



Collaboration between GRI and Dhaka Stock Exchange to drive uptake of sustainability reporting in Bangladesh

About the flyer

Designed for large companies and regulators in Bangladesh, this flyer aims to provide details and outline the benefits of participating in GRI and Dhaka Stock Exchange Programmes that help advance sustainability reporting and create the global common language for organisations to report on their impacts. Now more than ever, in light of the global pandemic and its impact on businesses the world over, sustainability reporting can help anticipate risks and increase resilience in the face of crisis – both present and future.

Background

As part of a larger effort to closely work with stock exchanges and regulators in the region and create a conducive environment for large companies to report on their sustainability impacts and contribute to a more sustainable trade, in 2017 GRI South Asia and Australian Government's Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) renewed their cooperation with the Sustainable Trade and Investment Through Reporting (STIR) Programme. In what followed, an agreement with the Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) was signed to sensitise companies and regulators to sustainability reporting with the world's most widely used sustainability disclosure standards – the GRI Standards. In collaboration with GRI, DSE launched the [Guidance on Sustainability Reporting for listed companies in Bangladesh](#).

“ I have attended three workshops as part of the Technical Series. I have acquired important knowledge from these sessions. If we can adopt sustainability reporting practices in the company, it will benefit not only our company but also our key stakeholders. It will enhance our reputation.”

Md Shamim Kabir, Sr. Vice President,
Kohinoor Chemical Co. (BD) Ltd

What to expect from GRI and DSE Programmes

The GRI and DSE joint Programmes are designed to assist the reporters on their sustainability reporting journey through a series of workshops and sessions that cover a wide variety of reporting aspects, such as identifying the most relevant topics for disclosure, engaging the stakeholders involved, preparing the content of the report, etc. GRI and DSE Programmes include:

- Explanatory presentation and slides
- Group exercises and discussions
- Panel discussions
- Homework and assignments for workshops
- One-on-one exclusive progress calls with participating companies
- Peer-to-peer learning
- Support and learning from external experts

The benefits of participating in GRI and DSE Programmes and continued support from GRI

The GRI and DSE Programmes can provide invaluable guidance and practical support on the development of sustainability reports using the world's leading sustainability disclosure standards – the GRI Standards. The benefits of participating in GRI and DSE Programmes include:

- Insights and practical tips on the reporting process shared by practitioners and experts
- Access to a whole variety of GRI resources and tools
- A solid understanding of the GRI Standards and their implementation
- Opportunities for hosting in-house exclusive sessions for the senior management and/or the Board
- Tailored support and guidance on best practices and quality reporting – both for new and experienced reporters
- All questions and queries about the reporting process answered

Plus, GRI will provide continued support for all participants, which includes:

- In-house support sessions or webinars to address existing questions and guide reporters through the preparation of a sustainability report
- Help with uploading the report to [GRI's Disclosure Database](#)
- The use of [GRI Services](#) such as [Materiality Disclosure](#) and [Content Index](#)
- A possibility to join [GRI Community](#), which provides a platform for learning, profiling member companies and receiving expert knowledge and insights through GRI online Programme and webinars
- Access to [GRI Academy](#) - a go-to learning platform for sustainability-related topics

Benefits of reporting with the GRI Standards

Sustainability reports based on the GRI Standards can:

- Be used to benchmark organizational performance with respect to laws, norms, codes, performance standards and voluntary initiatives both nationally and internationally.
- Provide a competitive edge
- Offer client benefits when assessing a company's ESG performance
- Demonstrate organizational commitment to sustainable development
- Compare organizational performance over time
- Improve risk management and investor relations
- Engage with stakeholders and improve stakeholder relations
- Motivate and engage employees

“Today, sustainability reporting is very important for businesses and society as a whole. I got practical knowledge from the workshops and learnt about how to prepare a sustainability report with the GRI Standards. Now I can approach our management to share the required information for reporting.”

Md Abdul Salam Khan, Company Secretary,
Bangladesh Submarine Cable Company Limited

More information about DSE can be found at:
www.dsebd.org



Supported by the
Australian Government

**Australian
Aid**

