

With that quick stage-setting, lets dive into our first topic today:

Developing ESG Goals and Strategy.

Chances are, your organization already has some level o goals or a Corporate Vision and Mission.

Today we are going to talk specifically about creating an ESG Strategy – including setting ESG Goals, creating strategy statements for those goals, and developing your tactics for achieving your goals.

This is a fun process, and one that can really pull your team together as you move through the planning process.



As we move through the steps of creating an ESG Strategy, think about whether this is likely to be in addition t your company's business strategy – our whether it might ultimately become one in the same, depending on the services that you provide. These may be one and the same.

The steps that we'll talk through today include:

First - Goals Setting. We'll talk a bit about the "Why" and "What" of setting goals, then will work through some steps to create them:

- 1. We'll start with the role of your materiality assessment
- **2.** Then, its time to establishing your baseline.. Sort of the adage that you have to measure performance ic order to manage it.
- 3. We'll spend time talk about actually setting your goals we'll really dig in to this today.
- **4.** Then you'll need to analyzing gaps between your base line and your goals, and the nuances of this proces This may result in adjusting your goals.

Once you have your goals, it's time to develop your strategy for each one. Each of your goals will have a Strategy Statement. This is a key element in your overall strategic plan.

After all of this, we will move to developing tactics.

And last but not least – you need to report on your progress.

While some of the steps may be interchangeable or fluid – as you may find that you will need to revisit early steps as we move through the entire process – I'd like to point out that we want to keep the tactics at the end The other parts of the process play a key role in getting us to that point. While our industry tends to be "tactic and implementation" focused, for this exercise we need to wait to go there until we've done everything else.

I think you will see the rational for as move forward.



Here are the BIG IDEAS for our strategic planning process today.

We will try to keep it simple, starting with establishing ESG Goals. These goals will serve as our guiding light for our ESG efforts.

Then for each of our goals, we'll create a strategy statement that positions the company around that goal.

Finally, we'll talk about the very specific tactics, or actions, that we will implement to achieve each goal.

And of course reporting on your progress, which is one of the reasons for doing all of this.

What does strategic planning look like? **Everyday Example** Goal: Where You Want to Go **Goal: Get to Chicago This Month** Strategy: How you will get there (preceded by Strategy: I will drive there. research/knowledge on why that's how you want to go) Why: I want to be able to arrive and depart at a flexible time, I am a skilled driver, I live within a drivable distance, Tactics: The actions you will take, by when, and with what and I don't like airports. resources. Tactics: I will achieve my goal by: - Renting a car the day before my trip. - Saving enough money for gas and one night in a hotel for my stop along the way, before July 21 Drive 8 hours on Day 1, stop in St. Louis and stay in a hotel. - Drive 4 hours on Day 2. Arrive no later than July 28. **≌** ISRI

Here is a non ESG example of what a strategic planning process might look like.

In our example – we want get to Chicago this month.

The goal is "the End Game" – what you want to achieve, or in this case, where you want to go and by when In this example, we want to go to Chicago this month.

The Strategy is <u>how</u> you will get there based on the research that you do. The strategy for reaching your goals is to drive because your research and knowledge determines that is the best option for your specific needs and skills.

And the tactics are the specific actions you will take, by when, and with what resources.

So – your tactics to get to Chicago include renting a car, saving money, driving a specified number of hours eac day and arriving by a certain date.

If you go straight to the tactics, you will miss research you did and thus the reasons by you are driving, and rur the risk of not achieving your goal.

Sample Goals, Strategies and Tactics

Goal: Reduce GHG emissions by 30% by 2035

Strategy: We will be a leader in employing technology solutions to reduce emissions associated with our industry

Tactics: We will achieve our goal by using renewable electricity, zero emissions vehicles, and by helping our customers achieve their GHG emissions reduction goals

- Purchase 100% renewable sources electricity by 2027
- Purchase 10% renewable fuel vehicles each year, so that 100% will be replaced by 2034.

Goal: Improve Safety Performance 2% YOY

Strategy: We will invest in industry-leading health and safety programs to ensure the heath and safety of our employees and communities

Tactics: We will achieve our goal by:

- Hiring external consultant to identify and implement new programs
- Providing consistent training programs to all employees

Goal: Improve the lives of our local communities

Strategy: We will partner with our local communities to identify and implement programs

Tactics: We will achieve our goal by:

- Donating 1% of profits to local community organizations
- Continue monthly volunteer work with Habitat for Humanity



Let's now try this for examples in our industry. Here are three ESG goals for our industry type, and a strategy and tactics for each goal.

- Each goal serves as a guiding light for your company's ESG efforts. It is not only a key topic for your company, but the goal itself must offer meaningful benefits to your stakeholders.
 - The goals here are reducing GHG emissions by 30% by 2035
 - 2% YOY safety improvement performance; and
 - Improving the lives of your employees and communities.
- The strategy statement is a high level statement, or your ambition, to get you to your goal. It is the statement that positions you with an advantage to achieving your goal.
 - Strategy for GHG Goals: To be a leader in employing technology solutions to reduce your emissions You will use renewable energy to reduce your emissions
 - Strategy for safety goals: Invest in industry-leading safety programs to improve safety performance
 - Strategy for community goal is to partner with local communities to identify and implement programs.
- Finally, as in the Chicago example, the Tactics are the details or the actions you will implement to achieve your goal.

If you miss the strategy section, you run the risk of implementing tactics that won't get you to your goal, or that aren't a good fit for your business' specific strengths, or your available resources.



Let's get started with our goals development process. You may have heard the term SMART Goals.

- Specific
- Measurable
- Achievable
- Realistic
- Timely

Keep this in mind as we go through the process. We'll be using the concept of developing SMART goals as part of our ESG Strategic planning process.



Definition: A goal is an **outcome** that you want to achieve by a **specific time or date**.

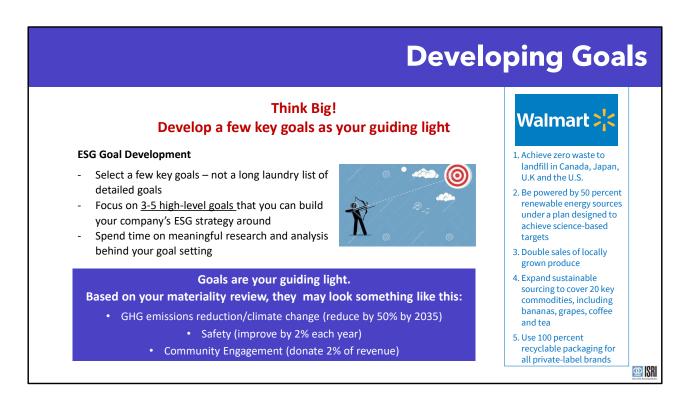
Our process today identifies specific goals that we would like to achieve by agreed upon deadlines.



Of course, not all companies have established goals at all, let alone ESG Goals.

Why should a company develop ESG goals?

- **1. Well, just like other goals, ESG goals communicate intention to a companies stakeholders.** And as we know, more and more of your stakeholders are asking about your ESG intentions. Establishing thoughtful ESG goals lets your stakeholders know that this is an issue that is important you and that you are spending time planning for.
- **2.** Also, there is evidence that goals and reporting on them drive action. When an organization publicly reports on its progress to goals each year, that transparency drives action
- **3. Finally, ESG goals are the first step in creating an ESG strategy.** How can you know what ESG projects to focus on if you haven't established priority projects and mapped out where you want to go with them and how you will get there?



How does an organization go about identifying potential goals topics?

Where we used to see long laundry lists of sustainability goals, companies are beginning to focus on a few ver high level, big goals, with the details in the tactics.

I like how Walmart has done this. As big as they are, they have 5 ESG goals. Then – the details behind them a exhaustive.

- I recommend select a few key goals –
- Focus on 3-5 high-level goals that you can build your company's ESG strategy around
- Spend time on meaningful research and analysis behind your goal setting

Your goals are guiding lights for your company.

All Goals are not Created Equal

Goals are broad, long-term outcomes that are reasonable to achieve within a time frame and with available resources.

- · Goals should be measurable and are your guiding principles for your company in regards to ESG.
- ESG Goals can be Aspirational (e.g. eliminate GHG emissions by 2050) or carefully researched to ensure achievability (reduce GHG emissions by 25% by 2030).
 - ✓ Aspirational Goals set high benchmarks but may not be realistically achievable.
 - ✓ Realistic goals built by research may not sound as impressive but allow the opportunity for success.

Aspirational or Fact-based? What is the best approach? Your company will need to decide but goals should be backed up by analysis.



In the world of ESG, all goals are not created equal.

Aspirational goals. Setting really aspiration goals such as "Zero Waste by 2025" sounds great, doesn't i But do many organizations really think that they will get there?

From my perspective, once an organization misses its goals it I hard to take them seriously. As goal dates are passed, a company's integrity may be questioned. And who wants to report failure each year?

Also, if a company doesn't meet its goal, it may be accused of greenwashing. We used to see a lot more will aspirational goals; however, companies are starting to move away from these lofty goals as they experience the backlash of failure.

Realistic Goals. The risk here is that stakeholders may think you didn't aim high enough.

SMART goals will help guide you to the right balance. **Again: your goals should be specific, measurable, actionable, realistic and timely**.

Importantly, the type of goals you create could affect your ESG strategy and will certainly impact your tactics.

How do Goals Influence Tactics?

Aspirational Goal

Goal: Become the second oldest woman to climb Mt. Everest

Strategy: I will commit the time and resources necessary to summit Mt. Everest.

Tactics: I will achieve my goal by:

- Taking mountaineering classes to learn technical climbing skills
- Setting aside sufficient time to train, including follow a regimented cardio and strength building routine, and climbing local mountains each week
- Researching and select a qualified guide company for the trip.
- Setting aside funds to purchase the necessary gear.

Realistic Goal

Goal: Hike to Mt. Everest Base Camp

Strategy: I will commit the time and resources necessary to hike to Mt Everest Base Camp.

Tactics: I will achieve my goal by:

- Setting aside sufficient time to train, including follow a regimented cardio and strength building routine, and climbing local mountains each week
- Researching and selecting a qualified guide company for the trip.
- Setting aside funds to purchase the necessary gear.



Here is a personal example.

I am a big climber. About a decade ago, I decided to climb Mt Everest. Given that fact that I was over 50 at th time, and had no technical climbing experience, hiking to the top would have been an aspirational goal.

Although I was fairly confident that I was a strong enough hiker to get to the top, I was working full time with a demanding job, and am afraid of heights (Kumbu Ice Fall). I decided that climbing to the top was not a realist goal for me.

So, instead of setting an aspirational goal of climbing to the summit of Mt Everest, I decided to go to Base Can which is still a significant investment of training time, travel time and resources.

So – my strategy statement was to commit the time and resources necessary to achieve my goal. The HOW was committing the time and resources to achieve my goal.

Next, note that the tactics are very different between the two goal options – they are much more aggressive f the aspirational goals. Unless I was committed to the time, training and resources in my strategy of climbing the summit, there was no way I would reach that goal.

This was a realistic goal, rather than an aspirational goal. It took let money, less time and a very realistic commitment. And – I achieved my goal in 2014 and feel great and proud of my accomplishment. And am pret sure that I never would have made it to the top of Mt Everest – and – IMPORTANTLY - if that had been my go I may not have even made it to Base Camp.

Step 1: Tap into your Materiality Assessment

Getting Started:

1. Use your Materiality Assessment to identify key topics for goals.

From our review of our industry's materiality in Workshop #1, we identified the following broad key topics as Material for our industry.

Environment

Climate Impact / Climate
Change
Air Quality
Environmental Compliance
GHG emissions
Recycling

Social

Human Rights
Community Relations
Employee Training
Community Investment
Health & Safety
Talent Recruitment & Retention
Supply Chain
Vendor Training

Governance

Business Ethics
Competitive Behavior
Legal & Environmental
Management
Systemic Risk Management
Critical Incident Risk
Management

Your materiality assessment is important for establishing the topics that are important to your stakeholders. Use the result of your materiality review to guide your organization in the development of its ESG Goals.

Okay – Now let's jump into the process itself for how to establish specific goals for your organization.

We're going to start by tapping into the materiality assessment that we talked about in the first Workshop.

No worries if you weren't on that call.

Here is the concept:

- Start by identifying the key topics that your stakeholder identify as important to your company
- Use these to create broad topics for your goal discussion

Select Your Key Topics Materiality identifies key stakeholder issues, priorities them and informs goal setting • Using your Materiality results, select key topics for your goals. Use team meetings to discuss and determine key topics for goal setting **Improve** Improve/grow **Improve** Diversity, **Increase Reduce GHG** Community **Health & Equity & Emissions** Recycling Relations Safety **Inclusion Activities** A well-done materiality assessment links the business of the company to its significant ESG impacts. **⋘**ISRI

The key issues from your materiality work will help create priority topics for your goal setting. They should link the business of the company to significant ESG impacts. Not all of these example these topics are all relevant for our industry.

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Be sure to really talk this over with your internal team to make sure that folks buy into the key topics. If you don't get their right now, you will potentially waste a lot of time and effort going down the wrong path.

I've seen leaders make changes to the basic key topics late in the process, and its really hard to have to work through the process again.

Step 2: Establish your Baseline for Key Topics

- Use your data and reporting information to assess your current performance regarding your interim goals.
- Your current status becomes the foundation for improvement. Review and analyze available data and information to establish specific goals.

You need to know where you are in order to determine where you want to go.

For example: If you ultimately create a goal is to reduce your emissions by 30%, you need to know what your current emissions and where they come from.



Step 2:

After you've identified key topics, but BEFORE creating your goals, make sure that you have, or complete an assessment of your baseline for them.

Basically - What is your performance now for each issues?

This will influence what your goals will look like.

For example - if you are thinking about creating a goal to reduce your emissions by 30%, you'l need to know what your current emissions are before you start.

Step 3: Create Initial Goal Statements

Next, determine the company's ambition and create initial goal statements for each key topic

Examples of broad statements without specifics yet:

- We will reduce **GHG emissions** by X% by XXX
- We will **increase diversity** among company's leadership by XX% in XXX
- We will **increase tons recycled** by X% by XXX
- We will improve community relations

Once you create these goals statement, your leadership team can discuss whether they are the right fit for your company, or whether they need to be modified.

* Interim goal statements are broad statements that convey the concept to goal without including specifics of time or magnitude



We are already at Step #3.

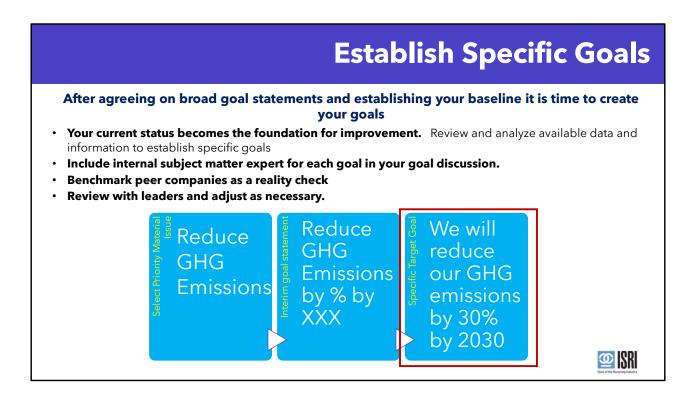
It is time to create initial, or draft, goal statements. You are going to spend a lot of time poking and prodding a these, so don't be surprised if they change as your work through them.

Use your priority topics start to play with your goals statements. The numbers come later. Get the concepts right first.

Again – before you go too far down the path to build these out, engage your leadership team to discuss whether they are the right fit for the company and whether they will support them. You don't need the specifies numbers and dates for your goals yet, but you do need to settle on the statements.

Some of your internal discussion might look like this:

- We want to reduce our emissions. By a percentage or a specific number of metric tons?
- We want to increase diversity. For the entire company? Or subgroups?
- We want to improve safety performance. What does that look like for our company?
- We want to improve community relations. Do we donate money, or do we want to develop new programs
- We want to increase recycling. What is realistic for us?



Considering all those previous questions, getting to the actual goal statement may take some time.

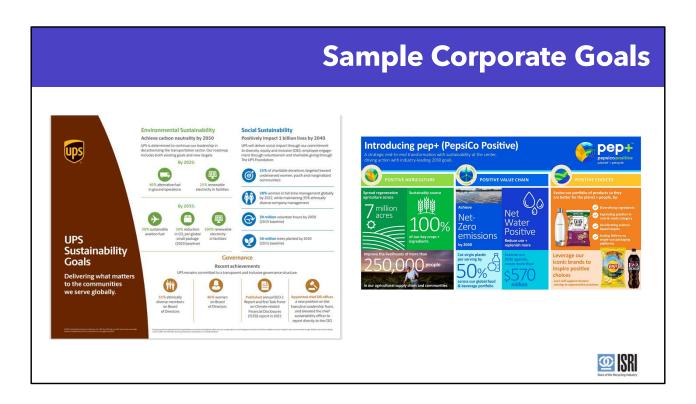
Getting to specific numbers may take longer.

One of the reasons by the process is so important is that you will need information to inform your recommendations and decisions.

- Take time to benchmark other companies. This helps a lot!!! What are your peer, or adjacent industries' doing? What do you think of their goals?
- Review with internal SMEs. Listen to your experts!
- Review proposed goals in context of the company's current baselines. Are your proposed goals too high?
 Too low? Realistic? Aspirational?

This is not an easy or quick internal process. Take the time to benchmark, to discuss, and make changes.

It is a great process, and your leadership team will learn a lot along the way – which also create ownership and buy in as you develop and implement you plans.



Here are some examples of goals:

UPS is interesting since they are in an adjacent business.

Pepsi – it is just so large, you can see the magnitude of their goals.

Starting with goals. You've likely seen corporations goals by now.



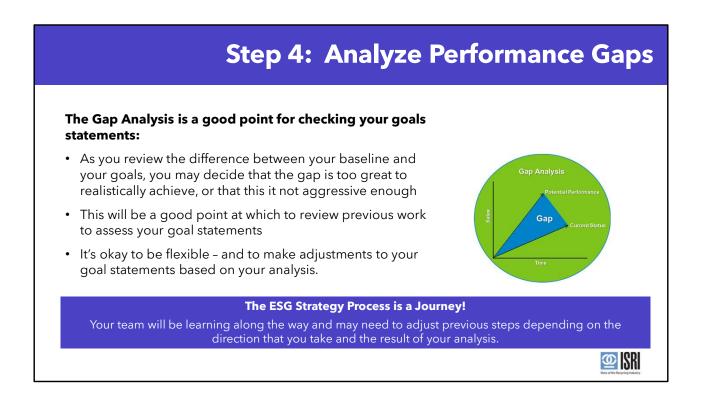
Schnitzer has specific goals identified for the E, the S, and G (People, Planet, Profit).



Sims does as well.



Casella does a nice job of highlighting how they've tied their goals to their business and stakeholders.



Now that you have agreed on your goal topics, your proposed specific goals, and have your baseline for each of them, its time to analyze the gaps between current and goals, so you can start planning for how you will reach your goals.

After you complete this analysis, you can decide if the goal is too aggressive, or not aggressive enough.

It may simply be too heavy of a lift and you may decide to reduce the goal at this point.

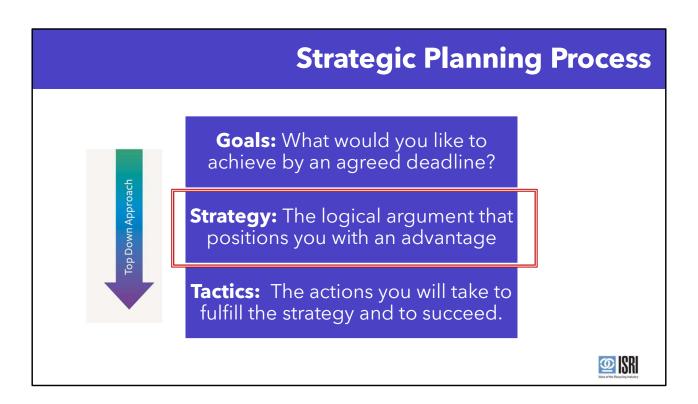
Your team will be analyzing data and learning through this process. They will be learning a lot about new topics and will likely be evolving in their thinking about what they want to do.

Candid team meetings will help inform your decisions and this is the time for this. Your team i in control of the process and can modify as needed.



Okay - now we are going to assume that you have your goals pretty much nailed down.

So the next thing we will do in our ESG Strategic planning process is create strategy statements for each of our goals. These statement are ambitions that will inform how will support each goal.



Why do we need this strategy statements effort for our goals?

I'll confess, while I like to think of my self as a strategic thinker, I am not. I am 100% tactical.

I am really comfortable living in the "get it done" space and I would guess that there a lot of people like me ir our industry.

I really only started to understand this concept of strategic statements for separate goals after going through this process and by looking at what other companies have done.

I am hoping that my learning process can help you.



So - it's time to develop the strategy statements that will guide <u>HOW</u> you will achieve each goal.

- Strategy statements are <u>ambitions</u> to support how you will achieve each of your goals.
- You will need to step back and ask what is currently standing in the way of achieving your goal? What needs to change to achieve your goal?
- Companies often rely too much on tactics without a comprehensive strategy, making it difficult to accomplish their business goals.

In the example above, the goal is to reduce emissions by 30% by 2030. Through the company's goal setting research, they've established that they need to transition to renewable energy in order to achieve their goal. By establishing a strategy of becoming an <u>industry leader in renewable energy</u>, they set the stage for making a commitment to developing tactics to support their strategy to achieve their goal.

Remember your overarching goals are your high level, "North Star" Goals. Your strategy statement guides <u>HOW</u> you will get there, for each goal. If you only had one goal, you would only need one strategy statement. However, when comes to ESG goals, you will have 3-5 goals, and each needs a strategy statement to set your ambition for how you will achieve your goal.

Strategy vs Tactics

Strategic Planning requires:

- Taking a step back to identify your main objectives (goals)
- Creating a strategy statement for you goal(s)

Developing a strategy statement for your goals provides a broader perspective, or an ambition.

This ambition will help in case you adjust your tactics to achieve your goal.

Without a strategy statement, it is more difficult to pivot if your tactics are not working.



You can run a business based only on tactics, but you need a strategy to underpin your tactics to maximize your effectiveness.



Strategic Planning requires:

- Taking a step back to identify your main objectives (goals)
- Creating a strategy statement for each goal that gives you the ambition for HOW you will achieve your go

Developing a strategy statement for your goals will give you a 360-degree perspective and equip you with the ability to see the chess pieces and to adjust your moves accordingly.

Without a strategy, it is difficult to pivot if your tactics are not working.

Examples of Strategy Statements

Goal: Reduce GHG emissions by 30% by 2035

Strategy: We will be a leader in employing technologies solutions to reduce emissions associated with our industry

Tactics: We will achieve our goal by using renewable electricity, zero emissions vehicles, and by helping our customers achieve their GHG emissions reduction goals

- Purchase 100% renewable sources electricity by 2027
- Purchase 10% renewable fuel vehicles each year, so that 100% will be replaced by 2034.

Goal: Improve Safety Performance 2% YOY

Strategy: We will invest in industry-leading health and safety programs to ensure the heath and safety of our employees and communities

Tactics: We will achieve our goal by:

- Hiring external consultant to identify and implement new programs
- Providing consistent training programs to all employees

Goal: Improve the lives of our local communities

Strategy: We will partner with our local communities to identify and implement programs

Tactics: We will achieve our goal by:

- Donating 1% of profits to local community organizations
- Continue monthly volunteer work with Habitat for Humanity



We saw this slide earlier in the presentation.

Now look at focusing on the strategy statement perspective.

This example highlights three ESG goals for our industry type, and a strategy and tactics for each goal.

- Each goal serves as a guiding light for your company's ESG efforts.
- The strategy statement is a high level statement, or your ambition, to get you to your goal.
 - GHG: You will use renewable energy to reduce your emissions
 - SAFETY: You will invest in industry-leading safety programs to improve safety performance
 - COMMUNITY: You will partner with local communities to improve their live

These strategy statement are VALUE CREATION for your company. We will work on Value Creation with Whole Works in September, but your strategy statements are what set you aside and give you the ESG commitment that your stakeholders are looking for.

Finally, the Tactics are the details of the actions you will implement to achieve your goal. Which takes
us to our next topic.





Tactics are the specific actions your company will take to implement and achieve its goals.



I'll say it again. I love tactics.

- Tactics are programs.
- Tactics are building investments.
- Tactics are equipment.
- Tactics are ACTION

It is the meat and potatoes of our industry.

And/but – they are only really effective if they support our companies strategy and goals.



Time and patience.

It is important to take the time to set up goals and strategies first, to help establish the right tactics. And to document them.

Once you have your goals and strategies, you need to identifying the tactics that you will take to implement goals. As an example - if you want to reduce your company's GHG emissions, and you've created a strategy to be a leader in fleet efficiency, you will likely create tactics around purchasing low emissions vehicles and optimizing routing.

In addition to the tactics on this page, other examples could include:

- **To support a recycling goal**, and strategy might be to invest in new MRFs and the tactic would be to Buildir 2 new MRFs in 2024. One in City X and another in City Y.
- **To support a safety to goal,** a strategy might be to invest in safety technology systems and the tactic would be to <u>add Fire Rover all of our facilities by 2025</u>.
- **To support a DEI goal,** a strategy might be to increase driver diversity, and a tactic would be to attend <u>3 job</u> fairs each quarter to meet with women driver candidates.

Tactics require specific action in a given time.



Finally – its important to report on your progress regularly.

As we noted earlier, reporting fosters action. Once you've completed the ESG Strategic Planning process, You will have invested a lot of time and energy in the process. You owe it to your stakeholders to follow through with reporting on your progress to achieving your goals. Quarterly to your internal leadership and annually t your other stakeholders.

We'll talk more about reporting in the fall, but it does play a key role in establishing accountability and driving action towards success.

ESG Strategy Process Summary

Establish 3-5 ESG goals, determining your ambition level

- 1. Use your materiality benchmarking to identify goal topics
- 2. Develop goal statements for each goal for internal discussion
 - ✓ Use company data and reporting as foundation for new goals
 - ✓ Analyze programmatic options for achieving each goal
- 3. Create specific targeted goals
 - ✓ Include SME on each topic for review
 - ✓ Review with leadership team
 - ✓ Benchmark peers
 - √ Adjust as necessary
 - ✓ Leadership approves
- 4. Analyze performance gaps and adjust goals if necessary

Develop your strategy statements for your goals

Develop your tactics for implementing the actions you will take to achieve your goals

Track progress quarterly, and report annually.



And Viola. You have all of the pieces of your ESG Strategy!

<u>Your goals (established through research and analysis)</u> + <u>Your strategy statements for your goals</u> + <u>Your tactics</u> Your organization's ESG Strategy.

And – it is not a complicated process. Sometimes the words make it sound more complicated than it is, but if you just follow the steps we've outlined here, you will have the tools to get there.