

Sustainability Reporting

The performance of today's enterprise is best measured by fully integrated financial and non-financial indicators set out to track progress against social, economic and environmental objectives. Regulators, board members and public opinion, all agree. This sentiment underpins the notion that the convergence of the financial and non-financial worlds is now under way and that sustainability reporting is set to become the standard by which investors will make their decisions and exercise their options. The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) predicts this full integration in reporting to happen by 2010.

Still, most companies fail to identify material strategic and financial risks and opportunities associated with the economic, social, and environmental impacts captured by the 'triple bottom line' agenda. This disconnect between robust governance and progressive sustainability performance, somewhat taints the 8-year progress made in the transition from sustainability reporting as a public relations exercise to a function of corporate governance.

CGF's series of reports on sustainability look at an innovative framework to develop competence in sustainability reporting and suggests practices and processes for identifying issues that may prove material in terms of affecting investment decisions.

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A PowerPoint report covering this topic can be purchased through CGF at www.cgf.co.za
