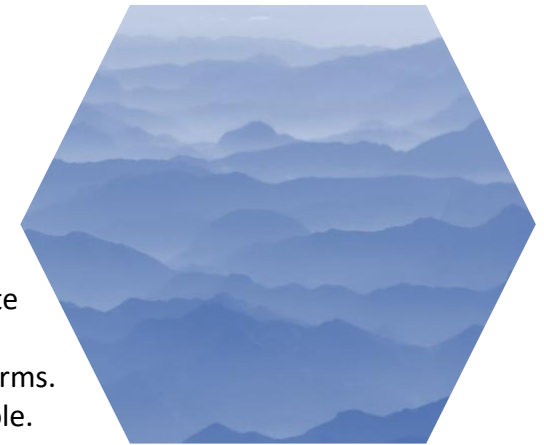


Impact Assessment Fact Sheet

1 How and why are impact assessments relevant for our business?

Sustainability efforts are only meaningful if their outputs and outcomes bring about positive and lasting change in people's lives. Assessing the efficiency and effectiveness as well as the net impact of an organization's activities therefore is crucial for driving change and multiplying what works.

Monetizing sustainability data helps to translate social and ecological value into business-relevant language within an organization. Impact valuation helps to identify, understand, improve and demonstrate the benefits and costs of business to society. For this purpose, it is proposed that the impacts or external effects of business activities on the life and well-being of people are measured and valued in monetary terms. It is important to assess the material economic, social, and environmental impacts of a company as a whole.



2 What do impact assessments entail?

In order to make sustainability interventions and activities relevant to achieving organizational and societal goals, it is essential to collect information about the impact of an organization, intervention or program. In order to be strategically sound, the evaluation needs to establish the causes of all intended or unintended changes.

Impact assessments involve addressing an organization's human rights impact. **Human rights assessments** help to engage in a dialogue with affected stakeholders, with the objective to identify and address adverse human rights impacts. As such it contributes to a company's due diligence, to a meaningful dialogue on human rights and to company practices in various contexts. On the company side, the assessment allows for mitigation of human rights related risks and development of an action plan tailor-made for a given location. For societal stakeholders, the assessment empowers them in their ability to hold businesses accountable for adverse human rights impacts.



Impact assessments can also entail **human rights due diligence**- a risk management process based on an organization's human rights policy. This process allows companies to proactively manage potential and actual human rights impacts. It includes an assessment of the human rights risks prevalent in the business environments of production sites and markets. Human rights impact assessments should complement management workshops and be conducted in regions with medium- or high-risk levels. Based on the assessment, an action plan will allow for mitigation of these risks.

Impact Assessment Fact Sheet

3 What are some of the issues that our organization might face in regard to stakeholder engagement?

Stakeholder engagement, like any form of partnership, requires finding parameters that work for everyone involved. While it is clearly best to “set the scene” at the onset of a relationship, oftentimes there is a need for negotiation, mediation or conflict-resolution. Potential issues can range from co-habitation to social responsibility and be related to anything from a greenfield project to the closure of operations. In the face of potential conflict, collaborating therefore means finding solutions that are acceptable and beneficial for everyone involved.

How can *engageability* support our organization?

- **With the right tools**
engageability can support your organization in all aspects of human rights due diligence, at headquarter level and in the field – all based on participatory methods and stakeholder involvement.
- **With long-term, international experience**
engageability has broad experience in conducting human rights impact assessments in more than 20 countries, including unstable and high-risk countries.

How can we get in touch with *engageability*?



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