



Add value.  
Inspire trust.

## Sustainability Reporting Verification



### Build trust towards your stakeholders with a third-party verified sustainability report

More and more organisations have been driven to implement systems to monitor social and environmental performances and externally communicate on these. The reason behind this recent demand is from the market and policymakers' scrutiny of sustainable development.

Today, organisations are looking for ways to create an efficient and reliable process of disclosing information about sustainability, focusing particularly on the interactions between the ESG (Environmental, Social and Governance) impacts. To do this, businesses and entities must put importance on using standards that ensure credibility to customers, governments, and interested parties.

International groups have developed guidelines for these reports' preparations so that sustainability reporting's processes and contents are standardised. These groups recommend independent sustainability report evaluations to verify the truthfulness of the information reported.

TÜV SÜD experts can relieve you of the burden of vetting sustainability information, ensuring that the reporting process follows globally-established principles of quality and content. With the strong competence in industries and topics of sustainability, the organization will benefit from an experienced verifier looking at the organisation's data and information flow with a holistic approach.

#### AT A GLANCE

What is a Sustainability Report?

- A document that, in alignment with the organisation's economic figures, provides information on its sustainability strategy and actions on the Environmental, Social and Governance impacts

What is a Sustainability Reporting Verification?

- An evaluation of your company's information related to Sustainability
- After approval of an independent committee, the assurance statement is released and used as an integral part of the final document of your Sustainability Report.
- A process carried out in agreement to international standards such as:
  - [GRI Standards](#) (Global Reporting Initiative)
  - [AccountAbility AA1000](#)
- A verification process that includes:
  - Live assessment by interviewing data and process owners and managers whilst sampling data and information
  - Verification of the data collected and described in report drafts
  - Oversees the implementation of quality and content principles into the reporting process

## Your challenges

One of the great challenges collected by companies in the understanding of frameworks to be used is to be supported in identifying the materiality of topics and priorities whilst starting as well to disclose relevant information to stakeholders. The key issues are:

- **Ensuring the credibility of reported organisational information.**

Compiling a report requires significantly high commitment and involvement of resources, time, and efforts to reduce measurement uncertainty.

- **Providing agile, accurate, and comparable data.**

You must guarantee your data's quality across the value chain. Moreover, your organisation needs to provide analytical results that suit high-level and multi-fold needs and interests. These needs and interests are for nonidentical stakeholder groups to avoid inconsistent reporting measures.

- **Building a consensus.**

The entire organisation has to agree that the report is all-inclusive, fair, and rational about disclosing sustainability impacts and performances, to remove the disparity between company and investor views.

- **Revealing new and emerging social and environmental issues.**

Organisations must answer the increasing demand to disclose social and environmental issues in the context of different definitions of materiality.

- **Committing to United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals.**

It's of paramount importance to demonstrate to different stakeholders that the organisation is committed to United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals and global and local societies' expectations.

- **Creating a non-financial disclosure.**

This disclosure should complement the decision-making of procurement managers, investors, and consumers by preventing greenwashing.

- **Finding external verification.**

To increase reputation, your organisation should comply with reputable external verification so that the report's accuracy is demonstrated, thus increasing reputation.

## Sustainability Reporting Verification by TÜV SÜD

Ensure accuracy and detail in your disclosures: bring in TÜV SÜD to verify your company's information related to sustainability.

TÜV SÜD will carry out an evaluation based on internationally applicable standards and guidelines.

Upon an independent committee's approval, the assurance statement will be utilised as an integral part of your final Sustainability Report document.

### How can we help you?

By presenting a concrete, objective, and organisation-wide commitment to global sustainable development goals (SDGs), TÜV SÜD's Sustainability Reporting Verification can establish your reputation in the industry and help strengthen stakeholder engagement in the long run.

### SERVICE DELIVERY PROCESS



**Request for proposal:** Provide detailed information on the scope of sustainability report verification



**Offer Provision:** We customise a quote detailing our deliverable, the cost, and time required



**Order Assignment:** To TÜV SÜD to initiate the verification process



**Planning:** Schedules your organisation's phase-wise verification for data collection, and interviews



**Verification:** Step wise complete assurance process



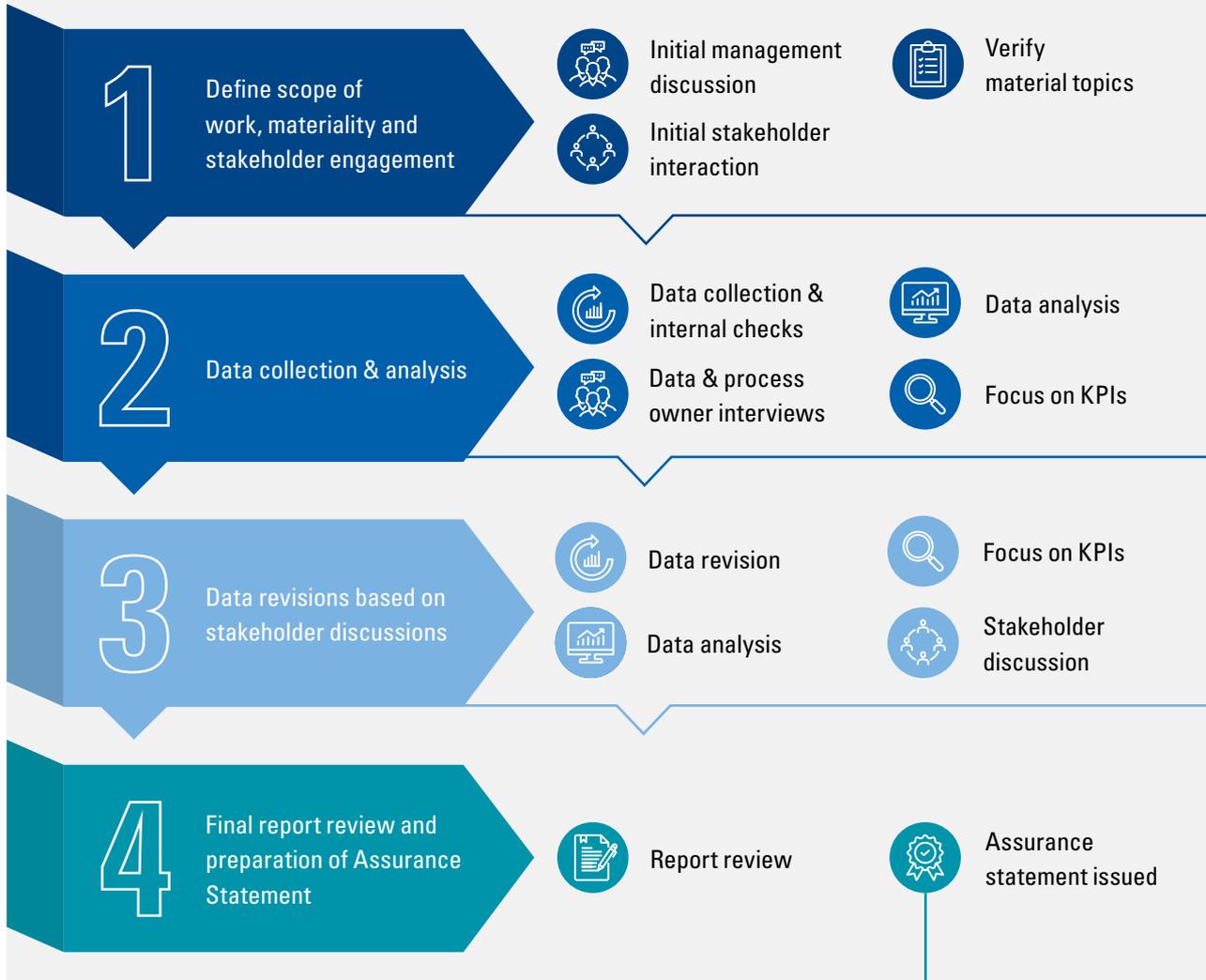
**Assurance Statement:** Issued by TÜV SÜD, to be integrated in your sustainability report.

Through detecting improvement opportunities and optimisation potentials related to ESG topics, we help you to create a culture of Sustainability, ensuring reliability by a strong methodology.

# SUSTAINABILITY REPORTING VERIFICATION PROCESS

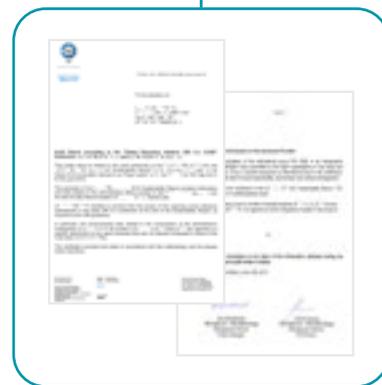
## PROCESS DESCRIPTION

## TÜV SÜD'S VERIFICATION METHODOLOGY



In the process, TÜV SÜD's Sustainability Reporting Verification services can build internal awareness on methodologies and content of the most relevant guidelines relating to Sustainability Disclosures; and in integration with other verification and/or certification on the most relevant topics (e.g. GHG certification, supply chain assessment).

Organisations are required to build internal sustainability competence by ensuring appropriate education and training. TÜV SÜD offers awareness, public training, and e-learning courses on sustainability-related topics and issues to better equip you for your journey in sustainability transformation.



## ASSURANCE STATEMENT

Following completion of the verification process an assurance statement is issued. This is integrated with your publicly available sustainability report.

## How your business benefits

TÜV SÜD's Sustainability Reporting Verification provides an impartial, fair, and credible accounting of a company's sustainability or ESG performance. This can yield several long-term benefits, including:

- Enhancing the consistency and comparability of data reported for GRI indicators, which also contribute to UN Sustainability Development Goals (SDGs).
- Verifying the truthfulness of the statements made in the sustainability report.
- Improving the sustainability report's reliability, complimenting independent information user's decision making.
- Building trust amongst key stakeholders (e.g. financial institutions, NGOs) and fostering transparency.
- Increasing access to capital for small- and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs).
- Helping organisations identify areas of improvement in line with known standards and principles.

## Why choose TÜV SÜD?

With roots in the First Industrial Revolution in the 1800s, TÜV SÜD's reputation as an industry expert in quality and safety finds few equals in the world.

TÜV SÜD offers vendor-agnostic, expert-backed third-party verifications supported by over a century of institutional experience providing safety, security, and sustainability solutions for companies around the globe.

Our third-party verifications are both impartial and independent, helping your organisation to gain valuable insights from an unbiased expert. Our proven technical expertise can bring added value during the verification process, revealing the interaction between GRI indicators and other systems in the organisation (e.g. management system certifications).

A pool of experts from TÜV SÜD with corresponding industry know-how evaluates your sustainability report at every stage so that you can concentrate on your core competencies.

## Add value. Inspire trust.

TÜV SÜD is a trusted partner of choice for safety, security, and sustainability solutions. It specialises in testing, certification, auditing, and advisory services. Since 1866, the company has remained committed to its purpose of enabling progress by protecting people, the environment, and assets from technology-related risks. Through more than 25,000 employees across over 1,000 locations, it adds value to customers and partners by enabling market access and managing risks. By anticipating technological developments and facilitating change, TÜV SÜD inspires trust in a physical and digital world to create a safer and more sustainable future.

## Related services

TÜV SÜD management system services also include:



### Environment

- ISO 14001 & EMAS – Environment
- GHG (ISO 14064/67) & EPD – Environmental Product Declaration
- ISO 50001 – Environment



### ESG

- ISO 17033 – Ethical Claims
- ISO 20121 – Event Sustainability
- ISO 26000 – Social Responsibility
- Material Topic Analysis
- E-learning on Sustainability in the company



### Social

- Social compliance auditing (SMETA; BSCI, customized code of conducts)
- SA8000 – Social Accountability
- Diversity & Inclusion
- ISO 45001 – Health & Safety



### Governance

- ISO/ IEC 27001 – Information Security
- ISO/ IEC 27701 – Privacy Information
- ISO 28000 – Supply Chain Security
- ISO 37001 – Anti-Bribery
- ISO 55001 – Asset Management
- Supply Chain Verification & Gap Analysis