

[Home](#) > SMART 2011/0073 Study - Towards an overall measurement methodology of the carbon and energy footprints of the ICT sector

Digital Single Market

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SMART 2011/0073 Study - Towards an overall measurement methodology of the carbon and energy footprints of the ICT sector

The objective of this study is to better understand the existing landscape of methodologies and initiatives for measuring and reporting GHG, GreenHouse Gas, emissions (i.e. carbon footprint) and energy footprint for the ICT sector, in a perspective of a possible policy implementation.

As an overall conclusion, the methodologies developed by ISO, the GHG Protocol, PAS, ADEME/AFNOR, ETSI and ITU-T are all suitable to perform GHG emissions accounting. If regulations were to be developed, one or several of these methodologies could be chosen to be used within the policy framework, depending on the objectives of the regulations.

The common basis and similarities between many of the analysed methodologies indeed result in the opportunity to choose or accept several existing methodologies within the policy framework.

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