#### ICAEW KNOW-HOW CORPORATE REPORTING FACULTY



## Introducing IFRS S1

9 November 2023

This webinar will commence shortly .....



## Introduction



Alison Bonathan Technical Manager, Corporate Reporting Faculty, ICAEW

# Today's presenters



Ravi Abeywardana Director, Strategic Affairs and Capacity Building ISSB



Gurpreet Kaur Director, Sustainability Reporting PwC



Lucas Penfold Senior Manager PwC

## Ask a question and access resources

A3Q 00	
You asked: What happens when I raise my hand?	18:03
Molly Parker answered: I can take you off of mute.	18:04
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## **Contents**

IFRS S1 - Summary

UK Sustainability Disclosure Standards

Practical implementation tips for UK businesses

IFRS Foundation resources



# IFRS Sustainability Disclosure Standards: IFRS S1

Thursday, November 9, 2023

Presenter: Ravi Abeywardana ACA, Director of Strategic Affairs and Capacity Building rabeywardana@ifrs.org

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# Survey question

## **Q.** Which of the following best describes your current role?

- Preparer of financial statements
- Preparer of sustainability disclosures / reports (i.e., UN SDGs, GRI, TCFD, SASB)
- User of disclosures (i.e., investor / financial analyst)
- Auditor
- Regulatory Body Representative
- Academic
- Other



# Survey question

- Q. How would you describe your knowledge of the sustainability-related disclosures?
- I am an expert
- I am confident, but there are some areas I need help with
- I have some knowledge, but need support
- I have little knowledge
- I have no knowledge



# Designed for communication to investors



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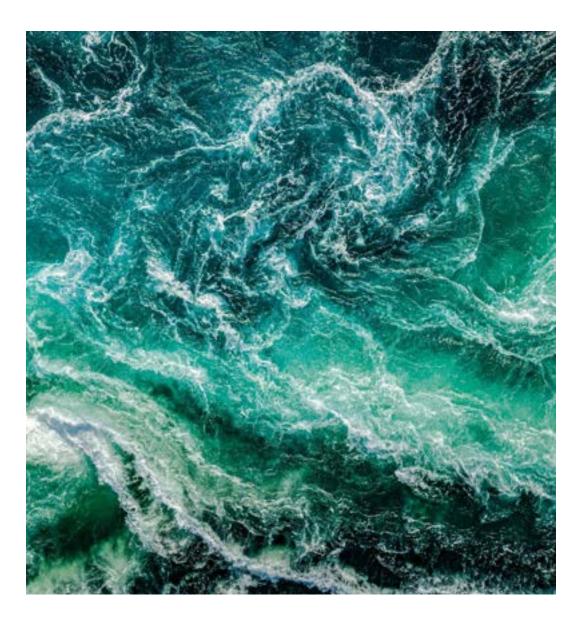


# Strong market demand

The ISSB was established as part of the IFRS Foundation because of investor, company and international policy maker (including the G20, G7, the International Organization of Securities Commissions (IOSCO) and the Financial Stability Board) demand for:

- decision-useful, comparable information
- ending the 'alphabet soup' of voluntary initiatives
- an efficient reporting landscape

The ISSB has a transparent, rigorous due process to develop market-informed Standards that respond to these needs





# Rationalising investor-focused standards and frameworks







# A truly global baseline of disclosures

- can be added to meet jurisdictionspecific requirements
- can be added to meet broader multi-stakeholder needs

# **ISSB Standards**

• provide a comprehensive foundation of disclosures for global jurisdictional adoption

additional

building blocks

- are a common language for comparable, decision-useful disclosures
- are designed to meet investor needs across global capital markets



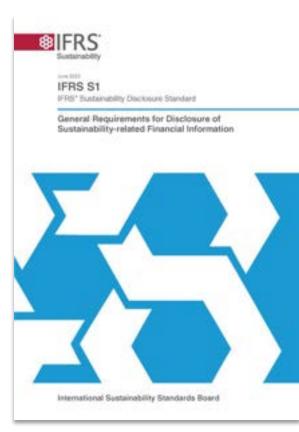
# IFRS S1:

General Requirements for Disclosures of Sustainability-related Financial Information





# IFRS S1: General Requirements for Disclosure of Sustainability-related Financial Information

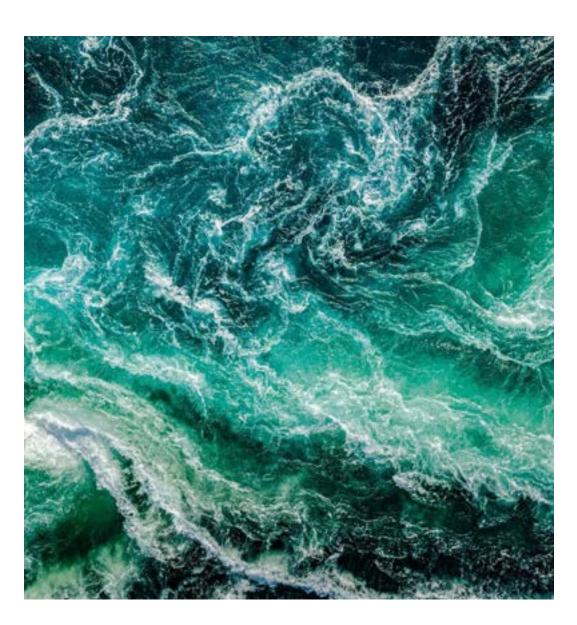


- Asks for disclosure of material information about sustainabilityrelated risks and opportunities with the financial statements, to meet investor information needs
- Applies **TCFD** architecture whenever providing information about sustainability
- Requires industry-specific disclosures
- For matters other than climate (IFRS S2) refers to sources to help companies identify sustainability-related risks and opportunities and information
- Can be used in conjunction with any accounting requirements (GAAP)



# Contents of IFRS S1

- 1. Objective
- 2. Scope
- 3. Conceptual foundations
- 4. Core content
- 5. General requirements
- 6. Judgements, uncertainties and errors





# Objective

- IFRS S1 asks for disclosure of information about sustainability-related risks and opportunities to meet investor information needs
- That means information about:

all sustainability-related risks and opportunities that could reasonably be expected to affect the company's prospects — its cash flows, access to finance or cost of capital over the short, medium or long term





How companies identify material sustainability information

Information is material if omitting, misstating or obscuring it could reasonably be expected to **influence investor decisions**.

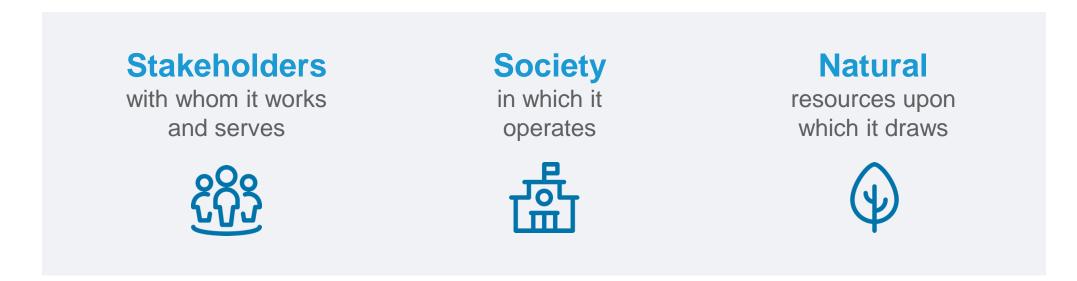
This is based on the IFRS Accounting Standards definition of 'material'





# How sustainability can affect a company's prospects

A company's ability to deliver financial value for **investors is inextricably linked to**:



Builds on concepts from the Integrated Reporting Framework



# **Connected information**

#### **IFRS S1** asks for information that enables understanding of the connections between:

- sustainability-related risks and opportunities
- disclosures on core content
- sustainability-related financial disclosures and financial statements

#### The disclosures are:

- prepared for the **same** reporting **entity** and reporting **period** as the related financial statements
- provided at the **same time** as the financial statements and as part of the general purpose financial reports
- include data and assumptions that are consistent with the corresponding data and assumptions in the related financial statements, to the extent possible, considering accounting requirements.



# Applies TCFD structure to set out core content areas



#### Governance

Governance processes, controls and procedures a company uses to monitor, manage and oversee sustainability-related risks and opportunities

# (Å

#### Strategy

A company's strategy for managing sustainabilityrelated risks and opportunities

# $\overline{\mathbf{V}}$

#### **Risk management**

The process a company uses to identify, assess, prioritise and monitor sustainabilityrelated risks and opportunities



#### **Metrics and targets**

A company's performance in relation to sustainabilityrelated risks and opportunities



# Sources of Guidance



#### Which risks & opportunities?

To identify relevant **risks and opportunities**, a company uses ISSB Standards and **shall consider**:

 Sustainability Accounting Standards Board (SASB) Standards

#### A company may also consider:

- Climate Disclosure Standards Board (CDSB)
  Framework Application Guidance
- industry practice
- materials of investor-focused standard setters



#### Which information?

To identify what information to disclose, a company uses ISSB Standards, and for matters other than climate, **shall consider**:

#### SASB Standards

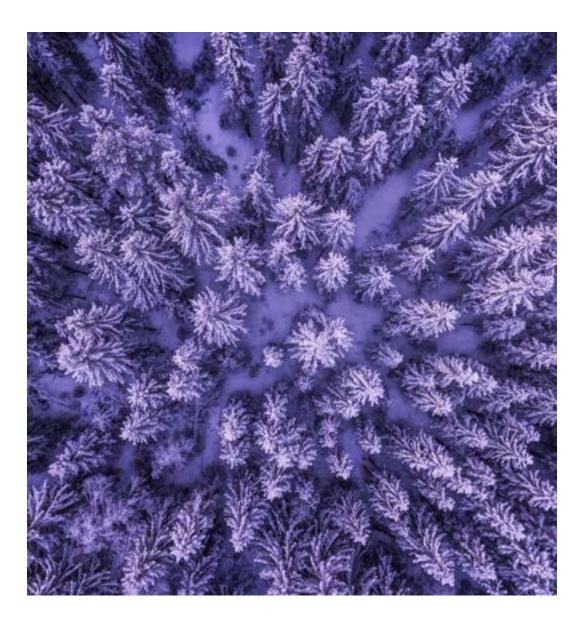
A company **may also consider**, to the extent it meets investor information needs:

- CDSB Framework Application Guidance
- industry practice
- materials of investor-focused standard setters
- GRI (Global Reporting Initiative) Standards
- European Sustainability Reporting Standards



# Mechanisms that support application

- Use of well-known terminology and concepts
- Proportionate:
  - the instruction to **use reasonable and supportable** information available without **undue cost or effort**
  - consideration of skills, capabilities and resources
- Help through:
  - **guidance** within the Standards and educational materials
  - **sources of guidance** to identify sustainability-related risks and opportunities, and metrics
  - other clarifications, such as permitting **qualitative** scenario analysis and qualitative information on financial effects



Transitional reliefs



# Things to remember

#### ✤ Is the information:

- relevant
- material
- represented
  faithfully

- comparable
- verifiable
- timely
- understandable
- Will investors be able to understand connections between:
  - sustainability-related risks and opportunities
  - disclosures on core content
  - sustainability-related financial disclosures and financial statements

- Is the sustainability-related financial disclosures for the same period and same reporting entity as for the related financial statements?
- Do the disclosures cover all material information that investors need, including on core content?
- Have comparatives been provided?
- Is there a statement of compliance?

# Practical implementation tips for UK businesses

IFRS S1: General requirements for disclosure of sustainability-related financial information

November 2023



# UK Sustainability Disclosure Standards (SDS)

UK Government has set up two advisory bodies to input into the process for endorsing the standards (S1 and S2) for UK adoption by July 2024



**Business and Trade Secretary** 

endorsement decision by July

expected to make final

2024

Technical assessment and independent recommendations

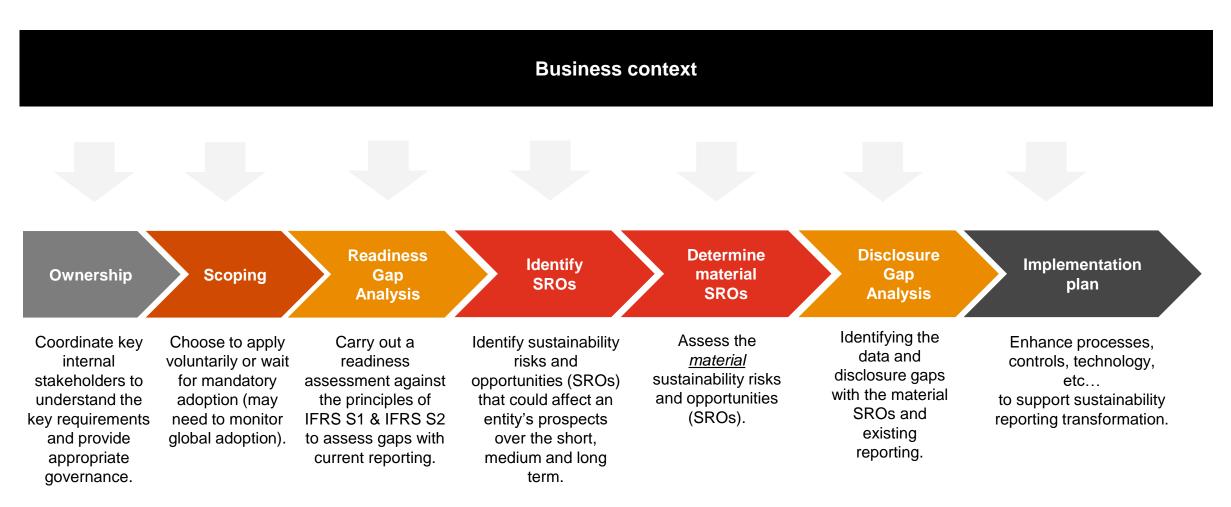
Consider interactions between the ISSB Standards and existing UK regulation

If endorsed the PIC will coordinate implementation across relevant components of UK SDR

If endorsed, the FCA will introduce formal rules for listed companies

Consultation in H1 2024, with final rules by end 2024 and first reports for accounting periods from **1 January 2025** 

# Key initial steps to implementing IFRS S1





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# IFRS Foundation Capacity Building initiative





# Four-pillar strategy to support adoption and use of ISSB Standards

Proportionality and guidance built into IFRS S1 and IFRS S2 Transition reliefs - with possibility of jurisdictional extensions

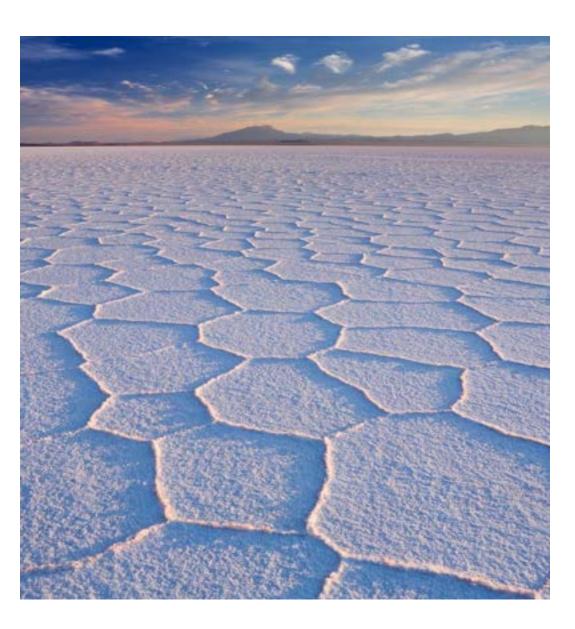
Implementation strategy for ISSB Standards

Additional support – including Capacity Building for industry and jurisdictions Adoption Guide to support scalability and jurisdictional phasing in



# Capacity building

- 1. Awareness raising and stakeholder outreach
- 2. High-quality resources and educational materials
- 3. Tailored training and engagement programs for key audiences
- 4. Partnership Framework

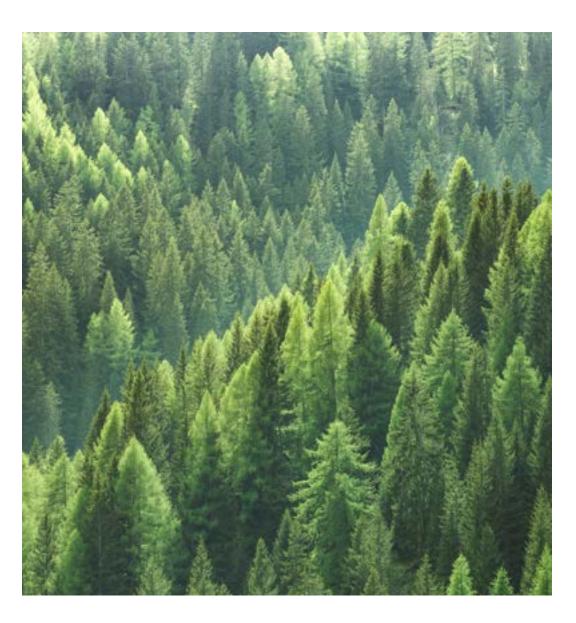




# Capacity building

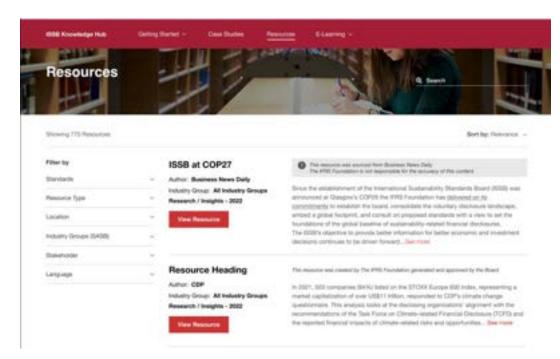
Partnership Framework

- 30+ global and local partners committed to ensuring readiness.
- Helps to consider specific circumstances of emerging and developing economies, including smaller companies
- Focused on enabling consistent and comparable high-quality disclosures to bring benefits of sustainability-related disclosures to all.





# Knowledge Hub



To date we have received 279 responses on our Knowledge Hub survey and have had approximately 40 calls with partners over the last three months to gather information on topics preparers would like to see on the Knowledge Hub.

# i

- Central platform for educational material for preparers
- Free online resource for preparers to support them in getting ready for IFRS S1 and IFRS S2
- Easy to navigate and searchable repository, e.g. case studies, good practice guidance, webinars, research publications, learning pages
- Platform for partners to showcase their material



# **IFRS** Foundation Supporting materials

#### **Application Guidance**

Guidance, sometimes presented as an appendix to a Standard. This is just a question of location – this material is still a required piece of the standard



#### **Accompanying Guidance**

Guidance issued alongside a Standard to assist companies, demonstrating how the requirements in the Standard could be applied often using examples (non mandatory)



#### **Educational materials**

Separate materials developed to help companies apply the Standards

Published with the Standards.

Published over time to meet preparer needs.

Where to find the supporting materials?:

https://www.ifrs.org/supporting-implementation/supporting-materials-for-ifrs-

sustainability-disclosure-standards/



# Topics covered on Knowledge Hub, include:

- Connected information
- Defining reasonable and supportable
- Defining undue cost and effort (Proportionality: skills, resource, considerations)
- Effect on value chain
- General governance topics
- GHG Emissions
- How to reflect the sources of guidance discussed in the standards
- Internal controls
- Materiality
- Scenario analysis
- Timing and location of disclosure
- Transition Reliefs



# Special thanks to partners that have supported with providing resources



If you have a resource that you would like us to consider for the Knowledge Hub, please email <u>rabeywardana@ifrs.org</u>



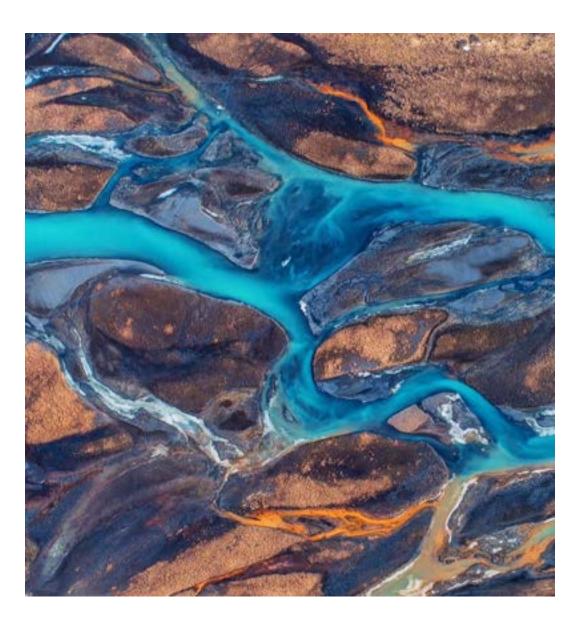
# Implementation support and education

#### **Capacity building initiative**

- Development of general educational materials for all stakeholders (including investors)
- Development of specific educational materials for stakeholders in emerging and developing economies as well as smaller companies

#### Support implementation by companies

 Transition Implementation Group - a public forum for stakeholders to follow the discussion of questions raised on implementation by those applying the Standards. Link: <u>IFRS - Transition</u> <u>Implementation Group on IFRS S1 and IFRS S2</u>





# Get involved











Download proposed IFRS Standards and supporting materials

Watch ISSB meetings

Respond to live consultations

Sign up for news alerts Discover which IFRS Foundation services can support you, including membership and education



# Visit ifrs.org to find out more

- <u>Access</u> the Standards and supporting materials
- Listen to the monthly podcast
- Respond to live <u>consultations</u>
- Sign up for news alerts
- Discover <u>services</u> that can support you
- Observe ISSB meetings
- Join the team

### Ask a question and access resources

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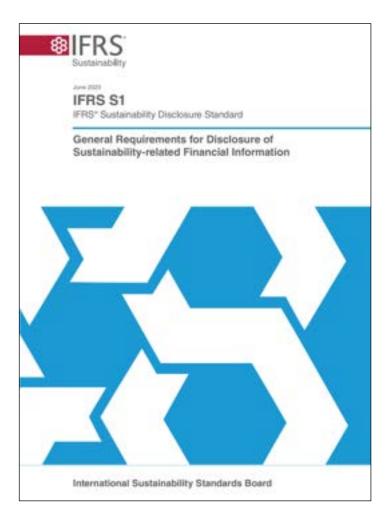
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#### Download resources

Access related resources, including the presentation slides at icaew.com/crfwebinars

### Faculty and other resources

- Non-financial reporting hub
  - icaew.com/nfr
- ICAEW webpages
  - ICAEW guide to IFRS S1
  - IFRS S1 and IFRS S2 in the UK
- Webinar recordings
  - icaew.com/crfwebinars
- Other
  - IFRS Foundation supporting materials for IFRS S1



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# **Questions**



Ravi Abeywardana Director, Strategic Affairs and Capacity Building ISSB



Gurpreet Kaur Director, Sustainability Reporting PwC



Lucas Penfold Senior Manager PwC

# Thank you for attending



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