



State of Sustainability Reporting

Suppliers Partnership for the Environment Meeting

Eric Hespenheide – Chairman, GRI Board of Directors

9 May 2018



The Sustainability Challenge





Expectations are Higher than Ever

The New York Times

Business Leaders Finally Walk Away From Mr. Trump

By VIKAS BAJAJ and STUART A. THOMPSON

UPDATED August 16, 2017

the
guardian

Pepsico, Unilever and Nestlé accused of complicity in illegal rainforest destruction

The Atlantic

The Businesses Against the Texas Bathroom Bill

CNN Money

Hundreds of businesses are banding together to support the Paris climate agreement



Is slavery in your supply chain?
Check out this report

BBC

Exxon shareholders back 'historic' vote on climate



Growing Regulatory Environment

		2006		2010		2013		2016	
Reporting Instruments	Mandatory	35	58%	94	62%	130	72%	248	65%
	Voluntary	25	42%	57	38%	50	28%	135	35%
	Total	60		151		180		383	
Countries & Regions		19		32		44		71 (64 with instruments)	

Figure 5: Number of instruments by issuing body, 2016

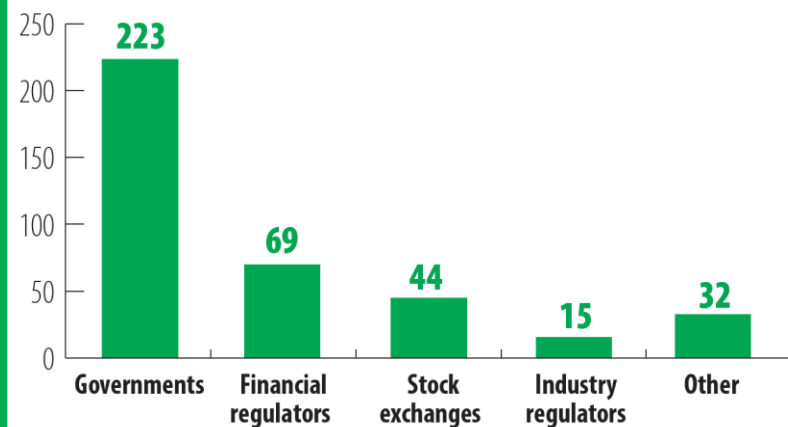
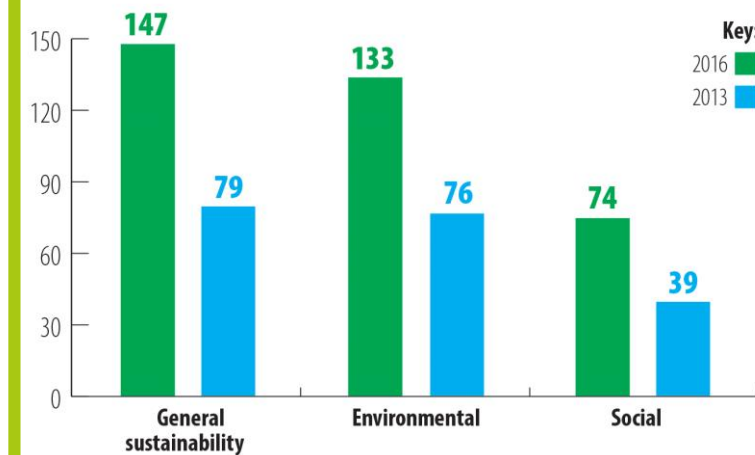


Figure 10: Themes addressed by instruments, 2016 vs 2013





Other Reasons Why Organizations Report

- Demand for transparency
- Desire to build trust and reputation
- Access to decision-useful data
- Ability to manage risk and anticipate change
- Create new opportunities for growth and resiliency





What is GRI? International independent organization that has pioneered [sustainability reporting](#) for two decades. We help businesses and governments understand and communicate their impact on critical sustainability issues.

Our VISION: A thriving [global community](#) that lifts humanity and enhances the resources on which all life depends.

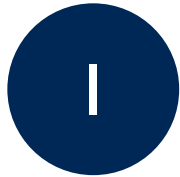
Our MISSION: To [empower](#) decisions that create social, environmental and economic [benefits](#) for everyone



DRIVING GLOBAL CHANGE
SINCE 1997



Our Focus Areas



Create standards and guidance to advance sustainable development



Harmonize the sustainability landscape



Lead efficient and effective sustainability reporting



Drive effective use of sustainability information to improve performance



Our Impact



policies across 50 countries and regions reference GRI

74%

of the largest 250 companies in the world use GRI's sustainability reporting framework



22

of the Bloomberg 50 companies use GRI to report

30,100

Participants trained through GRI Certified Training Courses

522



organizations from 67 countries active in the GRI GOLD Community



40,000

reports registered in the GRI Sustainability Disclosure Database

89

training partners across 54 countries offer GRI Certified Training Courses



315

of the FT Europe 500 companies use GRI to report



GRI Standards

GRI Standards are a set of interrelated reporting standards, enabling organizations to report publicly on their economic, environmental and social **impacts** and contribution towards **sustainable development**.

The GRI Standards represent **global best practice** for reporting sustainability information – enhancing its comparability and quality.



GRI Standards

Universal Standards



Starting point for using the GRI Standards



To report contextual information about an organization



To report the management approach for each material topic

Topic-specific Standards



Select from these to report specific disclosures for each material topic



Development of the GRI Standards

The GRI Standards were developed and issued by the [Global Sustainability Standards Board \(GSSB\)](#) – GRI's dedicated standard-setting body, following the GSSB's [Due Process Protocol](#). This ensures:



Multi-stakeholder input
throughout the process
(public consultation period plus
in-depth stakeholder workshops
around the world)



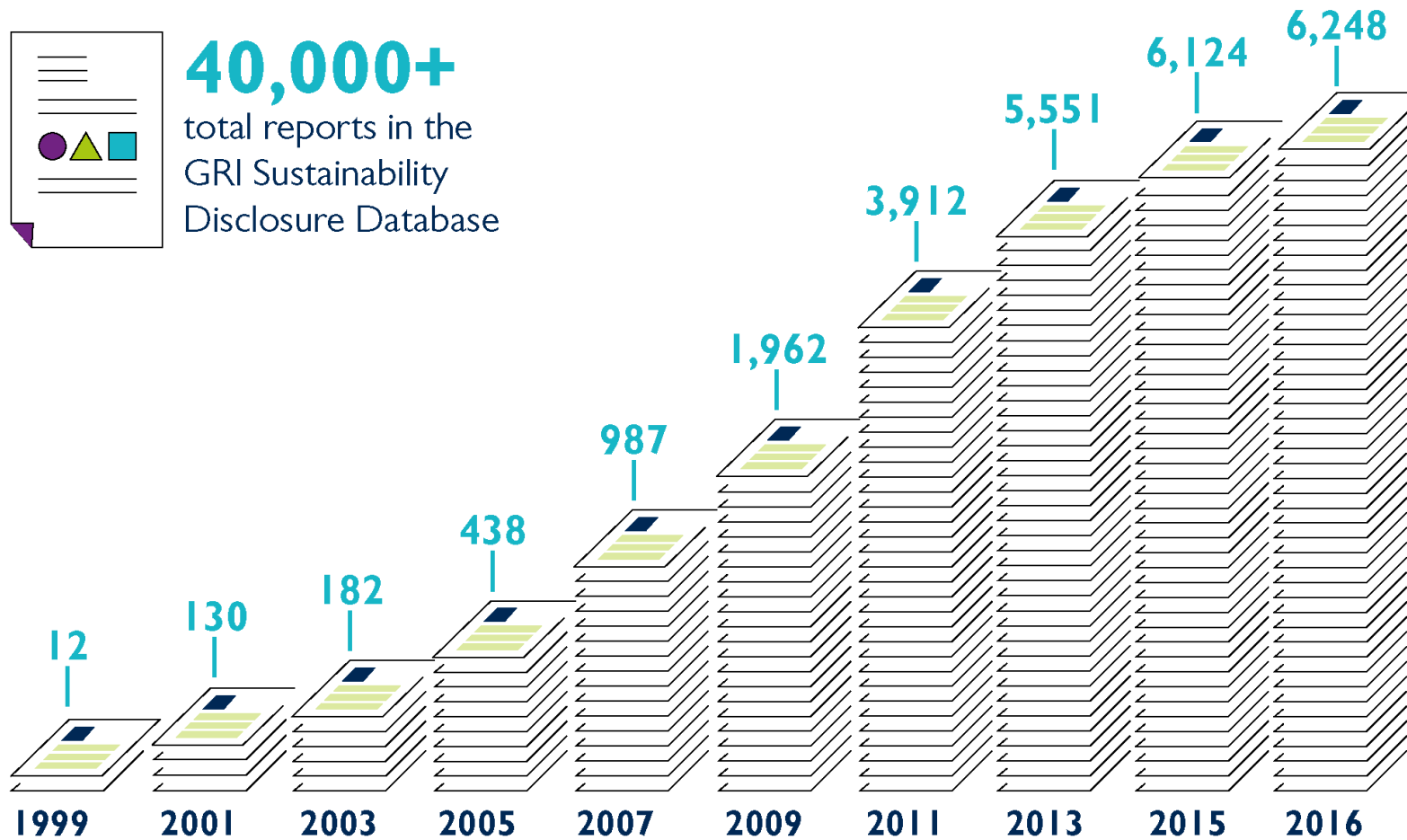
Full transparency:
all GSSB standard-setting
meetings and all materials are
open to the public

Learn more:
globalreporting.org/standards





Reports in GRI's Sustainability Disclosure Database*

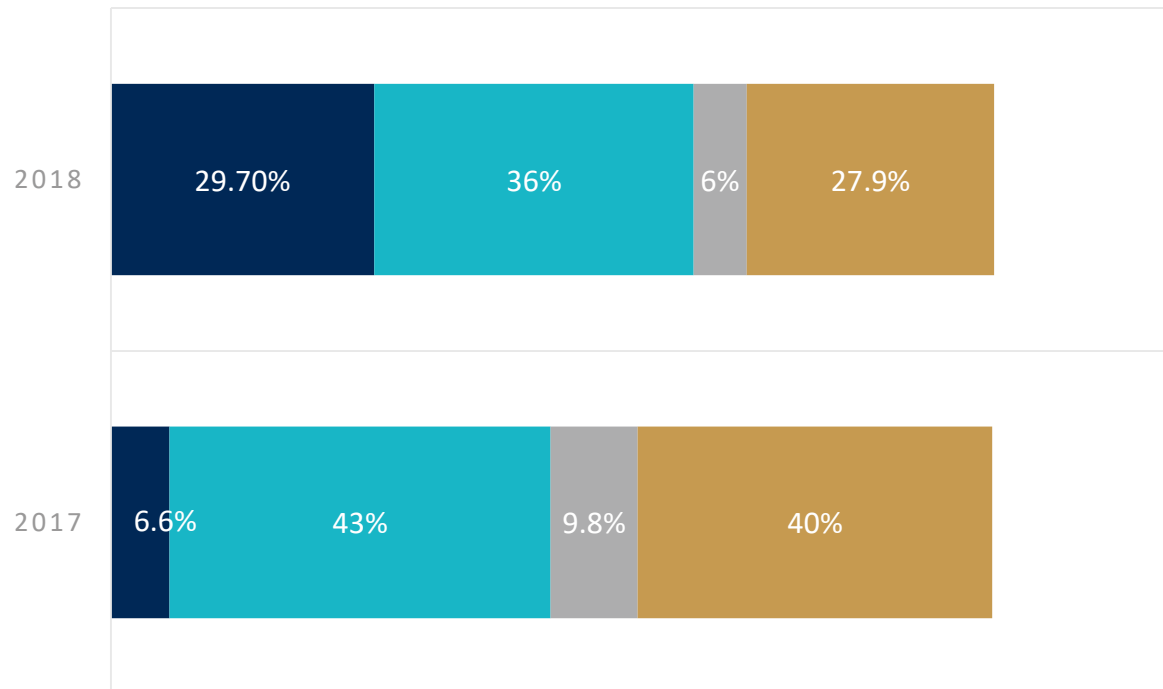


*per report year



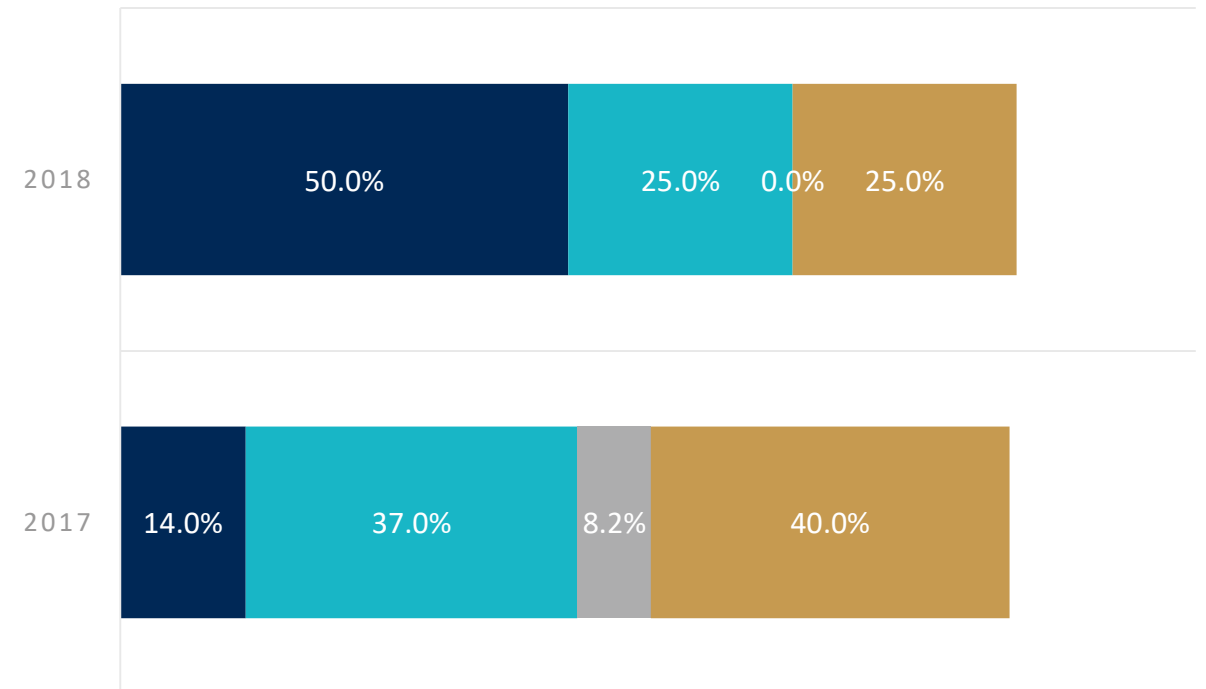
GRI REPORTING: GLOBAL

■ GRI Standards ■ G4 ■ Citing GRI ■ nonGRI



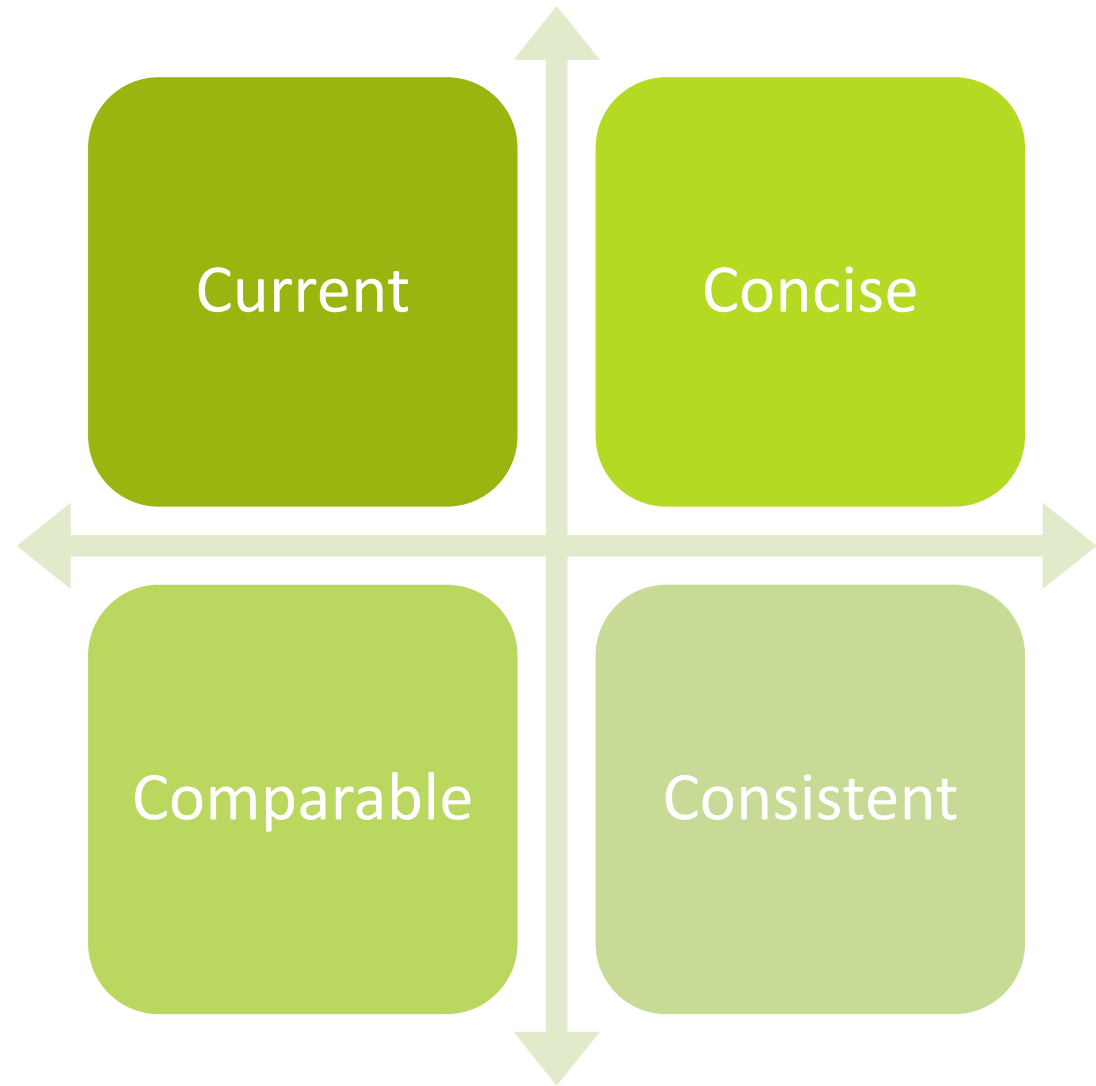
GRI REPORTING: UNITED STATES

■ GRI Standards ■ G4 ■ Citing GRI ■ nonGRI





To be trusted and decision-useful, reporting must be:





What are Characteristics of a “Good” Report?

- References an international standard
- Reflects input/commitment from company’s highest governance body
- Applies principles of Materiality & Boundary Setting and Stakeholder Inclusiveness
- Sets targets & measuring progress towards them
- Meets all regulatory requirements in local markets
- Incorporates at least partial level of assurance



Some Stock Exchanges Referencing GRI





Collaboration & Relationships



Long-standing [collaborations](#) with over 20 international [organizations](#).



Joint activity with partner organizations to [connect GRI Standards](#) to other relevant international initiatives and [frameworks](#).



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Corporate Disclosure Tools/Resources

Evolving Landscape



- Agnostic of sectors/industries
- Inclusive of all stakeholders
- Spectrum of issues/topics

Audience Specific

Content Specific

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Useful Publications

GRI research reports: exploring trends on key sustainability topics

Defining What Matters

Do companies and investors agree on what is material?

Carrots & Sticks

Global trends in sustainability reporting regulation and policy

Business Reporting on the SDGs

AN ANALYSIS OF THE GOALS AND TARGETS

Can corporate reporting help end poverty?

SHINING A LIGHT ON HUMAN RIGHTS

CORPORATE HUMAN RIGHTS PERFORMANCE DISCLOSURE IN THE MINING, ENERGY AND FINANCIAL SECTORS

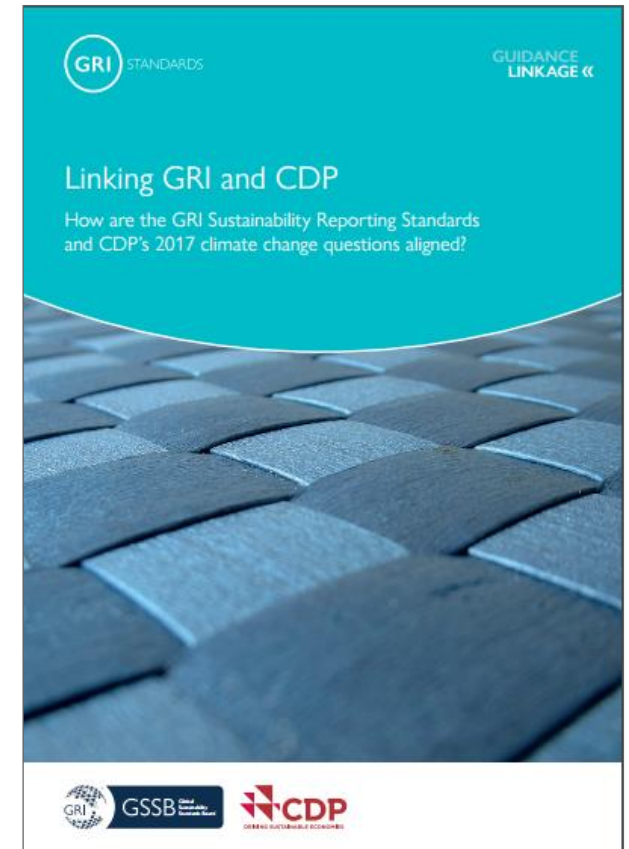
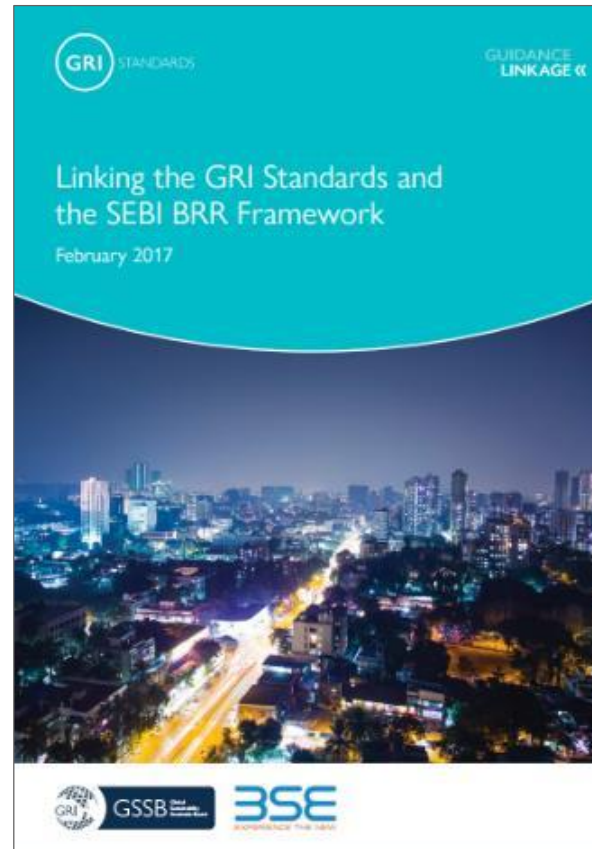
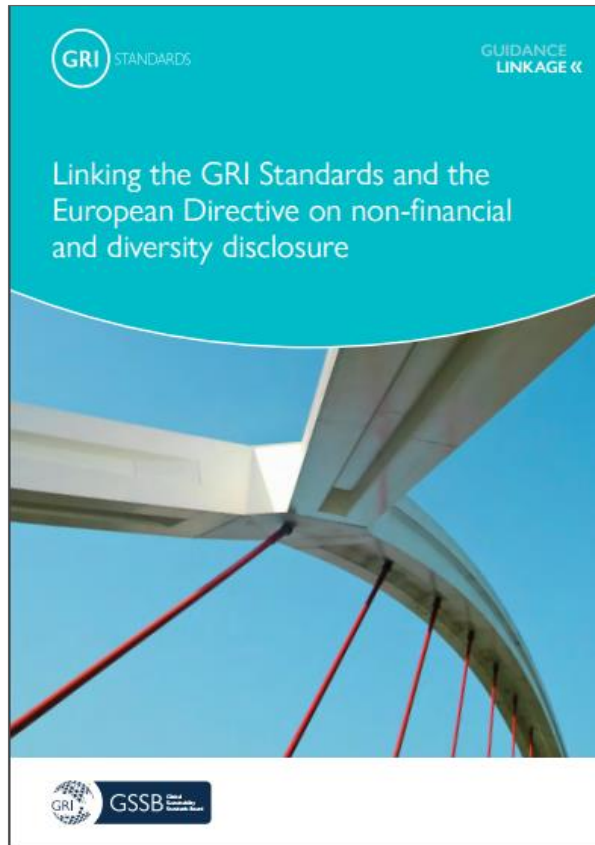
Land Tenure Rights:

The need for greater transparency among companies worldwide



Useful Publications

Linkage documents: linking the GRI Standards to other frameworks





Stay Connected!



@GRI_Secretariat



The Global Reporting Initiative



Global Reporting Initiative (GRI)



GRI Newsletter: bit.ly/GRI-News



THANK YOU

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