Introduction to AccountAbility

AA1000 Series of Standards

AccountAbility's Response to Recent Developments

Q&A
AccountAbility is an expert ESG Advisory and Standards firm

About AccountAbility

AccountAbility is a global consulting and standards firm that works with businesses, investors, governments, and multilateral organizations to innovate and advance the global sustainability / ESG agenda by improving the practices, performance, and impact of organizations.

We focus on delivering practical, effective, and enduring results that enable our clients to succeed. AccountAbility operates globally through a highly qualified team from offices in New York, London, Riyadh, and Dubai.

The firm is the recipient of multiple business awards from the Financial Times, Forbes, and Capital Finance International.

ADVISORY
Practical, relevant, and innovative solutions customized to meet client needs

STANDARDS
Simple, adaptable, and easy-to-use frameworks to guide responsible and impact-driven performance

INSIGHTS
Expert perspectives, forward-looking trends, and industry context

Source: AccountAbility Global
We deliver value with our leading Standards and Advisory expertise

**Subject Matter Expertise**

**Leading Global Standards**
- AA1000 Assurance Standard v3 (2020)

**Sustainability/ESG Advisory Expertise**
- Strategy Development & Implementation
- Governance & Investor Relations
- Stakeholder Engagement
- Materiality Assessment
- Impact Assessment
- Reporting & Communications
- Frameworks & Standards
- Training & Capacity Building

Source: AccountAbility Global, AA1000 Series of Standards
We deliver *practical* and *relevant* services to our clients

**Advisory Service Offerings**

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<th>Strategy Design and Implementation</th>
<th>Governance &amp; Investor Relations</th>
<th>Stakeholder Engagement</th>
<th>Materiality Review</th>
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<td>Impact Assessment</td>
<td>Reporting &amp; Communications</td>
<td>Frameworks &amp; Standards</td>
<td>Training &amp; Capacity Building</td>
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We help our clients improve **business performance** and build sustainable **competitive advantage** by:

- Engaging stakeholders
- Facilitating **innovation**
- Increasing revenue
- Mitigating risks
- Reducing costs
- Enhancing reputation

Source: AccountAbility Global

Click [here](#) for more information on our Advisory Services.
We serve clients across all industries and geographies, globally

Global Industry Experience

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Power and Utilities</th>
<th>Energy and Extractives</th>
<th>Tech. &amp; Telecommunications</th>
<th>Financial Services</th>
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<th>Healthcare &amp; Pharmaceuticals</th>
<th>Multi-lateral Organizations</th>
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<th>Foundations &amp; Non-profits</th>
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<td>Merck</td>
<td>World Bank Group</td>
<td>Adidas</td>
<td>Rockefeller Foundation</td>
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<td>Pfizer</td>
<td>Nestle</td>
<td>Coca-Cola</td>
<td>Ford Foundation</td>
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<td>Novartis</td>
<td>United Nations Global Compact</td>
<td>Walmart</td>
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<td>US-Brazil Business Council</td>
<td>McDonald’s</td>
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For over 28 years, AccountAbility has served businesses, investors, governments, and multi-lateral organizations on ESG matters across North America, Europe, the Middle East, Asia, and Africa. Our deep industry knowledge is put into practice through broad, global industry experience.
We have been recognized by WEF as a “Framework Developer”

WEF Recognition in the Global ESG Ecosystem

The World Economic Forum (WEF) has developed a map of the ESG Ecosystem to decipher “who is who” and bring clarity to the complex dynamics of ESG reporting.

AccountAbility has been recognized by WEF as a Framework Developer, and connects to the Assurance, Standard Setters, and Investor Coalitions and Initiatives groups through our consulting and standards work.

Source: WEF, AccountAbility Global
We have been recognized as leading ESG management consultants

Global Industry Recognition

Forbes has been listed AccountAbility as one of the World's Best Consulting Firms for 2022

The Financial Times has ranked AccountAbility as a Leading Management Consulting Firm for the 6th consecutive year

Capital Finance International (CFI.co), of the World Bank, IMF, and IFC have Awarded AccountAbility Best ESG Strategy Development Partner – Global for 2 consecutive years

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Our Principles and Standards are adopted and used globally

The AA1000 Series of Standards

At the core of AccountAbility’s work is the **AA1000 Series of Standards**. These are principles-based Standards and Frameworks used by a broad spectrum of organizations globally – private enterprises, governments, civil societies and non-profits – to demonstrate leadership and performance in accountability, responsibility and sustainability.
We have been setting sustainability standards since 1999
AA1000 AccountAbility Principles (2018)

- Internationally accepted, principles-based framework
- Adaptable and applicable to any organization of any size, type, geography or maturity level
- Guides organizations through the process of identifying, prioritizing, and responding to sustainability challenges, with the goal to improve long-term performance.

Source: AccountAbility Global, AA1000AP (2018)
We introduced the world’s first standard for non-financial assurance

AA1000 Assurance Standard v3

- World’s first assurance standard for non-financial information
- Originally published in 2003, and frequently updated
- Assures adherence to AA1000 Principles (Type 1)
- Assures the reliability and quality of any kind of non-financial performance data (Type 2)

Source: AccountAbility Global, AA1000AS v3
Click [here](#) for more information on AA1000AS v3
Ethics has been central to AA1000AS since inception

Ethics and Assurance Professionalism

AccountAbility licensed assurance providers need to follow a robust process prior to issuing Assurance Statements to reporting companies to ensure quality and transparency. All assured reports are added to a public web list on the AccountAbility Standards website.

Licensed assurance providers and assurance practitioners involved in AA1000AS v3 assurance engagements complete a license agreement and must operate in accordance with and be bound by the AA1000AS v3 Code of Practice. Values associated with this commitment deepen and reinforce assurance professionalism and effectiveness, while safeguarding the high-quality application of the AA1000AS v3.
We guide organizations to conduct quality stakeholder engagement


- The most widely applied stakeholder engagement standard
- Step-by-step guidance to identifying, mapping, prioritizing, and engaging critical stakeholders
- Establishes the global benchmark for conducting high-quality stakeholder engagement projects and programs

Source: AccountAbility Global, AA1000SES (2015)  
Click [here](#) for more information on AA1000SES (2015)
We are actively monitoring developments across global jurisdictions

The Evolving ESG and Regulatory Landscape

From Voluntary to Mandatory

Consolidation and Integration

ESG Market Developments

- CSRD
- SEC
- SGX
- HKEX
- ISSB
- IAASB
- Net Zero
- Science Based Targets
- Big “G”
We are preparing our Standards users to respond

Upcoming Developments in the AA1000 Series of Standards

- A1000AS v3–ISAE 3000 Bridging Document
- Certified AA1000 Training for Assurance Providers
- “Next Generation” AA1000 Series of Standards
- Supplementary Guidance Document on Assuring GHG Emissions
We are helping our clients with relevant ESG reporting & disclosure

ESG Reporting & Disclosure Advisory Services

“Double Materiality” Assessments

ESG Materiality Matrix

- **Topics towards the top impact the business most**
- **The company has the most impact on Topics towards the right side**
- **The company’s Stakeholders care more about Topics that appear bigger**

Source: AccountAbility Global
We are improving clients’ Enterprise-wide and Board Governance

Governance Advisory Services

Enterprise-wide Governance Health Checks

Core Principles of Good Governance

- Vision, Values, and Purpose
- Leadership Capacity and Capability
- Roles and Responsibilities
- Risk and Performance
- Information Quality and Accessibility
- Internal and External Stakeholder Engagement
- Innovation and Learning
- Culture

Board Governance

“D.I.R.E.” Framework

- Diversity
- Independence
- Refreshment
- Expertise

Source: AccountAbility Insights
We bring clarity and understanding to the Governance agenda

ESG Governance Thought Leadership

AFIRE EUROPEAN CONFERENCE – New Territory: Developing Trends in ESG Panel
June 2023

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE CODE CONSULTATION – Roundtable Contributor
Summer 2023

CARE CONFERENCE – Establishing an Assurance System for Sustainability Reporting Panel
September 2023
We are collaborating to advance the sustainability agenda

AccountAbility’s Strategic Partners

ACADEMIC

NON-PROFIT AND MULTILATERALS

STANDARD SETTERS

Source: AccountAbility Global
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THANK YOU

AccountAbility is providing this information overview for discussion purposes.

Information in these materials related to our approach, methodologies, or experiences is confidential and proprietary to AccountAbility and may not be disclosed to third parties without our prior written consent.

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