



ecovadis

EcoVadis Sustainability Assessment Report

Company rated:
INNAX GROUP BV (GROUP)

Overall score: 55 /100
October 2023

Sustainability performance: Good

Size: M
Headquarters country: Netherlands
Risk country operations: NO
Industry: Architectural and engineering activities;
technical testing and analysis

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ABOUT SUSTAINABILITY

Sustainability is the continuing commitment to act responsibly by integrating social and environmental concerns into business operations. Sustainability goes beyond regulatory compliance to focus on how companies manage their economic, social and environmental impacts, as well as their relationships with stakeholders (e.g. employees, trading partners, government).

ABOUT THE ASSESSMENT

The EcoVadis methodology framework assesses companies' policies and actions as well as their published reporting related to the environment, labor and human rights, ethics and sustainable procurement. Our team of international sustainability experts analyze and crosscheck companies' data (supporting documents, 360° Watch Findings, etc.) in order to create reliable ratings, taking into account each company's industry, size and geographic location.

ABOUT ECOVADIS

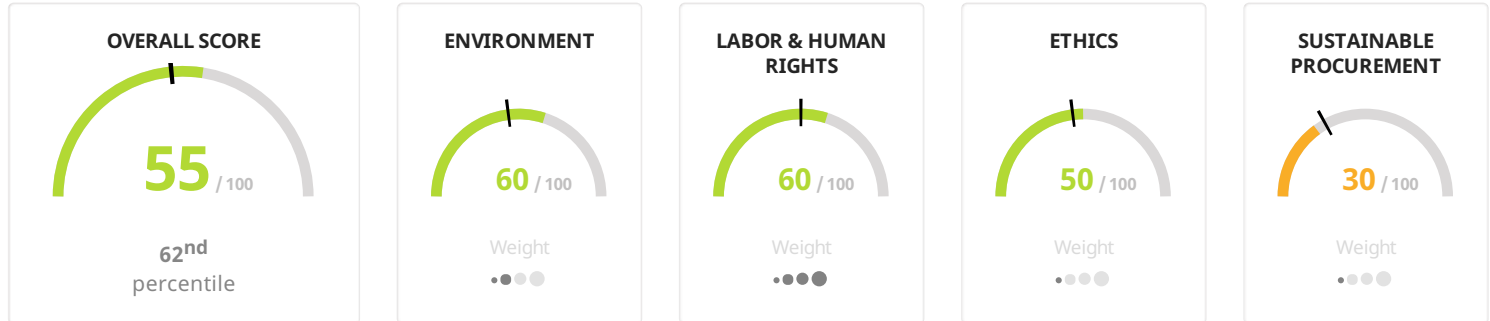
EcoVadis provides the leading solution for monitoring sustainability in global supply chains. Using innovative technology and sustainability expertise, we strive to engage companies and help them adopt sustainable practices.

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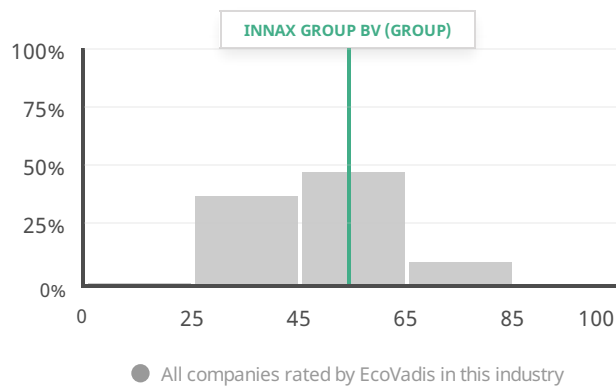
1. SUSTAINABILITY PERFORMANCE OVERVIEW

Score breakdown

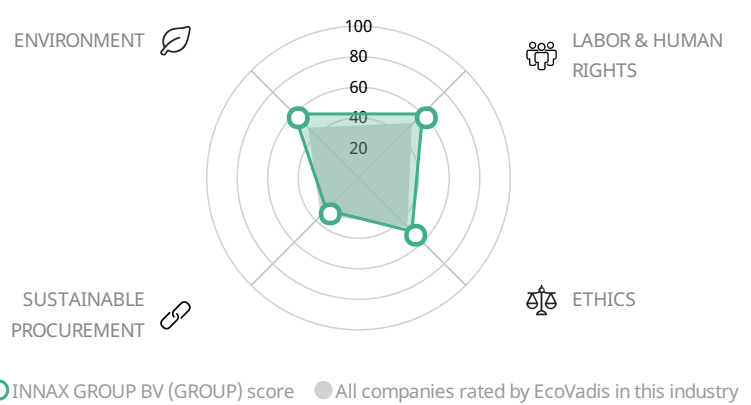
Sustainability performance ● Insufficient ● Partial ● Good ● Advanced ● Outstanding — Average score



Overall score distribution



Theme score comparison



INNAX GROUP BV (GROUP) has been awarded a bronze medal in recognition of sustainability achievement! To receive this medal, companies must have an overall score of 50-59.

Corrective Action Plan in progress

The Corrective Action Plan is a collaborative feature designed to support companies' performance improvement. It enables companies to build an improvement plan online, communicate planned and completed corrective actions and share feedback. INNAX GROUP BV (GROUP) has a corrective action plan in place and is working on improving their sustainability management system.

* You are receiving this score/medal based on the disclosed information and news resources available to EcoVadis at the time of assessment. Should any information or circumstances change materially during the period of the scorecard/medal validity, EcoVadis reserves the right to place the business' scorecard/medal on hold and, if considered appropriate, to re-assess and possibly issue a revised scorecard/medal.

2. ASSESSMENT BENEFITS

Understand :

Get a clear picture of a company’s sustainability performance. The scorecard is the final output of the EcoVadis assessment. It rates and benchmarks a company’s sustainability performance in four themes on a scale of 0-100 and highlights strengths and improvement areas.

Know where a company stands compared to their industry. Benchmark the company’s sustainability performance against the industry with a score distribution graph and theme score comparisons.

Identify industry trends. Discover the primary sustainability risks, regulations, hot topics and best practices related to specific industries.

Communicate :

Meet customer needs. More and more companies raise questions about their trading partners’ environmental and social performance. The EcoVadis assessment allows companies to demonstrate their commitment.

Leverage a unique communication tool. Companies with an EcoVadis Scorecard avoid audit fatigue by sharing one assessment with all requesting customers.

3. ASSESSMENT PROCESS

1

Customer Request

Procurement, CSR, EHS, and Sustainability leaders in enterprises looking to monitor sustainability risk in the supply chain request an EcoVadis assessment for their trading partners.

2

Questionnaire

Based on a company’s specific sustainability risk factors, a customized questionnaire is created. It contains 20 to 50 questions tailored to the industry, size and location.

3

Document Analysis

Companies are required to provide supporting documentation for their answers to the questionnaire. These documents are reviewed by our analysts.

4

Public Information

Company information that is publicly available, most often found on the company website, is also collected as evidence of their sustainability performance.

5

360° Watch Findings

360° Watch Findings comprise relevant public information about companies’ sustainability practices, identified via more than 10,000 data sources. They can have positive, negative or no score impact.

6

Expert Analysis

Our analysts combine all these elements to produce one unified scorecard per company.

SCORECARD



4. ECOVADIS METHODOLOGY

A. Four Themes and 21 Criteria

EcoVadis assessments focus on 21 issues which are grouped into 4 themes (Environment, Labor & Human Rights, Ethics, Sustainable Procurement). The 21 issues or criteria are based upon international sustainability standards such as the Global Compact Principles, the International Labour Organization (ILO) conventions, the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) standard, the ISO 26000 standard, and the CERES principles.

21 sustainability criteria

1. ENVIRONMENT

OPERATIONS

Energy consumption & GHGs
Water
Biodiversity
Air Pollution
Materials, Chemicals & Waste

PRODUCTS

Product Use
Product End-of-Life
Customer Health & Safety
Environmental Services & Advocacy

2. LABOR & HUMAN RIGHTS

HUMAN RESOURCES

Employee Health & Safety
Working Conditions
Social Dialogue
Career Management & Training

HUMAN RIGHTS

Child Labor, Forced Labor & Human Trafficking
Diversity, Equity & Inclusion
External Stakeholders Human Rights

3. ETHICS

Corruption
Anticompetitive Practices
Responsible Information Management

4. SUSTAINABLE PROCUREMENT

Supplier Environmental Practices
Supplier Social Practices



B. Seven Management Indicators

EcoVadis assessments evaluate a company's sustainability management system by looking at seven management indicators. These are used to further customize the assessment by weighting the four themes and their subsequent 21 sustainability criteria.



Policies (weight: 25%)

1. Policies: Mission statements, policies, objectives, targets, governance
2. Endorsement: Endorsement of external sustainability initiatives

Actions (weight: 40%)

3. Measures: Measures and actions implemented (e.g. procedures, training, equipment)
4. Certifications: Certifications and labels (e.g. ISO 14001)
5. Coverage: Coverage of measures and actions

Results (weight: 35%)

6. Reporting: Reporting on Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)
7. 360: Condemnations, Controversies, Awards

5. UNDERSTANDING A SCORECARD

The overall score can be better understood by looking at quantitative information (theme scores and activated criteria) and qualitative information (strengths and improvement areas).

A. Quantitative Information: Scores & Activated Criteria

Theme Scores:

Like the overall score, theme scores are on a scale of 1 to 100.

Activated Criteria:

Each of the four themes (Environment, Labor & Human Rights, Ethics, Sustainable Procurement) have specific criteria associated with them. Because the questionnaire is customized by industry, size and location, not all 21 criteria are activated for every company and some criteria are weighted more heavily than others.

Non-activated

If certain criteria are not activated, then the specific associated issue is not relevant or has very low sustainability risk for that company.

Medium

Medium importance criteria are the issues some sustainability risk is present but not the most pressing.

High

High importance criteria are the issues where the company faces the greatest sustainability risk.

! Risk countries only

Criteria classified as Only in Risk Countries are activated only if the company has significant operations in one or more countries identified as risky.

C. The Scoring Scale

0 - 24	Insufficient	No engagements or tangible actions regarding sustainability. Evidence in certain cases of misconduct (e.g. pollution, corruption).
25 - 44	Partial	No structured sustainability approach. Few engagements or tangible actions on selected issues. Partial reporting on Key Performance Indicators. Partial certification or occasional labeled product.
45 - 64	Good	Structured and proactive sustainability approach. Engagements/policies and tangible actions on major issues. Basic reporting on actions or Key Performance Indicators.
65 - 84	Advanced	Structured and proactive sustainability approach. Engagements/policies and tangible actions on major issues with detailed implementation information. Significant sustainability reporting on actions and Key Performance Indicators.
85 - 100	Outstanding	Structured and proactive sustainability approach. Engagements/policies and tangible actions on all issues with detailed implementation information. Comprehensive sustainability reporting on actions and Key Performance Indicators. Innovative practices and external recognition.

B. Qualitative Information: Strengths & Improvement Areas

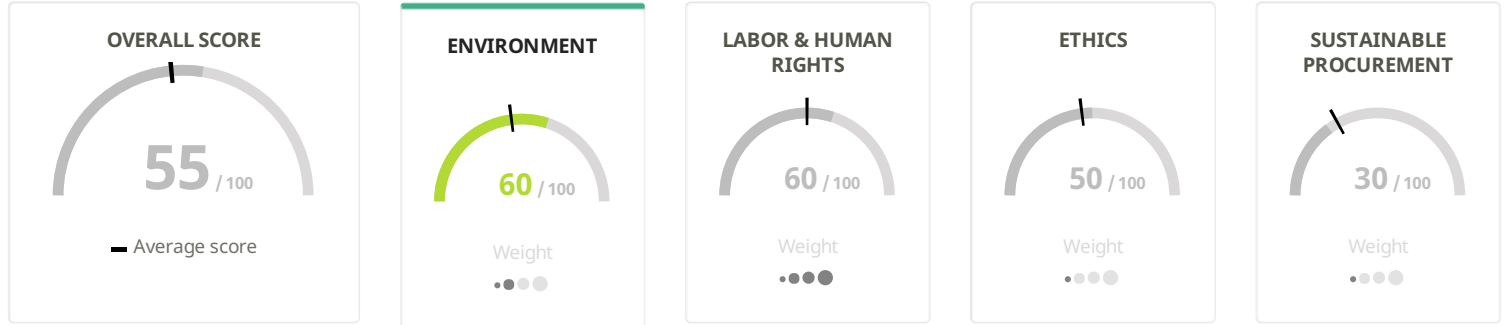
Qualitative information provides more details and insights into a company's score. For each theme, the company is assigned strengths (elements of their sustainability management system that are positive) and improvement areas (elements of their sustainability management system that need to be improved). The strengths and improvement areas are divided according to the three management layers (Policies, Actions, Results) and are also classified by priority.

All improvement areas are automatically added to the company's Corrective Action Plan. They are pre-organized by priority. The Corrective Action Plan is a collaborative feature designed to support companies' performance improvement. It enables companies to build an improvement plan online, communicate planned and completed corrective actions and share feedback.

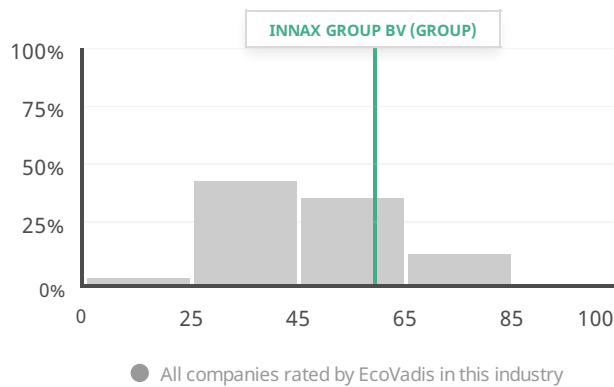
6. ENVIRONMENT

This theme takes into account both operational factors (e.g. energy consumption, waste management) and product stewardship (e.g. product end-of-life, customer health and safety issues).

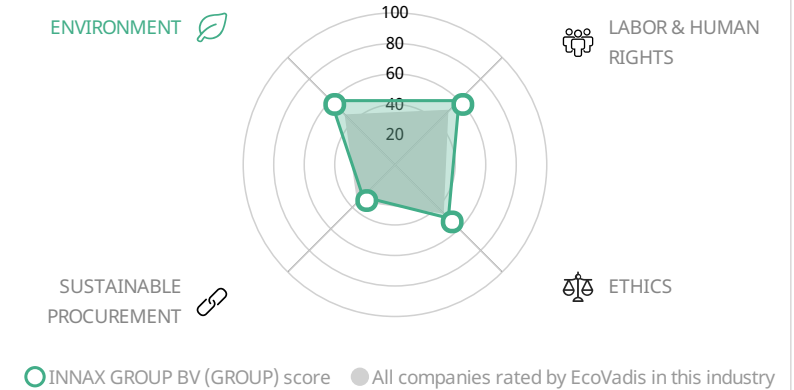
Environment Score Breakdown



Theme score distribution



Theme score comparison



Environment: Activated Criteria

Because the questionnaire is customized by industry, size and location, not all 21 criteria are activated for every company and some criteria are weighted more heavily than others.

Environment: Strengths & Improvement Areas

The Corrective Action Plan is a collaborative feature designed to support companies' performance improvement. It enables companies to build an improvement plan online, communicate planned and completed corrective actions and share feedback. Improvement areas with ongoing corrective actions are marked with labels below.

Strengths

Policies

Environmental policy on waste

Environmental policy on environmental services & advocacy

Environmental policy on energy consumption & GHGs

Standard policy on a majority of environmental issues

Information

A standard environmental policy includes commitments and/or operational objectives on the main environmental risks the company faces.

Guidance

A comprehensive environmental policy includes commitments and/or operational objectives on the majority of environmental risks the company faces, and integrates quantitative objectives (i.e. targets) on those risks. It is also mandatory for the policy to incorporate some of the following organizational elements: scope of application, allocation of responsibilities, and/or a formal review process. Policies are deemed exceptional when all environmental issues are covered by qualitative and quantitative objectives, in addition to all of the aforementioned elements.

Endorsement of external initiative on environmental issues

Information

There is evidence of public adherence to an external initiative on environmental issues or membership in a voluntary initiative on environmental issues within the company's supporting documentation, or on the website of the initiative.

Guidance

Such initiatives can encompass many environmental issues, be specific, intergovernmental, multi-stakeholder, business-led, cross-sector or sector-specific. Examples include Global Compact, Electronic Industry Citizenship Coalition (EICC), Responsible Care, US Green Building Council Membership, etc.

Actions

Refurbishing and internal reuse of IT hardware

Internal sorting & disposal of waste according to waste streams

Provision of sustainable development consulting & services

Information

The company provides consulting services with a focus on sustainable development for their clients.

Guidance

Sustainable development consulting services are those that help other clients reduce their environmental impacts (including energy, water, materials and disposal issues) through improvement and efficiency of either products or processes. The extent of these services may vary from company to company (e.g. design only, or design and development).

Improvement Areas

Policies

Low

No quantitative target on environmental issues

Information

The company's policy does not contain quantitative objectives or targets on environmental issues.

Guidance

Quantitative objectives or targets on environmental issues are considered as fundamental elements of comprehensive policy mechanism. They provide a monitoring framework that helps establish whether policy objectives are being met, and highlight the progress towards set goals. Some examples of specific targets on this topic include quantitative objectives on energy consumption reduction, percentage targets to reduce waste, or targets for a number of products to be eco-labelled. As policy elements, targets can be expressed in absolute or relative terms and must have a valid future deadline (i.e. by 2020 we commit to reduce our energy consumption by 20% from 2015 levels).

Actions

Medium

No information on measures regarding energy consumption & GHGs

Information

No company declaration and no evidence within the supporting documentation on actions implemented on the reduction of energy consumption & GHG emissions.

Guidance

Some examples of actions on this topic include: carbon footprint assessment, installation of innovative equipment to reduce energy consumption, and awareness training of employees on energy consumption issues.

Medium

No information regarding certification of an environmental management system

Results

High

No conclusive reporting on environmental issues

Information

The company has no formal reporting on its environmental performance. There is no information within the company's supporting documentation on key performance indicators (KPIs) or statistical figures.

Guidance

In order to measure and monitor the effectiveness of its CSR management system internally, and in order to report performance to stakeholders, a company should report on CSR-related Key Performance Indicators (KPIs). In the EcoVadis assessment, the Reporting indicator looks at the quality, transparency and level of reporting readily available to stakeholders. The KPIs provided should be recent (i.e. within the last 2 reporting periods) and should be for the scope under evaluation. KPIs can be sector-specific and include for instance: direct energy consumption by primary energy source, total direct greenhouse gas emissions, total volume of water recycled and reused (Source: Global Reporting Initiative). These and other relevant KPIs can be integrated within the company's CSR report, Annual Reports or any other applicable reporting document.

Low

No information on reporting on total weight of hazardous waste

Low No information on reporting on total weight of non-hazardous waste

Low No information on reporting on total energy consumption

Low No information related to reporting on total amount of renewable energy consumed

Low No information on reporting on total Scope 1 GHG emissions

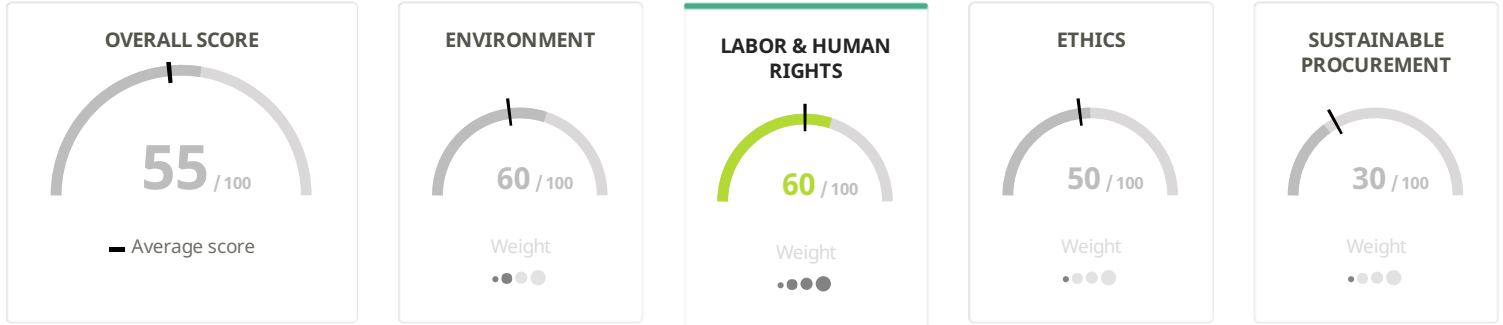
Low No information on reporting on total Scope 2 GHG emissions

Low No information related to reporting on total weight of waste recovered

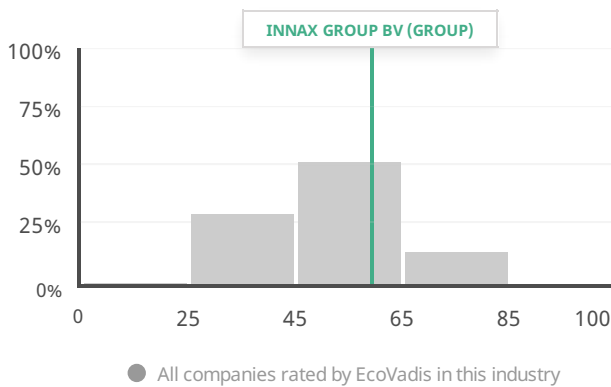
7. LABOR & HUMAN RIGHTS

This theme takes into account both internal human resources (e.g. health and safety, working conditions, career management) and human rights issues (e.g. discrimination and/or harassment, child labor).

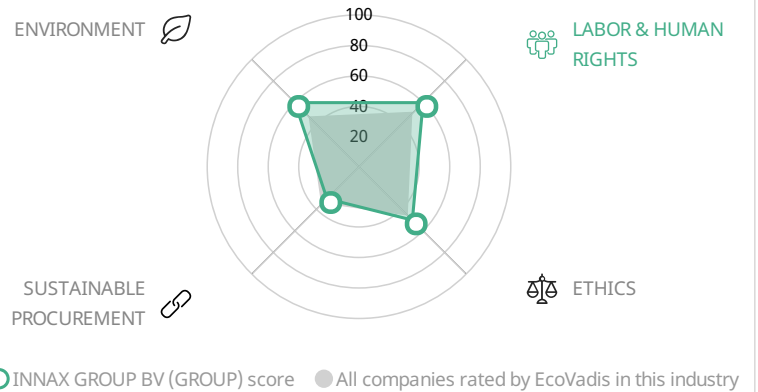
Labor & Human Rights Score Breakdown



Theme score distribution



Theme score comparison



Labor & Human Rights: Activated Criteria

Because the questionnaire is customized by industry, size and location, not all 21 criteria are activated for every company and some criteria are weighted more heavily than others.

Labor & Human Rights: Strengths & Improvement Areas

The Corrective Action Plan is a collaborative feature designed to support companies' performance improvement. It enables companies to build an improvement plan online, communicate planned and completed corrective actions and share feedback. Improvement areas with ongoing corrective actions are marked with labels below.



Strengths

Policies

Labor & human rights policy on employee health & safety

Actions

Employee health and safety emergency action plan

Information

The company has formal procedures that have been communicated to all employees regarding accidents, injuries, provision of emergency equipment, emergency evacuation, first aid, fire drills and other situations regarding health and safety at the workplace.

Guidance

A health and safety emergency action plan is a document that demonstrates the health and safety plan created by each company in order to guide its employees when facing emergency situations. These emergency situations depend on the operations of the company as well as their workforce, but also include accidents related to operations of heavy equipment, injuries, fires, chemical spills, explosions, falls, among others.

Remediation procedure in place for victims of discrimination and/or harassment

Communication to all employees of remuneration process (e.g. salary grid, procedure for salary advancement)

Employee satisfaction survey

Information

The company conducts a survey to employees regarding satisfaction in the work environment.

Guidance

An employee satisfaction survey can be conducted by companies to gain information on how and if employees are satisfied in the work environment. The results of these surveys can be used by companies to get feedback on employees about their engagement, morale, and satisfaction at work.

Bonus scheme related to company performance

Information

The company has implemented a bonus program that is related to company performance.

Guidance

It should be part of a robust employee contract to include a bonus scheme, but one that takes into account employee performance and company performance. The company has thus implemented a scheme of monetary remuneration for employees beyond base salary, linked to company performance. This is a form of motivation and it boosts the performance of employees.

Employee health & safety risk assessment

Information

The company has provided documents which demonstrate that an employee health and safety risk assessment has been conducted. The assessment took into consideration the daily operational tasks of employees, the health and safety hazards present at the workplace and the associated risks and has a proposed corrective action plan to address these identified risks.

Guidance

A health and safety risk assessment is systematically conducted to identify and evaluate the potential impact of operational tasks or conditions on employees' health and safety. The main elements of a complete risk assessment are; 1) description of hazards or risk factors identified to have the potential to cause harm and determining the significance of the risks. 2) periodic review of risks to reflect the latest risks and health and safety environment in the business. 3) presence of a preventive and corrective action plan in the form of steps and/or recommendations that an organization needs to take to effectively prevent and address the risks identified, mapped & evaluated in risk assessments. If applicable, the results of a health and safety risk assessment should be made available to relevant stakeholders such as employees, members of the health and safety committee, staff representatives, the occupational physicians, and labor inspectors.

Regular assessment (at least once a year) of individual performance

Information

The company carries out regular assessments or appraisal of individual performance at least on a yearly basis for employees

Guidance

The company has implemented regular assessment of employee performance. Regular assessments of employees aim to evaluate employee individual performance and productivity, combining both written and oral elements, and are based on a systematic and periodic process linked with a pre-established criteria and organizational objectives. The best practice concerning this criteria is to have a review with the employee at least annually, and to include employee self-assessments aimed at maintaining employee engagement in their own performance and overall organizational objectives. Setting and measuring goals related to the employee's career objectives, as well as including manager and peer feedback on the employee's performance are all important components in this regular assessment process.

Regular employee health check-up

Information

The company has been conducting regular health screening tests for employees.

Guidance

The company has made regular health check arrangements for employees through health service contracts or employee health surveillance procedures. These periodical and relevant occupational health check-ups provided to employees have had a particular focus on the health risk factors that the employees are exposed to at the workplace. Some of the health risks are; exposure to chemicals, potentially dangerous machines, noise, or other potential hazards to allow for early detection of effects on health and timely treatment.

Provision of skills development training

Information

The company provides training to its employees to develop their skills

Guidance

The company has implemented vocational training and instruction, which include skills development training, education paid for in whole or in part by the company, with the goal to provide opportunities for career advancement (Source: Global Reporting Initiative G3). Examples of on-the-job training to enhance employee skills are coaching, mentoring, job rotation, apprenticeships, etc. Total number of hours of training per employee per year can be a significant key performance indicator for this action.

Setting of individual career plan for all employees

Information

The company has implemented mechanisms to help employees in setting individual career plans

Guidance

Career planning is an ongoing process that can help employees manage their learning and development/progress within the company. It is also a key component of a company's attraction and retention strategy. The company has mechanisms in place to provide career opportunities to employees, allowing them to access to promotions and higher pay. For example, an individual development plan can be put in place by analyzing skills and competencies needed by the employees to achieve their short, mid and long term goals. This process should also be coupled with the annual review process of the employee.

Improvement Areas

Policies

Medium

Basic labor and human rights policies: lacks details on specific issues

Information

The company has basic labor & human rights policies that may include commitments and operational objectives but the policies lacks details on specific issues.

Guidance

A standard labor and human rights policy includes commitments and/or operational objectives on the main labor and human rights risks the company faces. It is communicated to internal and external stakeholders through a formal dedicated document. A standard labor and human rights policy contains qualitative objectives/commitments specific to those issues. The policy should also incorporate some of the following elements: scope of application, allocation of responsibilities, quantitative objectives, and review mechanisms.

Medium

Inconclusive documentation for policies on working conditions

Medium

Inconclusive documentation for policies on social dialogue

Medium

Inconclusive documentation for policies on career management & training

Medium

Inconclusive documentation for policies on diversity, equity & inclusion

Low No quantitative target on labor and human rights issues

Information

Company policy does not contain quantitative targets on labor and human rights issues.

Guidance

Quantitative objectives or targets on labor and human rights issues are considered as fundamental elements of comprehensive policy mechanism. They provide a monitoring framework that helps establish whether policy objectives are being met, and highlight the progress towards set goals. Some examples of specific targets on this topic include quantitative objectives on health & safety indicators (i.e. accident frequency and accident severity rates), quantitative objectives on percentage of employees trained on discrimination and quantitative objectives on number of employees covered by social benefits. As policy elements, targets can be expressed in absolute or relative terms and must have a valid future deadline (i.e. by 2020 we commit to train 100% of employees on discrimination).

Low No conclusive information on endorsement of external initiatives or principles on labor and human rights issues

Actions

Medium No information regarding certification of a labor and human rights management system

Low No information on measures regarding structured social dialogue (e.g. collective agreements)

Information

No company declaration and no evidence within the supporting documentation on actions implemented on structured social dialogue.

Guidance

Some examples of actions on this topic include collective bargaining agreements on specific labor practices issues, implementation of a European Works Council and election of employee representatives.

Results

High Insufficient reporting on labor and human rights issues

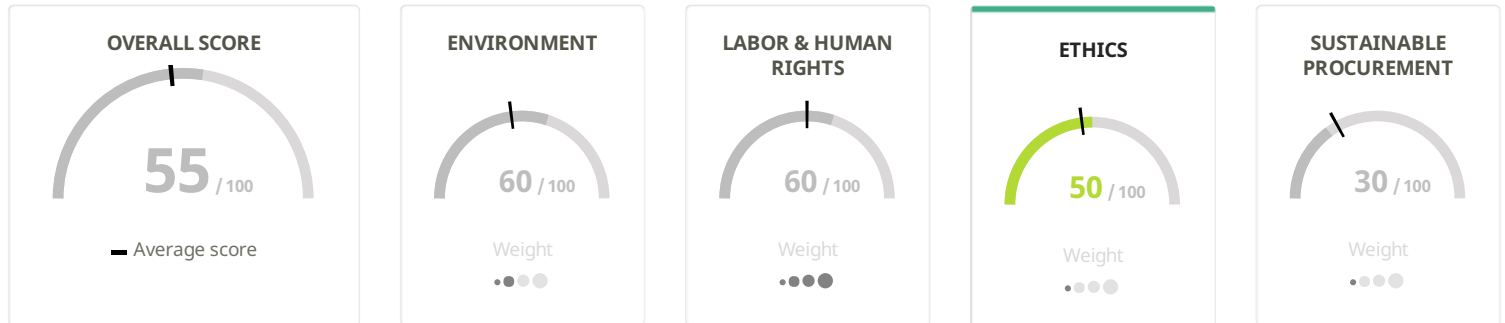
Low No information related to reporting on average training hours per employee

Low No information on reporting on workplace diversity

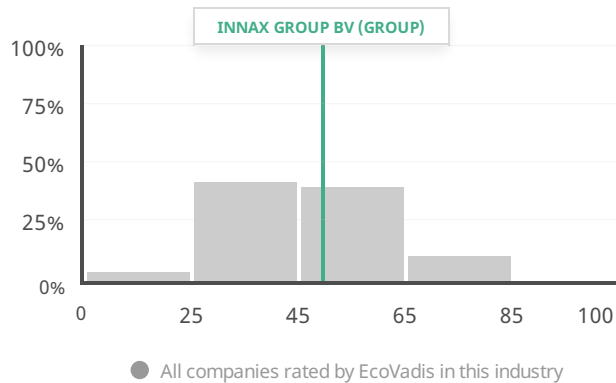
8. ETHICS

This theme focuses primarily on corruption and bribery issues, and also takes into account anticompetitive practices and responsible information management.

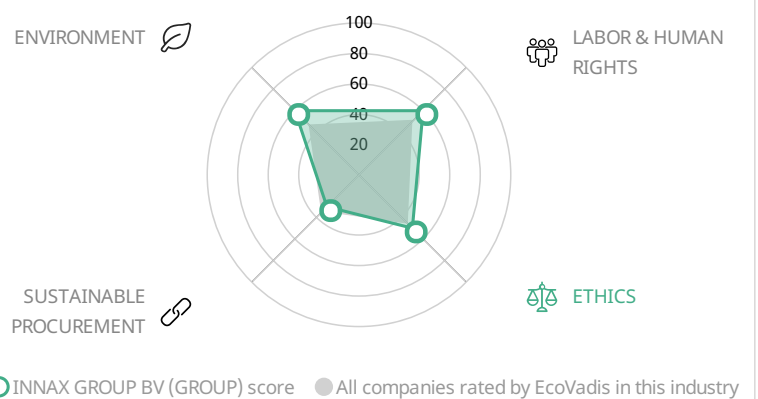
Ethics Score Breakdown



Theme score distribution



Theme score comparison



Ethics: Activated Criteria

Because the questionnaire is customized by industry, size and location, not all 21 criteria are activated for every company and some criteria are weighted more heavily than others.

Ethics: Strengths & Improvement Areas

The Corrective Action Plan is a collaborative feature designed to support companies' performance improvement. It enables companies to build an improvement plan online, communicate planned and completed corrective actions and share feedback. Improvement areas with ongoing corrective actions are marked with labels below.

Strengths

Policies

Standard policy on a majority of ethics issues

Policy on fraud

Disciplinary sanctions to deal with policy violations

Information

There is evidence within the supporting documentation provided that the company has implemented structured mechanisms to deal with policy violations such as disciplinary actions.

Guidance

In order to ensure the adequate implementation of business ethics policies, companies should establish procedures to administer investigations and sanction employees for eventual violations (i.e. disciplinary measures up to and including possible termination).

Policy on information security

Information

The company has issued a formal standard policy that integrates commitments in the form of qualitative objectives on information security issues. The policy is formalized in a document such as a Code of Ethics and includes at least some organizational elements (e.g. review process, dedicated responsibilities, scope of application).

Guidance

It is imperative for companies who manage sensitive information to set commitments on the protection and responsible management of third-party data. The security of third party data encompasses the protection of customer personal identification information (PII) and the protection of third party intellectual property rights.

Policies on corruption

Information

There is a formal policy that integrates qualitative objectives/commitments on anti-corruption & bribery issues (including for example conflict of interest, fraud and money laundering) in the supporting documentation provided by the company.

Guidance

Corruption & bribery covers all forms of corruption issues at work namely extortion, bribery, conflict of interest, fraud, money laundering. A comprehensive policy is formalized in a standalone document or is part of a Code of Ethics/Conduct on the issues mentioned and incorporate as well some of the following elements: scope of application, allocation of responsibilities, quantitative objectives, and review mechanisms.

Actions

Awareness training to prevent information security breaches

Information

The company has delivered awareness trainings to employees on information security issues.

Guidance

Information management is the process of collecting, storing, managing and maintaining information securely in all its forms. Through the use of rigorous information management practices, companies can help maintain their credibility and confidence of consumers. Awareness or trainings on such practices are regularly conducted to ensure that employees are familiar with the company's information management policy and procedures. They may be conducted either online or in person, and should include regular testing to ensure the training effectiveness.

ISO 27001 certified (certification of information security management system)

Information

The company has provided a valid ISO 27001 certificate for at least one of its operational sites, or business units.

Guidance

ISO 27001 is an Information Security Management System (ISMS) standard from the International Standard Organization. This standard specifies the requirements for establishing, implementing, operating, monitoring, reviewing, maintaining and improving a documented Information Security Management System within the context of the organization's overall business risks (Source: ISO).

Improvement Areas

Policies

Low

Inconclusive documentation for policies on conflict of interest

Low

No conclusive information on endorsement of external initiatives or principles on ethics issues

Actions

High

No conclusive documentation regarding corruption risk assessments

Information

No company declaration and no evidence within the supporting documentation regarding the implementation of a periodic corruption & bribery risk assessments.

Guidance

Risk assessment are a formal process of evaluating and predicting the consequences (positive or negative) of a hazard and their likelihoods/probabilities. Periodic corruption and bribery risk assessments allow a company to identify potential bribery and corruption risks, rate the likely occurrence and the potential impact of the risks, select the appropriate anti-corruption controls, and develop an action plan. Such assessments ensure the presence of a strong compliance program and help to develop a more robust approach to counter bribery and corruption activities by the organization.

High

No conclusive documentation regarding information security risk assessments

Medium

No conclusive documentation on awareness training to prevent corruption and bribery

Information

No company declaration and no evidence within the supporting documentation regarding the implementation of awareness or training programs on anti-corruption & bribery issues for employees.

Guidance

According to the ISO 26000 guideline, "Corruption can be defined as the abuse of entrusted power for private gain". There are all forms of public and proprietary corruption in the workplaces such as extortion, bribery, conflict of interest, fraud, money laundering. Since corruption undermines a company's effectiveness and ethical reputation, awareness or trainings on anti-corruption & bribery issues are regularly conducted to ensure that employees are familiar with the company's policy and procedures. They may be conducted either online or in person, and should include regular testing to ensure the training effectiveness.

Low

No conclusive documentation on audits of control procedures to prevent corruption

Information

No company declaration and no supporting documentation evidence provided on audits of internal controls relating to anti-corruption issues within the company's own operations.

Guidance

Internal controls (for example four-eyes principle, job rotations, among others) are necessary to regularly monitor the effectiveness and proper implementation of actions put in place to support anti-corruption & bribery policies. Periodic audits of those controls, done either through an external third party that performs business ethics audits or an internal audit team, are carried out to ensure their effectiveness and provide reasonable assurance that internal processes are being adhered to.

Low

No conclusive documentation on approval procedure for sensitive transactions (e.g. gifts, entertainment)

Information

No company declaration and no evidence within the supporting documentation regarding the implementation of a verification process for sensitive transactions.

Guidance

Sensitive transactions are a broad range of business dealings which involve higher ethics-related risks. Some examples include (non-exhaustive) gifts, travel arrangements and other types of hospitality, which are common in the business world, but may in fact constitute unethical or even illegal kickbacks, bribes or payoffs to influence decision affecting a company's operations, etc. Such transactions also comprise facilitation payments which are usually made with the intention of expediting an administrative process and may be considered as a form of corruption. As such, a verification procedure should be put in place to review and approve any sensitive transactions made by the company.

Low

No conclusive documentation regarding an anti-corruption due diligence program on third parties

Information

No company declaration and no evidence within the supporting documentation regarding the implementation of systematic compliance and due-diligence measures when dealing with third-party intermediaries (i.e. commission agents, brokers, sales representatives, distributors, contractors, customs brokers, consultants) acting on its behalf.

Guidance

Provisions in key international laws hold companies liable for corruption related misconduct committed in the context of their relationships with third parties (i.e. their agents, consultants, suppliers, distributors, joint-venture partners, or any individual or entity that has some form of business relationship with the organization). Given the risk exposures caused by third-parties, it is important that companies have adequate due diligence procedures in place. Due diligence is the process of gathering independent information to gain an understanding of the risks associated with a third party and visibility of its compliance management systems which address these risks. It can involve background checks and screenings of third party by means of sanction lists, tracking adverse media reports and identifying links to politically exposed persons, assessments of third parties on their own ethics & compliance programs and risk controls. Companies should provide documentation of their procedures that demonstrate how these due diligence efforts are undertaken.

Low

No conclusive documentation on measures regarding an effective whistleblower procedure to report corruption and bribery

Results

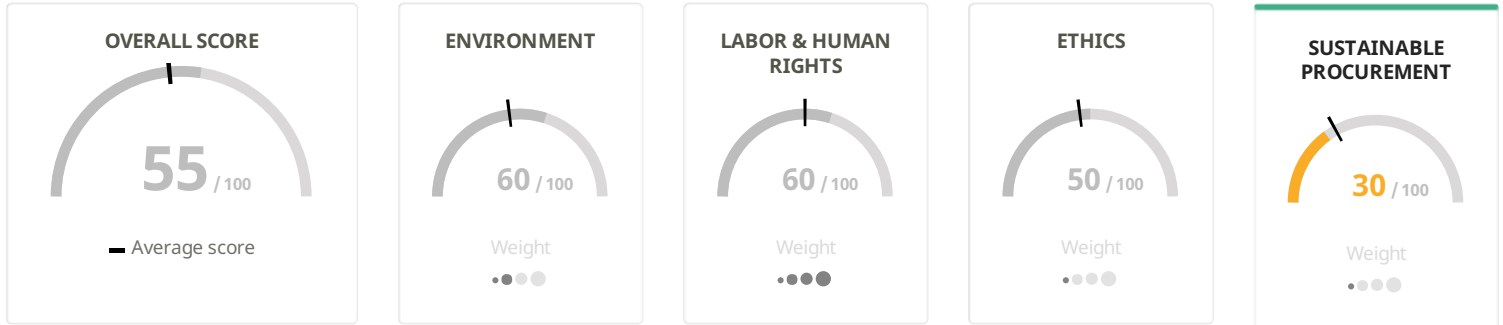
High

No conclusive reporting on ethics issues

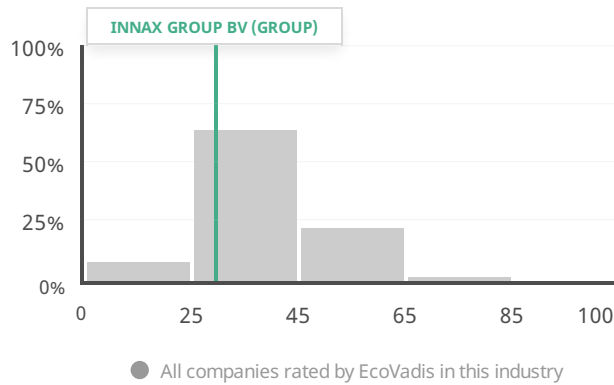
9. SUSTAINABLE PROCUREMENT

This theme focuses on both social and environmental issues within the company supply chain.

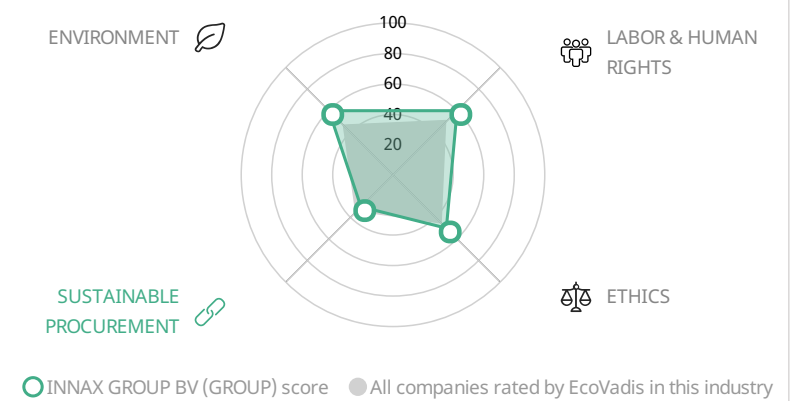
Sustainable Procurement Score Breakdown



Theme score distribution



Theme score comparison



Sustainable Procurement: Activated Criteria

Because the questionnaire is customized by industry, size and location, not all 21 criteria are activated for every company and some criteria are weighted more heavily than others.

Sustainable Procurement: Strengths & Improvement Areas

The Corrective Action Plan is a collaborative feature designed to support companies' performance improvement. It enables companies to build an improvement plan online, communicate planned and completed corrective actions and share feedback. Improvement areas with ongoing corrective actions are marked with labels below.



Improvement Areas

Policies

High Inconclusive documentation on sustainable procurement policies

Information

There is no formal policy on sustainable procurement issues in the supporting documentation provided by the company, or company has provided supporting evidence that was not approved due to quality/acceptance requirements. e.g. company name, recent date (8 years).

Guidance

A standard sustainable procurement policy integrates commitments and/or operational objectives on all material sourcing risks the company faces. It is communicated to internal and external stakeholders through a formal dedicated document (e.g. Sustainable Purchasing Policy).

Actions

High No conclusive documentation on the integration of social or environmental clauses into supplier contracts

Medium No conclusive documentation on supplier sustainability code of conduct in place

Medium No conclusive documentation on sustainability risk analysis (i.e. prior to supplier assessments or audits)

Results

High No conclusive reporting on sustainable procurement issues




10. 360° WATCH FINDINGS

13 Sep 2023 |

Impact on score

Neutral →

No records found for this company on Compliance Database

 Environment
 Labor & Human Rights
 Ethics
 Sustainable Procurement

360° Watch Findings comprise relevant public information about companies' sustainability practices that have been identified via more than 10,000 data sources (including NGOs, press and trade unions). 360° Watch Findings are incorporated into the EcoVadis assessment and can have positive, negative or no score impact.


EcoVadis is connected to the following international sources:


- Sustainability networks and initiatives (e.g. AccountAbility, Business for Social Responsibility, CSR Europe)
- Trade unions and employers' organizations
- International organization (e.g. United Nations, European Court of Human Rights, Global Compact, International Labor Organization, World Bank)
- NGOs (e.g. China Labor Watch, Greenpeace, WWF, Movimento Difesa del Cittadino)
- Research institutes and specialized press (e.g. CSR Asia, Blacksmith Institute, Corpwatch)


11. SPECIFIC COMMENTS


Additional comments from our analysts pertaining to the assessment.

Specific comments

-  No records found in third party risk and compliance database.

-  Despite specific certification on ethics issues, there is a lack of information regarding actions in place.

-  Despite the company implementing measures regarding labor & human rights issues, policies are not formalized or are only basic.

-  An absence of reporting on sustainability related key performance indicators (KPIs) is to be noted.

12. CONTACT US

Any questions or need help? Visit our Help Center at support.ecovadis.com

APPENDIX:

INDUSTRY RISK PROFILE

Discover the primary sustainability risks, regulations, hot topics and best practices related to specific industries.

EcoVadis determines industry based on the International Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities (ISIC), which is a compilation of all global economic activities published by the United Nations Statistical Commission. Its main purpose is to provide a set of activity categories that can be utilized for the collection and reporting of statistics according to such activities.

It is possible that a company has operations in more than one industry. In these cases, EcoVadis classifies companies based on their main area of operation, as determined by sustainability risk and/or total revenue.

CRITERIA ACTIVATION BY THEME:

Discover the primary sustainability risks, regulations, hot topics and best practices related to specific industries.

Environment

Medium	Energy consumption & GHGs
Non-activated	Water
Non-activated	Biodiversity
Non-activated	Air Pollution
Medium	Materials, Chemicals & Waste
Non-activated	Product Use
Non-activated	Product End-of-Life
Non-activated	Customer Health & Safety
Medium	Environmental Services & Advocacy

Labor & Human Rights

High	Employee Health & Safety
Medium	Working Conditions
Medium	Social Dialogue
Medium	Career Management & Training
Non-activated	Child Labor, Forced Labor & Human Trafficking
High	Diversity, Equity and Inclusion
Non-activated	External Stakeholder Human Rights

Ethics

Medium	Corruption
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Non-activated

Anticompetitive Practices

Medium

Responsible Information Management

Sustainable Procurement



Medium

Supplier Environmental Practices

Medium

Supplier Social Practices

KEY SUSTAINABILITY ISSUES

Find qualitative explanations of the key sustainability issues and risk associated with Architectural and engineering activities; technical testing and analysis



Environment

Importance

Sustainability issue

Medium

Energy consumption & GHGs

Definition

Energy consumption (e.g. electricity, fuel, renewable energies) used during operations and transport. Greenhouse gases direct and indirect emissions including CO₂, CH₄, N₂O, HFC, PFC and SF₆. Also includes production of renewable energy by the company.

Industry issues

Energy consumption and greenhouse gas emission impacts from architectural and engineering consulting activities, as well as from testing services, are generally smaller compared to such impacts from the manufacturing or construction activities. The areas of impact related to this criteria mostly center on office energy consumption (electricity), fuel consumption from transportation between sites and offices, and energy consumption of machinery used in testing and analysis operations (1).

Medium

Materials, Chemicals & Waste

Definition

Consumption of all types of raw materials and chemicals. Non-hazardous and hazardous waste generated from operations. Also includes air emissions other than GHG (e.g. SO_x, NO_x).

Industry issues

Key areas for architectural and engineering consulting related to materials and waste involve the reuse and recycling of office supplies, furniture and IT equipment. For technical testing and analysis activities, chemical and waste impacts largely center on disposal of chemicals that undergo testing, as well as potential by-products from testing. It should be noted that as such technical testing often analyzes the ways in which materials and chemicals interact with their surroundings (such as their environmental impacts), the subject of environmental effects from the testing itself is less developed (2).

Medium

Environmental Services & Advocacy

Definition

Programs implemented to promote the sustainable consumption of their own products or services among their customer base. This criteria includes the positive/negative indirect impacts of the use of products and services.

Industry issues

Promotion of sustainable consumption is the highest impact environmental criteria for this sector. As architectural and engineering consulting mostly involves the design of structures and infrastructure, rather than their construction, providing services that allow customers to construct and manage buildings more sustainably is quite relevant to the environmental performance of these companies. The size of this impact is potentially quite large. In the United States, for instance, buildings account for thirty-six percent of total energy use, 65 percent of electricity consumption and 30 percent of GHG emissions (3). They also account for 30 percent of raw material use and waste output, as well as 12 percent of potable water consumption (3). In light of this, the U.S. government issues a detailed procurement guide for federal agencies to hire architectural and engineering firms, specifically for energy efficiency and sustainability performance. It requests that such consultants be qualified in Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) and to be able to design to Energy Star standards. Among many other environmental criteria, consultants are also requested to have expertise in high-efficient design strategies for HVAC systems, low impact development strategies for storm water management, preservation and restoration of native vegetation, erosion control planning, and optimization measures to reduce requirements for insecticide and fertilizer use (4). Technical testing and analysis services provide the data that allows customers to understand the environmental impacts of their products being tested. Companies engaged in such activities can promote services that specialize in environmental testing (5).



Labor & Human Rights

Importance

Sustainability issue

High

Employee Health & Safety

Definition

Deals with health and safety issues encountered by employees at work i.e. during operations and transport. Includes both physiological and psychological issues arising from, among others, dangerous equipment, work practices and hazardous substance.

Industry issues

While architectural and engineering firms do not directly engage in the construction of the project on which they consult, employee health and safety remains an impactful criteria. Architects and engineers are regularly present at construction sites and are exposed to many of the same safety hazards as construction workers. These include workplace hazards that are fall-related, due to sound/noise/vibration, electrical, and due to automation and explosions. Human and psychosocial factors are prevalent as well, especially stress, as architects and engineers commonly operate under short deadlines with small margins of error (6). Therefore, measures to reduce stress are important in this sector. Health and safety is very relevant for technical testing and analysis as well, as these activities involve the use and manipulation of chemical substances, some of which may be hazardous (7).

Medium

Working Conditions

Definition

Deals with working hours, remunerations and social benefits granted to employees.

Industry issues

As in any industry, fair working hours, wages, and benefits, such as vacation/holidays, rest periods, maternity/paternity leave, and retirement benefits, are important in this sector. Strong policies on working conditions have a significant effect on employee retention. Architectural and engineering companies are competitive regarding highly-skilled workers. Therefore, benefits and good working conditions can be important to attract qualified employees.

Medium

Social Dialogue

Definition

Deals with structured social dialogue i.e. social dialog deployed through recognized employee representatives and collective bargaining.

Industry issues

Labor relations can be an issue in any industry. In order to avoid potential issues with employees, structured communication systems with unions are one of the measures that can be implemented.

Medium

Career Management & Training

Definition

Deals with main career stages i.e. recruitment, evaluation, training and management of layoffs.

Industry issues

A strong workforce provides the basis for a successful company. In order to foster their commitment, companies in this sector must continually invest in training and development of their employees. Firms engaged in architectural, engineering, and technical testing activities, however rely on a highly-educated workforce and participate in a sector with continually evolving technological and design considerations. Therefore, professional development and training is of particular importance.

High

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

Definition

Deals with discrimination and harassment prevention at the workplace. Discrimination is defined as different treatment given to people in hiring, remuneration, training, promotion, termination; based on race, national origin, religion, disability, gender, sexual orientation, union membership, political affiliation or age. Harassment may include physical, psychological and verbal abuse in the work environment.

Industry issues

Diversity at work is a key issue to any company. Gender diversity is of particular importance in the engineering industry, as women have historically been under-represented in the field. For instance in the United States, in 1983 only 5.8% of employed engineers were women. While that number had increased to 10.2% by 2004, this gender gap is large compared to many other industries (8). In addition, various studies have pointed out that this disparity in employment remains significant despite an increase in women studying engineering in school. In the United Kingdom, for instance, women enrolled in an engineering degree while in school increased from 4% in 1972 to 18% in 2008, while women employed in engineering increased from 4% to only 7% during the same time period (9). Some companies have addressed this challenge by partnering with schools to recruit women, or holding scholarship competitions in order to encourage young women to engage in scientific or technical disciplines (10,11).

 Ethics

Importance

Sustainability issue

Medium

Corruption

Definition

Deals with all forms of corruption issues at work, including among other things extortion, bribery, conflict of interest, fraud, money laundering.

Industry issues

Corruption and bribery issues are major issues for any company, particularly when operating in risk countries. Regulations such as the FCPA (Foreign Corrupt Practice Act) in the US address these issues and make it unlawful to make payments to foreign government officials to assist in obtaining or retaining business.

Medium

Responsible Information Management

Definition

Deals with third-party data protection and privacy which encompasses the protection of customer personal identification information (PII) and third party intellectual property rights.

Industry issues

Companies collect, process and share confidential information belonging to third-parties in order to operate their business. Third-party confidential information includes employee and consumer personal identification information, third parties' intellectual property, and business partner trade secrets. Companies are legally mandated in several jurisdictions to manage third party data responsibly. Breaches of third-party data, including proprietary intellectual property, trade secrets and employee and consumer PII expose companies to operational seizures, financial and reputational impacts caused by stakeholder lawsuits and regulatory penalties. The financial impacts of information security breaches can be both immediate and drawn out over several years, due to possible litigation action by parties who lost confidentiality of their information entrusted to the breached company. The costs of regulatory violations remain severe, and proposed changes to major regulatory frameworks in major countries are likely to impose greater fines. Ponemon Institute estimates the global average cost of a cyber-attack to be US\$3.86 million (13). Beyond direct regulatory and financial penalties, breaches in a company' information management system can cause long term distrust in the company' information security management. Almost immediately after Target's information breach, the company' net earnings for the fourth quarter were down 46 percent from the same period the year before. Over time, Target will pay an estimated US\$1.4 billion when factoring ongoing legal costs, class-action lawsuits by consumers and business partners, and credit monitoring services for affected consumers (14). In order for companies to manage operational and legal risks associated with information security breaches, it is vital that robust information security management systems are developed and implemented across to the operational scope. Companies should perform vulnerability assessments, implement access and disclosure controls and provide thorough training for all employees responsible for processing third-party data. An adequate incident response procedure capable of preventing further data loss, communicating with exposed stakeholders, and systems updates is necessary to meet legal requirements in key jurisdictions.



Sustainable Procurement

Importance

Sustainability issue

Medium

Supplier Environmental Practices

Definition

Deals with environmental issues within the supply chain i.e. environmental impacts generated from the suppliers and subcontractors own operations and products.

Industry issues

Environmental issues in the supply chain are a consideration as well, although it is not as high-profile an issue as in other industries, such as manufacturing or construction. Architectural and engineering firms set the design requirements for projects that are material-intensive (such as construction). The material sourcing for these projects, however, fall under the scope of the company directly undertaking the projects themselves. Therefore, such design requirements, which would have an impact on sourcing strategies of construction companies, are an ENV9 criteria for architectural and engineering firms. These firms, however, do source office suppliers and other materials, which would fall under the scope of their procurement strategies.

Medium

Supplier Social Practices

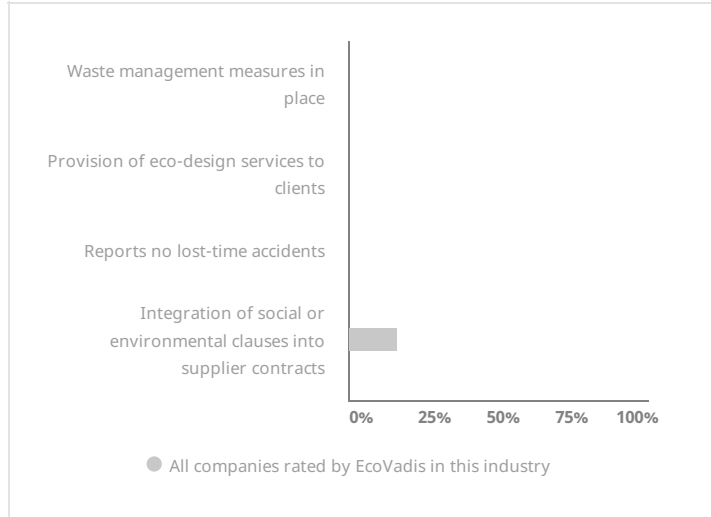
Definition

Deals with labor practices and human rights issues within the supply chain i.e. labor practices and human rights issues generated from the suppliers and subcontractors own operations or products.

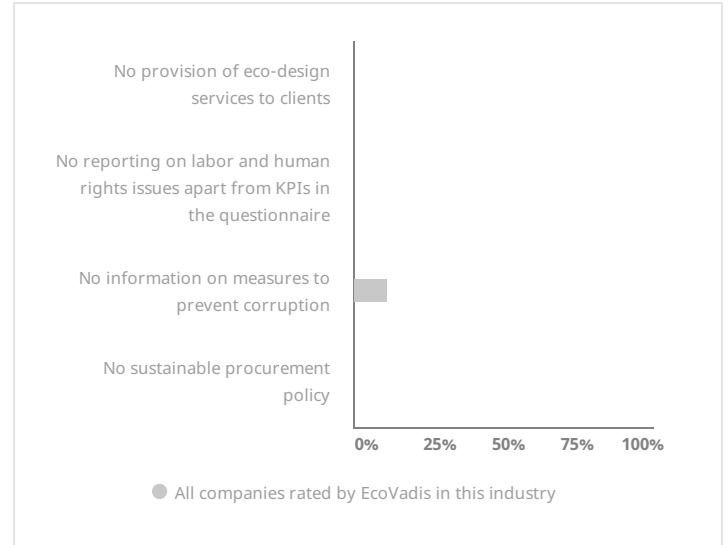
Industry issues

While subcontracting is a common practice for construction companies, and choosing subcontractors with reliable track records on health and safety is a key issue, companies engaged in architecture, engineering and technical testing do not rely on such outsourcing of specialized tasks to the same extent (12). Firms in this sector still need procurement strategies, however, that do not jeopardize the labor and human rights of workers in their supply chains.

Key industry Strengths



Key industry Improvement Areas



Sustainability KPIs Overview


KPI	All companies rated by EcoVadis in this industry
Active whistleblowing procedure in place	28%
Audit or assessment of suppliers on CSR issues	34%
Carbon disclosure project (CDP) respondent	9%
Global Compact Signatory	12%
ISO 14001 certified (at least one operational site)	33%
OHSAS 18001/ISO 45001 certification or equivalent (at least one operational site)	21%
Policy on sustainable procurement issues	24%
Reporting on energy consumption or GHGs	34%
Reporting on health & safety indicators	25%

Main Regulations and Initiatives

Ethics Charter of the AFPA (Association Française de la Formation Professionnelle)

<http://www.afpa.fr/>

AFPA is a French professional association

 **Labor & Human Rights**

Standard ISO 14000 (International Standard Organisation)

http://www.iso.org/iso/iso_14000_essentials

The ISO 14000 family addresses various aspects of environmental management


 **Environment**

International Labor Organization's Fundamental Conventions

http://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---ed_norm/---declaration/documents/publication/wcms_095895.pdf

 Regulatory

The Governing Body of the International Labour Office has identified eight Conventions as fundamental to the rights of human beings at work. These rights are a precondition for 12 the others in that they provide a necessary framework from which to strive freely for the improvement of individual and collective conditions of work.


 **Labor & Human Rights**

Foreign Corrupt Practices Act of 1977

<http://www.usdoj.gov/criminal/fraud/fcpa/>

 Regulatory

The Foreign Corrupt Practices Act of 1977 (FCPA) prohibits payments, gifts, or Practices Act contributions to officials or employees of any foreign government or government-owned business for the purpose of getting or retaining business.

 **Ethics**

United Nations Global Compact (10 principles)

<http://www.unglobalcompact.org/AboutTheGC/TheTenPrinciples/index.html>

The Global Compact asks companies to embrace, support and enact, within their sphere of influence, a set of ten principles in the areas of human rights, labour standards, the environment, and anti-corruption:


 **All themes**

ILO Recommendation 117 concerning Vocational Training (1962)

http://www.ilo.org/public/english/employment/skills/hrdr/instr/r_117.htm

 Regulatory

International convention on vocational training


 **Labor & Human Rights**

Universal Declaration of Human Rights

<http://www.un.org/Overview/rights.html>

 Regulatory


The Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) is an advisory declaration adopted by the United Nations General Assembly (10 December 1948)

 **Labor & Human Rights**

Standard OHSAS 18001 (Occupational Health and Safety Assessment Series)

<http://www.ohsas-18001-occupational-health-and-safety.com/index.htm>

OHSAS 18000 is an international occupational health and safety management system specification.

 **Labor & Human Rights**

United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC)

<http://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/treaties/CAC/index.html>

 Regulatory

The UNCAC is the first legally binding international anti-corruption instrument. In its 8 Chapters and 71 Articles, the UNCAC obliges its States Parties to implement a wide and detailed range of anti-corruption measures affecting their laws, institutions and practices.

 **Ethics**

OECD guidelines for multinational enterprises

http://www.oecd.org/about/0,2337,en_2649_34889_1_1_1_1_1,00.html

The Guidelines are recommendations addressed by governments to multinational enterprises operating in or from adhering countries. They provide voluntary principles and standards for responsible business conduct in a variety of areas including employment and industrial relations, human rights, environment, information disclosure, combating bribery, consumer interests, science and technology, competition, and taxation.

 **All themes**

Standard Global Reporting Initiative's (GRI)

<http://www.globalreporting.org/Home>

The GRI is a network-based organization, that has set out the principles and indicators that organizations can use to measure and report their economic, environmental, and social performance.

    **All themes**

Carbon disclosure project

<https://www.cdp.net>

CDP is an international, not-for-profit organization providing the only global system for companies and cities to measure, disclose, manage and share vital environmental information.

 **Environment**

Standard ISO 26000 (International Standard Organisation)

<http://www.iso.org/iso/pressrelease.htm?refid=Ref972>


The future International Standard ISO 26000, Guidance on social responsibility, will provide harmonized, glob12y relevant guidance based on international consensus among expert representatives of the main stakeholder groups and so encourage the implementation of best practice in social responsibility worldwide.

    **All themes**

IEEE Women in Engineering (WIE)

http://www.ieee.org/membership_services/membership/women/index.html?WT.mc_id=WIE_nav1

IEEE Women in Engineering (WIE) is the largest international professional organization dedicated to promoting women engineers and scientists. The mission of IEEE WIE is to facilitate the global recruitment and retention of women in technical disciplines.

 **Labor & Human Rights**

Sources

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3- EPA Green Buildings

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4- Sustainable - Whole Building Design Guide

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5- Eurofins Environment Testing

<http://www.eurofins.com/environment-testing.aspx>

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14- Ten Basic Factors to Identify Suitable Subcontractors for Construction Projects

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