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

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Morning Session

**High-level Segment: Major trends and challenges towards
high-quality corporate reporting**

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International
Federation
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The Accountancy Profession and the Sustainable Development Goals

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UNCTAD ISAR
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“Everyone can play a role in making progress
for people and the planet.”
United Nations

The SDGs: Part of IFAC's DNA

- IFAC's vision speaks to the SDGs
 - *“The global accountancy profession is recognized as essential to strong and sustainable organizations, financial markets, and economies.”*
- An indirect—but important—contribution
 - Sustainable economic development through well-run and trusted organizations and markets
 - Accounting professionals with relevant professional skills

Achieving the SDGs—A Role for the Accountancy Profession

Trust in markets,
government and business

Well governed &
managed organizations

High quality reporting,
audit & assurance

Strong professional
accountancy organizations

To influence &
advocate

To develop accountants
with relevant skills

PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT AND ETHICS

Key Linkages Between the SDGs and IFAC

SDG	Relevant Activity
#4 Quality Education	International standard-setting
#8 Decent Work and Economic Growth	Global accountancy profession development (e.g., stronger country systems)
#9 Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure	
#12 Responsible Consumption & Production	
#13 Climate Action	Global accountancy profession support (e.g., economic, social, and environmental / integrated reporting)
#16 Peace, Justice & Strong Institutions	
#17 Partnership for the Goals	Global advocacy / speaking out on public interest issues

Reporting and the SDGs

- Reporting – a key part in attaining SDGs and Goal 12
 - A new demand on reporting
- Need all organizations reporting on their material risks and opportunities, impacts, and their ability to create value over time
- Need quality reporting – including comparability and usefulness
- How will we know reporting shows how well the private sector is contributing to the goals?

Leveraging IFAC's Unique Role in the Context of the SDGs

- Partnering with PAOs
 - Contribute to strong country systems to attain sustainable organizations/markets/economies
- Partnering with donors and development partners
 - Contribute to development goals and objectives
 - Enabling the investment to achieve outcomes
- Partnering with regulators
 - Ensure regulation facilitates (rather than hinders) the contributions of the profession and business

Partnering With Other Experts And Key Stakeholders in the Spirit of Goal 17

- The World Bank and other development agencies
- The Natural Capital Coalition
- Accounting for Sustainability
- International Integrated Reporting Council
- Global Reporting Initiative
- Climate Disclosure Standards Board
- UN Global Compact and UNCTAD
- INTOSAI



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