

Zevero Case Study Key Insights

AI and Sustainability: How Tech Is Transforming Carbon Accounting

1. Traditional Carbon Accounting – Key Challenges

- **Scope 3 Complexity:** Difficult to measure due to data inconsistencies, lack of supplier transparency, and over-reliance on average estimates.
 - **Poor Data Quality:** Emissions data is fragmented, inconsistent, and often incomplete; spend-based methods yield low-precision estimates.
 - **Lack of Real-Time Insights:** Periodic, delayed reporting limits timely decision-making and response to emissions spikes.
-

2. AI Transformations in Carbon Accounting

Capability	Impact
Data Integration	Consolidates data from suppliers, internal systems, and external sources, reducing errors.
Automated Analytics	Identifies emissions hotspots and calculates CO ₂ e more accurately.
Predictive Modelling	Forecasts future emissions and evaluates the impact of planned decarbonisation strategies.
Real-Time Monitoring	Uses AI and IoT for continuous emissions tracking and operational optimisation.

3. Benefits of Using AI in Carbon Management

- **Improved Accuracy:** Enables precision in emissions measurement and regulatory compliance.

- **Reduced Costs:** Automates manual tasks, making carbon accounting viable even for SMEs.
 - **Scalability:** AI systems scale with organisational growth and complexity.
 - **Proactive Planning:** Supports forward-looking strategy and goal-setting through predictive insights.
-

4. Implementation Risks and Considerations

- **Data Bias:** Inaccurate or biased training data can distort results; mitigated by using validated sources and human oversight.
 - **AI's Own Emissions:** High computational load may increase carbon emissions; mitigated by using energy-efficient, renewable-powered infrastructure.
-

5. Strategic Implications

- Transitions carbon accounting from static compliance to real-time, strategic sustainability management.
 - Supports standardised, transparent reporting under frameworks like GHG Protocol and CSRD.
 - Enables scenario modelling for evaluating cost-effective, long-term decarbonisation options.
-

6. Future Outlook

- Shift from annual reports to live, AI-powered dashboards.
- Enhanced collaboration across supply chains through unified and automated data reporting.

- Greater alignment of sustainability with business operations and long-term planning.