



Drive trust with connected ESG reporting

Harness technology and empower decision makers with the Workiva ESG solution.

The KPMG 2021 CEO Outlook survey found that 81 percent of executives saw environmental, social, and governance (ESG) initiatives as a strategic priority.¹ A majority of U.S. CEOs are seeing a significant demand from investors, regulators, and customers for increased progress on ESG issues. ESG performance is no longer a nod to morality or ethics; it is now a business imperative.

Effective ESG reporting draws upon data sources across the enterprise and requires collaboration from a broad set of internal stakeholders. Many organizations have committed to develop and publish ESG disclosures. However, given the breadth of ESG and the considerations needed across multiple departments and systems, few have devised a cohesive and enterprise-wide approach to collect, aggregate, and report data.

The process to produce disclosures from raw data remains manual and cumbersome. Organizations must manually collect data, map to the selected frameworks, and input those results into final reports. With so many different inputs in the process, providing disclosures that both internal and external stakeholders trust is challenging. Organizations need a proactive strategy, with a supporting operational model and integrated technology, in order to deliver ESG reporting that meets internal and external stakeholder expectations.

KPMG LLP (KPMG) has teamed with Workiva to address ESG data collection, aggregation, data management controls, and reporting challenges. The industry-leading ESG strategies of KPMG combined with Workiva's cloud-based platform—already trusted by more than 4,100 organizations across 180+ countries—can help you deliver trusted ESG reporting.

Key considerations for ESG reporting

With ESG covering many operational areas ranging from human resources, supplier management, facility operations, and finance, leaders must focus resources on the people, processes, technology, and data that deliver on the overall reporting strategy. KPMG has identified three key considerations organizations need to address to drive the desired change:



A reporting strategy: build an operational model that incorporates hindsight, insight, and foresight; set targets, goals, and key performance indicators (KPIs); and manage the report creation process.



Access and visibility of data: compile data from disparate systems and create governance that includes proper controls around completeness, validity, and accuracy.



Assurance: rapidly changing stakeholder expectations and regulatory requirements along with a higher level of scrutiny from auditors drives a need for showing evidence of reported values and obtaining executive attestation.

¹ KPMG 2021 CEO Outlook, KPMG International (September 2021).

Harness technology to overcome ESG reporting and disclosure challenges with KPMG and Workiva

Effective ESG reporting programs drive change and strengthen stakeholder trust. Yet, while the “why” of ESG is clearly understood, many companies are still challenged by the “how” when it comes to reporting. KPMG can meet you where you are in your ESG journey. By bringing our cross-functional teams, deep industry knowledge, and Workiva technology skills, KPMG can help stand up and mature your ESG reporting program based on your organization’s unique needs.

With a solid strategy as your foundation, the “what” to measure and report comes into focus. The Workiva platform brings automation and workflow to support your data and reporting processes in a consistent, repeatable manner. The Workiva platform can integrate with your existing applications to help connect the dots in a way that wasn’t possible before and remove the inefficiency and inherent risk of manual processes.

Through connecting data sources to report outputs, organizations can view their data through the lens of different frameworks, helping drive material topics and sustainability initiatives. Workiva’s data management and query ability provides users flexibility in collecting data and ease in mapping metrics to frameworks. As the data moves through the ESG reporting cycle, Workiva records changes to data and enables auditability of the final reports.

ESG is a journey. Let KPMG and Workiva guide you.

As alliance partners, KPMG and Workiva collaborate to think both deeper and broader when it comes to addressing challenges within the final mile of ESG reporting. We can help you advance the maturity of your reporting program and unlock potential for future growth.

At the forefront of ESG innovation and implementation, KPMG has helped companies become ESG leaders. We bring our global cross-industry experience to work shoulder to shoulder with you on your ESG strategy, execution, reporting, assurance, and overall transformation. Our approach breaks down silos to align your investments, enable transparency that leads to trust, and interconnect ESG efforts with other corporate priorities to create new value and enhance business performance.

Wherever you are on your ESG journey, KPMG and Workiva can help you achieve trusted ESG reporting.

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Why KPMG?

Our broad range of ESG capabilities and solutions enabled by the Workiva platform include:

- Performing an assessment to identify material topics
- Establishing automated data collection and aggregation routines
- Integrating Workiva with ESG data sources for performance insights
- Tracking data lineage for increased transparency
- Identifying and establishing reporting controls to govern the final mile of reporting
- Deploying attestation workflows to drive stakeholder trust

Potential benefits include:

- A data-driven, enterprise-wide strategy that brings stakeholders together and enables collaboration
- Clarity on priority focus areas
- Insights to help set ESG commitments, supporting goals, and KPIs
- Reporting that is aligned with required frameworks, helping to ensure your efforts are meeting the mark

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