

# Options for assessing the environmental impact of your products

	Organisation carbon footprint	Product carbon footprint	Life Cycle Assessment (LCA)
<b>Scope</b>	GHG emissions (CO2e)	GHG emissions (CO2e)	GHG emissions (CO2e), land & water use, waste
<b>Description</b>	Comprehensive analysis of the reporting company's GHG emissions including up- and downstream Scope 3 emissions.	Comprehensive analysis of the lifecycle GHG emissions of a product manufactured by the reporting company	Systematic analysis of the potential environmental impacts of each stage of a product's entire lifecycle.
<b>Product data required</b>	Scope 1 & 2: Activity Scope 3: Spend or activity	Primary data for all processes under operational / financial control Secondary (average / industry) data for remaining processes	
<b>Applicable Standards</b>	GHG Protocol Corporate and Scope 3 standards	GHG Protocol Product standard	ISO 1040, ISO 14067, ISO 14025
<b>Pros</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Covers the entire business, including embodied emissions of products</li> <li>Fast and efficient process</li> <li>Suitable for mandatory reporting requirements</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Very comprehensive for GHG emissions at a product level; allows for granular optimisation</li> <li>Suitable for mandatory reporting requirements</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Very</b> comprehensive</li> <li>Can be used to compare product sustainability performance</li> <li>Essential to create an EPD</li> <li>Considers each process in a product's lifecycle, enabling precise changes</li> </ul>
<b>Cons</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Limited potential for product level optimisation</li> <li>Does not address avoided emissions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Does not include non-product related emissions</li> <li>Oversimplifies non-GHG related impacts of products</li> <li>Does not address avoided emissions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Complex, time consuming, data intensive exercise.</li> <li>Requires contact with a vast number of stakeholders across each lifecycle stage.</li> </ul>

