

SDG Solutions Assessment

The SDG Solutions Assessment (SDGA) measures the positive and adverse sustainability impacts of companies' product and service portfolios. It follows a thematic approach encompassing 15 distinct sustainability objectives, using the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) as a reference framework. The product's focus is on assessing to what extent companies are making use of existing and emerging opportunities to contribute toward, or obstruct, the achievement of global sustainability objectives via their products and services offering from an SDG perspective.

Outputs

The SDG Solutions Assessment applies a proprietary qualitative classification of products and services into five categories – ranging from significant contribution to significant obstruction – based on their direct impact toward the achievement of the various sustainability objectives. For each thematic assessment, the share of net sales generated with relevant products and services is quantified per category.

The detailed results are aggregated into top-level scores for each sustainability objective as well as an SDG Solutions Score (SDGS), which assesses the overall, aggregated impact of a company's product and service portfolio toward the achievement of the sustainability objectives. SDGS Social and Environmental Scores are also provided, which assess the overall, aggregated impact on the achievement of both the social and environmental objectives respectively.

Thus, the SDG Solutions Assessment provides a quantitative measure of a company's level of involvement in relevant business activities in terms of revenue exposure, combined with qualitative assessments of the sustainability impacts of these activities to arrive at overall conclusions.

Research Process

The SDG Solutions Assessment follows scheduled annual updates and are complemented by ad-hoc updates in case of significant and relevant corporate actions (e.g., mergers, acquisitions). The research process can be broken down as follows:

- **Data collection:** Corporate disclosures such as annual reports, sustainability reports, company websites, investor presentations, and others are screened. Whether reported or estimated, corporate revenue data is incorporated as quantitative data.
- **Research:** Proprietary classifications and scoring models are applied to derive relevant scores.
- **Quality assurance:** Draft analyses are systematically proofread by experienced analysts.

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Methodology and Research Process

- **Company feedback:** A comprehensive dialogue with the assessed issuers is generally carried out once every two to three years as part of the separate Corporate Rating process, with the feedback also being utilized within the SDG Solutions Assessment. Additionally, corporate issuers are welcome to send information/updates for consideration at any time. For more details regarding company feedback, please refer to the Corporate Rating methodology overview.
- **Final results:** Granular data to support customized implementation.

Use of Estimated Data

While some companies report exact figures on relevant product and service sales, others only report on geographic segments or do not report segment sales at all. Where exact figures are not available, ISS STOXX takes all relevant and available information into account to estimate the share of net sales a company generates with respect to relevant products and services. Analysts are provided with clear guidance to ensure that estimated figures are based on reasonable assumptions with medium to high certainty. As of January 2024, the share of estimated product-specific revenue figures incorporated into the SDG Solution Assessments was >90%.

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