

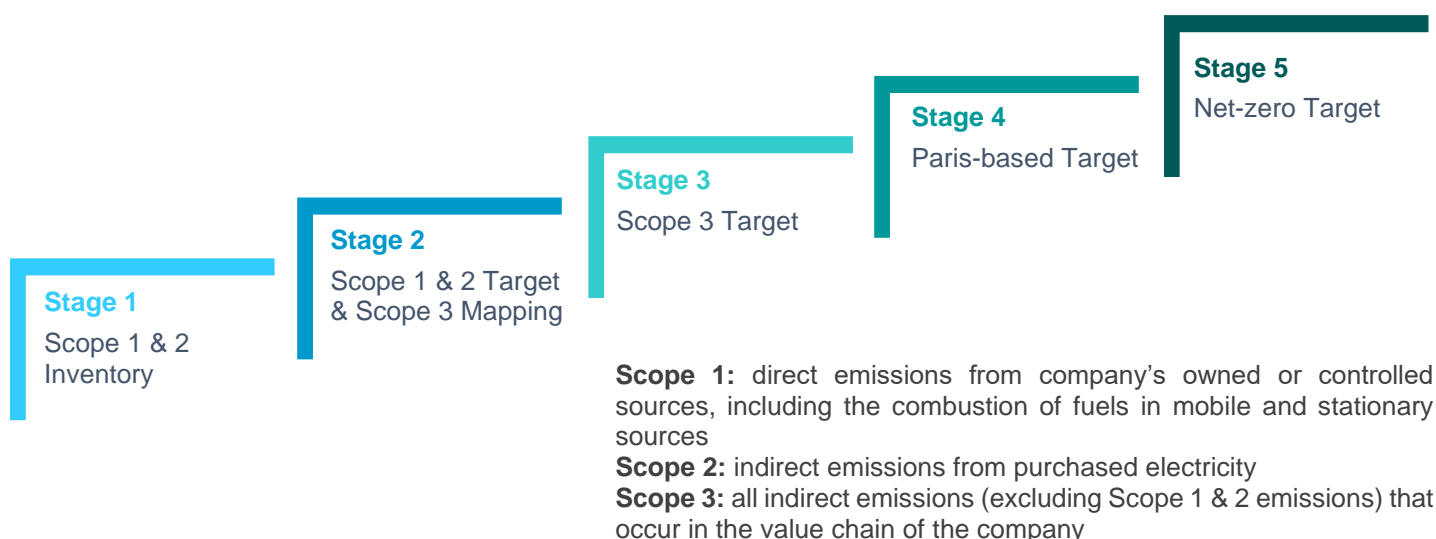
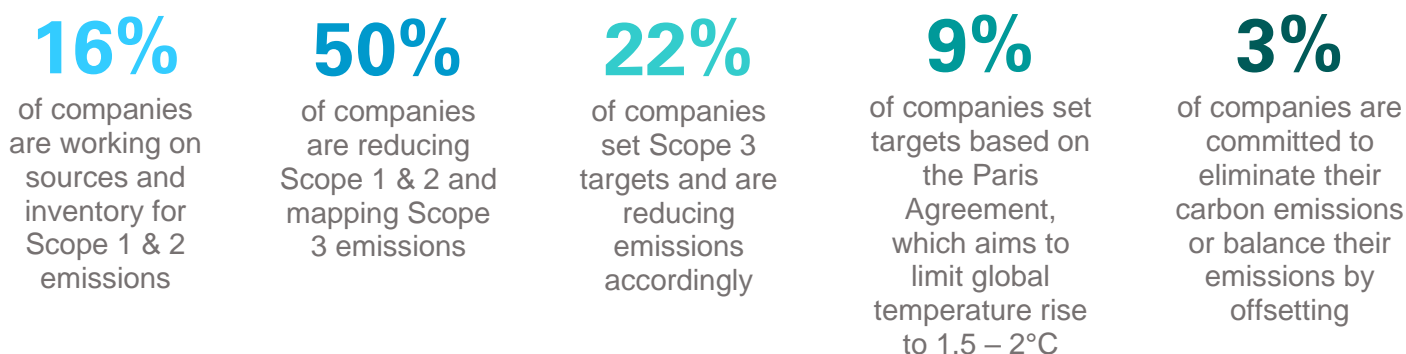


Climate change poses unprecedented threats to businesses and the well-being of people and communities. To further support businesses with their decarbonisation journeys, the **BEC Low Carbon Charter** was launched in March 2019 to mobilise companies in the property and construction value chain to set and achieve carbon reduction targets. 34 companies joined the BEC Low Carbon Charter as initial signatories in 2019. From 2020 onwards, the Charter is expanded to welcome companies and organisations from all sectors to join. As of 8 September 2020, 37 new signatories have joined the Charter, **bringing the total number to 71.**

This Topical Digest summarises the **BEC Low Carbon Charter Progress Report 2019**, a compilation of the aggregated and anonymised data submitted by the 2019 signatories.

Click [here](#) to see the full report.

Stages of Decarbonisation



Characteristics of Signatories' Targets

- More than **40%** of the targets cover all of the company operations in Hong Kong.
- Over **80%** of the signatories in 2019 have already set targets to reduce their carbon emissions.
- Over half of the signatories' targets cover their scope 1 and 2 emissions.
- The most popular decarbonisation targets are goals aiming at reducing electricity consumption (35%) and carbon intensity (29%).
- Around a quarter of the signatories have set targets for 11 – 15 years and one-fifth of them have set targets that range from 6 – 10 years.

Popular Decarbonisation Initiatives

- **Use energy efficient appliances, equipment and vehicles**, e.g. LED lights, electric and hybrid vehicles, and products with Grade 1 energy label
- **Retrofit offices and operation sites**, e.g. use energy efficient lifts, elevators, heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) systems and water pumps with variable speed drives
- **Adopt renewable energy** through installing solar panels, wind and water turbines, using renewable fuels, e.g. biodiesel, and purchasing renewable energies through Renewable Energy Certificates (REC) schemes
- **Establish internal sustainability protocols**, e.g. energy saving plan, green procurement manual, green finance framework, as well as green building design, property management and maintenance manual

How to Overcome Decarbonisation Challenges



Obtain **buy-in** from senior management and frontline staff as well as external stakeholders like business partners and clients.



Strengthen support **through internal capacity building** to raise awareness on climate change, especially on its severity and urgency.



Engagement, review and monitoring on a regular basis increases adaptation capacity and accelerates the decarbonisation progress.



Establish an **experience and data sharing platform** to facilitate dialogues on target-setting, benchmarking, and best practices.



Senior management will be more motivated to commit to climate actions with **support from the Government**.

About Business Environment Council Limited 商界環保協會有限公司

Business Environment Council Limited 商界環保協會有限公司 (“BEC”) is an independent, charitable membership organisation, established by the business sector in Hong Kong. Since its establishment in 1992, BEC has been at the forefront of promoting environmental excellence by advocating the uptake of clean technologies and practices which reduce waste, conserve resources, prevent pollution and improve corporate environmental and social responsibility. BEC offers sustainable solutions and professional services covering advisory, research, assessment, training and award programmes for government, business and the community, thus enabling environmental protection and contributing to the transition to a low carbon economy.