

Linking ESG Metrics and SDGs Indicators

This table shows the relationship between commonly reported ESG metrics and SDGs indicators.

TOPIC	SUGGESTED METRICS	SDG	SDG INDICATOR
ENVIRONMENT			
Air Pollutants	NOx (excl. N2O), SOx, volatile organic compounds, particulate matter (Tn)	SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities)	11.6.2: Annual mean levels of fine particulate matter (e.g., PM2.5 and PM10) in cities (population weighted)
Waste	Waste from operations (t), % hazardous, % recycled, intensity (waste/sales)	SDG 12 (Waste)	12.4.2: Hazardous waste generated per capita and proportion of hazardous waste treated, by type of treatment 12.5.1: National recycling rate, tons of material recycled
Energy	Energy consumed (GW), % grid electricity, % renewables, intensity (energy/sales)	SDG 7 (Energy)	7.2.1: Renewable energy share in the total final energy consumption 7.3.1: Energy intensity measured in terms of primary energy and GDP
Water Use	Water used (m3), % recycled, % in water stress areas, intensity (water use/sales)	SDG 6 (Water efficiency)	6.3: Improve water quality by reducing pollution, eliminating dumping, and minimizing release of hazardous chemicals and materials, drastically reducing the proportion of untreated wastewater and substantially increasing recycling and safe reuse globally 6.3.1: Proportion of wastewater safely treated 6.4: Substantially increase water-use efficiency across all sectors and ensure sustainable withdrawals and supply of freshwater 6.4.1: Change in water-use efficiency over time 6.4.2: Level of water stress: freshwater withdrawal as a proportion of available freshwater resources 6.b: Support and strengthen the participation of local communities in improving water and sanitation management 6.b.1: Proportion of local administrative units with established and operational policies and procedures for participation of local communities in water and sanitation management
Raw materials	% from 1) recycled content and 2) renewable resources	SDG 12 (Resources)	12.2: By 2030, achieve the sustainable management and efficient use of natural resources 12.2.1: Material footprint, material footprint per capita, and material footprint per GDP 12.2.2: Domestic material consumption, domestic material consumption per capita, and domestic material consumption per GDP
Climate Change	Steps to prevent and (if not preventable) adapt to the impact of climate change on the company's ability to operate profitably or the quality of its products and services	SDG 13 (Climate Resilience)	13.1: Strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and natural disasters
Biodiversity	Impact on ecosystem services; impact on protected areas, parks, or reserves; impact on endangered, vulnerable, or rare species; habitat protection and biodiversity management; impact on water sources, rivers, lakes, or wetlands	SDG 15 (Land)	15.3/15.5: Take action to reduce the degradation of natural habitats, halt loss of biodiversity, and strive to achieve a land-degradation-neutral project 15.3.1: Proportion of land that is degraded over total land area 15.5.1: Red List Index

Link between Environmental and Social (E&S) Metrics and SDGs Indicators

TOPIC	SUGGESTED METRICS	SDG	SDG INDICATOR
EMPLOYEES			
Treatment	Average hourly wage and % of employees earning minimum wage	SDG 8 (Decent work and Economic Growth)	8.5: By 2030, achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all women and men, including for young people and persons with disabilities, and equal pay for work of equal value 8.5.1: Average hourly earnings of female and male employees, by occupation, age, and persons with disabilities
	Forced or child labor in the company and its supply chain	SDG 8	8.7.1: Proportion and number of children aged 5–17 years engaged in child labor, by sex and age
Relations	% of active workforce covered under collective bargaining agreements	SDG 8	8.8.2: Level of national compliance with labor rights (freedom of association and collective bargaining) based on International Labour Organization (ILO) textual sources and national legislation, by sex and migrant status
Nondiscrimination	Workforce composition by gender and ethnicity (#)	SDG 8	8.5: By 2030, achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all women and men, including for young people and persons with disabilities, and equal pay for work of equal value 8.5.2: Unemployment rate, by sex, age and persons with disabilities
Safety	Injury rate (TRIR) and fatality rate for direct and contract employees	SDG 8	8.8.1: Frequency rates of fatal and nonfatal occupational injuries, by sex and migrant status
ETHICS			
Anticorruption	Management of anticorruption in the value chain (codes, policies, prevention & treatment) (y/n)	SDG 16	16.5: Reduce corruption and bribery in all their forms 16.5.2: Proportion of businesses that had at least one contact with a public official and that paid a bribe to a public official, or were asked for a bribe by those public officials during the previous 12 months
GOVERNANCE			
Board Diversity	% women (non-promoter/sponsor) on board	SDG 5 (Gender Equality)	5.1: End all forms of discrimination against all women and girls everywhere
		SDG 10 (Reduce Inequality)	10.2: By 2030, empower and promote the social, economic, and political inclusion of all, irrespective of age, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion, or economic or other status
Annual Report	Does the annual report or the sustainability report include ESG information? (y/n)	SDG 12 (Sustainable Consumption and production)	12.6: Encourage companies, especially large and transnational companies, to adopt sustainable practices and to integrate sustainability information into their reporting cycle 17.5: Adopt and implement investment promotion regimes for least developed countries
		SDG 17 (Implementation and partnership)	Target 17.19: By 2030, build on existing initiatives to develop measurements of progress on sustainable development that complement gross domestic product, and support statistical capacity-building in developing countries

Source: IFC.