

# LCA and Product Carbon Footprints for the plastics industry

- From business cases to implementation -

Danish Plastics Industry Conference

**Mara Boitz - Global Account Manager at Carbon Minds**

28.09.2023

# Agenda

Introducing Carbon Minds

Product Carbon Footprints: the Why, the How, the What

Supply Chain transparency with Carbon Footprint data

Summary & Q&A



Taking net-zero chemical value chains from ambition to achievement



### Data

Representative life-cycle inventory data for LCAs and PCF calculations



### Strategy and Support

Environmental assessments and reduction strategies (make or buy)



### Training

Life Cycle Assessment and inhouse methodologies & capacities

## REFERENCES



# LCA AND CARBON FOOTPRINTS

A fast-moving field



# Industry in transition

1  
 Streamlined approach to sustainable packaging  
**BASF calculates the CO<sub>2</sub> footprint of its products**  
 March 22, 2021 | 10am and 3pm CET

2  
 heubach  
**SUSTAINABILITY @ HEUBACH**  
**Product Carbon Footprint (PCF) and Scope 3 challenges within our supply chain**  
 4  
 Dr. Thomas Lindner  
 Head of Sustainability  
 March 2023

3  
**BRENTTAG** Corporate  
 Sustainability Investor Relations Career Media About  
 News Corporate (English) Contact us  
 News  
 Nov 5, 2022  
**Brenntag introduces new service to provide business partners with Product Carbon Footprint data to drive sustainability agenda**

VENATOR  
 Media Centre Codes of conduct Contact  
 About us Products and applications Sustainability Investor relations Careers  
 Investor relations 2022  
**Venator automates product carbon footprint with help from Atos**  
 December 07, 2022  
 New partnership supports Venator's sustainability ambition  
 WYNNARD, UK, Dec. 7, 2022 (PRNewswire) – Venator (NYSE: VNTX) today announced that it is working with Atos – a global leader in digital transformation – to

5  
**TRINSEO**  
 Thought Leadership Company News & Events Sustainability Investors Careers Contact Global Directory  
 Investor Relations Industries Solutions  
 VIEW ALL NEWS →  
**TRINSEO STARTS ITS JOURNEY TOWARDS AUTOMATED PCF CALCULATION ACROSS ITS ENTIRE PORTFOLIO WITH ATOS**  
 June 22, 2022  
 New partnership takes Trinseo's net-zero ambition to the next level  
 MORGEN, Switzerland – (BUSINESS WIRE) – Trinseo (NYSE: TSE), a specialty material solutions provider, and Atos today announced that Trinseo has started using Atos' recently launched digital solution to identify and monitor the carbon footprint of its entire portfolio. This will enable Trinseo to deliver superior product data on the carbon footprint of its products and meet its net-zero ambitions and carbon transparency commitments.

6  
**CLARIANT**  
 GENERAL INFORMATION ON METHODOLOGY  
**Product Carbon Footprint**  
 PRODUCT CARBON FOOTPRINT (PCF)

7  
**covestro** Global Corporate Website  
 Company Solutions  
 Covestro Press / Digitalization driving sustainability forward  
 22 June 2023  
**Covestro established app for product carbon footprint calculation**  
 Digitalization driving sustainability forward



1 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZqaTaVeF8c4>  
 2 <https://vimeo.com/812808981>  
 3 <https://corporate.brenntag.com/en/media/news/>  
 4 <https://www.venatorcorp.com/investor-relations/financial-news/2022>  
 5 <https://investor.trinseo.com/home/news/>  
 6 <https://www.clariant.com/en/Sustainability/Climate-Change/>  
 7 <https://www.covestro.com/press/>

**Why** does the chemical and plastics value chain work on product carbon footprints?

# Why do companies work on product carbon footprint calculations?

**Because product carbon footprint calculations create business value!**

---

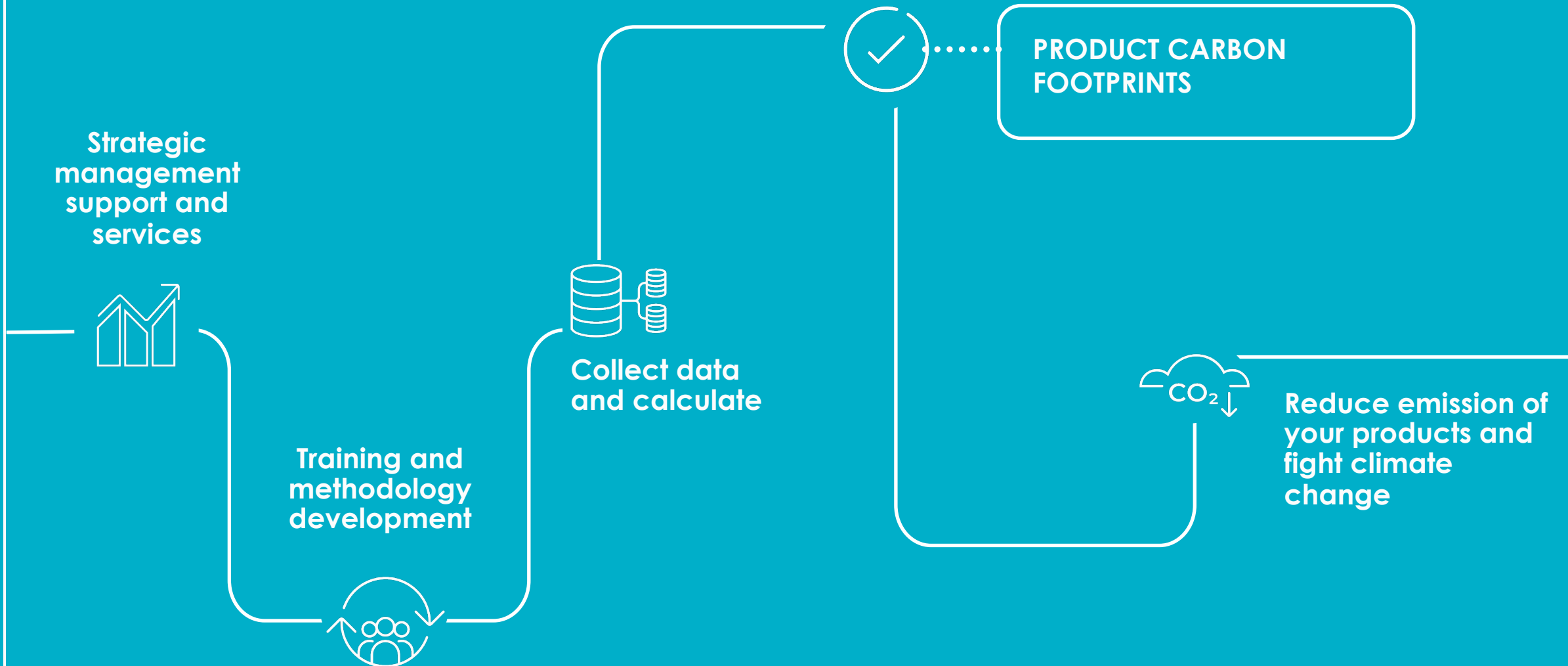
- ✔ **Reputation / customer requests**
  - Meet requests from customers, investors, employees
  - Appeal & green company marketing
- ✔ **Risk mitigation & strategy**
  - Compliance with laws and policies
  - Strategic planning and capacity building
- ✔ **Revenue security and license to operate**
  - Optimize procurement of material and energy
  - Higher margins for low-emission products

And product carbon footprints can be used to fight climate change!

**How** can we achieve these  
business values and calculate  
product carbon footprints?



**How** can you start calculating product carbon footprints, increase your reputation and fulfill your customers requests?



**How** can you start calculating product carbon footprints, increase your reputation and fulfill your customers requests?

Strategic  
manag  
supp  
ser

**Make it or buy it ? - Two pathways for the same goal**

PRODUCT CARBON FOOTPRINTS



Training and methodology development



Collect data and calculate

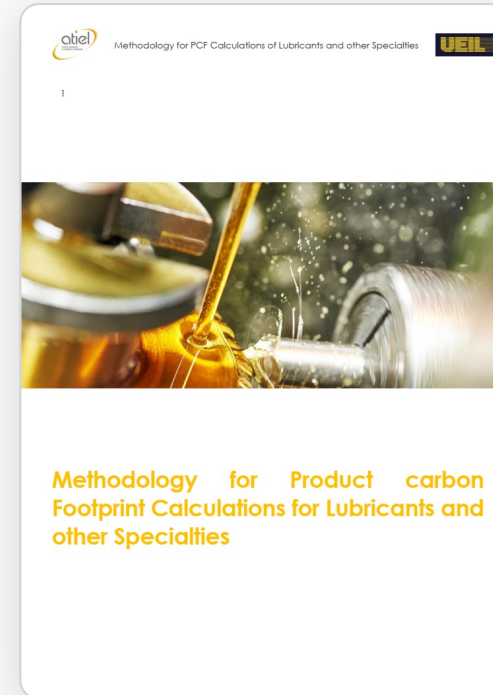


Reduce emission of your products and fight climate change

**What** is the most important factor to get product carbon footprints calculated?

# Trust & Consistency

- Be transparent and open about your approach
- Stick to existing standards, accepted by industry
- Agree on a standard that you will follow



UEIL/ATIEL method in consistency with TFS, Catena-X, PEF, API & ISO standards



**3<sup>rd</sup> party certification**  
For Carbon Minds  
cm.chemicals database

# Ingredients for PCFs for you or your service provider

Without data no calculation is possible!

**1. Data for your processes and your value chain**

- Your systems (e.g., ERP)
- LCA databases
- Suppliers

*Good decisions come from good data*

We work with

and more...

Raw materials

Carbon footprints

**2. IT system and software to calculate your PCFs**

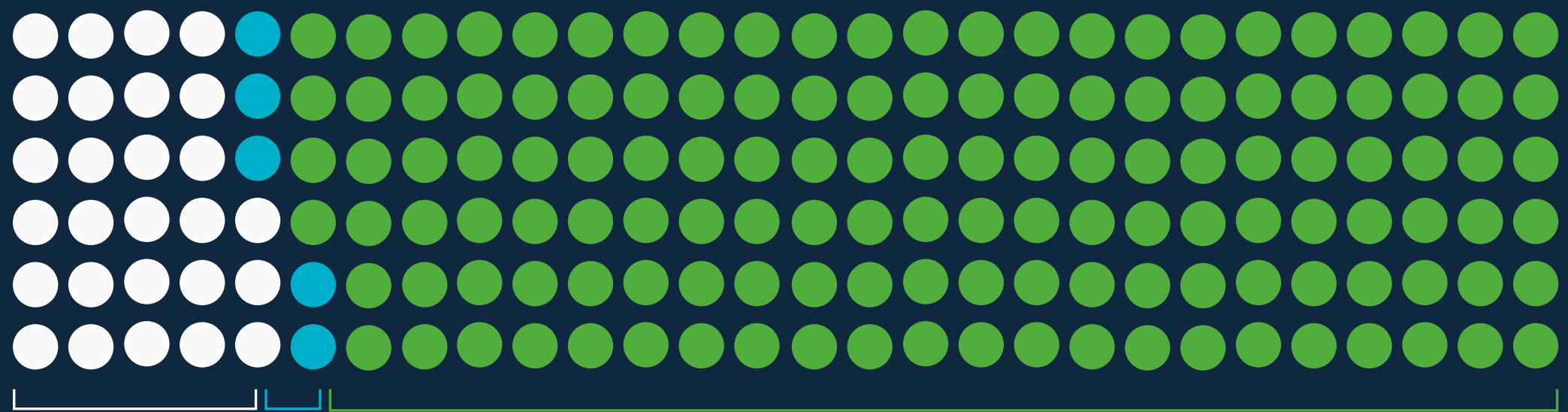
We work with

**3. Communication, standards and knowledge**

# Climate impacts of chemical production

Example: corporate carbon footprints of major chemical producer

## Emissions



Direct emissions

Energy-related emissions

Supply chain emissions



Feedstock extraction

Your suppliers

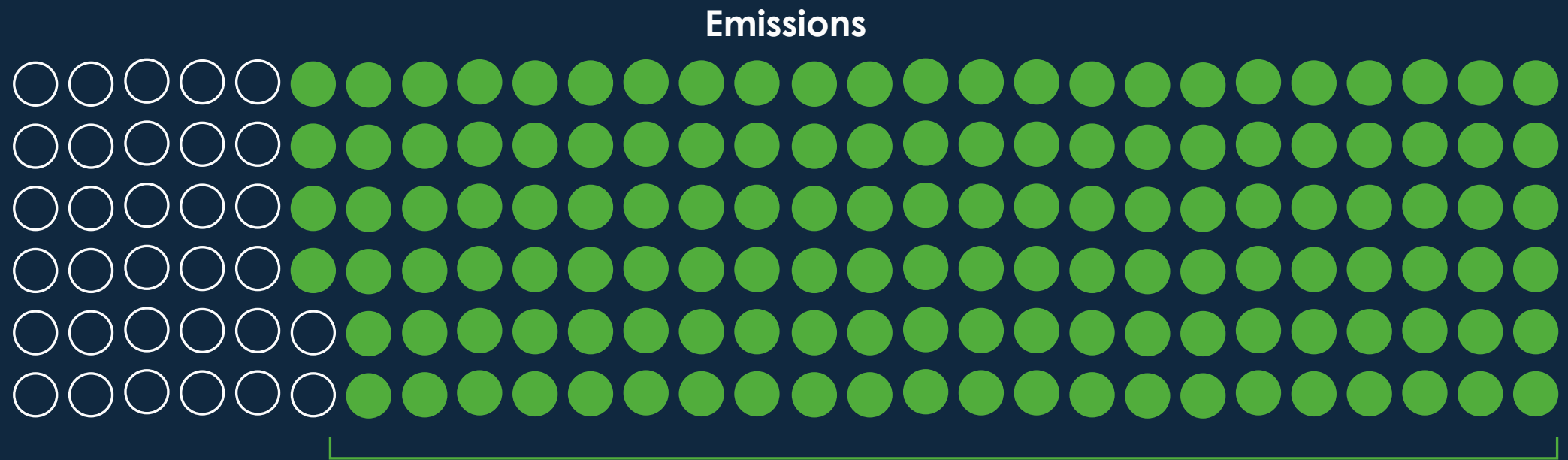
Your company or process

Use

End of life

# Climate impacts of chemical production

Example: corporate carbon footprints of major chemical producer



Supply chain emissions



*Lack of transparency in supply chain emissions is a major barrier to reducing emissions*

– SCIENCE BASED TARGET INITIATIVE

Challenge #1  
**Coverage**

Challenge #2  
**Actionability**

Challenge #3  
**Quality**





# cm.chemicals

DATABASE



## Coverage

120,000+ datasets covering 1,000+ chemicals and plastics

## Specific




190 regions and over 100 individual production routes

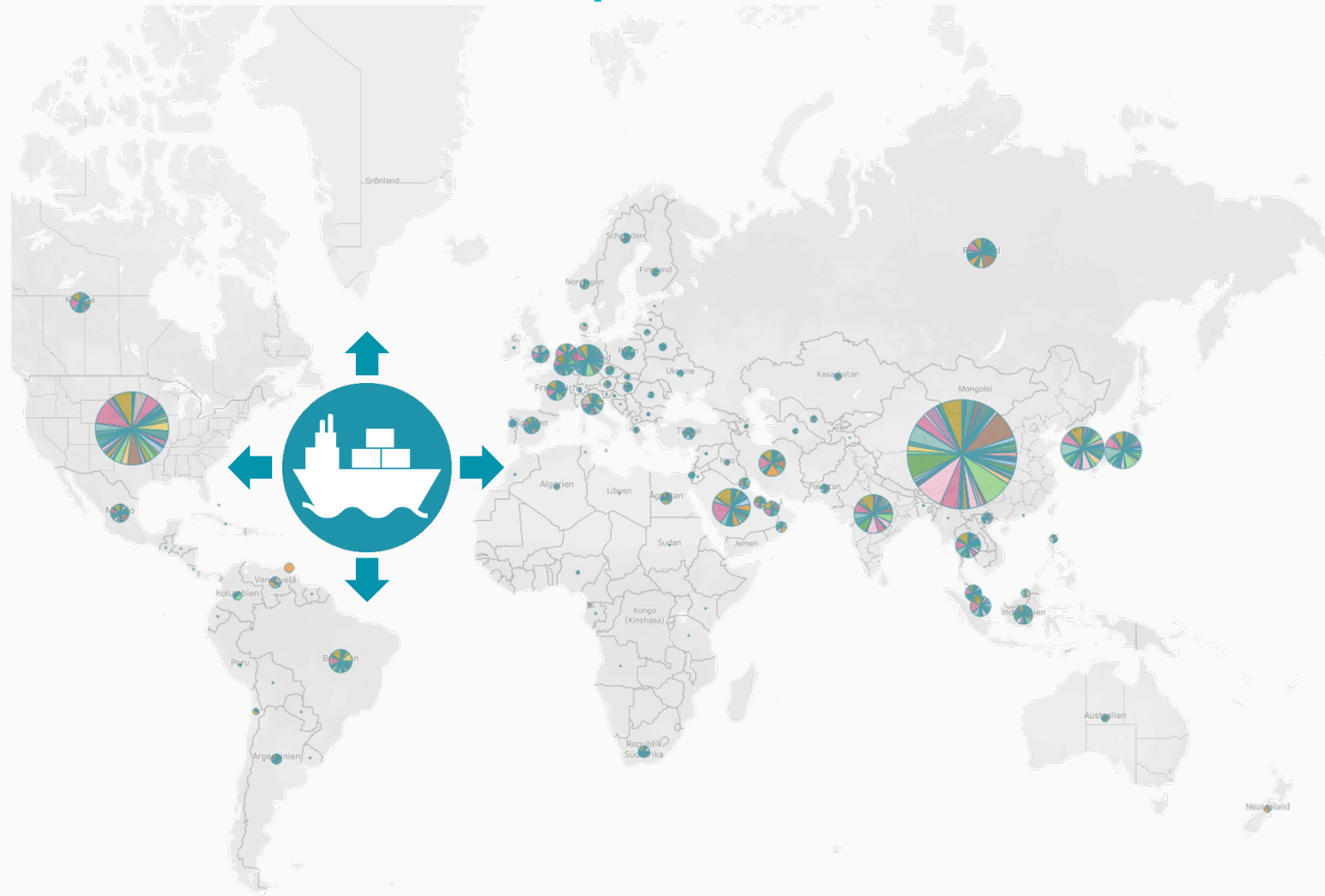
## Certified

Methodology in compliance with ISO 14040, 14044, 14067 and TFS – Together for Sustainability

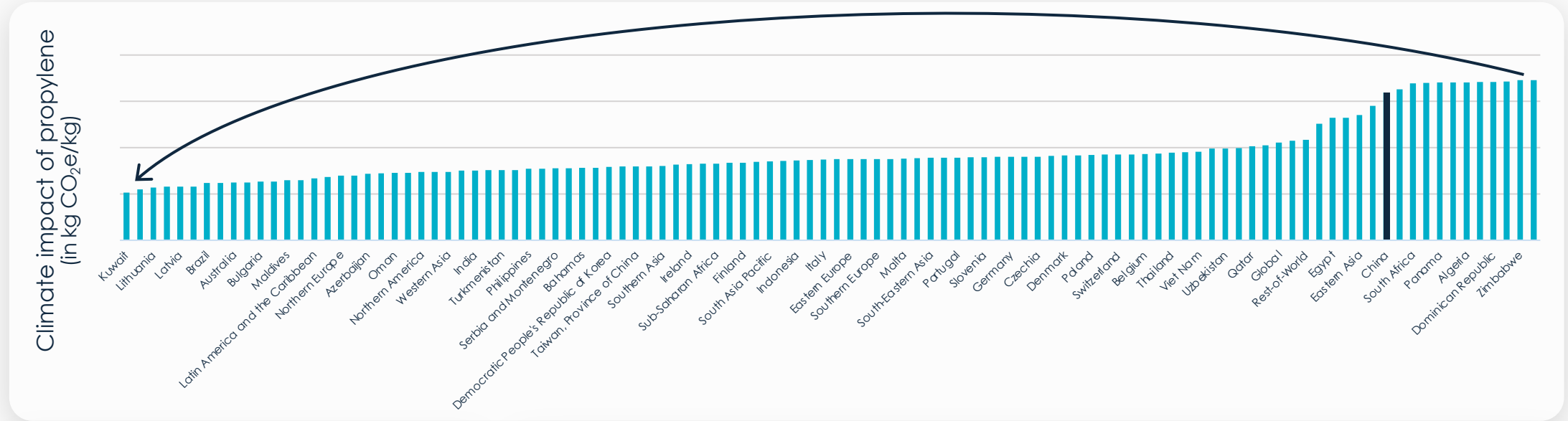
# PCF – why representative data is important

## Understanding the Structure of the Chemical Industry

-  Production locations and volumes of chemicals
-  Technologies used and process parameters
-  International trade flows between production regions



# Example of cm.chemicals data: Getting the full picture for propylene



Identify differences in environmental impacts between countries...



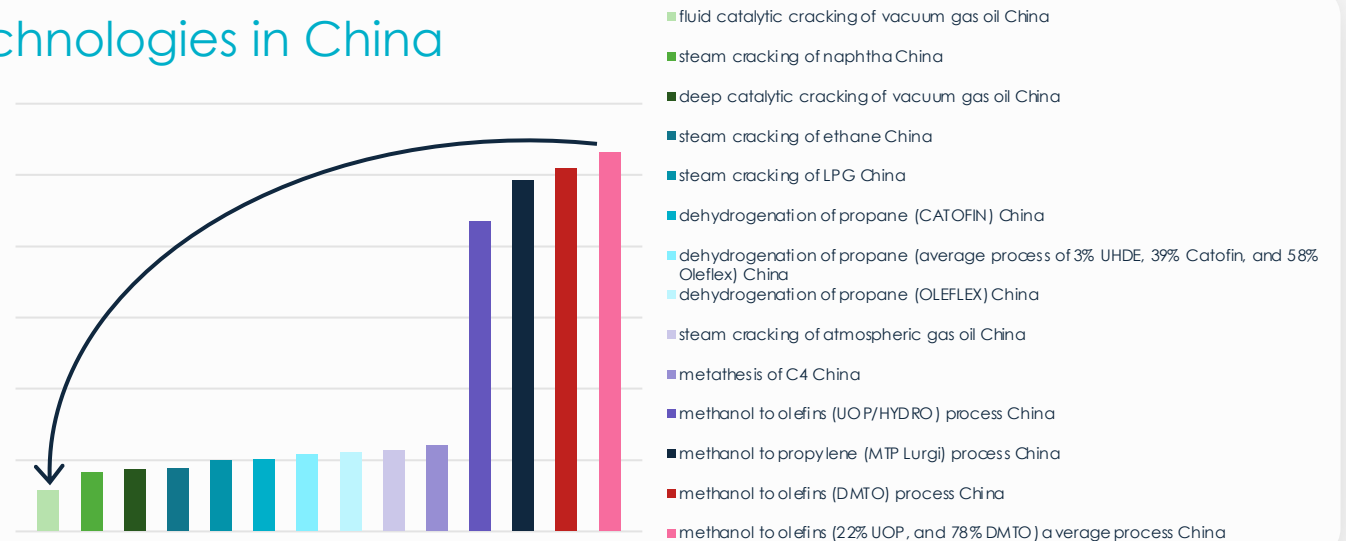
...explore differences between technologies



**Find reduction opportunities**

## Technologies in China

Climate impact of propylene (in kg CO<sub>2</sub>e/kg)



# Why cm.chemicals



## Benefits for sustainability teams

### FIND DATA MORE EASILY

Find the data you need for your Product Carbon Footprint (PCF), LCA, and Scope 3 calculations more easily with the world's largest life-cycle database for chemicals and plastics.

### IDENTIFY POTENTIAL REDUCTIONS

Explore regional and technological data to analyse hotspots, identify reduction potentials, and develop strategies to reach environmental targets.

### COMPLIANCE AND CERTIFICATION

Communicate your results with confidence knowing that your calculation is based on data that's independently certified for ISO 14040/44 and 14067, as well as TfS.



## Benefits for your company

### RESPOND TO CUSTOMER REQUESTS

Broad data coverage in cm.chemicals enables you to develop a comprehensive set of product carbon footprints, even for a large product portfolio.

### MARKET LOW-CARBON PRODUCTS AND MANAGE RISKS

Prepare for upcoming regulations, develop low-carbon offerings for new, "green" market segments and achieve climate targets by addressing supply chain emissions

### TRUST AND REPUTATION

Using independently certified data that's aligned with industry standards builds trust, reduces reputational risks from greenwashing claims, and helps position your company as an environmental leader.

# Summary and Conclusion

## Why

do companies work on PCF calculations?



Because product carbon footprint calculations create business value!

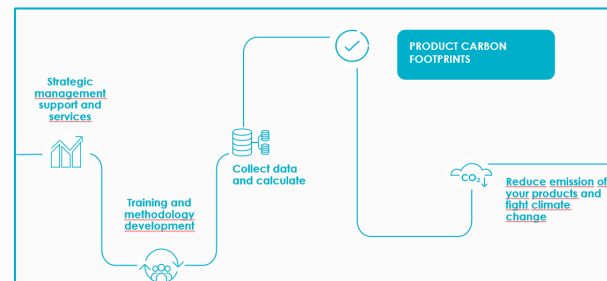


And product carbon footprints can be used to fight climate change!

## How

can you start calculating PCFs?

Find out what stage of development your company is in.



## What

are the ingredients to calculate PCFs?

Build your capacities and use high quality, representative data.

Carbon Minds supports you at every stage of development in your PCF calculation through **consulting, training, or data.**

# Thank you!



Mara Boitz

**GLOBAL ACCOUNT MANAGER**

[Mara.boitz@carbon-minds.com](mailto:Mara.boitz@carbon-minds.com)

**Stay up-to-date**

Web: [www.carbon-minds.com](http://www.carbon-minds.com)

LinkedIn: [www.linkedin.com/company/carbon-minds](http://www.linkedin.com/company/carbon-minds)