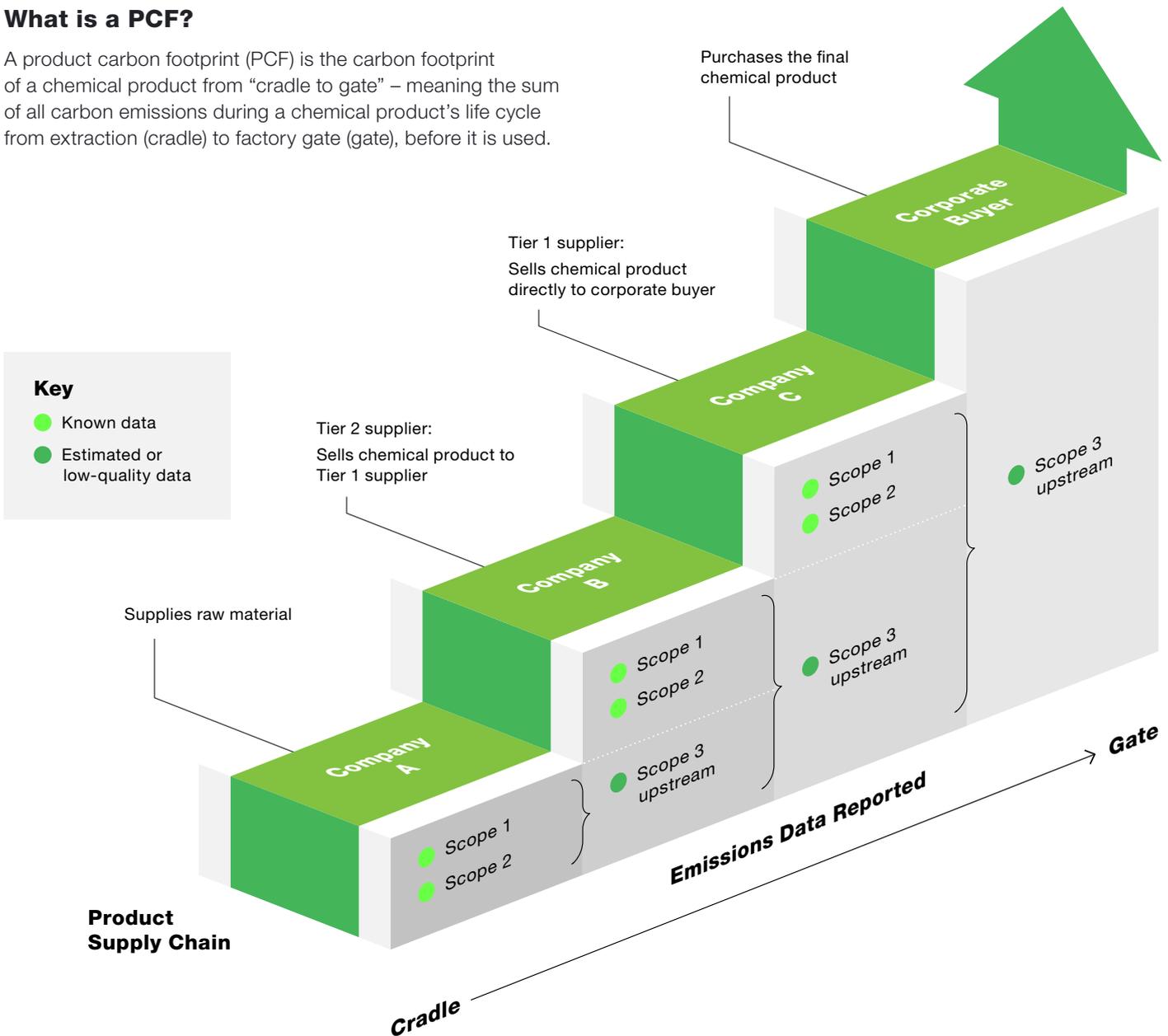


What is a PCF?

A product carbon footprint (PCF) is the carbon footprint of a chemical product from “cradle to gate” – meaning the sum of all carbon emissions during a chemical product’s life cycle from extraction (cradle) to factory gate (gate), before it is used.



Why are accurate PCFs important for corporations?

For many corporations, the majority of their GHG emissions lie outside their own operations, coming from their supply chain. These types of emissions are called “scope 3 upstream” emissions.

Many corporations estimate their scope 3 upstream emissions relying on data from existing databases, providing only incomplete and low-quality data. In order to report accurate emission data, actual PCFs from their suppliers are required. Such PCFs are still scarce, yet provide best accuracy as they capture a product’s emissions from the very first supplier in the supply chain through subsequent suppliers up to its use by the corporation.

That’s where the PCF Guideline comes in. Being open source and globally accessible, the guideline shows chemical suppliers how to accurately calculate PCFs, and the ways to report that data to their customers.

The more companies there are in the supply chain – from Company A (at the cradle) to company C (the direct supplier) – that accurately measure and report PCFs, the more accurate the reporting of scope 3 upstream emissions is for the corporation.

Without accurate data from suppliers, a corporation’s scope 3 upstream emissions are only estimates.