

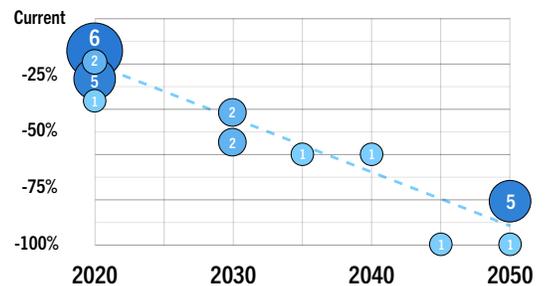
## Climate Action and Embodied Emissions

StopWaste’s member agencies are working towards achieving significant reductions in greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by 2030 and beyond. Through their climate action plans, local governments are increasingly addressing the upstream emissions from the production of goods used locally but produced elsewhere.

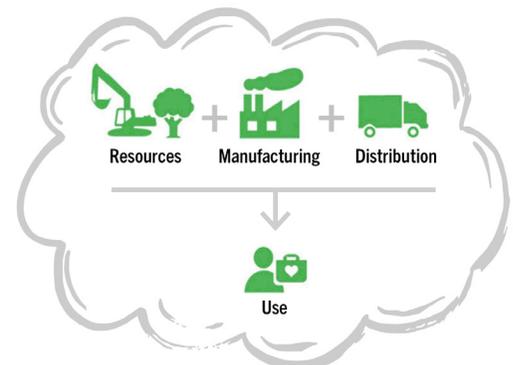
Recognizing the importance of climate action, StopWaste’s Board adopted a set of guiding principles in December 2018 that included prioritizing waste reduction and prevention projects that have beneficial climate impacts. Projects and concepts include:

- **SB 1383 Rollout:** Our Mandatory Recycling Ordinance has given Alameda County jurisdictions a head start meeting new State requirements of diverting 75% of organics from landfill and recovering 20% of edible food for human consumption by 2025, both of which reduce methane emissions from landfills.
- **Building Electrification:** Through its Energy Council work, StopWaste is helping communities “electrify” buildings, replacing fossil fuel dependent gas appliances with electric ones that are increasingly being powered by renewable energy.
- **Embodied Emissions in Building Materials:** StopWaste is highlighting the role of material use in “zero net carbon” buildings, supporting industry tools and developing model policies for local governments.
- **Circular Economy Partnerships:** By working with groups such as the Ellen MacArthur Foundation, we are identifying ways to keep more materials cycling within the county, allowing for greater influence over material lifecycles and spurring local economic growth.
- **Assistance with Climate Action Plans:** StopWaste has developed tools to help its member agencies and other local governments integrate embodied emissions into their climate action planning process. [www.StopWaste.org/cbei](http://www.StopWaste.org/cbei)

**Target Reduction in GHG Emissions from Climate Action Plans in Alameda County**



Number of member agencies that have set GHG emission reduction goals, showing target percentage reduction from current levels and timeline for achievement.



### What are Embodied Emissions?

Embodied (or upstream) emissions are the sum of all emissions of greenhouse gases generated during the sourcing, making, and delivery of goods to the end user. Depending on a good's supply chain, it can include mining, extracting, refining, manufacturing, packaging, storing, and shipping.

Preventing waste in the first place, and utilizing circular economy initiatives for maximum efficiency of goods, are key strategies for reducing embodied emissions.