Business Reporting on the SDGs

INTEGRATING THE SDGS INTO CORPORATE REPORTING: A PRACTICAL GUIDE

Developed by

GRI

United Nations Global Compact

With expert input from Shift

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Contents

Foreword

Transparency of business conduct has long been a primary engine of improvement and will remain critical as stakeholders across the world continue to advance the shared goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Businesses – big and small – are essential actors in the journey to advance the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

This is the moment to take sustainability reporting to the next level. The SDGs foster corporate transparency and accountability. With this practical guide on integrating the SDGs into corporate reporting, we aim to help companies of all types in all countries to tackle the world's most pressing issues. This guide helps businesses move beyond the current trend of simply mapping activities and programs against the SDGs to driving change.

The contents of this publication are aligned with the United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, the Ten Principles of the UN Global Compact and the GRI (Global Reporting Initiative) Reporting Framework. The publication outlines a process of 'principled prioritization' aimed at helping companies to identify and prioritize their SDG targets, take action and report on their progress. This approach assists companies in integrating the SDGs into existing corporate responsibility and sustainability reporting programs. It also weaves together risk management and new business models that can contribute to the advancement of the SDGs.

This document is meant to be used together with other relevant tools released by GRI, the UN Global Compact and their partners, in particular Business Reporting on the SDGs: An Analysis of the Goals and Targets, In Focus: Addressing Investors Needs in Business Reporting on the SDGs and the SDG Compass. This guide was developed in close collaboration with partner organizations and businesses, and we would like to extend our special thanks to Shift and PwC for their support throughout the project.

We look forward to working together with businesses around the world as they apply our tools and refine best practices. By working together we can – and we must – achieve the Sustainable Development Goals.

Lise Kingo
CEO & Executive Director
United Nations Global Compact

Tim Mohin
Chief Executive
GRI

SETTING THE SCENE

Setting the scene

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and corporate sustainability reporting

Business cannot thrive in a world of poverty, inequality, unrest and environmental stress, and so it has a vital interest in ensuring that the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs or Global Goals) are delivered. By upholding recognized standards and principles on human rights, labour, the environment and anti-corruption, business makes an essential contribution to the SDGs.

Many companies already act and report on topics covered by the SDGs, such as climate change, water management and working conditions. This guide will help companies take stock of their current actions and discover additional priorities to contribute to achieving the SDGs.

Going beyond regular communication to stakeholders, effective corporate reporting is key to building trust and aligning investment through transparency and accountability. In addition to informing external stakeholders – including investors – corporate sustainability reporting is a powerful stimulus for internal conversation and decision-making with regard to contributing to the SDGs at all levels within a company. Reporting, however, is neither the start nor the end of a company's sustainability strategy and implementation – it's a strategic tool that:

- engages stakeholders
- supports sustainable decision-making processes at all levels within a company
- shapes business strategy
- guides innovation and drives better performance and value creation
- attracts investments

The business case for engaging with the SDGs

Endorsed by all 193 United Nations Member States in 2015, the 2030 Agenda and its Sustainable Development Goals focus global efforts and attention on 17 pressing issues. The private sector plays a critical role in providing solutions that can contribute to solving these challenges, while also generating new business opportunities.

The SDGs are anticipated to generate at least US$12 trillion worth of market opportunities by 2030[1]. By identifying and mitigating risks to people and the environment and by providing new products and services that support sustainable development, businesses can reap benefits for themselves and for the markets they depend upon.

The SDGs are becoming increasingly important also for investors, as they are 'an articulation of the world's most pressing environmental, social and economic issues and, as such, act as a definitive list of the material ESG (environmental, social and governance) perspectives that should be taken into account as part of an investor's fiduciary duty.'[2] There is a strong business case for investing in opportunities aligned with the SDGs, including helping investors secure stable returns, better represent the values of their clients and offer sustainable financial products that differentiate them in the marketplace.[3]

1) See the report Better Business, Better World of the Business And Sustainable Development Commission, report.businesscommission.org/
2) See The SDG Investment Case, www.unpri.org/download?ac=1436
3) See In Focus: Addressing Investor Needs in Business Reporting on the SDGs, www.globalreporting.org/resourcelibrary/addressing-investor-needs-SDGs-reporting.pdf

About this guide

This Practical Guide does not create a new reporting framework. Rather, it outlines a three-step process to embed the SDGs in existing business and reporting processes.

Step 1 addresses the process of prioritization of impacts and the identification of SDGs for a company to act and report on. Step 2 looks at how to set business objectives, select disclosures and analyze performance. Step 3 offers tips and guidance on reporting and improving SDG performance. These steps are not necessarily meant to be sequential; they can be adapted to specific circumstances.

The guide aims to provide guidance for all businesses, regardless of size, sector or operating location. It targets reporting practitioners specifically, but is also relevant for other professionals involved in corporate sustainability.

The guide builds on earlier work, in particular the SDG Compass developed by the UN Global Compact, GRI and the World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD), which offers a starting point for companies approaching the SDGs, including resources[4]. It provides a more detailed approach to defining priorities.

The guide and the publication Business Reporting on the SDGs: An Analysis of the Goals and Targets[5] (the Analysis) are meant to be used together as part of a company's regular reporting cycle. The Analysis, among other things, lists qualitative and quantitative disclosures for SDG targets that are likely to be relevant to businesses regardless of size, sector or operating location. It also lists illustrative actions that businesses can take to contribute to the achievement of each target. The publication In Focus: Addressing Investors Needs in Business Reporting on the SDGs[6] provides additional information about investor-relevant aspects.

The steps outlined in this guide

4) For more information, see the SDG Compass online platform, www.sdgcompass.org
5) For more information, see An Analysis of the Goals and Targets, www.globalreporting.org/resourcelibrary/GRI_UNGC_Business-Reporting-on-SDGs_Analysis-of-Goals-and-Targets.pdf
6) For more information, see In Focus: Addressing Investor Needs in Business Reporting on the SDGs, www.globalreporting.org/resourcelibrary/addressing-investor-needs-SDGs-reporting.pdf

How the "Analysis" and this "Practical Guide" link and are connected to the SDG Compass

Refer to:

SDG Compass Reference	An Analysis of the Goals and Targets 	Integrating the SDGs into Corporate Reporting: A Practical Guide 
Step 1: Understanding the SDGs Refer to the SDG Compass		●
Step 2: Defining priorities – further guidance Refer to the SDG Compass	●	●
Step 3: Setting goals Refer to the SDG Compass		●
Step 4: Integrating Refer to the SDG Compass		●
Step 5: Reporting and communicating – further guidance Refer to the SDG Compass	●	●

Principled prioritization for reporting on the SDGs

This guide follows an approach that aligns with the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights[7], the Ten Principles of the UN Global Compact[8], the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises[9] and the related OECD Due Diligence Guidance for Responsible Business Conduct[10]. It sets out the process of **principled prioritization** through which a company can identify the priority SDG targets to focus on within the overall context of the Global Goals. This approach assists in integrating the SDGs into reporting processes, particularly those based on the GRI Sustainability Reporting Standards (GRI Standards).

Principled prioritization is a process that includes consideration of:

- **risks to people and the environment (entry point A):** the contribution every company can make to achieving the SDGs by meeting its responsibility to address potential and actual negative impacts to people and the environment that are linked to its operations and value chains;
- **beneficial SDG-related products, services and investments (entry point B):** the additional contribution that companies can make to achieving the SDGs by applying their knowledge, skills and other capabilities to benefit people and the environment.

Principled prioritization is designed to help companies achieve the following:

- Align company strategy, efforts and allocation of resources with SDG targets that reflect their significant impacts, as informed by assessing risks to people and the environment and exploring beneficial products, services and investments. Disclosures in a sustainability report should be a true reflection of the significant impacts that are prioritized internally and that shape how senior management defines company strategy and allocates resources.
- Identify new actions necessary to contribute to the SDGs. It is important to disclose existing efforts that are demonstrably driving positive change. But simply relabeling these efforts in SDG terms is likely to be insufficient to contribute to achieving the SDGs. Achieving the SDGs requires new and additional efforts. The SDGs have the potential to challenge commonly-held paradigms and change current business models towards more sustainable ones. To implement change at the scale that is necessary to achieve the SDGs, companies will need to alter their strategies to make alignment with the SDGs a core part of their products and services — it has been shown that there are massive opportunities for companies that do so.
- Avoid ‘cherry-picking’ and ‘SDG-washing’. ‘Cherry-picking’ refers to selecting goals and targets based on what is easiest for companies rather than what accounts for the highest priorities. ‘SDG-washing’ means reporting on positive contributions to the Global Goals and ignoring important negative impacts. While easy wins and profit-making are part of a coherent strategy, it is essential that companies also identify and act on the full range of priority SDG targets that intersect with their operations and value chains.

BOX 1

About the ‘Action Platform Reporting on the SDGs’

This Practical Guide has been developed as part of the work of the ‘Action Platform Reporting on the SDGs’, which is led by the UN Global Compact and GRI and aims to promote and facilitate corporate reporting on the SDGs. As part of the platform’s work, participating companies across the globe are invited to provide substantive input, share emerging best practices and participate in (online) workshops enabling peer learning. Currently, more than 40 companies are actively engaged with the platform and around 35 representatives from a variety of organizations, including Governments, civil society and UN institutions, are part of the platform’s advisory committee.

7) For more information, see https://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Publications/GuidingPrinciplesBusinessHR_EN.pdf
8) For more information, see https://www.unglobalcompact.org/what-is-gc/mission/principles
9) For more information, see http://mneguidelines.oecd.org/guidelines/
10) For more information, see http://www.oecd.org/investment/due-diligence-guidance-for-responsible-business-conduct.htm

STEP-BY-STEP GUIDANCE

STEP 1: DEFINE PRIORITY SDG TARGETS

1.1: Understand the SDGs and their targets

1.2: Conduct principled prioritization of SDG targets

1.3: Define your SDG-related report content

Step 1: Define priority SDG targets

Principled prioritization is a process by which you, as a company, can prioritize SDG targets based on an assessment of risks and benefits to people and the environment. The steps below describe the process of principled prioritization.

Step 1.1: Understand the SDGs and their targets

- First, review all the SDGs and their targets. Consider how the issues they raise might relate to your business. Reflect on risks to people and the environment, as well as on beneficial products, services and investments. While doing so, consider both your own operations and your value chain.

- Consider targets you had not foreseen under certain SDGs and to which your company could make a critical difference by tackling risks associated with your operations and value chain.

  For example, SDG 3 on good health and wellbeing includes a target to halve the number of global deaths and injuries from road traffic accidents. Road accidents might be a high risk for people working for extractive companies or companies with large distribution networks; reducing deaths and injuries from road accidents could therefore be a legitimate priority SDG target for these companies.

- Identify other unanticipated targets that you could advance by applying your company's skills and capabilities in new ways.

  For example, SDG 9 on industry, innovation and infrastructure includes a target to increase the access of small-scale industrial and other enterprises to financial services, particularly in developing countries. This might offer beneficial product and service opportunities for banks and technology companies.

- Consider the interconnected nature of the SDGs and their targets: your actions might contribute to more than one target or SDG.

  For example, renewable energy companies would most likely identify SDG target 7.1: 'ensuring universal access to affordable, reliable and modern energy services', as a priority. This in turn is linked to SDG target 13.1 to strengthen climate-related resilience and SDG target 1.4 to ensure access to basic services, among others.

- With this overview of the SDGs and their targets in mind, you are ready to identify the priority SDG targets for your company based on the two entry points: risks to people and the environment and beneficial products, services or investments.

> "Iberdrola is aware that the SDGs offer a new vision that allows us to translate global needs and ambitions into solutions. They are a viable model for long-term growth and will help companies to develop more solid strategies. The integration of SDGs in business plans strengthens identification and management of material risks and costs, creation and access to new markets, and innovation in business models making them more efficient, thus aligning the strategy and expectations of the company with its employees, customers, investors and the communities in which it operates. **Agustín Delgado, Chief Sustainability Officer, Iberdrola**"

Step 1.2: Conduct principled prioritization of SDG targets

☑ As explained in the introduction, principled prioritization is a process to identify the priority SDG targets for a company to focus on to contribute to achieving the SDGs. Below are the two entry points through which a company can identify priority SDG targets by assessing the significant impacts linked to its operations and value chain.

☑ Entry point A: Assess how priority risks to people and the environment relate to SDG targets.

- The focus here is on identifying the most severe negative impacts on people and the environment that are linked to the company's operations and value chain and the SDG targets to which these impacts relate. These impacts include the 'salient' human rights risks or issues (see Box 4).
- The objective is to identify opportunities to tackle these risks in ways that maximize positive outcomes for people and the environment and therefore for the SDGs.

☑ Entry point B: Identify SDG targets you can best contribute to through beneficial products, services or investments.

- The focus here is on how the company can apply its skills and capabilities to develop products, services or investments that contribute to the achievement of the SDGs. While this might not be immediately possible for some companies, the exercise could highlight ideas to make this possible in the future.
- The objective is to ensure that these beneficial products, services or investments are also developed and delivered in ways that minimize any negative impacts and therefore reinforce the viability of the company in the long term.

BOX 2

The role of stakeholder engagement in informing reporting on SDGs

Stakeholder engagement is especially crucial for the responsibility to respect human rights as set out in the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights. It is also a pivotal element of the OECD Due Diligence Guidance for Responsible Business Conduct. As outlined in GRI's Stakeholder Inclusiveness principle, engagement with stakeholders is essential for a company to identify material topics to report on.

Engagement with affected stakeholders or – where that is not possible– with proxy stakeholders who have knowledge of stakeholder interests and perspectives, is critical to understanding the nature of actual and potential impacts on people linked to the company's operations and value chain and assessing the severity and likelihood of these impacts. It is part of the company's ongoing due diligence.

Who are affected stakeholders? While stakeholders can be positively or negatively affected through the company's operations or value chain, the focus here is on stakeholders who could be negatively affected. Engagement with these stakeholder groups may take place directly with members of the concerned group — employees, contract workers, supply chain workers, affected communities and consumers — or through their legitimate representatives, such as trade unions, community leaders or others. These engagement processes pay attention to people who might be particularly vulnerable within the broader stakeholder groups, such as migrant workers, women, young people, persons with disabilities and indigenous peoples.

Who are proxy stakeholders? These are people who have substantial knowledge of the affected stakeholder groups and their perspectives, interests and concerns, and who can bring those insights into a conversation with the company. This said, proxy stakeholders cannot speak for the groups concerned. They may include local NGOs, academics and other experts. Engagement with proxy stakeholders can be a valuable alternative where it is not possible to talk directly with affected stakeholders or their representatives. This may be because the company is remote from the risks it is considering — for example, risks in its extended supply chain — or because resource limitations (time, money, language, etc.) make it particularly challenging for the company to engage with affected stakeholders directly.

Engagement with expert stakeholders can serve multiple purposes for the company. In the context of SDG/sustainability reporting, consultation with expert stakeholders is particularly important for developing priorities — or material topics — for both action and reporting.

Who are expert stakeholders? These are people who understand the business or its industry and have insight into one or more aspects of sustainability (e.g., water, human rights, anti-corruption). They are well placed to review company plans and add thoughtful suggestions or identify any gaps. These stakeholders may include national or international NGOs, national or international trade union federations, academics, representatives of other companies, consultants, lawyers and investors with sustainability expertise.

Engagement with internal stakeholders can facilitate collaboration between various departments and levels of operations in a company to ensure an effective reporting process. For example, creating a cross-departmental task force that consists of knowledgeable staff or managers from relevant areas of company operations can ensure that information is shared, compared and integrated effectively in the overall company strategy.

☑ The process of prioritizing your SDG targets is not intended to imply that certain SDGs are more important than others. Rather, it recognizes that your company will have particularly significant impacts on certain SDGs, and these should therefore be the priority SDGs for integration into your company strategy and reporting.

☑ It is important to highlight that a company can have positive impacts towards the achievement of the SDGs through tackling the risks of negative actual and potential impacts as well as through its beneficial products, services or investments.

☑ The sub-steps below address each of the two entry points for identifying priority SDG targets: assessing risks to people and the environment and exploring beneficial products, services and investments.

Entry point A: Assess how priority risks to people and the environment relate to SDG targets

Build a broad picture of actual and potential negative impacts or risks related to the SDGs

☑ First, identify a full picture of risks to people and the environment linked to your company's operations and value chain.

☑ Include both actual and potential negative impacts: look for past or existing negative impacts that you have seen in your company or industry, as well as for new types of negative impacts that could arise in the future based on what the company does; where it operates, sources or sells; and its value chain. In the context of risks to people, focus on human rights, which include labour rights. Negative impacts on human rights are the most acute kinds of impact on people, since they can undermine basic dignity.

☑ At this stage, avoid filtering out impacts based on their likelihood or how easy they would be to address. Include impacts that your company is not at risk of contributing to directly, but which could be linked to your company's operations, products or services through a business relationship. Account for impacts on employees, workers and the environment linked to your operations and value chain.[11]

☑ Engage people from across your business — your internal stakeholders — in this risk-mapping exercise.

☑ Draw insights from your external stakeholders, in particular potentially affected stakeholders, and from other external sources such as news channels and social media.

☑ It will typically take several iterations to arrive at a full picture of risks. Use this process to help identify gaps in the company's knowledge that require further investigation and add to the emerging risk picture over time.

BOX 3

How these steps relate to the GRI Standards (1/2)

These steps are in line with expectations set out in the GRI Standards and generate input for the process of defining report content based on the GRI Reporting Principles, including the application of the GRI Materiality principle. As such, they do not represent a separate or additional process, but assist companies in integrating connections to SDG targets in their existing reporting process based on the GRI Standards.

The definition of materiality in the GRI Standards requires that the report cover topics that reflect the reporting organization's significant economic, environmental, or social impacts, or that substantively influence the assessments and decisions of stakeholders. A topic can be material based on any one of these dimensions. The most severe potential and actual negative SDG-related impacts will typically be considered 'significant impacts' in a materiality assessment in line with the GRI Standards.

This review of risks to people and the environment linked to your company's operations and value chain provides you with a basis to identify significant impacts, which form an input to the process for defining report content in line with the GRI Reporting Principles.

Prioritize risks to people and the environment

Once you have a broad picture of the risks to people and the environment linked to your company's operations and value chain, you can start identifying priority risks by considering the following two factors:

Severity: The first factor to consider in prioritization is the severity of the potential negative impacts on people and the environment. Severity includes three, potentially overlapping factors:

- How grave an impact is or could be;
- How widespread an impact is or could be;
- How hard it is or would be to put right (or remedy) an impact.

Likelihood: The second factor to consider in prioritization is the likelihood or probability of occurrence for each potential impact.

Prioritize the impacts that are most severe and are of high likelihood. But note that your most severe impacts should also be prioritized even when these are of low likelihood.

For example, nuclear power has a low likelihood of major accidents, but if such accidents happen, the severity of the resulting impacts is immense. For more on the severity and likelihood of negative impacts, see the UN publication The Corporate Responsibility to Respect Human Rights: An Interpretive Guide[12] (question 88) and the OECD Due Diligence Guidance for Responsible Business Conduct[13].

This review of risks to people and the environment linked to your company's operations and value chain provides you with a basis to identify significant impacts, which form an input to the process for defining report content based on the GRI Reporting Principles.

Link to relevant SDG targets

After having identified the priority risks to people and the environment linked to your company's operations and value chain, you can link them back to the SDGs and their targets.

The link to SDGs might be more obvious in some cases than others.

For example, a priority risk of discrimination against women in your company's workplace relates to SDG target 5.1: 'end all forms of discrimination against women and girls everywhere'. Other risks might be related to the SDGs more indirectly.

For example, since freedom of association is an enabling right for workers' labour rights in general, limits on this right will be relevant to SDG target 8.5: 'achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all women and men, including for young people and persons with disabilities, and equal pay for work of equal value'. Also, some risks might be linked to more than one SDG.

For example, risks related to climate change are linked to targets under SDG 13 on climate action, but can also be related to targets under SDG 2 on hunger eradication (through sustainable agriculture), SDG 3 on good health and wellbeing, and SDG 7 on affordable and clean energy, among others.

When you develop strategies to address your risks under steps 2.1 (setting business objectives) and 3.3 (learning and implementing change), you will have opportunities to consider how those strategies might benefit additional SDGs.

BOX 4

Salient human rights issues

The UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights set out the responsibility of all companies, regardless of their size and sector, to respect human rights across their operations and value chains. They state that: 'While business enterprises should address all their adverse human rights impacts, it may not always be possible to address them simultaneously. In the absence of specific legal guidance, if prioritization is necessary, business enterprises should begin with those human rights impacts that would be most severe, recognizing that a delayed response may affect remediability. Severity is not an absolute concept in this context, but is relative to the other human rights impacts the business enterprise has identified.'

The UN's interpretive guide The Corporate Responsibility to Respect Human Rights refers to these most severe human rights risks as the company's salient human rights — a concept popularized through the UNGP Reporting Framework.

11) This includes, for example, impacts on people contracted by third parties carrying out services in your business facilities (e.g., security, cleaning, catering), and impacts on people and the environment across the supply chain of your products both upstream (e.g., commodities, manufacturing, packaging) and downstream (e.g. distribution, sales, customer usage, recycling)
12) For more information, see: www.ohchr.org/Documents/Publications/HR.PUB.12.2_En.pdf
13) For more information, see: http://mneguidelines.oecd.org/OECD-Due-Diligence-Guidance-for-Responsible-Business-Conduct.pdf

For example, low wages for workers in your supply chain relate directly to SDG 1 on ending poverty and target 1.2 to reduce poverty at least by half, as well as to SDG 10 on reducing inequalities and target 10.1 to sustain income growth of the bottom 40 percent at a rate higher than the national average. Your strategy to advance living wages in turn could have benefits for targets under SDG 3 on good health and wellbeing and SDG 4 on quality education, among others.

The results from this exercise are **the first set of priority SDG targets** to which your company can contribute. These are based on the priority risks to people and the environment linked to your company's operations and value chain (See illustration 1 below).

This set of priority SDG targets and the related impacts form an input to the process for defining report content, in line with the GRI Reporting Principles (Stakeholder Inclusiveness, Sustainability Context, Materiality and Completeness).

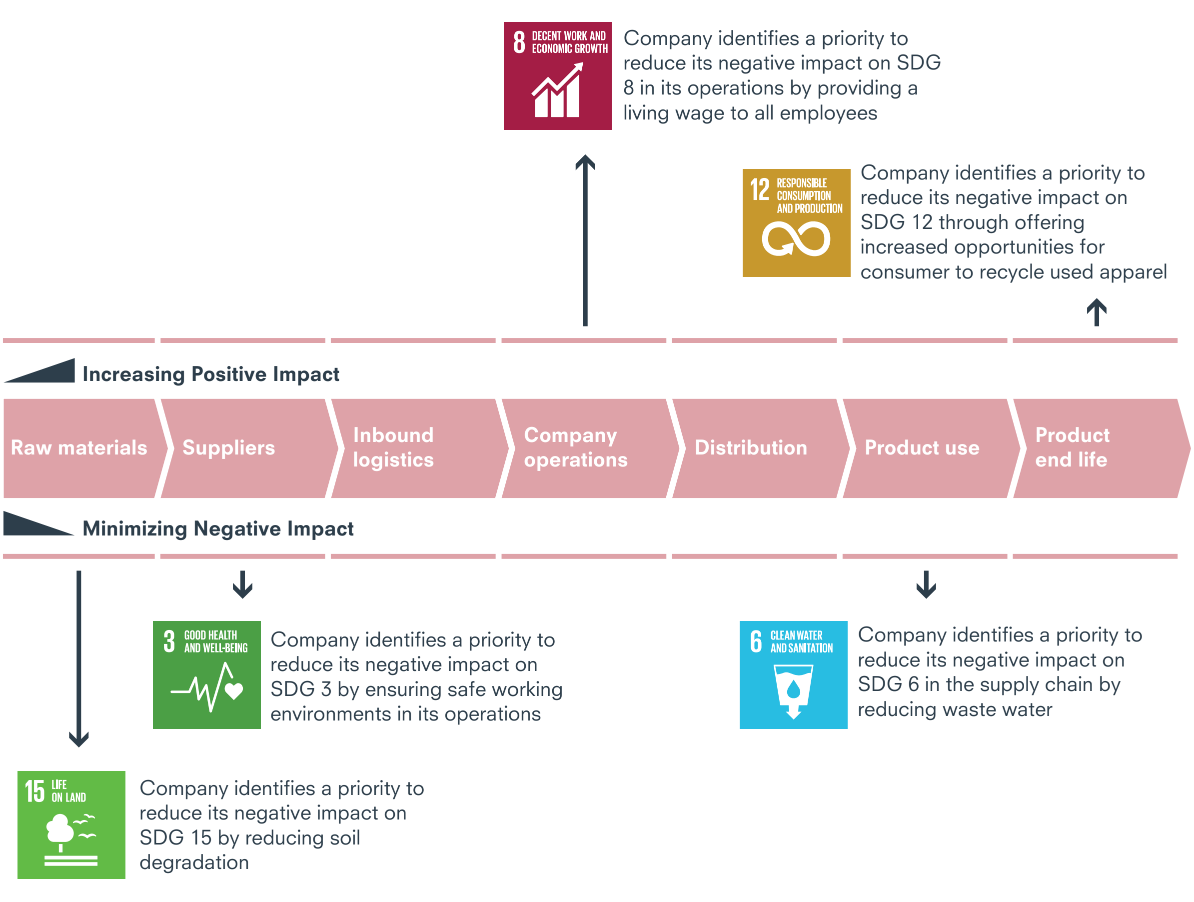
Entry point B: Explore SDG targets you can best contribute to through beneficial products, services or investments

Build a broad picture of actual and potential positive impacts or benefits of products, services and investments related to the SDGs

In this step the focus is on how your company applies or could apply its skills and capabilities to provide products, services or investments that contribute towards achieving the SDGs. You might already have an overview of how you are applying your company's skills and capabilities to provide products, services or investments that benefit certain SDG targets. Explore whether you can scale these existing benefits to increase your contribution to the SDGs, or whether you could develop new products, services or investments to address additional SDG targets in ways that also create value for the company.

ILLUSTRATION 1

Example outlining the identification of risk and interconnectedness of SDGs across an apparel value chain



> At Danone we have recently published our first SDG reporting at the end of 2017, which makes an integral part of our annual Integrated Report. When preparing it, not only have we taken into account the specific definition of the SDG targets as input for our materiality analysis and stakeholders' consultation, but we have also made sure we used key performance indicators that were relevant to reflect the link between Danone´s 9 Company Goals, the results of our actions and each target that emerged as being material to our operations. Being specific on the exact way business actions link to the SDGs at the targets' level is key to concretely demonstrate and valorize our company's contribution to this global agenda. **Emmanuelle Wargon, Senior Vice President, Corporate Affairs & Business Sustainability Integration, Danone**

- For example, explore if there are particular groups of people who are marginalized and discriminated against and whose needs you can help meet. Or if you are a provider of finance, explore if there are innovative financing models you could develop to help businesses bring environmentally-friendly or socially-beneficial products and services to new markets.
- There might be ways, for example, that you can tailor existing products, services or investments to meet the needs of the poorest people in societies, who face particular barriers to accessing education, jobs, basic services or other benefits – doing so will help decrease inequalities and increase social and economic inclusion, in line with SDG 10 on reducing inequalities. Or if you are looking to develop products that would support the sustainable management of forests, in line with SDG 15 on life on land, for example, consider whether you could partner with and empower local indigenous peoples in the process, or whether you could use renewable energy to process timber.

When thinking about how your company's skills and capabilities might be able to provide benefits through targeted products or services, look also beyond those SDGs that might seem closest to your company's core business.

- For example, an ICT company could apply its technologies in ways that advance SDG 4 on quality education, or a sporting organization could make a critical contribution to SDG 5 on gender equality.

Prioritize beneficial SDG-related products, services and investments

Once you have a broad picture of the beneficial products, services and investments your company could provide, you can test and refine your priorities among these existing or potential innovations by considering the following two criteria:

- The significance of the benefits they could bring to society
- The significance of the benefits they could bring to your business

Measures of the significance of positive sustainability impacts from beneficial products, services or investments may in part be financial (for example, the reduced cost of drinking water for poor populations, or lowered cost of bringing clean energy to consumers). Financial measures are typically combined with social and environmental measures, such as the number of poor people reached with a beneficial product, or the percentage of households reached with recycling services. Although different measures cannot always be easily compared, having more clarity on the benefits delivered will help you to identify those products, services and investments that (potentially) have the most significant positive impacts on the SDGs, and to prioritize them in your reporting.

If your company is considering any new products, services or investments through which it could increase its contribution to the SDGs, you should also factor in their relative costs and opportunities to the business.

Take account of any risks to people or the environment that are likely to arise in the development or delivery of new products, services or investments, and take action to prevent or mitigate resulting actual negative impacts.

This review of the extent of your company's positive impacts on people and the environment through beneficial products, services or investments provides you with a basis to identify the significant impacts, which form an input to the process for defining report content based on the GRI Reporting Principles.

Link to relevant SDG targets

Look beyond the most obvious links to SDGs, also taking into consideration SDGs and targets you might be able to contribute to indirectly.

- For example, technologies that enable children in remote communities to access education might contribute not just to SDG 4 on education, but also to SDG target 8.7 to eradicate child labour, and to possible reduction in poverty, relating to SDG 1, as those children enter the workforce in later life and are able to earn higher wages.

BOX 5

How these steps relate to the GRI Standards (2/2)

If you have, in prior reporting cycles, gone through a process of defining report content based on the GRI Reporting Principles (GRI 101: Foundation) and identified material topics accordingly, you can use these outcomes as valuable input for identifying risks to people and the environment linked to your company's operations and value chain, to subsequently identify your priority SDG targets.

It is important to note that the SDGs are likely to introduce additional considerations and expectations, even for experienced reporters. In this regard, the introduction of the SDGs is an opportunity to review earlier materiality assessments and ensure that your report content is aligned with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the SDGs.

☑ This results in the **second set of priority SDG targets** to which your company can contribute. These are based on the positive impacts that flow from beneficial products, services or investments your company could provide.

☑ This set of priority SDG targets and the related impacts form an input to the process for defining report content, in line with the GRI Reporting Principles (Stakeholder Inclusiveness, Sustainability Context, Materiality and Completeness).

Step 1.3: Define your SDG-related report content

☑ You have now identified two sets of priority SDG targets:

- Entry point A: Set of priority SDG targets based on an assessment of risks to people and the environment.
- Entry point B: Set of priority SDG targets based on an exploration of beneficial products, services or investments.

☑ The two sets of SDG targets you have prioritized will typically differ, but they may also overlap.

For example, a water service provider might face the risk that a municipality makes the provider's services available to local populations in discriminatory ways, but it might also encounter opportunities to develop new ways to bring water services to formerly marginalized communities. Addressing both the risk and opportunities would contribute to SDG 6 on clean water and sanitation, and in particular to target 6.1 to achieve universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water for all.

Another example is when a technology company develops a hotline service for workers suffering abuse, and it brings this to the attention of authorities or companies whose supply chains it is part of, while at the same time addressing the risk of poor working conditions in its own supply chain. Both the risk and the hotline service relate to SDG 8 on decent work, and in particular to target 8.8 to protect labour rights and promote safe and secure working environments for all workers.

☑ In the process for defining report content in line with the GRI Standards, also consult with stakeholders to determine any additional SDG-related topics that influence their decisions and assessments. Omission of this would lead to an incomplete account of the significant economic, environmental and social impacts; it should therefore be covered in the report.

☑ Discuss with your expert stakeholders the process through which you arrived at your priority SDG targets, and make any adjustments needed.

> "Our reporting on material sustainability issues, targets, and progress is validated with relevant internal stakeholders across our organization, as well as anchored and reviewed by members of executive management to ensure relevant broad and high-level engagement." **Annette Stube, Head of Sustainability, A.P. Moller - Maersk**

☑ With these sets of priority SDG targets related to your significant impacts and stakeholder inputs, your company can complete the process of defining report content, including an assessment of materiality in line with the GRI Standards. Final decisions on material topics should remain in line with the company's responsibility to respect human rights as well as with other relevant principles and standards for responsible business conduct, such as the Ten Principles of the UN Global Compact and the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises.

☑ You now have a **confirmed set of priority SDG targets** to be included in your report and to which your company can make its most important contribution, from the two entry points of tackling risks to people and the environment and developing beneficial products, services or investments.

> "When we first started we went from 17 SDGs, to support and act upon 14 SDGs where we identified impacts — either positive or negative — throughout our value chain. At Pernod Ricard, we believe that any negative impact can be transformed into a positive impact! This prioritization process was made possible by reviewing the 834 business indicators of the SDG Compass guide for business and getting key internal departments involved. Today, we are going even further by building a new sustainability strategy based on the SDGs and prioritizing even further the SDGs where we have the most impact. **Noemie Bauer, Head of Sustainable Business, Pernod-Ricard**"

BOX 6

Consider risks to business

When finalizing your priority SDG targets, the risks to your business will be an element you will consider. These will most likely already be reflected in your priority SDG targets. These could be reputational risks, financial, legal or regulatory risks, risks to business continuity or risks related to the recruitment, retention and productivity of employees, among others. Conversely, you may also have considered the opportunity to reduce these business risks by tackling risks to people and the environment as a way to protect and create value by making the company an employer, partner, supplier, customer, brand or investment of choice. For example, a company relying on water supply as raw material, will have to consider water scarcity in different regions of the world. Under step 1.2.1, this risk may already have been identified as having a significant impact on the environment and people in the given region. Likewise, a risk to business might be the lack of innovation. This links directly to the second entry point of developing beneficial products and services.

STEP 2: MEASURE AND ANALYZE

Step 2.1: Set business objectives

Step 2.2: Select appropriate disclosures

Step 2.3: Collect and analyze data

Step 2: Measure and analyze

Based on the outcomes of step 1, you can now identify and align your objectives and strategies to contribute to your priority SDG targets. This step provides guidance on setting objectives, selecting indicators to measure your impacts and analyzing your performance against the SDGs.

Step 2.1. Set business objectives

- Define objectives to contribute to the SDG priority targets. When doing so, and in order to maximize the impact of and clarity in both your company's actions and reporting, consider the following:

- When addressing the priority SDG targets based on priority risks to people and the environment, identify strategies and specific objectives that go beyond just avoiding harm, to find opportunities to maximize positive outcomes. This will support systemic and durable change and will help the company secure its license to operate.

  - For example, an apparel company seeking to tackle harassment and health risks to women in its supply factories might work with local organizations to train women workers on health issues, and build managers' capacity to tackle harassment and ensure access to complaints mechanisms and supporting resources, resulting in positive impacts on SDG targets 5.1 and 5.2 on discrimination and violence against women, as well as SDG 2 targets related to women's health.[14]

  - For example, a mining company aiming to rehabilitate areas no longer in use by restoring forests (SDG target 15.2), could also actively reinsert threatened plants and species in these areas, turn them into nature sanctuaries (halt the loss of biodiversity, SDG target 15.5), and, by engaging local communities, promote opportunities around community-based ecotourism (SDG target 8.9).

- As you identify new or adapted products, services or investments that can contribute to one or more SDGs, ensure that they can be produced and delivered with minimum negative impacts.

  - For example, a product that supports access to electricity for poor populations but has a high environmental footprint in its production processes, has limited value for sustainable development.

- Trade-offs between positive and negative impacts can be problematic if the impacts are not comparable. In particular, negative human rights impacts cannot be offset by other positive impacts.

  - For example, a renewable energy installation might reduce a region's dependence on fossil fuels and bring energy to underserved communities. But if it displaces local indigenous communities from their historical and cultural lands without their consent, the positive and negative impacts cannot be offset; they must be addressed in their own right.

- If applicable, consider setting corporate objectives that take into account planetary boundaries and other thresholds.

  - For example, the Science Based Targets initiative helps companies determine by how much they must cut their greenhouse gas emissions to prevent the worst impacts on climate change[15]. Similarly, corporate context-based target setting methodologies are being developed for water[16] and other SDG-related areas. The Future-Fit Business Benchmarks also provide a set of absolute goals that are based on social and natural science.

- Consult stakeholders when setting objectives.

14) For more examples on how addressing human rights impacts can help contribute to the SDGs, see The Human Rights Opportunity: www.shiftproject.org/sdgs/
15) For more information on the Science Based Targets initiative, see https://sciencebasedtargets.org/
16) For more information on corporate context-based water targets see, for instance, www.ceowatermandate.org/files/context-based-targets.pdf

Step 2.2. Select appropriate disclosures

☑ Once you have established objectives to contribute to each of your priority SDG targets, identify the indicators you will use to measure progress against them.

☑ To adequately report impacts, combine qualitative and quantitative (e.g., numerical metric, ratio or percentage) disclosures[17]. Qualitative disclosures provide narrative information on how and why a company identifies, analyzes and responds to its actual and potential impacts.

☑ Use the publication An Analysis of the Goals and Targets[18] as a reference to find relevant disclosure standards and guidelines from different reporting frameworks to measure and report on your company's progress in relation to specific SDG targets (also included in the SDG Compass online inventory of business disclosures[19]). Where the Analysis indicates that for certain topics there are no existing or established disclosures available, you can report on the management approach for those topics (see GRI 103: Management Approach for more guidance). Alternatively, you may wish to develop your own disclosures or rely on other sources to fill gaps in existing indicators (see illustration 2).

ILLUSTRATION 2

Example of indictors relating to water purification at different levels of a company's operations

Inputs	Activities	Outputs	Outcomes	Impacts
What resources that go in could positively or negatively affect the SDG targets?	What activities are undertaken?	What is generated through those activities	What changes have occurred in the target population?	What are the changes as a result of those outputs?
Money spent on manufacturing and R&D	Water purification tablet sales (qualitative description)	Number of water purification tablets sold and consumer information provided	Purified water consumed in percentage	Reduction in the incidence of water-borne diseases in percentage

17) For examples on both types of disclosure, see https://www.unglobalcompact.org/library/5361
18) For more information, see: www.unglobalcompact.org/library/5361
19) For more information, see sdgcompass.org/business-indicators/

Step 2.3. Collect and analyze data

- After you have selected indicators for measuring and reporting on your priority SDG targets, the next step is to identify and collect quantitative and qualitative data in relation to each indicator on a regular basis. Data relevant to your performance on priority SDG targets might already exist within your company. As always, stakeholder engagement, including engagement with internal stakeholders, can be helpful in this process.

- Rely on existing data if it is relevant to company performance on the objectives set in relation to the priority SDG targets.

  - For example, data on SDG target 15.2 on sustainable management of all types of forests can be linked to the traceability of raw materials, which may be found in your existing purchasing systems or in disclosures relating to conflict minerals or ethical sourcing. See Illustration 4 for an example of data collection and assessment of data sources.

- Where data is not available for evaluating whether the company is achieving its objectives in relation to SDG priorities, establish new indicators. Indicators should be specific, measurable, achievable, relevant and time-bound (SMART). It is best practice to assign indicators to a single owner and have appropriate management to monitor progress towards the established objectives on a regular basis.

- If applicable, disclose your data both as an aggregate and by region to reflect the diversity of impacts in different contexts. Regional data will enable measurement of impacts on specific populations or within particular environmental contexts.

  - For example, in areas with disadvantaged, marginalized or vulnerable groups, regional data will be important to understand your company's specific impact or benefit by socio-economic criteria such as gender, age, ethnicity, disability, migration status and other relevant characteristics.

  - There is, for example, an increasing demand for tracing workforce standards in the production of raw materials in order to monitor and mitigate the risk of modern slavery within your supply chain which may cover different regions. For more guidance, see the Office of the High Commissioner of Human Rights Guidance Note 'A Human Rights-Based Approach to Data'[20].

- Regularly measure your company's progress against the objectives you have established for each priority SDG target.

- When analyzing the data, reflect on whether the selected disclosures adequately reflect your company's contribution to your priority SDG targets. Conclusions from this assessment should drive management decisions on resource allocation and be included in your external report. Adjust your data management strategy as your business changes, to assure optimal measurement and reporting (see illustration 3).

ILLUSTRATION 3

Example of data collection in relation to SDG 8 on decent work and economic growth, including an assessment of data sources and follow-up of actions planned

Disclosure for SDG target 8.5

Disclosure	Disclosure unit	Data availability	Data quality	Extra resources requitred	Management ambition related to data quality	Stop/Start/Improve/No action
Total number and rate of new employees hires during the reporting period, by age group, gender and region	Number and %	Yes	Medium	Improve data specificity	High	Improve
Total number of employees, disaggregated by female and male employees	Number and %	Yes	High	Monitor process and set up controls	High	No action
Explicit recognition of living wage payment	$ currency	No	N/A	Start measuring and monitoring	High	Start

20) For more information, see www.ohchr.org/Documents/Issues/HRIndicators/GuidanceNoteonApproachtoData.pdf

STEP 3: REPORT, INTEGRATE AND IMPLEMENT CHANGE

Step 3.1: Consider general features of good practice when reporting on the SDGs

Step 3.2: Consider data users' information needs

Step 3.3: Report and implement change

Step 3. Report, integrate and implement change

Based on the outcomes of step 2, this step sets out what is needed for putting together the content of your external report and reflecting internally on implementing change.

Step 3.1. Consider general features of good practice when reporting on the SDGs

☑ Reporting on SDGs should be based on established international reporting frameworks whenever practical. You can find examples of relevant standards and reporting frameworks in the publication An Analysis of the Goals and Targets.

☑ Internal reporting to management and the board is useful for resource allocation and integration of your SDG strategy into your company's business model. External reporting to your shareholders and stakeholders fosters their constructive engagement in your company's overall performance and areas for improvement.

☑ Include SDG-related information in your reporting cycle as appropriate, to demonstrate how the SDGs are integrated into your company's priorities and objectives (business strategy).

☑ Present your priority SDG targets and your overall performance in the broader context of sustainability, particularly if you are operating in different locations (see GRI 101: Foundation for guidance; see also step 2.1 on setting objectives that take into account planetary boundaries). This could require distinguishing between perspectives that drive global impacts, such as climate change, and those that have regional or local impacts, such as community development. When reporting on topics that have local impacts, provide insight into how the organization affects communities in different locations.

BOX 7

Effective reporting – 4 Cs

Concise	Consistent	Current	Comparable
Concise reporting focuses on the priorities and most material information, and avoids clutter and information overload.	Consistent reporting allows for an assessment of performance trends over time; it enables managing and understanding the insights delivered by the reported data.	Current reporting presents a useful window that gives insights into the operations, impacts and potential of business opportunities, rather than a rear-view mirror showing what happened in the past.	Comparable reporting allows information users to benchmark performance against peers. It enables businesses to track and assess their impacts, and then make decisions that will improve these over time.

BOX 8

Checklist – What to set out in your report?

- ✔ Your company's significant impacts, whether based on risks to people or environment or on beneficial products, services and investments.
- ✔ How your analysis of these impacts has informed your identification of priority SDG targets.
- ✔ How stakeholder feedback informed your conclusions.
- ✔ Your strategy, including objectives (goals) and measurement (indicators) for contributing to the priority SDG targets, recognizing that positive contributions can result from both tackling risks and providing beneficial products or services. This may include a description of relevant company policies, systems and processes, including your engagement with stakeholders.
- ✔ Instances where your company has caused or contributed to actual negative impacts, and the action(s) you have taken to enable effective remedy to anyone whose human rights were harmed.
- ✔ Indicators and data that demonstrate how your company is progressing towards its objectives for contributing to its priority SDG targets and any setbacks it has encountered.
- ✔ Your future plans for achieving further progress.

For example, a context-based approach to corporate water stewardship can provide meaningful risk reduction by addressing multiple dimensions of water risk and can contribute to long-term water security by ensuring that your company's water strategies are aligned with local and state water policy, and ultimately connected to the global SDG indicators[21].

- When disclosing information on your company's contribution to your priority SDG targets, seek to link this to other relevant international agreements or commitments.

For example, your efforts to help mitigate climate change could contribute to the Paris Agreement and the climate-related intended National Determined Contribution[22] (NDC) and can be linked to your disclosures on SDG 13 on climate action.

- Report your progress against the objectives you established for each priority SDG target on a regular basis. Disclosures in your report may be repurposed for reporting requirements mandated by regulations, such as listing requirements mandated by certain stock exchanges. Information on reporting policies, both voluntary and mandatory, can be found on the Carrots and Sticks online platform[23].

- Include explanations for any topics linked to the SDGs that stakeholders might expect to see, but that you have chosen to omit from your reporting. The explanation should include the reasons why you concluded that these topics are less material for your company.

- If you have identified existing negative impacts, include a description of the remedy you are or will be implementing in your report.

- Apply both internal controls and external assurance to enhance accuracy, credibility and overall reporting quality. These might also be required by some stakeholders, e.g., investors.

- In addition to formal reports, use other relevant channels to communicate your sustainability strategy and SDG performance, such as company website, social media channels, podcasts, events, product and service labeling, marketing and advertising.

BOX 9

The recommendations of the Task Force on Climate-related Finance Disclosures and reporting on SDG 13 on climate action

In 2017, the Task Force on Climate-Related Financial Disclosures (TCFD) issued widely considered recommendations on climate-related disclosures that businesses and financial organizations should provide in their mainstream annual filings and that primarily address investors, lenders and insurance companies. The recommended disclosures focus on the areas of governance, strategy, risk management and metrics and targets, and they provide useful guidance for businesses reporting on the financial impacts of climate change risks and opportunities. The recommendations can also be helpful in reporting on issues related to SDG 13 on climate action and the Paris Agreement.

In order to be aligned with the principled prioritization approach outlined in this document and with the GRI Standards, businesses reporting on SDG 13 should not only report on the financial implications of climate change on the business, but also on the impact that the business may have on climate change and related risks to people and the environment. For instance, as part of the areas of 'strategy' and 'risk management' identified by the TCFD, reporting on SDG 13 can include a scenario analysis, the likelihood and probability of the company's impact on climate change, the disclosure of greenhouse gas emissions and a description of the measures the company has taken or plans to take to mitigate its impact. If relevant, companies should also disclose how their operations may affect the capacity of local communities to adapt to the effects of climate change and how the companies are supporting local resilience in the areas they operate (this is relevant in connection with target SDG 13.1).

21) For more information on corporate context-based water targets see, for instance: https://www.ceowatermandate.org/files/context-based-targets.pdf
22) See https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/the-paris-agreement/nationally-determined-contributions-ndcs and https://unfccc.int/files/essential_background/convention/application/pdf/english_paris_agreement.pdf
23) See www.carrotsandsticks.net

Step 3.2. Consider data users' information needs

☑ SDG reporting should provide shareholders and other stakeholders a basis for informing their insights and decisions. Engage regularly with a broad range of stakeholders throughout the reporting process to stress-test the value of the information you are reporting.

☑ **Consider the information needs of Governments:** National Governments lead the implementation of the SDGs in their countries and voluntarily present their progress at the United Nations High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF)[24]. To measure their progress, Governments have established data collection systems[25]. Many Governments are now exploring how private sector contributions to the SDGs can be analyzed to inform the national review process. Business disclosures can support data availability and quality of such reviews, particularly if they are based on internationally agreed standards and are, therefore, more comparable. Engaging in national multi-stakeholder dialogues can facilitate a better understanding of Governmental expectations and how your business can contribute to and report on the national SDG agenda, as well as other UN processes[26]. In this context, explore with Governments how you can make your disclosures more relevant and accessible (e.g., by uploading them on public platforms).

☑ **Consider the information needs of investors:** Investors have an increasing interest in SDG-related data to assess risks, including risks related to companies, and new business opportunities. The assessment of business impacts on the SDGs can inform investors' decisions to help them better represent the values of their clients and offer differentiated sustainable financial products, while understanding their own SDG impacts across their portfolios. To inform their decision-making, investors are seeking information on how companies are transforming their competitive advantage in relation to the SDGs into business results and on how relevant the SDGs are to overall company strategies. Also, though understanding past progress and trends helps investors assess future business performance, they are increasingly looking for scenario planning and other forward-looking disclosures. For more information on this, check the report In Focus: Addressing Investors Needs in Business Reporting on the SDGs[27].

☑ **Consider the information needs of civil society:** Civil society organizations assess SDG performance and hold companies accountable as well as press for more transparency. These organizations can help improve your SDG performance by providing expertise, becoming valuable partners in liaising with affected communities and when engaging in relevant multi-stakeholder dialogues on the SDGs.

☑ **Consider the information needs of consumers and academia:** Consumers might increasingly demand more sustainable products and services and base their choices on the assessment of corporate sustainability information, including information on performance on the SDGs. Academia can use corporate sustainability disclosures for their research and analysis.

24) For more information about the HLPF review process, see https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/hlpf
25) For more information, see The Sustainable Development Goals Report 2018, p. 16 -17 on data: https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/files/report/2018/TheSustainableDevelopmentGoalsReport2018-EN.pdf
26) For examples about the value of engaging in SDG-related policy-dialogues at the country level, see Accelerating National SDG Implementation, p. 22: www.unglobalcompact.org/library/5627
27) See www.unglobalcompact.org/library/5625

Step 3.3. Report and implement change

☑ Assess if you are meeting the objectives you set in relation to your priority SDG targets, anticipate performance gaps, reflect on your improvements and include this information in your reports. Internal coordination and distributed ownership for the set objectives is essential.

- For example, objectives set in relation to priority SDG targets related to suppliers have a better chance of success if they are 'owned' by the department responsible for engaging with and managing suppliers. In all cases, individual accountability for progress on objectives will help drive success.

☑ Review and assess your reporting cycle.

- For example, synchronize your internal reporting processes with public disclosure to minimize workload and maximize the relevance of your company's performance in relation to your priority SDG targets. You could also periodically review your list of stakeholders to ensure that you have full coverage and consultations on your priority SDG targets.

☑ Use your SDG reporting as a basis for driving informed decision-making and integrating the SDGs into your company strategy. This can stimulate innovation and help your company design products and services that will contribute to achieving the SDGs. The Blueprint for Business Leadership on the SDGs[28], An Analysis of the Goal and Targets and other tools and publications developed by the UN Global Compact together with partners provide relevant guidance and inspiration.

☑ Internal communication is as important as external reporting to support the successful integration of the SDGs in your company strategy and to promote ownership by relevant company decision-makers. Consider communicating your strategy and progress to the broader workforce to encourage employee engagement and leadership. Ideally, accompany this with relevant training.

☑ Look for strategic opportunities to collaborate with peers and others to leverage resources, advocate business responsibility, establish sectoral objectives and initiatives or spread the implementation costs of actions to advance the SDGs.[29]

> The UN Sustainable Development Goals sit at the heart of our growth strategy, and reporting on our progress in delivering towards them allows us to increase transparency for our stakeholders and, in particular, our investors. This form of reporting also stimulates greater interest in the SDGs and generates motivation and creativity throughout the Covestro organization, further cementing the SDGs in all our activities. **Eric Bischof, VP Corporate Sustainability, Covestro**

> We define our priority SDGs according to our business plan, materiality and stakeholder expectations. Enel has not developed new planning and reporting processes to monitor its SDG performance: we prefer to adopt an integrated approach. SDGs became business as usual for our company, rather than being classified in separate ESG targets and measures. The strategic plan, the sustainability plan and the report clearly show the deployment, across the board, of the 17 United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, and of Enel's sustainable business model throughout its value chain. This approach makes it easier for the whole group to understand, manage and evaluate SDG-related data and performance and to share our CEO's commitment to the SDGs. **Giulia Genuardi , Head of Sustainability Planning and Performance Management, Enel**

28) See www.unglobalcompact.org/library/5461.
29) For more information, see Transforming partnerships for the SDGs, www.unglobalcompact.org/library/5614; Private-Sector Collaboration for Sustainable Development, www.bsr.org/reports/BSR_Rockefeller_Private-Sector_Collaboration_for_Sustainable_Development.pdf; and Partnerships for Sustainable Development: Collective action by business, governments and civil society to achieve scale and transform markets, www.hks.harvard.edu/sites/default/files/centers/mrcbg/programs/cri/files/PforSD(Exec_Summary).pdf.

APPENDICES

Appendices

List of international reporting frameworks and indicators

Sources of business disclosures

- BIO Intelligence Service Development of Guidance on Extended Producer Responsibility
- Business Call to Action indicators
- Convention on Biological Diversity Quick guide to the Aichi Biodiversity Targets
- CDP 2017 Climate Change Information Request
- CDP 2017 Forests Information Request
- CDP 2017 Water Information Request
- CEO Water Mandate's Corporate Water Disclosure Guidelines
- Danish Institute of Human Rights AAAQ Framework Generic Indicator
- Food and Agriculture Organisation Aquastat
- Global Innovation Index GII Framework
- GRI Sustainability Reporting Standards
- IUCN Red List
- International Centre for Research on Women Understanding and Measuring Women's Economic Empowerment - Definition, Framework and Indicators
- International Labour Organisation Decent Work Indicators
- International Trade Union Confederation Global Rights Index
- Kepler Cheuvreux Inequality Footprint: An investor guide Social & Business Ethics
- Oxfam Behind the Brands scorecard indicator
- UNCTAD Enhancing the role of reporting in attaining the Sustainable Development Goals: Integration of environmental, social and governance information into company reporting
- UNSDSN U.S. Cities SDG Index
- UN Global Compact-Oxfam Poverty Footprint
- UN Global Compact Reporting Guidance on the 10th Principle against corruption
- WBCSD WASH Pledge and Guiding Principles for Implementation
- WHO Global Health Observatory indicator
- Women's Empowerment Principles: Reporting on Progress
- World Bank World Development Indicators
- Yale University Environmental Performance Index

Select reporting frameworks

- Climate Disclosure Standards Board Framework
- GRI Sustainability Reporting Standards
- SASB Accounting Standards
- Taskforce on Climate-related Financial Disclosures Final Recommendations
- The IIRC <IR> Framework
- UN Guiding Principles Reporting Framework

Contributors

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About the United Nations Global Compact

The United Nations Global Compact is a call to companies everywhere to align their operations and strategies with ten universally accepted principles in the areas of human rights, labour, environment and anti-corruption, and to take action in support of UN goals and issues embodied in the Sustainable Development Goals. The UN Global Compact is a leadership platform for the development, implementation and disclosure of responsible corporate practices. Launched in 2000, it is the largest corporate sustainability initiative in the world, with more than 9,500 companies and 3,000 non-business signatories based in over 160 countries, and more than 65 Local Networks. www.unglobalcompact.org

About GRI

GRI is an international independent organization that has pioneered corporate sustainability reporting since 1997. GRI's mission is to empower decision-makers everywhere, through its sustainability reporting standards and multi-stakeholder network, to take action towards a more sustainable economy and world. There are over 100 countries communicating the impact of business on critical sustainability issues with GRI. www.globalreporting.org

About PwC

PwC's purpose is to build trust in society and solve important problems. Our Sustainability team advises and supports business and Government to introduce, maintain and expand sustainable practices that make sound commercial sense and deliver positive societal impact. Our Sustainability team sits within a broader network of firms in 157 countries with more than 223,000 people who are committed to delivering quality in assurance, advisory and tax services. www.pwc.com/sustainability

About Shift

Shift is the leading center of expertise on the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights. Shift's founders were part of Professor John Ruggie's core advisory team that helped develop the Guiding Principles. Shift's global team facilitates dialogue, builds capacity and develops new approaches with companies, Government, civil society organizations and international institutions to bring about a world in which business gets done with respect for people's fundamental welfare and dignity. Shift is a non-profit, mission-driven organization. www.shiftproject.org

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Corporate Action Group (business participants of the Action Platform Reporting on the SDGs):

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