



News Release

12 September 2022

SGX Group and MAS launch SGX ESGenome disclosure portal to streamline sustainability reporting and enhance investor access to ESG data

Singapore Exchange (SGX Group) and the Monetary Authority of Singapore (MAS) today jointly launched ESGenome, a digital disclosure portal for companies to report Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) data in a structured and efficient manner, and for investors to access such data in a consistent and comparable format.

ESGenome is a joint initiative by SGX Group and MAS under Project Greenprint¹, to develop a common disclosure utility that will facilitate sustainability reporting for SGX-listed companies².

With corporate sustainability disclosures representing one of the largest sources of ESG data globally, there is great scope to harness technology to enhance such disclosures and comparability of data to support the financing decisions needed for a credible transition. Currently the proliferation of multiple sustainability reporting frameworks and guidelines across jurisdictions, and the inconsistent manner in which data is being collected, verified and reported have created significant disclosure challenges and resulted in poor ESG data comparability.

ESGenome is a Software-as-a-Service (SaaS) solution operated by World Wide Generation³ (WWG). It helps SGX-listed companies simplify the disclosure process using a core set of metrics that is mapped across global standards and frameworks.

- Companies can carry out their baseline sustainability reporting based on a set of **27 SGX core ESG metrics**⁴.

¹ Project Greenprint is a collection of initiatives that aims to harness technology and data to enable a more transparent, trusted and efficient ESG ecosystem to enable green and sustainable finance. Please refer to MAS' [media release](#) on Project Greenprint.

² Spanning SGX-listed companies, business trusts and real estate investment trusts.

³ WWG is a UK-based ESG solution provider. ESGenome is deployed on WWG's G17Eco platform.

⁴ In 2021, SGX published a [public consultation](#) on a list of recommended [27 Core ESG metrics](#) to align reporters and users of the information, allowing for greater consistency and comparability across companies and sectors.



Future In Reshaping Sustainability Together
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- Companies can make **additional disclosures in line with globally recognised ESG reporting standards and frameworks**⁵ across more than 3,000 ESG metrics, depending on materiality and their business needs.
- Companies need only provide a one-time input for each ESG metric – these inputs can be automatically **mapped across their selected standards and frameworks** to cater to different investor requirements.
- A **sustainability report can be automatically generated** from the inputs.

For investors and financial institutions, ESGenome provides access to relevant and comparable ESG data that allows for meaningful peer benchmarking and tracking of sustainability commitments and key performance indicators. This enables capital to be mobilised more efficiently toward sustainable companies and projects.

MAS will also draw on the learnings from ESGenome to address the reporting needs of the broader universe of corporates, notably small and medium-sized enterprises, and supply chain partners and suppliers, as part of its ongoing work on Project Greenprint.

Mr Michael Syn, Senior Managing Director and Head of Equities, SGX Group, said, “ESGenome is designed to capture corporate sustainability disclosures in a simple and effective manner useful to investors and the broader capital market ecosystem. We are optimistic that by being frontrunners in ESG data disclosure via ESGenome, our listed companies will be in a better position to raise capital and attract international investors who are actively looking for leading ESG firms.”

Dr Darian McBain, Chief Sustainability Officer, MAS, said, “High quality sustainability data is critical for better decision making by corporates and financial institutions as they look to deliver against the UN SDG 2030 goals and their net zero transition pathways. Technology is an important enabler for the efficient, timely and accurate reporting of this data against the backdrop of a rapidly evolving global disclosure landscape. We are excited to launch ESGenome together with SGX to help listed entities in Singapore reduce the effort required to report on sustainability, assess impact, and drive informed decision making in their sustainability journey.”

Mrs Ong-Ang Ai Boon, Director, The Association of Banks in Singapore, said, “ABS welcomes the initiative. This is a good common disclosure utility, giving ABS a timely use case for our banking members to collect data directly from the private sector and in particular, SME clients, an important data set that is currently missing. ABS looks forward to collaborating with our regulator, businesses, solution providers and stakeholders to continue accelerating the financing and transition to a much-needed greener future.”

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About Singapore Exchange (SGX Group)

We are Asia’s leading and trusted securities and derivatives market infrastructure, operating equity, fixed income, currency and commodity markets to the highest regulatory standards. We also operate a multi-asset sustainability platform, SGX FIRST or Future in Reshaping Sustainability Together (sgx.com/first).

We are committed to facilitating economic growth in a sustainable manner leveraging our roles as a key player in the ecosystem, a business, regulator and listed company. With climate action as a key

⁵ Global Reporting Initiative (GRI), Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures (TCFD) and the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are available for free. Sustainable Accounting Standards Board (SASB) and the Carbon Disclosure Project (CDP) are paid add-ons. International Sustainability Standards Board (ISSB) will also be considered in the future.

priority, we aim to be a leading sustainable and transition financing and trading hub offering trusted, quality, end-to-end products and solutions.

As Asia's most international, multi-asset exchange, we provide listing, trading, clearing, settlement, depository and data services, with about 40% of listed companies and over 80% of listed bonds originating outside of Singapore. We are the world's most liquid international market for the benchmark equity indices of China, India, Japan and ASEAN. In foreign exchange, we are Asia's leading marketplace and most comprehensive service provider for global FX over-the-counter and futures participants. Headquartered in AAA-rated Singapore, we are globally recognised for our risk management and clearing capabilities. For more information, please visit www.sgx.com.

About Monetary Authority of Singapore

The Monetary Authority of Singapore (MAS) is Singapore's central bank and integrated financial regulator. As a central bank, MAS promotes sustained, non-inflationary economic growth through the conduct of monetary policy and close macroeconomic surveillance and analysis. It manages Singapore's exchange rate, official foreign reserves, and liquidity in the banking sector. As an integrated financial supervisor, MAS fosters a sound financial services sector through its prudential oversight of all financial institutions in Singapore – banks, insurers, capital market intermediaries, financial advisors and financial market infrastructures. It is also responsible for well-functioning financial markets, sound conduct, and investor education. MAS also works with the financial industry to promote Singapore as a dynamic international financial centre. It facilitates the development of infrastructures, adoption of technology, and upgrading of skills in the financial industry.

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Appendix – Quote Sheet

"ESGenome places Singapore at the forefront of ESG disclosures by reducing information asymmetries and drive green capital allocations more effectively. Decision-useful ESG dataset that is standardized and comparable will solve data challenges and gaps that investors often face. We are delighted with the launch of ESGenome and look forward to driving the growth of sustainable finance in our investment management community with SGX Group and MAS."

Ms Susan Soh, Chairman, Investment Management Association of Singapore

"Our equity research analysts often face challenges in benchmarking sustainability performances and producing meaningful comparisons due to a lack of comparable and consistent source data. I am delighted to see ESGenome come to fruition to solve the underlying issue on a collective basis for the public market. It puts Singapore at the forefront with readily available decision-useful data."

Mr Luke Lim, Chairman, Securities Association of Singapore

"The launch of ESGenome comes in timely to help our members navigate the evolving ESG reporting landscape. Fortifying the required guidance, while simplifying the reporting process, will be very beneficial especially for mid-small companies. We welcome and encourage Singapore-listed companies to utilise the platform for their ESG reporting in setting a common baseline and harmonizing sustainability disclosures."

Mr Chew Sutat, Protem Chairman, SGListCos

"The vision of ESGenome as a digital platform to support listed companies' ecosystem collectively to produce data that is consistent and comparable complements global efforts to harmonize reporting standards. This will also help investors use the data easily for their investment decisions."

Ms Esther An, Chairman, Sustainability Reporting Advisory Committee

"We are pleased to support the development of ESGenome, which underlies World Wide Generation's aim of encouraging organisations and nations to map, monitor, measure, manage and market their sustainability performance to accelerate the financing and delivery of a sustainable future. Through this collaboration with SGX Group and MAS, we are excited to play our part in ensuring a more transparent and efficient ESG ecosystem in Singapore."

Ms Manjula Lee, Founder & CEO, World Wide Generation

"Reliable and decision useful ESG data is critical to companies as they embark on their sustainability reporting, generate insights, and deliver long-term value for their stakeholders. ESGenome provides a useful source of data that organisations can harness to better address value-led sustainability. The platform contributes to Singapore's efforts, across the private and public sectors, to promote a strong and sustainable ecosystem as a business hub in the region."

Mr Nam Soon Liew, EY Asean Regional Managing Partner, and Managing Partner for Singapore and Brunei