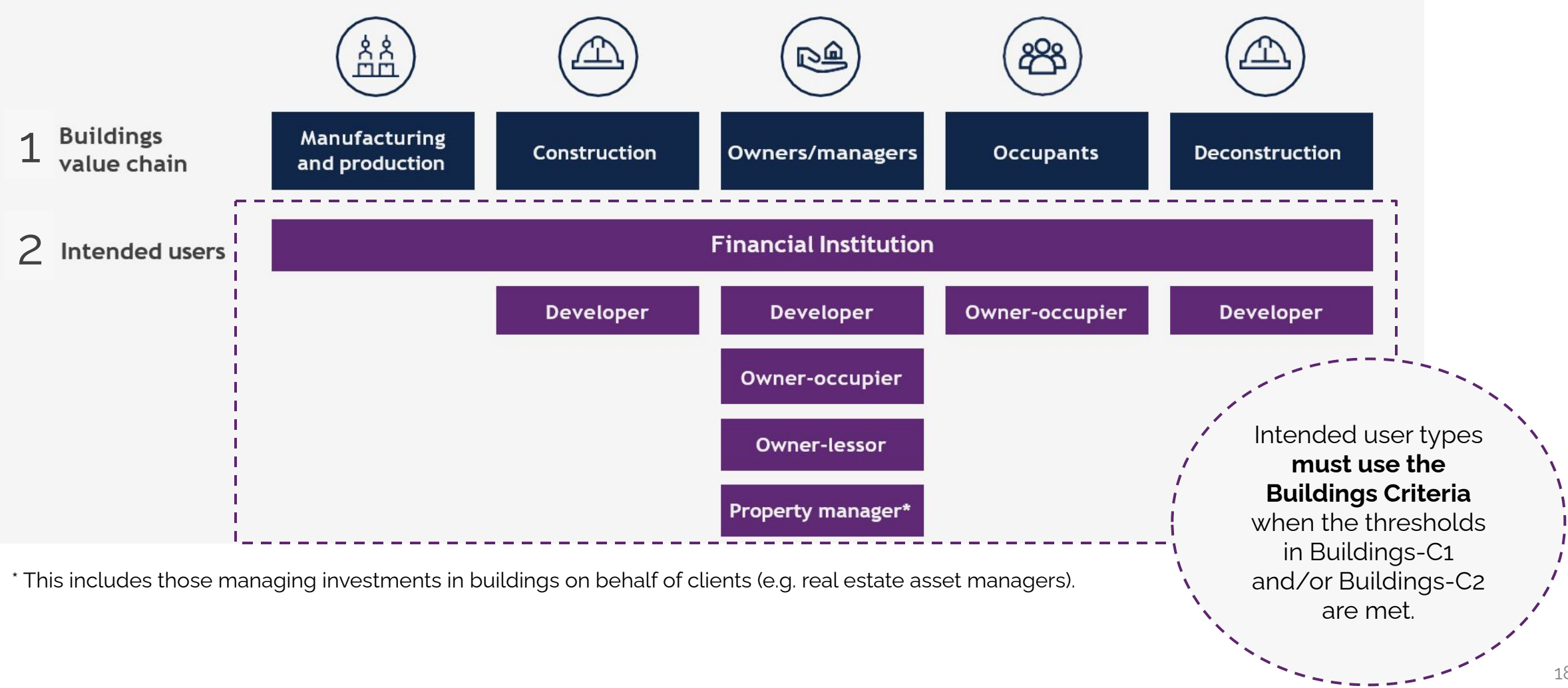


**Upfront embodied emissions of new constructed buildings** exceed 20% of total scope 1, 2, and 3 category 1-14 emissions in any of the past three years.

- Company must follow the SBTi Buildings Criteria.
- Company must set a target on upfront embodied emissions of new buildings.

# 1.1 COMPANIES REQUIRED TO COMPLY WITH THE BUILDINGS CRITERIA

## BUILDINGS-C3 - INTENDED USERS WITHIN THE BUILDINGS VALUE CHAIN



\* This includes those managing investments in buildings on behalf of clients (e.g. real estate asset managers).



# TARGET-SETTING METHODS

## BUILDINGS-C4 - PERMITTED TARGET-SETTING METHODS

The Buildings Criteria introduces two new target-setting methods for the sector:

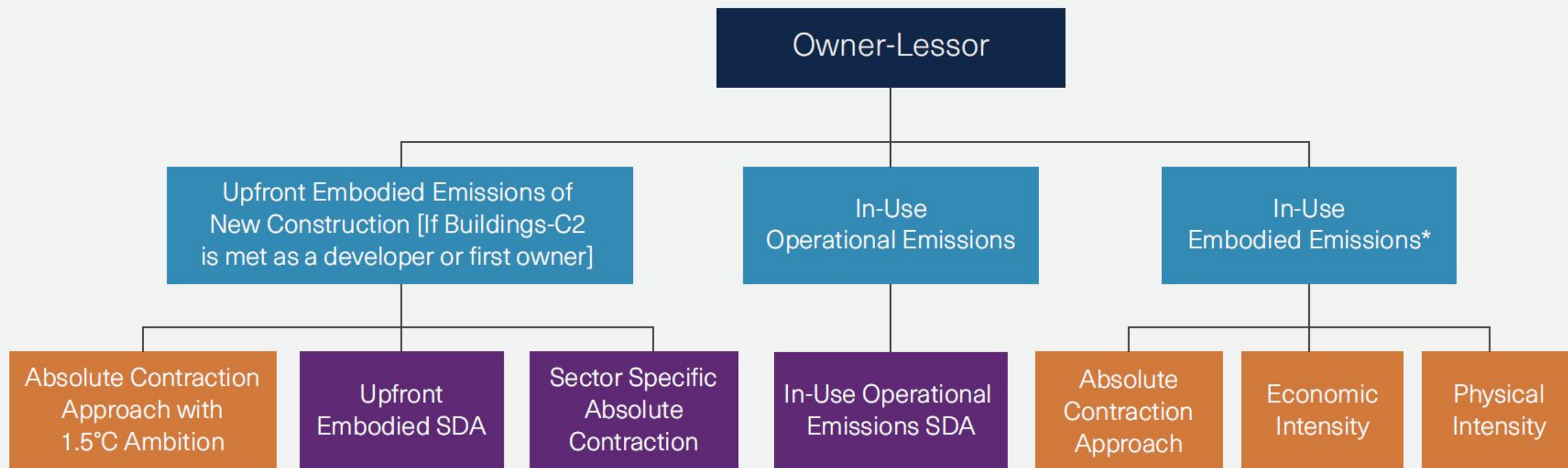
- **Sector-specific intensity convergence method (SDA).**
- **Sector-specific absolute reduction method.**
- Sector agnostic methods are also available as an option depending on the case.


Permitted target-setting methods are dependent on the user type and emissions categories. Businesses must select the user type that best describes their business activity and use all relevant criteria to set targets.



# PERMITTED TARGET-SETTING METHODS

## EXAMPLE: OWNER-LESSOR



 To set targets with this method, companies shall refer to the SBTi Buildings Criteria and SBTi Buildings Target-Setting Tool

 To set targets with this method, companies shall refer to the SBTi Corporate Standard and SBTi Cross-Sector Target-Setting Tool

\* Note that some portion of the in-use embodied emissions occurring may not form part of the minimum boundary according to the GHG Protocol.

## 1.3 GHG ACCOUNTING AND TARGET BOUNDARIES

### BUILDINGS-C6 - WHOLE BUILDING APPROACH

Companies are required to report all building-related in-use operational emissions together despite the scope. This is called the '**whole building approach**'.



#### **Traditional corporate GHG accounting:**

Emissions of owner-controlled (scope 1 and 2) and tenant-controlled spaces are reported separately (scope 3).

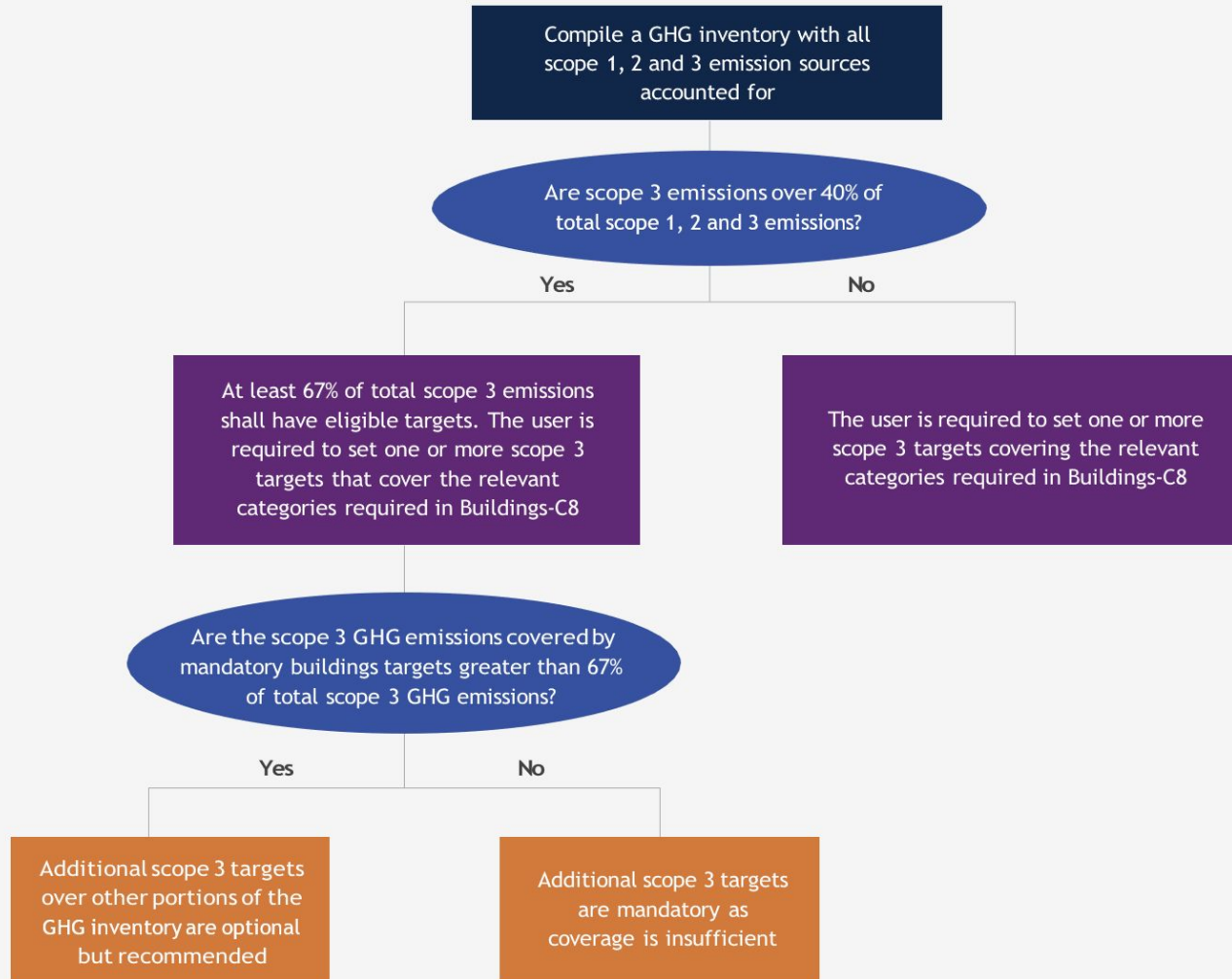
**Whole building approach:** In-use operational emissions are expressed in kg CO<sub>2</sub>e/m<sup>2</sup> for the whole building.



# 1.3 GHG ACCOUNTING AND TARGET BOUNDARIES

## BUILDINGS-C8 - REQUIRED SCOPE 3 CATEGORIES

- Companies are required to include all scope 3 categories in their GHG inventory as required by the GHG Protocol.
- Some **scope 3 categories** are **required to be included in the target boundary** irrespective of whether the general threshold for scope 3 targets in SBTi's Corporate Net-Zero Standard is met. Required categories depend on the intended user type.



## 1.6 ADDITIONAL COMMITMENTS

### BUILDINGS-C14 - NO NEW FOSSIL FUEL EQUIPMENT

Companies required to use the SBTi Buildings Criteria to set targets shall publicly **commit to install no new fossil fuel equipment that is owned or financially controlled** by the company in their buildings portfolios from **2030, at the latest**.

Companies need to include the commitment language as part of their annual reporting.





# IN-USE OPERATIONAL TARGETS

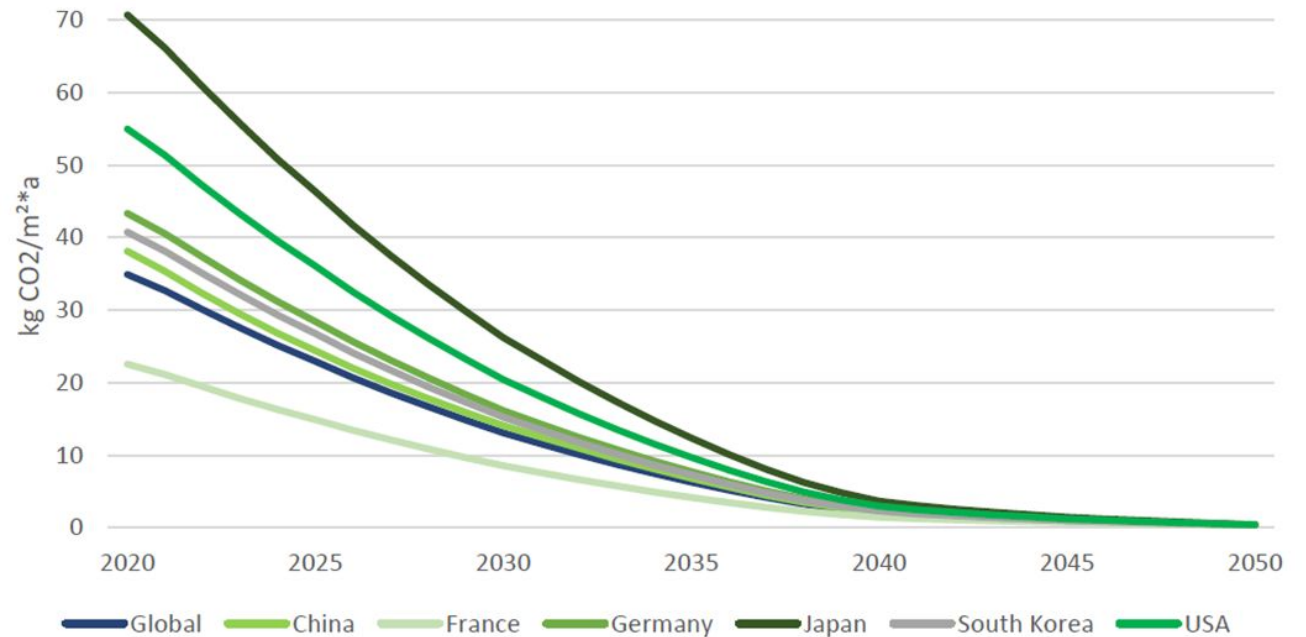


# SBTi-CRREM 1.5 °C-ALIGNED IN-USE OPERATIONAL EMISSIONS PATHWAYS



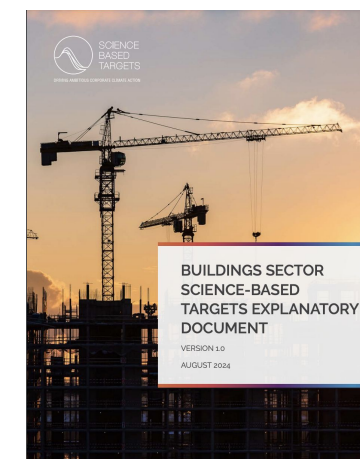
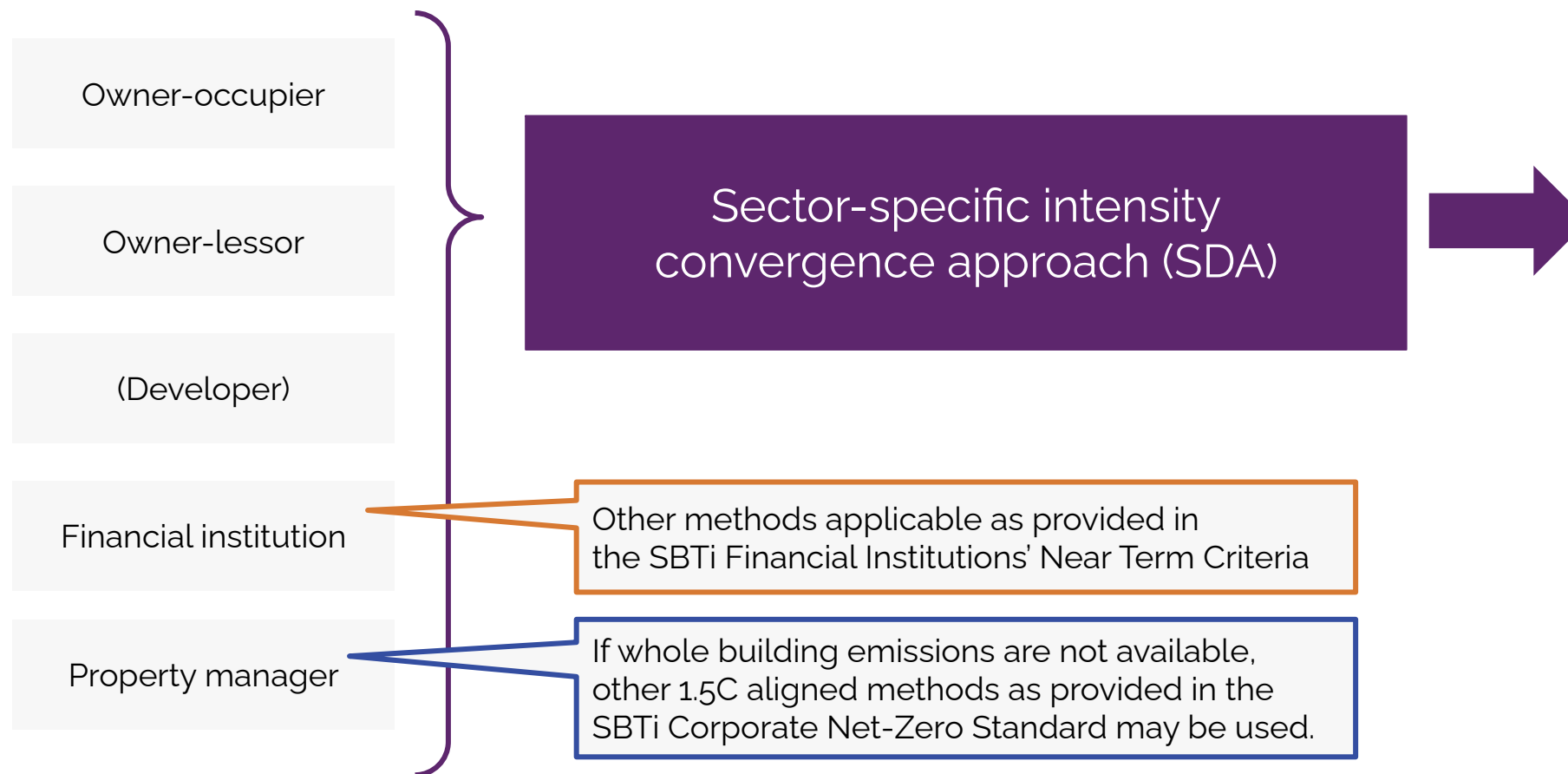
The in-use operational pathways included in the Buildings Target-Setting Tool, cover the **operational energy use and fugitive emissions** from refrigerants and cooling systems.

- Developed in collaboration with [CRREM](#).
- Granular pathways: building typology and country specific.
- Whole building approach. Targets cannot be set without whole building emissions data.
- CRREM methodology: [From global emission budgets to decarbonization pathways at property level.](#)



# PERMITTED TARGET-SETTING METHODS

## BUILDINGS-C4: PERMITTED TARGET-SETTING METHODS FOR IN-USE OPERATIONAL EMISSIONS



# IN-USE SDA TARGET CALCULATIONS WITH THE BUILDINGS TOOL



## SBTi Buildings Target-Setting Tool

Version: 1.0

Please refer to: [Terms of Use](#)  
[Disclaimer](#)

Contact: [info@sciencebasedtargets.org](mailto:info@sciencebasedtargets.org)

### A: In-use Operational Targets

#### Section A1. Enter preferred units

(also applies to calcs of Upfront Embodied Target)

m<sup>2</sup> & kgCO<sub>2</sub>e

("tons" are metric)

Required Input

Results

#### Section A2. Select geography

☐ Africa ☐ Americas ☐ Asia ☒ Europe ☐ Oceania

Spain

OK

Sub-region

OK

N/A

See "AUS zones" tab for climatic zones in Australia.

#### Section A3. Select building type

Office

OK

Refer to the Explanatory document for details on building types.

#### Section A4. Enter emissions and activity data

Select base year

2022

In-Use Operational emissions in base year

1,784,000.0

kgCO<sub>2</sub>e

1.784

kton CO<sub>2</sub>e

Floor area in base year

65,300.0

m<sup>2</sup>

0.065

million m<sup>2</sup>

Base-year intensity

27.32

kgCO<sub>2</sub>e / m<sup>2</sup>

Select target year

2030

Floor area in target year

m<sup>2</sup>

0.066

million m<sup>2</sup>

☒ Use "fixed market share" method

Target year must be at least 5 years and at most 10 years from the current year.

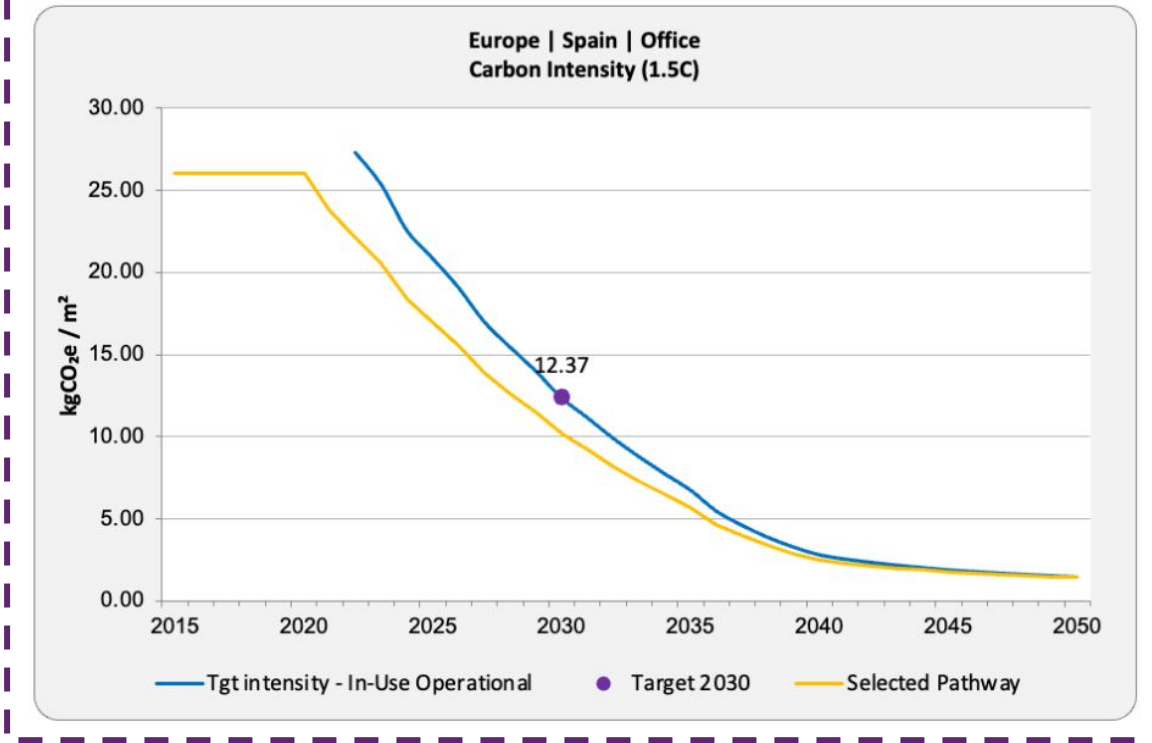
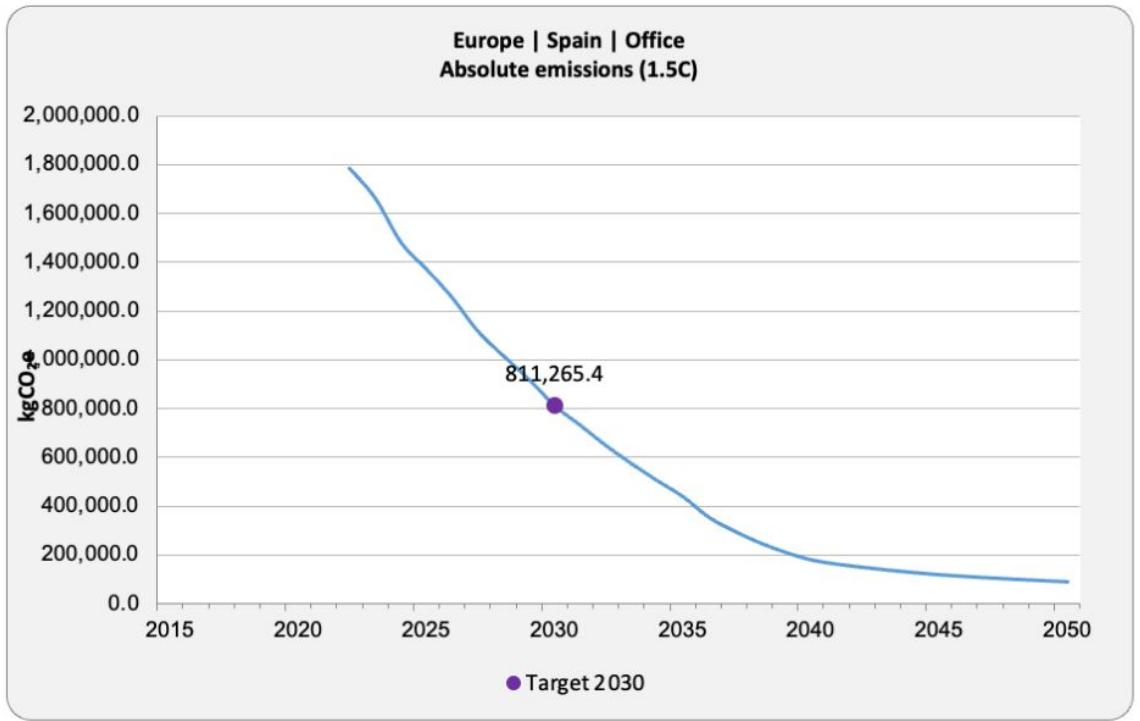


# IN-USE SDA TARGET CALCULATIONS WITH THE BUILDINGS TOOL

## Section A5. Review target modelling results

### Target modelling results - 1.5C (In-Use Operational)

		Base year 2022	Target year 2030	% Reduction 2022 - 2030
Europe   Spain   Office	Total in-use emissions kgCO <sub>2</sub> e	1,784,000.00	811,265.36	54.5%
	Overall in-use emissions intensity kgCO <sub>2</sub> e / m <sup>2</sup>	27.32	12.37	54.7%



# TARGET AGGREGATION WITH THE BUILDINGS TOOL

## Near Term Target Aggregation Input tables

In-Use Operational Emissions

copy & paste these In-Use VALUES:

Europe   Spain   Office	1,784,000.0	65,300.0	27.32	65,593.1	811,265.4	54.5%	12.37	54.7%
-------------------------	-------------	----------	-------	----------	-----------	-------	-------	-------

Upfront Embodied Emissions

copy & paste these Embodied VALUES:

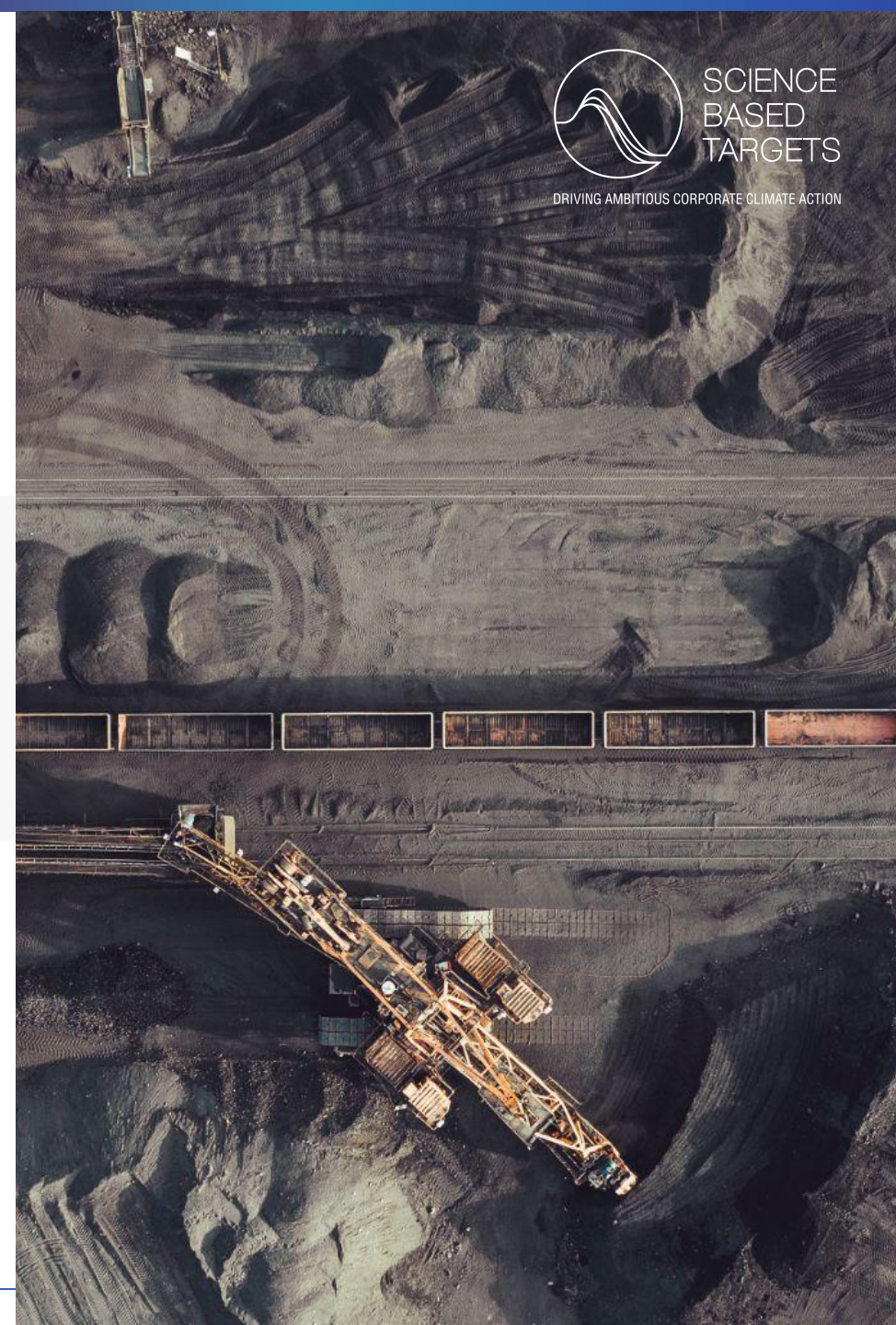
buildings	0.0	0.0	0.00	0.0				
-----------	-----	-----	------	-----	--	--	--	--

## Near Term Target Aggregation repository tables

In-Use Operational Emissions									
Building Type & Location		Emissions and Floor Area data			Target - 1.5C				
		Base year : 2022			Target year : 2030				
		In-Use Emissions [kgCO <sub>2</sub> e]	Floor Area [m <sup>2</sup> ]	Carbon Intensity [kgCO <sub>2</sub> e/m <sup>2</sup> ]	Floor Area [m <sup>2</sup> ]	In-Use Emissions [kgCO <sub>2</sub> e]	% reduction	Carbon Intensity [kgCO <sub>2</sub> e/m <sup>2</sup> ]	% reduction
1	Europe   Portugal   Retail High Street	655,000.0	19,000.0	34.47	17,347.1	273,146.0	58.3%	15.75	54.3%
2	Europe   Portugal   Retail Warehouse	549,000.0	15,000.0	36.60	13,695.1	217,883.6	60.3%	15.91	56.5%
3	Europe   Portugal   Office	2,096,200.0	60,000.0	34.94	90,000.0	1,023,020.1	51.2%	11.37	67.5%
4	Europe   Spain   Retail High Street	723,000.0	25,300.0	28.58	25,413.6	332,071.1	54.1%	13.07	54.3%
5	Europe   Spain   Office	1,784,000.0	65,300.0	27.32	65,593.1	811,265.4	54.5%	12.37	54.7%
6									
7									
8									
9									
10									
11									
12									
13									
14									
15									
16									
17									
18									
19									
20									
		5,807,200.0	184,600.0	31.46	212,048.9	2,657,386.2	54.2%	12.77	59.4%

# TARGET LANGUAGE

*Company X commits to reduce scope 1, 2 and 3 in-use operational GHG emissions of owned buildings by 59.4% per m<sup>2</sup> by 2030 from a 2022 base year.*





# SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS IN IN-USE TARGET SETTING

## FIXED INTENSITY TARGETS

Companies and FIs with a high level of turnover in their portfolios may find portfolio-level target-setting methods challenging.

The SBTi Buildings Criteria allows intended users whose business model results in a high turnover of assets to set **fixed intensity targets aligned to sectoral decarbonization pathways without applying the SDA**.

- Company sets an in-use operational emissions intensity target in line with the in-use operational emissions pathways for a chosen target year.
- Target year shall be five years from the base year.
- Company commits to reporting portfolio emissions intensity annually for transparency.

# SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS IN IN-USE TARGET SETTING

## MAINTENANCE TARGETS

The maintenance target method aims to accommodate **corporates and FIs that have already achieved, at a portfolio level, the emissions intensity required to align with the 2050 sector intensity level in a 1.5°C pathway.**

- Companies commit to maintain the base year portfolio emissions intensity through 2030.
- Companies commit to only finance and/or own 1.5° C-aligned real estate assets.
- Companies with diverse buildings portfolios can choose the lowest target year intensity of the relevant pathways.



# Q&A: IN-USE OPERATIONAL TARGETS



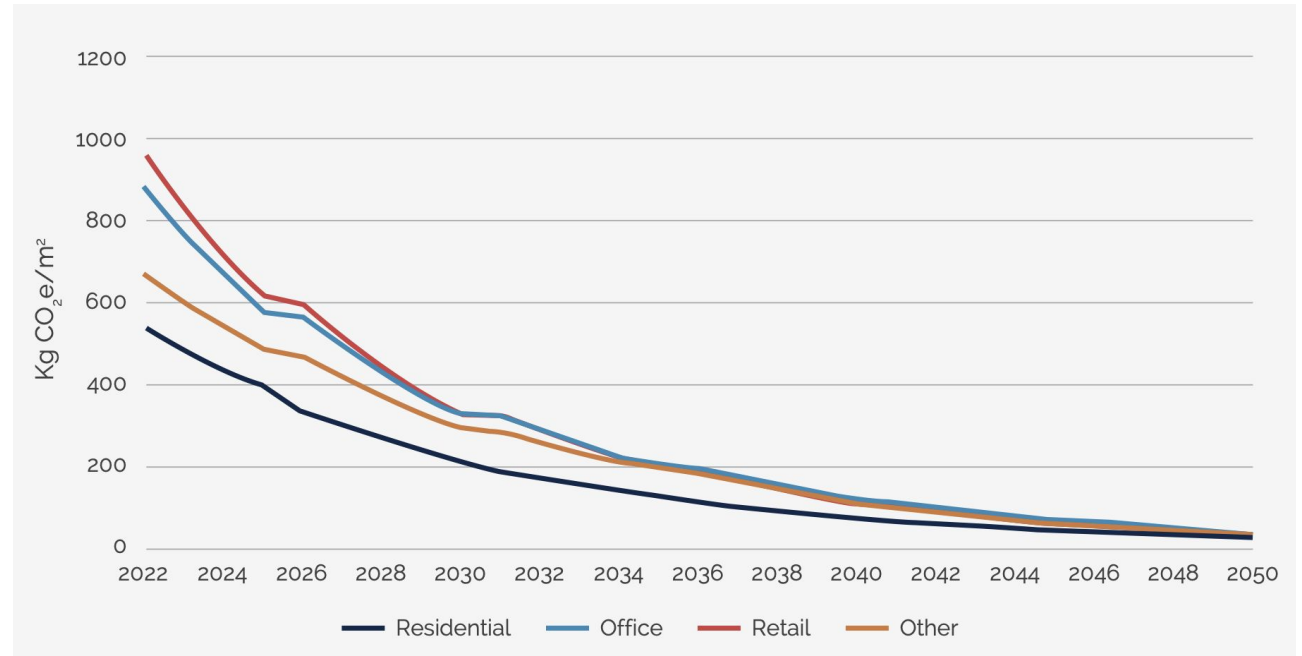
# UPFRONT EMBODIED EMISSIONS TARGETS OF NEW CONSTRUCTED BUILDINGS



# UPFRONT EMBODIED EMISSIONS PATHWAYS FOR NEW CONSTRUCTION

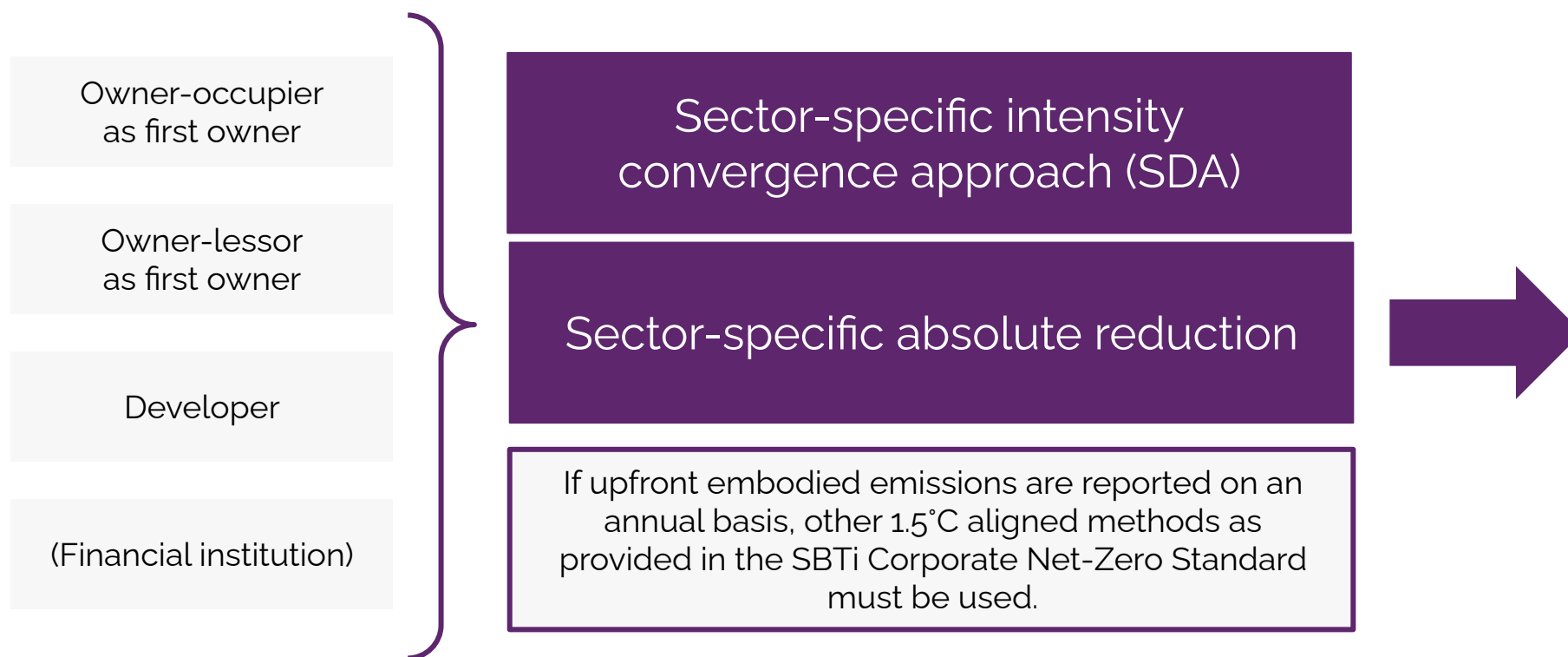
The upfront embodied emissions pathways cover modules A1-A5 in a building's life cycle, for **new constructions measured at practical completion**.

- **Low granularity:** Global pathways
- **Buildings elements:** The life cycle assessment scope shall include at least structural elements, building envelope, internal walls, finishes. Including technical equipment in the assessment scope recommended.
- Embodied emissions pathway development description document.



# PERMITTED TARGET-SETTING METHODS

## BUILDINGS-C4: PERMITTED TARGET-SETTING METHODS FOR UPFRONT EMBODIED EMISSIONS OF NEW BUILDINGS



# SECTOR-SPECIFIC ABSOLUTE REDUCTION TARGET CALCULATION WITH THE BUILDINGS TOOL

## UPFRONT EMBODIED EMISSIONS OF NEW BUILDINGS



### SBTi Buildings Target-Setting Tool

Version: 1.0

Please refer to: [Terms of Use](#)  
[Disclaimer](#)

Contact: [info@sciencebasedtargets.org](mailto:info@sciencebasedtargets.org)

## B: Upfront Embodied Targets

### Section B1. Select building type

Refer to the Explanatory document for details on building types.

Required Input	Results
----------------	---------

### Section B2. Select target-setting approach

Sector-specific Absolute Contraction

Refer to the Explanatory document for details on approaches.

### Section B3. Enter emissions and activity data

(Units of measure specified in In-Use Targets - section A1)

Select base year	2022		
Upfront Embodied emissions in base year	9.000.000,0	kgCO <sub>2</sub> e	9,000 kton CO <sub>2</sub> e
Floor area in base year		not applicable	
Base-year intensity		kgCO <sub>2</sub> e / m <sup>2</sup>	
Select target year	2030	Target year must be at least 5 years and at most 10 years from the current year.	
Floor area in target year		not applicable	
<input type="checkbox"/> Use "fixed market share" method		not applicable	



# SECTOR-SPECIFIC ABSOLUTE REDUCTION TARGET CALCULATION WITH THE BUILDINGS TOOL

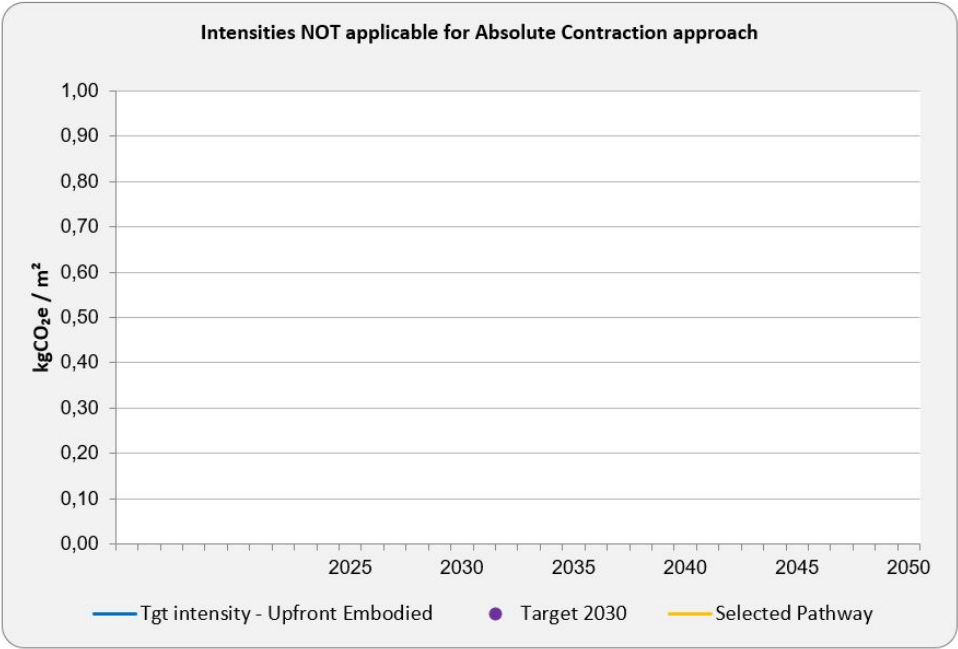
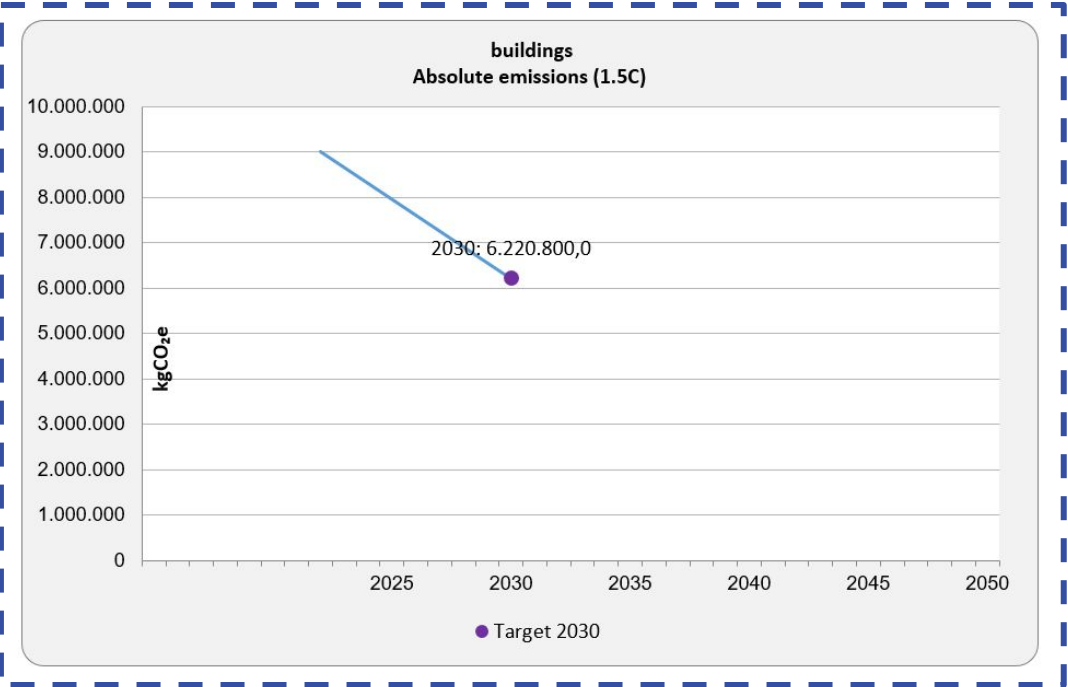
## UPFRONT EMBODIED EMISSIONS OF NEW BUILDINGS

### Section B4. Review target modelling results

#### Target modelling results - 1.5C (Upfront Embodied)

Note that with the absolute reduction targets, the SBTi assesses “forward-looking” ambition of target(s) by using the year the target is submitted to the initiative (or the most recent completed GHG inventory). Please refer to the [Criteria Assessment Indicators](#) for more information on forward-looking ambition.

		Base year 2022	Target year 2030	% Reduction 2022 - 2030
buildings	Total embodied emissions	9.000.000,00	6.220.800,00	30,9%
	Overall embodied emissions intensity	N/A	N/A	



# TARGET LANGUAGE

*Company X commits to reduce absolute scope 3 upfront embodied GHG emissions of new buildings by 30.9% by 2030 from a 2020 base year.*





# Q&A: UPFRONT EMBODIED EMISSIONS TARGETS



# CLOSING REMARKS



## THE TIME TO ACT IS TODAY!

- **All the resources** introduced during this webinar and more, including these slides and a recording of the webinar are **available on the [SBTi buildings page](#)**.
- **SBTi's Buildings Criteria is now final** and ready to be used for target setting.



We are urgently **calling on all buildings sector businesses to set science-based reduction targets** and lead the net-zero transformation.



# THANK YOU!

Science Based Targets Initiative is a registered charity in England and Wales (1205768) and a limited company registered in England and Wales (14960097). Registered address: First Floor, 10 Queen Street Place, London, England, EC4R 1BE.


SBTI Services Limited is a limited company registered in England and Wales (15181058). Registered address: First Floor, 10 Queen Street Place, London, England, EC4R 1BE.

SBTI Services Limited is a wholly owned subsidiary of Science Based Targets Initiative.

 [sciencebasedtargets.org](https://sciencebasedtargets.org)

 [@ScienceTargets](https://twitter.com/ScienceTargets)

 [Science Based Targets](https://www.youtube.com/ScienceBasedTargets)

 [/science-based-targets](https://www.linkedin.com/company/science-based-targets)

 [info@sciencebasedtargets.org](mailto:info@sciencebasedtargets.org)