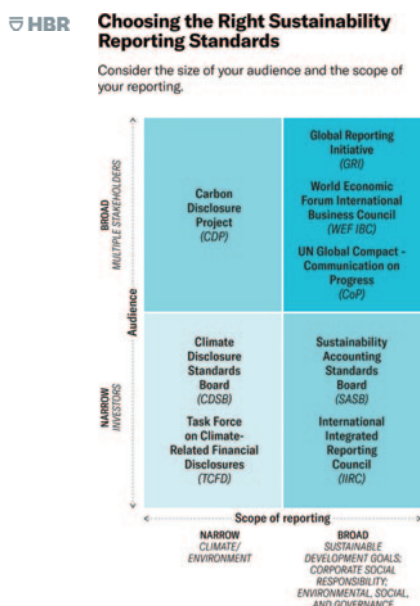


# The GRI standards just make sense as an umbrella framework

**Time and money are well spent when investing in the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) Standards. They are a robust, always updated framework and, most importantly, have a principled approach to taking sustainability action that just makes business sense. GRI framework outcomes can help you form a holistic business strategy that can focus on creating/ delivering value to the business, stakeholders and the planet.**

**Any organization looking to invest in sustainability needs to know that its investment of time and money is secure both now and in the future.** The GRI Standards are an excellent choice because they are aligned with the expectations of authoritative intergovernmental instruments, such as the UNGPs and OECD. In fact, GRI's expertise has been sought out by governments and international bodies alike when regulations, standards and recommendations are developed (for example, the EU's EFRAG for the ESRS).



## Count on GRI for meeting your growing sustainability demands

GRI just makes sense as the framework to use for any forward-looking organization that needs to know that its expanding sustainability needs will be continually met. It is a framework that allows a business to map out significant impacts throughout the value chain. This forms the

foundation for defining strategy and gives the unique ability to create and deliver value to the business, stakeholders, and the planet. It is wise to use the GRI Standards as an umbrella framework:

1. they deal with economy, environment and people, thus allowing 360-degree sustainability action.
2. recommended by the UN Global Compact to report on progress made (MoU 2010).
3. address each and every Sustainable Development Goal (SDG).
4. they do not focus just on investors but also on the needs of all relevant stakeholders (e.g. top talent, clients, local communities, value chain partners).
5. is the co-constructor of the European Sustainability Reporting Standards (ESRS). High interoperability has been confirmed by EFRAG. It's important to note that if you chose to use the ESRS you will still need to utilize standards such as the GRI Standards to address significant impacts that have been identified.
6. created in the public interest using a transparent, multi-stakeholder approach.
7. used by 78% of the world's largest 250 companies.
8. can be used effectively by 1-person companies (you initially need just 7 disclosures that can be answered in under morning to start your report, then deal with material topics which can be defined using a logical, simplified methodology).
9. continually updated and aligned with the expectations of authoritative intergovernmental instruments (e.g. UNGPs, OECD).
10. no one can reasonably accuse you of greenwash, if GRI's principled approach to materiality and application of reporting principles is followed.
11. it is a framework that allows a business to map out significant impacts throughout the value chain. This forms the foundation for defining strategy and gives the unique ability to create and deliver value to the business, stakeholders, and the planet.



Solid, focused sustainability action requires the GRI Standards as the umbrella all-encompassing sustainability reporting framework. Other frameworks can be plugged in when they are assessed and deemed to add further value to business, stakeholders, and the planet.

## References:

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