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

41st SESSION 6 – 8 November 2024

Wednesday, 6 November 2024

High-level panel
Sustainability reporting frameworks and standards: from interoperability to full harmonization

Presented by

Mario Abela Director, Standards GRI

This material has been reproduced in the language and form as it was provided. The views expressed are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of UNCTAD.



Why

GRI exists to help enable business and their stakeholders including investors to make informed decisions on facts not perceptions by providing world class standards as impact reporting.

How

We create the global common language for organizations to report their **impacts**. This enables informed dialogue and decision making around those impacts.

What

- GRI is the global standard setter for impact reporting.
- Through an independent, multi-stakeholder process
- We maintain the world's most comprehensive set of sustainability reporting standards.
- The GRI Standards are available as a free public good.

Who we are

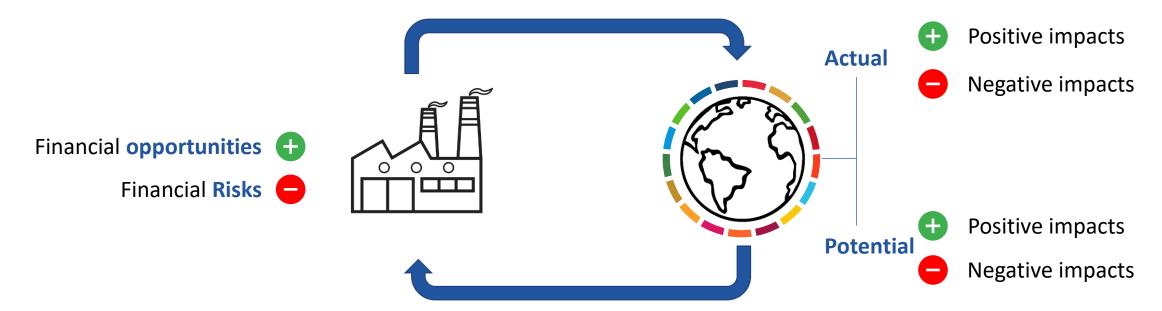
Double Materiality



The full picture of business impacts, risks and opportunities

Impact materiality

How a company's actions & products impact people and planet



Financial materiality

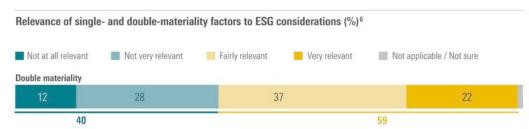
How sustainability matters impact a company's finances

Investor perspectives



Support for double materiality growing

- 75% of investors believe materiality should include a company's impact on the environment and society.
 - Only 6% of investors answered that materiality assessments should be limited to factors that can be expected to have a direct financial impact
 - source: Institutional Shareholder Services (ISS), 2023 Global Benchmark Policy Survey, 2023
- 59% of Asset Owners consider double materiality relevant for ESG considerations



- Source: Voice of the Asset Owner survey 2024 Quantitative Analysis; Morningstar
- More than 70 percent of individual investors "strong ESG practices can lead to higher returns," and more than half plan to increase their sustainable investment portfolios
 - Source: Sustainable Signals, Morgan Stanley 2023

Corporate view



National adoption rates



Base: 5,800 N100 companies

Source: KPMG Survey of Sustainability Reporting 2022, KPMG International, September 2022



Harmonization efforts



- MoU's EFRAG, GRI and ISSB focus on four elements
 - 1. Content work continues on
 - Sector Standards
 - Common disclosures
 - 2. Interoperability
 - GRI-ESRS interoperability index
 - GRI-ESRS Data points mapping
 - Interoperability considerations for GHG emissions when applying GRI Standards and ISSB Standards
 - 3. Digital technology to reduce reporting burden
 - XBRL digital taxonomies launched by all three
 - Not fully interoperable yet, but that is the aim
 - 4. Capacity building, for example
 - Training on the ESRS available in the GRI Academy (ESRS Professional Certification Program)
 - Sustainability Disclosure and Management Hubs (UNDP, ISSB, GRI, ISO and GSG Impact)
 - Sustainability Innovation Labs (GRI and ISSB)
- Interoperability with other initiatives actively pursued
 - TNFD, TISFD, UNGC CoP, etc