

# THE CORPORATE SUSTAINABILITY REPORTING DIRECTIVE (CSRD) & EUROPEAN SUSTAINABILITY REPORTING STANDARDS (ESRS) (7 hrs)

#### **Course Overview**

In today's rapidly changing world, the pursuit of sustainable development is not just a choice—it's an imperative. Organizations all over the globe recognize the pivotal role they play in shaping a better future, embracing their sensitivity to environmental issues, making meaningful social contributions, and upholding strong governance policies (ESG). The time has come to unleash the power of these factors and drive positive change like never before.

At the heart of this transition is understanding and measuring impact. Clear Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) guide decision-making towards sustainability. It's a journey that demands consistent and reliable data, unveiling an organization's true environmental and societal footprint. That's why Corporate Sustainability Reporting has become an unwavering mandate for large-sized and public organizations since 2017, through the Non-Financial Reporting Directive (NFRD).

In 2021, the Commission adopted a proposal for a "Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive (CSRD)" which amends the existing reporting requirements of the NFRD. Criteria is becoming stricter, which means that almost all companies will need to be made aware of these new directives and guidelines to be able to comply and meet new requirements as set by the EU.

This course invites you to explore reporting frameworks with a focus on the European Sustainability Reporting Standards (ESRS). Guided by industry experts and leading professionals, you will gain a comprehensive understanding of how reporting frameworks harmonize with organizational goals, enabling the measurement of progress towards a sustainable future. This course will help you grasp the true essence of sustainability reporting and its transformative power. Join us to unlock your organization's potential.

## **Training Objectives**

By the end of the programme, participants will be able to:

- List various reporting standards & frameworks
- Name the key obligations that corporations will be required to meet relevant to ESG and Sustainability
- Identify the requirements stemming from existing regulations
- Express the importance of producing appropriate ESG Reports
- Convey the ESG and Sustainability challenges corporations are expected to face
- Prepare the Compliance Unit to be best equipped for current and future ESG and Sustainable-related regulations
- Choose the relevant tools to use for ESG reporting
- Compare best practices in monitoring and reporting ESG for a corporation
- Communicate ESG actions & performance



### **Training Outline**

#### Introduction

- Importance of sustainable development for organisations
- Criteria for sustainable development (ESG)
- The role of Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) in decision-making

## **Overview of Corporate Sustainability Reporting**

- Mandate for sustainability reporting: Non-Financial Reporting Directive (NFRD) for largesized and public organizations since 2017
- Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive (CSRD) and its extended scope
- New standards (ESRS), Stricter criteria and future implications for non-public organizations

# **Sustainability Reporting Frameworks and Principles**

- Introduction to different sustainability reporting frameworks
- Focus on the new European Sustainability Reporting Standards (ESRS)
- Understanding the structure and components of the ESRS Standards

## **Key Elements of Corporate Sustainability Reporting in Detail**

- Setting up your sustainability governance structure
- ESRS reporting principles & Structure
- Stakeholder Mapping & Engagement
- Double Materiality Assessment (Impact & Financial materiality)
- Deep Dive into each material topic's specific disclosures & indicators (sub topics & sub sub topics)
- Optimizing Data collection processes with the use of technology & innovation
- New reporting requirements:
  - o External Assurance
  - o Integrated Reporting
  - Digital Tagging of reported information

#### **Communicating Key Report Findings**

# **Who Should Attend**

This course is suitable for persons interested in ESG and Sustainability, and holding positions in the following fields:

- Compliance officers and managers
- ESG & Sustainability Officers who wish to stay up to date with developments in the field
- Company executives from various departments who have been assigned the task of contributing towards their organisation's Sustainability Report, strategy and plan and wish to have a better understanding of the field
- Business strategists
- Professionals interested in ESG and Sustainability regulations and policies



### **Training Style**

The course is designed to deliver knowledge, initially by offering a theoretical assessment of ESG, and then adopting a more practical perspective that seeks to illustrate the challenges and obligations relating to ESG Reporting. The teaching methodology rests on an interactive approach that will seek to engage the participants and accordingly place emphasis on those aspects/issues discussed that are deemed to have the greatest value for the participants.

This course can be customized to meet the specific needs of your organization following a training needs assessment amongst participants.

#### Who Should Attend

This course is suitable for persons interested in ESG and Sustainability, and will be of particular benefit to those holding positions in the following fields:

- Compliance officers and managers
- ESG & Sustainability Officers who wish to stay up to date with developments in the field
- Company executives from various departments who have been assigned the task of contributing towards their organisation's Sustainability Report, strategy and plan and wish to have a better understanding of the field
- Business consultants / strategists
- Professionals interested in ESG and Sustainability regulations and policies

# **Training Style**

The programme is designed to deliver knowledge and insights regarding good and bad Sustainability communication practices. Focused on identifying and resolving bad practices/greenwashing, the course will strive to enhance participants' skills and knowledge via group discussions, case studies review, individual and group exercises, small lectures supported by power-point presentations and practical examples. The training style is both training-focused, involving a combination of presentation and real-live examples, but also learner-focused, where participants are encouraged to raise questions, seek clarifications and share their opinions from their different perspectives and engage in an exchange of views and personal professional experiences.

#### NOTES

The above courses are delivered by HRDA certified professional trainers and meet all the criteria as set by the HRDA and can therefore be subsidized.

More details can be provided upon request.