

TESCO BECOMES FIRST CORPORATE IN THE WORLD TO ALIGN SCIENCE-BASED TARGETS WITH AMBITIOUS 1.5°C TARGET



Absolute greenhouse gas emissions reduction targets of:

35% by 2020
60% by 2025
100% by 2050



SCIENCE
BASED
TARGETS

DRIVING AMBITIOUS CORPORATE CLIMATE ACTION

KEY OUTCOMES

ROBUST ANALYTICS AND PRACTICAL RECOMMENDATIONS GIVE TESCO CONFIDENCE TO MAKE THIS COMMITMENT.

In May 2017 Tesco announced emissions reduction targets for its global operations that have been approved by the Science-Based Targets initiative (SBTi).

These targets are consistent with scientific requirements for a low-carbon future and meet the initiative's robust criteria making Tesco the first corporate in the world to commit to limiting global warming to 1.5°C.

In this case study, we describe how Carbon Credentials supported Tesco in this process.



INNOVATION

Drive innovation and transform business practices, differentiating Tesco from peers



EFFICIENCY

Efficiencies driven by stretching targets reduce costs and build a more resilient business



CREDIBILITY

Public commitment and approval demonstrates credibility and builds reputation as a corporate leader



STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

Demonstrate commitment to sustainability to customers, suppliers and investors



MANAGE LONG-TERM RISK

Awareness of future energy and climate change-related risks increases resilience



By
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Consultant



Carbon Credentials applied their expertise, rigour and collaborative approach to recommend clear milestones which we have adopted as our new SBTi approved targets

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BACKGROUND



Before setting SBTs, Tesco had a strong sustainability programme with stretching 2020 targets and an ambition to be zero carbon by 2050.

Tesco's goal was to set new targets aligned with the 2015 Paris Climate Agreement that were credible and realistic given its commercial objectives and the evolving policy landscape.

Recognising Carbon Credentials' technical and strategic expertise, Tesco appointed the consultancy to help it achieve these aims.

PROCESS



Carbon Credentials used a combination of methodologies to provide the flexibility to model absolute and intensity targets, Scope 3 emissions, and 1.5°C and 2°C scenarios in comparison to Tesco's 2050 zero carbon ambition.

Tesco's Scope 3 emissions were screened, showing a solid understanding of its value chain impacts. As these emissions constitute over 40% of its overall footprint, Scope 3 targets were set to meet SBTi criteria.

To demonstrate leadership, Tesco aligned its own target with a 1.5°C warming scenario, and chose 2°C aligned targets for its supply chain.

OUTCOME



By rigorous assessment of its emission reduction targets, the Tesco Climate Change team demonstrated it fully understood the costs, benefits, and feasibility of setting a SBT. This enabled the team to secure agreement from Tesco senior leadership and approval from the SBTi.

Tesco's SBTs were approved in May, attracting coverage from broadsheets like the FT and The Independent, as well as sustainability- and retail-focused platforms.

