BUSINESS REPORTING ON THE SDGs AND THE VNRs

Bernhard Frey
Senior Manager, SDG Impact and Reporting

AGENDA

1. INTRODUCTION

2. CORPORATE REPORTING ON THE SDGs: TRENDS AND CHALLENGES

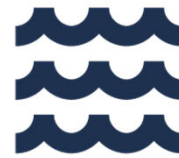3. MOBILIZING BUSINESSES TO REPORT ON THE SDGs AND SUPPORT VNRs

UN GLOBAL COMPACT: OVERVIEW

HUMAN RIGHTS   **LABOUR**   **ENVIRONMENT**   **ANTI-CORRUPTION**

9,700+
businesses committed to the Ten Principles of the UN Global Compact

3,000+
non-business members

160+
countries with UN Global Compact participants
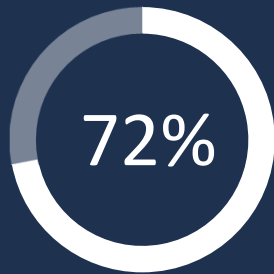
28%
of Fortune 500 companies

66M
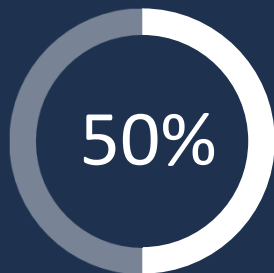people employed in a company participating in the UN Global Compact

United Nations
Global Compact

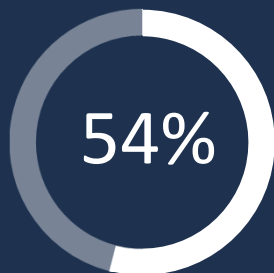# CORPORATE REPORTING ON THE SDGs – TRENDS AND THE BUSINESS CASE

CORPORATE SDG REPORTING TODAY – SOME FIGURES

72% of companies in study mention the SDGs in their annual corporate or sustainability report

50% of companies in study have identified priority SDGs

54% of those that prioritised the Goals, mention them in their business strategy

*PwC - SDG Reporting Challenge 2018 (study of 729 companies from 21 countries and territories and six broad industry sectors)

WHY SHOULD BUSINESS REPORT ON THE SDGs?

To engage stakeholders and explain how your business strategy contributes to the SDG agenda

To support sustainable decision-making processes and demonstrate (with data and narrative) how your business identifies and mitigates risks

To drive value creation and showcase (with data and narrative) how your business leverages opportunities

To hold the organization accountable for making progress towards societal goals

CHALLENGES RELATED TO CORPORATE SDG REPORTING

Lack of harmonization and consistency (comparability)

'SDG-washing' and 'cherry-picking'

Insufficient understanding of stakeholders SDG-information needs (e.g. governments)

Measuring actual impact (context-based target setting and reporting)

Digitization / data access and collection

Data accuracy and reliability / data verification

MOBILIZING BUSINESS TO REPORT ON THE SDGs AND SUPPORT VNRs

BUSINESS REPORTING ON THE SDGs –
THREE CONNECTED GUIDES
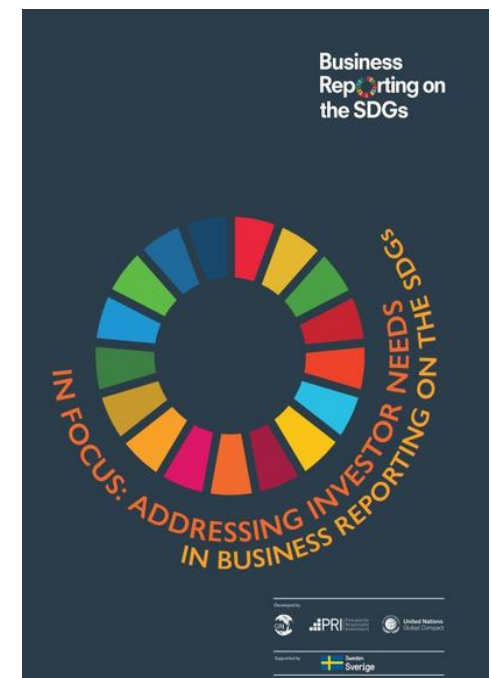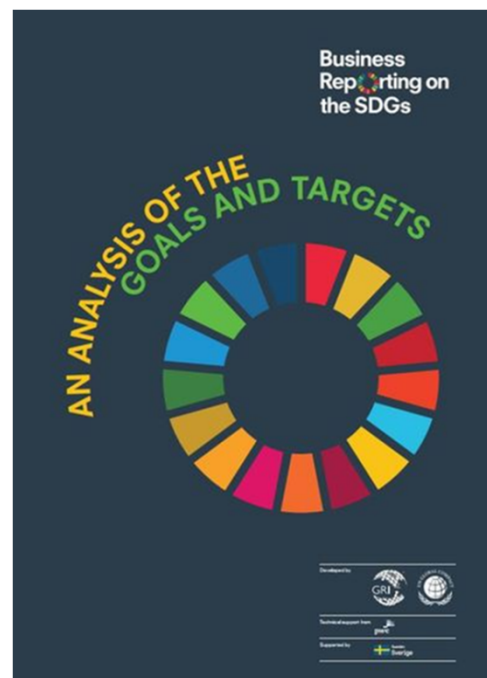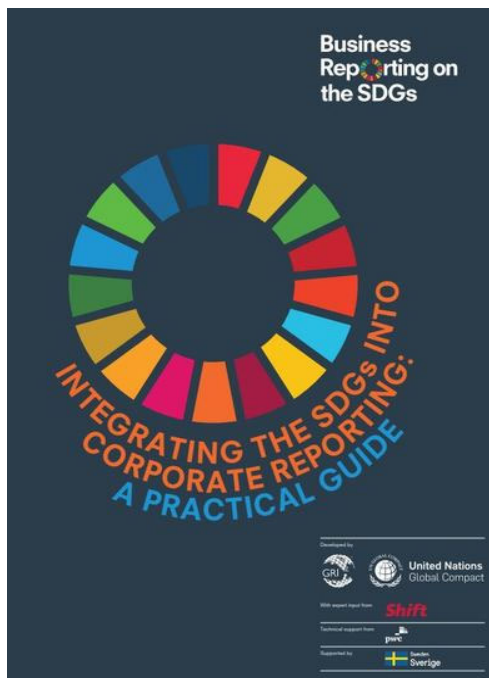
Find them in the UN Global Compact Library: https://www.unglobalcompact.org/library

LEVERAGING UN GLOBAL COMPACT's COMMUNICATION ON PROGRESS

- UNGC business participants are required to submit an annual communication on progress (CoP) as a sign of their ongoing commitment to UNGC's Ten Principles

- The COP is the largest repository of corporate sustainability data

- In 2020, the UNGC will be reviewing the COP to determine ways that it can be improved and enhanced

www.unglobalcompact.org/interactive

GLOBAL COMPACT LOCAL NETWORKS CAN SUPPORT VNRs

67 Business-led country-level networks of Global Compact participating companies

Identify local priorities and help advance the UN Global Compact's mission at the country and regional levels

Support GC participating companies in implementing the ten principles and the SDGs

Facilitate and engage in multi-stakeholder dialogue and partnerships

SOME COUNTRIES ARE ALREADY LEVERAGING CORPORAT SDG DATA

- E.g. Colombia: Pilot project implemented by the government with GRI, UNDP, Global Compact Network Colombia and other partners to gather sustainability data of select companies on select SDGs

- E.g. Denmark: DK Statistics has created an online platform to gather data, including from the private sector, that complements official statistics needed for its VNRs

www.unglobalcompact.org
Find us on social media @globalcompact