



THE INSTITUTE OF
Company Secretaries of India

भारतीय कम्पनी सचिव संस्थान

IN PURSUIT OF PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE

Statutory body under an Act of Parliament

(Under the jurisdiction of Ministry of Corporate Affairs)

Vision

"To be a global leader in promoting good corporate governance"

Motto

सत्यं वद। धर्मं चर। इष्टं कुरु। तृप्तये। अनेकेषु कुरु।

Mission

"To develop high calibre professionals facilitating good corporate governance"

ESG CATALYST

A JOURNEY TOWARDS SUSTAINABLE FUTURE



The ICSI has always promoted good corporate governance, environmental sustainability, and social responsibility among stakeholders including its members as well as students' community.

The "ESG Catalyst" is a bimonthly initiative launched by the ICSI to build awareness about the ESG amongst the professionals by sharing key ESG term, write-up, promising practices and latest developments in ESG domain with professional fraternity.

Company Secretaries are vital in ESG reporting, ethical governance, and stakeholder engagement. By implementing ESG initiatives in their organisations, the Company Secretaries can drive positive change towards a more sustainable, equitable, and resilient future.

Through this initiative of ICSI, we urge upon the professional's fraternity to take a lead in prioritising and setting the ESG agenda in their respective organisation in alignment with the sustainable development goals.

To embark on this journey, the ICSI will continuously mentor the professionals by sharing knowledge on concepts, sustainable practices and latest developments in ESG.

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Climate Overshoot

Climate overshoot refers to the period during which global warming increases past 1.5°C, before falling back down. It refers to a scenario where global temperatures temporarily exceed a target threshold, such as the 1.5°C limit set by the Paris Agreement, before declining due to aggressive mitigation efforts or natural carbon sinks. It occurs when greenhouse gas emissions are not reduced quickly enough, causing a temporary "overshooting" of the desired temperature goal.

During overshoot, the planet may experience intensified climate impacts—like extreme weather, ecosystem damage, or ice sheet loss—before temperatures are brought back down through measures like carbon dioxide removal, renewable energy adoption, or reforestation. The longer the climate overshoot lasts, the more dangerous it is. A prolonged period of higher global temperatures will have devastating and irreversible impacts on natural ecosystems, biodiversity, and human communities, particularly in dry areas, coastal zones, and other vulnerable locations. Making deep emission cuts during this decade is of extreme importance to limiting the duration and impacts of the climate overshoot.

Some of the mechanisms to reverse climate overshoot are:

- Adopting carbon dioxide removal practices
- Promoting activities to enhance natural carbon sinks
- Undertaking rapid decarbonization through transition to renewable energy

Good Practices in ESG

ENVIRONMENTAL

Organizations should endeavor to adopt green building infrastructure to reduce CO₂ emissions

SOCIAL

Organizations should conduct training campaigns on environmental protection and climate governance for all stakeholders

GOVERNANCE

Organizations should adopt a policy on environmental protection and climate governance

Tips for Environment Friendly Initiatives

Promote usage of light sensors
and water tap sensors

Walk for short
distance travelling

Set carbon
emission targets

News in ESG

(i) GRI Launches Climate and Energy Reporting Standards Aligned with Global Climate Goals

The Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) has unveiled two new sustainability reporting standards—GRI 102: Climate Change and GRI 103: Energy to drive corporate accountability and accelerate climate action.

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GRI 102: Climate Change emphasizes science-based emissions reductions as the cornerstone of mitigation efforts. It sets out clear disclosure expectations aligned with global climate goals and includes 'just transition' metrics to capture the social impacts of climate strategies especially on workers, Indigenous Peoples, and communities.

GRI 103: Energy offers a comprehensive view of corporate energy impacts, focusing on the use of renewable and non-renewable sources, decarbonization plans, and energy efficiency outcomes. It positions responsible energy management as essential to any climate strategy.

Both standards are aligned with authoritative global instruments, including the Greenhouse Gas Protocol, enabling a more streamlined and coherent reporting experience for companies.

Source: <https://esgnews.com/gri-launches-climate-and-energy-reporting-standards-aligned-with-global-climate-goals/>

(ii) UK Releases Draft Sustainability, Climate Reporting Standards Aligned with IFRS

The UK government has released exposure drafts of its new UK Sustainability Reporting Standards UK SRS S1 & UK SRS S2 modeled on the International Sustainability Standards Board's (ISSB) IFRS S1 and S2, covering general sustainability disclosures and climate-related reporting, respectively. These standards are intended to provide "credible and decision-useful sustainability-related financial information to the financial markets,".

The objective of UK SRS S1 General Requirements for Disclosure of Sustainability-related Financial Information is to require an entity to disclose information about its sustainability-related risks and opportunities that is useful to primary users of general-purpose financial reports in making decisions relating to providing resources to the entity.

The objective of UK SRS S2 Climate-related Disclosures is to require an entity to disclose information about its climate-related risks and opportunities that is useful to primary users of general-purpose financial reports in making decisions relating to providing resources to the entity.

The draft Standards are open for consultations from June 25, 2025 to September 17, 2025.

Source: <https://esgnews.com/uk-releases-draft-sustainability-climate-reporting-standards-aligned-with-ifrs/>

(iii) IFRS Foundation Issues New Guidance on Climate Transition Plan Disclosures

IFRS Foundation has published a guidance to help entities disclose climate-related transition information in alignment with IFRS S2 Climate-related Disclosures, aiming to improve the quality, consistency, and comparability of climate transition data. It provides a framework for reporting on both mitigation and adaptation strategies and reflects feedback from global stakeholder roundtables. The new guidance outlines:

- How a company's transition process aligns with its broader business strategy
- What to disclose if a company has adopted targets or strategies for lowering emissions or improving resilience
- How jurisdictions can supplement disclosures to meet local stakeholder needs, such as aligning GHG targets with the 1.5°C global warming limit

This guidance is intended to be used by jurisdictions adopting or otherwise using ISSB Standards. Jurisdictions can, if they choose, supplement the disclosures required by IFRS

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S2 with requirements for further information aimed at meeting the needs of a broader group of stakeholders or to address specific jurisdictional information needs, to the extent that the sustainability-related financial disclosures are clearly identifiable and not obscured by additional information.

Source: <https://esgnews.com/ifrs-foundation-issues-new-guidance-on-climate-transition-plan-disclosures/>

(iv) **New Coalition Launches to Tax Premium Flyers for Climate Resilience and Fair Transitions**

A coalition of eight countries France, Spain, Kenya, Barbados, Somalia, Benin, Sierra Leone, and Antigua & Barbuda has launched a global initiative to tax premium air travel and private jet use as part of a broader push to finance climate resilience and sustainable development. The effort was unveiled at the Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development (FFD4) in Seville, Spain.

The aviation sector is responsible for more than 2.5% of global energy-related CO₂ emissions, yet kerosene used for international flights is generally exempt from taxes. In 2021, the G20 average carbon cost of kerosene was just €9/ton of CO₂, compared to €79 for diesel and €68 for gasoline. The coalition aims to bring aviation, a rapidly growing source of emissions into alignment with climate financing goals. The coalition intends to increase the number of countries applying such levies, especially on premium travel, and ensure greater progressivity and upward harmonization of existing taxes.

The coalition aims to improve domestic revenue mobilization for developing nations while supporting global solidarity, especially in areas such as climate adaptation, health emergencies, and poverty alleviation. The group plans to finalize the policy framework before COP30 in Belém, Brazil, and implement legislative changes starting in 2026.

Source: <https://esgnews.com/new-coalition-launches-to-tax-premium-flyers-for-climate-resilience-and-fair-transitions/>

(v) **GRI Opens Public Consultation on Revised Labor Standards for Inclusion, Equal Opportunity**

The Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) has launched a global public comment period on proposed revisions to two of its core labor standards—Diversity and Inclusion and Non-Discrimination and Equal Opportunity—as part of a comprehensive update to its labor-related disclosure framework.

The consultation, open until 15 September, invites stakeholders to evaluate the completeness, clarity, relevance, and feasibility of the draft standards and submit feedback via an official questionnaire. The new drafts aim to align corporate reporting with ILO labor rights principles, calling for more detailed disclosures on direct and indirect discrimination, and executive accountability for inclusion strategies.

Source: <https://esgnews.com/gri-opens-public-consultation-on-revised-labor-standards-for-inclusion-equal-opportunity/>

We hope that the above information provided in the ESG Catalyst will be useful for professionals and inspire them to adopt ESG practices. Your suggestions and inputs on ESG Catalyst may be shared by email at esgsb@icsi.edu.

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