



Item 02 – GRI Topic Standard Project for Climate Change – Proposed members for Technical Committee For GSSB Approval

Date	6 April 2023
Meeting	20 April 2023
Project	GRI Topic Standard Project for Climate Change
Description	<p>The Global Sustainability Standards Board (GSSB) has identified the GRI climate change-related Topic Standards review as a priority project. The proposal was approved in the GSSB meeting of February 2023.</p> <p>This paper presents the second list of nominated experts for the technical committee and its subgroups for approval by the GSSB.</p>

This document has been prepared by the GRI Standards Division and is made available to observers at meetings of the Global Sustainability Standards Board (GSSB). It does not represent an official position of the GSSB. Board positions are set out in the GRI Sustainability Reporting Standards. The GSSB is the independent standard setting body of GRI. For more information visit www.globalreporting.org.

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1. Background

The GSSB approved the [project proposal for the GRI Topic Standard Project for Climate Change](#) following its meeting on 16 February 2023.

In line with the GSSB's [Due Process Protocol](#), the GSSB confirmed its intention to form a multi-stakeholder technical committee (TC) to provide technical advice for developing the revised Topic Standard.

This document presents the second group of nominated experts for the technical committee and its subgroups for approval by the GSSB. The first group of nominated experts was approved in the March GSSB Meeting. All the nominated members have confirmed their availability and interest in participating in the technical committee and its subgroups.

2. Selection process and criteria

As per the due process protocol, technical committee members are appointed by the GSSB and should reflect a balance of multi-stakeholder constituencies.

With this second group of nominated experts, the technical committee comprises 10 members, seconded by seven subgroup members responsible for revising GRI climate change-related Topic Standards. With the focus on climate change-related topics, different constituencies will have an equal voice in the technical committee.

As discussed in the March GSSB meeting, GRI aims for two additional TC members, one representing the labor constituency and at least one representative from Latin America or African Region. GRI is interviewing candidates and expects to present final nominations for approval in the May GSSB meeting.

The technical committee is divided into subgroups to develop recommendations on specific topics. For the subgroup work, technical committee members seconded colleagues with specific expertise.

All stakeholder constituencies on which GSSB membership is based have representation in the technical committee or its subgroups. In addition, geographical, gender, and cultural diversity are established. The members represent diverse, multi-stakeholder backgrounds and bring an excellent combination of relevant knowledge and experience in climate change-related topics.

Furthermore, our approach ensures topic-specific advice and expertise to support the technical committee and the Standards Division during content development.



31 In line with the due process protocol, the technical committee will report to the GSSB and seek
32 guidance and advice whenever required to advance the revision project or when they cannot reach a
33 consensus. When the technical committee is satisfied that it has a proposed (set) of draft Standard(s)
34 that is ready for public consultation, the draft(s) are presented to the GSSB for approval.

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3. Proposed technical committee composition

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Table 1. Proposed technical committee composition

#	First name	Name	Organization	Constituency	Region	Extract of background and experience
1	Linsley (TC member)	LaGessee	Microsoft	Business Enterprise	North America	<p>Linsley LaGessee is an Environmental Sustainability professional with skills specifically linked to operational carbon reduction activities and GHG emissions inventory management. Linsley specializes in corporate sustainability with experience working for technology, finance, and real estate focused companies.</p> <p>Currently, she leads sustainability standards engagement and advocacy for Microsoft. Her work contributes to Microsoft's sustainability goals to be carbon negative by 2030 and remove all historical company emissions by 2050. In a large organization like Microsoft, Linsley is keen on weaving sustainability throughout all aspects of the business to generate impactful change. She favors collaboration, pragmatism, and communication to drive climate improvement through internal support and external partnerships.</p> <p>Linsley holds a BS in International Business and Sustainable Business and an MS in Sustainable Management from University of Wisconsin programs.</p> <p>She resides in Minneapolis, Minnesota USA with her husband and two dogs. In her free time, Linsley enjoys cooking, water skiing, and volunteering for local animal shelters.</p>
2	Caroline (TC member)	Rees	Shift	Civil Society	North America	<p>Caroline Rees is President and Co-Founder of Shift, a non-profit organization working to build a world in which business gets done with respect for people's dignity. Caroline oversees the organization's strategy and thought leadership work. In recent years, she has focused on corporate reporting as a catalyst for better human rights risk management, and on improving the data and methods used to evaluate companies' social performance as part of ESG analysis. She has written and spoken extensively on the relevance of business respect for human rights to movements that seek to advance sustainability, equality, ESG investing, stakeholder capitalism, and human and social capital.</p> <p>Caroline was a British diplomat from 1992 to 2006. While heading the UK's human rights team at the United Nations, she chaired the negotiations that established the mandate of the Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General on business and human rights. She became lead advisor to John Ruggie after he was appointed to that role and</p>

						was centrally involved in the drafting of the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights. From 2009 to 2011 she was also Director of the Governance and Accountability Program at the Harvard Kennedy School's Corporate Responsibility Initiative. Caroline is a Commissioner on the Business Commission to Tackle Inequality.
3	Mark (sub group member)	Hodge	Shift	Civil Society	North America	<p>As Vice President with Shift, Mark helps shape our strategy and oversees a range of our collaborations with companies, governments, investors, civil society and other partners. Mark co-led Shift's VALUING RESPECT PROJECT, focused on developing better ways to evaluate business respect for human rights. He has extensive insight into how businesses implement the UN Guiding Principles in practice. As a trained moderator and facilitator, Mark has deep interest and experience in leading processes that address complex challenges and lead to practical outcomes.</p> <p>Mark has focused significantly on the implementation of the UN Guiding Principles in the context of emerging digital technologies such as AI, facial recognition, cloud computing and social media. He has served as Senior Advisor to the UN Human Rights <i>Business, Human Rights and Technology (B-Tech) project</i> to develop guidance and recommendations for companies, States and investors about how to embed respect for human rights into the business of technology. Mark has also been a Technology and Human Rights Fellow at Harvard Kennedy School's Carr Center.</p> <p>Mark was previously the Executive Director of the Global Business Initiative on Human Rights (GBI) which he co-founded in 2009. In that role he led the development of GBI's cross-industry peer learning program that addressed the daily realities and dilemmas of doing business with respect for human rights. His work also included a project on leverage in corporate lending and project finance for the Dutch Banking Sector Agreement on International Responsible Business Conduct, and the development of a program of work on new digital technologies for the Institute for Human Rights and Business. Mark has designed and delivered training and capacity building around the world to business leaders, NGO representatives and students, and conducted factory and mine assessments and field visits in several countries with a focus on India, where he was based between 2009 and 2012</p>
4	Timothy (TC member)	Letts	WWF	Civil Society	North America	<p>As Deputy Director for Corporate Climate Engagement at WWF-US, Tim Letts collaborates with leading companies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, mobilize value chains, and accelerate progress toward net-zero. His work with the business community to drive climate action includes WWF's Climate Business Network, promoting corporate adoption of science-based targets through the Science Based Targets initiative, and tracking the corporate climate & energy landscape through WWF's Power Forward report series.</p> <p>Prior to WWF, Tim served in the United States Navy in a variety of leadership roles. He holds an MBA with specializations in strategy and change management from NYU, and</p>

						a BS in ocean engineering from the United States Naval Academy. Tim was a 2013 EDF Climate Corps Fellow and is based in Washington, DC.
5	Svend (TC member)	Brun Hansen	Ørsted	Business Enterprise	Europe	<p>Svend Hansen is a Climate and Environmental Manager in Ørsted. Since 2016, Svend has been advising the executive management on the direction of Ørsted's climate strategy, to support the company's transformation from a European-based fossil utility to a global renewable energy company. He has led Ørsted to be the first energy major to set a science-based target in 2017 and to become the first energy company with a science-based net-zero target in 2021. Svend is a lead advisor on climate strategy across all technologies in Ørsted's portfolio, including offshore wind, power-to-x, supply chain decarbonization, and nature-based solutions.</p> <p>Svend brings extensive experience with corporate reporting on climate change. He has led the work to establish Ørsted's scope 3 reporting in collaboration with the Finance team, together with whom he continues to ensure alignment of the company's climate accounting with international best-practice standards. He leads the company's CDP climate reporting, including the efforts to make Ørsted a global climate leader with an A-score for four consecutive years.</p> <p>Svend has 10+ years of professional experience within sustainability. Prior to joining Ørsted, Svend was a sustainability consultant in Deloitte. He holds a master's degree in environmental engineering and has studied at the Technical University of Denmark and Yale University.</p>
6	Michel (TC member)	Washer	Solvay	Business Enterprise	Europe	<p>Michel has spent most of his career within Solvay in various functions, including engineering, HSE, marketing and sales, strategy. Since 2012 he is deputy chief sustainability officer, and in charge of Solvay's extra-financial reporting. He has implemented the GRI G4 Guidelines for Solvay's reporting, and more recently, the GRI Standards.</p> <p>From 2019 till March 2023 Michel was member of the Global Sustainability Standards Board (GSSB), the independent body with sole responsibility for developing and issuing the GRI Standards.</p> <p>He organized the progressive evolution of Solvay's annual reporting to a combined report, then to an integrated report. Born in 1960, he graduated with a Master's degree in Chemical Engineering from the Free University of Brussels.</p>
7	David (sub group member)	Burns	World Resource Institute	Mediating Institution	North America	<p>David is a Senior Associate with the Greenhouse Gas Protocol, focused on market-based approaches, strategy development, governance, and external stakeholder engagement. He also serves as WRI's Natural Climate Solutions Policy Lead. Based in the Climate Program but working closely with experts across the organization, he supports WRI's engagement with key stakeholders and initiatives working on Nature-based Solutions and carbon markets, guides relevant research, and coordinates communications on the use of nature to enhance climate ambition.</p>

						<p>Prior to joining WRI, David served as a Senior Manager with the National Wildlife Federation, where his work centered on eliminating deforestation and human rights abuses from the production of globally traded agricultural commodities like palm oil, soy, and cattle products. He previously consulted for the World Bank and Climate Focus, specializing in REDD+, carbon markets, and land-use policy.</p> <p>David holds a Master of Environmental Management from the Yale School of Forestry (now Yale School of the Environment) and a B.A. from Bates College. He is based in Washington, DC.</p>
8	Injy (sub group member)	Johnstone	Oxford University	Mediating Institution (academia)	Europe	<p>Injy is a Research Associate within the Oxford Sustainable Finance Group working to establish a new research programme focused on offsetting. She is a PhD Candidate in International Environmental Law at the Faculty of Law at Victoria University of Wellington and an Enrolled Barrister and Solicitor of the High Court of New Zealand. Her research focuses on conceiving Net-Zero as a source of new legal norms and delving into their substance, including the environmental integrity of carbon markets. Injy has attended Columbia University as a Visiting Scholar and Edinburgh Law School as a Visiting Researcher. Prior to this, and as a Fulbright scholar, Injy gained an LLM in Environmental and Energy Law from the University of Colorado-Boulder. She also holds an LLB(Hons) from Victoria University of Wellington and a BSc in Physical Geography and Economics from the University of Otago. Throughout her career Injy has worked with and for a range of public, private and third-sector entities across four continents. These include Oxford Net-Zero, the Global Center on Adaptation, UNESCO and the UN MGCY. While at New Zealand's Ministry for the Environment she was the Project Administrator for New Zealand's Zero Carbon Act. Injy attended COP26 and COP27 as an observer focused on Article 6 Carbon Markets and is keenly interested in how Article 6 will be operationalised in coming years. She is also currently part of the Early Career Scholars for an Inclusive Stocktake (ECSIS) program.</p>
9	Ally (sub group member)	Wilson	Microsoft	Business Enterprise	North America	<p>Ally is a senior leader in Sustainability Operations with three decades of successful experience with Microsoft in data, systems and digital transformation. In her current role, she leads enterprise sustainability data measurement, governance, and internal/external disclosures. Driven by the desire to create and innovate, she is leading efforts to transform climate physical and transition risk enterprise modelling. A relative newcomer to the Sustainability discipline, Ally brings operational structure and discipline to support progress against commitments. Ally is inspired by finding new ways to integrate technology to streamline, automate and unlock solutions.</p>
10	Fernando (sub group member)	Reyes-González	Microsoft	Business Enterprise	North America	<p>Fernando is the Environmental Monitoring & Reporting Program Manager within the CELA Sustainability team at Microsoft. In this role, he leads the measurement and reporting of environmental impacts across the business by working with stakeholders to identify objectives, key results and environmental impacts across the organization, and collaboratively determine goals/KPIs to track progress. Prior to Microsoft, Fernando</p>

						spent 12 years with Johnson Controls, part of their corporate sustainability team leading the internal and external reporting of environmental sustainability data; third party data audit and CDP response; sustainability metrics projections; and supported various sustainability initiatives. Fernando is originally from Monterrey, Mexico and has a bachelor's degree in Chemical Engineering with a minor in Environmental Engineering from ITESM (Monterrey Tec); and a Masters in Environmental Management from IIT Stuart School of Business in Chicago, IL.
11	Avi (sub group member)	Allison	Microsoft	Business Enterprise	North America	Avi Allison is a Carbon Portfolio Strategy Lead at Microsoft, where he focuses on Microsoft's electricity decarbonization strategy and Microsoft's approach to carbon accounting. Mr. Allison's recent work has included drafting Microsoft's comments regarding potential updates to the Greenhouse Gas Protocol and developing Microsoft's approach to addressing its upstream (supply chain) and downstream (sold products) electricity emissions. Previously, Mr. Allison worked as a program manager within Microsoft's Cloud Operations & Innovation Energy team, where he developed and executed strategies to supply Microsoft datacentres with reliable, affordable, sustainable energy. Prior to joining Microsoft in 2020, Mr. Allison worked as a consultant with Synapse Energy Economics. In that role, Mr. Allison conducted research, developed analyses, and authored reports and expert testimony on a variety of electric-sector topics, including resource planning, power plant economics, rate design, market design, and emission reduction strategies. Earlier in his career, Mr. Allison conducted research on climate change and environmental health topics for non-profit environmental organizations. Mr. Allison holds a Master of Environmental Management from Yale University and a Bachelor of Arts in economics from Columbia University.

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