Corporate Sustainability Assessment

Material Issues for Enterprise Value Creation

Does your company publicly report analyses to identify the most important material issues to your business, and then provide guidance on how to address them in a way that creates value for your business? Do you also publicly report on how those issues impact your business and serve as significant determinants of long-term value creation?

Yes, our company publicly reports on materiality analyses conducted to identify key issues for long-term value creation.

Additional information and specific guidance.

Business Case

Please select a business case for this material issue.

Material Issue 1

Material Issue 2

Material Issue 3
Over a quarter century, the S&P Global Corporate Sustainability Assessment (CSA) has grown into a leading corporate sustainability database. S&P Global ESG Scores, calculated from the CSA, measure a company’s performance on and management of material ESG risks, opportunities, and impacts informed by a combination of company disclosures, media and stakeholder analysis, modelling approaches, and in-depth company engagement via the CSA. With 62 industry-specific questionnaires, the CSA leads the field in helping companies make the link between sustainability and their business strategies.

The CSA enables you to benchmark your company’s performance on a wide range of industry specific economic, environmental and social criteria that are relevant to the growing number of sustainability focused investors and are expected to be financially relevant to your corporate success.

Scores calculated from the CSA are a primary or secondary methodological component of over 200 indices produced by S&P Global, including the Dow Jones Sustainability Indices (DJSI), S&P ESG Indices and the Paris-Aligned & Climate Transition (PACT) Indices. Through these indices, the scores influence the composition of multiple types of financial products, including ETFs, mutual funds and derivatives.

We see growing interest in the CSA results delivered via S&P Global platforms. Subscribers across 49 countries, responsible for over $38.4 trillion in assets under management, use the scores and underlying data points to benchmark corporate performance, manage investment portfolios, allocate financial capital, build engagement strategies, and much more.

Chief Financial Officers use the CSA and its results to communicate with the growing number of sustainability focused investors. The CSA is a tool to link a company’s sustainability performance and business strategy in a convincing and credible way. Companies participating in the CSA proactively use this information within their company’s investor relations narrative.

Chief Sustainability Officers use the CSA as a credible, independent benchmark of their company’s sustainability performance relative to industry peers while providing internal and external stakeholders with important insights into their company’s sustainability performance and value drivers.

“The S&P Global CSA is both our yardstick to measure how we are doing, and our lighthouse to know how we should be. It helps us review, introspect and implement a strategy that impacts positively and creates a sustainable value for all our stakeholders.”

– Sandeep Chadna, Chief Sustainability Officer Tech Mahindra, India, participating in the CSA since 2014

Learn more about the benefits of active participation in the CSA at spglobal.com/esg/csa
Corporates consider the CSA as a guide for sustainability action plans.

One third of the 3,500 companies participating in the 2023 CSA responded to a Feedback Survey we offered to gather input on what motivates companies to participate. Respondents indicated that they see value in the process given the ability to use the results with important internal stakeholders and external capital markets participants. They gave the CSA a score of 7/10 for being a fair representation of the corporate sustainability performance in their respective industries. Below, we provide the top 3 motivations to participate.

What motivates you/your company to participate in the S&P Global Corporate Sustainability Assessment?

Companies ranked the provided options in order of importance to their company (Rank 1 = most important motivation, Rank 6 = least important motivation). Here are the top 3 answers.

- Increase visibility with sustainability focused investors
- Learn from the CSA results and help prioritize sustainability initiatives (e.g., benchmarking, identify gaps and improvements areas)
- Enhance reputation with internal and external stakeholders (other than investors)

What do your peers say?

Companies that participate in the CSA year after year consistently tell us:

- “We use the CSA as a tool to communicate with the growing number of sustainability focused investors in a convincing and credible way.”
- “We use the CSA to develop and implement a successful and sustainable business strategy.”
- “We value the external/internal recognition for our sustainability performance.”
- “The CSA helps us to reduce sustainability risks for the company and realize opportunities.”
- “The CSA participation embed sustainability thinking in the corporate DNA (networks).”

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Corporate Sustainability Assessment

S&P Global ESG Scores are available to hundreds of thousands of stakeholders

As ESG considerations become more critical to capital markets, the CSA enables us to provide you and your stakeholders with a relevant and comprehensive sustainability assessment. A key feature of the CSA is that, through your active participation, you can provide additional information to what is publicly available, including all your recent ESG initiatives.

ESG Scores based on the CSA are available via public S&P Global ESG Scores website and Percentile Ranks based on those scores are shared on the Bloomberg Professional platform.

Learning from the CSA results

The S&P Global Corporate Sustainability Assessment enables you to establish a baseline for your sustainability performance and to conduct competitive benchmarking. We facilitate your learning with:

- **A Benchmarking Scorecard and Database** empowering you to conduct multi-year trend analysis and gain detailed insight on the rankings within your industry. As an active participant, we provide you with a scorecard which allows you to give feedback to your subject-matter experts for each question in the CSA (see How does the assessment work? on page 5). This unparalleled level of transparency will give you the most complete insight into your performance.

- **Personalized feedback** for companies interested in a more in-depth analysis of their sustainability performance. S&P Global offers different customized benchmarking solutions including detailed qualitative and quantitative analysis and a discussion of the companies’ strengths and weaknesses compared to their industry peers.

Online benchmarking tools available for participating companies — showing results, ranking and multiyear trends

[Table and diagram showing benchmarking results]

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Capital Market participants access S&P Global ESG Scores via S&P Global’s Capital IQ Pro Platform. Current clients of the ESG Scores module, collectively based in over 49 countries, responsible for over $38.4 trillion in assets under management (AUM) and valued at over $7.4 trillion in market capitalization, use the scores and underlying data points to benchmark corporate performance, manage investment portfolios, allocate financial capital, build engagement strategy, and much more.

Learn more about the benefits of active participation in the CSA at spglobal.com/esg/csa
How does the assessment work?

The S&P Global Corporate Sustainability Assessment uses a consistent, rule-based methodology to convert an average of 1,000 data points per company into a S&P Global ESG Score.

The 62 industry-specific questionnaires each contain approximately 100-130 questions covering 23 different key themes across the economic, social and environmental dimension.

From data to score — Visualization for a sample industry

Your CSA portal — secure, online and easy-to-use

The CSA is completed via our secure and user-friendly online questionnaire platform. Our convenient online reporting tool substantially facilitates reporting and, after the first year of participation, it can be pre-filled with previous answers in subsequent years. Our user-friendly online reporting tool allows you to:

- access question-specific help functions
- easily attach supporting evidence
- quickly view questionnaire completion progress with clear color-coding scheme
- assign user rights to complete the questionnaire online
- control final questionnaire sign-off
- benefit from an online repository of your ESG approach and business case reference

Learn more about the benefits of active participation in the CSA at sppglobal.com/esg/csa
Participation in the CSA helps ESG, IR and other departments such as procurement or HR to collaborate more closely in putting their company's ESG performance into context, explaining how challenges are addressed and how the company intends to create value in the long term.

The breadth and depth of the assessment across the economic, environmental and social dimensions gives companies a unique opportunity to highlight their sustainability strengths in areas that might not be covered by traditional sustainability reports. For the past 25 years, the CSA has addressed sustainability issues before they have entered the agenda of other investors or regulators. As a result, active participation in the CSA has helped many companies to future-proof their business and stand out as ESG leaders.

Over 3,500 companies are already generating business value from participating in the CSA. Join them now.

Which companies are invited to participate in the CSA?

In 2024, S&P Global will invite over 13,500 companies to participate in the CSA. This includes:

- All companies that participated in the 2023 CSA.
- Companies invited for potential inclusion in an ESG Index (including Dow Jones Sustainability Indices (DJSI), as well as numerous other S&P ESG indices covering stock as well as fixed-income indices.
- Companies whose sustainability performance is considered to be of interest to the broader investment community.

Companies that are invited but decide not to participate may be assessed by S&P Global based on publicly available information, and the resulting ESG Scores and data may be shared via S&P Global platforms.

Official invitations will be sent out between February and June. Companies may also check their invitation status using the search tool below, and visit the CSA portal to book their assessment window at any time.

Visit the CSA website for more information and to check if your company is invited: [www.spglobal.com/essg/csa/invited-companies](http://www.spglobal.com/essg/csa/invited-companies)

Participation without invitation

Private equity companies, private debt, as well as listed entities which are currently not covered by our S&P Global ESG Scores universe, can commission a Confidential CSA score on themselves, their portfolio companies or suppliers.

We apply the same rigorous assessment approach as we do for our invited universe, but the resulting scores and reports are kept confidential by the company for their internal needs. Contact our Sustainability Benchmarking Services team to learn more.

What is the assessment process for invited companies?

Flexible participation windows

The CSA questionnaire opens for all companies on April 3rd. Starting in February, companies can reserve a 2-month window that best meets their own reporting cycle and project planning needs. Companies can book the window that best meets their needs directly in the CSA portal, subject to quota availability. Register early to ensure your company can complete the CSA in the most convenient window.

Deadline extensions

Deadline extensions will be available to participating companies in the CSA portal once the selected assessment window started. A selection tool will inform companies directly about the impact an extension has on the expected score release date. If applicable, companies eligible for index inclusion will have a maximum deadline to ensure that possible index selection can be based on a participation-based score. Participation in the CSA is not a prerequisite for eligibility in the DJSI or other S&P ESG Indices.

Publication of results

S&P Global ESG Scores calculated from the CSA will be released continuously on a "first in first out" basis following a first bulk score release mid-August.

More information regarding the assessment timeline is available at: [www.spglobal.com/essg/csa/csa-timeline](http://www.spglobal.com/essg/csa/csa-timeline)
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About S&P Global Sustainable1
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