

# MUFG TRANSIT ESG Disclosures in APAC

Feb 2024 ESG Finance Department

**MUFG Bank, Ltd.** 

A member of MUFG, a global financial group

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Section I: Introduction to ESG Disclosures



### Introduction I Correlation between ESG disclosures and firm performance

### Empirical evidence suggest improved ESG disclosures positively impact firm performance





Higher quantiles of ESG disclosures are associated with better market performance.

- Wiley Research Publication (2023)



ESG disclosure has a favorable effect on sustainable growth rate.

- University of London (2023)



ESG reporting could be key to building trust with shareholders and stakeholders.

- EY Global Corporate Reporting and Institutional Investor Survey (2022)



Positive relationship between ESG disclosure and firm performance, measured by EBIT.

- John Cabot University (2022)



Corporate management of ESG impacts Return on Equity, Return on Assets and stock price.

- NYU Stern (2021)



High transparency regarding ESG information could improve the financial performance.

- IPTEK Journal (2019)



### Landscape of ESG Reporting | SASB, TCFD, CDSB, Integrated Reporting consolidating into ISSB

### GRI and ISSB exist separately, but remain complementary and can be used together

GRI is the world's most widely used sustainability reporting standard covering topics that range from biodiversity, tax, emissions, to diversity, equality and health & safety

#### **Global Reporting Initiative**

- ✓ Universal Standards
- ✓ Sector Standards
- ✓ Topic Standards

### Double Materiality (Financial + Impact)

\

 Sector agnostic standards + few sector specific standards

Targets – all stakeholders including employees & communities

#### **Sustainability Reporting Scope**

### Double Materiality (Multistakeholder focus)

Financial (outward-in) + Impact Materiality (inward-out i.e. how a company affects people & the environment



### Financial Materiality (Investor Focus)

Impacts on financial performance and a company's response to it



Growing consolidation between major standards & frameworks saw the birth of ISSB as the new global baseline for ESG reporting

**ISSB** 

### International Sustainability Standards Board

- ✓ IFRS S1: Sustainabilityrelated financial disclosure
- ✓ IFRS S2: Climaterelated disclosures

### Financial Materiality

Adopted **TCFD** architecture

Sector & Industry-specific standards referencing SASB

Targets – Only investors and other providers of capital



### Sustainability Accounting Standards Board Provides a Materiality Finder framework to deter

Provides a Materiality Finder framework to determine a company's investor-relevant, industry-specific metrics



#### Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures

Disclosure on climate-related risks & opportunities via a 4-pronged framework Governance, Strategy, Risk Management, Metrics & Targets



#### **IFRS Foundation**

Founded by CDSB, Integrated Reporting & SASB with belief that better information supports investment decisions. IFRS published IFRS S1 and S2 based on - <IR>, SASB, CDSB



Consolidating into ISSB



### **TNFD I** Growing interest in APAC due to nature-related dependencies

### TNFD represents a significant development for nature-related reporting

63% of APAC's GDP is at risk due to nature-related dependencies.

Nature-positive business opportunities could generate USD 4.3 trillion across the region by 2030

Source: Temasek and World Economic Forum repor on APAC's Biodiversity Crisis (2021)

33.7%

Members of TNFD forum are based in APAC

Taskforce on Nature-related Financial Disclosures (TNFD) Framework provides a risk management and disclosure framework to identify, assess, manage and report on nature-related dependencies, impacts, risks and opportunities.

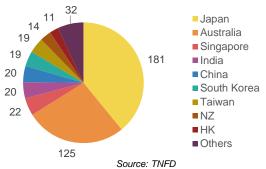
The TNFD Framework integrates all 11 TCFD-recommended disclosures by broadly replacing 'climate' with 'nature'

In addition, the TNFD Framework provides three new disclosures:

- Stakeholder rights and engagement
- · Priority locations to accommodate specific considerations arising from regional differences
- Upstream and downstream value-chain risk and impact management







### **MUFG's involvement in the TNFD**



Feb 2022: MUFG became a participant in the TNFD forum to promote initiatives to protect natural capital and biodiversity via the use of a groupwide, integrated approach

Jun 2022: MUFG became a member of the newly-launched TNFD Consultation Group of Japan



### Interoperability I Assessing ISSB's scope versus TCFD, TNFD and GRI

### ISSB's requirement to disclose Scope 3 emissions is a key stand-out from existing standards and frameworks

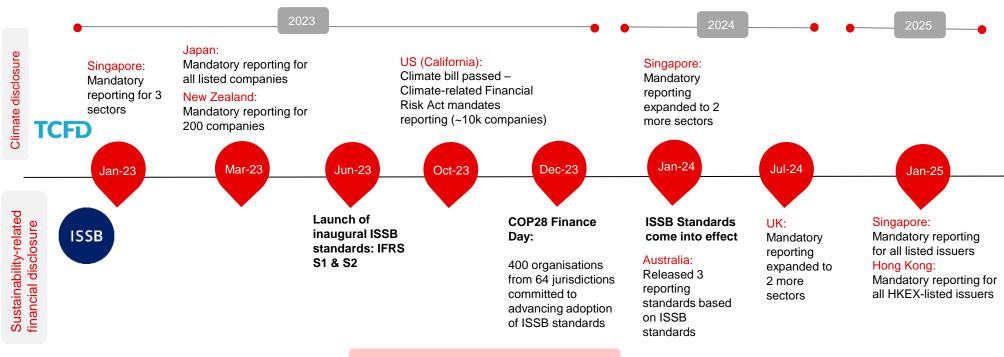
81% of the companies in APAC reported their **ESG** data using **GRI** standards 57% of the companies in APAC reported their climate related data using TCFD Source: PwC Sustainability Counts 2023

Disclosure Topics	ISSB	TCFD	T N F D	GRI
Climate Risks and Opportunities	<b>\</b>	<b>\</b>	X	X
Climate targets and progress	<b>\</b>	<b>✓</b>	X	<b>\</b>
Scope 1 and 2 emissions data	$\checkmark$	<b>\</b>	X	<b>\</b>
Scope 3	<b>\</b>	Encouraged	X	Encouraged
Climate Risk Management / Resilience	<b>/</b>	<b>✓</b>	X	X
Nature related risk and opportunities	×	×	<b>\</b>	Partial
Compatibility with 1.5-degree scenario	<b>/</b>	×	X	X
Use of carbon offsets / carbon credits	<b>\</b>	<b>✓</b>	X	Consultation Stage
Capacity of an organization to adapt	<b>/</b>	×	X	X
Effects on cash flow / cost of capital	$\checkmark$	<b>\</b>	<b>/</b>	X
Social and Economic KPIs	<b>\</b>	×	X	<b>\</b>
Governance	<b>\</b>	<b>\</b>	<b>\</b>	<b>\</b>



### Recent Global ESG Disclosure Regulations I Progress towards mandatory ESG reporting

Disclosure requirements are growing globally, with more jurisdictions mandating climate and sustainability reporting as per TCFD, ISSB



### **Major Jurisdiction-specific Regulations**

### European Sustainability Reporting Standards (ESRS)

Released Jul 2023

#### Materiality: Double

- Set of standards companies must adhere to in their sustainability reporting process to comply with CSRD
- Key topics: General reporting requirements, environmental impact, social responsibility
- Higher level of granularity with respect to other standards

### EU Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive (CSRD)

Released Jan 2024

#### Materiality: Double

- Companies under Non-financial Reporting Directive mandated to report on climate impact from 2024
- Applies to large EU companies meeting >2 of the below:
  - >250 employees
  - o Net turnover >€40m
  - Total assets >€20m

### US SEC climate-related disclosure



#### To be released Apr 2024

### Materiality: Single

- Securities & Exchange Commission (SEC) climate regulatory disclosure requirements delayed from Oct 2023 due to political & business interests
- · Industry-agnostic



Section II: APAC ESG

Disclosures



### **ESG Disclosure in APAC I** Key trends in the region

Driven by new standards and evolving regulations, APAC's ESG reporting landscape is under pressure to transform rapidly

As reporting obligations shift from voluntary to mandatory, companies operating in APAC focus on complying with applicable regulations and international standards



Sustainability disclosure frameworks are being **rapidly developed and implemented** across different markets, with most of the current frameworks adopting some approaches from the international standards.



Increased demand for biodiversity disclosures in APAC. Regulators and Investors are likely to **demand disclosure and assessment of biodiversity risk** from corporates.



**Climate-related disclosure** are becoming more popular and expected to be mandated as part of the sustainability reporting regulations.



In addition to market-specific disclosure obligations, the implementation of international standards such as **ISSB and TCFD are influencing** companies' reporting outlook.



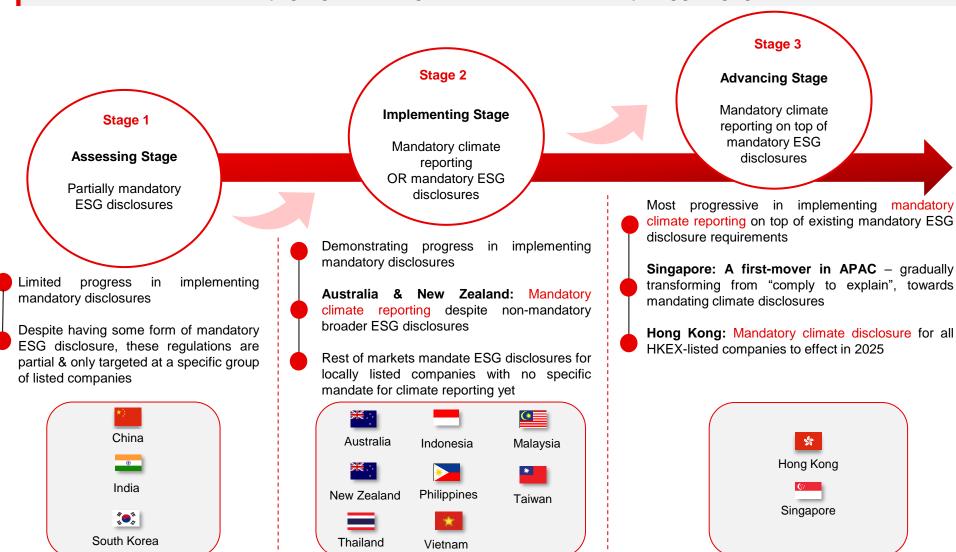
Despite increasing signs of consolidation globally, **fragmentation exists** among regulators in APAC leading to confusion in reporting and subsequently, difficulty in comparison of ESG reports.





### Mandatory ESG Disclosures | Mapping key markets into three stages based on their progress

APAC as a whole is still in the developing stage in mandating ESG disclosures, with climate reporting gaining significant momentum





### Mandatory ESG Disclosures | Mapping key markets (cont.)

Hong Kong and Singapore are swiftly advancing in reporting requirements, while other markets strengthen their implementation and assessment

### **Advancing Stage**

Markets	ESG Standards Alignment	Disclosure Regulations	Mandatory Climate Reporting
Hong Kong 🕏		HKEX ESG Reporting Guide	✓ ISSB-aligned for listed companies from 2025
Singapore	GRI, ISSB, SASB, TCFD	SGX Sustainability Reporting Guide	✓ TCFD-aligned for 5 sectors from 2024, ISSB-aligned for listed companies from 2025

### **Implementing Stage**

Markets	ESG Standards Alignment	Disclosure Regulations	Mandatory Climate Reporting
Australia	CDP, GRI, IIRC, SASB, TCFD	Corporate Governance Principles & Recommendations	✓ TCFD-aligned under Treasury Laws Amendment Bill for selected entities
Indonesia	Unspecified	OJK Regulation No. 51/POJK.03/2017	-
Malaysia 🍱	CDP, GRI, SASB, TCFD	Bursa Malaysia Sustainability Reporting Guide	-
New Zealand	GRI, IIRC, TCFD	NZX ESG Reporting Guide	✓ TCFD-aligned for 200 companies
Philippines >	GRI, IIRC, SASB, TCFD	SEC Memorandum Circular No. 4 - Sustainability Reporting Guidelines for Listed Companies	-
Taiwan	GRI	Taiwan Stock Exchange's Corporate ESG Information Disclosure, Listed Company Sustainability Action Plan	-
Thailand	CDP, GRI, IIRC	Guidelines for the preparation of sustainability reports	-
Vietnam	CDP, GRI, IIRC	Sustainability Reporting Handbook for Vietnamese Companies	-

### **Assessing Stage**

Markets	ESG Standards Alignment	Disclosure Regulations	Scope and Applicability
China	CDP, GRI, SASB, TCFD	Measures for Corporate Disclosures of Environmental Information	Selected high-emitters & listed companies
India	CDP, GRI, SASB, IIRC, TCFD	SEBI's Business Responsibility & Sustainability Report	Top 1,000 listed companies by market capitalisation
South Korea	GRI, SASB, TCFD	Sustainability Reporting Guide	From 2026, Korea Composite Stock Price Index (KOSPI)- listed companies with asset size> KRW 2 trillion



### Fund Level ESG Disclosures I APAC's push for enhancing transparency around ESG funds

Driven by the uncertainties around greenwashing and mislabeling, regulators gear up for mandatory fund level ESG reporting requirements

**ESG** investable assets could reach USD 50 trillion by 2025, accounting for one-third of projected AUM globally

**ESG** Funds in Asia doubled their market share in 2022 and are growing at a faster rate than anywhere else in the world.

Bloomberg

With the IMF's recent call for APAC climate fund labels, investors should anticipate an increased focus on fund level ESG disclosures similar to requirements under the EU's Sustainable Finance Disclosure Regulation (SFDR) and the UK Sustainability Disclosure Requirements (SDR)

Fund level ESG disclosure requirements are now well underway across multiple jurisdictions. Concerns around greenwashing and inaccurate labelling are driving the demand for fund level ESG disclosures

ASEAN Sustainable and Responsible Fund Standards (SRFS) disclosure requirements (2022) is expected to influence member states to further strengthen fund level reporting

ASEAN Sustainable and Responsible Fund Standards



Seeks to provide minimum disclosure requirements that can be applied to collective investment scheme (CIS) that seek to qualify under the organization

ESG Fund Disclosure Requirements

HK SG IDN THL MAL PHL AUS

Requirements

























Although there has been progress in mandating fund level ESG disclosures, impact has been hampered by the region's limited supply of ESG investment products and fragmented data

Mandatory



P Partially Mandatory V Voluntary



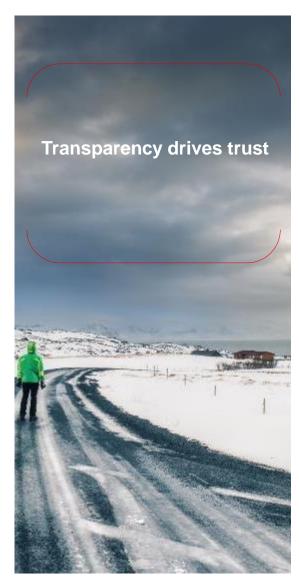


N No requirements



### The Way Forward | Gradual progress, not immediate perfection

### Companies should assess, measure and report ESG data with the same rigour and accuracy as financial data





### **Communicate**

Companies should avoid cherry-picking and aim to communicate all material ESG information and related KPIs with all of their stakeholders, including vendors, employees, investors, in a consistent, comparable and timely manner.



### **Encourage**

Investors and asset owners should encourage companies to improve the quality and consistency of their ESG data, including more detail on material ESG information and its impact on the company's strategy, business model and future performance.



### **Educate**

Companies should educate the board, senior executives and other stakeholders about how ESG disclosure fits within company's strategy, outlook, risk management framework, and corporate accountability.



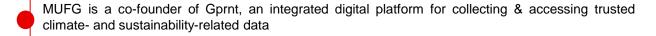


### Project Greenprint | MUFG's strategic role in developing ESG reporting infrastructure

Project Greenprint is a significant step ahead in the industry's ability to power net zero initiatives while addressing ESG data-based challenges



Gprnt is the culmination of Project Greenprint, a collaborative effort between MAS & the financial industry to pilot digital utilities in support of the business sector's need for trusted data





greenprint

Gprint seeks to resolve ESG data-specific challenges and provide scalable solutions for strategic decision-making, risk assessments & regulatory disclosure requirements

Aquaculture Construction

Transport

Maritime

#### **Greenprint Marketplace ESG Disclosure Portal** ESG Registry(s) Data Orchestrator(s) Common portal to manage and access ESG performance data and Network of data platforms to aggregate and enable A blockchain-based network of registries to record meet disclosure requirements locally and internationally. Promotes access to trusted ESG and sectoral / ground-up and maintain provenance of ESG certifications and data consistency and clarity in disclosures, enabling data data sources verified data comparability Open Data ESG data Sectoral Sectoral Common (Satellite, Nature) providers Utilities Systems Certifications

**Examples of Sectors:** 

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