

Catalyzing Value Chain Decarbonization

Corporate Survey Results

FEBRUARY 2023

Context

- Value-chain decarbonization is one of the most **significant opportunities to catalyze system-scale transformation** towards a net-zero economy.
- On average, scope 3 emissions represent **70% of corporate greenhouse gas (GHG) inventories** and are part of 96% of validated science-based targets.
- Given the scale and importance of scope 3 target-setting, and an increasing urgency for action, the SBTi has launched a **process to review and update scope 3 target-setting guidance, methods, and criteria** with the aim of ensuring the framework effectively catalyzes value-chain decarbonization while being cognisant of barriers corporates face.
- As a first step, a survey was conducted to **understand the challenges faced with scope 3 target setting.**
- This presentation outlines the **results of the survey** which will be used to inform the future development of scope 3 guidance updates. This report does not seek to provide clarifications on existing guidance or criteria.
- This comprehensive survey was carried out by the Science Based Targets initiative (SBTi) and Boston Consulting Group (BCG) in September 2022.

The end goal is clear, to reach a net-zero economy we need full value chain action

To reach a net-zero economy, the business model of companies need to evolve to continue to create value to society without causing the accumulation of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere.

A net-zero value chain implies that each and every step involved in the provision of goods and services aligns to a level of emissions that is compatible with achieving climate stability.



Extraction /
production of
materials



Processing of
materials



Transformation
of materials



Product
manufacturing



Distribution



Commercialization



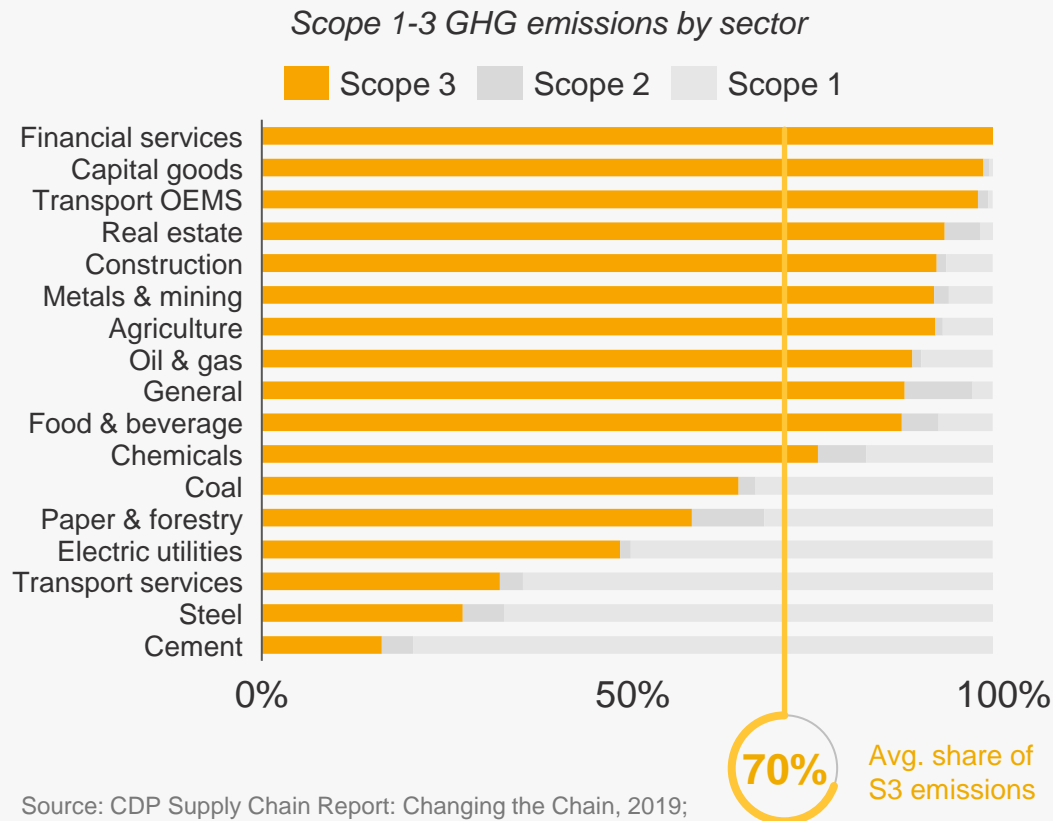
Use



End of life

Scope 3 represents 70% of corporate GHG footprints; targets on these emissions are critical to achieving system-wide decarbonization

Scope 3 is significant across most sectors...



Source: CDP Supply Chain Report: Changing the Chain, 2019; CDP Climate Change Questionnaire April 2022; BCG analysis

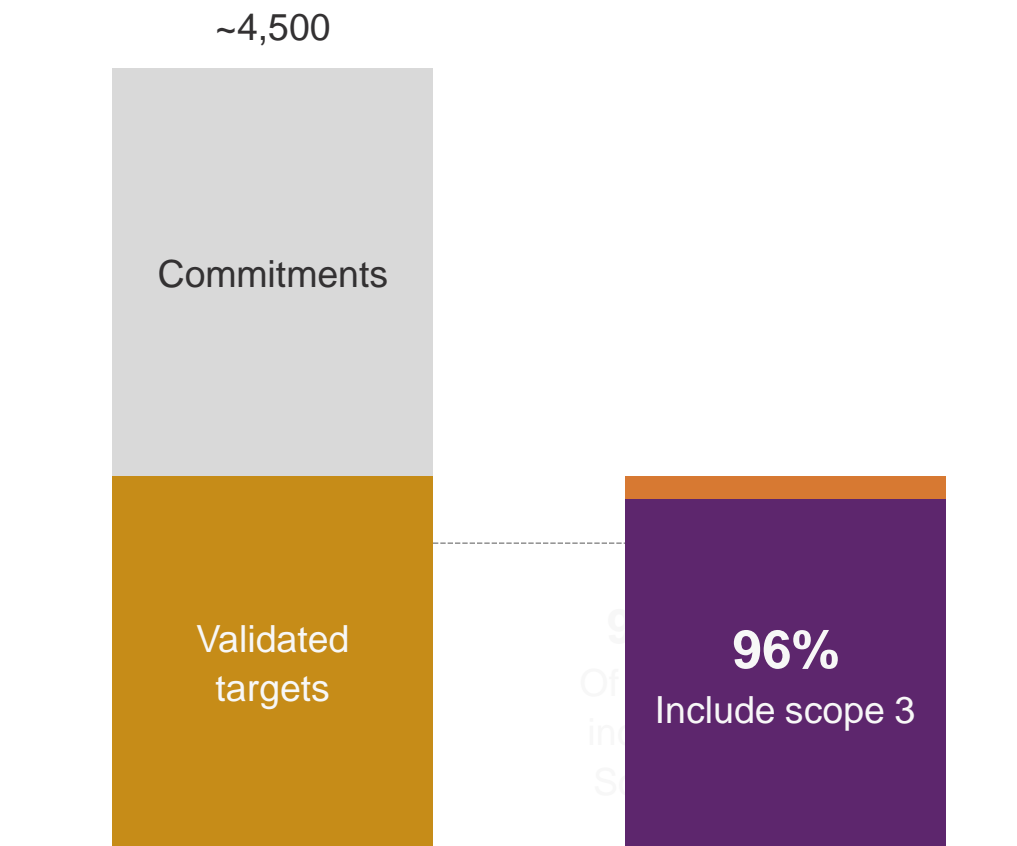
...and core to the SBTi's theory of change

- Achieving a net-zero economy requires a fundamental transformation of the economy, which can only be achieved by **aligning incentives and eliminating barriers to GHG reduction**.
- The SBTi believes in the importance of value chain action and builds on attributional accounting to make shared **cross-value chain responsibility** between actors explicit.
- By requiring economic actors to set targets not only on their direct emissions, but also on emissions in their value chain, the **SBTi seeks to align all actors behind a common goal**.

Science-based targets, 2022

Number of companies ('000)

96% of validated science-based targets include scope 3



However, barriers remain which may prevent effective translation of scope 3 ambition into value-chain decarbonization

Baselining

Barriers to baselining scope 3 emissions

- Availability of value chain emissions data (reliance on average emissions factors).
- Consistent application of scope 3 baselining standards.

Target Setting

Barriers to setting scope 3 targets

- Confidence in ability to deliver scope 3 targets.
- Availability of scope 3 specific science-based target-setting methods.
- Mismatch of growth plans and decarbonization ambition.

Delivery

Barriers to delivering scope 3 targets

- Ability to influence suppliers and customers.
- Cost of decarbonization.
- Ability to track progress due to data challenges.
- Awareness of "what counts" as a decarbonization lever.

Objectives of the scope 3 guidance and criteria review

1. Clarify the **role and importance of scope 3 targets** in the delivery of 1.5°C pathways.
2. Evaluate **scope 3 target boundary conditions** and materiality thresholds.
3. Assess and refine existing scope 3 **target-setting methodologies**.
4. Identify **new target-setting methodologies**.
5. Consider **accountability mechanisms** for delivery of scope 3 targets.

The SBTi is launching a process to review scope 3 guidance & criteria

To inform the SBTi scope 3 review process, a stakeholder survey was launched to understand challenges faced when baselining, setting and delivering scope 3

Objective

Understand challenges companies face when setting and delivering scope 3 targets

230 respondents

>20 sectors

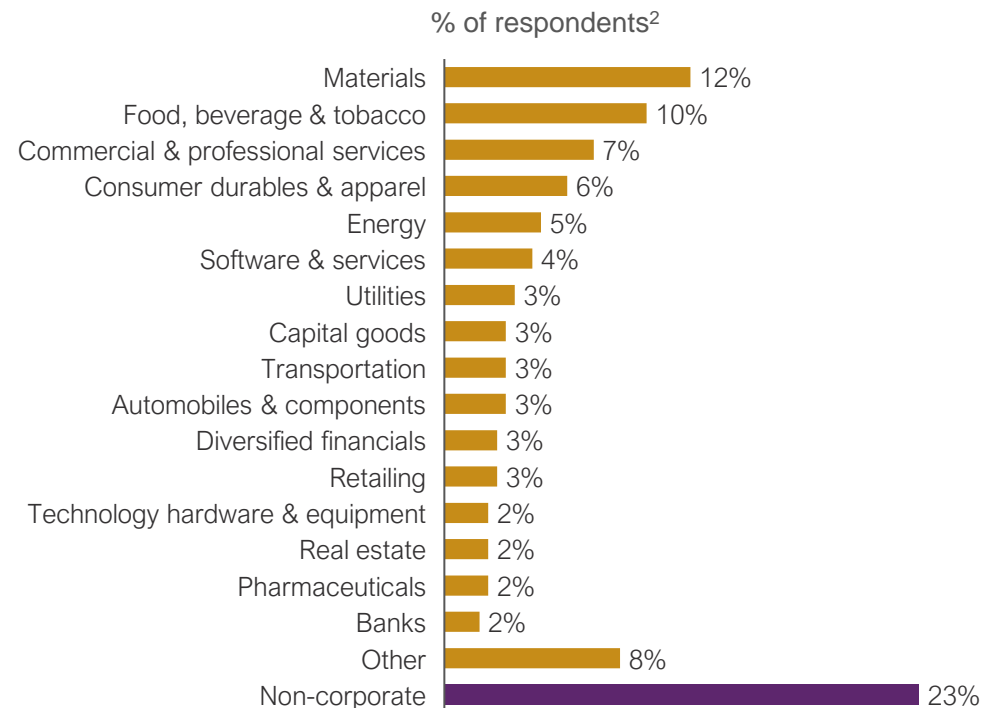
All major regions

85% with commitments or targets

>100 questions

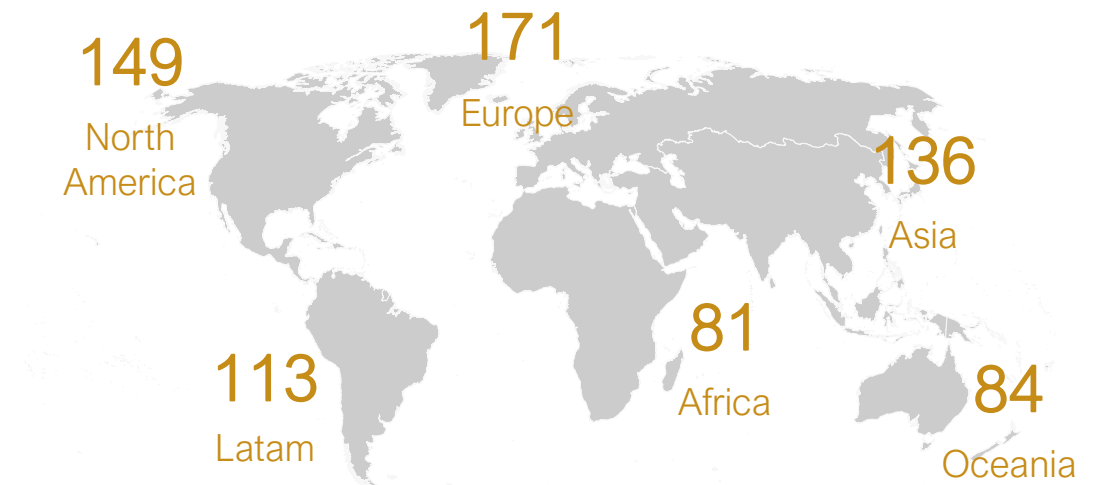
Stakeholder engagement survey sampled a wide range of sectors and geographies

Respondents represent a range of sectors...



...and geographies¹

Number of respondents²



Three categories of challenges were researched

A.

Challenges with
baselining
scope 3 emissions

B.

Challenges with
setting
scope 3 science-based
targets

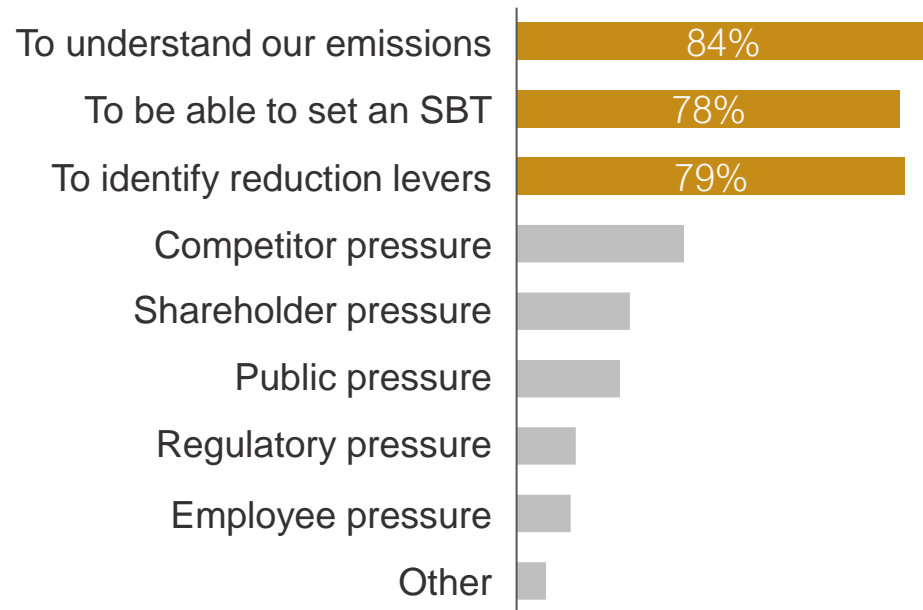
C.

Challenges with
delivering
progress towards a scope
3 science-based target

Baselining: Some companies are motivated to develop a baseline in order to set a target

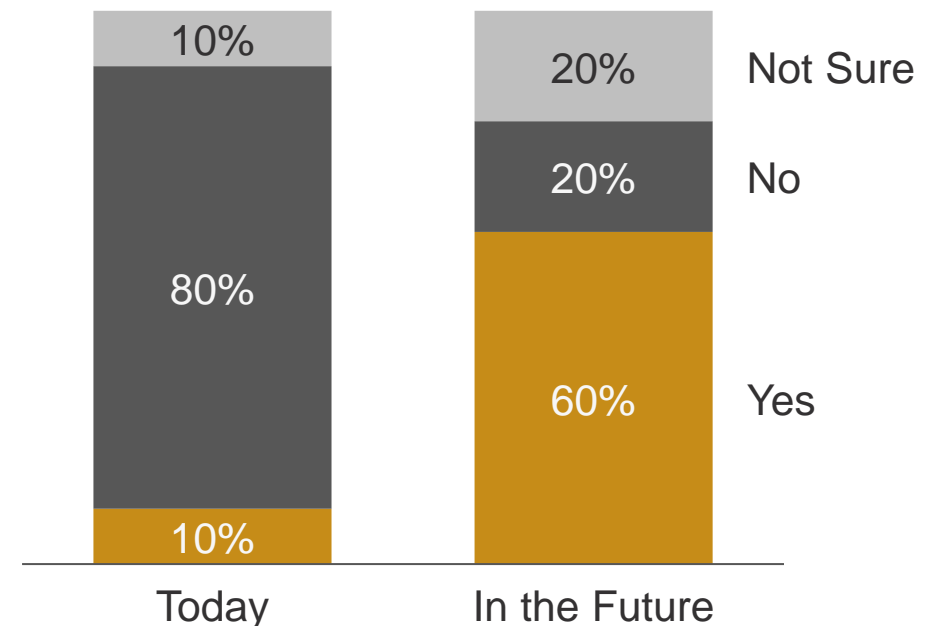
A primary motivator for baselining scope 3 emissions is to enable setting an SBT

Q. What was/is your motivation for developing a scope 3 GHG baseline? Select one or many, % of respondents



Regulation is not a motivator today, but is expected to be one in the future

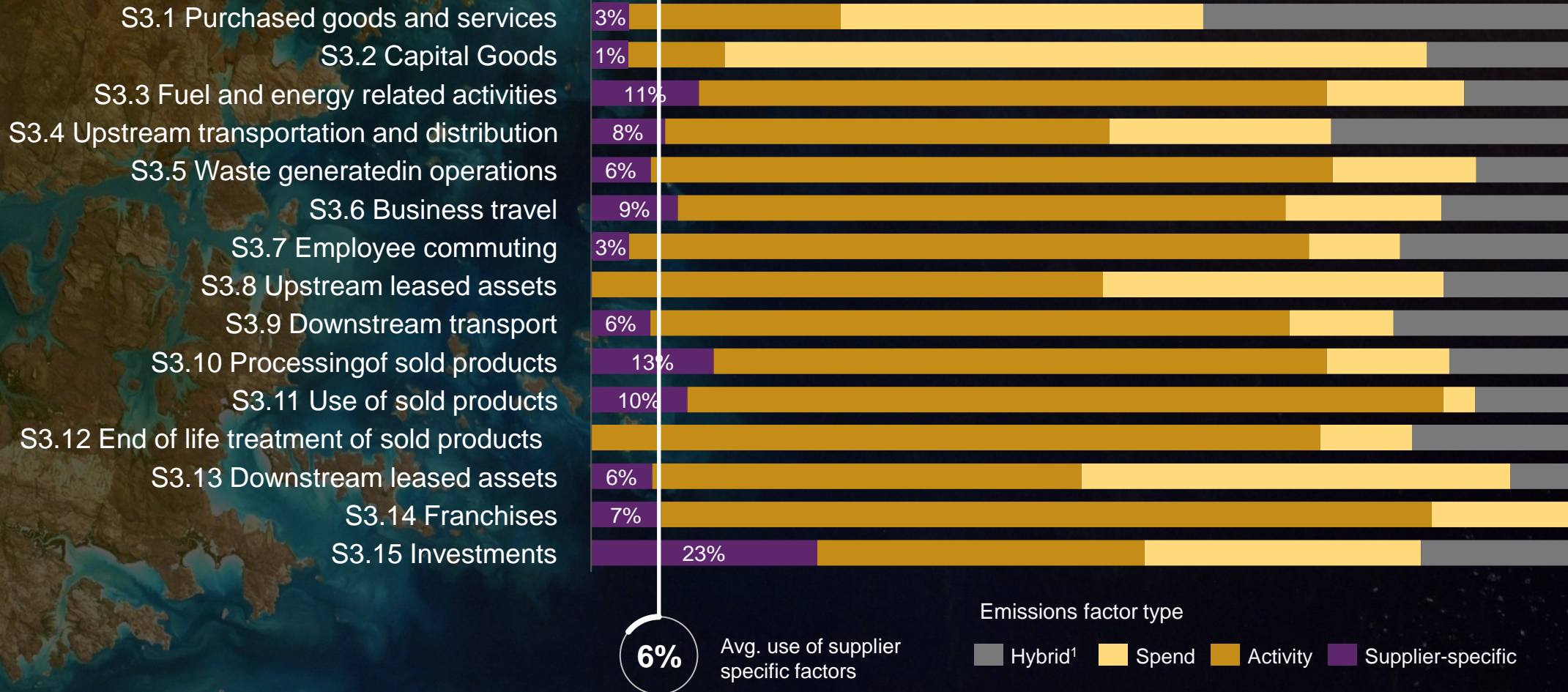
Q. Are you currently subject to any regulatory disclosure on scope 3, or do you expect to be in the future?, % of respondents



Baselining Barrier #1: Data access

Supplier specific emissions factors only represent 6% of baseline calculations

Method used to estimate scope 3 emissions, % of respondents, N=175



1. A mix of spend, activity and supplier specific emissions factors. Source: SBTi Scope 3 Stakeholder Engagement Survey, September 2022; BCG analysis

Baselining Barrier #2: Comparability

50% of companies re-baseline emissions due to methodological changes

Differing interpretations of accounting guidance can limit **baseline comparability**

In addition, changing methodological decisions often lead to **re-baselining**

Due to....



Methodological choices e.g. spend vs. activity based emissions factors

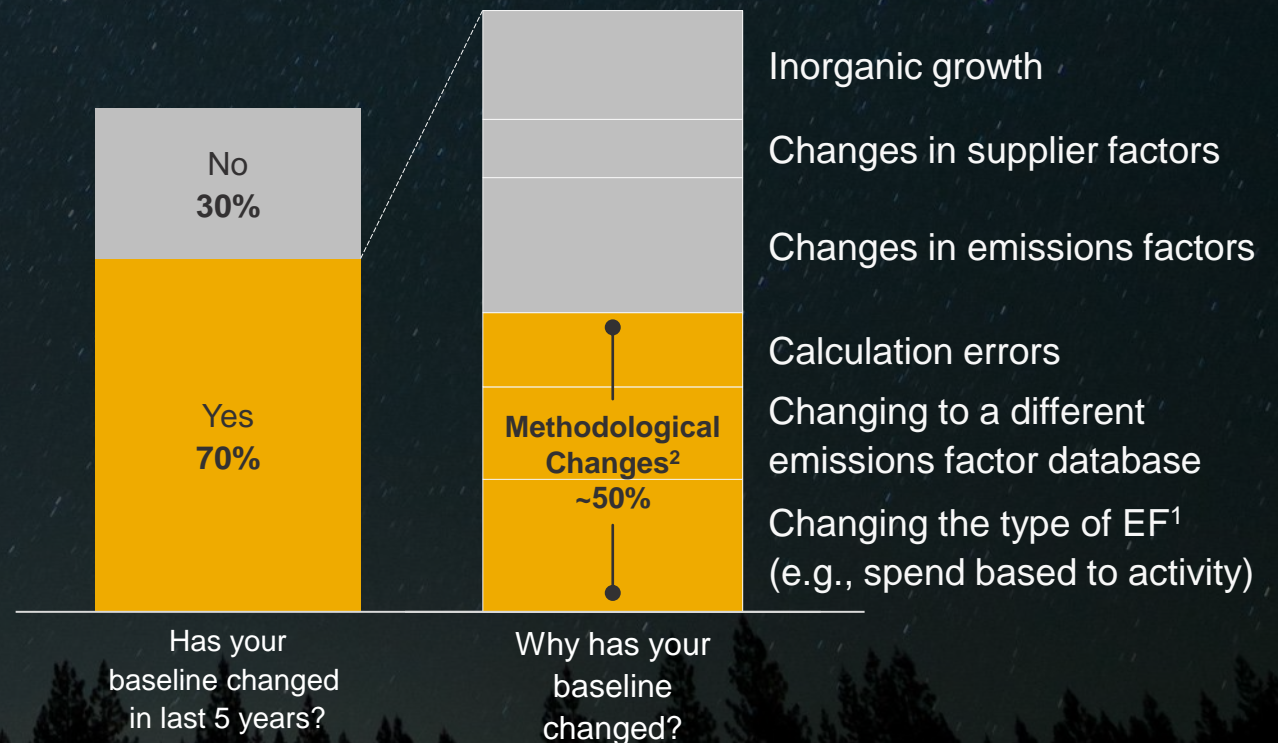


Optional categories e.g. indirect use phase



Lack of sufficient sector specific accounting guidelines

Q: Has your baseline changed in the last 5 years, why?, N=198

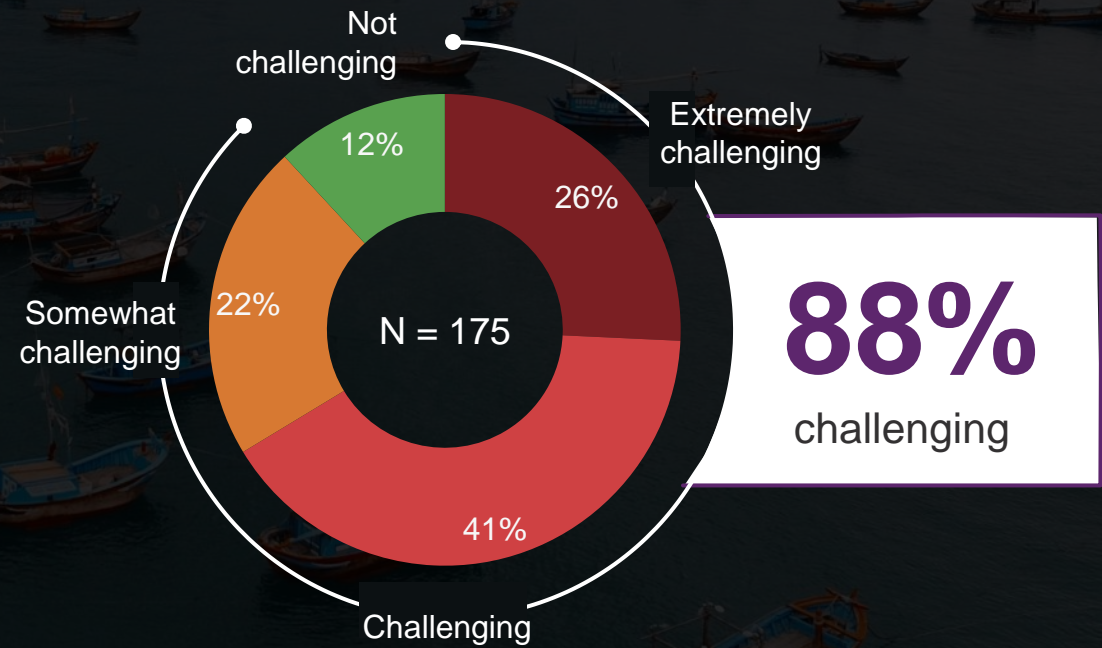


1. Emissions factor 2. Changes to a baseline not driven by methodological decisions rather than directly by real economy decarbonization
Source: SBTi Scope 3 Stakeholder Engagement Survey, September 2022; BCG analysis

Target Setting

Almost all companies find setting a scope 3 science-based target challenging

Q: How challenging do/did you find setting a scope 3 target?

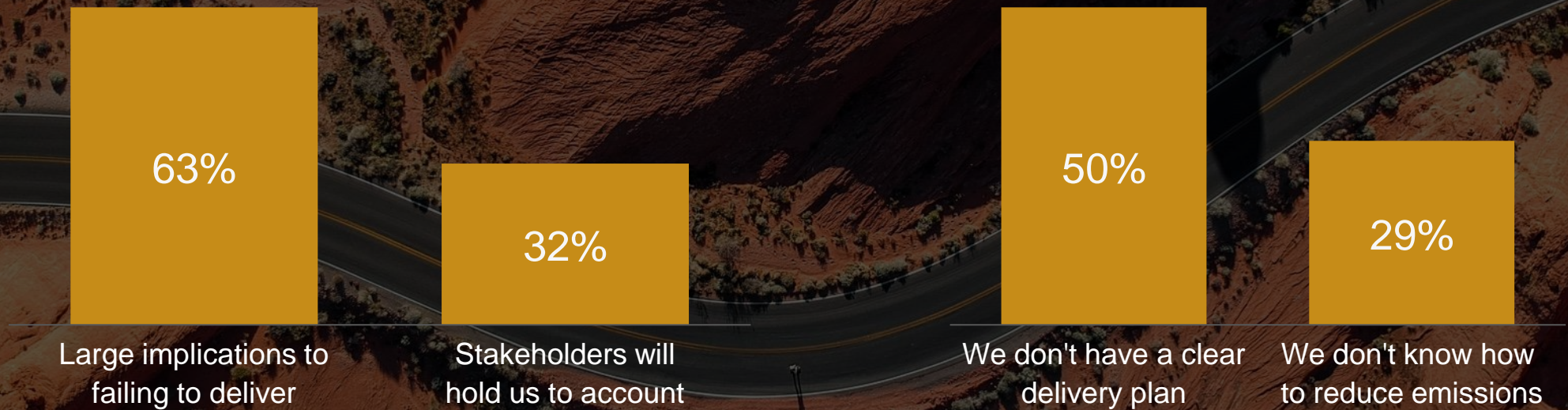


Target Setting Barrier #1: Confidence

70% of respondents believe lack of confidence in delivery is a barrier to target setting

Respondents are concerned about the consequences of failure...

...and lack confidence because of unclear delivery roadmaps



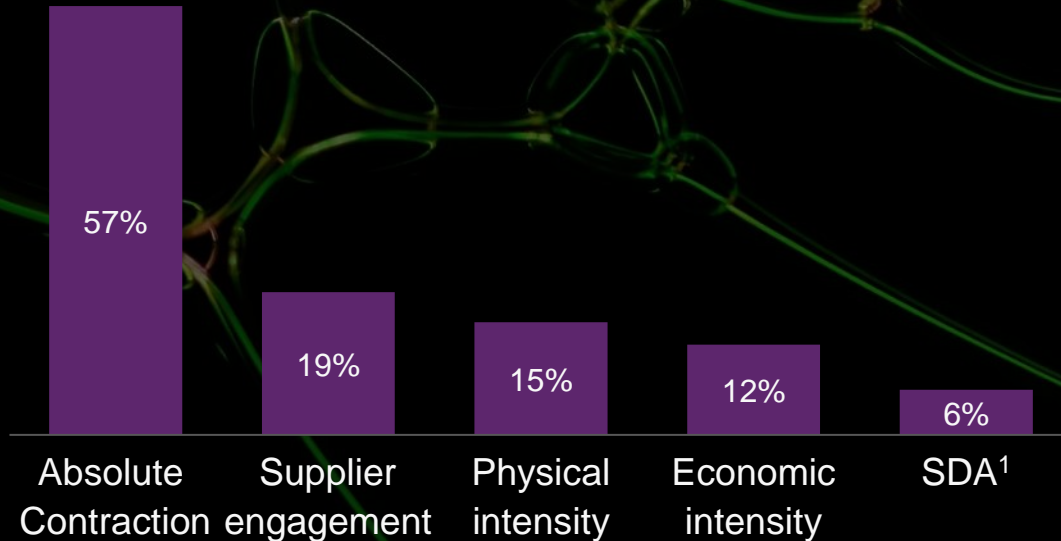
Target Setting Barrier #2: Methods

Most respondents utilize absolute contraction as a scope 3 target-setting method

57% of companies use absolute contraction for scope 3 target setting...

...however, tailored sector specific guidance may help address perceived barriers

- Scope 3 emissions originate from many different sources including some high emitting sectors.
- For companies with scope 3 emissions in high emitting sectors, sector specific target-setting guidance may help create more nuanced targets compared to the absolute contraction method.
- In addition, respondents commonly cite growth ambitions as a barrier to target setting.
- Use of intensity-based target-setting methodologies may help to partially decouple planned growth from decarbonization ambition.



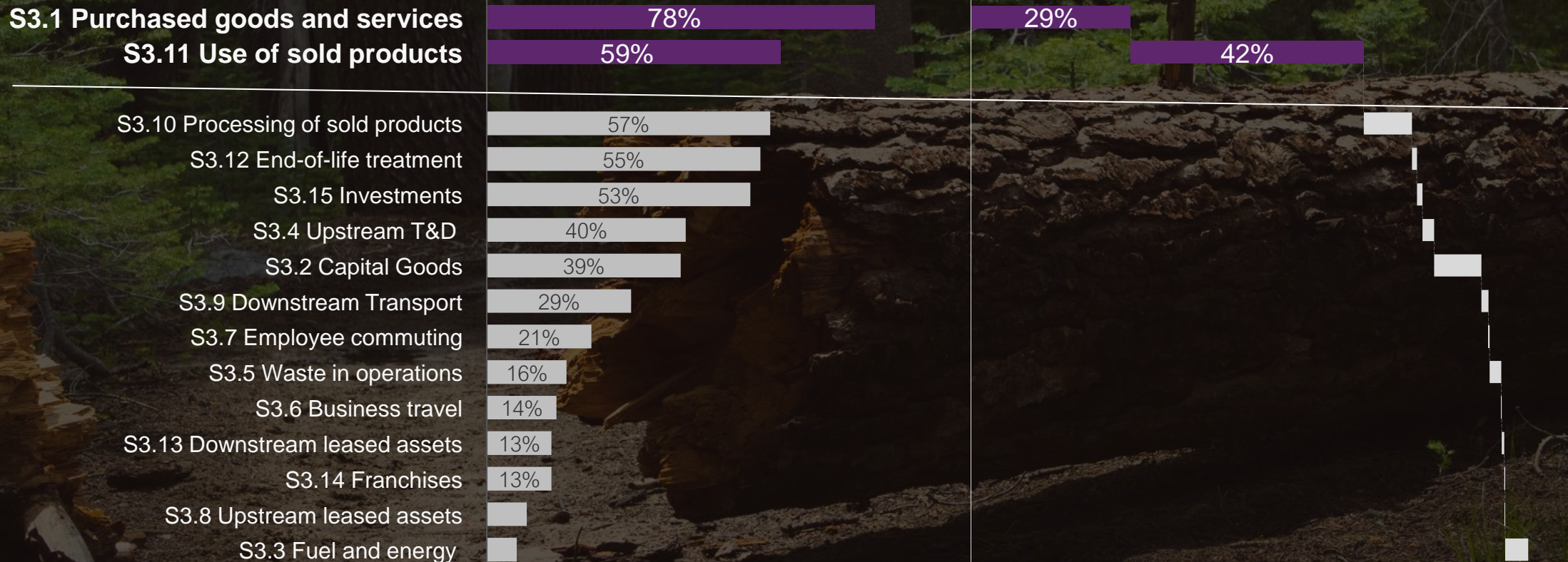
Target Delivery

70% of scope 3 emissions concentrated in two categories

S3.1 & S3.11 seen as the hardest to decarbonize...

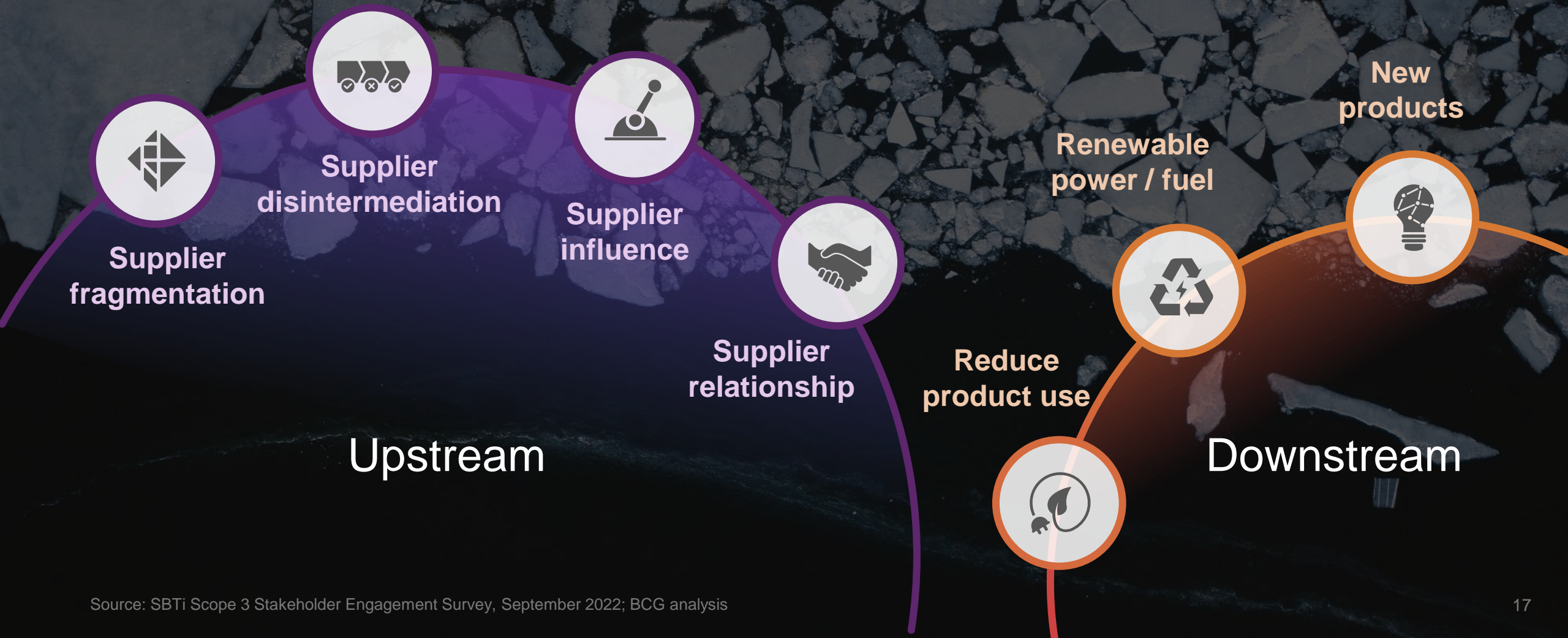
...representing >70% of global scope 3

Q. Which scope 3 categories do you find the most challenging to decarbonize
% of respondents, N=168



Delivery Barrier #1: Influence

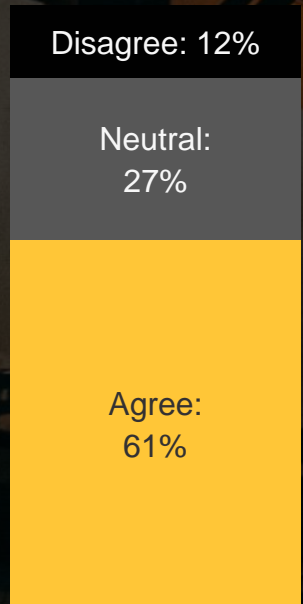
81% of respondents believe limited influence over supply chains is a barrier to delivery



Delivery Barrier #2: Cost

61% of respondents are concerned that cost is a barrier to delivering a scope 3 target

Is cost a challenge to delivering scope 3 targets?



% respondents, N=180



Why is cost a challenge for delivering scope 3 targets?

% respondents, N=117

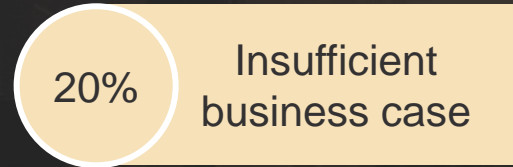
Buying low carbon products and services will incur a green premium



Re-designing products will require CAPEX investment



Our competitors are slow to act, limiting pressure on us



Delivery Barrier #3: Tracking progress

Access to measured supply chain data is a barrier to tracking the delivery of targets



Supplier specific emissions factors not available (63%)

Tier 2 emissions factors are unknown (42%)

Supplier emissions factors are often not robust or verified (61%)

Use of sold product emissions are at best rough estimates (24%)

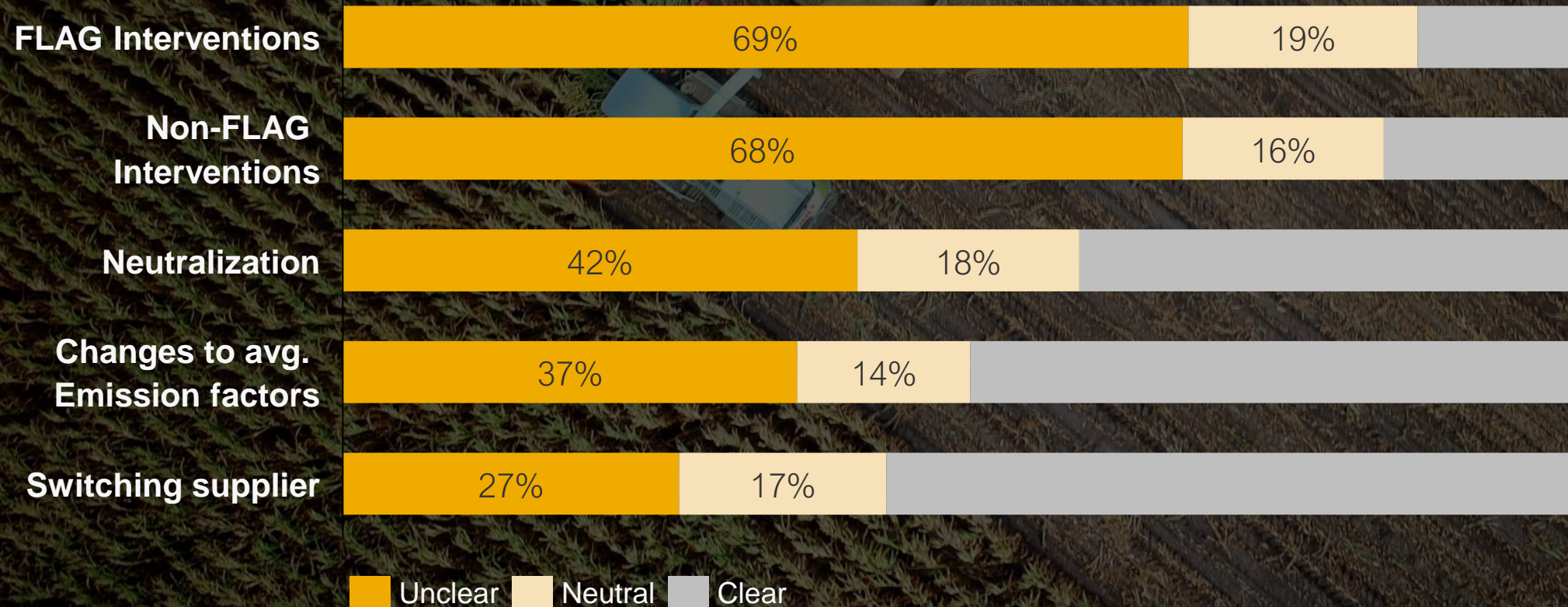
Hard to recognize the impact of actions with average factors (58%)

Harder to identify and prioritize opportunities to act

Delivery Barrier #4: What counts

Some respondents are unclear on "what counts" as a valid scope 3 decarbonization lever

Q: How clear are you about which emission reduction activities can count towards delivery of a scope 3 science-based target? N=140



Six high level solutions

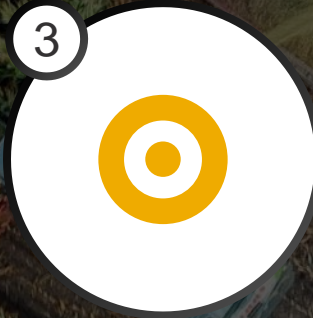
Addressing barriers is critical to decarbonization – call to action for the entire ecosystem



**Improved data
collection &
traceability**



**Enhanced
accounting
frameworks**



**Target-setting
guidance and
methods**



**Collective
value chain
action**



**Financiers &
regulators**



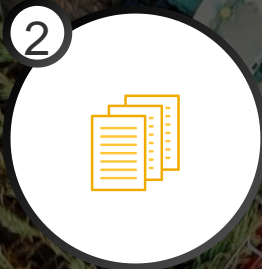
**Internal
efforts**

Six high level solutions

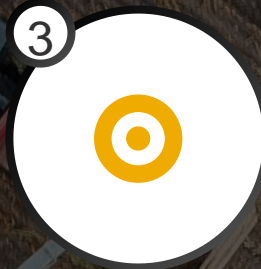
Addressing barriers is critical to decarbonization – call to action for the entire ecosystem



Improved data collection & traceability



Enhanced accounting frameworks



Target-setting guidance and methods



Collective value chain action



Financiers & regulators



Internal efforts

Top Barriers Identified

