# ESG Informational Booklet

## Series 2







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### **FOREWORD**

Dear Readers,

It is with great pleasure that we present to you this comprehensive series 2 booklet compiling essential information on GRI (Global Reporting Initiative) standards, the GHG (Greenhouse Gas) protocol, and various approaches to GHG calculation. In today's dynamic business landscape, sustainability and responsible environmental practices are imperative for organizations aiming to thrive and make a positive impact.

This compilation serves as a valuable resource for individuals and entities committed to understanding and implementing sustainability reporting and greenhouse gas management. The content is designed to understand complex concepts, providing clear insights into the GRI standards, GHG protocol, and diverse information on greenhouse gas emissions.

We believe that informed decision-making is the cornerstone of effective sustainability efforts. This booklet is created to empower you with the knowledge needed to navigate the details of sustainability reporting and greenhouse gas accounting. Whether you are a sustainability professional, a corporate leader, or someone keen on contributing to a greener future, this compilation is a handy reference to meet your informational needs.

Thank you for joining us on this exploration, and may your commitment to sustainability lead to lasting and meaningful impacts.

Sincerely,

Bijo S Dinesh



Bijo S Dinesh,
EHS expert,
Principal Advisor
TeamTech EHS

## ESG Informational Leaflet Series

Discover, learn & grow together!



### What are GRI Sector Standards?

The GRI Sector Standards are a set of sustainability reporting standards that are designed to help organizations in specific sectors, in identifying their most significant impacts and reflect stakeholder expectations for sustainability/ESG reporting.

# t S

## **OBJECTIVES**



- To assist organizations in identifying & addressing their most significant sustainability impacts.
- To improve the quality of sustainability reporting & consistency
- To standardize guidelines for transparent sustainability disclosure.
- To drive sustainable development through accountability and disclosure.

The GRI Sector
Program will
develop standards
for 40 sectors,
starting with those
that have the
highest impact.



## OVERALL STATUS OF SECTOR STANDARDS

Oil and Gas (GRI 11)
Standard was published on 5th October 2021

Agriculture, Aquaculture and Fishing (GRI 13) Standard was published on 28th June 2022

Mining Sector Standard

Approval is expected to be approved by Q4 2023



Coal (GRI 12) Standard was published on 15th March 2022

Financial services
Project commence in
Q2 2023

Textiles and apparel
Sector Standard Project
is under development

GRI outline organization's likely material topics and list disclosures that are relevant for the sector to report on.



### Sector Standards - Oil and Gas

GRI 11 provides information for organizations in the oil and gas sector about their likely material topics. These topics are likely to be material for organizations in the oil and gas sector on the basis of the sector's most significant impacts on the economy, environment, and people, including on their human rights.



# GRI 11 applies to organizations which undertake



Exploration and production of onshore and offshore oil & gas



Supply of equipment and services to oil fields and offshore platforms



Transportation and storage of oil and gas



Refining of oil to petroleum products

GRI 11
OIL AND GAS

Effective for reports or other materials
published on or after 1 January 2023

Highlights the sector's role in combating climate change

## HIGHLIGHTS

Disclosures related to current operations for the low carbon transition



Includes a reference system for assessing organization's reporting.



## • MATERIAL TOPICS

#### **ENVIRONMENT**

Biodiversity

Air Emissions

Water and Effluents

Climate adaptation,

resilience and Transition

**GHG** Emissions

Waste





Asset integrity and critical incident management

SOCIAL

- Local communities
- Conflict and security
- Freedom of association and collective bargaining
- Land and resource rights
- Occupational health safety
- Closure and rehabilitation
- Rights of indigenous people
  - Non-discrimination

#### **GOVERNANCE**



- Anti-competitive behavior
- Payments to governments
- Economic impacts
- \* Anti-corruption
- Employment Practices
- Public Policy







#### **Sector Standards - Coal**

The GRI Sector Standard for Coal provides authoritative guidance on how the sector reports its far-reaching impacts on the economy, environment and people. It encompasses reporting across a broad value chain of coal handling organizations.





GRI 12
applies to
organizations
which
undertake



Exploration, mining, and processing of thermal and metallurgical coal from underground or open-pit mines

Supply of equipment and services to coal mines, like drilling, exploration, seismic information services, mine construction

Transportation and storage of coal, such as slurry pipelines

The GRI Sector
Standard for Coal
is in effect for
reports or other
materials
published on or
after 1st January
2024, with early
adoption
encouraged.

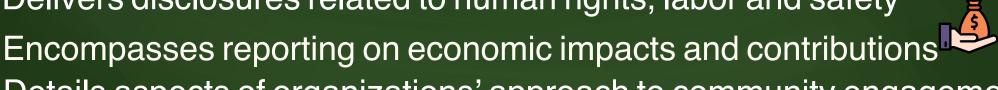


## **Key Highlights**

Addresses the issue of divestment from coal assets Transition approach to mitigate impacts of mine closures on workers and local communities.

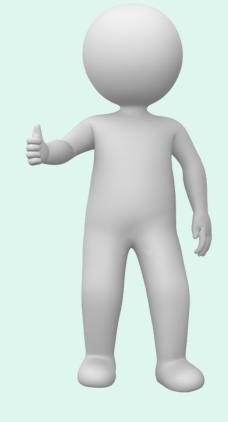


Delivers disclosures related to human rights, labor and safety





Details aspects of organizations' approach to community engagement Forward-looking reporting on climate change



#### **Environment**



- GHG emissions
- Climate adaptation, resilience, and transition
- Air emissions
- Biodiversity
- > Waste
- Water and effluents

### **Material Topics**





- > Local communities
- >> Land &resource rights
- Freedom of association and collective bargaining
- Non-discrimination and equal opportunity
- Forced labor and modern slavery
- Rights of indigenous people
- Conflict and security

#### Governance



- > Anti corruption
- Payments to government
- > Employment practices
- Closure & rehabilitation
- Occupational health and safety
- Asset integrity and critical incident management



### Sector Standards - Agriculture, Aquaculture and Fishing

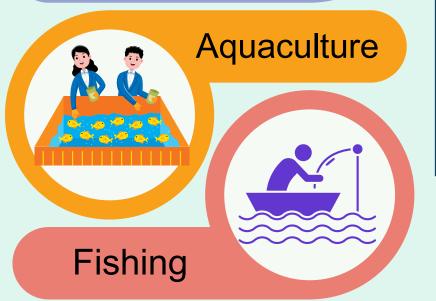
The Standard sets expectations for what all companies in Agriculture, Aquaculture and Fishing sectors need to report on their shared and specific impacts, on the economy, environment and people. It includes reporting on commonly used substances in these sectors namely pesticides, fertilizers, and antibiotics.



GRI 13 applies to Organization which undertake







The GRI 13
Sector
Standard is
effective for
reports or
other
materials
published on
or after 1st
January
2024,
with early
adoption
encouraged.

The sector standard is beneficial for



**Companies** to Identify Material Topics and manage their impacts



Stakeholders and Investors to analyse risk and Opportunities in Sustainability reporting



Policy makers and Government
Organizations to make decisions and
guidance to responsible business





**Emissions** 

Climate adaptation and resilience

Biodiversity

Natural ecosystem conversion

Soil health

Pesticides use

Water and effluents

Waste

Animal health and welfare



Employment practices

Food security

Food safety

Local communities

Land and resource rights

Occupational health and safety

Forced / compulsory labor

Non-discrimination and equal opportunity

Child labor

Rights of indigenous peoples

Living income and living wage

**Economic Inclusion** 

**Disclosures** included in GRI Standards are reflective of the expectations of organizations in relation to responsible business practices and the management of their impacts.



Supply chain traceability

Anti-competitive behaviour

Public policy

Anti-corruption

GRI 13
is for
Achieving
sustainable
production
on land and
sea



#### WHAT IS GREENHOUSE GAS?

Greenhouse gases (GHG) are atmospheric gases created through both natural processes and human activities, which possess the ability to absorb infrared radiation. These gases act like a blanket, allowing sunlight to enter but preventing some of the heat from escaping back into space, leading to the greenhouse effect.

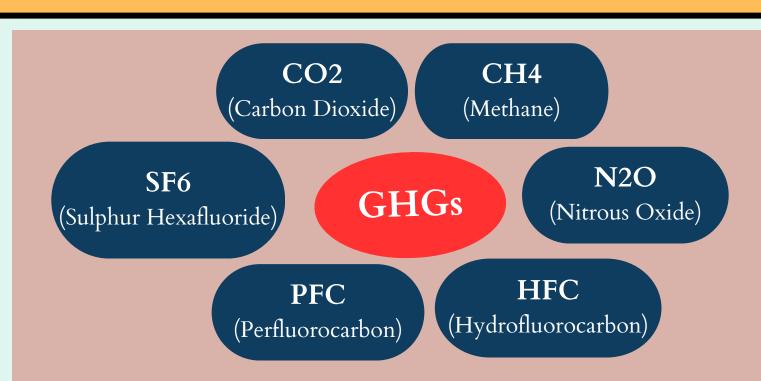
#### **SOURCES OF GREENHOUSE GASES**

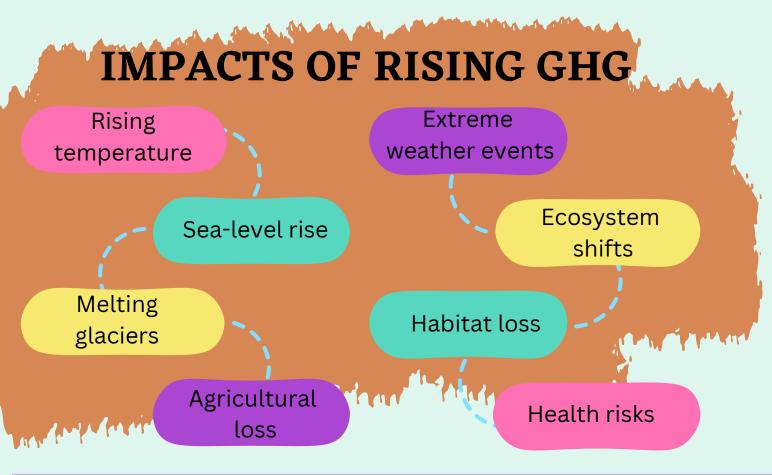
#### Natural

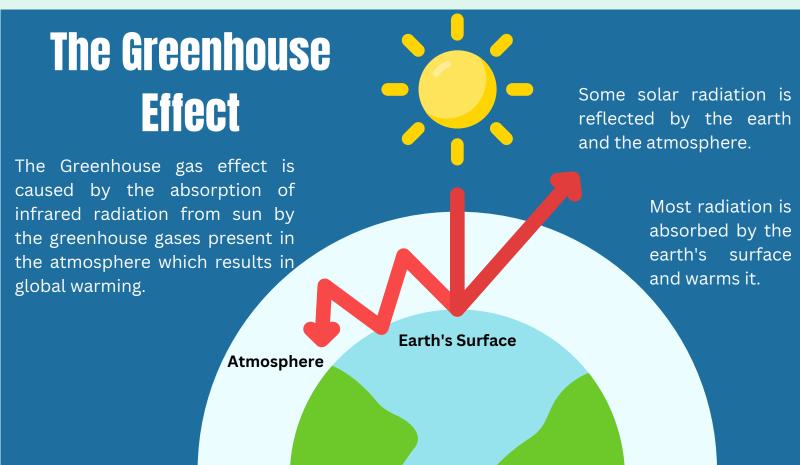
- Volcanic eruption
- Decomposition of organic matter
- Natural gas emissions from wetlands

#### Anthropogenic

- Deforestation
- Burning of fossil fuels
- Industrial processes
- Agricultural practices







#### GLOBAL WARMING POTENTIAL (GWP)

It is a measure of the relative impact of a greenhouse gas compared with 1 ton of carbon dioxide (CO2) over a specific timeframe, typically 100 years. It quantifies the potential of a particular greenhouse gas to contribute to global warming based on its ability to absorb and retain heat in the atmosphere.

#### CO2 (Carbon dioxide)

CO2 is the primary greenhouse gas responsible for long-term climate change, other gases such as methane (CH4) and nitrous oxide (N2O) have significantly higher warming potentials over shorter timescales. CO2 serves as a baseline for comparison and is assigned value 1 in GWP.

#### C02e (Carbon dioxide equivalent)

CO2eq or carbon dioxide equivalent is a metric used to express the warming potential of all greenhouse gases in relation to carbon dioxide. It provides a standardized measure that allows for the comparison of different gases based on their warming effects over a specific time period.

#### Greenhouse Gas Sink

Natural or human-made reservoirs absorb and store greenhouse gases from the atmosphere, helping to mitigate their concentration. Forests
Oceans
Wetlands

GHG	Lifetime (Years)	GWP values for a 100- year time horizon
CO2	Variable	1
CH4	10-12	28
N2O	100-120	265
HFC	10-20	3790
PFC	50000	9810
SF6	3200	23500

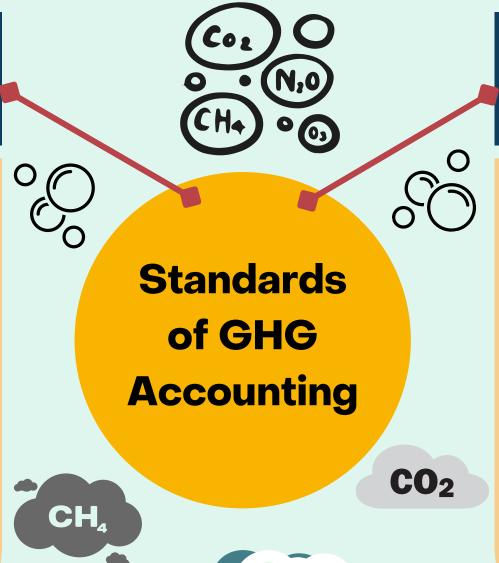


The GHG Protocol and ISO 14064 are widely recognized international standards for greenhouse gas (GHG) accounting and reporting. These standards provide consistent and transparent methodologies for organizations to measure, report, and manage their GHG emissions. While the GHG Protocol is widely used as a practical framework for GHG accounting and reporting, ISO 14064 offers a more formalized and auditable approach.



#### **GHG Protocol**

The GHG Protocol, developed by the World Resources Institute (WRI) and the World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD), provides practical approaches for organizations to quantify and report their GHG emissions across different scopes, enabling effective emissions management and target setting.

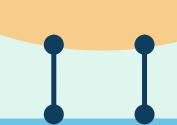




#### ISO 14064

ISO 14064 is a set of standards developed by the International Organization for Standardization specifically for GHG accounting and verification. These standards provide principles, requirements, and guidance for designing, developing, and verifying GHG inventories and assertions at the organizational level.

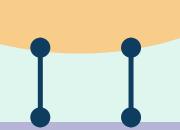














## Corporate Accounting and Reporting Standards

This document provides a step-by-step guide for companies to quantify and report GHG emissions.

#### ISO 14064-1:2018

Specification with guidance at the organization level for quantification and reporting of greenhouse gas emissions and removals.

#### **Project Quantification Standard**

This is a guide for quantifying reductions from mitigation projects. This provides Standards and Guidelines for the purpose.

### ISO 14064-2:2019

Specification with guidance at the project level for quantification, monitoring, and reporting of greenhouse gas emission reductions or removal enhancements.

#### **Product Life Cycle Standard**

Describes how companies can develop GHG emission inventories, including the entire life cycle of individual products or services from raw material to product disposal.

#### ISO 14064-3:2019

Specification with guidance for the verification and validation of greenhouse gas statements.

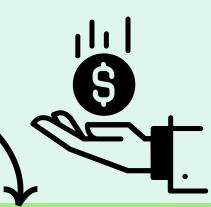


#### What is Greenhouse Gas Accounting?

GHG accounting refers to the process of measuring and reporting greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and removals associated with an organization's activities. It is a systematic approach to quantifying and tracking GHG emissions, which helps organizations understand their environmental impact and develop strategies to mitigate climate change.



#### GHG Accounting and Reporting Principles



#### **RELEVANCE**

Ensure the GHG inventory appropriately reflects the GHG emissions of the company and serves the decision-making needs of users - both internal and external to the company.

#### **COMPLETENESS**

It means accounting for and reporting on all **GHG** emission sources and activities within the chosen inventory boundary, while also disclosing and justifying any specific exclusions

#### **CONSISTENCY**

It means the use of consistent methods to allow for meaningful comparisons of emissions over time.

#### **TRANSPARENCY**

Address all relevant issues in a factual and coherent manner, based on a clear audit trail. Disclose any relevant assumptions and make appropriate references to the accounting and calculation methodologies and data sources used

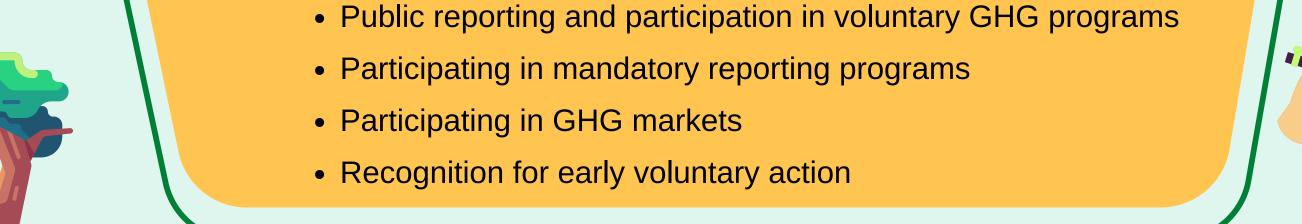
#### **ACCURACY**

Measure greenhouse gas emissions in a way that is as close to the actual emissions as possible and minimizing uncertainties

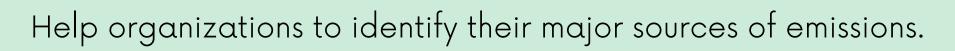


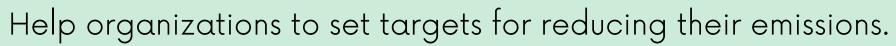
### **Business Goals of GHG** Accounting

- Managing GHG risks and identifying reduction opportunities









Benefits of **GHG** Accounting

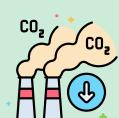
It can help organizations track their progress in reducing their emissions.

It can help organizations to comply with emissions regulations.

It can help organizations to communicate their environmental performance to stakeholders.









#### **NET-ZERO EMISSIONS:**

Net zero refers to the goal of achieving a balance between the amount of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions released into the atmosphere and the amount of GHG emissions removed or offset from the atmosphere.

#### **Steps to achieve net-zero:**

01

#### **Establish a GHG Inventory:**

Conduct a comprehensive GHG inventory to determine the current level of emissions from all sources (scope-1, 2 & 3), including energy use, transportation, agriculture, and waste management.



02

#### **Establish a Baseline:**

Once the GHG inventory is complete, use the data to establish a baseline for emissions.



03

#### **Set Targets:**

Establish ambitious, science-based targets for reducing GHG emissions, taking into account the Paris Agreement's goal of limiting global warming to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels.



04

#### **Develop a Strategy:**

Develop a comprehensive strategy for reducing GHG emissions across all sectors of the organization, including energy efficiency, renewable energy, transportation, waste reduction, and supply chain management.



05

#### **Implement Solutions:**

Implement the identified solutions in a prioritized and phased manner. This may include energy-efficient buildings, renewable energy installations, electric vehicles, and sustainable agriculture practices.



06

#### **Monitor Progress:**

Monitor the progress of GHG emissions reductions against targets, using established metrics and methodologies.



07

#### **Offset Remaining Emissions:**

Use verified carbon offsets to compensate for any remaining emissions that cannot be reduced.



08

#### **Communicate and Report:**

Communicate progress and results of emissions reduction efforts to stakeholders, and report on progress regularly.



Two way approach of Setting Organizatinal Boundaries

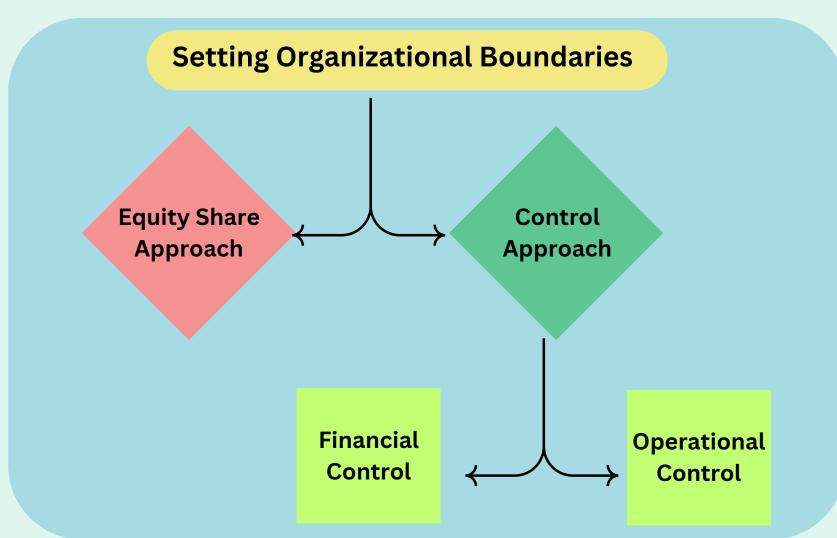




#### **Setting Organizational Boundaries for GHG accounting**

Setting organizational boundaries in GHG protocols involves determining the overall scope and extent of the organization's activities and operations that will be included in the GHG inventory assessment. This includes identifying the subsidiaries, facilities, and entities that are considered part of the organization for reporting purposes.





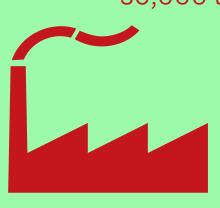


#### **Equity Share Approach:**

- Under the equity share approach, a company accounts for GHG emission from operations according to its share of equity in the operation.
- The equity share reflects economic interest, which is the extent of rights a company has to the risks and rewards flowing from an operation.

Let us consider the following example to illustrate Equity share approach. Company A (Global Power) has three subsidiaries i.e., Company - B, C, and D. GHG Emission of Company A as per Equity share approach shall be calculated as defined below:

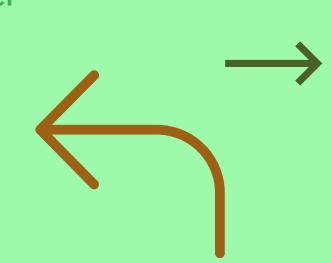




**Company B** Emissions = 50,000 tCO2e per year



Equity Share\*: 78% Emissions = 30,000\*78% = 23,400 tCO2e



Equity Share\*: 100% Emissions = 20,000 \*100% = 20,000 tCO2e

Total emissions of Company A (Global power A) reported under the equity share approach = 30,000 + 23,400 + 20,000 = 73,400 tCO2e

> \*Equity share of Company A(Global power)



**Company C** Emissions = 30,000 tCO2e per year

Total emissions of Company B, Company C and Company D = 50,000 + 30,000 + 20,000 = 100,000 tCO2e

**Company D** 

Emissions = 20,000 tCO2e per year



#### Setting Organizational boundary for GHG accounting – Control Approach

Let us understand the control approach where a company accounts for 100 percent of the GHG emissions from operations over which it has control. Control can be defined in either financial or operational terms. When using the control approach to consolidate GHG emissions, companies shall choose between either the operational control or financial control criteria.

#### Financial Control Approach

Let us understand the criteria for Financial control approach\* in GHG accounting.

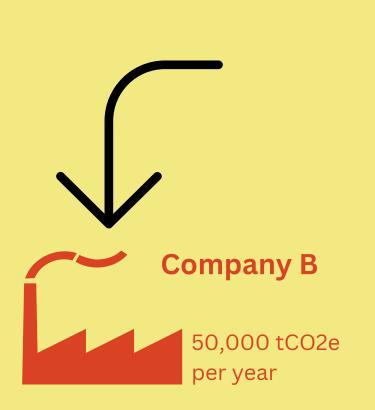


- Financial Control reflects activities where the organization has the ability to direct the financial policies of the activity with an interest in gaining economic benefits from the activity.
- A company has financial control over an operation for GHG accounting purposes, if the operation is considered a subsidiary for the purposes of financial reporting, i.e. if the operation is fully consolidated in the reporting company's financial statements.

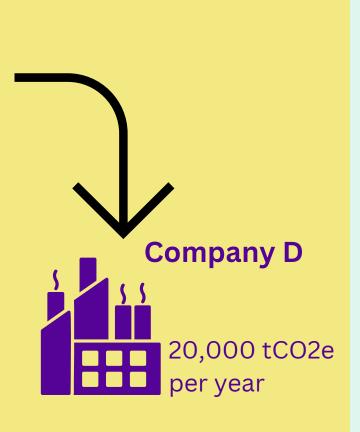


\* based on GHG Protocol

Let us consider the following example to illustrate the accounting of emissions of Company A (Global Power) by Financial control approach. Here the Company A has its financial control over its subsidiaries C and D, but not B.







#### Total emissions of Company A (per year) before applying Financial control approach

- = Emissions of Company A + Emissions of Company B + Emissions Of Company C + Emissions of Company D
- = 5000 tC02e + 50,000 tC02e + 30,000 tC02e + 20,000 tC02e
- = 105,000 tCO2e

#### Total emissions of Company A (per year) after applying Financial control approach

Does Company A has
Financial control over B ? No
Emissions: O tco2e

Does Company A has Financial control over C? Yes Emissions: 30,000 tco2e

Does Company A has Financial control over D? **Yes**Emissions: **20,000 tco2e** 

#### Therefore total emissions of company A (per year) reported under the financial control approach

- = Emissions of Company A+ Emissions Of Company C + Emissions of Company D
- = 5000 tCO2e + 30,000 tCO2e + 20,000 tCO2e
- = 55,000 tCO2e

Emissions of Company B is excluded as Company A does not have financial control over B

Note: If the reporting company wholly owns all its operations, its organizational boundary will be the same whichever (Financial or Operational) approach is used.

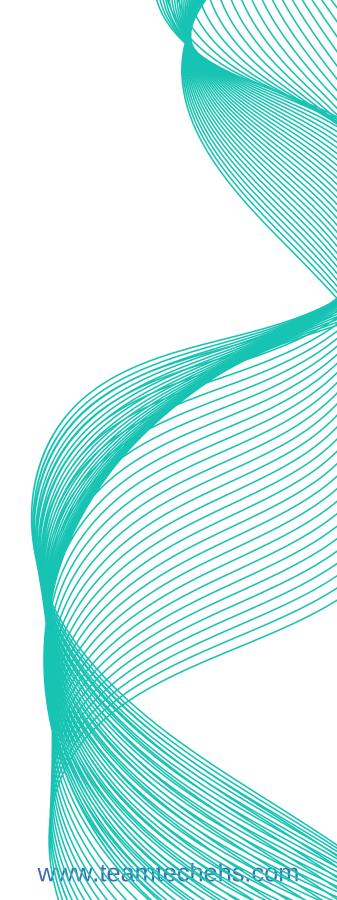
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- Sustainable consulting
- Audits
- Trainings
- > System development & Implementation support
- Reporting & Assurance
- Digital transformation



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Business Responsibility and Sustainability Reporting (BRSR), Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG), and Sustainability reporting are tools that organizations employ to showcase their dedication to environmental stewardship, social responsibility, and good governance, either as a leading practice or a legal mandate. In our master class, we endeavour to demystify the practical implications of BRSR/ESG/Sustainability, emphasizing its global significance and relevance within the Indian context. This encompasses a comprehensive coverage of the Business Responsibility and Sustainability Report (BRSR), mandated by SEBI for India's top 1000 listed companies by market capitalization. We will illustrate how this report aligns with ESG principles and underscore its role in facilitating effective stakeholder communication. Join us in this engaging event, designed to equip participants with the necessary skills to develop any of these reports. Together, let's explore and learn!

## KEY CONTENTS

- Global & Indian Sustainability reporting landscape including legal mandates.
- ESG/ Sustainability report development based on Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) Standards.
- In-depth coverage of Business Responsibility and Sustainability Reporting (BRSR) by the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI).
- NGBRCs Principles 01 to 09 & SEBI mandate for FY 22-23++
- Live demonstration of 1) how to carry out stakeholder engagement, 2) materiality assessment & 3) draft BRSR/ESG/Sustainability Reports
- Coverage of sustainability reporting standards such as PRI, Integrated Reporting (IR), SASB, and IFRS.
- Discussion on global ESG frameworks/ initiatives such as UN SDGs, TCFD, & CDP



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CERTIFIED ESG PROFESSIONAL:

IMPACT LEADER



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