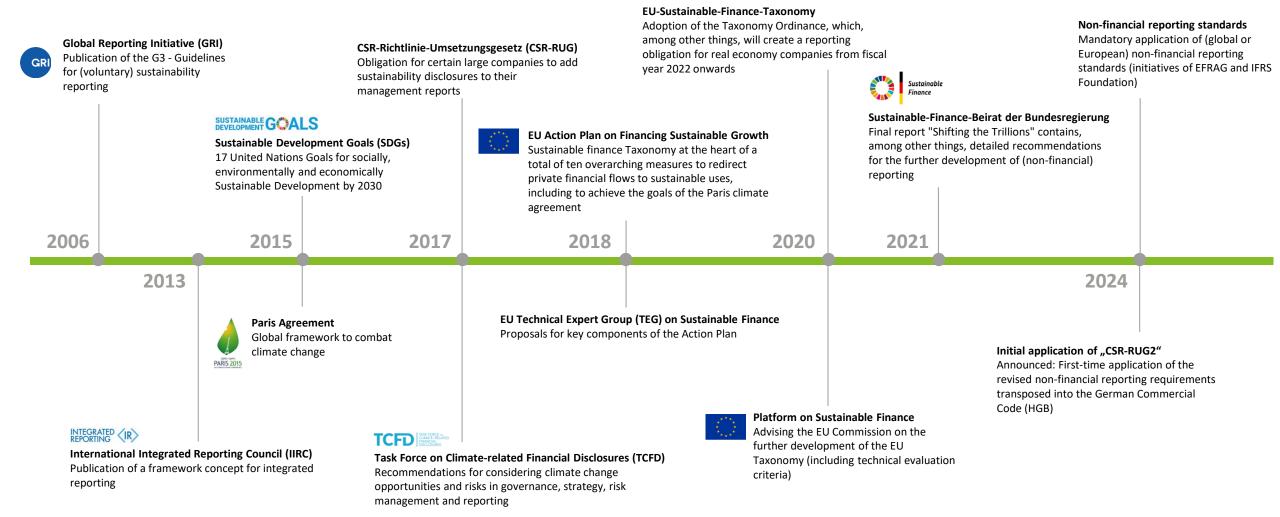


### Timeline

### Further developments of non-financial reporting



### Overview of Relevant Regulations and Frameworks

Regulation: so far focussed on reporting, now taking into account governance

Level

National

### from 2024 **CSRD** Significant expansion of reporting scope and timeframe Integration/combination of NFS into management report Obligation for external assurance Mandatory standards in development **EU Level** (EFRAG) from 2021 **EU Taxonomy** FY2021: Taxonomy eligibility regarding environmental objectives 1+2 FY2022: Taxonomy alignment regarding env. objectives 1+2

FY2023: Taxonomy alignment regarding

env. objectives 1-6

### LkSG

 Requires companies to identify, analyze and assess negative impacts on human rights and the environment and to implement mitigations measures

from 2023

from 2022

- Obligation to publish LkSG-report

# **German Corporate Governance Code**

 DCGK n.F. requires Board of Directors to consider sustainability-related impacts, opportunities and risks, which also need to be integrated into ICS

#### **TCFD**

 Recommendations address strategy, governance, risk management, metrics and targets regarding climate change

#### **GRI**

Standards

Reporting

Voluntary

Updated standards to use from 2023;
 sector specific standards in development

#### **SASB**

 Sector specific standards including qualitative and quantitative indicators

#### <IR> Framework

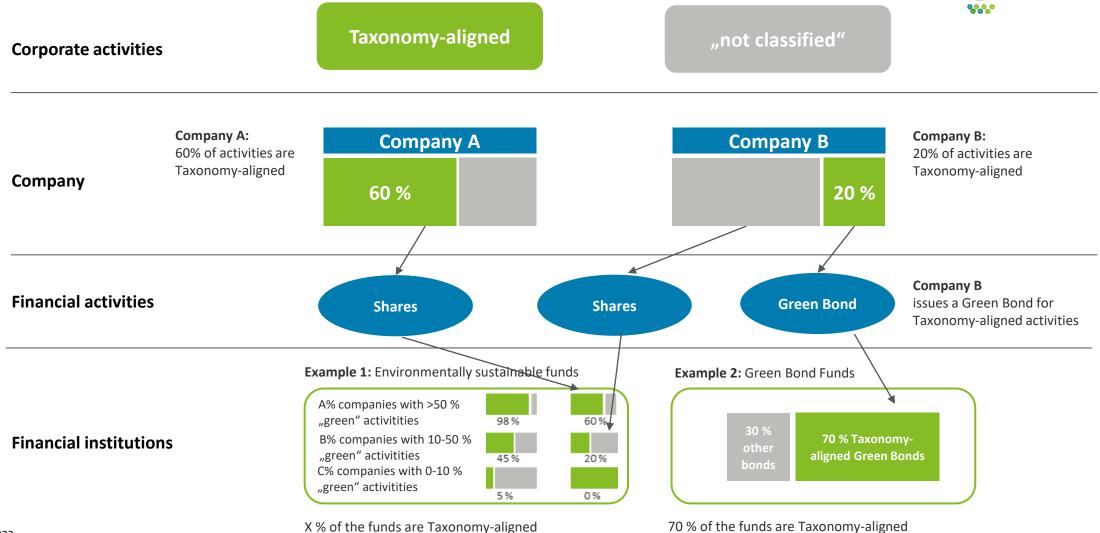
 Common reporting framework and Integrated Thinking Principles

The rising expectations for more and higher quality ESG information will require adequate reporting systems and processes, including a higher degree of automation.

### Overview

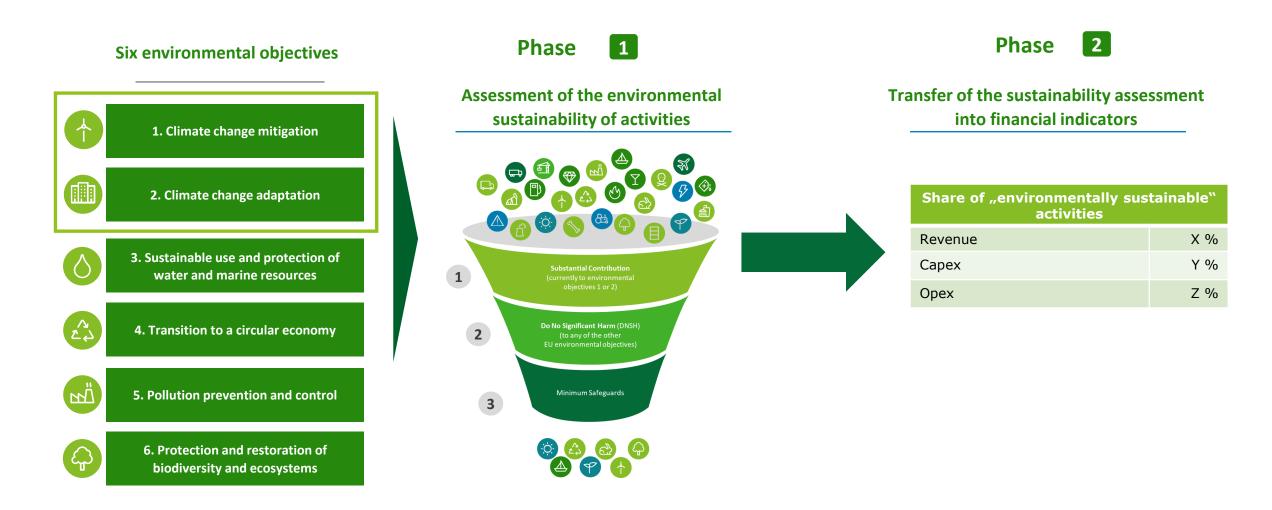
### Possible Taxonomy context





### Overview: EU Taxonomy

Procedure for evaluating the activities and determining the environmentally sustainable share



Deloitte 2022 5

### Revision of the Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive (CSRD)

In the future, more companies will have to publish concrete, standardized and audited sustainability information in the management report.



#### Overview of major changes made by the revision



#### Improved Availability

#### **Companies in scope**

- All large companies, regardless of capital market orientation
- The current threshold shall be reduced from 500 to 250 employees

#### **Integrated Reporting**

Mandatory reporting in the management report

Virtual raw database for the disclosure of sustainability data

Digital tagging analogueous to financial reporting



#### **Proven Reliability**

#### **Content-related audit requirement**

Initially with limited assurance

#### Clarification of governance obligations

- In particular, management responsibility for sustainability reporting
- The Supervisory Board remains obliged to review the disclosures
- The Audit Committee is also responsible for monitoring sustainability reporting and its systems/processes



#### **Expanded Materiality**

#### Clarification of double materiality

Relevant social and/or environmental effects alone sufficient for reporting obligation, without consideration of economic relevance



#### Improved Comparability

#### **Specification of the report content**

- Defined sustainability topics (environment, social and governance)
- Stronger focus on business strategy and link with sustainability objectives/-risks
- Additional reporting on non-physical resources that contribute to value creation
- Change in wording: Move away from "non-financial" to "sustainability information"

#### **Application Framework**

Development of binding sustainability reporting standards by the EU, taking into account industry specifications

#### **Consistency with EU rules**

Including EU taxonomy; disclosure requirements in the financial services sector

### German Corporate Governance Code (DCGK)

"...puts particular emphasis on sustainable corporate governance"

 Managing Board: Attention for sustainability-related impacts, opportunities and risks



Internal control system shall also cover sustainability information



• Supervisory Board: Oversight over sustainability performance; competencies



REGIERUNGSKOMMISSION

### Deutscher Corporate Governance Kodex

#### PRESS RELEASE

Frankfurt am Main, 27 June 2022

#### New German Corporate Governance Code in force

The latest version of the German Corporate Governance Code (GCGC) enters into force today. The Federal Ministry of Justice published the revised version dated 28 April 2022 in the Federal Gazette today.

The new Code, which has also been published on the website of the Regierungskommission Deutscher Corporate Governance Kodex together with a rationale, contains updated principles and extended recommendations for management and supervisory boards of listed companies.

Following the latest reform, the Code puts particular emphasis on sustainable corporate governance. The management board shall systematically identify and assess the opportunities and risks for the company associated with social and environmental factors, as well as the environmental and social impacts of the company's activities. Also, environmental and social goals shall be taken into account in corporate strategy and planning.

### German Supply Chain Due Diligence Act (Lieferkettensorgfaltspflichtengesetz, LkSG)

### At a glance

- Effective date: 1 January 2023
- Scope of Application: All companies with more than 3.000 employees in Germany
- Aim of the law: Obligation of German companies to protect human rights and environmental rights in their supply chains
- Supply chain ("Lieferkette"): The term is understood broadly and includes all steps in Germany and abroad that are necessary to manufacture the company's products and provide its services
- The SCDDA requires a risk management in the sense of a cycle. Key measures to be implemented are:
  - Risk analysis to identify relevant human rights and environmental risks in the own business area as well as with tier 1 suppliers
  - Prevention measures to minimize the identified risks
  - Implement a company-wide complaints mechanism for people to report human rights violations and environmental violations

#### **Effect**

#### **Sanctions** for violations:

- Fine of up to 2% of the average annual turnover of all worldwide Group companies
- Exclusion from procedures for the award of contracts by contracting authorities for up to 3 years

#### **Involved Parties**

As a first step, responsibilities must be identified at board level (horizontal) and within the organization (vertically)

- It already follows from the general organizational duties of the Executive Board that it must clearly define the responsibilities (horizontal and vertical) in the case of a delegation of statutory duties that affect it
- Sec. 4 (3) SCDDA clarifies this organizational obligation and requires the concrete definition of responsibilities for the fulfilment of statutory due diligence obligations
- If, as expected, several company departments at the company are entrusted with the implementation of the SCDDA, the tasks of the departments and persons involved must be clearly defined and without overlap



### Conclusion

- Sustainability is not a trend, it is here to stay
  - Relevant for access to financial capital markets
  - Relevant for public acceptance
- Sustainability departments collaboration necessary:\*
  - Sustainability = technical knowledge, other departments: methodological knowledge
  - Accounting / Sustainability: European Sustainability Reporting Standards, reporting and control systems, mandatory assurance
  - Controlling / Sustainability: KPIs, investment decision analysis, internal management reporting
  - Risk management / Sustainability: esp. Climate-related risks under scrutiny from investors and regulators
  - Compliance / Sustainability: governance, supply chain due diligence

<sup>\*</sup> Indicative list, depends on company-specific responsibilities, potentially further/other departments necessary

### For reading...



Zusammenfassung der EFRAG Exposure Drafts zu ESRS



Politische Einigung zur Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive (CSRD)



<u>Fallstudie zur EU-Sustainable-</u> <u>Finance-Taxonomie</u>

### Kontakt



**Dr. Matthias Schmidt** 

Director | Steuerberater

Business Assurance – Sustainability Assurance | Center of Expertise

Deloitte GmbH

Wirtschaftsprüfungsgesellschaft

Schwannstraße 6, 40476 Düsseldorf, Deutschland

Phone: +49 211 8772 5643 | Mobile: +49 151 1829 3086

mattschmidt@deloitte.de | www.deloitte.com/de

## Deloitte.

Deloitte refers to one or more of Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu Limited ("DTTL"), its global network of member firms, and their related entities (collectively, the "Deloitte organization"). DTTL (also referred to as "Deloitte Global") and each of its member firms and related entities are legally separate and independent entities, which cannot obligate or bind each other in respect of third parties. DTTL and each DTTL member firm and related entity is liable only for its own acts and omissions, and not those of each other. DTTL does not provide services to clients. Please see <a href="https://www.deloitte.com/de/UeberUns">www.deloitte.com/de/UeberUns</a> to learn more.

Deloitte is a leading global provider of audit and assurance, consulting, financial advisory, risk advisory, tax and related services; legal advisory services in Germany are provided by Deloitte Legal. Our global network of member firms and related entities in more than 150 countries and territories (collectively, the "Deloitte organization") serves four out of five Fortune Global 500® companies. Learn how Deloitte's approximately 330,000 people make an impact that matters at www.deloitte.com/de.

This communication contains general information only, and none of Deloitte GmbH Wirtschaftsprüfungsgesellschaft or Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu Limited ("DTTL"), its global network of member firms or their related entities (collectively, the "Deloitte organization") is, by means of this communication, rendering professional advice or services. Before making any decision or taking any action that may affect your finances or your business, you should consult a qualified professional adviser.

No representations, warranties or undertakings (express or implied) are given as to the accuracy or completeness of the information in this communication, and none of DTTL, its member firms, related entities, employees or agents shall be liable or responsible for any loss or damage whatsoever arising directly or indirectly in connection with any person relying on this communication. DTTL and each of its member firms, and their related entities, are legally separate and independent entities.