

HARMONIZING INDICATOR TOOL CASE STUDY: VODAFONE GROUP, PLC

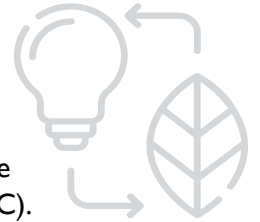


“Our strategy continues to help drive impact against the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).”

– Nick Read, Group Chief Executive, Vodafone

ENVIRONMENTAL, SOCIAL, GOVERNANCE (ESG) IN CONTEXT

- Vodafone is a British multinational telecommunications company with operations in Asia, Africa, Europe, and Oceania. As a leader in communications technology, Vodafone is committed to creating a more inclusive digital society and halving its environmental impact by 2025.
- Through its ESG reporting, Vodafone reports against the Sustainability Accounting Standards Board (SASB) Standards; the Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures (TCFD); the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) Standards Index; and the United Nations Global Compact (UNGC).
- In its annual Sustainable Business Report, Vodafone outlines its sustainable business strategy and targets, which are also guided by the UN SDGs, specifically: **quality education; gender equality, decent work and economic growth; industry, innovation and infrastructure, climate action**



MATERIALITY

With guidance from the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) Principle of Materiality; the Global e-Sustainability Initiative’s materiality tool; the five Principles of the Blueprint Framework for Better Business (as well as global trends and feedback from stakeholders), Vodafone identified 10 materially-significant factors for its business.

These priorities include:

- Digital rights
- Socio-economic benefits
- Management of supply chain risks
- Health and safety
- Business conduct and ethics
- Corporate taxation and total economic contribution
- Public health concerns
- Employee equality and diversity
- Energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions
- Customer relationships

BEYOND REPORTING

As a customer-facing company whose brand value, market share, and revenues are highly dependent on customer perception and credibility, Vodafone utilizes transparent and rigorous reporting to:

- Vodafone utilizes three purpose pillars - Digital Society, Inclusion for All, and Planet - to guide its social contract for potential partnerships with governments, policy makers, and civil society.
- Vodafone operationalizes its purpose pillars through complementary initiatives which feed into its ESG reporting. These include:
 - V-Hub in Europe, a free service that connects SMEs with information and experts
 - Vodacom in South Africa (which is majority owned by Vodafone), connects small suppliers to more established business partners, through a supplier portal called VodaTrade.



Vodafone Group (2022). Sustainability Reports. <https://www.vodafone.com/about-vodafone/reporting-centre/>

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