

## Instituting Corporate Sustainability Reporting Competencies

**Date:** 21 July 2022 @ 14:00 – 15:00

### Why should you attend?

Mandatory recurring financial and non-financial sustainability reporting for companies around the world is imminent, and guidelines for JSE listed companies having already been published. This is wholly new territory for most corporate C-suites and boards and on the front line for this task will be companies' reporting officers. Most aren't prepared.

As a leader of a listed company, you have a responsibility to ensure that you understand the JSE's disclosure guidelines and are prepared to meet the impending sustainability reporting requirements.

### Course Outline:

Bruce Whitfield will host this interactive engagement with a panel of subject matter experts and attendee participation. Attendees will leave with a comprehensive understanding of what corporate competencies are required to publish assurable sustainability reports according to the JSE guidance, emerging international standards, and developing stakeholder requirements.

### Who should attend?

- Directors
- C-suite / executives
- CFOs, accountants, investment managers and analysts
- Assurance providers including audit, risk and compliance
- Operational managers including information officers and IT leaders
- Stakeholder relationship managers including investor, employee and corporate relations

### What you will learn:

A high-level understanding of required integrated organizational competencies (skills and abilities) with particular reference to:

- Boards and governance
- C-suite / executives, multi-national group considerations and resiliency
- Financial management, investment, procurement and reporting
- Data sourcing and management, analytics
- Operational transition and transformation planning
- Stakeholder communication and engagement

**Date:** 21 July 2022 @ 14:00 – 15:00

**Cost:** Free – registration required

**Time:** 60 minutes

## Establishing Sustainability Reporting Operational Capabilities

**Date:** 18 August 2022 @ 14:00 – 15:00

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### What you will learn:

A high-level understanding of required operational capabilities (tasks and activities) with reference to:

- Data and technology
- Operational processes
- Business analytics
- Finance and assurance work plans
- Report production and assurance
- Governance and oversight

**Date:** 18 August 2022 @ 14:00 – 15:00

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## Sustainability Reporting How-To Playbook

### Date(s)

*First module commencing September 2022*

#### **Module 1: Establishing an appropriate sustainability context**

3 Quarters | 9 months *e.g., September 2022 – May 2023* | Awards June 2023

#### **Module 2: Planning and engaging the transition**

3 Quarters | 9 months *e.g., June 2023 – February 2024* | Awards June 2024

#### **Module 3: Entrenching sustainability and reporting practices**

3 Quarters | 9 months *e.g., March 2024 – November 2024* | Awards December 2024

#### **Module 4: Enacting controls, communications, and assurance**

2 Quarters | 6 months *e.g., December 2024 – May 2025* | Awards June 2025

#### **Module 5: Reporting, engaging, and improving**

1 Quarter | 3 months *e.g., June 2025 – August 2025* | Awards December 2025

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### Programme Outline:

The ESG Exchange's practical How-To Playbook will help you to fulfil your obligations by ensuring that you meet the JSE's sustainability reporting guidelines and are also equipped to deliver the sustainability information which will be required by your international clients, suppliers and investors.

The implementation programme comprises 5 modules which, if taken sequentially, runs over a three-year period. The outcome of the programme is a company publishing continually improving, assurable sustainability reports according to the JSE's guidelines and international requirements. The modules are highly efficient with just-in-time learning and company-wide embedment.

### Module Activities:

*Each module comprises a quarterly cadence of monthly online activities in sequence:*

**Month 1 - Plenary:** 2-hour online webinar with pertinent global updates and regional breakouts

**Month 2 – Roundtable:** 90-minute interactive online meeting with case studies and small group breakaways

**Month 3 – ESG Lab:** 90-minute masterclasses providing templates and work group discussions

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- Operational managers including information officers and IT leaders
- Stakeholder relationship managers including investor, employee and corporate relations

## What you will achieve:

The 3-year programme will result in the recurring publication of assurable financial and non-financial sustainability information in accordance with all applicable guidance, regulations and standards.

### Module 1: Establishing an appropriate sustainability context

*On completion of Module 1 (9 months, 15 hours) subscribers will understand how to*

- Establish an organizational mandate for sustainability and sustainability reporting
- Instil a broad understanding across the company of the why, what and how of ESG / sustainability
- Embed governance and management sustainability frameworks
- Initiate the required data and technology interventions

### Module 2: Planning and engaging the transition

*On completion of Module 2 (9 months, 15 hours) subscribers will understand how to*

- Establish an ESG / sustainability / sustainability reporting strategy and associate business plans
- Initiate transition plans
- Embed associated business processes
- Craft the necessary stakeholder engagement interventions.

### Module 3: Entrenching sustainability and reporting practices

*On completion of Module 3 (9 months, 15 hours) subscribers will understand how to*

- Analyse and use the sustainability data and management purposes
- Quantify ESG risk, establish an ESG/sustainability internal control framework
- Test business models against future scenarios
- Monitor the company's transition plans and confidently take corrective action

### Module 4: Enacting controls, communications, and assurance

*On completion of Module 4 (6 months, 10 hours) subscribers will understand how to*

- Produce the necessary sustainability reports
- Assess and gain assurance over the ESG / sustainability internal control framework
- Connect financial and non-financial information and produce integrated reports
- Oversee the company's sustainability activities and assess associated stakeholder responses

### Module 5: Reporting, engaging, and improving

*On completion of Module 5 (3 months, 5 hours) subscribers will understand how to*

- Account for the company's financial and non-financial sustainability and integrated reports
- Create sustainable value generation objectives and achieve these objectives
- Manage the company's sustainability performance
- Ensure that the company is equipped to continually improve on the benefits resulting from the sustainability competencies and capabilities resulting from this programme

## Cost

**Module 1 – 9 months:** R 79,500.00

**Module 2 – 9 months:** R 79,500.00

**Module 3 – 9 months:** R 80,300.00

**Module 4 – 6 months:** R 55,650.00

**Module 5 – 3 months:** R 31,000.00

- *Corporate subscriptions are discounted for 2 - 5, 6 - 10 and over 10 people per company*
- *The modules are designed to be taken sequentially; however, should a candidate wish to join a module without having completed previous modules, an assessment of competence will be required for the previous modules, and each passed with a pass mark of no less than 60%*

## Recognition of learning:

### Individual subscribers

- All subscribers are issued with certificates of completion on completion of their self-assessments.
- All subscribers are issued with certificates of attendance, according to their recorded attendance for CPD purposes.
- Optional examinations are available at the end of every module providing international certifications awarded by [APMG-International](#).
- Examination results are used anonymously as input to a public **Module Achievement Report** ranking individuals against each other, which is used for the bi-annual ESG Awards ceremonies.

### Corporate subscribers

- All corporate subscribers are issued with certificates of commitment on completion of their self-assessments.
- Optional company evaluations are conducted at the end of every module providing an evaluation report indicating areas of concern, improvement or success.
- Company evaluations are used anonymously as input to a public **Module Benchmark Report** ranking the participating companies against each other but also against global insights. This report is used to award for the bi-annual ESG Awards ceremonies.

### ESG Awards

These 2-hour online award ceremonies are held bi-annually in the months of June and December of every year. The categories include:

- **Individual Achievement** – based on Module Achievement Reports
- **Corporate Achievement** – based on Module Benchmark Reports

Please contact [companyservices@jse.co.za](mailto:companyservices@jse.co.za) for a curriculum outline or to book.