

CDP SME Scoring Category Weightings 2025

CDP SME Scoring Methodology

Version

| Version number | Release / Revision date | Revision summary |
|----------------|--------------------------|--|
| 1.0 | Released: April 30, 2025 | Publication of the 2025 CDP SME scoring category weightings. |

Contents

| | |
|--|---|
| Version..... | 2 |
| Contents..... | 3 |
| Introduction: Scoring categories and weightings..... | 4 |
| SME Climate Change 2025: Scoring categories..... | 4 |
| Scoring categories and weightings: SME Climate change..... | 5 |

Introduction: Scoring categories and weightings

This document outlines the 2025 category weightings that will be applied for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) responding to CDP's 2025 SME corporate questionnaire. For 2025, the SME questionnaire will only be scored for climate change; forests and water are not scored. It is recommended that the 2025 SME scoring introduction document is read in advance of reading the weightings summary sheets. For a breakdown of which questions fall into which scoring category, please refer to the 2025 SME scoring category mapping document.

Scoring categories are groupings of questions by topic. They are sub-groups of the 2025 questionnaire modules and are consistent across all sectors. Weightings are applied to scoring categories at the SME Management and SME Leadership levels only. In 2025, the SME Leadership level is not scored; as such weightings are applied at this level. Weightings reflect the relative importance of each category within the boundaries of the CDP SME corporate questionnaire and available scoring criteria.

SME Climate Change 2025: Scoring categories

No changes have been made to the SME scoring categories or weightings between 2024 and 2025, with the exception of minor corrections to question mappings to clarify how the scoring categories are applied.

The SME scoring categories for climate change in 2025 are as follows:

| | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Business Strategy | Risk Disclosure |
| Context | Risks and Opportunities Process |
| Emissions Reduction Initiatives | Scope 1, 2 & 3 Emissions |
| Energy | Targets |
| Environmental Policies | Verification (Incl. Emissions) |
| Governance | Value Chain Engagement |
| Opportunity Disclosure | |

Table 1 – 2025 SME scoring categories for climate change.

The SME scoring categories have been aligned as much as possible with the full corporate scoring categories for climate change. There are, however, some differences:

- 'Scope 1, 2 and 3 emissions' is a combined category for SME.
- The categories 'Public Policy Engagement and Industry Collaboration', 'Pricing Environmental Externalities' and 'Additional Climate-Related Metrics' do not exist for SMEs, as no questions are present in these categories.

Scoring categories and weightings: SME Climate change

There are 13 categories in CDP’s SME scoring methodology for climate change. Unlike the full corporate questionnaire, organizations responding to the SME questionnaire will not be presented with sector-specific datapoints, and therefore do not have sector-specific category weightings. No changes were made to the climate change scoring category weightings between 2024 and 2025.

SMEs are increasingly being requested to commit to reduce their emissions and report progress against their commitments by their stakeholders and lenders. In recognition of their relative importance, some scoring categories are more heavily weighted. For instance, evaluation and disclosure of greenhouse gas emissions is a critical first step that every organization must take to understand and reduce their negative impact on the climate. This is becoming increasingly important for organizations to obtain financing, ensure competitiveness and resiliency, and meet regulatory and supplier requirements. The high weightings in ‘Verification (Incl. Emissions)’ and ‘Scope 1, 2 and 3 emissions’ categories reflect best practice in environmental reporting. This is essential for setting realistic emission reduction targets.

Furthermore, target setting provides direction and structure to environmental strategy. Providing information on quantitative targets and qualitative goals, and progress made against these targets, can demonstrate an organization’s commitment to improving climate-related issues management at a corporate level. This information is relevant to investors’ understanding of how an organization is addressing and monitoring progress regarding the risks and opportunities disclosed and is recognized in the high weighting of the ‘Targets’ category.

Please note that scoring categories where there is no weightings present are not scored at the SME Management level.

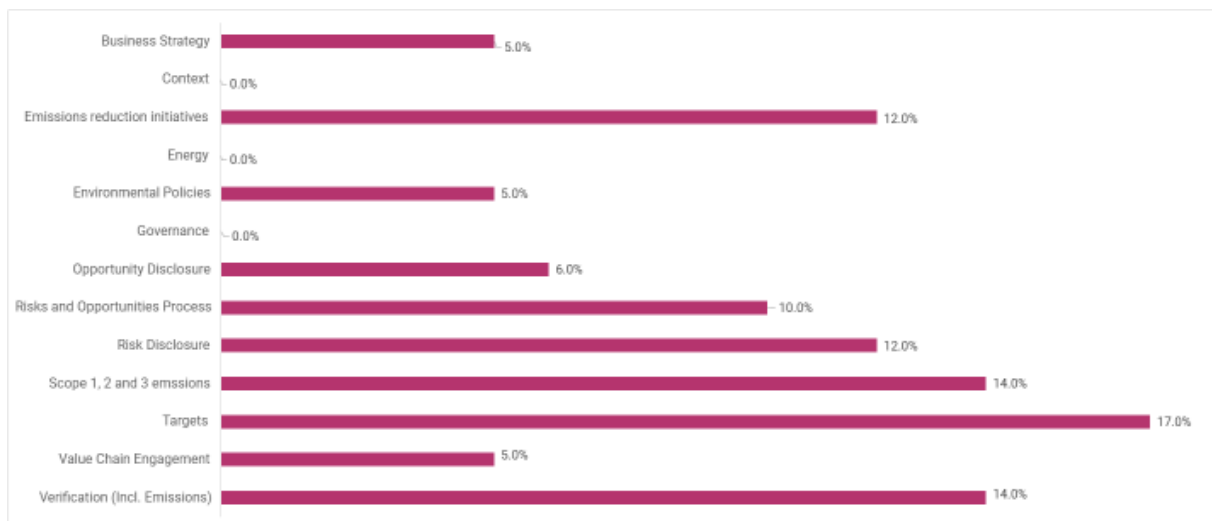


Figure 1 – The bar chart above shows the % weighting applied to each of the scoring categories at the SME Management level for the 2025 SME scoring methodology for climate change.