

# CFO Perspectives: Unlocking Insights Through Conversation

Transforming Finance: The CFO's  
Role in Driving Sustainable Growth

3<sup>o</sup>  
edition



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# Summary

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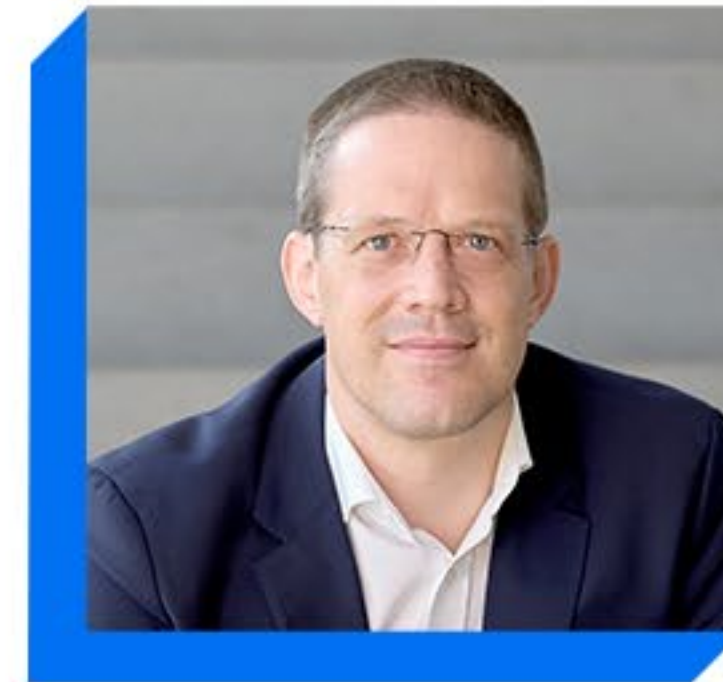
# Featured Executives

Industry leaders who contributed their expertise to this e-book.



**Michael Quails**

Managing Director at Deloitte  
Transactions and Business  
Analytics LLP



Prof. Dr.  
**Christopher Sessar**

Chief Accounting Officer, Head  
of Global Accounting, Reporting  
and Tax, SAP



**Ricardo Assumpção**

Sustainability ESG Leader  
and Chief Sustainability  
Officer, EY LATAM



**Thomas Mehlkopf**

General Manager and Head of  
Working Capital Management  
CoE, SAP





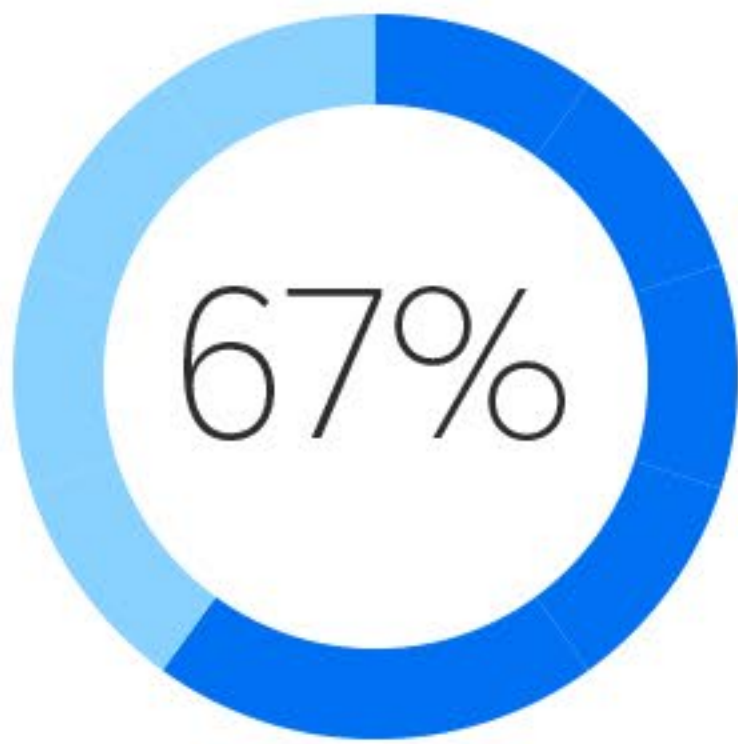
# Introduction

In a seemingly ever-evolving business landscape, the role of the Chief Financial Officer (CFO) has grown to encompass a pivotal position in driving sustainable growth.

The increasing importance of Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) criteria necessitates that CFOs not only manage the financial health of their organizations but also champion sustainable practices.

This eBook, "Transforming Finance: The CFO's Role in Driving Sustainable Growth," explores the challenges (and solutions) CFOs and financial departments face when implementing sustainability. Namely: sharing responsibility, regulation issues, financial pressures and risks, which technologies are set to become essential, and where the CFO role may go from here.

## 1. Responsibility - Taking the lead on ESG strategy



67% of CFOs see ESG as a critical component of their role

As stewards of corporate finance, CFOs are uniquely positioned to integrate ESG into the strategic framework of their organizations.

A recent survey by Deloitte<sup>1</sup> indicates that 67% of CFOs see ESG as a critical component of their role. By leading ESG initiatives, CFOs can drive long-term value creation and build resilient business models that align with stakeholder expectations.

## 2. Barriers to Success - Overcoming the challenges



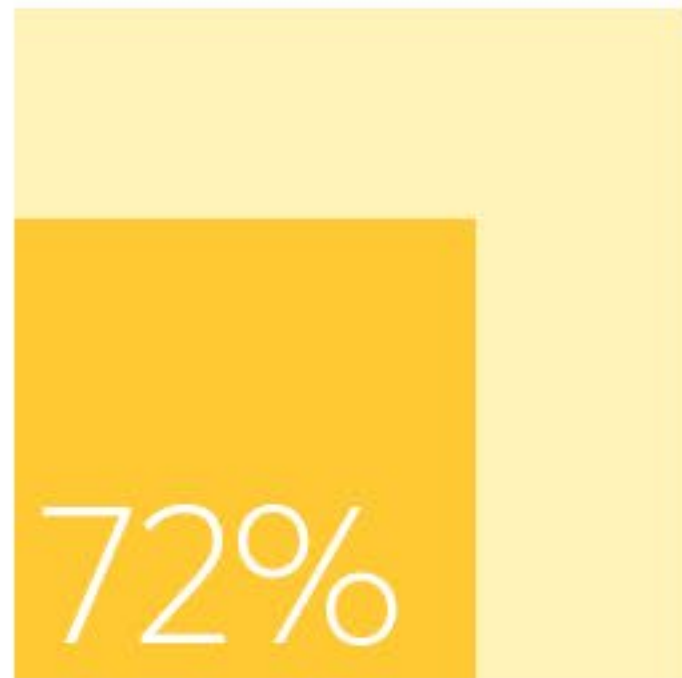
59% of CFOs cite regulatory compliance as a significant barrier to ESG integration

Implementing sustainable practices is not without its problems. From regulatory hurdles to internal resistance, CFOs must navigate a complex landscape to achieve their sustainability goals. According to a recent PwC report<sup>2</sup>, 59% of CFOs cite regulatory compliance as a significant barrier to ESG integration. This section will delve into strategies for overcoming these obstacles.

<sup>1</sup> Deloitte CFO Signals™: Quarterly CFO survey

<sup>2</sup> PwC's 27th Annual Global CEO Survey

### 3. Risk & Regulation - Navigating an ever-changing landscape



72% of CFOs are concerned about the impact of changing regulations on their operations

The regulatory environment surrounding ESG is continually evolving, presenting both risks and opportunities for businesses. A study by Ernst & Young<sup>3</sup> revealed that 72% of CFOs are concerned about the impact of changing regulations on their operations. This section will provide insights into managing regulatory risks and leveraging compliance for competitive advantage.

### 4. Tools & Technology - Leveraging what you have and where to invest



54%

54% of companies plan to increase their investment in sustainability-related technologies over the next two years

Technology plays a crucial role in enabling sustainable finance. From advanced analytics to blockchain, the right tools can help CFOs drive efficiency and transparency in ESG reporting. Gartner reports<sup>4</sup> that 54% of companies plan to increase their investment in sustainability-related technologies over the next two years. This section will explore the essential tools and technologies that can support CFOs in their sustainability journey.

<sup>3</sup> EY Global Corporate Reporting and Institutional Investor Survey

<sup>4</sup> Gartner Research - How to Set Strategic Ambition for Sustainability

## 5. Focus on the Future - What happens next?



80% of investors consider ESG factors when making investment decisions

Will the focus on sustainability only intensify? CFOs must stay ahead of emerging trends and anticipate the future landscape of sustainable finance. According to the World Economic Forum<sup>5</sup>, over 80% of investors consider ESG factors when making investment decisions. This final section will examine future trends and the evolving role of the CFO in driving sustainable growth.

As the financial guardians of their organizations, CFOs have a unique opportunity to lead the charge toward a sustainable future. By embracing their expanded roles, overcoming challenges, navigating risks, leveraging technology, and focusing on future trends, CFOs can transform their businesses and drive meaningful change. Join us as we explore these critical topics and empower CFOs to spearhead the movement toward sustainable growth.

<sup>5</sup> World Economic Forum – The Global Risks Report 2024 – 19th Edition

# 1. Responsibility: taking the lead on ESG strategy





# Why should CFOs lead the way on sustainability?

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CFOs have the expertise needed to align ESG strategies with the company's profitability. Along with thorough technical knowledge, CFOs need to be exceptional communicators. The ability to negotiate and manage teams from different areas will allow ESG initiatives to be applied, measured, and reported with excellence. A strengthened organizational culture, built on shared values and a clear sense of purpose, provides a solid foundation for integrating ESG practices into company operations.

The findings of a PwC survey<sup>1</sup> of 1,050 ESG role employees in Germany, the UK, and the US, reveal insights on leadership behaviors and transformation drivers. Notably, 84% of respondents consider cultural change vital for successful ESG transformations, and 80% believe that both senior leadership and employees play pivotal roles.

<sup>1</sup>Article "Key Drivers and Actions That Can Ensure Organizations Fully Embrace ESG Values and Behaviors"



Do you believe that CFOs have a responsibility to drive more sustainable practices, not just for their own business, but for partners and suppliers?



Michael Quails

Managing Director at Deloitte  
Transactions and Business  
Analytics LLP



“CFOs should champion sustainability across the value chain, influencing partners and suppliers to adopt greener practices. This approach boosts overall sustainability and meets stakeholder expectations.

By integrating sustainability into financial strategies, CFOs can drive systemic change and work to achieve long-term business resilience.”

As outlined by a recent poll conducted by BDO<sup>1</sup>, 66% of 2023’s respondents were judged to be ESG-reactive. The 2024 survey saw significant growth in the past year, with 53% identified as *ESG-mature*.”

<sup>1</sup> 2024 BDO ESG Risk & ROI Survey - Entering a New Age of Sustainability

Have you seen a significant increase in the focus on ESG in the past years? What do you believe has driven native increase in focus?

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Prof. Dr.

**Christopher Sessar**

Chief Accounting Officer,  
Head of Global Accounting,  
Reporting and Tax, SAP



“I think there are several factors that have driven this shift in the last years, such as the growing awareness and demand from investors, customers, employees, regulators, and other stakeholders for more sustainability and social responsibility in business practices, but also the recognition from CFOs and CEOs of the material impact of ESG risks and opportunities on financial performance, resilience and long-term value creation.

Also, the increased volume of regulative reporting requirements. Take the EU Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive as one example, which forces companies to invest in maturing their ESG processes, investing in controls, an ESG data model, and governance around ESG. I don't think that reliable mid-term or long-term financial planning is still possible without embedding ESG metrics in a company's value driver tree.

This is also why I observe the topic being so high on many CFOs' and other finance executives' top priority list. As first, finance can solve many of the challenges on the path to becoming “ESG-mature,” and second, as a close involvement of the finance organization assures a strategy to mid- to long-term interconnect financial and non-financial data and aim for holistic reporting.”

Have you seen a significant increase in the focus on ESG in the past years? What do you believe has driven native increase in focus?



Ricardo Assumpção

Sustainability ESG Leader  
and Chief Sustainability  
Officer, EY LATAM



“To begin with, we have witnessed a significant increase in extreme weather events, which have impacted the economy in various sectors. With the rise in temperatures in Europe and the United States, there has also been an increase in housing costs and insurance premiums. This, of course, also increases the risk for the credit portfolios financed by banks.

These events are occurring globally: wildfires in Europe and the United States, droughts in the Amazon, hurricanes in the Caribbean, and, recently, in Brazil, unprecedented events such as the floods in Rio Grande do Sul.

This is starting to generate additional costs for the private sector to adapt to, meaning it is a major motivator for companies to bring ESG (Environmental, Social, and Governance) to the forefront of corporate strategy. In addition to this, we have observed the beginning of the consolidation of a global regulatory package to set a baseline for companies to make progress in terms of sustainability, and to be able to report, for example, how climate change impacts financial statements.

Furthermore, it is important to also assess and measure how other risks involved in ESG will impact financial statements and the companies' ability to generate cash in the future. This is the backdrop we are observing.

In summary, there has indeed been an increased focus on ESG, and companies are more mature in understanding how ESG is a tool for value creation. Today, ESG is treated not as a separate strategy, but as one integrated into business plans. Therefore, business plans must continue to generate profit for companies, but the side effects of these business plans should be positive for both society and the environment. This movement is growing in 2024 and will continue into 2025. Another important point to note is that, despite greater ESG maturity, we observe stability in investments, and this is not negative. This stability indicates that isolated and compartmentalized sustainability investments tend to cease, and we will begin to integrate these investments into all the activities and projects that a company undertakes.”



## 2. Barriers to Success: overcoming the challenges





In today's landscape,

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the role of the CFO transcends conventional financial management, embracing a broad ESG strategy. Pursuing sustainability involves establishing conditions that enable humans and nature to coexist in productive harmony, ensuring support for both current and future generations.

For sustainability initiatives to thrive, ESG must involve cross-functional collaboration. And that's when the challenges start to appear.

## Internal challenges:

- Balance short-term profits with long-term sustainability
- Assess suppliers' sustainability
- Timing of sustainability integration considering a lack of knowledge and skills while developing a sustainability-oriented culture
- Integrate renewable energy, improve water management, and cut greenhouse gas emissions
- Data model and systems to establish ESG reporting fulfilling internal and external reporting needs

## External challenges:

- Ineffective regulatory practices
- The need for technological innovation
- Climate change
- Overconsumption and exhaustion of natural resources
- Pollution
- Natural disasters
- Income inequality
- Human rights issues
- Fair working conditions
- Racial injustice

## The Economy of Nature

To support this journey of overcoming challenges, companies need to shift their approach from human-centered design (HCD) to life-centered design (LCD). It focuses on creating solutions that benefit both humans and the environment while minimizing negative effects. [Read more here.](#)



Do you consider stakeholder engagement to be the biggest challenge to implementing a sustainability initiative? Or, if not, what are the biggest challenges?

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Ricardo Assumpção

Sustainability ESG Leader  
and Chief Sustainability  
Officer, EY LATAM

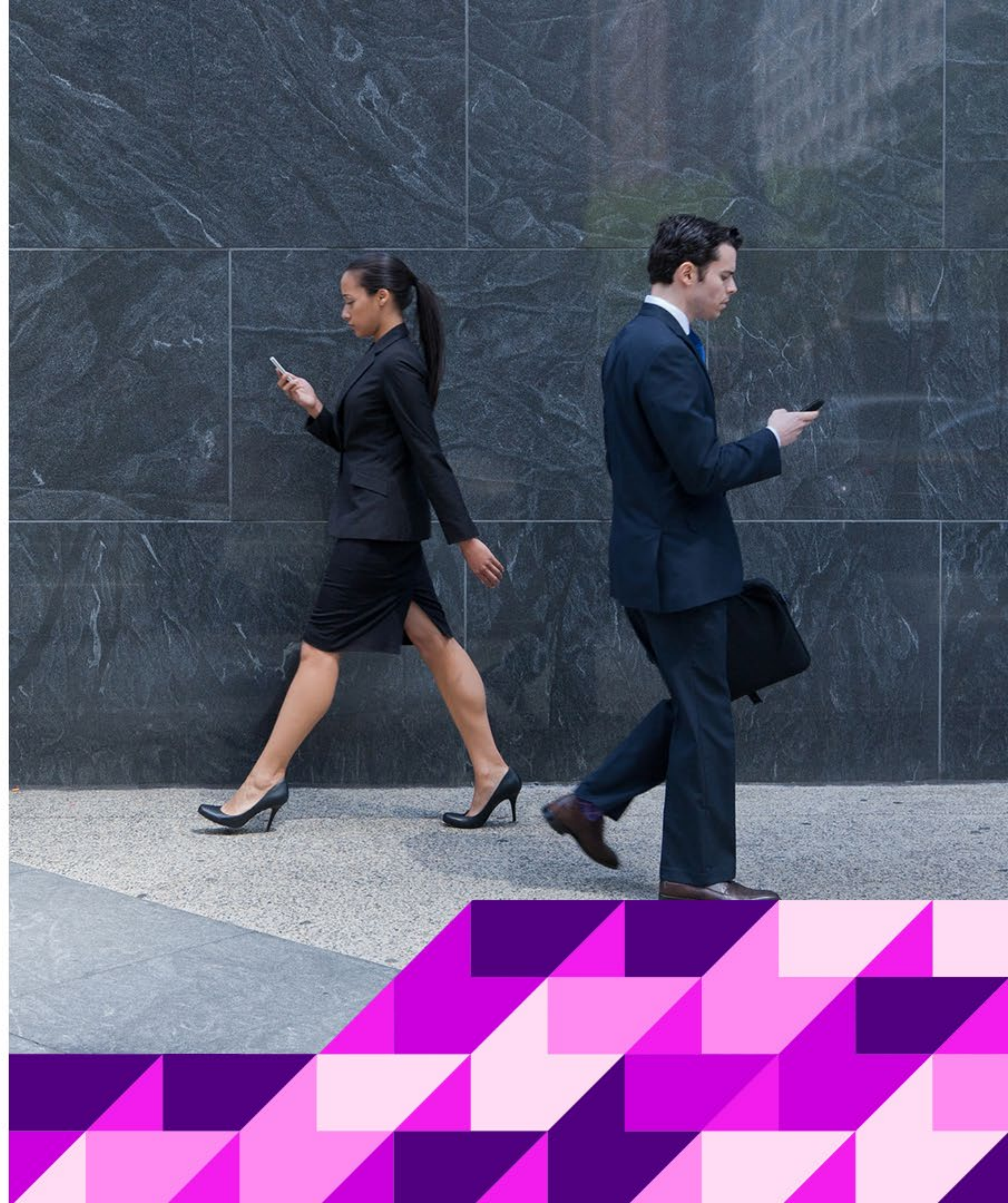


“Implementing a robust or sustainability agenda in a company was once seen as a reputational aspect, but today, it is very much linked to a form and orientation of new capitalism. Until the last decade, the main goal of generating value or profit for a company was simply to consider the interests of the shareholder and not the stakeholders.

From the 1980s, when Venture Capital and Private Equity emerged, profit generation was tied to the risk that was assumed. Today, we enter an era where profit generation and risk are tied to the impact that these companies/businesses have on their different stakeholders. Therefore, it is possible to conclude that stakeholder involvement is the main reason for companies to modify and incorporate a robust ESG agenda because if they do not consider stakeholders beyond shareholders, they will likely destroy value, operating licenses, supply chains, and many other aspects.

If a company does not take into account the customer, it loses the opportunity to better understand habits and important information such as ethical, racial, local, and regional details, and to incorporate feedback for advancement in its products. If it does not consider, for example, the supply chain, it may incur an unknown risk zone.

When we talk about regulated markets, the regulator itself must be considered. So, today, for a company to sustain itself and create value in the medium to long term, it is fundamental that it first knows all the stakeholders, makes a clear mapping of its materiality, and finally, crosses this to ensure that all stakeholders will be served. And, more than that, we cannot forget that ESG is not a cost, it is an investment.”



What methods do you use, or that you have seen, that allow CFOs to keep up with the fast-moving and constantly changing ESG regulation environment?

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Prof. Dr.

**Christopher Sessar**

Chief Accounting Officer,  
Head of Global Accounting,  
Reporting and Tax, SAP



“Collaborating with internal and external stakeholders and working groups who have relevant expertise and perspectives on regulative ESG issues of course is critical, but I must admit that in times of a regulatory “footrace” with various standard setters and policy makers with partially contradicting frameworks, it is a challenge, time consuming and sometimes painful to scan and monitor the regulatory landscape properly.

That said, I nevertheless think that “just reacting” is too tactical, my recommendation rather is a proactive and very early engagement in working groups and panels, giving constant feedback to the regulatory players to make sure that “regulation production” meets the true demand from all stakeholders, doesn’t result in an information overload and too much bureaucracy and considers also how much can ultimately be digested from the preparers’ side without ultimately compromising on quality.

Another approach we are following at SAP is to lay a technological foundation for our vision of mid-term – digital – holistic reporting, aiming for at least the same level of automation and digitalization that we enjoy already today in our financial reporting.

This for sure will not happen overnight, and we will certainly have to rely on manual workarounds still for some time. But, for example, with our decision to make the Sustainability Control Tower our single source of truth for all reported ESG and ESRS data points and to experiment with the Green Ledger solution for transactional carbon accounting in certain company codes, we want to be prepared to close the digitalization gap between financial reporting and non-financial reporting – understanding, how the Northstar ESG reporting infrastructure could look like. What I personally consider a tremendous chance is the ‘greenfield approach’ which we can consider in ESG reporting, as we do not have to rely on legacy processes and systems – which we had to when we transformed our financial reporting.”



What methods do you use, or that you have seen, that allow CFOs to keep up with the fast-moving and constantly changing ESG regulation environment?

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Michael Quails

Managing Director at Deloitte  
Transactions and Business  
Analytics LLP



“CFOs should embed ESG metrics into financial planning and set ambitious sustainability goals. Fostering a culture of sustainability and promoting it across all levels of the organization is crucial. Leveraging technology for tracking and reporting on sustainability efforts can provide valuable insights. Engaging stakeholders, from employees to investors, in sustainability initiatives can help build collective commitment.”

### 3. Risk & Regulation: navigating an ever- changing landscape



By effectively managing regulatory risks and leveraging compliance, companies can not only avoid penalties and disruptions but also unlock new opportunities for growth, innovation, and market leadership in the evolving ESG landscape.

### How to manage regulatory risks:

- Keep abreast of current and upcoming ESG regulations in all operating regions. Use regulatory tracking tools and services.
- Implement data analytics to identify trends, monitor compliance, and predict potential regulatory risks in operations and supply chains.
- Conduct regular internal and external audits to ensure adherence to ESG regulations and identify areas for improvement.

Visit S&P Global Sustainable to stay updated on key environmental, social, and governance regulatory developments and disclosure standards from around the world.

[CLICK HERE](#) 

How can companies integrate ESG criteria into their financial decision-making processes to improve long-term sustainability and access to capital?



Ricardo Assumpção

Sustainability ESG Leader  
and Chief Sustainability  
Officer, EY LATAM



“Numerous global studies have already shown that a robust ESG agenda is directly linked to better financial performance in the medium and long term. And why does this happen? Because this robust agenda of environmental, social, and governance sustainability acts as a protective shield for businesses, preventing the destruction of value.

And yes, material ESG risks do affect access to the capital market. Banks are increasingly concerned with equalizing the risk of their financed portfolios, and the trend is that this will go further. From now on, access to the capital market may be restricted for companies with a high socio-environmental and governance risk.

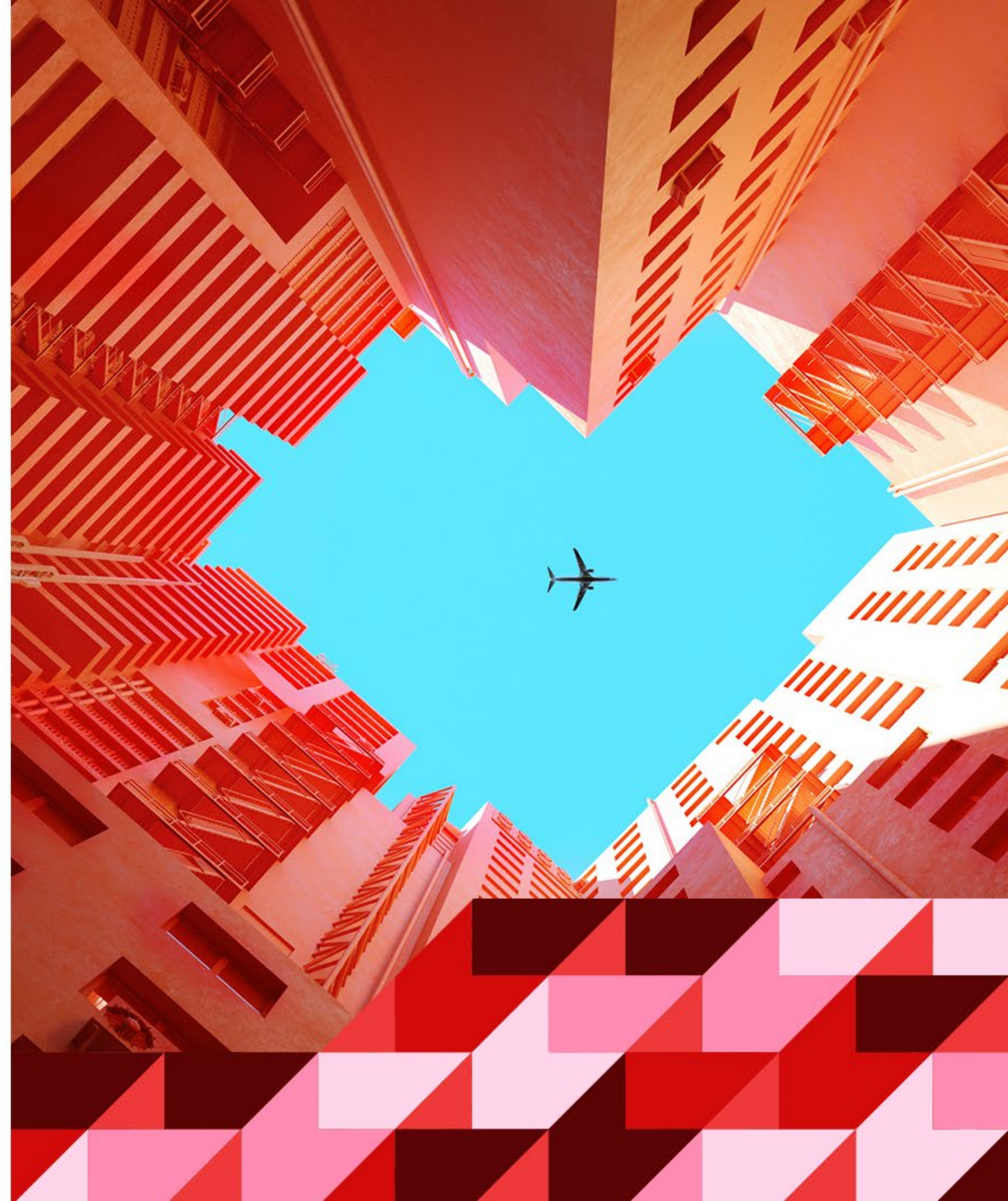
Therefore, companies should incorporate ESG into their financial decision-making processes because it is not a separate matter. This is one of the pillars of evaluation when you allocate capital. ESG due diligence has become increasingly common for companies when buying a business or making an investment, for example. It is essential to integrate ESG into decision-making processes, with specific frameworks and methodologies, which have even been specializing over the last decade.



International organizations such as the World Economic Forum, the World Bank, and various central banks have also been creating their frameworks to help businesses incorporate ESG into financial decision-making. In addition, we also observe that publicly traded companies are increasingly under restriction, as with the advent of the ISSB, the International Sustainability Standards Board, it becomes mandatory for these companies to indicate in their financial statements what the impact of climate change will be in the medium and long term and if this impact is positive and material, what impacts there are for the community, the impacts on nature, biodiversity, and the generation of future capital.

So, this is set. Companies that do not do this will lose competitiveness over time, and many of them will close their doors. An important point is that technology has been playing a key role in measuring, monitoring, and assisting the market as a whole to understand which companies are already doing this efficiently and those that are not.

Finally, we must not forget that the only way to create value with ESG is through innovation. And this innovation, to a large extent, is tied to technologies, such as generative artificial intelligence.”



How can companies balance short-term financial goals with long-term ESG objectives in their strategies?



Thomas Mehlkopf

General Manager and Head  
of Working Capital  
Management CoE, SAP



“The financial benefits of an ESG strategy are typically seen in the longer term. Various research shows that companies integrating their ESG priorities into their long-term growth strategies can outperform their peers. The key is that companies look at the triage of revenue, profitability, and ESG together to deliver long-term growth.

In order to manage all three, it is essential to take a strategic approach that integrates sustainability into long-term financial planning.

The challenges, however, are providing meaningful data and reporting that communicates the value of having an ESG strategy, and fully integrating ESG as part of the corporate strategy alongside growth and profitability. It may also require instigating a culture change, where necessary, in regard to having an innovative and risk-taking finance department.

Financial teams face greater data challenges when trying to comply with rapidly evolving reporting requirements and bring the triage together.

To overcome this, companies need seamless information and insight flows. By utilizing analytics and tools such as AI, companies can extract insights and build connectivity to ensure that data and insights flow to stakeholders in real time, using intuitive visualization and self-service tools.

Lastly, it is important to communicate and report transparently to the capital markets how the long-term ESG strategy helps to drive long-term growth and profitability.

For CFOs, the balance between delivering short-term profits and investing in the long-term growth strategy is not new. Technology and AI are the enablers to fully integrated ESG as part of decision-making and long-term financial planning.”



How can companies ensure transparency and accountability in their ESG-related financial practices to build trust with investors and stakeholders?



Prof. Dr.

**Christopher Sessar**

Chief Accounting Officer,  
Head of Global Accounting,  
Reporting and Tax, SAP



“In my opinion, the most important signal a company can send is to make ESG (Environmental, Social, and Governance) metrics that are relevant to its business model and long-term financial success a significant part of its internal decision-making processes, such as executive compensation. Additionally, the company should report externally on its performance against set targets, ideally with these data points being audited with 'reasonable assurance.'

Focusing on what is important and material is also key. I am a strong believer that providing volume-wise less, but content-wise more reliable and meaningful ESG information is more advantageous than reporting hundreds of ESG data points from which large portions are not meaningful for external stakeholders. The latter is also a risk that I currently see in many standard-setting bodies acting under a rather dogmatic approach: The more the better! Here we must learn from financial reporting, where we also observed a move away from information overload to report what matters and how you steer.”

What strategies can companies employ to incorporate ESG factors into their working capital management to enhance operational efficiency and sustainability?



Thomas Mehlkopf

General Manager and Head  
of Working Capital  
Management CoE, SAP



“Several strategies can improve ESG ratings and which may be familiar, including green financing, eco-investing, or sustainable sourcing. I’ve seen great success in relation to sustainable supply chain management, in which suppliers are evaluated on their ESG practices, ensuring they meet sustainability standards. These can include their environmental impact, labor practices, and governance structures.

This can apply to both new (integrating ESG criteria into supplier selection) and existing suppliers. By prioritizing those that adhere to sustainable practices, companies can reduce environmental impact and enhance supply chain resilience.

Further useful strategies include financial instruments that incentivize sustainable practices by linking borrowing costs to ESG performance and supplier development programs, in which the supply chain is supported and trained to improve its ESG performance, fostering a more sustainable supply chain.

Ultimately, these strategies should help companies to achieve their ESG targets. At SAP, we have announced our target to achieve net-zero emissions across our value chain by 2030. Using ESG criteria to incentivize suppliers on their journey to net zero is an important pillar of SAP’s strategy to achieve that target.”

# 4. Tools & Technology: leveraging what you have and where to invest



What is sustainable technology? Gartner defines<sup>1</sup> sustainable technology as a framework of digital solutions that can enable environmental, social, and governance (ESG) outcomes for the enterprise and its customers. Unlock the power of data with sustainability management and ESG solutions and build trust and transparency with your stakeholders<sup>2</sup>.

**Record: Actuals instead of averages**

ESG factors with actual data – not averages – that’s automatically aggregated across systems.

**Report: Audit-ready sustainability metrics**

Company-specific targets with a solution that supports the largest sustainability ecosystem.

**Act: Sustainability embedded in business processes**

On unmet sustainability goals with actionable insights, accurate forecasts, and robust planning.

<sup>1</sup> Article “Are You Thinking Too Small About Sustainable Technology?”

<sup>2</sup> SAP Sustainability and ESG reporting solutions

In early 2023, IBM collected insights<sup>1</sup> from hundreds of organizations, revealing the priorities of SAP customers around the globe.

47%

*47% of respondents said SAP already contributes tangible value to their long-term sustainability goals*

Organizations worldwide are focused on embedding sustainability into all parts of their operations and delivering exceptional personalized experiences for their customers and employees. Next-generation SAP platforms provide the digital infrastructure that enables organizations to collaborate, exchange data and insights, and create new value.

<sup>1</sup>IBM Insights on SAP





# 5. Focus on the Future: what happens next?



**Article from  
Thomas Mehlkopf**

General Manager and Head of Working  
Capital Management CoE, SAP



The clock is ticking, and the time to act is now. According to the World Economic Forum's Global Risks Perception Survey<sup>1</sup>, in 10 years, the biggest risks for businesses will be linked to the environment. This urgent call to action is based on several key factors that you can see in the infographic at the end of the article.

We are seeing a drastic change globally. If we analyze the environmental risks mentioned in the research, we can associate them with other non-environmental risks. Climate change directly affects inflation, as it causes an increase in product prices. High inflation reduces a country's economic acceleration, also leading to unemployment. Every factor is related to the environment. Because every factor is connected, putting ESG strategies at the center of operations is essential. By incorporating Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) factors into their practices, businesses can better anticipate and mitigate risks, thus minimizing potential losses. ESG is crucial as it aids in identifying and managing risks, reinforcing social responsibility, enhancing long-term sustainability, fulfilling stakeholder expectations, ensuring regulatory compliance, and improving access to capital.

<sup>1</sup> World Economic Forum – The Global Risks Report 2024 – 19th Edition



Be aware of the upcoming trends when planning long-term ESG strategies for your company:

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### **Digital tools/Technology**

Many companies have realized on their ESG journey that fulfilling the upcoming regulatory requirements needs investment in data management and technology. Gartner's Annual Global Corporate Sustainability Survey<sup>1</sup> recently highlighted the growing role of digital tools in advancing sustainability goals. Technologies such as AI, blockchain, and the IoT can enhance data collection, monitoring, and reporting, but it all starts with data management. CFOs should invest in central data management to make, for example, carbon accounting an integral part of the balance sheet reporting to streamline their ESG efforts and drive long-term sustainability as an integral part of the company steering mechanisms.

SAP's sustainability [solution portfolio](#) supports the CFO holistically in achieving and reporting their ESG targets. At the same time, [SAP technology](#) can help to create ESG transparency and incentives along the supply chain.

### **ESG reporting**

One major trend is the increasing emphasis on transparency and reporting standards with more and more mandatory disclosure requirements around the globe, such as the EU Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive. According to the EY Global Corporate Reporting and Institutional Investor Survey<sup>2</sup>, investors are also demanding greater transparency in ESG reporting, pushing companies to adopt more rigorous and standardized reporting frameworks. CFOs need to ensure their ESG data is accurate, reliable, and aligned with global standards to meet investor expectations and regulatory requirements.

<sup>1</sup> Gartner's Annual Global Corporate Sustainability Survey

<sup>2</sup> EY Global Corporate Reporting and Institutional Investor Survey



This quote from Michael Quails, Managing Director at Deloitte Transactions and Business Analytics LLP, sums up well the trends that CFOs need to pay attention to in the coming years:

*“CFOs should stay on top of stricter ESG regulations and rising investor demand for ESG integration. Leveraging technological advancements and addressing climate risks are critical to sustainability planning. Embracing the circular economy and meeting growing stakeholder expectations for social impact are also essential. These trends are reshaping the business landscape, making it vital for CFOs to incorporate them into their long-term strategies.”*

Remember! Reducing harm is not enough. For our planet to survive, companies must shift how they operate, giving more than they take.

**[Read more here.](#)**

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Proactive steps towards sustainability are essential for future success.

# 01. Environmental issues will be the most severe risk factors for businesses in 10 years

## 2 YEARS

Misinformation and disinformation

Extreme weather events

Societal polarization

Cyber insecurity

Interstate armed conflict

Lack of economic opportunity

Inflation

Involuntary migration

Economic downturn

Pollution

## 10 YEARS

Extreme weather events

Critical change to Earth systems

Biodiversity loss and ecosystem collapse

Natural resource shortages

Misinformation and disinformation

Adverse outcomes of AI technologies

Involuntary migration

Cyber insecurity

Societal polarization

Pollution

■ Economic
 ■ Environmental
 ■ Geopolitical
 ■ Societal
 ■ Technological

Source: World Economic Forum Global Risks Perception Survey 2023-2024

# 02. Companies and investors are often disconnected in their focus on long-term value creation and sustainable growth

99%

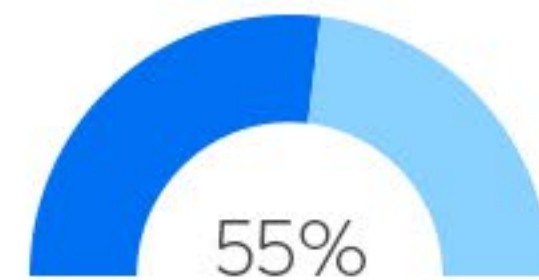
of investors surveyed utilize companies' ESG disclosures as a part of their investment decision-making.

73%

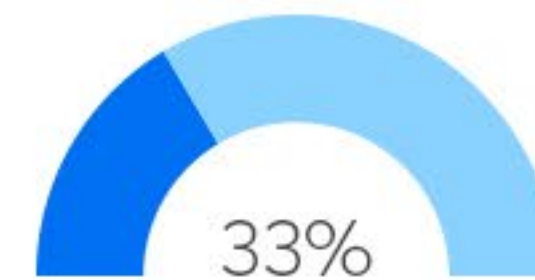
of investors surveyed say "organizations have largely failed to create more enhanced reporting, encompassing both financial and ESG disclosures, which is critical in our decision-making"

Source: EY Global Corporate Reporting and Institutional Investor Survey

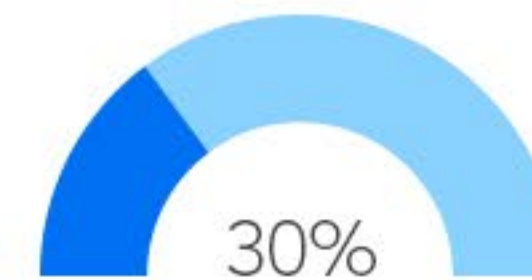
# 03. Surveyed leaders reported the benefits achieved by their sustainability programs.



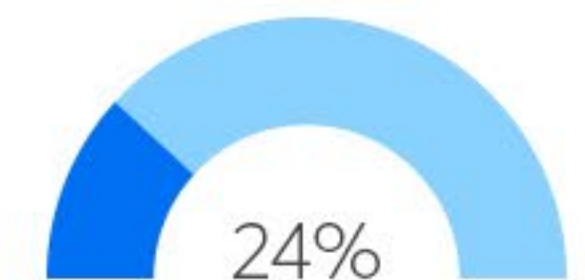
Increased brand reputation



Improved resource efficiency



Improved customer satisfaction



Ability to attract and retain talent

Source: Gartner Research - How to Set Strategic Ambition for Sustainability

# SAP Solutions: SAP financial management solutions in a nutshell



# SAP Financial Management Solutions in a Nutshell

Unlock the potential of your finances to deliver new business models, optimize working capital, increase efficiency, and reduce risk – all while creating positive social and environmental impact.

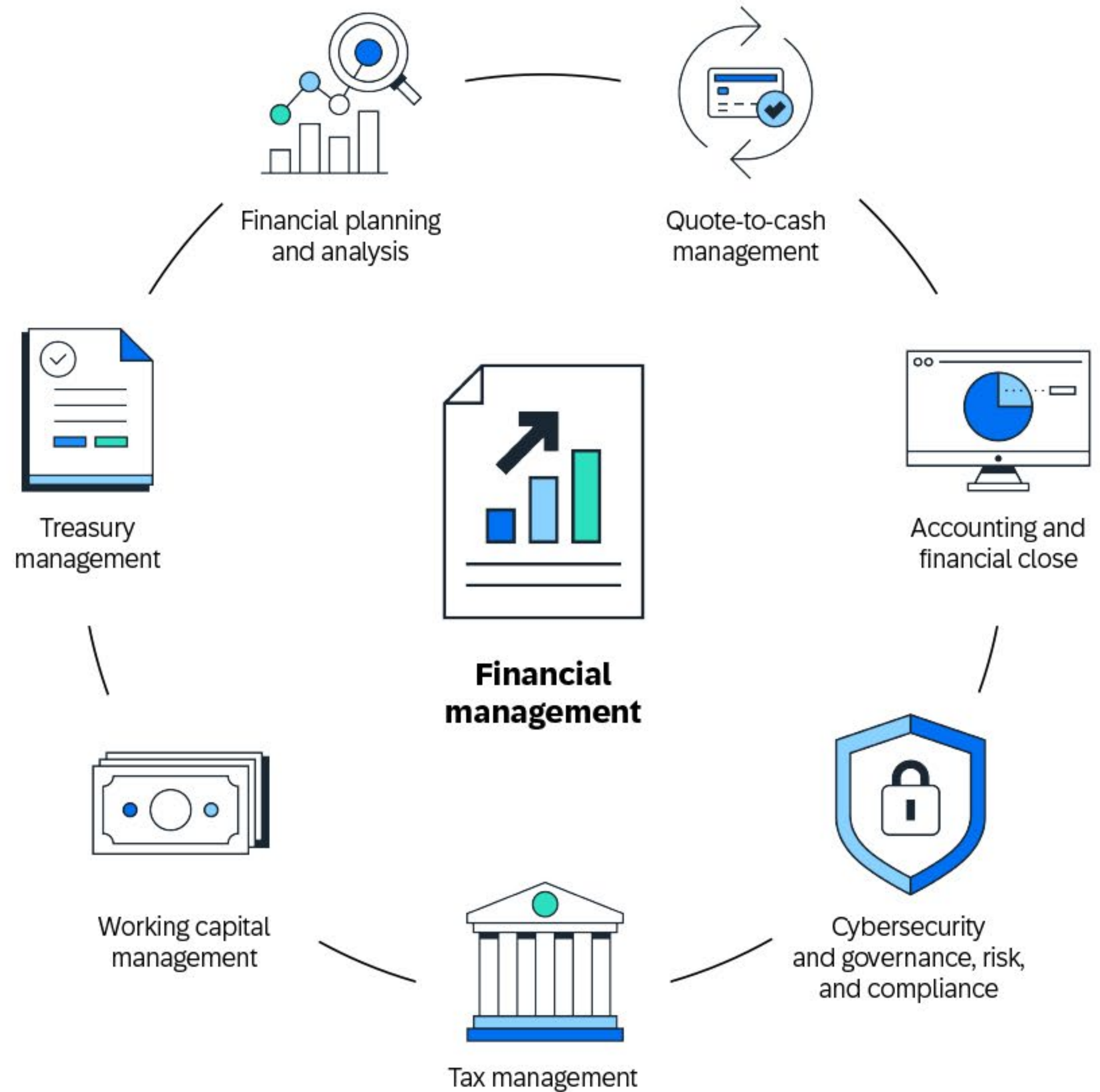
**Explore SAP Solutions for Financial Management:**

**CLICK HERE**



**Learn more about SAP Sustainability Solutions**

**CLICK HERE**



## 1. Financial and analysis (FP&A)

Enhance business agility through integrated FP&A applications, seamlessly linking financial planning, budgeting, and forecasting with your SAP cloud systems for all business sectors.

## 2. Accounting and financial close

Optimize accounting with automated workflows, speeding up reconciliation, consolidation, and book closing. Ensure compliance and simplify regulatory reporting.

## 3. Tax management

Governments are implementing regulations promoting data digitization and transparency. SAP solutions aid in local compliance, automate processes, and facilitate smarter tax decisions, reducing tax burdens.

## 4. Treasury management

Enhance business agility through integrated FP&A applications, seamlessly linking financial planning, budgeting, and forecasting with your SAP cloud systems for all business sectors.





## 5. Quote-to-cash management

Accelerate monetization and billing of new business models with a single quote-to-cash solution for one-time and recurring billing of products, services, projects, subscriptions, usage plans, and more.

## 6. Governance, risk, compliance (GRC), and cybersecurity

Use predictive insight to take early preventative measures against anomalies and potential risks with embedded intelligent controls and risk management.

## 7. Working capital management

Optimization of working capital across payables, receivables, and inventory, boosts cash flow for your business network. Freeing this value can also support with the growth of business, meeting financial obligations, investment in R&D, and optimization of capital performance.



# Extra content

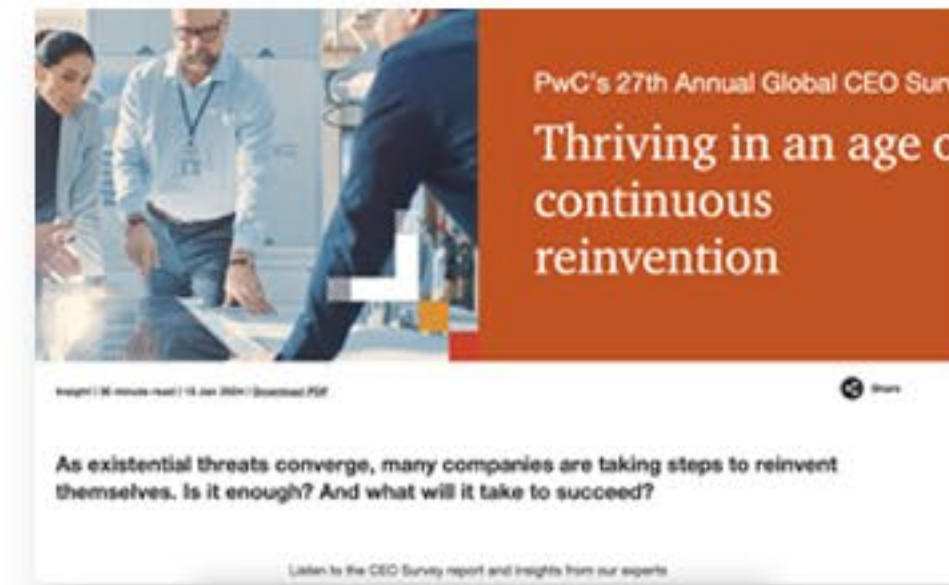


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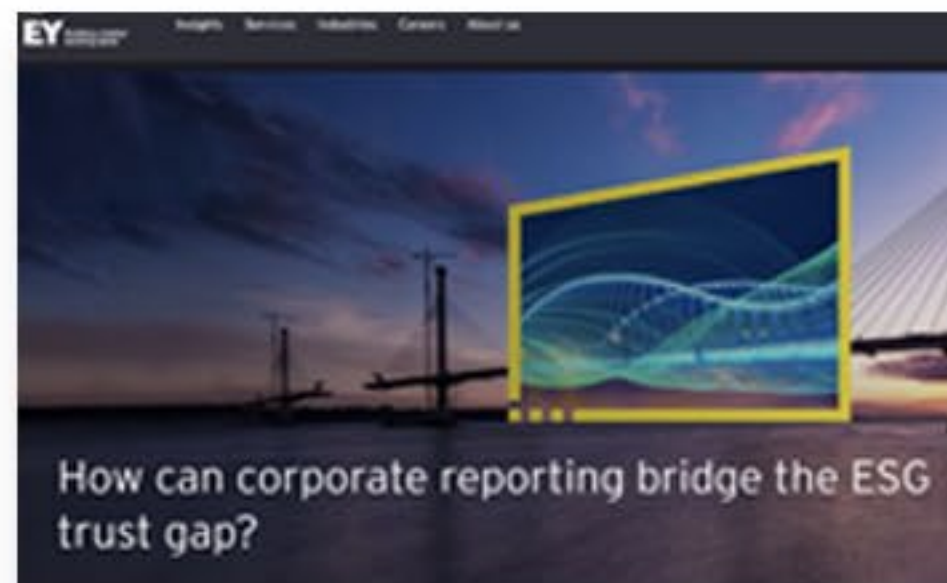
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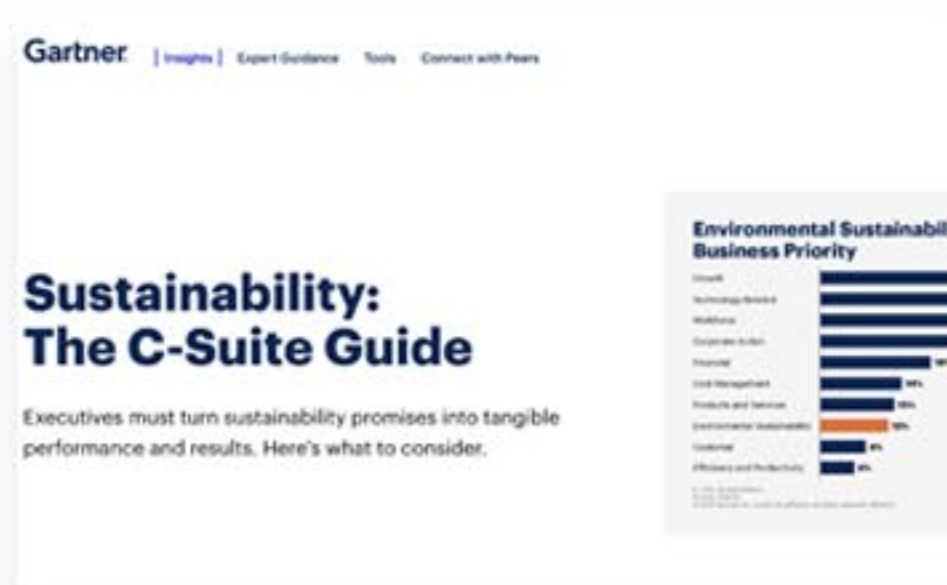


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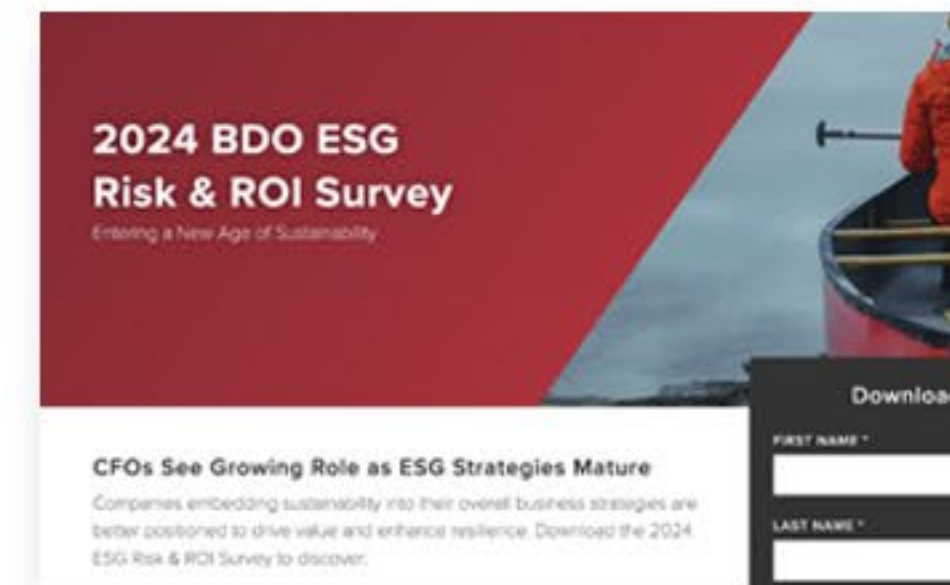


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