
ESG and Small Business

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P2 West - Portland, OR



About me

- MBA from California State University, Northridge
- SASB/TCFD/GRI certified
- Worked in corporate, focus on small businesses now
- Volunteering: Women in Cleantech and Sustainability (WCS), Actionable Knowledge Foundational Institute (AKFI), Social Impact Los Angeles (SoLA), 50/50 Leadership



ESG and Small Businesses

- ESG/Sustainability
- Benefits for the business
- Slow adoption among small businesses



My process

1. Look within and around
2. Decide where to focus
3. Assess resources, form a team, communicate your efforts
4. Engage all the employees (top -down and bottom -up)
5. Set metrics and identify data needs
6. Track progress, adjust course as needed
7. Year-round effort



Available resources used

- SME Climate HUB
 - global initiative that empowers small to medium sized companies to take climate action and build resilient businesses for the future
 - <https://smeclimatehub.org>
- Science Based Targets Institute (SBTi)
 - a streamlined route to approved science based targets (SBTs) for SMEs
 - <https://form.jotform.com/targets/sme-target-validation>
- Big corporations get involved
 - Walmart's Project Gigaton - encourage suppliers to pursue emission reduction goals
- Local governments get involved
 - LA GREEN BUSINESS PROGRAM



Available resources ~~For~~ Used

- B Corp Assessment
 - tool that can help measure, manage, and improve positive impact performance for environment, communities, customers, suppliers, employees, and shareholders
 - <https://www.bcorporation.net/en-us/programs-and-tools/b-impact-assessment>
- SASB Materiality Finder
 - industry-based Standards
 - <https://www.sasb.org/standards/materiality-finder>



Available resources ~~ESG~~ Used (cont'd)

- GRI Standards
 - help organizations understand their impacts on the economy, environment, and society
 - use in accordance with the Standards or use selected Standards, or parts of their content, to report information for specific users or purposes
 - <https://www.globalreporting.org/how-to-use-the-gri-standards/>
- United Nations Global Compact - SDG Action Manager
 - 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
 - countries will mobilize efforts to end all forms of poverty, fight inequalities and tackle climate change, while ensuring that no one is left behind
 - businesses use the tool to learn about, manage, and directly improve their sustainability performance
 - <https://www.unglobalcompact.org/take-action/sdg-action-manager>



Anca Enache

3P Impact Consulting

<https://3pimpactconsulting.com>

anca@3pimpactconsulting.com

