

Luxembourg, 30 November 2023



European Court of Auditors SUSTAINABILITY REPORTING

Presentation to the EU EMAS Network

EMAS INTERINSTITUTIONAL DAYS 2023



EUROPEAN
COURT
OF AUDITORS

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Sustainability Reporting***

European Court of Auditors

Hola, ¿qué tal?



Luxembourg, 30 November 2023

2023 EMAS INTERINSTITUTIONAL DAYS



ECA Sustainability Reporting

- 1. MAIN CONCEPTS & TERMINOLOGY**
- 2. HOW WE GOT HERE**
- 3. HOW TO PREPARE FOR YOUR REPORT**
- 4. WHY GRI**
- 5. Q & A**



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DISCLAIMER

- ❖ The contents of this presentation express my personal views, and not those of the European Court of Auditors
- ❖ This presentation is intended to share a personal experience, and to provide personal advise
- ❖ This presentation is not a technical presentation on the GRI standards or the Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive (CSRD)



1 - Main Concepts & Terminology



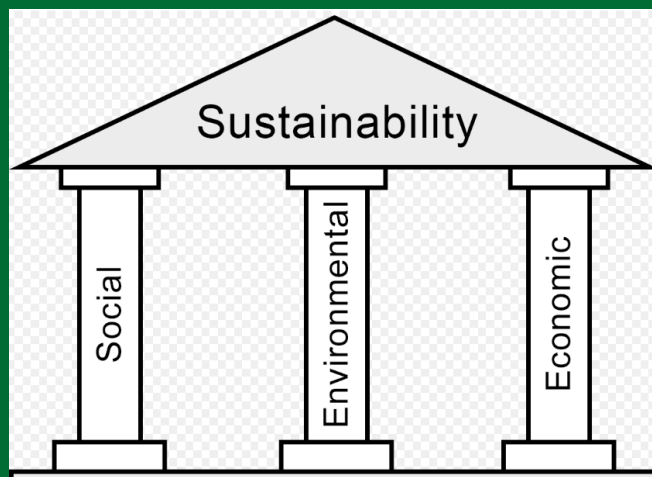
✓ **Corporate Responsibility (CR) and Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) = SUSTAINABILITY**

✓ **Sustainability ≠ Greening**



SUSTAINABILITY REPORTING → 3 PILLARS:

- ECONOMIC
- SOCIAL
- ENVIRONMENTAL



- + GENERAL DISCLOSURES



SUSTAINABILITY REPORTING → 3 PILLARS



□ GENERAL DISCLOSURES

- organisation, profile, strategy, ethics, governance, etc

□ ECONOMIC

- Economic performance, economic impacts, procurement, anti-corruption, etc

□ SOCIAL

- Employment, health & safety, training, equal opportunities, socioeconomic compliance, etc.

□ ENVIRONMENTAL

Energy, emissions, waste, water, environmental compliance → EMAS



2 – How we got here

- A bit of history – 2017 EUIPO Sustainability report
- 2019: publication of Review No 7/2019: “Reporting on Sustainability – A stockage of EU Institutions and Agencies”:
 - *“most EU Institutions and Agencies are not reporting on sustainability”*
 - *“call to change this situation”*
- Meet stakeholders’ expectations: EP, budgetary authorities, EUIs, EU citizens
- Issues addressed:
 - ✓ Increased transparency → in how the institution is managed
 - ✓ Sound financial management → a sustainable organisation is the result of SFM
 - ✓ Improve sustainability as organisation → contribute to a more sustainable future
 - ✓ Reputation →



Leading by example → ECA must draw its own sustainability report annually

3 – How to prepare for your report

I. *Criteria for report content*

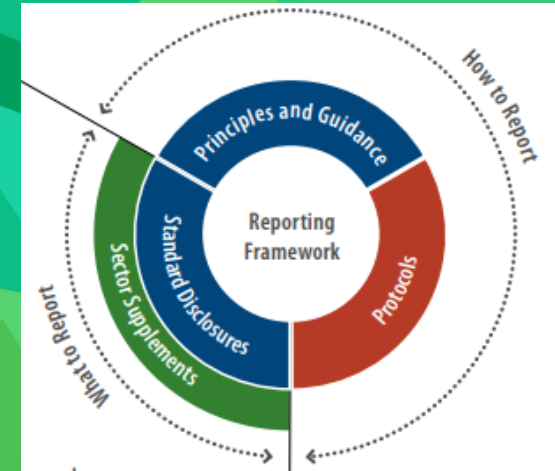
- ❖ Materiality
- ❖ Stakeholder inclusiveness
- ❖ Sustainability context
- ❖ Scope
- ❖ Completeness

II. *Report profile*

- ❖ Reporting period
- ❖ Define indicators

III. *What reporting framework to choose*

- ❖ *Frameworks provide principles-based guidance on how information is structured, how it is prepared, and what broad topics are covered.*
- ❖ *Standards provide specific, detailed, and replicable requirements for what should be reported for each topic, including metrics.*



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IV. Most common reporting frameworks

- a) SASB → Financial focus
- b) CDSB → Environmental focus
- c) IIRC → Financial focus
- d) CDP → Limited focus
- e) GRI → Broad focus / most widely used



4. Reporting framework: WHY GRI

Based on GRI standards



- GRI Standards are modular
- Designed to be used as a set
- Sustainability report focused on topics material to organisation
- GRI standards can be adapted - select GRIs that material to your organisation.

Sustainability reporting based on adapted GRI Standards → inclusive view of material issues, related impacts, and how they are managed.

6. Q & A →

I want your feedback! Email me at:

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**Thank you
for your attention!**