Continuing Education Units (CEUs)

What are CEUs?
The continuing development of professional competence involves a program of advancing educational activities. Continuing Education Units (CEUs) is the term used in this program to describe the educational activities that assist GRI Certified Sustainability Professionals in achieving and maintaining quality in their professional services.

Why are CEUs required?
To maintain the certification status, GRI Certified Sustainability Professionals should participate in learning activities that maintain and/or improve their professional competence. GRI Certified Sustainability Professionals are responsible for complying with all applicable CEU requirements, rules, and regulations of the GRI Professional Certification Program.

The right to use the title ‘GRI Certified Sustainability Professionals’ is regulated by GRI and imposes a duty to maintain and enhance professional competence on a yearly basis.

How do CEUs work?
The Certification Exam has a validity of 1 year. The sustainability professional can maintain the status by going through a yearly minimum of 8 learning hours through CEUs. 1 CEU is equivalent to 1 learning hour. The CEUs are provided via the GRI Academy and are clearly marked as such.

The first CEU courses will be made available in Q4 2020. Individuals can start with CEUs any time after the first CEU courses are made available and should acquire 8 CEUs before the end of the validity of their certification period.

Thereafter, the validity, as mentioned on the renewal certificates and in the GRI Academy, should be followed to take the yearly minimum CEUs to maintain the status.

To confirm the extension of the certification period, GRI will annually issue certificates for all the professionals who maintain their GRI Certified Sustainability Professional status. Individuals can track their CEU progress in the GRI Academy. The minimum number of CEUs will be clearly indicated per year for the professionals to renew their status. Individuals who take more than the required 8 CEUs in a year will not be allowed to roll over the CEUs to the next year.

What kind of CEUs are offered? Can I choose?
GRI will provide a selection of learning activities (e.g. courses, webinars, workshops, events etc.)

While choosing the CEUs, the professionals should follow a thoughtful, reflective process addressing the individual’s current and future professional plans, current knowledge, and skill level, and desired or needed additional competence to meet future opportunities or professional responsibilities, or both.
How do I know how many CEUs I have?
CEUs are documented and tracked per participants in the GRI Academy. You can check your progress any time using your GRI Academy credentials.

Would the preparation time needed to take the courses be included in my CEUs?
No, CEUs are calculated based on the length of the courses. Preparation time is not included in the calculation of the CEUs.

What happens if I am not able to complete the CEUs before the expiration of the certification period?
You will not be able to renew and your certification status will expire. You must then complete the process for reinstatement and pay the necessary fees.

What is the process of reinstatement?
If you do not complete the minimum CEU courses required for the renewal of your certification before the certification expiry date, then the following process for reinstatement needs to be followed to continue with the GRI Professional Certification status:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reinstatement categories</th>
<th>Process</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Within 3 months of Certification expiry</td>
<td>Complete all the required CEUs for the past year</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A fee of €100 will apply</td>
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<tr>
<td>After 3 months of Certification expiry</td>
<td>Retake the Professional Certification Exam</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Complete all the required CEUs for the period missed</td>
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