



The full guide to CDP in 2025

Everything you need to know about disclosure in one place, including deadlines and improving your scores

hello@energise.com
www.energise.com



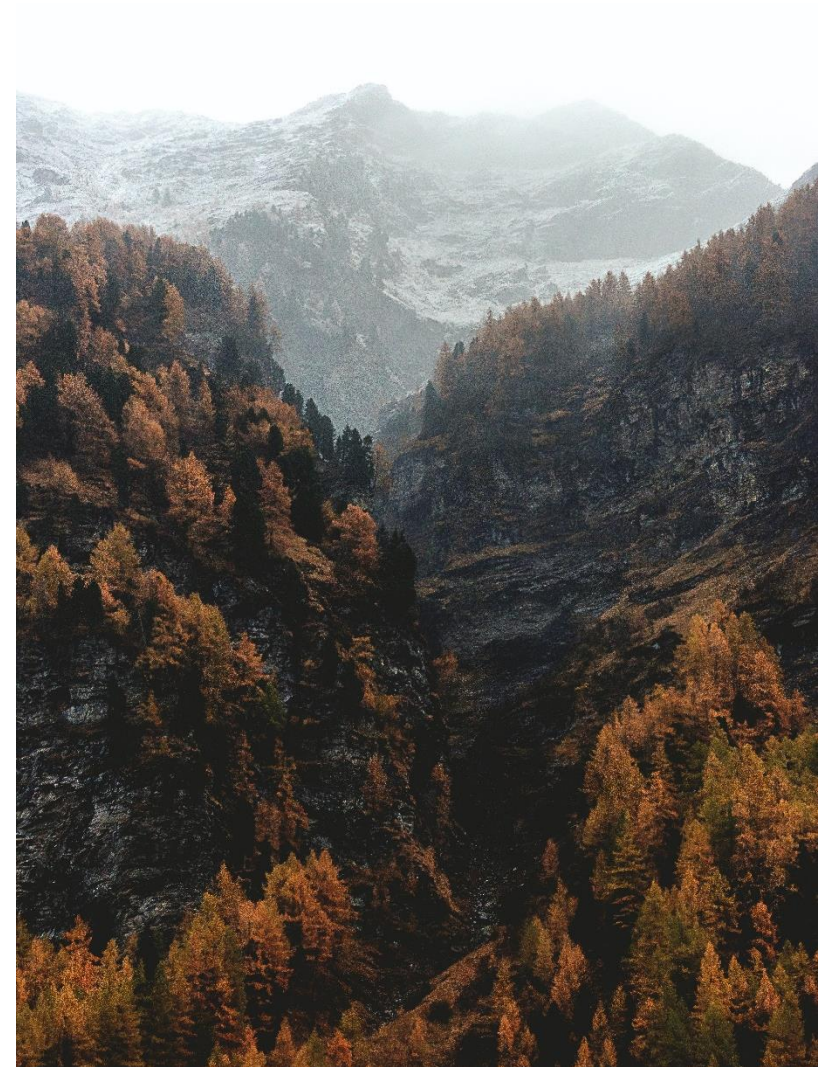
CDP at a glance

WHAT IS CDP?

CDP is a global environmental impact non-profit organisation, working to secure a thriving economy that works for people and planet. It's annual disclosure cycle enables companies to measure and manage their environmental impacts either voluntarily or by request of their investors or supply chain, and is aligned to the TCFD recommendations.

WHO IS ENERGISE?

We are an award-winning sustainability consultancy, on a mission to be the catalyst for change by providing our expertise and tools to large organisations, SMEs, and individuals alike. Our consultancy and compliance services support customers with ambitious, yet achievable strategies enabled through rigorous data collection processes. We use our technology platforms as a trustworthy educational hub for all your sustainability questions, as well as a tool to aid our consultants in building your Pathway to Net Zero and action plans.



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What is climate disclosure?

The CDP questionnaires allow companies to demonstrate their plans to transition to a low-carbon economy by submitting climate change-related data to a (non-profit) disclosure platform.

All submitted data provides support for shareholder engagement action, while investors will use it to assess the carbon footprint and preparedness in relation to the climate-related risk of their portfolio.




A CYCLE OF STABILITY

CDP has announced that the 2025 disclosure cycle will focus on stability. The questionnaire and platform will undergo minimal changes, allowing companies to build on their 2024 efforts without adapting to new systems. The scoring methodology is revised each year to align with industry best practice, with the 2025 methodology expected w/c 28th April.

WHAT TO EXPECT FROM THE LATE ADDITIONS

CDP has been offering 3 main questionnaires: climate change, water security, and forests. Recently, questions on plastics and biodiversity were added, but they remain unscored as of 2025; this approach is intentional to boost response rates and encourage organisations to integrate these critical issues in their strategy.

DISCLOSURE HELPS YOU:

-  get ahead of regulatory and policy changes
-  identify and tackle growing environmental risks
-  find new opportunities for action that your investors and customers worldwide are demanding.

What has changed for CDP in 2025?

STABILITY AND STREAMLINED REPORTING

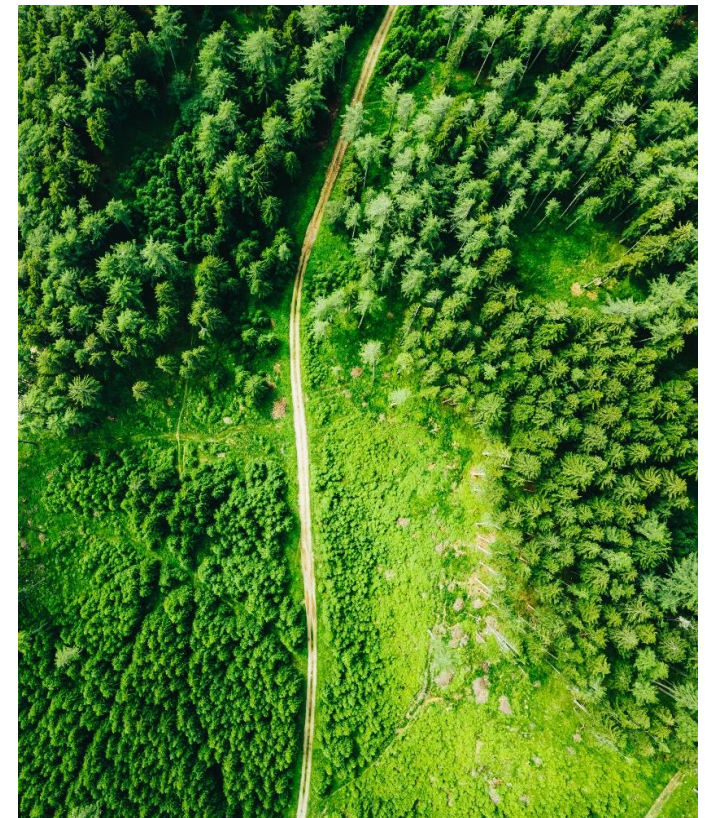
The 2025 disclosure cycle emphasises continuity. Minimal changes mean you can build on your 2024 reporting efforts with confidence and without disruptive system overhauls.

The key changes are about improvements to the linear thinking in the question set, allowing the questionnaire to link questions together more intuitively. This streamlined structure drives a more coherent and efficient reporting process. By focusing on eliminating redundancies, it reduces time spent in your disclosures.

YEAR ON YEAR

The stability in 2025's process allows you to leverage previous insights, ensuring long-term success in your sustainability reporting.

Guidance may be updated to clarify what information CDP is looking for. Furthermore, questions may be amended or updated to streamline responses and reflect progress towards environmental stewardship.



Timeline and deadlines for 2025

Our team of CDP consultants is in constant contact with platform administrators, and regularly attends training, so we can promptly update and communicate any specific changes to these deadlines as they arise.

31 MARCH

Questionnaires are published

w/c 28 APRIL

Scoring methodology is released

w/c 16 JUNE

Questionnaire opens for corporate responses

w/c 15 SEPTEMBER

Reporting deadline (in order to be eligible for scoring)

w/c 17 NOVEMBER

Last chance for submissions – but responses will not be scored!

How will your response be scored?

CDP responses are scored in a bid to encourage companies to take action on climate change and report on these plans externally. The scoring methodologies are available on the CDP website and are structured around 4 levels:

1. DISCLOSURE

You will be assessed on the level of detail and the comprehensiveness of your response.

Disclosure points are scored based on whether there is a response to the question.

2. AWARENESS

Knowledge of how environmental issues impact your business.

Awareness points are scored based on what you've actually responded.

3. MANAGEMENT

Evidence of actions and management methods to address these impacts.

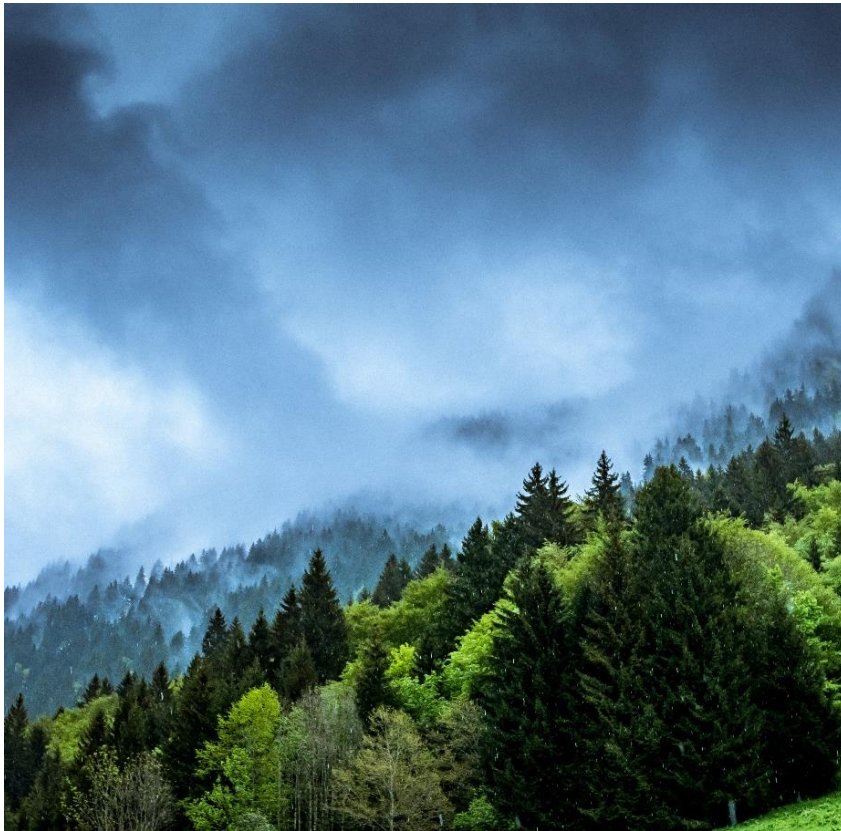
Management points are scored based on whether you are taking action, these are more difficult to get.

4. LEADERSHIP

Implementation of best practices in the field of environmental management.

Leadership points are the most difficult points to score and there are fewer available.

The scoring system



SCORING

The questions are scored across four different levels, if the minimum score threshold is not achieved at one level, the company will not be scored at the next level.

All questions are scored for the disclosure level, whereas some may have no awareness, management, or leadership level scoring.

A LIST

Companies awarded a high leadership score are recognised via the A List. For a company to achieve A-List status, companies must ensure several items are included within their response, as well as pass several checks carried out by CDP after the submission of the response. Prior to 2025, only the A list had 'additional' criteria to meet, as well as the individual question scores, now the same logic applies to all levels of scoring.

Our top tips

Sharing some of the lessons we learned along the way.

THE BASICS

Ensure questions are completed, columns are filled out and that your responses align throughout your disclosure, including figures.

YOUR DATA

Present as much quantitative information as possible. Keep on top of your data throughout the year using strong systems, including tracking any projects that reduce energy or emissions.

LEADERSHIP ON SCOPE 3

Don't get caught out by Scope 3 - Conduct a Scope 3 screening to understand its relevance and include this within your response.

RISKS AND OPPORTUNITIES

Even if you haven't fully adopted the TCFD recommendations, you can start to quantify the potential financial and emissions impacts of certain climate related risks such as taxes and regulation.

SET A ROBUST STRATEGY

Your strategy should address climate-related risks and opportunities and include a costed Pathway to Net Zero.

ASK FOR HELP

There are a number of organisations (including ourselves!) which have specialist knowledge on the CDP process that are on hand to support you.

PRIORITISE ENGAGEMENT

Get other people from across the business involved in drafting the response. Use it as an opportunity to engage employees.

LOOK TO THE FUTURE

The plastics and biodiversity sections remain unscored for now, but there is a strong expectation that they will eventually become a key part of the overall scoring. Even if you're not currently disclosing in these areas, we recommend that your policies and processes are reviewed to be aligned.

Conclusions

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Going beyond disclosure

CDP can help your organisation go beyond disclosure. Here are some of the long-term benefits:

01 ENGAGING YOUR TEAM MEMBERS

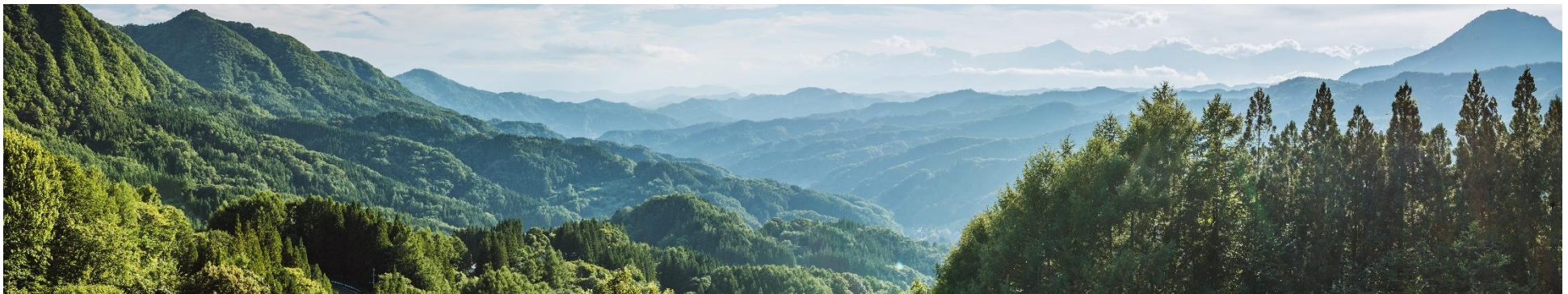
The public nature of the response means it's a great tool to engage non-sustainability roles in this space. Speak to colleagues from the risk team, facilities, or corporate affairs, and use this as an opportunity to get everyone on board.

02 UNDERSTANDING THE LEGISLATION

With the ever-changing sustainability disclosure landscape, CDP provides a good understanding of what will be required for aligning to TCFD and other voluntary and mandatory frameworks.

03 PLANNING FOR THE YEAR AHEAD

Use the insights gathered in the reporting process to take lasting action. Our CDP services include a plan for the year ahead that can be used to ensure CDP isn't just used as a tick box exercise.



How we can support you

Our CDP services are tailored to suit the level of support your organisation requires.

Whether that's Full Response Support throughout the entire disclosure cycle, a Gap Analysis to help you understand your current position, or a Response Review to identify any last-minute quick wins to improve your response.

ELEMENTS INCLUDED	Option 1 CDP GAP ANALYSIS	Option 2 FULL RESPONSE SUPPORT	Option 3 RESPONSE REVIEW
Indicative scoring of previous years response	x	Optional	
Recommended next steps	x	Optional	x
Interviews with key stakeholders		x	
Energise to write CDP response		x	
Indicative scoring of updated response		x	x
Submission on your behalf		x	
Plan for 2026		x	



Why Energise?

Our team of experts have the latest in-depth knowledge on CDP's requirements and are well-versed in the nuances of reporting, how to meet your specific requirements and elevate your score.

We don't just tick boxes for our customers. We go all in to help them connect with their own 'why' for improving their sustainability impact and walk hand-in-hand with them on the journey towards net zero carbon.

100%

COMPLIANCE PASS RATE

over 700 programmes

£70m

SAVINGS DELIVERED

adding around £10m per annum

650k

TONNES OF CARBON SAVED

and increasing daily

OTHER CREDENTIALS



Energise has been rigorously tested and is very proud to have scored a solid 105.2 out of 200, compared to 50.9 for a typical business and the minimum of 80 needed to qualify.



Energise's science-based target has been diligently analysed and approved by the Science Based Targets initiative. We are very proud to join more than 1000 companies who are walking the talk on climate science.



WORK WITH US

hello@energise.com

+44 (0)1480 220280

energise.com