

Taking our suppliers to zero

Why we need to tackle climate emissions in our supply chain

*'Carbon emissions in supply chains are on average four times those of a company's direct operations'¹
yet they are often overlooked.*

We know that we need to prevent global warming rising more than 1.5C above pre-industrial levels.² Indeed, many companies within our screen industries have already committed to playing their part, introducing climate change strategies and targets to reduce emissions. Targets that will contribute to the UK's objective of achieving net zero by 50%.

But these strategies and targets often only relate to a company's direct emissions, emissions from sources that are owned or controlled by the company. The real climate impact of a company's operation is much greater when you consider the indirect emissions generated by the goods and services it procures.

If we are to act with the urgency needed to avert climate catastrophe, we need to reduce ALL our emissions.

'Addressing indirect emissions, scope 3, not only has huge potential to prevent the worst impacts of climate change, it can also lead to substantial business benefits'³ By working with suppliers and reducing indirect emissions, companies can reduce the risks of procuring high emitting goods & services, find efficiencies that reduce costs and gain a reputational advantage.

We can reduce our indirect emissions by:

1. Ensuring sustainable procurement principles are applied at all stages of the procurement process including questioning the need to purchase goods and services at the start to implementing lessons learnt at the end.
2. Adopting a procurement policy that sets out the environmental standards we expect our suppliers to meet as well as recommended best practice
3. Making climate related targets and performance a key supplier purchasing criteria
4. Working with our suppliers, and supporting them to adopt more sustainable practices and action within their own supply chains to bring them on this journey with us
5. Promoting best practice and innovation in our supply chain to increase the availability and effectiveness of sustainable products and services

albert is supporting companies across the screen industries to take these actions.

- We have produced a template procurement strategy & policy that your company can adapt to make it easier for you to get involved.
- We will be showcasing those in the industry leading the way.
- And we have also compiled a [directory of those suppliers](#) going the extra mile to be green, so you know who to turn to.

¹ CDP's Global Supply Chain Report 2018 <https://www.cdp.net/en/research/global-reports/global-supply-chain-report-2018>

² IPCC Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5°C <https://www.ipcc.ch/2018/10/08/summary-for-policymakers-of-ipcc-special-report-on-global-warming-of-1-5c-approved-by-governments/>

³ Value Change in the Value Chain: Best Practices in Scope 3 Greenhouse Gas Management https://sciencebasedtargets.org/resources/files/SBT_Value_Chain_Report-1.pdf