## Deloitte.





ESG in Deals and Investment
Best-practice guideline





With you today



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Jason leads the ESG M&A offering globally for Deloitte and sits in the UK team. He has over 25 years of international experience supporting both corporate and private equity clients with complex M&A transactions. He helps identify and deliver operational improvements, restructurings and carve outs to deliver value in transactions.



Susana Costa
Director
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Susana is a director within the ESG M&A team in the UK and focuses on performance improvement and ESG operations projects. Susana studied ESG at London Business School and has 10+ years' experience working with clients to optimise M&A transaction value.



James Hilburn
Director
ESG M&A Lead

James leads the UK ESG M&A team and advises our PE and corporate clients in sustainability, responsible investment, and to assess the ESG impact on their transactions, and craft risk mitigation and value creation plans for post transaction ESG optimisation.

The guideline

The guideline explores the role that ESG plays across the M&A lifecycle, and provides practical guidance pulled from recent experience on how to integrate ESG into the M&A process, identify and quantify its value potential, and ultimately to execute on ESG levers to create positive value through the transaction.

## Focus of today:

- ESG and its importance to stakeholders
- ESG and Value creation
- ESG Due Diligence Process



The guideline



#### Consumers

**79%** of buyers are changing preferences based on sustainability

**36%** of organisations believe consumers are willing to make this change

Capgemini RI, Consumer How sustainability is fundamentally changing consumer preferences, July 2020



### **Employees**

**61%** believe business sustainability is mandatory for companies

**46%** would only work for companies with sustainable business practices

HP Workforce Sustainability Survey, Global Insights Report, April 2019



### Regulators

**130** Countries have committed to net zero by or before 2050

Mandatory Disclosure emerging across multiple jurisdictions: TCFD (UK); CSRD & EU Taxonomy; SEC

**Taxes & Incentives** Carbon pricing; Plastics Tax; Sugar Tax; ICE Phase Outs

Edelman Trust Barometer 2020, Morningstar



#### **Investors**

**88%** monitor ESG KPIs to inform investment decisions on an ongoing basis

\$130 trillion committed to net zero aligned investment under the Global alliance for net zero (Gfanz)

**\$2 trillion** in AUM within dedicated **impact funds** in 2021, 100% growth from 2020.

Intralinks, EMEA Survey of 1500 dealmakers, August 2022



#### **Dealmakers**

**97%** said they are driven by (41%) or conscious of (56%) ESG through the deal process

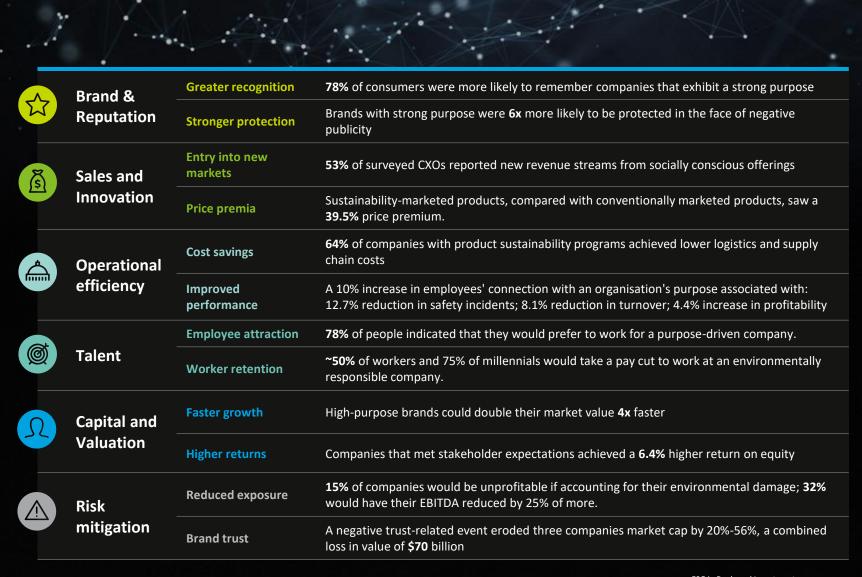
**60%** of UK dealmakers have turned down one or more details because of ESG concerns

## ESG in Deals and Investment ESG and value creation

### The purpose premium:

Why a purpose-driven strategy is good for business

An integrated purpose strategy – one that's focused on the differentiated role a company serves in society – can provide organisations with a 'purpose premium,' driving long-term value and creating competitive advantage

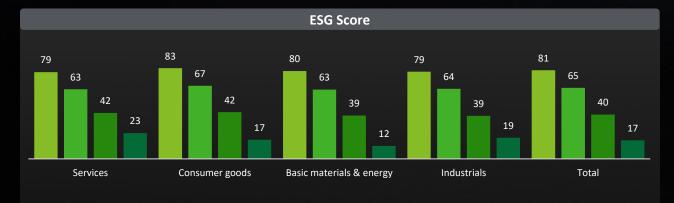


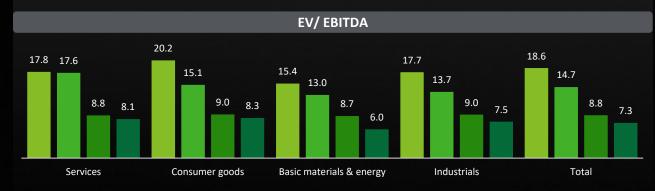
ESG and value creation

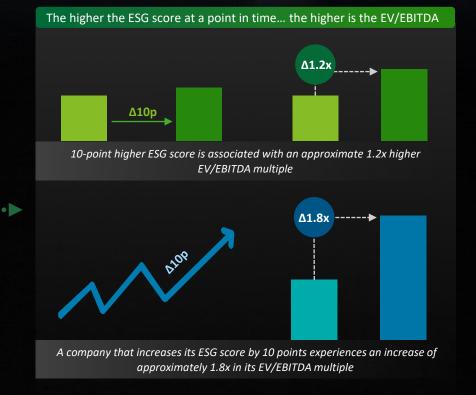
## **Isolated effect of ESG score**

**Insights by sector** 









Source: Deloitte Analysis, Refinitiv

# ESG in Deals and Investment Understanding ESG performance



### Our approach



### **Key considerations**



Gathering and reviewing information available

 Identifying which ESG performance metrics are crucial to the transaction (leverage existing frameworks, e.g. SASB)

• Getting assurance that information presented is comprehensive and reliable



Assessing the maturity and effectiveness of the target's ESG management

Assessing maturity based on rating of ESG strategy, accountability, implementation of initiatives and transparency / reporting

Example: ESG Strategy maturity assessment

	Not Formalized	Developing	Mature	Best-in-class
ESG Program / Strategy	<ul> <li>No formal ESG program in place</li> <li>May have a sense for material ESG topics and some activity to address/ manage</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Some (not all) material ESG topics identified with related initiatives to manage; topics not placed into a cohesive ESG/Sustainability program</li> <li>No or limited engagement with key stakeholders on material topics</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Material ESG topics identified and integrated into a cohesive program</li> <li>May maintain stakeholder map &amp; materiality map or equivalents</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Material ESG topics identified and integrated into a cohesive narrative that links to company's purpose</li> <li>Multi-year objectives to achieve improvements over time</li> <li>Clear sense of key stakeholders and engagement channels</li> </ul>

Understanding ESG performance



### Our approach



### **Key considerations**



Benchmarking performance against peers and stakeholder expectations

• Benchmarking used mostly as a source of triangulation given challenges with availability and quality of data

Benchmarking helps validate management statements and indicates where a company is leading / lagging against peers

Example: Environmental metrics benchmarking

	Peer 1 (USA)	Peer 2 (USA)	Peer 3 (USA)	Peer 4 (EUR)	Peer 5 (EUR)	Peer 6 (EUR)	Peer 7 (EUR)	Peer 8 (EUR)
Environment								
GHG Emissions (Scope 1, 2, 3)								
Energy consumption								
Emissions intensity								
Share of renewable energy								
Waste								
TCFD Disclosure								



Assessing the positive contribution of a business to the sustainable economy

• Applying commonly used frameworks from the more qualitative UN Sustainable Development Goals to the Impact Management Project and the Global Impact Investor Network's IRIS+, and even the EU Taxonomy

Understanding ESG performance



### Our approach



### **Key considerations**

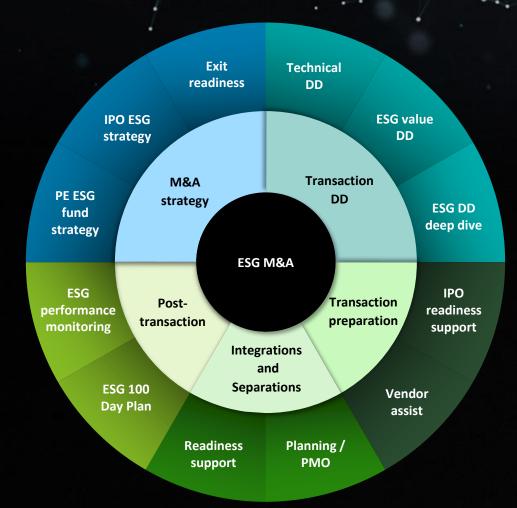


### Quantifying value of ESG

 Assessment of potential financial impact based on ESG factors assessed during due diligence process

	Negative impacts of ESG factors	Positive impacts of ESG factors
P&L: sales/revenue	<ul> <li>ESG-related product or brand issues</li> <li>Introduction of product-related ESG regulations</li> <li>Physical and transition risks of climate change</li> <li>Lower demand for unsustainable products which may become more expensive</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Enhance reputation for sustainable products and practices</li> <li>Higher demand for sustainable products</li> <li>Earn subsidies and government support</li> <li>Higher staff productivity</li> </ul>
P&L: expenses	<ul> <li>Increasing carbon/other ESG taxes and levies</li> <li>Higher operating costs to address climate change impacts and more stringent ESG standards</li> <li>Additional headcount to manage/address ESG performance</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Lower cost of producing more sustainable products</li> <li>Better retention rates and talent</li> <li>Lower cost of debt</li> </ul>
Balance sheet	<ul> <li>Writing down the value of assets exposed to the physical and transition impacts of climate change</li> <li>Invest in plant and machinery to meet existing and emerging regulations.</li> <li>Need to introduce provisions due to environmental contamination or occupational health liabilities</li> </ul>	Allocate capital to more sustainable plant and equipment

Conclusion





## **Conclusion**

The businesses that **succeed with ESG in their M&A strategies** cut through the hype and focus on strategic alignment, due diligence, execution, and value creation.

The approaches taken during the deal should reflect relevant frameworks, be backed by robust due diligence, and be carried out in a world of evolving expectations.

ESG-assessed M&A will be an important means to create growth, a competitive edge, and access to affordable capital.





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