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# Positive Start for CDP 2019

With the 2019 CDP portal now open, and the schedule set for submissions, it's time to review the changes and report early feedback from participating companies.

For 2019 there have been some further changes to the question sets and to points allocation. These are not as comprehensive or fundamental as the major modifications announced by CDP in 2018 and should be regarded as improvements and enhancements, rather than significant developments.

For submitting companies and users of the ORS platform, the most important developments are in the platform itself. There was widespread criticism last year of the user interface, difficulty with which information was input and the lack of upload and download functionality. Thankfully, the changes made prior to the portal going live in April appear to have significantly improved the useability.

Earlier this year, CDP made the decision to adjust the thresholds for climate change Management level from 80% to 75%, and the thresholds for Leadership level from 80% to 65%. Remember also that changes to the scoring methodology affecting specific modules can occur while the ORS platform is live. It's always worth checking back on the CDP website to see whether any changes have been made that may affect scoring.

The only new set of sector questions to be introduced this year is for metals & mining / coal in the forests questionnaire. This is being introduced as a pilot in 2019 and won't be scored.

The introduction of the proposed financial services sector questionnaire has been postponed until 2020. CDP says it will be providing specific guidance to companies in the financial services sector to assist with disclosure during the 2019 cycle.

In order to complete alignment and coverage of the high-impact sectors identified by the Task Force on Climate-Related Financial Disclosure (TCFD), CDP will add Financial services: banking, insurance, asset owners, asset management and Materials: capital goods, real estate development & management to the climate change questionnaire in 2020.

## Looking to Improve Carbon Performance in 2019?

If you would like more information on the carbon disclosure, management and reporting services available from IMS Consulting, please contact:



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## Setting Science Based Targets

There's considerable interest developing in setting Science Based Targets, but the questions IMS are being asked most are not to do with "how" but rather "whether" and "when"? While several companies wait for suitable sector methodologies to be developed, others are wondering whether to wait or simply go ahead with target-setting without seeking approval from the Science Based Targets Initiative.

Still more are struggling with the concept of Scope 3 target-setting.

To help speed progress in this important area of carbon management and disclosure, IMS has produced a straightforward eight-page guide. See page 4 for details.

We have also produced a virtual seminar that readers of Carbon Update are welcome to join. For details, contact [graham.sprigg@imsplc.com](mailto:graham.sprigg@imsplc.com)



**20%**  
of “A List” companies  
in France used IMS  
Consulting’s services  
for their 2018 CDP  
submissions

# IMS ScoreCheck™ Service Proves Valuable Again

IMS Consulting’s unique *ScoreCheck™* service is once again popular this year with companies who are serious about getting a better understanding of their CDP performance.

Our *ScoreCheck™* tool takes every answer for either your climate, water or forest submission. It analyses the response, identifies where points have been lost and provides a narrative on what can be done to improve your disclosure. The tool has been completely updated for 2019 to reflect the changes in question sets and score allocation for each of the three disclosures.

## Using ScoreCheck™ as a Starting Point for Gap Analysis

Using the 2018 *ScoreCheck™*, you can review your previous submission and identify where points were lost, and why. Whether it’s an incorrectly answered question, lack of data, insufficient information in your narrative response - or simply a blank field - the *IMS ScoreCheck™* identifies the issues and provides an analysis.

Companies use this as a starting point for their 2019 CDP submissions. By reviewing your previous submission, material gaps or errors can be highlighted and improved in your 2019 submission. The CDP ORS is much more user-friendly this year and, with the aid of the auto-populate facility, it’s straightforward to upload relevant details from the prior year disclosure.

## Checking Disclosures Prior to Final Sign Off

Whether you’ve used IMS’s CDP support services or not to help complete your 2019 climate, water and forest submissions, our 2019 *ScoreCheck™* is the ideal way to run a final check of all your answers. Not only do we provide a full, question-by-question analysis of points scored and lost, *ScoreCheck™* also predicts your overall score, across all four levels; Disclosure, Awareness, Management and Leadership. The 2018 results, from over 70 submissions, proved 100% accurate.



“IMS Consulting has provided Michelin with consistently solid support over the years in responding to the CDP Climate survey. This continuing support has enabled Michelin to understand and improve its performance each year. The clear and detailed analysis of the scoring methodology allows us to anticipate improvements rather than react to our CDP Score. The analysis focuses on the key issues to improve scoring and is thus an invaluable, stand-alone complement to the general feedback from Dekra (the CDP scorer) and the overall quality feedback provided by CDP Reporter Services. IMS Consulting also assisted Michelin experts through a tailored training course to understand and apply the rules for market-based reporting of Scope 2 emissions.

Jennifer Bravinder,  
Sustainable Development Manager,  
Michelin Group

## Fixed Price ScoreCheck™ Services throughout June and July

### REVIEW 2018

If you want a thorough review of your 2018 submission to help improve your 2019 submission.

- Includes:
- a detailed break-down of points lost
  - scoring for every individual module
  - written guidance on improvements
  - summary report
  - predicted score, with explanation of thresholds (A, A-, B, B- etc)
  - Teleconference explanation
- 2018 ScoreCheck™ (climate, water or forest disclosures)

### PREVIEW 2019

For a complete analysis of your 2019 submission, prior to final upload or sign off;

Same service as above (but with the revised 2019 question sets and scores) on this year’s data and answers.

## Full Support for CDP Disclosures

We’re with you all the way, with the Full Support service level. This includes a *ScoreCheck* on your previous submission, to identify gaps, comprehensive support throughout the submission process, guidance on answers, assistance with completion of every section of the questionnaire, a gap analysis, Final Check and – if you like – uploading the completed response to the ORS.

**This is the service that has helped IMS clients across Europe achieve “A” scores last year.**

This service is still available throughout June, giving time for you to prepare a comprehensive response for 2019.

The 2018 results,  
from over 70  
submissions, proved  
**100%  
ACCURATE**

# Carbon Resources available from IMS

Use any of these IMS resources free, with the compliments of IMS. Either request copies by emailing [anna.leccia@imsplc.com](mailto:anna.leccia@imsplc.com) or [kelly.wild@imsplc.com](mailto:kelly.wild@imsplc.com) or download at [www.imsplc.com](http://www.imsplc.com)



## CARBON UPDATE

Our regular newsletter on topical carbon, energy and climate issues. Read or download from our website. Visit [www.imsplc.com/briefings](http://www.imsplc.com/briefings)

Recent topics covered include:

- CDP results 2018
- ESOS2
- Streamlined Energy and Carbon Reporting (SECR) framework
- CDP timetable for 2019
- Setting Science Based Targets
- PAS2080



## COFFEE BREAK BRIEFINGS

Request a copy of our latest briefing: **Science Based Targets**

This eight-page briefing provides everything you need to know about setting and achieving Science Based Targets, why they are important and how Scope 3 emissions should be treated. It's written with the non-expert in mind and is a useful guide for senior executives, finance officers and supply chain managers.



## THE IMS SUSTAINABILITY HANDBOOK

Our 32-page guide to shaping a responsible business is available to download.

It explains, step-by-step, how to take a company or organisation from the very start of a sustainability journey right through to developing carbon strategies and building opportunity and resilience into a business.



## “HOW TO” VIDEOS

Watch our short, informative videos on a variety of carbon reporting topics including; risks and opportunities, improving CDP scores, market-based versus location-based emissions explained. Visit [www.imsplc.com/videos](http://www.imsplc.com/videos)



## ROUND TABLE EVENTS

We hold regular carbon-focused Round Table events in London and Paris.

Join senior business leaders and hear from carbon experts and industry commentators. For more details and joining criteria, contact Kelly Wild (London) or Anna Leccia (Paris).

## Contacts for more resources:



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