



## THE SUSTAINABLE BUSINESS DOWNLOAD

# Hello, Everyone – and Welcome to our Sustainability & ESG Services Newsletter!

Every quarter, the regulatory, stakeholder, and market demands around sustainability evolve, and 2025 is no exception. Join us as we explore three big shifts that are especially worth our attention:

### **1. Regulation & Disclosure: Multiplying in Reach and Consequence**

Between global baseline frameworks like IFRS/ISSB, the European landscape under ESRS/CSRD, California's recent laws (SB 253 & SB 261), expanding Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) rules, and other mandatory reporting requirements, the compliance bar is rising quickly. These frameworks are not optional. The reality is that inaction is becoming more costly than action, and businesses that start early are better positioned to manage risk and control costs.

### **2. Pushback + Purpose: Separating Signal from Noise**

While headlines about ESG "pushback" continue, the resistance is largely concentrated in the financial and political spheres. On the ground, companies are still advancing sustainability efforts because they recognize the value created through efficiency, innovation, and stronger stakeholder trust. The key is cutting through the noise and using proper disclosure and reporting as tools that demonstrate that value clearly.

### **3. High Scores Drive Real Value**

In today's market, strong ratings aren't optional; they're required to stay in the game. Customers and partners often set clear performance thresholds, and only companies that meet or exceed them remain

competitive. But the real insight is this: when you focus on the practices that lead to a high score — from stronger governance to better environmental performance — the business value follows naturally.

If you'd like to stay ahead of this shifting landscape—learning not just what's changing, but *why*, *where it's going*, and *how to adapt*—connect with Alex DeBlois, CSRM, Vice President, on LinkedIn. He shares frequent insights on regulatory developments, sustainability strategy, and how to translate mandates into momentum.



## Recent Highlights and Insights



### [The Clock Is Ticking: Why SB 253, SB 261, and EPR Demand Action Now](#)

Even as the ESG debate rages on, the direction of travel is clear: sustainability reporting is not slowing down. Some have pointed to political pushback or the SEC's climate disclosure rules saga as signs of retreat. But let's focus on the signal, not the noise.

[Read more](#) for the urgent shift from voluntary sustainability to mandatory compliance, requiring companies to act now, or risk falling behind legally, operationally, and competitively.

[Schedule a touch base](#)



### **Complexity to Convergence: The ESRS Simplification Marks a Turning Point for Sustainability Reporting**

The global movement toward consistent, decision-useful sustainability disclosures is accelerating once again. Across jurisdictions, momentum is building to adopt frameworks that allow investors, regulators, and other stakeholders to compare information and hold companies accountable.

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### **How Anti-ESG Backlash is Reshaping Corporate Sustainability**

There's a paradox playing out in corporate sustainability. As the anti-ESG movement turns up the heat, many companies are turning down the volume—swapping bold slogans for tighter disclosures. On the surface, it looks like retreat. In practice, it's a stress test. Under political pressure, only what's truly strategic tends to survive.

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## Why CDP and EcoVadis Improvement Is More Than a Score

Companies are feeling the pressure from all directions: customers, regulators, investors, and rating platforms. CDP and EcoVadis, leading sustainability assessment tools, have emerged as a critical benchmark for ESG maturity. But for many companies, improving a CDP or EcoVadis rating feels more like an obstacle course than a strategic lever.

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## Sustainability Reporting: A Comprehensive Guide

Sustainability reporting has emerged as a critical compliance issue for many companies that operate as part of the global value chain, especially if they fall into highly regulated environmental categories. The value doesn't end with compliance, though: best practices for modern organizations help to complement economic strength with environmental stewardship and social responsibility.

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