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GRI is an independent, international organization providing the global common language for corporate transparency.

We help businesses and other organizations understand and communicate their sustainability impacts.

We deliver the GRI Standards, the world’s most widely adopted sustainability reporting framework – which is freely provided as a public good.
GRI’s focus areas

1. **Create** and maintain world-class sustainability disclosure standards

2. **Drive** global adoption of the GRI Standards

3. **Improve** the quality of reporting

4. **Support** full public access to sustainability disclosures
More than two decades of setting the standards

1997
- GRI founded in Boston, USA

2000
- 1st version of GRI Guidelines launched

2002
- GRI G2 Guidelines launched
- GRI relocated to Amsterdam

2006
- GRI G3 Guidelines launched

2012
- Rio +20 UN Conference on Sustainable Development

2013
- GRI G4 Guidelines launched

2015
- SDG framework adopted. Target 12.6 calls for corporate transparency.

2016
- GRI Sustainability Reporting Standards launched
- GRI Community launched

2017
- Guidance for corporate reporting on SDGs launched in collaboration with UN Global Compact

2018
- Certified Training Partner Program established

2019
- Sector Program launched
- Tax Standard launched

2020
- Waste Standard launched
- GRI Academy launched

2021
- Revised Universal Standards published
- Launch of first GRI Sector Standard (Oil and Gas)
Our impact

73% of the largest 250 companies in the world reporting on sustainability use GRI

168 policies in 67 countries and regions reference or require the GRI Standards

500 organizations from over 68 countries active in the GRI Community

224,000 unique downloads of the GRI Standards in 2020, a 11% rise on previous year

10,000+ companies publish a GRI report

Close to 100 training partners across 57 countries offer GRI Certified Training Courses
Adoption of the GRI Standards

GRI remains the most popular voluntary reporting framework worldwide:

- **67%** of all N100 companies issuing a corporate responsibility report surveyed reference the GRI Standards

- **73%** of G250 reporters use GRI Standards.

**Source**: KPMG International Survey of Corporate Responsibility Reporting 2020, base: 3,983 N100 companies and 239 G250 N100 companies that report on sustainability
GRI presence

GRI secretariat is based in Amsterdam, with seven regional hubs providing a presence around the world.
GRI Standards

DISCLAIMER: Please note that GRI Standards 2016 were updated and launched on 5 October 2021. More information [here](#).

- **3 Universal Standards**: management approach and general disclosures, applicable to all organizations
- **Sector Standards**: applicable to all organizations in a specific sector
- **Topic Standards**: organized into Economic, Environmental, and Social series
- Organizations select and use the Sector and Topic Standards relevant to them and their stakeholders
- **Made freely available** to any organization and provided in **11 languages**

For the sake of brevity, in this document the GRI Standards that were launched in October 2021 and that include the newly revised Universal Standards, the new Sector Standards and the adapted Topic Standards, will be referred to as "GRI Standards 2021". Similarly, the set of Standards that precedes the GRI Standards 2021 and that includes the Universal Standards that were updated in 2016, will be referred to as "GRI Standards 2016".
The GRI Professional Certification Program (PCP) is the first certification for sustainability reporting professionals. It is also our newest program, launched in September 2020 and updated in November 2021.

The certification is designed to enhance the knowledge, expertise, and skills of sustainability professionals in implementing the GRI Standards and to improve the quality of sustainability reporting.

To receive their certification, professionals must complete 4 courses that cover the fundamentals of GRI reporting in preparation for a final certification exam.

Candidates may take online courses through the GRI Academy (our Learning Management System: Route A) or by taking the Professional Certification Program partly or fully with the Certified Training Partners (CTP): Route B blended learning).

Certification Exam can only be taken via GRI Academy.
The 4 GRI Academy courses are:

1. Introduction to sustainability reporting and the GRI Standards 2021 Update
2. Reporting with GRI Standards 2021 Update
3. Reporting on Human Rights with GRI Standards 2021 Update
4. Integrating the SDGs into sustainability reporting

→ Upon receiving their certification, professionals will need to take 8 Continuing Education Units (CEUs) per 2 years in order to maintain a valid certification.
Introduction to the Certified Training Partner (CTP) program
CTPs can:

• Provide instructor-led certified training courses face-to-face or remotely (as a part of the Professional Certification Program)

• Provide other courses/CEUs (outside of the Professional Certification Program)

Additional benefits for the CTP course participants:

- Local context (case studies*) & language
- Peer to peer learning & networking
- Access to trainer & deeper knowledge

*applies to Reporting with GRI Standards 2021 Update course
Professional Certification Program: route A vs route B

Flexible training, covering the fundamentals of GRI reporting, leading to a certification exam.

Two routes to certification:

**ROUTE A**
SELF-PACED ONLINE
1. Introduction to sustainability reporting and the GRI Standards 2021 Update
2. Reporting with GRI Standards 2021 Update
3. Reporting on Human Rights with GRI Standards 2021 Update
4. Integrating the SDGs into sustainability reporting

**ROUTE B**
BLENDED LEARNING

**CERTIFICATION EXAM**
- GRI Academy
  - BENEFITS: Scheduling flexibility, Available 24/7
- GRI Certified Training Partner
  - BENEFITS: Local Context, Peer to peer, Networking opportunities

*Continuing Education Units*
CTP courses included in the license:

• Reporting with GRI Standards 2021 Update (as of November 2021)

• Training module - Occupational Health and Safety (not a part of the Professional Certification Program)

CTP courses available via additional license (check slide 27):

• Reporting on Human Rights with GRI Standards 2021 Update (as of November 2021)

• Integrating the SDGs into sustainability reporting
The courses are provided in English, and as well in local languages if translated by CTPs.

CTPs are experienced training organizations; most are niche consulting companies, several Big 4 country offices and universities.

Here is a list of our current CTPs.
The course focuses on:
– the structure and content of the GRI Standards,
– the process of writing a sustainability report using the GRI Standards.

Duration: around 1.5 day.

GRI develops 75% of the course training material.

Training Partner develops the local, country specific case studies (25%).

Material certification may take up to three months.

All participants receive a ‘Certificate of Completion’ from GRI.

For more information on other available courses, please go here.
CTP statistics

- Number of CTPs: Close to 100 organizations in 57 countries (plus 8 in process of certification)

- Number of training sessions in 2021: 418

- Number of participants trained in 2021: 3983

Data retrieval: December 2021
Why join the CTP program?

- Right to conduct GRI Certified Training Courses in the Licensed Region
- Use of promotional material (Organizational Mark and Certificate)
- Promotion of the Training Partner Organization on the GRI website
- Promotion of the courses on the GRI website
- Dedicated support from the T&C team and the Regional Hub, where applicable
- Your organization becomes part of the global and local GRI network
- Your organization gets the certified training material based on the latest updates of the Standards (2021)
- Competitive advantage of teaching the components or the entire certification program (if licensed) in your local language and context
Process of becoming a GRI CTP
**Step-by-step process of becoming a GRI CTP**

1. Interested organizations submit their [application](https://www.globalreporting.org/reporting-support/gri-academy/certified-training-partners/) and pay the application fee.
2. GRI assesses the application.
3. Organization becomes a member of the GRI Community (requirement to be a CTP).
4. Upon application acceptance, both parties sign the Training Program and License Agreement (TLA).
5. New CTP pays Certification fee.
7. New CTP pays Annual License fee.
8. Nominated trainers complete their certification (update every 2 years).
9. CTP receives Training Partner logo for promotion.
10. TLA is renewed (annually) if both parties agree.

Frequently Asked Questions
FAQs

What are the CTP selection criteria?
• The alignment of their vision and mission to GRI's vision and mission
• Current training activities / experience
• Current CSR activities / experience
• Target audience / market analysis - is the program sustainable for them based on market projections

What are the CTP membership conditions?
• Membership of the GRI Community (annual fee applies)
• The Training License covers one geographic region or the world
• All nominated trainers must be GRI certified and maintain the certification to deliver training (they have 50% discount on Academy courses)
How long does it take to become a CTP?

- The entire certification process can take from three to six months, on average, depending on many factors, such as resources that the CTP can dedicate to TLA signing timelines, material development, quality of case studies, timely fee payments, and other factors.

What are the fees?

- Please "Pricing Policy" document for details.
Can we license the two remaining courses of the GRI certification program?

- All current CTPs can license the off-the-shelf courses (Reporting on Human Right with GRI Standards 2021 Update and Integrating SDGs into Sustainability Reporting). The annual license fee of 1000 Euro + 10% participants’ fees will apply. If the CTP licenses the additional course(s), their trainers will receive access to these on the GRI Academy on a complimentary basis and they will only need to purchase the exam (125 Euro per exam per trainer).
Can the certified courses be taught in other languages?
• After the training material is approved and certified in English, the CTP can translate it into their local language. GRI doesn’t offer translation services or language checks thereof.

Are the certification program courses and exam available in other languages?
• The new certification program (i.e. based on GRI Standards 2021) is currently only offered in English.
Can we deliver courses online?

- Normally organizations are certified to deliver face-to-face sessions. In the current situation, most of our training partners have transitioned to delivering their courses remotely via tools such as Zoom or Webex.

Can we use the GRI logo for promotion? When do we receive the TP logo?

- Using GRI’s logo for promotional purposes is not allowed by GRI copyright policy. CTPs receive the TP (Training Partner) logo upon payment of the Annual License Fee.

If you have further questions about the CTP process, please read the FAQ section or contact GRI’s Training and Certification team.
Annex I

CTP Courses descriptions
The course will:
  • provide an in-depth overview and analysis of how to report on human rights with the GRI Sustainability Reporting Standards

By completing this course, the participant will:
  1. Learn about the relevance of human rights and human rights transparency to business.
  2. Understand the disclosures in the GRI Standards related to human rights, including the requirements and guidance.
  3. Gather practical insights for the application of the GRI human rights-related disclosures through case study examples and practical exercises.
  4. Discover the current trends and regulations, including reporting expectations, when it comes to human rights.

Duration: 3.5 hours.

GRI develops all training material, no country specific case studies.

Can be licensed (conditions & pricing listed under FAQ section).

All participants receive a ‘Certificate of Completion’ from GRI.
After completing this course, one will:

• Learn about the business case for engaging with the SDGs, understand the role of sustainability reporting in enabling sustainable development and discover current trends, challenges and opportunities on reporting on the SDGs.

• Duration: around 3 hours.
• GRI develops all training material, no country specific case studies.
• Can be licensed (conditions & pricing listed under FAQ section).
• All participants receive a ‘Certificate of Completion’ from GRI.
Training module GRI 403: Occupational Health and Safety

- The main learning objectives of this training module are:
  - Explore current trends and challenges related to OHS management.
  - Learn why and how to use GRI 403 to report on OHS.
  - Explore case studies and get practical experience.

- Duration: around 8 hours.
- GRI develops all training material, no country specific case studies.
- Is available for free to all the training partners (on request).
- All participants receive a ‘Certificate of Completion’ from GRI but this course is not part of the Professional Certification Program.