

More than 1,400
academic studies
find a positive
relationship
between ESG
scores and financial
returns, whether
measured by
equity returns
or profitability or
valuation multiples.









# THE ESG IMPERATIVE

The world has changed. Can you?

Emerging from the pandemic, businesses must adapt to our climate nearing its tipping point, new geo-political dangers, and a potentially devastating energy crisis. ESG is part of the solution, and it must be noted that managing business continuity is core to good governance.

The developing regulatory storm will pale when compared to the demands of a society which is progressively voting with its wallet when choosing who gains patronage. This is fueling aggressive consumer activism, and the rise in D&O lawsuits which raise the bar still further.

The route to growth is found in embracing the fundamentals of ESG, not from an investor's perspective but, rather, from the standpoint of being a good corporate citizen.

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# **ABOUT US**

# Innovation Understanding Capability

We're a team of dedicated professionals who assist corporations to realise significant added value by making a positive impact upon both the environment and the society.

# **Our History**

#### **Out of the ordinary**

The ESG PRO leadership team has fought poachers in Africa, educated the underprivileged in Asia, and advised governments and leading corporations on matters of social and environmental importance, as well as corporate governance, privacy, digital transformation, and beyond.

#### **Exceptional talent**

- Humperdinck Jackman is a military veteran, author, and corporate governance specialist. He has advised both KPMG and PwC on corporate fraud, and has lectured the UK Supreme Court on privacy.
- Natashia Lee is an active member of various UK parliamentary committees. She has drafted government policy and has briefed the UK Prime Minister's office on social and environmental issues.
- From our in-house lawyers to emissions experts, discover our remarkable team of professionals who are able to advise on the entire spectrum of sustainability topics and the associated regulatory compliance required.

# **Our Mission**

## To educate, advise, and support

- We believe the UN Sustainable Development Goals, together with the correct application of the principles of ESG, create significant added value across all tiers of government, industry, and commerce.
- Every corporation impacts the environment, the people it employs, and countless communities too. The same is true in reverse, and we educate as to the benefits of being transparent with stakeholders.
- We seek to demonstrate why good governance is intrinsically tied to social and environmental concerns, and why environmental matters absolutely belong within its remit.
- Staying ahead in a fast-evolving regulatory environment means being your partner who can manage the linkages across ESG, TCFD, CSRD, CBAM, ETS, and beyond. We invest heavily in maintaining the best certified emissions reporting approaches, such as PAS2060:2014.



ESG is the definitive measure of corporate honesty, integrity, and transparency. It's about value as well as values!

# **OUR LEADERSHIP TEAM**

# A DIVERSE TEAM WITH GLOBAL EXPERIENCE



## **Humperdinck Jackman**

#### CEO

Specialising in matters of corporate governance. Humperdinck hails from Bermuda, has twice sailed the Atlantic solo, and recently devoted a few years to fighting poachers in Kenya.



#### Peter Chan

#### Advisor to the Board

Based in London, Peter guides our growth with his unique ability to forge commercial relationships on a global scale. His vast knowledge of the construction markets both here and in Asia is an enormous asset.



#### Natashia Lee

#### **Managing Director**

A background in educational leadership, Natashia has advises governments on social and environmental topics. She graduated Magna Cum Laude from the University of Illinois, and is now completing her Master's in law.



#### Jane Whitfield

#### General Counsel

Jane is a specialist solicitor with two decades of experience in governance and charity law. Her commercial application and strong technical and research skills gained in the City are invaluable to our client-facing work.



# **OUR SERVICES**

# TOTAL ESG AND SUSTIANABILITY SOLUTIONS

## **Maximising your sustainability strategy**

Regulatory pressures are increasing rapidly, led by the UK with TCFD, and the EU with CSRD. In the western world, amidst the global energy crunch, the pressure is definitely "on".

Our services emphasise the global shift of ESG from an investment measure to the European mindset which centres on good governance and questioning the impact an organisation has upon our climate and society as a whole. As such, ESG has become so much more than a new flavour of CSR because ESG quantifies risk and adds value.

We concentrate on ESG ratings, and the action plans required to demonstrate continuous improvement. Our systems supporting all leading reporting frameworks, always starting with the GRI and SASB, and we also author bespoke frameworks for unique requirements.

Carbon, your green house gas emissions, is now a critical topic for any business large or small. We advise on how to achieve certified carbon neutrality, including the purchasing of carbon offsets. Leveraging this, our experts concentrate on adding value to your organisation. In part, this stems from our emphasis upon people: when your employees and society at large benefit, your businesses will become stronger, more innovative, and more profitable.

You will discover the ESG PRO approach concentrates on defining and agreeing a strategy which reflects your unique commercial challenges and objectives. We then craft the deliverables to be achievable and measurable, because therein lies the added value.





# The Imperative

Human-induced warming reached approximately 1°C above pre-industrial levels in 2017, increasing at 0.2°C per decade.

**IPCC 2022** 

# Components of your ESG Strategy

# **Materiality Assessment**

We assess your internal and external stakeholders to frame the impacts and priorities of your ESG strategy.

## **Strategic Planning**

How can you leverage your sustainability initiatives to add clear value to the organisation?

#### **Carbon Management**

How does your corporation become carbon neutral, and what are the opportunities, costs, and benefits?

## **Supply Chain Auditing**

Your supply chain can be reputational liability, and it's where you find at least 80 percent of your emissions.

#### **ESG Risk Awareness**

Risk and ESG are closely interrelated. Your risk teams and insurers alike will benefit from our guidance and support.

#### **Regulatory Exposure**

ESG is a hot regulatory topic with TCFD, CSRD, CBAM, and more. Expect significant tightening through to 2026.

# **Climate Management**

To what extent do your operations impact the climate, and does the climate pose risk to you? We measure and report.

# **Enterprise Dashboards**

Our enterprise dashboards let you monitor progress and take control of sustainability, internally, and upstream/downstream.

# **ESG** Rating

We secure your ESG ratings from multiple agencies, and advise on the benefits of each. We manage the entire ratings process.



# Reduced cost of capital

Evidence is emerging that a better ESG score translates to about a 10 percent lower cost of capital, as the risks that affect your business are reduced.

Robin Nuttall, McKinsey & Company, Head of regulatory and government affairs

# MATERIALITY ASSESSMENT

# It's where every ESG Journey must begin

# The more you engage your stakeholders, the more you will learn!

- Materiality is the key to sustainability. With so many potential material topics to cover, conducting
  a materiality assessment enables an organisation to focus its reporting on those topics that reflect the
  economic, environmental, and social impacts of the greatest significance to its stakeholders, strategy, and
  business operations.
- **ESG PRO will design and undertake your materiality assessment,** and we use the findings to inform your Corporate Sustainability Report. We apply our knowledge of the leading frameworks such as GRI, SASB, and CSRD, to select the most suitable stakeholders for engagement.
- We work closely with your sustainability team to survey a variety of internal and external stakeholders, and we conduct secondary research to include a review of documents published by various parties.



# MATERIALITY CRITERIA

# APPLYING THE GRI STAKEHOLDER SELECTION CRITERIA

To select the list of stakeholders to include in the materiality assessment, ESG PRO applies the GRI stakeholder selection criteria of:

Responsibility, Influence, Proximity,
Dependency, Representation

# **ASSESSMENT**

# IDENTIFYING PRIMARY CONCERNS

Assessments may be re-run with specific groups in reaction to significant events, whether these are internal or external, but otherwise they're not required more frequently than every 2 or 3 years.

We seek data granularity, especially for multi-national operations

# THE OUTCOME

# COMMUNICATION

Effective change requires superior communication, and you need a strategy to ensure the right balance of messaging to diverse stakeholder groups.

We design approaches across appropriate channels to maintain regular engagement with the stakeholders

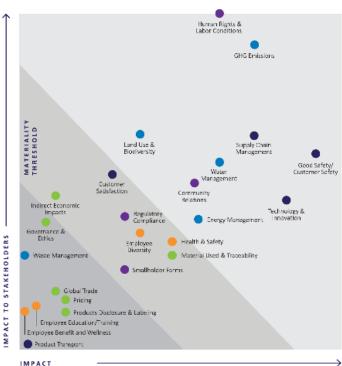
# STAKEHOLDERS

# IDENTIFYING YOUR STAKEHOLDERS?

The engagement of the Executive is of paramount importance, while the range of other potential stakeholders may include:

Operational Leadership, Investors, Analysts, Customers, Employees, Trade Associations, Regulators, Civil Society, NGOs, and many others





IMPACT



#### Fresh challenges for risk managers

ESG risks present fresh challenges for risk management teams. A mature ESG approach questions not just the impact which external matters have upon the organisation, but it involves questioning the impact of an organisation upon others.

Recognition of the imperative for every board accept that society's demands have changed irrevocably, and to face the problems too, is an absolute.

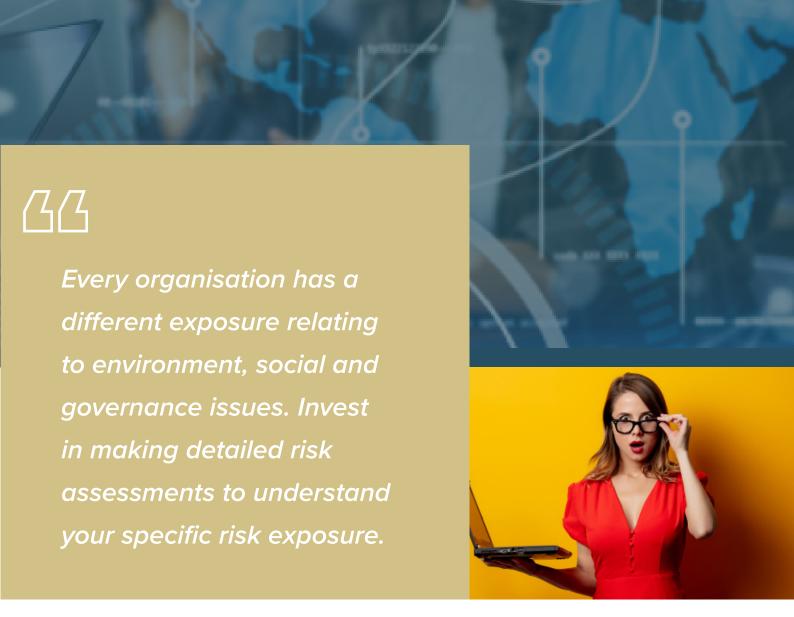
Investors prefer companies with high ESG ratings because the stocks of highly rated companies tend to outperform, according to a study by Deutsche Bank. Of course, consumers might not be aware of a firm's ESG rating, but they are aware of its reputation, and they can be quick to

distance themselves from unsavoury practises. The importance is highlighted by the USA, where about a quarter of the assets under management, roughly \$12 trillion, are in ESG-rated investments.

Capital cost is another factor. A superior ESG score correlates to a 10 percent lower cost of capital, because a solid ESG rating reflects that the risks which might affect your business are controlled.

We work with our clients so they can integrate risk, because every organisation has a different exposure relating to environment, social and governance issues. Invest in making detailed risk assessments within each metric.

Assess your overall ESG view and don't fall into the trap of focussing on environmental or social: good governance is integral to any effective business strategy.



Addressing ESG is not about merely replicating what a competitor has achieved. Be intentional and deliberate in how you design your ESG plans and set meaningful targets while developing systems for measuring your progress.

#### The ESG PRO approach to risk

Improved efficiency, sustainability and financial performance offer multiple benefits. Those factors not only resonate with employees, customers and investors, but they also tend to reduce the risk of shareholder litigation, which is a major driver of liability claims against company directors and officers.

Consider how the increased awareness of ESG has coincided with the increased litigation risk that

companies face whenever there is an adverse event: so-called "event-driven" litigation. This type of litigation tends to follow a headline that purportedly reveals adverse facts or allegations about a company's business practices or products. ESG litigation is coming. Fast!

The combined litigation and settlement costs are substantial, and a key factor in many of the eventdriven cases filed to date

At ESG PRO, we emphasise risk because the topics we explore with you are not traditional risk metrics. Developing a strong and trusted rapport with your risk team and your insurers is key to a successful partnership.

# THE REGULATORY SITUATION

# STAYING COMPLIANT IN A GLOBAL ECONOMY

## **ESG and Sustainability Compliance Coverage**

ESG PRO have the resources to advise and forewarn on the major topics so your defences are prepared, globally. From ESG reporting support for the world's leading stock exchanges, we can even develop new frameworks at industry, regional or national level.

2023 heralded many new regulations and sustainability themes. While the UK TCFD reporting continues to mature, the EU CSRD (Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive) takes many TCFD elements a step further and backs up the importance with criminal sanctions for deliberate falsification and greenwashing.

Beware of the CBAM - the new Carbon Boarder Adjustment Mechanism - and the associated ETS, the EU Emissions Trading Scheme. The CBAM levy will be extended progressively so even airlines and road transportation are impacted.

As you can see from the summary below, ESG PRO has some unique capabilities!

<b>EU CBAM +</b>	
<b>ETS</b> trading	
advisory	

EU CSRD reporting and modelling

Purchased Goods & Services evaluations

Specialist enterprise risk advisory

ESG reporting against all leading frameworks

ESG ratings application and issuance

TCFD reporting & climate scenario modelling

Enterprise reporting dashboards

Green Bond application support

Embodied carbon calculations

Carbon emissions to SECR and PPN06/21

Verified carbon neutrality to BSi PAS2060:2014



# **CARBON MANAGEMENT**

# AIMING FOR CARBON NEUTRALITY AND BEYOND

## A partnership for clarity

Carbon - the simplification of what is correctly termed "greenhouse gases", or GHGs - covers more than your emissions. It extends to the energy used directly and indirectly by your organisation as well as upstream and downstream across your supply chain. The ESG PRO approach begins with clarifying what is to be measured, and where, and progresses through to the formulation of the most cost-effective plan to achieve "carbon neutrality". This is where you cause no more carbon than you offset through investment in carbon sinks or renewable energy projects. It's complex, but we have the solutions. Our internal teams are supported by our global corporate partnerships, enabling major civil engineering projects to be completed with low embodied carbon.



# **Specific services**

- Total carbon footprint assessment across Scopes 1,2, &3, including the development of carbon reduction plans at facility, regional, or national level, as well as the certification of environmental product, declarations (EPDs), assessments of embodied carbon in current or planned construction, and more;
- Total management of your carbon offsets, encompassing the purchase of verified carbon credits (offsets), investment in certified carbon sinks, and planning and execution of carbon initiatives unique to your organisation;
- Verification! Assessment of your organisation's carbon neutrality, verified to internationally recognised standards such as the UK BSi PAS2060 / ISO14068, because few things are riskier than an unsubstantiated claim of carbon neutrality.

## Carbon across the supply chain

ESG PRO are innovators, and by working with your procurement teams and analysiing your purchase ledger, we can assess your supply chain for its carbon vulnerabilities. Because this exercise reveals buying behaviours too, clients can offset much of their total ESG investment through the resultant savings achieved through supply chain management.



Assess the supply chain via the purchase ledger



Rationalisation reduces your CO2 footprint and costs



Implement new policies & procedures, and measure savings



Offset total carbon neutrality costs by 50%

# Cost neutral?

Carbon neutrality always involves expenditure, but if it can be made cost neutral it becomes an essential investment.

+18%

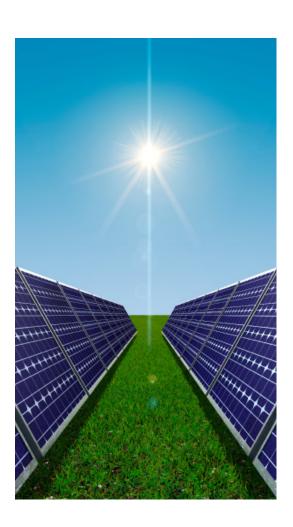
# **Higher ROI**

According to research by non-profit organisation CDP, companies who diligently plan and manage climate change are able to gain an 18% higher return on investment than businesses that did not.



#### **Sustained Growth**

Unilever disclosed that their sustainable brands – such as Ben & Jerry's or Dove – have grown 46% faster than other brands from their portfolio and thereby generated 70% of the company's turnover growth.



# **CLIMATE IMPACT**

# ARE YOU READY FOR MANADATORY CLIMATE REPORTING?

## The tide is turning, globally

ESG policy making is a priority for many governments, and following the pledges made at COP26, multiple jurisdictions are rushing through a variety of strict mandatory requirements, not least of all the 2022 EU Taxonomy Climate Delegated Act. The new frameworks, such as the IFRS Climate-Related Disclosure Prototype and the EFRAG Climate Standard Prototype, are converging.

For US clients, the SEC is proposing to require companies to disclose their GHG emissions for the most recently completed fiscal year, and for historical fiscal years included in their financial statements in the applicable filing, to the extent such historical GHG emissions data is reasonably available.

The UK has begun a programme of making it mandatory for a range of entities to report on their climate-related risk in line with the recommendations of the global Taskforce on Climate-related Financial Disclosures (TCFD). Firms will be required to disclose climate-related financial information, ensuring they consider the risks and opportunities they face as a result of climate change.

## **Climate Change Technologies**

Our climate change technologies enable sustainability leaders and professionals to create and implement sustainability strategies through advanced net-zero pathways to combat climate risks in the lens of continuously changing climate.

#### Climate services

- Risk and opportunities analysis conducted at the frequency you need to ensure you're in control;
- Climate risk simulations according to the either the Paris Agreement or Business-as-Usual;
- Advanced climate risks modelling by industry, geography and multiple additional metrics;
- Integration with leading ERM systems, coupled with our processing of Terabytes of data from other corporations to deliver true peer group reporting and analysis.







# **SUPPLY CHAIN AUDITING**

# YOUR SUPPLY CHAIN REPRESENTS RISK AND OPPORTUNITY

# The ESG PRO approach: automate and validate

Your supply chain is a critical component of your total carbon footprint, and from the broader ESG perspective you need to be aware of potential abuses, whether from exploitative employment practises, human rights violations, and each supplier's management of the environment too.

We start our supply chain auditing with a rapid risk assessment conducted in partnership with your procurement team. Your purchase ledgers enable us to conduct an array of due diligence checks through various communication channels. We conduct on-site assessments globally, when required.

For our larger clients, we can introduce an array of sophisticated technology suites necessary too rapidly surface, understand and mitigate critical threats to your entire supplier ecosystem – down to the Nth tier – with just one click. This delivers unparalleled transparency by empowering companies and government agencies to meet the urgent imperative to protect global supply chains from sanctions, ESG, and cyber risk at unprecedented speed and scale.



# Powerful tools!

We engage your supply chain with our single-click due diligence suite to double-check your supply chain making on-site audits the exception vs. the rule.



1.3B

**CONTRACT RECORDS** 

600M

LEGAL ENTITIES
ACCESSIBLE
VIA DDIQ

**7B** 

SOURCE RECORDS
OF SUPPLY CHAIN
INSTALLATIONS

**50** 

DIFFERENT RISK
CATEGORIES &
SUBCATEGORIES

16.8M

UNIQUE SUPPLY CHAINS

# SUPPLYCHAINBRAIN



# GLOBAL ESG

# MAXIMISING YOUR RESULTS

## Rely on one experienced team

We gather your data, audit your reports, and we manage your submissions to the appropriate ratings agencies, including Forbes, EnHelix, Morningstar and others.

Our reporting support includes APAC Stock Exchange ESG Guidance (India, China Hong Kong, Malaysia, New Zealand, Japan, Philippines), Americas Stock Exchange ESG Guidance (Canada TMX, Nasdaq, Columbia), Europe Stock Exchange ESG Guidance (Belgium, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Greece, Iceland, Italy, Latvia, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Sweden, UK), and other Stock Exchanges such as for Bahrain, UAE, Egypt, Turkey.

Our approach is the most cost-effective in the industry, and is perfect for clients seeking ratings for individual business units, or on a country or regional basis.

# Confidentiality

Our clients trust us with their most sensitive data, and we always conduct our work within the constraints of NDAs.

Such attention to privacy and security is exceptionally important because ESG and sustainability reporting is highly competitive.

# **OUR CLIENTS**

# MAXIMISING YOUR RESULTS

#### The sectors we serve include

- Government
- Construction
- Manufacturing
- Energy
- Technology
- Hospitality & tourism
- Agriculture
- Aerospace

# KEY PARTNERSHIPS

# GLOBAL VALUE

## Offering independent assurance

Our partnerships with Cohesive, Xerox, and ERA ensure our clients of access to global support,



# CONTACT US

Shrawley House, Shrawley, WR6 6TG, United Kingdom

+44(0)331 630 0728 www.esgpro.co.uk info@esgpro.co.uk 167-169 Great Portland Street, 5th Floor, London, W1W 5PF United Kingdom