



GSSB Update

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Our global impact in numbers



78%

of the world's **largest 250 companies** reporting on sustainability use GRI

14,000+

Organizations publish a **GRI report** each year

500+

organizations from **85 countries** are members of the **GRI Community**

1,500+

GRI Certified sustainability professionals

100+

training partners across **57 countries** offer GRI Certified Training Courses

846,000

unique **downloads of the GRI Standards** in 2023

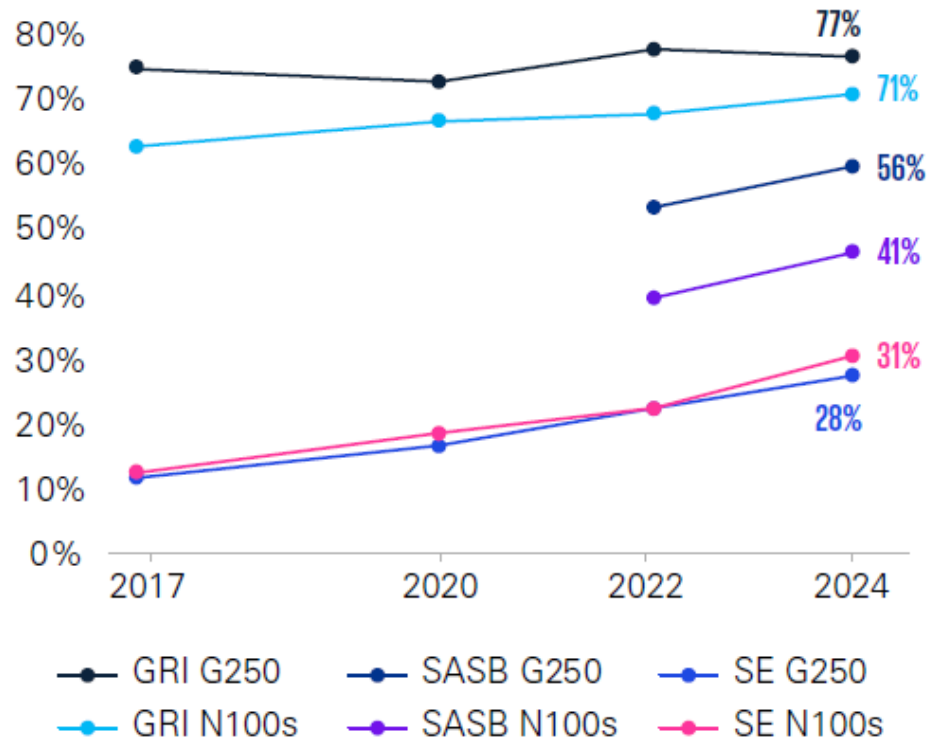
100+

GRI licensed software and tools partner companies

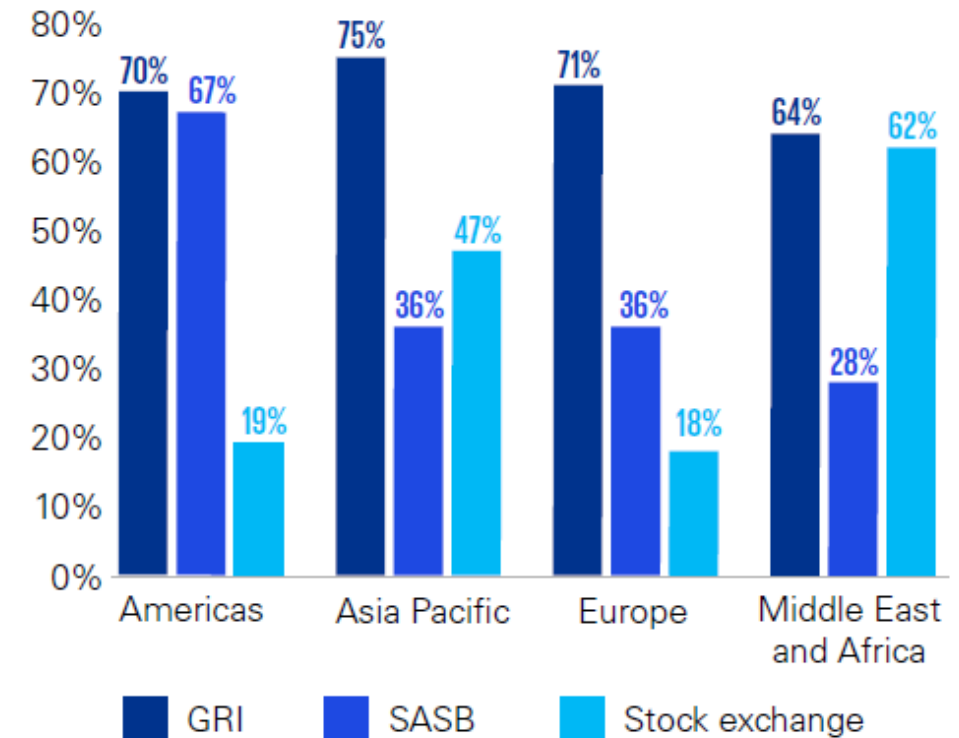
GRI remains the most widely used standard for sustainability reporting in all regions*



Companies reporting against GRI Standards, SASB Standards* and stock exchange guidelines in G250 and N100s (2017–2024)



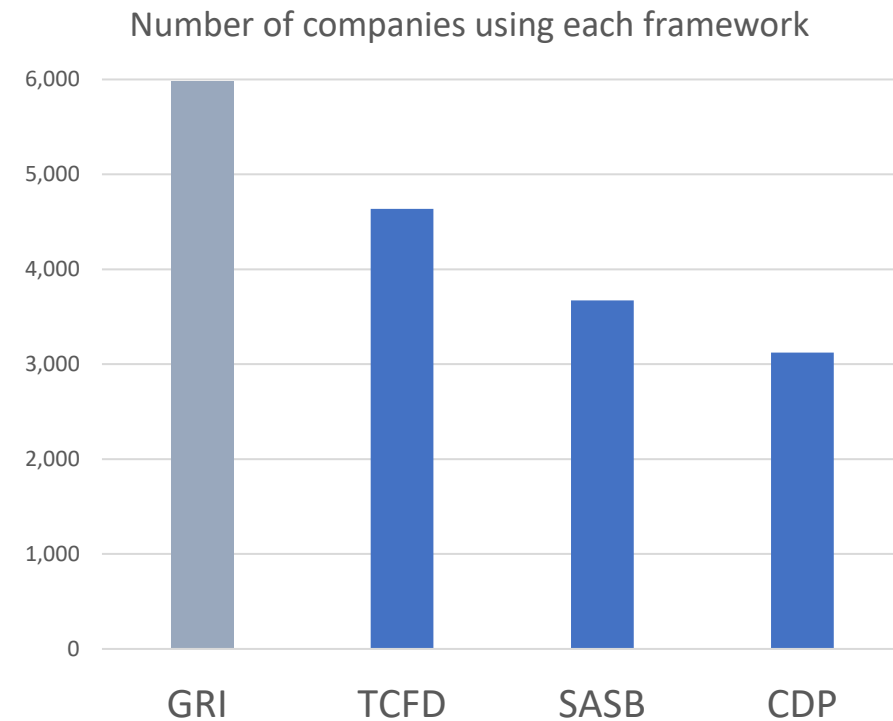
Companies reporting against GRI Standards, SASB Standards and stock exchange guidelines by region (2024)



Source: [KPMG Survey of Sustainability Reporting 2024](#), data based on 239 G250 and 4,581 N100 companies that report on sustainability or ESG matters.

- Largest companies are much more likely to use GRI.
- GRI monitors all public companies with revenues over \$250m (15K companies); 36% of them use GRI Standards.

GRI Standards are the most widely used for sustainability reporting



Note: From a total of 8,707 sustainability reports identified.
Source: GRI Adoption Study 2023

2023 Adoption data

- Companies that use GRI represent the majority of market capitalization in many countries.

Note: Based on all public companies with revenues over \$250 million (N= 14,940)

Source: GRI Adoption Study 2023

Percentage of large public companies using GRI
Selected Countries

	By number of companies	By market capitalization
USA	37%	66%
Canada	52%	70%
Germany	52%	73%
France	28%	42%
United Kingdom	33%	62%
Italy	77%	90%
Spain	67%	74%
Sweden	65%	74%
Switzerland	69%	77%
Netherlands	57%	75%
China	14%	49%
Japan	28%	66%
S. Korea	40%	88%
Hong Kong	38%	76%
Singapore	81%	70%
India	35%	63%
Indonesia	56%	77%
Thailand	53%	77%
Malaysia	58%	82%
Australia	51%	78%
South Africa	50%	55%
Brazil	65%	84%

Carrots & Sticks partners:



GRI would like to thank the Government of Sweden for their financial support to Carrots & Sticks

Carrots & Sticks 2024

Recognizing the role of transparency to accelerate the SDGs

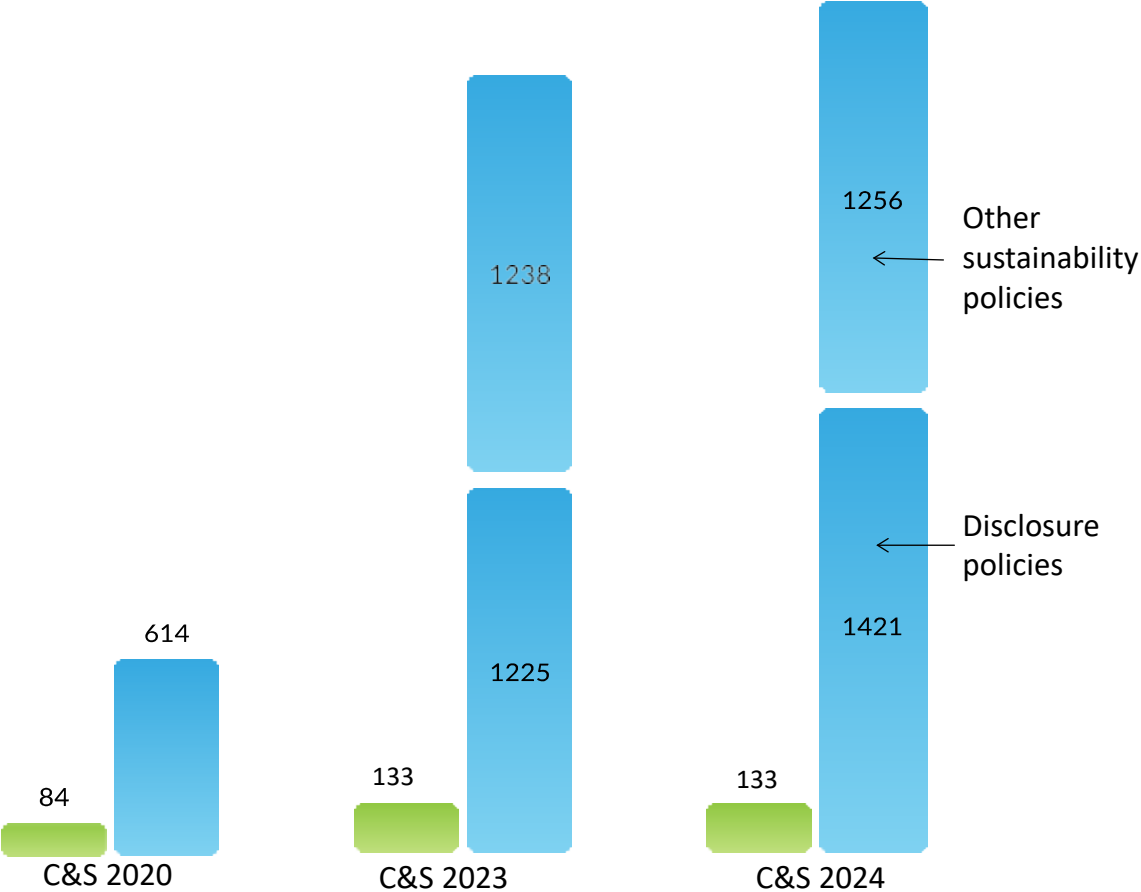


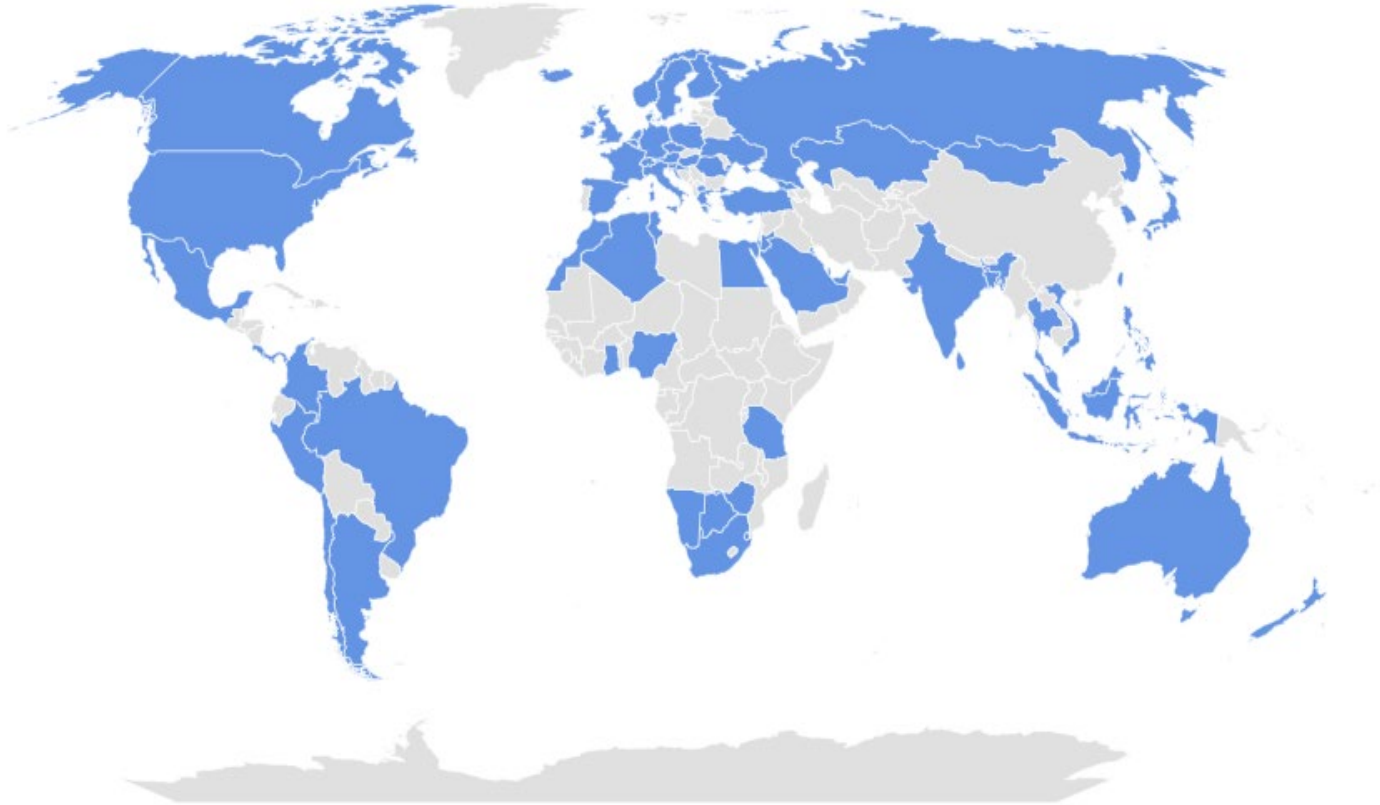
The 2024 C&S database now includes **2,677** ESG and sustainability policies, representing a 9% increase from the 2023 database.

This growth is attributed to the addition of 214 new policies.

Explanation

ESG & sustainability policy refers to a set of rules and regulations created by governments, regulators, international bodies, multi- stakeholder initiatives, professional bodies, or industry associations to encourage or require companies to adopt sustainable and ethical business practices. Importantly, this includes disclosure requirements, as well as the broader suit of ESG & sustainability policy initiatives, including guidelines and legislation (Chalmers et al. 2023, 15).

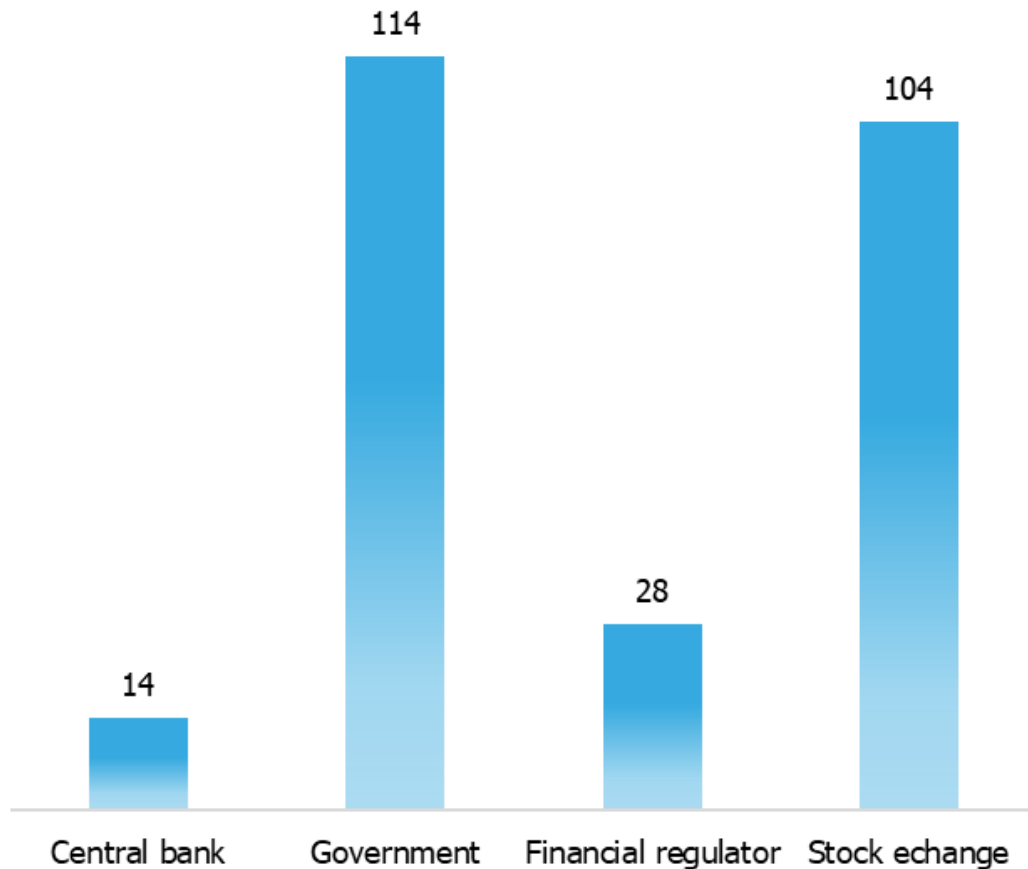




GRI is referenced in **261 policies**
issued by **82 jurisdictions**.

Disclaimer:

The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the Global Reporting Initiative concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.



Regarding issuer types, **government** agencies and ministries are the primary issuers, followed by **stock exchanges**.

Financial regulators, such as securities commissions and market authorities, are the third-largest issuers.

Mandatory reporting requirements aligned with GRI Standards

- **India:** Securities and Exchange Board of India (2021)
SEBI framework includes general disclosure, management disclosures and topical disclosures.
- **EU:** European Sustainability Reporting Standards (2024)
The ESRS contents related to impact disclosure are largely built on the GRI Standards. ESRS prescribe using the GRI Standards to report on material topics missing in the current ESRS set.
- **China:** Stock exchange sustainability reporting requirements align with GRI Standards disclosures to significant extent.

Use of the GRI Standards is explicitly required

- **Taiwan:** listed companies (2015)
“A listed company which meets the requirements under Article 2 of the Rules shall prepare an annual sustainability report for the preceding year by referring to the Universal Standards, Sector Standards, and Topic Standards published by the Global Reporting Initiatives (GRI).”
- **Egypt:** national banks (2022)
“Sustainability Report: This report is to be prepared on an annual basis, and should be approved by banks’ Board of Directors or its counterpart for branches of foreign banks. It should also be prepared in accordance to the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) and in cooperation with one of the offices approved by the aforementioned initiative.”

Mandatory reporting policies that specify GRI Standards can be used for compliance

- **Sweden:** state-owned enterprises (2020)

“A sustainability report has to be prepared in accordance with Global GRI Standards or some other international framework for sustainability reporting, and published on the enterprise’s website in conjunction with the publication of the enterprise’s annual report”

- **Jordan:** listed companies (2018)

“This guide recommends twenty-eight sustainability indicators for disclosing ESG performance, adapted from World Federation of Exchanges (WFE) guidance and in line with the GRI standards. Companies can build their sustainability reports and may include the recommended indicators presented in the table below”

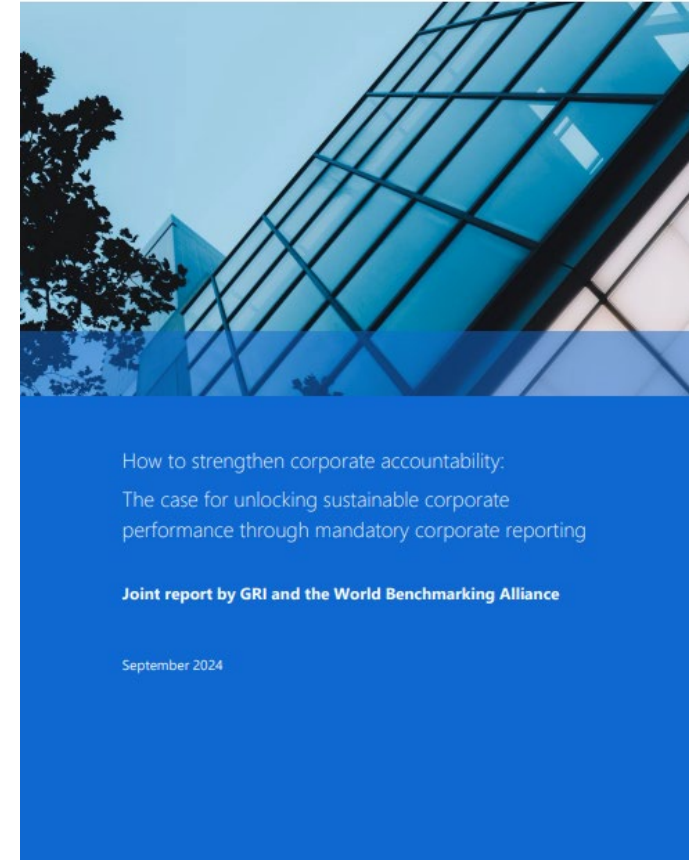
- **Morocco:** listed companies (2017)

“The Global Reporting Initiative (GRI), an independent international organization, offers an ESG reporting framework that is internationally recognized.”

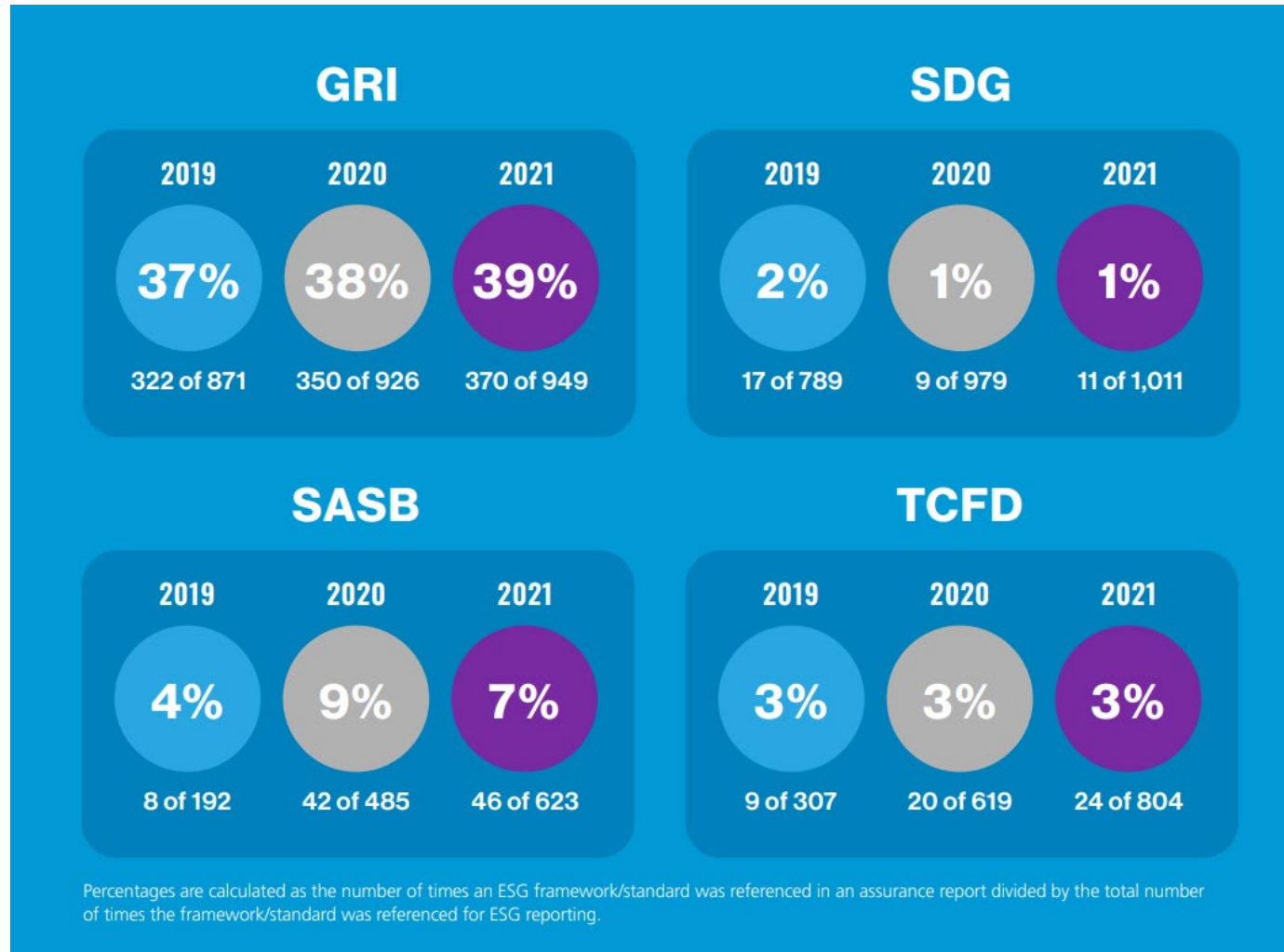
Corporate disclosure leads to better performance



- Companies that publish a GRI content index, typically achieve World Benchmark Alliance (WBA)'s Core Social Indicators (CSIs) scores that are at least **47% higher than their counterparts**.
- Moreover, companies demonstrating strict adherence to the GRI Standards tend to score higher than those who only partially comply with the requirements.



State of play in sustainability disclosure assurance



‘Information disclosed in accordance with GRI Standards is assured more often than any other reporting framework or standard’

Assessed are 1,350 companies in 21 countries, finding 74% report using the GRI Standards.

2023 Adoption data

- 16% of companies publishing a sustainability report include an “Assurance Report”

Note: Based on all public companies with revenues over \$250 million (N= 14,940)

Source: GRI Adoption Study 2023

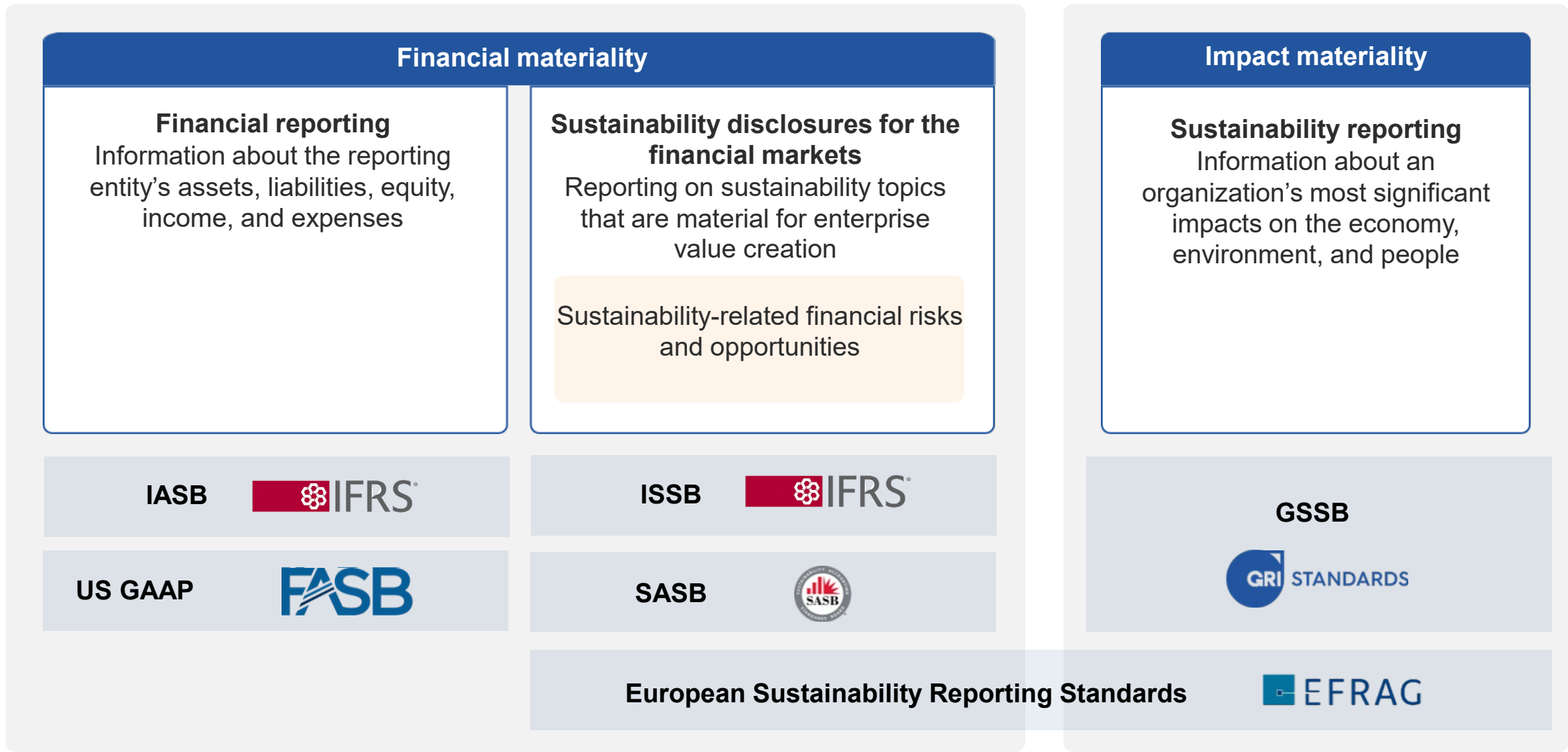
Percentage of large public companies including Assurance Report

Selected Countries

USA	8%
Canada	18%
Germany	23%
France	17%
United Kingdom	20%
Italy	4%
Spain	28%
Sweden	21%
Switzerland	23%
Netherlands	47%
China	13%
Japan	17%
S. Korea	17%
Hong Kong	13%
Singapore	9%
India	9%
Indonesia	6%
Thailand	5%
Malaysia	16%
Australia	28%
South Africa	28%
Brazil	27%

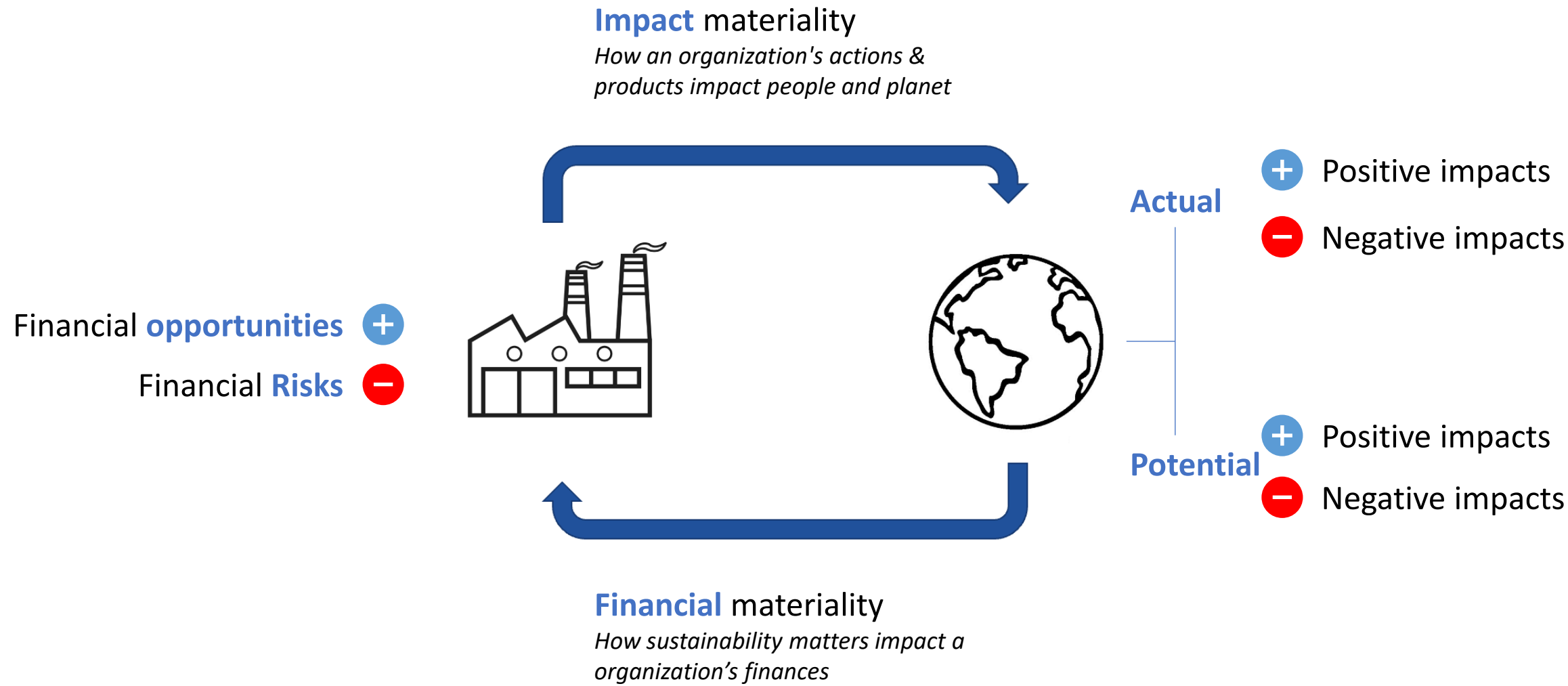
The GRI Standards in the reporting landscape

Often known synonymously as sustainability disclosures



Double Materiality

The full picture of impacts, risks, and opportunities



Formalization of Global Collaboration

- GRI and the GSSB welcome the work of the ISSB and the launch of the IFRS Sustainability Disclosure Standards (SDS)
- GRI and the GSSB acknowledge that significant work is needed to increase reporting on risks and opportunities and that the current level of reporting is insufficient
- MOU with the ISSB agreed in 2022 followed by an addendum in May 2024 announcing enhanced cooperation and alignment IFRS SDS and GRI Standards are complimentary and together enhance information for investors and other stakeholders
- Recognition that a **global system for corporate reporting** should include GRI Standards, reporting on impacts and the approach to managing impacts to move towards **a common comprehensive reporting language**

Initial Steps on Interoperability

January 2024

Interoperability considerations for GHG emissions when applying GRI Standards and ISSB Standards

Contents

Introduction	1
Analysis of requirements in GRI 305 and IFRS S2 related to GHG emissions	2–4
Mapping of requirements in GRI 305 and IFRS S2 related to GHG emissions	5–12

Introduction

This document illustrates the areas of interoperability between *GRI 305: Emissions 2016* (GRI 305) and *IFRS S2 Climate-related Disclosures* (IFRS S2) that a company should consider when measuring and disclosing Scope 1, Scope 2 and Scope 3 greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in accordance with both Standards.^{1,2}

This document is not a comprehensive assessment of the requirements in GRI 305 and IFRS S2. When applying GRI or ISSB Standards, preparers must refer to the GRI and ISSB Standards respectively, including their respective definitions of materiality.

According to the ISSB Standards, information is material if omitting, misstating or obscuring that information could reasonably be expected to influence investor decisions. ISSB Standards are focused on meeting the information needs of investors.³

According to the GRI Standards set by the Global Sustainability Standards Board (GSSB), a topic is material when it represents an organisation's most significant impacts on the economy, environment and people, including impacts on their human rights. GRI Standards are focused on meeting the information needs of stakeholders, including investors.

This document uses the 2016 version of GRI 305, which is currently under revision, and will be updated to reflect changes to GRI 305.⁴

¹ This document does not analyse the circumstances in which companies are required to provide disclosures on GHG emissions.

² The GRI Standards use 'organization' to refer to preparers and apply to all types of organizations and the ISSB Standards use 'entity' to refer to preparers. This document uses 'company' as an umbrella term.

³ An entity need not disclose information otherwise required by ISSB Standards if the information is not material, even if an ISSB Standard contains a list of specific requirements or describes them as minimum requirements (paragraph B25 of IFRS S1).

⁴ See <https://www.globalreporting.org/standards/standards-development/project-for-climate-change-standard-s/>.

Interoperability guidance on GHG emissions issued jointly with ISSB to help GRI reporters use existing data to comply with IFRS S2 requirements

European Sustainability Reporting Standards (ESRS)



- GRI and EFRAG entered into a **co-construction relationship** upon signing a Statement of Cooperation in July 2021
- Crediting the close cooperation during the development of the draft ESRS, EFRAG and GRI acknowledge that they have **achieved a high level of interoperability** between their respective standards
- As **impact disclosure** within the ESRS is **built on the GRI** Standards, GRI reporters are optimally positioned to comply with the new EU requirements
- If a topic is material and **no ESRS is available**, the ESRS direct companies to the GRI Standards for disclosure on that topic

GRI welcomes role as ‘co-constructor’ of new EU sustainability reporting standards

Published date: 09 July 2021



Statement of Cooperation signed by GRI and EFRAG

[Read more](#)

- EFRAG and GRI have achieved a **high level of interoperability** between their standards in relation to impact reporting
- GRI and EFRAG have published a [draft] joint interoperability **index** to assist ESRS reporters to report with the GRI Standards through their ESRS sustainability statement
- Entities reporting under ESRS can be considered as **reporting with reference** to the GRI Standards

High level of interoperability



Similar structure of cross-cutting, topical and sector standards



Similar coverage of sustainability topics and sectors



Alignment of impact materiality definition and steps



Disclosures on impacts fully or closely aligned

Renewed collaboration with EFRAG



Areas of cooperation in the new MoU include:

- Further collaboration on **standards and guidance** development, including existing and new sector standards; proportionate reporting for SMEs in the EU; standards for non-EU companies for which the CSRD will apply
- **Education and training** for ESRS preparers and users, including steps to accredit GRI as an ESRS training organization, leveraging its education and professional certification programs
- Interoperability of digital **XBRL taxonomies**, with a simplified tagging system and digital correspondence table between both standards

EFrag and GRI enhance collaboration with deeper ties

Published date: 30 November 2023



New cooperation agreement reached, as GRI-ESRS Interoperability Index is made publicly available

[Read more](#)

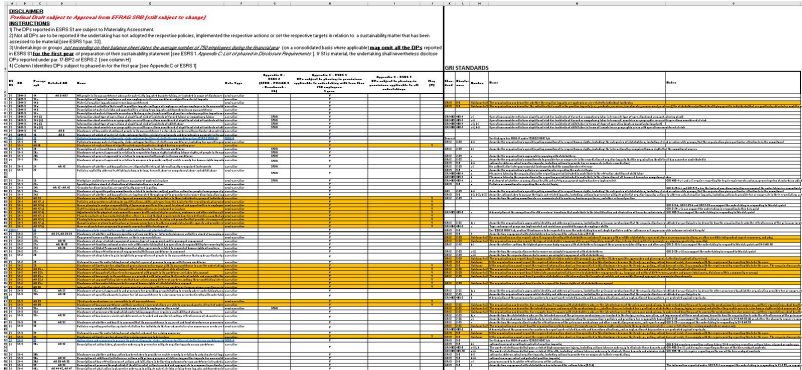
GRI – ESRS interoperability resources

Joint GRI-EFRAG Interoperability Index

GRI STANDARDS	GRI DISCLOSURES AND REQUIREMENTS	ESRS DISCLOSURE REQUIREMENTS	NOTES	EXPLANATION
GRI 2: General Disclosures 2021	2-1 Organizational details	See requirements of Directive 2013/34/EU		
	2-2 Entities included in the organization's sustainability reporting	ESRS 1 S1-1, ESRS 2 BP-1 §5 (a) and (b) i		
	2-3 Reporting period, frequency and contact point (2-3-a and 2-3-b)	ESRS 1 §73		
	2-4 Restatements of information	ESRS 2 BP-2 §13, §14 (a) to (b)		
	2-5 External assurance	See external assurance requirements of Directive (EU) 2022/2464		
	2-6 Activities, value chain and other business relationships	ESRS 2 SDM-1 §40 (a) i to (a) ii, (b) to (c), §42 (c)		
	2-7 Employees	ESRS 2 SDM-1 §40 (a) iii, ESRS S1 S1-6 §50 (a) to (b) and (d) to (e), §51 to §52		
	2-8 Workers who are not employees	ESRS S1 S1-7 §55 to §56	(3)	GRI 2-8 covers workers who are not employees and whose work is controlled by the organization. ESRS S1-7 covers non-employee workers: people with contracts with the undertaking to supply labour ("self-employed people") or people provided by undertakings primarily engaged in "employment activities" (NACE Code 178).
	2-9 Governance structure and composition (2-9-a for public-interest entities only, 2-9-b, 2-9-c-i, c-ii, c-iv to c-viii)	ESRS 2 GOV-1 §21, §22 (a), §23, ESRS G1 §5 (b) See also corporate governance statement requirements of Directive 2013/34/EU for public-interest entities		
	2-10 Nomination and selection of the highest governance body	This topic is not covered by the list of sustainability matters in ESRS 1 AR §16		

For ESRS reporters who want to make a claim of reporting with reference to or in accordance with the GRI Standards

[draft] ESRS-GRI Standards data point mapping



For GRI reporters who want to leverage their existing reporting when applying the ESRS

Final version to be published in November 24.

Our approach



The GRI Standards represent **global best practice** for reporting sustainability performance – enhancing the **comparability and quality** of information

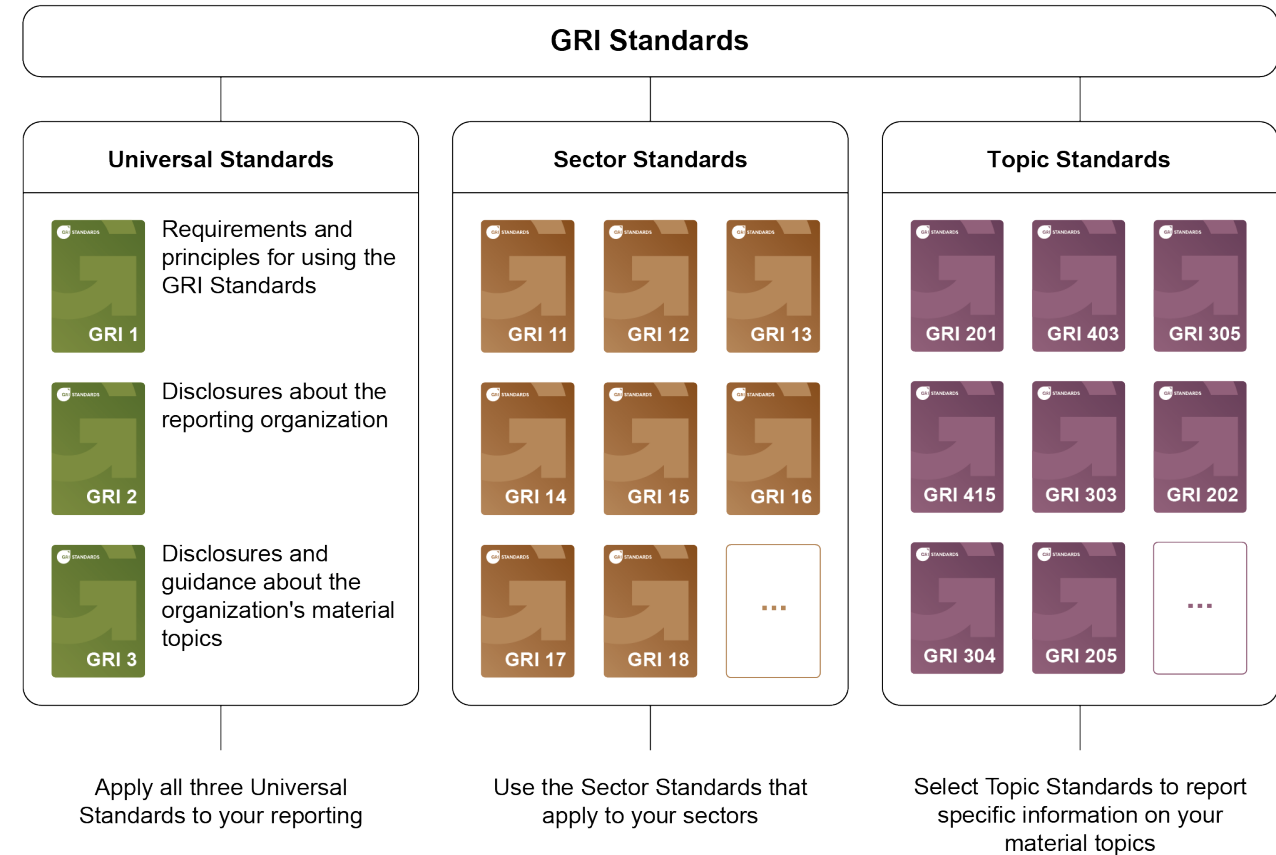
We operate through a robust **multi-stakeholder** approach, ensuring participation and **expertise** of diverse stakeholders in the development of the **GRI Standards**



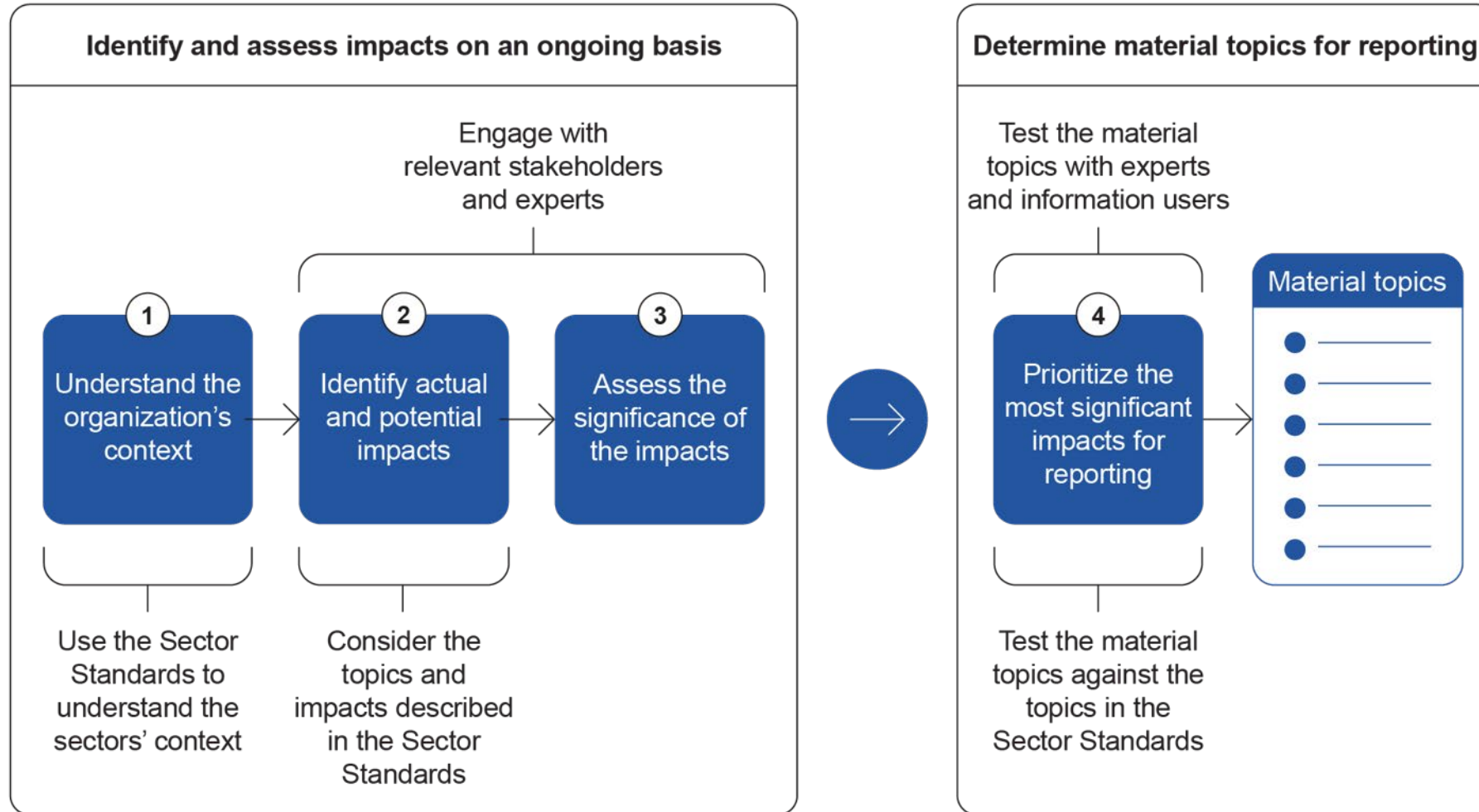
System of GRI Standards



- The GRI Standards are designed to enable an organization to **publicly disclose its most significant impacts** on the economy, environment, and people
- The GRI Standards are a **modular system** comprising three series of standards:
 - **Universal Standards**
 - **Sector Standards**
 - **Topic Standards**



Determining material topics – process



Assessing the significance of impacts

Assessing the **significance** of a potential negative impact (step 3) is determined by the severity and likelihood of the impact

The **severity** of an actual or potential negative impact is determined by:

- **Scale:** how grave the impact is
- **Scope:** how widespread the impact is, for example, the number of individuals affected or the extent of environmental damage
- **Irremediable character:** how hard it is to counteract or make good the resulting harm

The **likelihood** of a potential negative impact refers to the chance of the impact happening. The likelihood of an impact can be measured or determined qualitatively or quantitatively

Investor relevant sustainability reporting



Investors, regulators, and stock exchanges are **key audiences** of sustainability reporting. They play a vital role in using reported information to offer **responsible investment** and create transparent and sustainable capital markets



Investors take an interest in the impacts reported with the GRI Standards because:

- they want to make their **own assessment** of related risks and opportunities
- they are **long-term** investors and recognize that impacts over time will have financial implications for organizations
- they have an explicit **purpose** concerning impacts



A growing number of stock exchanges and regulators around the world **reference or require use of GRI Standards** for sustainability (or ESG) reporting by listed companies

From impacts to risks and opportunities

- **Most**, if not all, of the **impacts** of an organization **will eventually translate into risks** and opportunities
- The **impacts** of an organization can **affect** the availability, quality, and affordability of the **resources** and **relationships** it depends on, **creating risks** and **opportunities** for the organization
- These risks and opportunities can **affect** the organization's **business model** or **strategy** and, consequently, its cash flows, access to finance, or cost of capital over the short-, medium-, or long-term
- Understanding **impacts is a necessary first step** in identifying risks and opportunities that result from an organization's impacts
- GRI's GSSB is developing **guidance** on how to do this

Standard setting agenda and capacity building activities

- Development of GRI Standards
 - Development of new Topic Standards
 - Revision of Topic Standards
 - Development of new Sector Standards
 - Revision of Sector Standards
- Implementation of GRI Standards
 - Translations
 - Standard Interpretations, FAQs and guidance material
 - Digital taxonomy
- Cooperation with other standard-setting bodies and international organizations



Topic Standards under development

Topic	Standards	Milestones
Biodiversity	Biodiversity	Released Q1 2024
Labor <i>Phase 1</i>	Employment Remuneration and Working Time Training and Education Standard Interpretation on Control of Work	Public exposure Q2-Q3 2024
Labor Phase 2 & 3	Diversity and Equal Opportunity Non-discrimination Freedom of Association and Collective Bargaining Child Labor Forced or Compulsory Labor Supplier Social Assessment	Public exposure Q1-3 2025
Climate Change	Climate Change Energy	Release Q2 2025
Economic Impacts <i>Phases 1 and 2</i>	Economic Performance Anti-corruption Anti-competitive Behavior Public Policy	Start content development Q1 2024
Economic Impacts <i>Phase 3</i>	Indirect Economic Impacts Procurement Practices Market Presence	Start content development Q2 2025
Pollution	Emissions (Disclosures 305-6 and 305-7) Effluents and Waste (Disclosure 306-3)	Working Group confirmation and start content development Q4 2024

Sector Standards in the pipeline



- | | | | | |
|---|---|---|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oil & gas • Coal • Agriculture, aquaculture & fishing | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mining • Banking • Capital markets • Insurance • Textiles & apparel • Food & beverage • Utilities • Renewable energy • Forestry • Metal processing | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construction materials • Aerospace & defense • Automotive • Construction • Chemicals • Machinery & equipment • Pharmaceuticals • Electronics | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Media & communication • Software • Real estate • Transportation infrastructure • Shipping • Trucking • Airlines • Trading, distribution, & logistics • Packaging | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Educational services • Household durable • Managed health care • Medical equipment & services • Retail • Security services & correctional facilities • Restaurants • Commercial services • Non-profit organizations |
|---|---|---|--|---|

Sector Standards under development

Sector Standards	Milestones
Mining	Release Q1 2024
Banking	Public exposure Q2 2025
Capital Markets	Public exposure Q2 2025
Insurance	Public exposure Q2 2025
Textiles and Apparel	Public exposure Q2 2025

Projects	Timeframe
Public sector	First discussion with GSSB in June 2024
Digitalization, data protection, cybersecurity, artificial intelligence, and privacy	First discussion with GSSB in October 2024
International Humanitarian Law	TBD

Implementation of GRI Standards

Projects	Timeframe
GRI Standards XBRL Taxonomy	2024 Q4 release
	GSSB discussions continue in 2024
Guidance to identify risks and opportunities that arise from impacts	Ongoing joint work with the TNFD on case studies around biodiversity/nature reporting

Increase take up of assurance

- To increase the uptake of ISSA 5000 for sustainability reports developed with reference to or in accordance with GRI Standards
- To expand the scope of assurance for sustainability reports developed with reference to or in accordance with GRI Standards
- To increase inclusion of the GRI 3 disclosures on the process of determining an organization's most significant impacts in the scope of assurance engagements

Achieved through joint capacity building initiatives

- Develop joint educational materials on the importance of the above
- Joint regional and jurisdictional outreach to preparers
- Raise awareness of the value of including disclosures on process and outcome of the materiality determination in the scope of the assurance engagement

THANK YOU



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