

# Is your ESG performance driving real value?

Understand how to unlock new value for your business through KPMG's ESG Discovery session



66% of Canadian small and medium-sized enterprise (SME) leaders surveyed have set environmental and social goals to be included in their business plans. But only 17% are taking formal steps towards sustainability.<sup>1</sup>

#### Why is ESG performance a priority for my business?

Stakeholders are increasingly putting pressure on companies to manage their Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) risks and opportunities, and disclose their ESG performance in alignment with global standards. Business leaders more readily embedding ESG factors into their business will be better positioned to meet new regulatory requirements and unlock value.

- Increased sales: Proactively addressing and implementing ESG principles ahead of competitors to boost productivity, innovation and market placement
- Decreased operational costs: Lowered costs through sustainable suppliers and other financial arrangements
- Increased consumer loyalty and talent retention: Improved reputation and engagement from customers, employees and investors
- Enhanced access to capital: Gained from government grants, tax incentives, loans, bonds, and other capital sources – often at more favourable terms

#### Considerations for your leadership team

- Have your stakeholders expressed their expectations regarding ESG issues?
- Have you identified which ESG issues are material to your organization today? In one year? In five years?
- Where do you have blind spots?
- · Where can you proactively mitigate future concerns?
- Do you know from where to access funding to make investments in your ESG performance?
- How are you communicating your ESG integration efforts to investors and other stakeholders? align with new regulations?

#### **How to start: ESG Discovery sessions**

KPMG in Canada has developed *ESG Discovery sessions* to help SME clients explore and hone on their ESG challenges and opportunities to unlock long-term value for their business.



#### **OVERVIEW**

· Length: 3 hours

• Format: Virtual, hybrid or in-person



#### WHO CAN BE INVOLVED

- · Leadership & management
- C-Suite (e.g., CEO, CFO)
- Board members
- Owners



#### **DISCOVER**

- Insights into market dynamics, future trends and why ESG is gaining in importance
- · Industry and peer ESG performance
- How to effectively integrate ESG into your business



#### **SESSION OUTCOMES**

- An ESG trend diagnostic highlighting the priority policies for your industry
- A barometer of your ESG maturity comprising seven key dimensions and 29. indicators
- An ESG roadmap that gives you a clear vision of your priorities and how to get the help you need for your future projects

<sup>1:</sup> Québec Survey on Sustainable Development, Eco-responsible Practices and Clean Technology (in French only) –2021 (quebec.ca)

#### Drive sustainable growth, at every stage of your business

The ESG Discovery session is just the first step on the journey to becoming a sustainable enterprise. Through our work with small, medium, large and multinational businesses across all industries, we can help ensure you are able to build a strong foundation which endures as your organization scales and grows over time.

Our cross-functional subject matter experts combine deep sector experience and insights to help business leaders stay ahead of the curve, aligning their business and ESG strategies to future investor, customer, supplier, regulator, employee and community expectations.

### **ESG Discovery** session

An interactive workshop to explore and hone in on your ESG challenges and opportunities

## **ESG Strategy**

Rethinking your value proposition

Identify key topics material to your business

Determine your ESG ambition and maturity

Clarify ESG governance structure and set up incentives

Access tax incentives, credits, subsidies and grants to help fund your sustainability initiatives

# **ESG Integration**

Develop ESG action plan and determine the feasibility of your ESG initiatives and set targets

Implement data and technology tools to support your ESG transformation

Assess your greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions across your value chain

M&A activity aligned to your growth ambitions

# **Communication**

Present your commitments and progress to stakeholders (internal and external) to increase customer loyalty, talent retention and access to capital

Develop your first sustainability report

Obtain assurance or certification of your ESG disclosures and claims.

# **Contact us**

Book a free exploratory call with our team to asses your next steps.



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