DIGITAL TOOLS CLINIC – SUMMARY CHALLENGES:

1 Which digital tools offer the best overall functionality for accounting and supplier engagement?
→ Including best-in-class platforms, one-stop-shop solutions, industry preferences, ease of use, and cost-effectiveness (especially for SMEs).

2 How do the tools compare in terms of collecting, validating, and scaling supplier Product Carbon Footprints (PCFs)?
→ Comparison of data quality, auditability, supplier ease, PCF integration into Scope 3 calculations, and support for different levels of supplier maturity.

3 What are the pros and cons of the leading Scope 3 tools—including long-term dependencies, implementation time, and actual impact?
→ Insights on tools that didn't work, lessons learned from deployments, tool performance across sectors (e.g., pharma, construction, agriculture).

4 How can tools help shift from spend-based estimates to primary supplier data?
→ Methods for combining primary and secondary data, transitioning strategies, managing data quality/confidence, and supplier segmentation.

5 What support and incentives do tools provide for supplier decarbonisation and emissions reduction tracking?
→ Engagement mechanisms, supplier dashboards, science-aligned target development, and behaviour change strategies.

DIGITAL TOOLS CLINIC – SUMMARY CHALLENGES:

6️⃣ How can we handle the complexity and fragmentation across multiple tools, data sources, and emission factor libraries?
→ System interoperability, Azure/Snowflake integrations, avoiding double-jobbing, and embedding tools in procurement processes.

7️⃣ Which tools are best at forecasting, scenario modelling, and prioritising action?
→ Predictive capabilities, AI functionality, future-looking decarbonisation planning, and “silver bullet” features (if any).

8️⃣ How should organisations manage supplier fatigue and resource limitations in tool deployment?
→ Approaches to reduce friction for suppliers, scale PCF collection, and share the burden through partnerships or sector-wide initiatives.

9️⃣ What are the best strategies and tools for industry collaboration and shared infrastructure?
→ Cost-sharing, common platforms, consistent methodologies, and collective action especially for Tier 2+ suppliers and shared value chains.

🔟 What practical steps & decision frameworks help companies choose/implement the right tools?
→ Tool selection criteria, industry benchmarks (e.g., TfS, SiGreen), ROI justification, and decision support for limited time/budget teams.

DIGITAL TOOLS CLINIC – EXAMPLE QUESTIONS:

🔧 Tool Selection & Comparison

Identifying the best digital tools for Scope 3, tailored to sector, size, and functionality.

Example challenges:

“Which tools are mission-critical and which are a waste of money/time?”
“I want to have an overview of the available tools.”
“Best value for money platform which can track actual scope 3 reductions (not spend fluctuations)?”
“Is there a preference in certain industries for specific tools?”
“What tools have the best integration of extensive scope 3 methodologies?”
“What are the easy to use tools to assess Product Carbon Footprint?”

📊 Supplier Engagement & PCF Collection

Improving supplier participation, data quality, and process integration.

Example challenges:

“How do providers help to integrate primary data to support the quantification of decarbonisation initiatives?”
“What proportion of your suppliers need emissions measurement capability development support?”
“How to handle keeping all PCFs up to date, and dealing with suppliers to send updates when their PCFs change?”
“Tools efficient with supplier engagement achieving high submission ratios.”
“Who has had success with tracking supplier emission reduction efforts & what platform are they using?”

DIGITAL TOOLS CLINIC – EXAMPLE QUESTIONS:

🔄 Data Integration, Validation & Accuracy

Ensuring accuracy, credibility, and consistency of emission data inputs and outputs.

Example challenges:

“How to exchange primary data on scale and automate data validation?
“Data confidence in methodology across the various free tools.”
“Who really checks the input data quality, supplier friendly (and useful) platform, PCFs.”
“How do you know which EFs are ‘better and more accurate’?”
“Ensuring that PCFs from suppliers are validated and comparable.”

📈 Use Cases & Impact Tracking

Moving beyond compliance to actual decarbonization insights and forecasting.

Example challenges:

“How are people excluding spend-based emissions and replacing with PCF emissions?”
“What tools can provide a predictive, forward-looking trajectory to help one prioritise vendor engagement?”
“What levers inside tools are driving reduction outside of collaboration and supplier engagement?”
“Realizing actual supplier emissions reductions as part of our Scope 3 emissions”

DIGITAL TOOLS CLINIC – EXAMPLE QUESTIONS:

💰 Cost, Access & Collaboration

Managing affordability, cross-industry collaboration, and accessibility for smaller suppliers.

Example challenges:

“Investing in shared tools at an industry level, reducing cost burden of reporting on suppliers.”
“I have limited time and money, so what decision tools can help me identify the best scope 3 tools for my situation?”
“Best tool for SMEs.”

⚙️ Technical Integration & Architecture

Technical functionality and future adaptability of Scope 3 platforms.

Example challenges:

“What solutions are people utilizing to connect their digital tools? e.g. Azure? Snowflake?”
“Capabilities of the tools on the market, and their agility in the context of methodology and requirements changes.”
“What is the best one stop shop technology solution – or what ticks the most boxes?”

DIGITAL TOOLS CLINIC – EXAMPLE QUESTIONS:

🌎 Sector-Specific & Advanced Requirements

Addressing unique challenges in pharma, CDMO, construction, FLAG, etc.

Example challenges:

“Managing data collection and testing accuracy of Category 1, 2 and 11 for a CDMO.”
“Which S3 tool suits the best to pharma and API direct supply chain?”
“Category 1 FLAG, specifically land use change; downstream materiality for agriculture (e.g. food waste, ingredients).”
“Mega construction & equipment supply chain scope 3.”

🧭 Getting Started & Strategic Fit

How to begin, align with corporate strategy, and drive internal recognition.

Example challenges:

“How to get started?”
“How can we effectively elevate strategic recognition of Scope 3 emissions to drive actions?”
“Tangible and realistic tactics deployed to decarbonize scope 3 emissions for software companies.”
“How are you using or developing Supplier Segmentation to prioritize action and importance, considering Scope 3?”

DIGITAL TOOLS CLINIC INSIGHTS

Which is the biggest lesson learned about ***finding*** the right tool?

Don't believe the claims!

Negotiate hard on the commercials!

have very explicit SOW and mutual understanding

We usually assess for our usability, but for it to be effective, it has to be usable for the supplier.

Pilot every feature before believing

You will always be asking for more from your provider, even if you're happy where you're at

Know your needs and don't trust anyone

Not only one!

DIGITAL TOOLS CLINIC INSIGHTS

Which is the biggest lesson learned about ***finding*** the right tool?

- No silver bullet
- Clearly defining the problem you can't solve without help.
- Focus on must haves
- It needs to fit what you need and work for suppliers
- Team alignment that process and tech needs to also be considered
- Not always following the tools used in the industry.
- Don't try and combine health and safety
- Wait and see whats still coming to market

DIGITAL TOOLS CLINIC

Which is the biggest lesson learned about ***finding*** the right tool?

- Focus on supplier engagement features and supplier interface
- Do thorough due diligence on vendor before contracting
- Clarify first what you want to do
- Build your own! :)
- Recommend a trial period before locking in
- You will know more than the vendor
- Pilot with supplier
- Don't let the internal technology team make the decision based on their familiarity with certain big names or underlying technology platform used

DIGITAL TOOLS CLINIC INSIGHTS

Which is the biggest lesson learned about ***implementing*** the right tool?

- it always takes longer than expected
- patience
- Takes 1-2 years to experience benefits.
- Validate validate validate
- Ensure internal stakeholders are aligned on all roles & responsibilities
- constant feedback and dialogue with the users/developers.
- Training by vendor
- Its not a silver bullet

DIGITAL TOOLS CLINIC INSIGHTS

Which is the biggest lesson learned about ***implementing*** the right tool?

Squares do not fit into circles

You need to ask questions to get all info about how to work with it

Start with history data

It's not about the tool, its about the people & process

there are battles you can't win, focus on nurturing relationship

Include everyone who need to be included from the beggining

Progress over perfection

Get help. Make it clear what your internal resources will support and where you need extra/external