



**ESG across technology
and business services**

The Aim

To stop reinventing wheels through industry sharing and collaboration

A Best Practice Guide to assessing service provider sustainability

One standard questionnaire

One common data-set

One set response

Improved understanding -> greater adoption



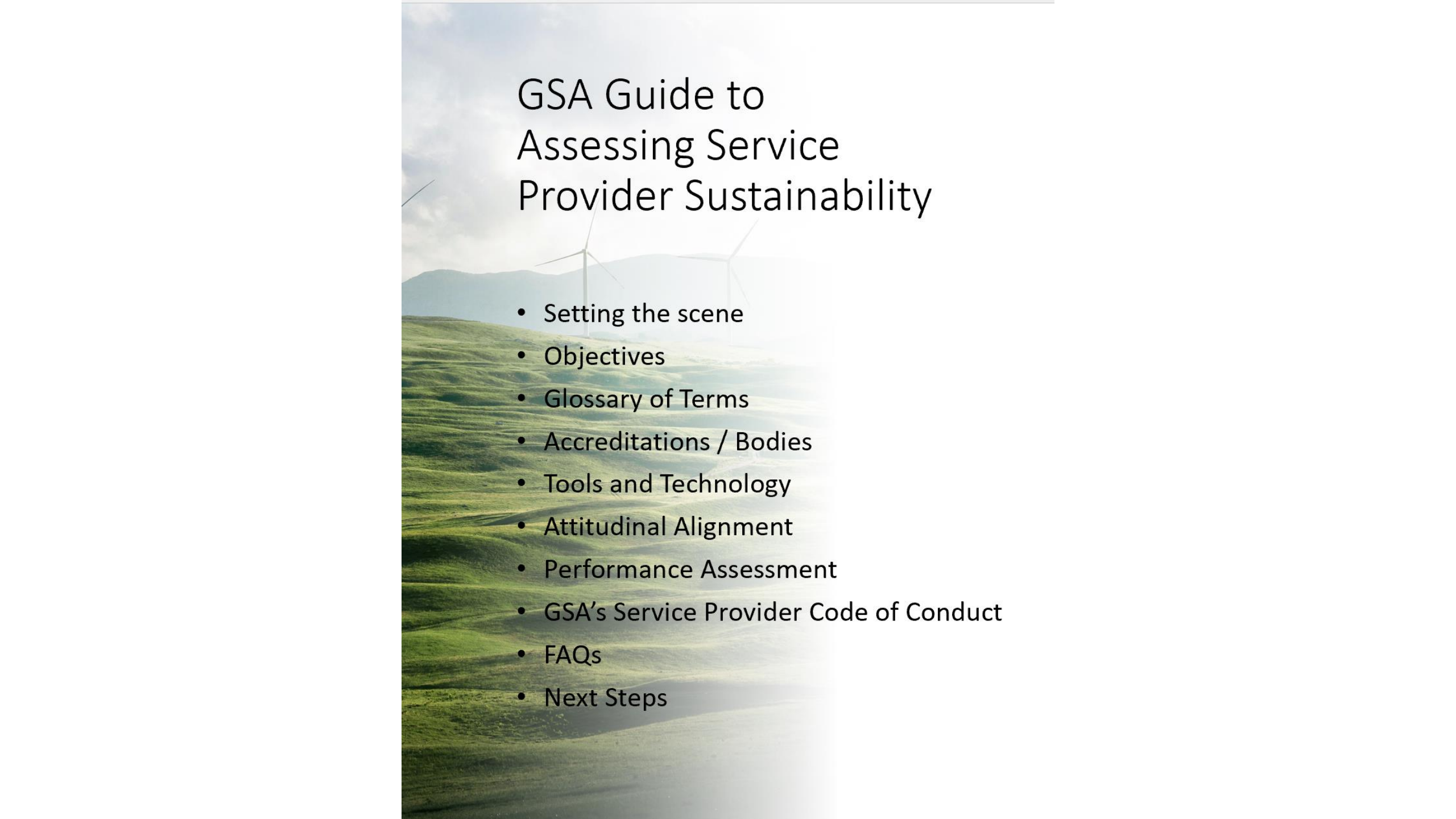


Thanks to our
collaborators,
to include

The background of the entire page is a photograph of a rolling green landscape. In the foreground and middle ground, there are lush green hills with some shadows cast across them. In the distance, two large white wind turbines are visible on a ridge, with a third one partially visible on the right. The sky is filled with soft, white clouds, and the overall lighting suggests a bright, slightly overcast day.

Best Practice Guide to Measuring Service Provider Performance across ESG





GSA Guide to Assessing Service Provider Sustainability

- Setting the scene
- Objectives
- Glossary of Terms
- Accreditations / Bodies
- Tools and Technology
- Attitudinal Alignment
- Performance Assessment
- GSA's Service Provider Code of Conduct
- FAQs
- Next Steps

The Bodies

- United Nations
- International Labour Organizations
- GRI (Global Reporting Initiative)
- World Resources Institute
- World Business Council for Sustainable Development
- Task Force on Climate-Related Financial Disclosures (TCFD)
- World Economic Forum
- CDP
- Climate Disclosure Standards Board (CDSB)
- International Integrated Reporting Council (IIRC)
- Sustainability Accounting Standards Board (SASB)
- U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC)
- Partnership for Carbon Accounting Financials
- The Chancery Lane Project
- Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED)
- Deutsche Gesellschaft für Nachhaltiges Bauen (DGNB)
- Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Method (BREEAM)
- WELL Building Standard
- Green Globes
- International Society of Sustainability Professionals (ISSP)
- Association of Climate Change Officers (ACCO)
- Association of Energy Engineers (AEE)
- Global ESG Benchmark for Real Assets (GRESB)

World Business Council for Sustainable Development

WBCSD is the premier global, CEO-led community of over 200 of the world's leading sustainable businesses working collectively to accelerate the system transformations needed for a net zero, nature positive, and more equitable future.

Its mission is to accelerate the transition to a sustainable world by making more sustainable businesses more successful. **Its vision** is to create a world where more than 9 billion people are all living well and within planetary boundaries, by 2050.

<https://www.wbcasd.org/>

Accreditations

- ***Corporate Accreditations***

- Ecovadis
- International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS)
- International Organization for Standardization (ISO): ISO4001; ISO 5001
- LEED, DGNB, BREAM, and other Green Building Certifications
- DEFC certification
- WeConnect
- MSDUK

- ***Professional Certifications***

- Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) Professional Certification
- Sustainability Accounting Standards Board (SASB) Fundamentals of Sustainability Accounting Credential
- CDP Climate Change Survey Certification
- Integrated Reporting (IR) Fundamentals of Integrated Reporting Certificate

The Tools

Guiding Principles to Achieve Effective Sustainability (ESG) Program

- 10 Principles of the United Nations Global Compact
- The United Nations' 17 Sustainable Development Goals
- The United Nations Convention Against Corruption
- The Universal Declaration of Human Rights
- The International Labour Organization's Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work
- The Rio Declaration on Environment and Development

Tools Enabling Companies to Report their Sustainability (ESG) Performance

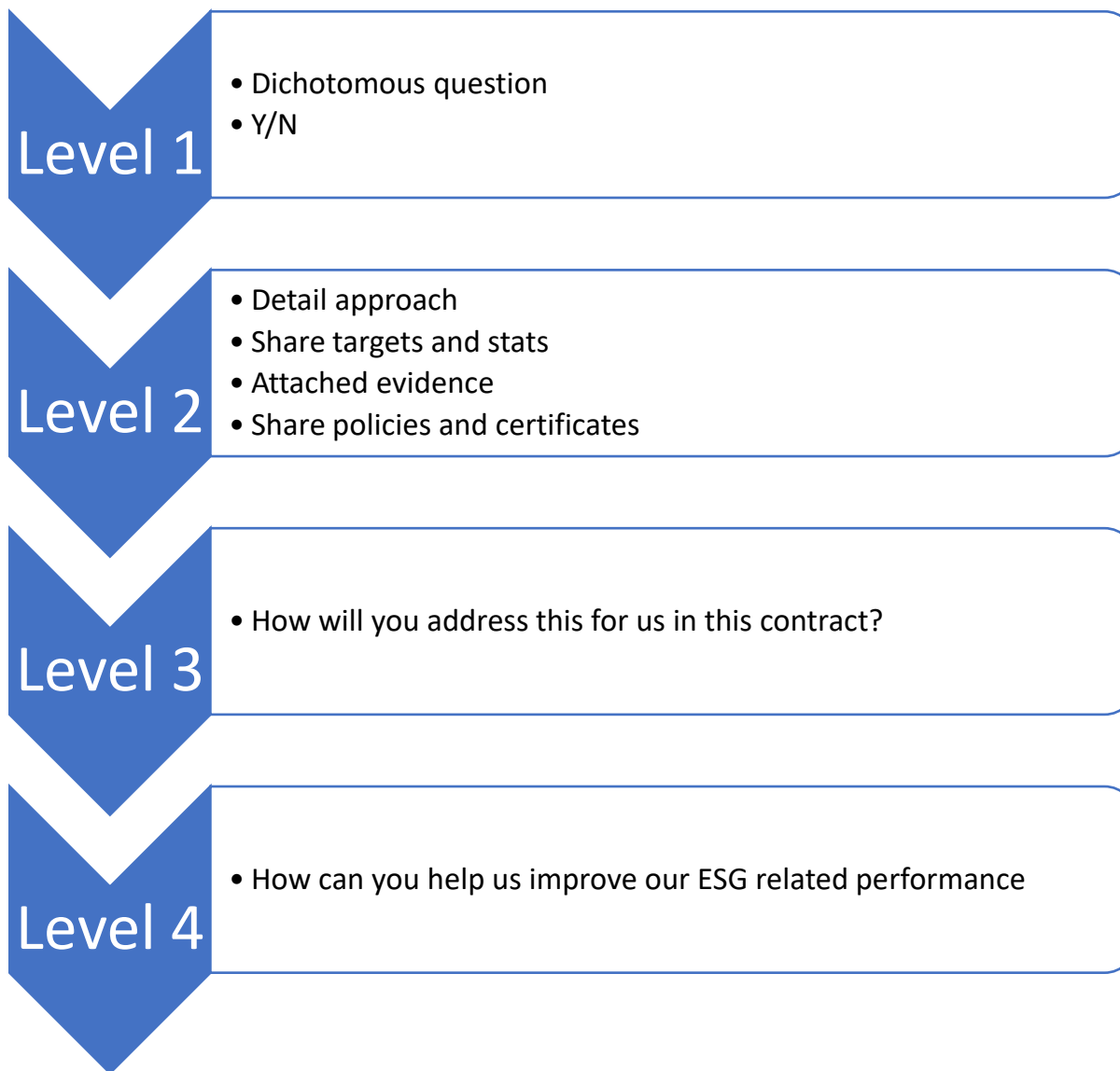
- GRI Standards
- TCFD Recommended Disclosures
- WEF's Stakeholder Capitalism Metrics
- CDP – Guidance and Questionnaires
- IFRS Sustainability Disclosure Standard
- ISO 26000 - Guidance on Social Responsibility
- CDSB Framework for Reporting Environmental & Social Information



GSA's Proposed Approach to Assessment



E **S** **G**



Level 1

- Dichotomous question
- Y/N

Categorise questions: essential, preferred, deferred

Level 2

- Detail approach
- Share targets and stats
- Attached evidence
- Share policies and certificates

Mark 1-5:
Basic to advanced and consistent

Level 3

- How will you address this for us in this contract?

Mark 1-5:
Basic to advanced and consistent

Level 4

- How can you help us improve our ESG related performance

Mark 1-5:
Basic to advanced and consistent

A landscape photograph featuring a cracked, dry path leading to a single green tree on a hill under a stormy sky. The path is dark and cracked, leading towards a small hill. On the peak of the hill stands a single tree with a dense canopy of green leaves. The sky is dark and cloudy, suggesting an approaching storm. The overall mood is somber and dramatic.

Environment

Has your company been involved in any environmental lawsuits over the last 5 years?	Does your company have plans in place to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions over time?	Have your targets been validated by the Science Based Targets Initiative?
Does your company have a person or governance body accountable for the reduction of the negative environmental impact arising from its operations?	Do you have targets to reduce your organisation's carbon emissions?	If eligible to join, is your company a member of the Climate Group RE100?
Do you have an energy management system certified to an international standard, such as ISO 50001 or equivalent?	Does your company operate on a carbon neutral basis?	Is your company a member of the Climate Group EV100?
Does your organisation have policies to reduce the usage of energy?	Does your company collect information from your suppliers around their greenhouse gas emissions?	Do you have policies regarding minimising the carbon emissions from business travel?
Does your company publicly report its greenhouse gas emissions?	Does your company use renewable energy?	Does your company have targets in place for reducing the quantity of material resources that it uses?
Does your company measure its Scope 1, 2 and 3 greenhouse gas emissions?	Has your company set a science based emissions reduction target?	Do you have policies and procedures in place to minimise waste arising from your operations?

Does your company have targets in place for increasing the percentage of waste that is reused or recycled at end of life?	Do you have policies and programmes to reduce the usage of water?	Do your products meet certifications and standards for sustainability for their type, such as Forest Stewardship Council, Energy Star, EcoLabel, or Blue Angel?
Does any of your waste go to landfill?	Do you have policies and procedures in place to ensure safe water?	How do you measure your ESG performance?
Do you have plans to transition to electric and/or hybrid vehicles where you have company owned vehicles?	Do you have an operational procedure for managing or treating your solid and water waste, including hazardous and non-hazardous waste?	Do you have an environmental standard certified to an international standard, such as ISO 14001, DJSI, CDP, Ecovadis or equivalent?
Do you have a green logistics plan to save freight miles?	If applicable, can your products be recycled, reused, and disposed of safely?	What is your annual budget for ESG programs as a percentage of revenue?
Do you operate a corporate travel scheme for employees to help reduce emissions?	If applicable, do your products comply with all regulations, such as WEEE, REACH and RoHS?	Does your company collaborate with its clients to reduce the environmental impact of your operations?
Does your company have a policy that all timber and wood-based products must be legally harvested and traded, with suitable mechanisms for ensuring compliance?	Do your products contain recycled content?	Does your company collaborate with its suppliers and other parts of the value chain to reduce the environmental impact of its operations?

Social



Is your company an SME (fewer than 250 employees)?	Does your company have policies or targets promoting procurement from SMEs or local suppliers?	Does your company lead wellbeing initiatives in the community, including physical activities for adults and children
Are you a certified minority led business?	Does your organisation support local communities, through employment, engagement, or local sourcing?	Is your company a Living wage Foundation accredited Living wage Employer?
Is your organisation a Charity, Non-Profit or Social Enterprise?	Does your organisation commit to volunteering hours?	Do you pay Real Living Hours?
Does your organisation specifically support and promote the following SDGs? 1 No Poverty, 3 Good Health and Well-Being, 7 Affordable and Clean Energy, 8 Decent Work and Economic Growth, and 13 Climate Action	Does your organisation commit to work placements?	Do you have a Modern Slavery Statement?
What are your average payment days to suppliers?	Does your organisation offer vocational training experiences?	Have you established robust age-verification mechanism as part of recruitment processes?
Do you have a Supplier Diversity programme?	Does your company lead initiatives to support / engage employees on health matters (e.g. stop smoking, obesity, alcoholism, drugs, etc.)	Have any incidences of modern slavery been recorded or uncovered within your organisation or supply chains in the past 12 months?

Do you have a large portion of contingent labour or outsourcing?	Is a senior employee within your company responsible for driving diversity in the workforce?	Does your company run an apprenticeship scheme?
Do you comply with all rules relating to agency and contingent labour?	Do you monitor Social Value commitments throughout your supply chain?	Does your company have the written statement or policy on children's rights in operations and business relationships (e.g. suppliers and sub-contractors)
Does your organisation have a policy regarding diversity and inclusion in the workplace?	Does your company analyse attrition rates on a monthly basis?	Does your company have the written statement or policy on maternity rights, including paid maternity leave, employment protection and health & safety protections for pregnant and nursing women
Do you have any diversity goals or targets?	Does your company have a responsible automation program?	Does your company have the written statement or policy on accessible and high-quality day care (kindergarten or nursery school) solutions for workers/staffs' children
Are you a Disability Confident employer?	Does your company runs skills conversion programs	Does your company have the written statement or policy on breastfeeding among working mothers, including use and maintenance of lactation room
If your organisation is required to report on gender pay gap (if you have a headcount of 250 or more), please provide hourly pay gap information.	Does your company have an Impact Sourcing program?	Does your company have the written statement or policy on working hours, overtime and living wages (those that are sufficient to cover basic needs (including food, housing, transportation, health expenses, etc.) for workers/staffs and their families)

Proposed Approach

- Routed questionnaire tailored by size
- Top 80% spend
- Evidenced
- Reviewed annually



Request for Further Consultation

Next Steps



Published best practice guide and questionnaire



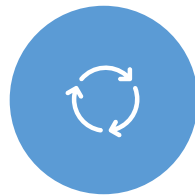
Central repository of service provider responses



Evolving commentary and inclusion on tools, bodies, approaches



Corporate story boards to share the Art of the Possible



Service Provider Index?