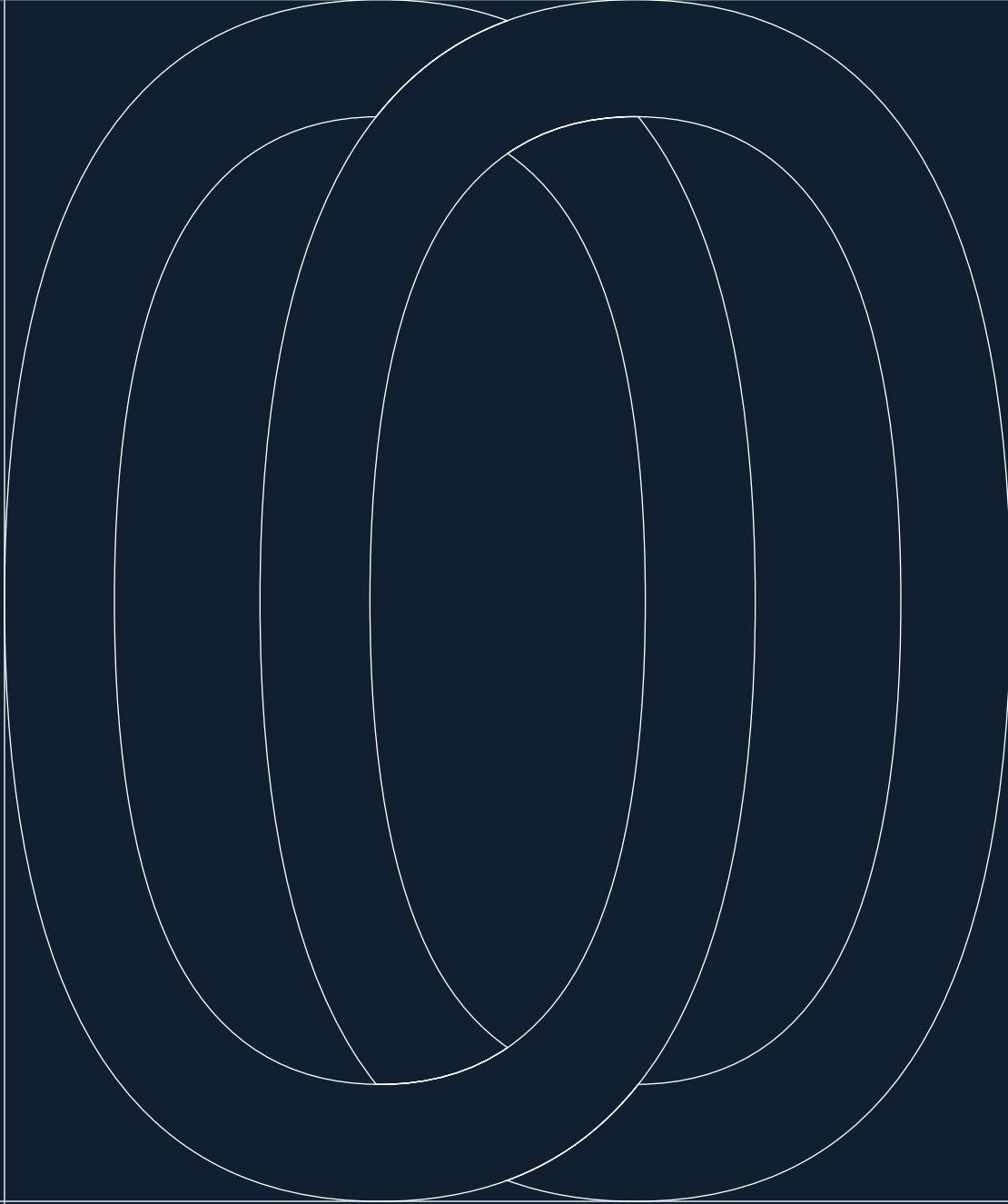


NET ZERO CERTIFICATION

FOR EXISTING BUILDINGS



GLOBAL
NETWORK
FOR ZERO

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The Global Network for Zero



The Global Network for Zero (GNFZ) is an international leadership collective of business and policy leaders implementing actionable strategies and solutions to accelerate ESG compliance and the rapid realization of a zero emissions world.

GNFZ was founded on an urgent premise: Humanity is in immediate need of a realigned strategic approach for implementing net zero solutions. GNFZ believes that prioritizing decentralized climate action and incremental paths to decarbonization is the fastest way to scale up implementation across industry sectors.

The harsh truth is that when it comes to the necessary overhauls for a net zero future, we just aren't there yet.

Current approaches have proven they are not aggressive enough to meet the Paris Agreement targets. Today's decarbonization efforts lack structure, leadership and trustworthy measurement tools. In fact, the cross-jurisdictional interoperability and implementation timelines yielded from emerging rules in the EU, US and beyond have often resulted in little more than corporate greenwashing and a false sense of progress.

GNFZ is closing the accountability loopholes currently plaguing the path to a zero emissions future and delivering a concrete, actionable plan for acceleration – one that fills the leadership void, unifies implementation efforts and provides solutions that eliminate the traditional market barriers businesses face in achieving net zero.

The work we are doing is designed to not only heap the pressure on leaders, but to equip them with the resources they need to meet their net zero targets with efficiency and effect.

Introducing GNFZ’s Net Zero Certification

<p>THE CHARGE</p> <p>GNFZ’s singular charge is to help businesses accelerate the emissions reduction of their operations, supply chains, buildings, products and more. By prioritizing the highest emitting sectors, our strategy employs an ambitious, integrated solution designed to do two things: DEFINE and DRIVE the necessary progress for decarbonization.</p>		
	<p>A REVOLUTIONARY NET ZERO PLATFORM</p> <p>To support this work, we have launched a decentralized, peer-to-peer platform that provides individuals, businesses and organizations with end-to-end support in accelerating progress toward hitting their net zero targets.</p> <p>Specifically, the platform allows network members to assess their Scope 1, 2 and 3 emissions, helps them identify strategies and partnerships for reaching their goals and independently verifies and certifies their net zero achievements.</p>	

Defining Net Zero

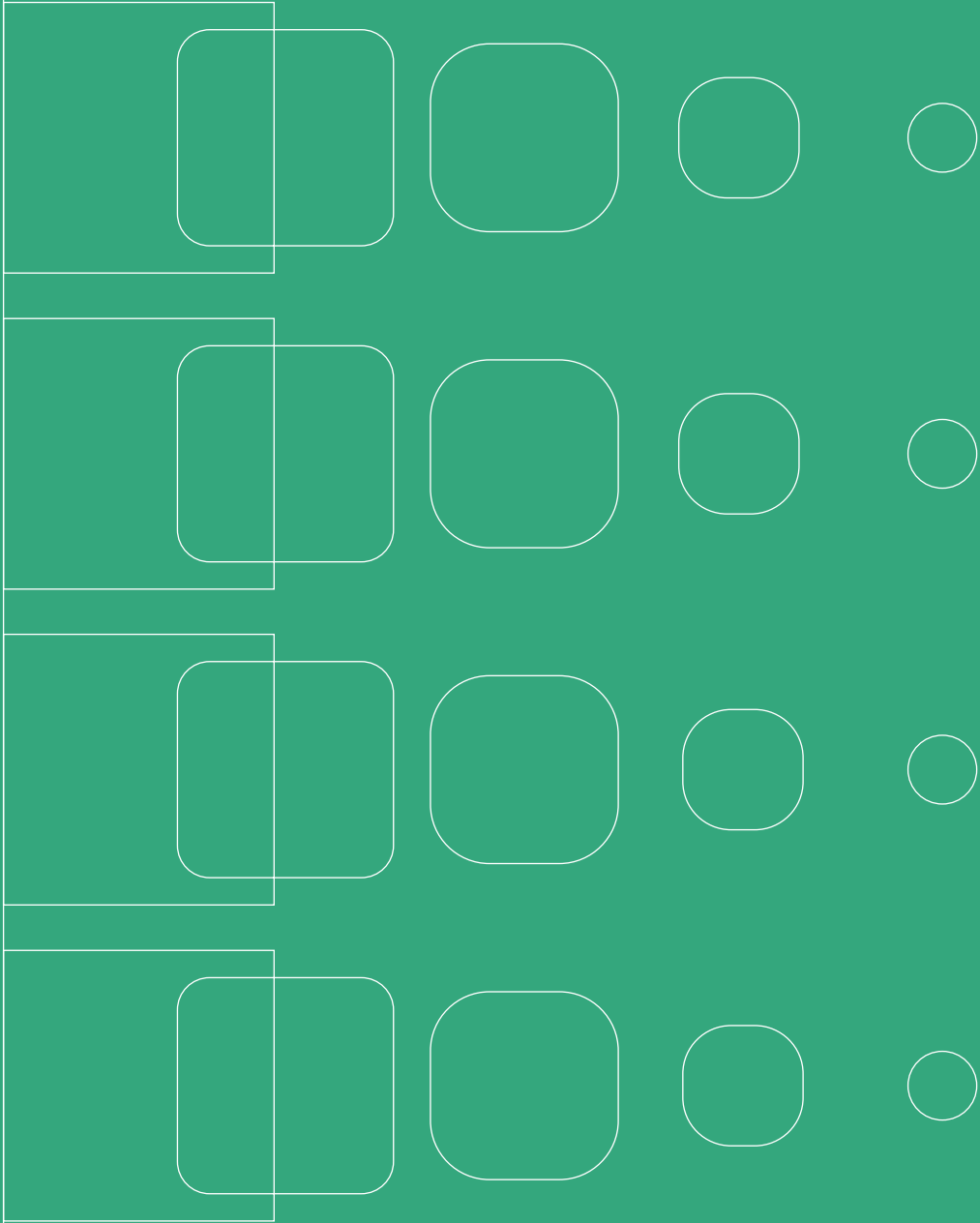
Companies all over the world are making net zero commitments, but despite good intentions, they do not always know how to achieve them. The reason they may struggle with implementation is simpler than one might imagine. GNFZ conducted independent research in 2022 and learned that while some leaders are already aware of their true Scope 1, 2 and 3 emissions, others are creating their own piecemeal metrics. Some are even ignoring Scope 3 emissions altogether. This not only leads to market confusion, but also dangerously undermines the efficacy of the net zero movement.

To fulfill their net zero commitments, organizations must have a consistent definition of what net zero actually means.

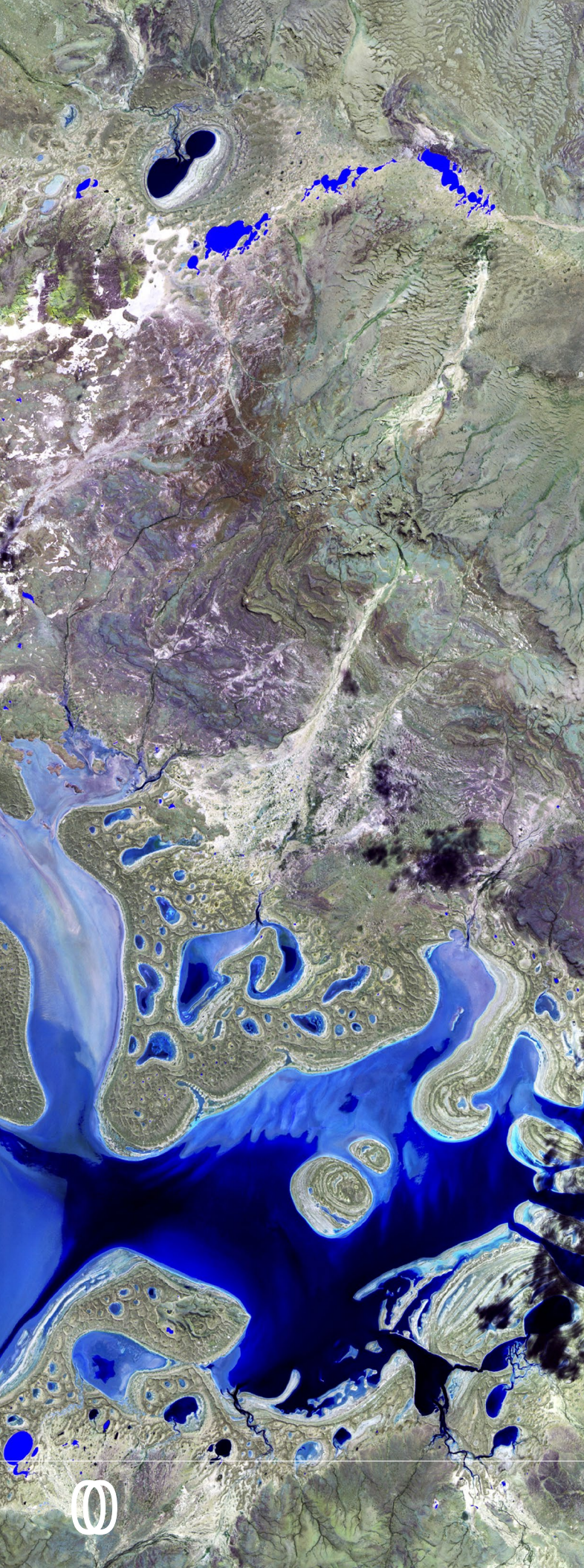
Through its platform, GNFZ engages finance, technology, climate and policy leaders to focus on helping companies properly tackle their Scope 1, 2 and 3 emissions.

Driving Net Zero

Driving a decarbonized world will include the digitization of climate data, decentralization of climate action and delivery of transformational new standards applicable across sectors – which is where the second part of GNFZ’s net zero solution comes in.



Digitization of Climate Data



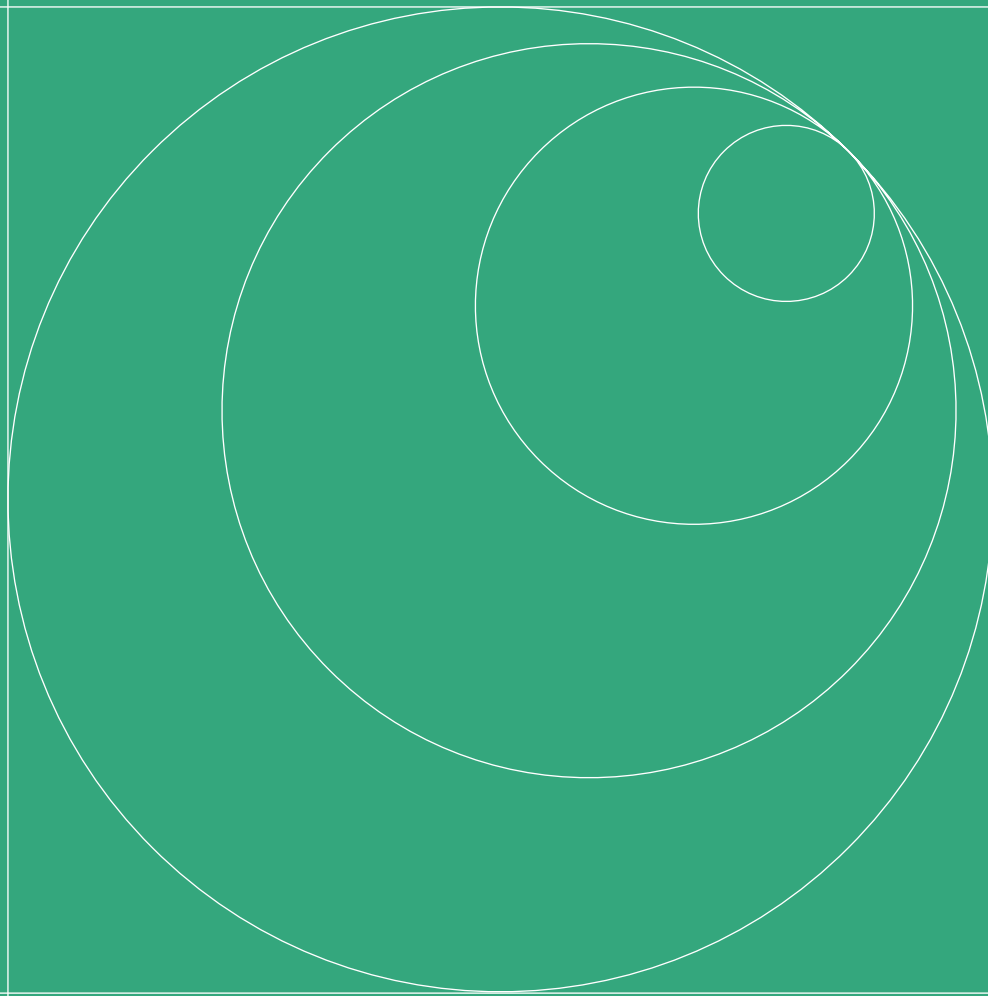
Digitization of Climate Data

Digitization of climate data means using digital technologies to collect, store, process and share data related to climate change and its impacts. Digitization of climate data helps improve the accuracy and accessibility of climate information for various stakeholders. Policymakers, investors and researchers deserve innovation that equips them for better serving communities with the sense of urgency and efficiency we all need.

Full digitization of climate data and its measurement is critical to making a dent in the highest emitting sectors. Digitization of climate data specifically enables better monitoring and evaluation of climate actions and progress toward the Paris Agreement goals. It is foundational — because what isn't measured can't be tracked. And when data isn't tracked, we end up exactly where we are now — in net zero no man's land.

Having an honest assessment, baseline understanding and quality data improves decision-making, increases transparency and limits the potential for greenwashing.

With this improved transparency, organizations have an accurate assessment of the progress being made in curbing emissions and, just as importantly, of the work still left to do.



Decentralization of Climate Action

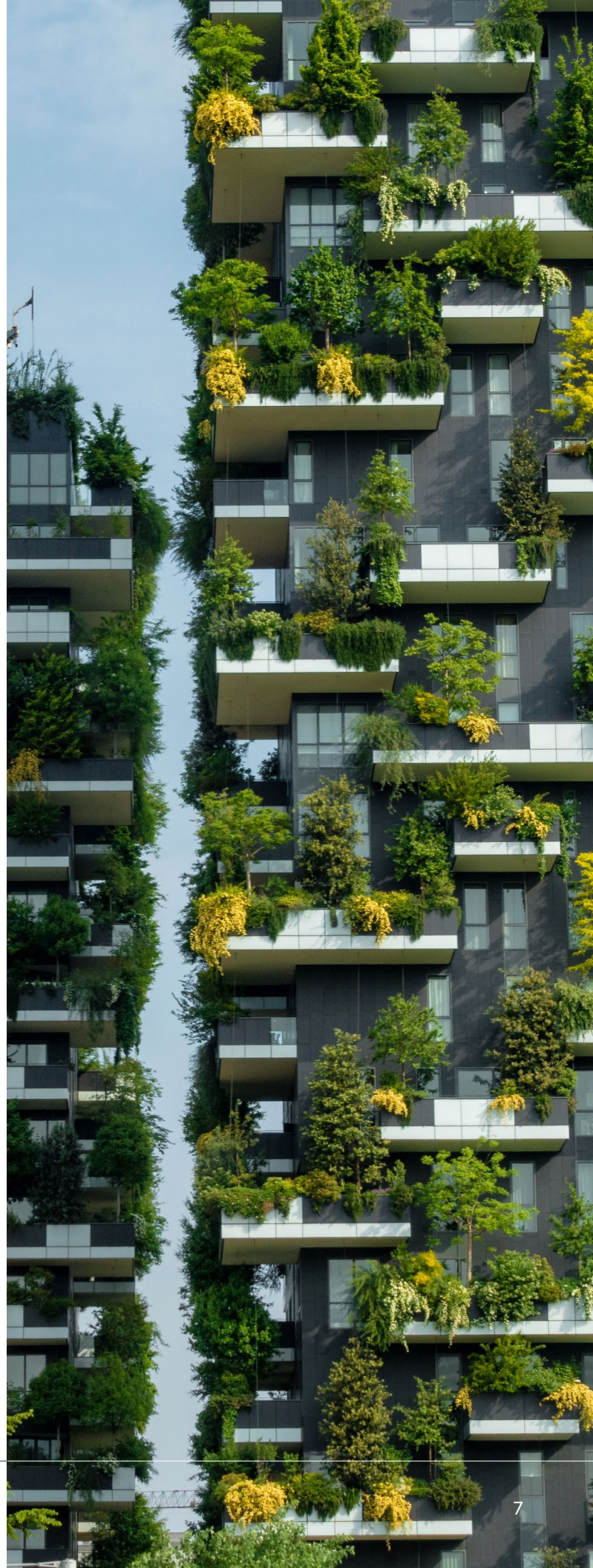
Decentralization of Climate Action

The Paris Agreement recognizes the role of subnational governments (e.g., states, provinces, regions, cities and localities) in climate action and calls for their engagement and support. Decentralization is the most effective approach for involving subnational governments in designing and implementing policies and programs to address the impacts of climate change. By capitalizing on local knowledge, bandwidth and preferences of subnational actors, decentralization enhances the effectiveness and equity of climate responses. Additionally, in an effort to achieve shared goals and synergies, decentralized climate action also fosters coordination and cooperation among different levels of government and various stakeholders.





Recognizing that climate action takes place in a decentralized manner will revolutionize how we break down and understand data — by region, sector, projects and people.

GNFZ's platform development team is uniquely positioned to build a cutting-edge, decentralized technology platform that can accelerate climate action in a way that hasn't been accomplished before. By leveraging feedback from network users and keeping up to date with latest emerging technologies such as AI, machine learning (ML) and blockchain technology, our team has created a next-generation platform unparalleled at evolving and adapting to a rapidly changing climate space.

Not only does the GNFZ team have vast experience in building and deploying global technology platforms, but GNFZ's experts in net zero, carbon emissions reduction, ESG, the UN SDGs and standard setting are committed to delivering on four key tenets of a net zero future.



The GNfZ community can expect a platform that is...

	An inclusive platform where anyone can be a meaningful contributor to accelerating change and the realization of a zero-emissions world.
	A collaborative platform with a peer-to-peer network that assesses, consults on and validates each other's work; where network members share lessons, successes and net zero best practices.
	A flexible platform that recognizes there are many standards and carbon accounting methodologies and tools already available and enables users to choose their own preferred method and practices.
	A transparent platform that fights greenwashing, empowers users to access trustworthy measurement tools and resources, and also certifies the compliance of net zero goals and efforts.

Delivering Transformational New Standards with Cross-Sector Reach

The platform enables anyone to take action on climate change. Companies and organizations that use it can benefit from accessing the latest knowledge across sectors. It is also aligned with the different standards and frameworks available in the market (such as SBTi, GRI, SASB, TCFD, green building programs, etc.) and can be leveraged to meet their requirements. The platform supports people, companies and organizations in achieving net zero by:

- Guiding them through the whole process – from assessing their emissions to obtaining net zero certification – and guiding them through the process of transforming their buildings, operations, assets, products, etc. to reach net zero incrementally.
- Providing them with a consistent method to calculate their greenhouse gas emissions and obtain net zero certification.
- Concentrating on calculating and reducing their carbon footprint, while also allowing them to choose the standard, method or approach that suits them best.
 - GNfZ recommends using the [Greenhouse Gas Protocol](#) as the default method for calculating emissions. This method is widely accepted, suitable for various kinds of projects and is especially useful in helping businesses and organizations begin their transition to net zero. However, all they have the option to choose any other method that they prefer. Our platform facilitates the comparison of different methods and guides them on how to apply them effectively.



Key Features and Benefits

The platform offers the following features and benefits to organizations:

- Anyone can join the network to support other network members as an educator, assessor, advocate, standards developer and/or consultant. Members can also introduce new roles to the network and recruit others to join.
- Ability to track net zero implementation for almost anything in the world – business, product, building, cities, communities and much more.
- Ability to choose one or more existing best practices and standards.
- Ability to propose new best practices and standards.
- Ability to calculate and inventory their Scope 1, 2 and 3 emission sources based on the [Greenhouse Gas Protocol](#) or by pursuing the preferred carbon calculation method of choice.
- Ability to share implementation plans and targets.
- Request implementation support from a database of GNfZ recognized partners available on our platform.
- Ability to share net zero implementation progress.
- Ability to track and maintain net zero certifications.
- Third-party feedback, validation and certification of emissions calculations, net zero plan and targets; carbon offsets; and net zero implementation milestones.
- Third-party feedback to improve implementation quality, transparency assessment and avoidance of greenwashing.
- Continuous improvement built into the platform to evolve with market, regulatory and technology needs.
- Support with ESG and SDG reporting and communicating achievements to boards, shareholders and stakeholders.
- Marketing, messaging and storytelling support to amplify net zero leadership.



GNFZ's Net Zero Certification for Existing Buildings

Because buildings constitute a large percentage of many organizations' emissions, existing buildings are the best place to start when it comes to putting into place a net zero strategy. However, because the built environment is the highest emitting sector responsible for almost 40% of all emissions, it's also one of the more complex uphill battles on the path to zero.

By assessing a building's emissions baseline, GNFZ's net zero certification is designed to scale progress with existing buildings by providing an incremental approach to certification — one focused on ensuring all buildings can establish and execute a roadmap to zero.

Key Components

The key components of our net zero certification for existing buildings include:

- Conduct an assessment, inventory emissions sources and receive a calculation of your building's Scope 1, 2 and 3 emissions.
- Set your own targets, develop a plan and implement net zero strategies.
- Achieve independent third-party verified and reviewed carbon offset certification and/or net zero certification.
- End-to-end support throughout the process – from initial assessment to net zero certification – from the database of GNFZ recognized partners on the platform.
- Access to GNFZ's platform to help you track your progress.
- Ability to include other team members to collaborate on the project, as well as ability to share implementation plans and targets.
- Implement net zero strategies based on an open set of best practices and standards.



Benefits

GNFZ's net zero certification for existing buildings offers the following benefits:

- Differs from existing approaches because it is simple, accessible and designed to enable all existing buildings to get to net zero.
- Helps existing buildings get started by focusing on a singular, outcome-driven metric — carbon emissions reduction.
- Offers incremental certification to validate the assessment, plan, implementation and monitoring the net zero journey of existing buildings.
- Ability to implement net zero strategies based on an open set of best practices and standards.
- Access to a simple but rigorous platform to track your progress.
- Offers a nimble, outcome-based and low cost certification process with a more intuitive workflow and reduced documentation requirements.
- Improves external and internal transparency of progress, leading to deeper stakeholder engagement, action and results.
- Allows buildings to take a holistic or incremental approach to implementation to support their unique needs.
- Integration support from the GNFZ technology team to connect your internal systems with the platform and provide data to comply with any of your other external reporting needs.
- Includes storytelling and stakeholder messaging support.

Process

Existing buildings will realize their net zero transformation in three phases:



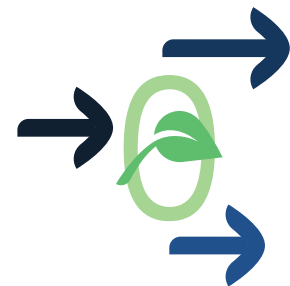
Phase One INITIATE

Conducting an assessment, developing a plan and achieving carbon offset certification.



Phase Two IMPLEMENT

Implementing strategies to reach net zero status.



Phase Three SUSTAIN

Maintaining net zero status in perpetuity.

GNFZ certification



GNFZ Carbon Offset Certification

Carbon offset certification verifies that a project or activity has reduced or removed greenhouse gas emissions from the atmosphere. Carbon offsets are tradable “rights” or certificates linked to activities that lower the amount of carbon dioxide (CO₂) in the atmosphere. By buying these certificates, individuals, businesses, or organizations can fund projects fighting climate change instead of taking action to lower their carbon emissions.

On the one hand, carbon offset certification can help finance low-carbon projects and make it cheaper for the world to meet its emissions targets. But it can also result in over-crediting, lack of transparency, and moral hazard. Therefore, using carbon offsets appropriately and complementing them with other actions to reduce emissions at the source is essential.

GNFZ helps combat this by ensuring clients choose high quality carbon credits. Furthermore, GNFZ carbon offset certification not only helps businesses, organizations and individuals implement and validate their carbon offset strategy, but it assists them in acquiring high quality carbon offsets and subsequently achieving third-party carbon offset certification.



GNFZ Net Zero Certification

GNFZ net zero certification verifies that businesses, organizations and individuals have achieved zero carbon emissions through implementation of carbon removal strategies.



ACHIEVE CARBON OFFSET CERTIFICATION IN THIS PHASE



Initiate

In this phase, the client will complete their building's initial emissions assessment and subsequently set a net zero plan, targets and certification.

After creating a profile on the platform, the client will then follow these steps to obtain net zero certification for their building:

1. Engage a GNfZ partner and/or your in-house team if preferred for implementation support.
2. Enter information about the building and tag it to group it into a campus, portfolio, fund, REIT or organization to enable the portfolio view.
3. Invite team members to collaborate.
4. Perform a detailed inventory of the building's various emission sources.
5. Calculate Scope 1, 2 and 3 emissions.
6. Provide information on any of the adopted best practices and standards.
7. Request assessment review of emission sources, calculations and best practices to receive a net zero assessment certificate.
8. Share a net zero implementation plan.
9. Request implementation plan review to receive a net zero plan certificate.
10. Share carbon offsets and net zero targets.
11. Request carbon offset certification review to receive a carbon offset certificate.
12. Request net zero milestone review to receive a net zero milestone certificate.
13. If net zero emissions achieved, request for net zero certification to receive a net zero certificate.
14. Continuously monitor net zero status to maintain your certification.



ACHIEVE NET ZERO CERTIFICATION IN THIS PHASE



Implement

In this phase, the client will annually validate and make any required adjustments to their building's initial and prior year emissions assessment, plan, targets and subsequent impact to their certifications. The validation must be completed between January 1 – March 15 of each year. This phase will continue until the net zero certification is achieved.



Sustain

In this phase, the client will continue to monitor and ensure their building maintains its net zero certification. In case of material changes to its emissions, the building will obtain its updated certifications by following the steps outlined in the Initiate and Implement phases.

On an annual basis, GNfZ will publicize a progress report that transparently shares all projects' assessment and certification results and the progress projects have made toward their net zero commitments.

**Access the
platform and get
started today.**

