

# Carbon Footprint Assessment and GHG Inventories

## Carbon Footprint Assessment

A carbon footprint represents the total direct and indirect GHG emissions (impact) of an organization. To establish a carbon footprint, we first help our clients to assess their own operations and activities, as well as those in their value chain which may have GHG-emitting sources. This assessment will provide the most comprehensive picture of an organization's carbon footprint. However, systems and data may not exist in some areas, so prioritizing parts of the total footprint to quantify is essential. Over time, an organization may choose to quantify and disclose its entire carbon footprint. When emissions are systematically identified, quantified and compiled, this is often referred to as a GHG inventory.

## GHG Inventories

A GHG inventory should be designed with the end-uses of information in mind. The design of an organization's inventory will therefore be shaped by mandatory reporting requirements, participation in a voluntary reporting program, carbon trading, and organization-specific commitments to report externally and reduce its footprint. We assist our clients in designing an inventory that meets its needs, yet is flexible enough to respond to changing mandates and markets.

Over the past decade, Cameron-Cole, LLC has designed and developed inventories for clients in a wide variety of sectors. We support their efforts to identify data owners, collect data in a consistent manner, develop systems, QA/QC data, and calculate emissions, sinks and removals in a manner consistent with the chosen protocol(s), and provide detailed analysis of the results. Further, we can create an Inventory Management Plan to ensure thorough documentation that eliminates reliance on institutional knowledge.

## Carbon Life Cycle Analysis

Cameron-Cole also calculates and analyzes carbon impacts of products and services. This requires life cycle analysis using clear and appropriate boundaries around the product or service, and modeling systems, materials and processes in terms of their GHG contribution.

## Reporting

Most organizations assess their carbon footprint and quantify some or all of the impact in order to report the results to the public. Cameron-Cole assists clients in submitting their reports to regulatory agencies, voluntary programs, or in the creation of a stand-alone external document on carbon, or as a section within a larger sustainability report.



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