Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on International
Standards of Accounting and Reporting
(ISAR)

34th SESSION
1 - 3 November 2017
Room XVII, Palais des Nations, Geneva

Wednesday, 1 November 2017
Afternoon Session

Agenda Item 3. Enhancing comparability of sustainability reporting: Selection of core indicators for company reporting on the contribution towards the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals

Presented by

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Agenda

Presentation structure

i.   About GRI

ii. GRI & SDGs

iii. Action Platform Reporting on the SDGs

About GRI

We are an international independent organization that has pioneered sustainability reporting for two decades

DRIVING GLOBAL CHANGE
SINCE 1997

We help businesses and governments understand and communicate their impact on critical sustainability issues

> A thriving **global community** that lifts humanity and **enhances** the resources on which **all life depends**.

GRI

> To **empower** decisions that create social, environmental and economic **benefits** for everyone.

GRI Standards

- GRI Standards are a set of interrelated reporting standards, enabling organizations to report publicly on their economic, environmental and social impacts and contribution towards sustainable development.

- The GRI Standards represent global best practice for reporting sustainability information – enhancing its comparability and quality.
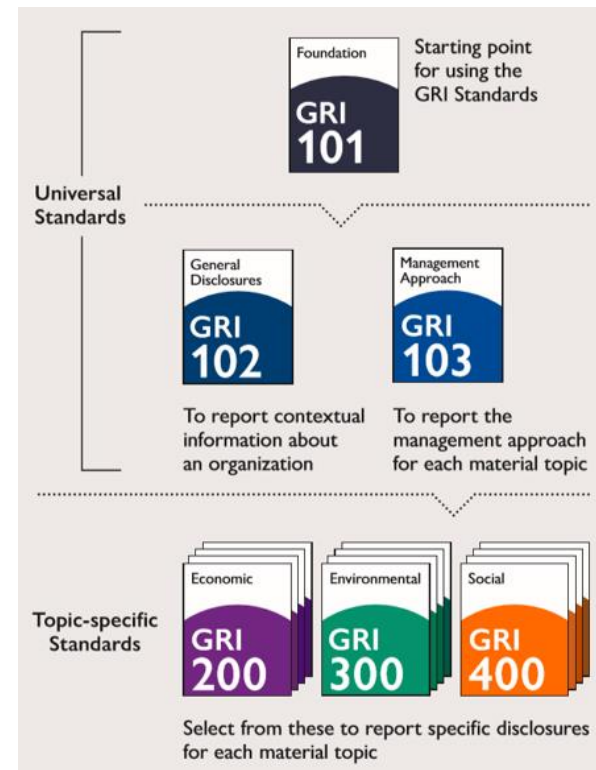
GRI Standards

The set of GRI Standards includes:

- **3 universal Standards**, applicable to all organizations

- **33 topic-specific Standards**, organized into Economic, Environmental, and Social series

- Organizations select and use only the relevant topic-specific Standards, based on their material topics.

Benefits of the GRI Standards

- **Flexible and future-proof structure:** Ensures the GRI Standards remain up-to-date and relevant

- **Policy integration and referencing:** Governments and market regulators can easily reference the Standards in their policy initiatives

- **Common language:** One framework to meet all sustainability reporting needs – from comprehensive reports to issue-specific disclosures

- **Credibility and robustness:** Developed with multi-stakeholder contributions and rooted in the public interest

Our Impact

111 policies across 50 countries and regions reference GRI

22 of the Bloomberg 50 companies use GRI to report

40,000+ reports registered in the GRI Sustainability Disclosure Database

30,100 participants trained through GRI Certified Training Courses

74% of the largest 250 companies in the world use GRI's sustainability reporting framework[1]

522 organizations from 67 countries active in the GRI GOLD Community

89 training partners across 54 countries offer GRI Certified Training Courses

315 of the FT Europe 500 companies use GRI to report

GRI

GRI & the SDGs

Enabling and tracking private sector contribution to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

GRI
Empowering
Sustainable
Decisions

GRI and the SDGs

Reporting as a tool for businesses

GRI

- GRI enables businesses to identify and communicate their contribution to the SDGs

- GRI engage more businesses to report as a response to the SDGs

- GRI supports reporting aligned with the SDGs

SDG Target 12.6 Live Tracker

Track the progress of sustainability reporting around the world

Target 12.6 – increased coverage of Sustainability reporting worldwide : "*Encourage companies, especially large and transnational companies, to adopt sustainable   practices and to integrate sustainability information into their reporting cycle*"

- The database presents policy development and sustainability reporting data for each country around the world
- Search by country, region, sector, size of the company, year and report type
- Developed by GRI and Tata Consultancy Services

http://database.globalreporting.org/SDG-12-6

The SDG Compass

- Partnership with the UN Global Compact and WBCSD in 2015

- Publication and online tool to guide companies how they can align their strategies, measure and manage their contributions to the SDGs

SDGs at Annual High Level Political Forum (HLPF)

GRI

- the central platform for follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development & SDGs

- all States Members of the United Nations; once a year in New-York

- Member States progress are reviewed through the voluntary national review

Key figures concerning the private sector

43 countries presented their VNR

93% consulted private sector for the review

68% recognize the private sector investment as key for the SDGs

59% refer to CSR & corporate sustainability reporting

HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

The future of reporting

Focus on the Reporting on SDGs Action Platform

Reporting on the SDGs
2016 - 2019

An Action Platform to accelerate corporate reporting on the Global Goals

More Straightforward
→ Relevant Indicators

Easier to understand
→ Guidance for Business Practitioners

Simpler to execute
→ Alignment/merging GRI Standards & UNGC Communication on Progress

Accessible to all users
→ Aggregation of data

GRI Empowering Sustainable Decisions

UN GLOBAL COMPACT
United Nations
Global Compact

Supported by **pwc**

GRI

Engaging leading businesses and non-corporate stakeholders

- The Action Platform is built from two components:

- The <u>Corporate Action Group (CAG)</u> serves as a business engagement and peer learning forum, where business representatives can demonstrate leadership by helping define and promote their contributions to the SDGs.

- The <u>Multi-stakeholder Advisory Committee (MAC)</u> is comprised of the members of the CAG, plus representatives from other stakeholder groups: governments, international and civil society organizations, investors, trade unions, data users, statistical offices and academics. This committee will provide guidance for the research and analysis done by the UN Global Compact and GRI.

Multi-stakeholder Advisory Committee

Corporate Action Group
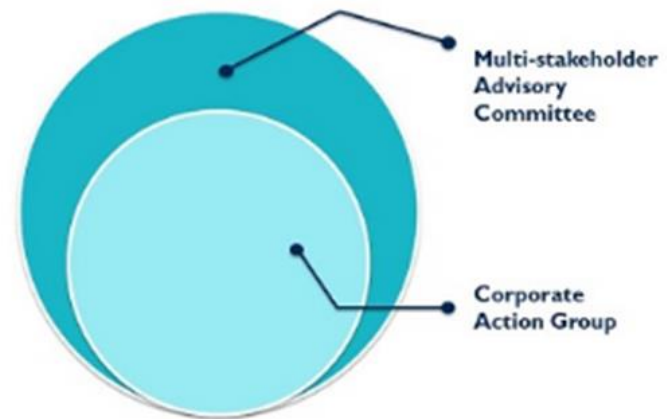
Reporting on the SDGs

Expected outcomes of the Action Platform

PHASE 1 (2017)		LATER PHASE	
1	**2**	**3**	**4**
LIST OF BUSINESS DISCLOSURES ACROSS THE SDGS	**PUBLICATION** ON BEST PRACTICE SDGs REPORTING	**FURTHER INTEGRATION OF** OF SDGs INTO FRAMEWORKS	**SDG DATA** AGGREGATION
A validated list of business disclosures across the SDGs, to be presented by the platform members during the UN High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development in July 2017. Additionally the Action Platform will make a gap analysis of available indicators.	A publication on leader-ship and best practice for business on SDGs reporting will be developed and presented at the UN Global Compact Leaders' Summit, convened during the UN General Assembly in September 2017.	A set of recommendations for how to build the SDGs into the UN Global Compact Communication on Progress (COP) framework and the GRI Standards, and how to further align and integrate the different standards, requirements and interfaces.	A roadmap on ways to extract and aggregate data on SDG implementation from a large volume of corporate reports.

Reporting on the SDGs
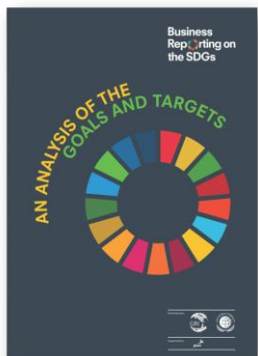
Our first deliverable: Analysis of goals and targets

Example business impacts, actions and current business expectations

Create a common language for SDG reporting

Categorize SDG targets

Identify existing indicators

Identify gaps (missing indicators)

Reporting on the SDGs

Analysis of goals and targets

Section 2 includes all targets from 17 SDGs

Bangkok, 27 September 2017   Reporting on the SDGs
An Action Platform to accelerate corporate reporting
on the Global Goals

Structure

Target 3.1

By 2030, reduce the global maternal mortality ratio to less than 70 per 100,000 live births

Possible relevant business actions to help achieve this target:

- Supporting effective and inclusive national health systems by complimenting, rather than substituting government and public sector action. Paying fair share of taxes to help finance national health systems.

- Ensuring that company policies and practices respect reproductive rights. Supporting access to reproductive, sexual, maternal, newborn and child health services, for instance, by providing employees with a list of local trusted healthcare professionals, on-

Illustrative examples of mostly non-sector specific actions:
- Non-comprehensive list presented in bullet points;
- Non-prescriptive

Sources
(for more information, please see Appendices III & VI)

Examples of relevant UN Conventions and other key international agreements	UDHR, CEDAW, ICESCR, Declaration of Alma-Ata, Ottawa Charter, WHO/OCH/94.1, ILO C183, ILO C155, ILO C161, ILO C102
Publications and other resources on Business and the SDGs	5, 104

Disclosures 3.1

Disclosures may be quantitative or qualitative, outcome-oriented or process-oriented, entity-specific or related to the value chain.

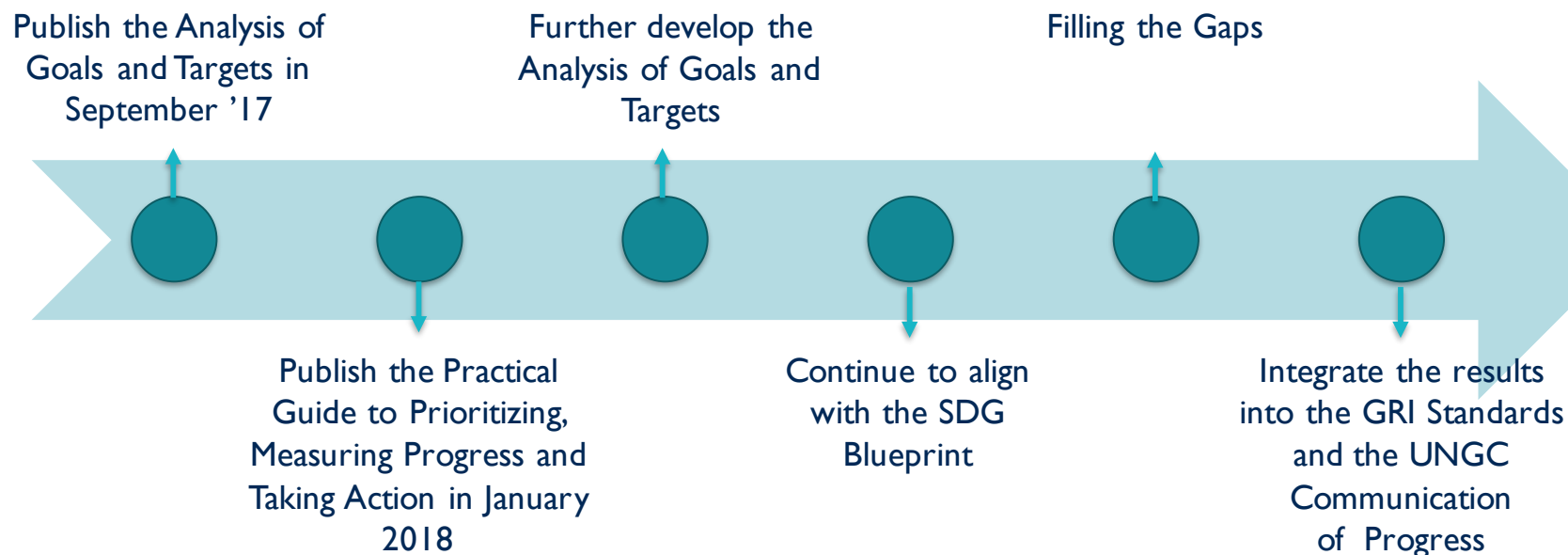| Business Theme	Available Business Disclosures	Units	Source
Access to medicines	Pregnant women receiving prenatal care (%).	% of pregnant woman workers	World Bank WDI (adapted)

Possible Gaps

- Women receiving post-natal medical care
- Maternal mortality rate in employees
- Access to health-care for women (employees and families) in supply chain
- Maternity/paternity leave offered to employees
- No discrimination against pregnancy and promote shared responsibility of childcare among the couple

Reporting on the SDGs

The work ahead

Publish the Analysis of Goals and Targets in September '17

Further develop the Analysis of Goals and Targets

Filling the Gaps

Publish the Practical Guide to Prioritizing, Measuring Progress and Taking Action in January 2018

Continue to align with the SDG Blueprint

Integrate the results into the GRI Standards and the UNGC Communication of Progress

Reporting on the SDGs

Deliverable 4: Roadmap on ways to extract data on SDG implementation

- Mining and aggregation of SDG data from corporate reports
- Challenges and methodologies
- Next steps:

  - Local dimension → NSO using corporate disclosures on a topic
  - Global dimension → Aggregate data on one topic

- → Provide an annual status report to UN Member States on the contribution of global business to the SDGs

Thank you

GRI Empowering Sustainable Decisions™

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