# Strategic ESG Reporting and Disclosure Standards Training Course



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4100 € (Per Person)

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## Course Introduction / Overview:

In today's business landscape, Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) performance is no longer a peripheral concern but a core component of corporate strategy and value creation. This intensive training course provides a comprehensive A-to-Z guide to mastering strategic ESG reporting and disclosure. We delve into the critical importance of transparent, accurate, and impactful non-financial reporting to meet the escalating demands of investors, regulators, and stakeholders. As highlighted by Professor Robert G. Eccles in his work on integrated reporting, the connection between sustainability performance and financial value is undeniable. This program, offered by BIG BEN Training Center, moves beyond theoretical knowledge to equip participants with the practical skills needed to navigate the complex ecosystem of global standards, including GRI, SASB, and TCFD recommendations. Participants will learn to develop robust data collection processes, conduct meaningful materiality assessments, and craft compelling ESG narratives that avoid greenwashing and build stakeholder trust. This course is designed to transform your approach to sustainability, enabling you to lead your organization's ESG disclosure strategy with confidence and foresight, aligning it with emerging regulations like the Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive (CSRD) and global best practices.

## Target Audience / This training course is suitable for:

- Sustainability Managers and ESG Professionals.
- Chief Financial Officers (CFOs) and finance teams.
- Investor Relations Officers and Managers.
- Corporate Communications and Public Relations Specialists.
- Legal Counsels and Compliance Officers.
- Risk Management Professionals.
- Members of the Board of Directors and Audit Committees.
- Corporate Strategy and Business Development Managers.
- Internal and External Auditors.
- Supply Chain and Procurement Managers.

## Target Sectors and Industries:

- Banking, Finance, and Insurance Services.
- Energy, Oil, and Gas Sector.
- Manufacturing and Industrial Production.
- Technology and Telecommunications.
- Pharmaceuticals and Healthcare.
- Real Estate and Construction.
- Retail and Consumer Goods.
- Transportation and Logistics.
- Governmental bodies and public sector organizations.

## Target Organizations Departments:

- Finance and Accounting.
- Sustainability and Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR).
- Investor Relations.
- Legal and Compliance.
- Risk Management.
- Corporate Strategy and Planning.
- Communications and Public Affairs.
- Internal Audit.
- Procurement and Supply Chain Management.

## Course Offerings:

By the end of this course, the participants will have able to:

- Develop a comprehensive understanding of the global ESG landscape and its key drivers.
- Differentiate and apply major reporting frameworks and standards, including GRI, SASB, and TCFD.
- Conduct a robust double materiality assessment to identify and prioritize key ESG topics.
- Establish effective processes for ESG data collection, management, and verification.
- Craft a compelling and transparent ESG report that meets stakeholder expectations.
- Integrate ESG considerations into the core business strategy and decision-making processes.
- Navigate the evolving regulatory environment, including the EU's CSRD and SFDR.
- Communicate ESG performance effectively to investors, analysts, and other key stakeholders.
- Identify and mitigate risks associated with greenwashing and poor disclosure practices.
- Prepare their organization for the future of sustainability reporting, including IFRS S1 and S2 standards.

## Course Methodology:

The training methodology at BIG BEN Training Center is designed to be immersive, practical, and highly interactive, ensuring participants can immediately apply their learning. This course moves beyond traditional lectures to foster a dynamic learning environment built on real-world application. A cornerstone of our approach is the extensive use of case studies from leading global companies, allowing participants to analyze successful ESG reporting strategies and learn from common disclosure pitfalls. Interactive workshops will guide attendees through critical processes such as conducting a materiality assessment and mapping stakeholder interests. Group exercises and team-based projects will encourage collaborative problem-solving and the exchange of diverse perspectives on ESG challenges. Participants will engage in practical sessions on drafting key sections of an ESG report, receiving constructive feedback from both the instructor and peers. Our expert facilitators create a supportive atmosphere where open discussion and questioning are encouraged, ensuring that complex concepts are fully understood. This hands-on, engaging approach guarantees that participants leave not just with knowledge, but with the confidence and skills to lead ESG initiatives within their own organizations.

## Course Agenda (Course Units):

### Unit One: Foundations of Modern ESG Reporting

- The evolution from CSR to strategic ESG.
- Understanding the key drivers: investor pressure, regulation, and market demand.
- The business case for robust ESG disclosure and value creation.
- Introduction to the global ESG ecosystem of standards setters and data providers.
- Defining key concepts: sustainability, materiality, and stakeholder capitalism.
- The role of ESG in corporate governance and board oversight.
- Identifying and avoiding the pitfalls of greenwashing.

### Unit Two: Navigating the Global ESG Reporting Frameworks

- Deep dive into the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) Standards.
- Understanding the Sustainability Accounting Standards Board (SASB) for industry-specific disclosure.
- Applying the Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures (TCFD) recommendations.
- Introduction to the IFRS International Sustainability Standards Board (ISSB) standards (S1 & S2).
- Comparing and contrasting the major frameworks for strategic selection.
- The concept of interoperability between different standards.
- Exploring other relevant frameworks like the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

### Unit Three: The Strategic ESG Reporting Process

- Establishing a cross-functional ESG reporting team.
- Phase one: Conducting a double materiality assessment.
- Phase two: Engaging with internal and external stakeholders effectively.
- Phase three: ESG data collection, validation, and management systems.
- Developing key performance indicators (KPIs) and setting ESG targets.
- Integrating ESG metrics into enterprise risk management (ERM) frameworks.
- Building the internal infrastructure for continuous ESG reporting.

## Unit Four: Crafting Compelling ESG Disclosures

- Structuring a best-in-class sustainability or integrated report.
- Developing a powerful and authentic ESG narrative.
- Techniques for effective data visualization and presentation.
- Tailoring disclosures for different audiences: investors, customers, and regulators.
- The art of balancing qualitative and quantitative information.
- Writing the TCFD report: scenarios, metrics, and targets.
- Best practices for digital ESG reporting and communication channels.

## Unit Five: Advanced Topics and the Future of ESG Disclosure

- Understanding the European Union's Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive (CSRD).
- The role and process of third-party ESG assurance and verification.
- Leveraging technology and AI for enhanced ESG data analysis.
- Reporting on emerging topics: biodiversity, human capital, and supply chain due diligence.
- The link between ESG performance and credit ratings.
- Preparing for mandatory climate and sustainability reporting.
- Future trends and the convergence of global sustainability standards.

# FAQ:

### Qualifications required for registering to this course?

There are no requirements.

### How long is each daily session, and what is the total number of training hours for the course?

This training course spans five days, with daily sessions ranging between 4 to 5 hours, including breaks and interactive activities, bringing the total duration to 20 - 25 training hours.

## Something to think about:

As ESG reporting standards converge globally, how can organizations maintain a unique and authentic sustainability narrative that goes beyond mere compliance?

## What unique qualities does this course offer compared to other courses?

This course distinguishes itself by moving beyond a simple overview of ESG frameworks to focus on the strategic implementation and integration of sustainability into the core of business operations. While many programs list the "what" of reporting standards, our curriculum is meticulously designed to teach the "how" and "why". We emphasize the practical application of concepts through real-world case studies, hands-on workshops for conducting materiality assessments, and sessions on crafting a compelling narrative that resonates with investors and stakeholders. A key differentiator is our forward-looking perspective, with dedicated modules on navigating the complexities of emerging regulations like the EU's CSRD and preparing for the new IFRS S1 and S2 standards, ensuring participants are equipped not just for today's requirements but for the future of disclosure. The course uniquely focuses on the strategic linkage between ESG reporting, risk management, and long-term value creation, empowering leaders to use disclosure as a tool for competitive advantage rather than a compliance exercise. It provides a holistic, strategic, and actionable learning experience that is unparalleled in its depth and practical relevance.