

Today, individuals, businesses, organizations, industries, and governments are increasingly aware of the environmental impacts of their actions. Global climate change in particular is a major concern to many, and the main human contribution to climate change is fossil fuel combustion. Fossil fuel combustion is also a major source of emissions that are harmful to human health. Greenhouse gases, including carbon dioxide, methane, and nitrous oxide, and the air pollutants that are harmful to human health are emitted from vehicles we drive, planes we fly, natural gas furnaces and other appliances we use, power plants that burn coal or other fuels to generate electricity we use, and the production and transportation of products we buy.

Organizational and corporate stakeholders respond to these concerns by undertaking emissions footprinting projects, which enable them to understand the environmental impacts on climate change and air quality of an entire organization, a building, an event, or any particular aspect of its operations (e.g. shipping, or one of its products).

Sources of emissions that may be considered for an organizational footprint may include some or all of the following, depending on the desired project scope:

- Onsite direct emissions and energy use
  - Natural gas
  - Fuel oil
  - Refrigerant leakage
  - Off-gassing
  - Other
  
- Onsite energy use that results in emissions offsite
  - Electricity
  - District steam
  - District cooling
  - Other
  
- Supply chains
- Business travel
- Employee commuting
- Shipping and freight
- [Events and hospitality](#)
- Products

There are a variety of emission reporting programs. Some reporting programs include:

- Carbon Disclosure Project
- EIA 1605(b)
- EPA Climate Leaders
- The Climate Registry

Once the emissions resulting from organizational operations are quantified and analyzed, the next step is to take action to reduce those emissions.

- Developing emission reduction strategies
- Developing emission offset strategies and [conducting competitive offset procurements](#)

Companies and organizations that reduce and offset their emissions can become certified through Leonardo Academy's Cleaner and Greener® Program. Visit the [Cleaner and Greener®](#) website for more details.

Is your company working toward LEED-EB certification? Earn the Emissions Reduction Reporting credit (EA credit 5.4 or 6) through Leonardo Academy's [Cleaner and Greener® for Single Buildings Program](#) !  
For additional information email the Program Manager at [info@cleanerandgreener.org](mailto:info@cleanerandgreener.org)

Interested in learning more? Leonardo Academy offers training services to companies, organizations, and individuals thinking about starting or in the process of starting a corporate/organizational emissions inventory.

See the Leonardo Academy [Emissions Consulting Services web page](#).

For additional information contact Leonardo Academy at:

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