



# ESG, Sustainability & Climate Change Reporting for the Board

Maximise the potential of Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) and sustainability reporting to drive investments, and build value and brand protection



Led by  
**Sharon Ditchburn**  
Managing Director  
Capital Advantage

 Dates: **4 – 5 April 2021**

 Timings: **10:30 to 16:00 GST**

# COURSE INFORMATION

## Course Overview

Environment Social Governance (ESG) – is the rapidly emerging agenda item in Board discussions, moving out of the “nice to do” sustainability report into hard-line decision making by governments, companies and investors. As governments start implementing their United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, they are expecting companies to support initiatives, and more emphasis will be made on metrics and reporting by large companies.

Global investor groups and financial institutions are not just making policy statements but have developed investment decision models which are now impacting on capital and lending flows. Companies and their stakeholders are seeing an uptick in regulatory questions, investor queries, and community interest. Also, influencers such as accounting standard setters, credit rating agencies and the media are now actively discussing real impacts on business such as emission targets, recyclables, impairment for climate changes, and social matters in supply chain and health.

ESG is not always an external driver – good companies have used the principles for many years to drive internal investments and product development, including the use of inputs, social groups, and decision making on a holistic and sustainable approach.

During this course we will explore the components of ESG, the evolving frameworks and criteria, and how your business should set itself into a new frame of mind to consider opportunities and risks. We will also consider the evolution of Corporate Social Responsibility, as this remains a key component in the GCC and will be the stepping point for many companies.

The urgency of Climate Change reporting has grown significantly in recent years. The Climate Change discussion has focussed on several agendas – targets and measurements, economic stimulus or restrictions, and the reporting by the private and public sector. However, these three areas were not always aligned, and have not been particularly easy or clear to understand how to implement and report.

During this course we bring the elements together to provide a clear basis for defining and scoping an appropriate climate change strategy and reporting flow for companies and other entities.

## Key Benefits of Attending

1. Understand the different components of ESG, its evolution and how the elements are evolving at different paces
2. Understand the current status and language of Climate Change at the international level
3. Determine an appropriate strategy for introducing or enhancing ESG components
4. Determine an appropriate strategy for bringing the elements of climate change into normal business discussions and decision making
5. Discuss the use of metrics and criteria – where to find, what would apply, how to benchmark
6. Consider case studies and the impact of events such as COVID-19, Australian bushfires, etc, will shift perceptions and expectations
7. Review and compare reporting formats, users and outcomes.
8. Discover and debate ways that international, regional and local initiatives could impact your activities

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## Meet Your Expert International Course Director



### Sharon Ditchburn

Managing Director, Capital Advantage

Sharon Ditchburn is a Fellow of the Governance Institute of Australia and ICSA (UK), a Fellow of CPA Australia and member of the ESG Committee for the CPA Australia Centre of Excellence, and holds legal qualifications from Australia, as well as an MBA specialising in Corporate Governance, Entrepreneurship and Strategy. She is one of the few individuals in the GCC certified by the IFC/World Bank to deliver their Director Development Programmes and has been delivering Corporate Governance advisory and training programmes throughout the GCC since 2005.

Sharon has wide-ranging experience at senior management level, including as a CFO and Company Secretary in Australia and the UAE. Since 2004, she has worked with a wide range of listed, private and government owned enterprises in the GCC, including financial institutions, stock exchanges, private industrial firms, government departments and family owned businesses. Sharon is also an Authorised Individual by the DFSA with various regulated entities, including investment banks, brokerages, trust companies and wealth managers.

Sharon is also a Member of the Australian Institute of Company Directors, Australasian Compliance Institute and Association of Certified Anti Money Laundering Specialists (USA). She is a recipient of the Solvi Stenbro Prize in Ethics (QUT).

## Who Should Attend

Board Directors, CEOs, CFOs, Risk Officers, Finance Officers, Investor Relations Officers, Sustainability Managers, External and Internal Auditors, Operational Managers.

## Course Requirements And Certificates

Delegates must meet two criteria to be eligible for an Informa/CPD Certificate of Completion for a course:

1. Satisfactory attendance – delegates must attend all sessions of the course  
Delegates who miss more than 1 hour of the course sessions will not be eligible to sit the course assessment
2. Successful completion of the course assessment

Delegates who do not meet these criteria will receive an Informa Certificate of Attendance. If delegates have not attended all sessions, the Certificate will clearly state the number of hours attended. The certificate provided will be in soft copy.

# COURSE OUTLINE

**All times are UAE-time.** This LIVE Online course will commence at 10:30 and conclude at 16:00 each day. The daily schedule will consist of three sessions of 90 minutes, with two breaks of 30-minute duration between the sessions.

## Corporate Social Responsibility And The Role Of The Board

- Latest definition of CSR
- Issues relating to the current view of CSR
  - o Shareholder expectations
  - o Benefits
  - o Costs and risks
  - o Regulatory review, if any
- Trends in the GCC
  - o Programs
  - o Disclosure
- Regulatory guidance
- International models
- Duties of the Board
- Future of CSR as a concept

## ESG And Sustainability Reporting

- Definition and scope of ESG
- International frameworks
  - o UN Sustainability Development Goals (SDG)
  - o UN Global Compact
  - o UN Treaties and other documents
  - o IOSCO principles
  - o Financial Stability Board
  - o Impact of certain international laws and cross border application
- Metrics for compensation
- Moral hazards
- Accounting issues
- Local considerations

## Climate Change

- Definition of Climate Change for the purpose of Governance Reporting
- A brief history and major steps in climate change policy development
- Terminology
- Major considerations
  - o Strategy, opportunities and threats
  - o Information sources for climate change benchmarking and results
  - o Operational planning and impact
  - o Financial measurements – provisions, impairment, materiality
  - o Financial reporting – financial statements, notes to the accounts
  - o Non-financial reporting – sustainability reports, integrated report
  - o Regulatory reporting

## How Does Climate Change Reporting Connect, Integrate Or Embed With Existing Frameworks?

- UN SDG – Sustainable Development Goals
- Paris Agreement, WEF and targets
- GRI – sustainability reporting
- CDP, SASB and other ESG scoring methodologies
- TCFD as the emerging global leader in reporting
  - o Task Force on Climate-related financial disclosures – Final Report 2017 and updates
  - o Implementing the Recommendations
  - o Using the Scenario Analysis Technical Supplement

## Roles And Responsibilities Of Users And Stakeholders

- Boards
- Management
- Investors
- Institutions and groups, e.g. Climate Action 100+
- Government actions

**This course covers a wide range of learning methodologies and includes case studies, examples of best practice and useful key resources.**



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# ESG, Sustainability & Climate Change Reporting for the Board

Date	Final Fee
4 - 5 April 2021	\$ 1,490

Pricing excludes 5% VAT, charged where applicable.  
Book and pay full fee for two colleagues and the third attends for FREE.

## WAYS TO REGISTER

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## DISCOUNTS AVAILABLE FOR 2 OR MORE PEOPLE

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Call: +971 4 407 2624  
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The 3 for 2 offer is valid on full price final fee registration only | Payment to be settled before start of the course to avail the offer | Not applicable in conjunction with corporate discounts

Delegates who attend all sessions and successfully complete an assessment, will receive an Informa/CPD Certificate of Completion. The certificate provided will be in soft copy.

All registrations are subject to our terms and conditions which are available at [www.informa-mea.com/terms](http://www.informa-mea.com/terms). Please read them as they include important information. By submitting your registration, you agree to be bound by the terms and conditions in full.

## PAYMENTS

A confirmation letter and invoice will be sent upon receipt of your registration. Please note that full payment must be received prior to the event. Only those delegates whose fees have been paid in full will be admitted to the event.

## CANCELLATION

If you are unable to attend and cancel 5 days prior to the course start date, a replacement delegate will be welcomed in your place, or a 20% charge will be applied in case the participant is a no-show.

Cancellation within 5 days of the course start date or if you fail to attend the event will be 100% payable. All cancellations must be sent by email to [register-mea@informa.com](mailto:register-mea@informa.com) marked for the attention of Customer Services Cancellation.

Due to unforeseen circumstances, Informa Connect reserves the right to cancel the course, change the programme, alter the venue, speaker or topics.

All registrations are subject to acceptance by Informa Middle East which will be confirmed to you in writing. For full details, please visit [www.informa-mea.com](http://www.informa-mea.com)

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