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- Recording and Presentations: We are recording the event. The recording will be published on the IRBA website, and a link will be made available to all attendees via an e-mail. This includes the slides, because there are useful resources you may want to refer to again.
- Disclaimer: Views expressed by external presenters are solely those of the individuals and do not necessarily reflect the views of the IRBA.



# Sustainability: The Big Picture

Webinar: 21 November 2024



Secretary General of the United Nations, His Excellency, Antonio Guterres said, at COP 29 last week in Baku, Azerbaijan, that **“According to Oxfam, the richest billionaires emit more carbon in an hour and a half than the average person does in a lifetime.”**



Imre Nagy is the Chief Executive Officer at the Independent Regulatory Board for Auditors (IRBA) in South Africa. Previously, he served as the Director of Inspections, where he spearheaded regulatory monitoring and remediation efforts for registered auditors. With over 20 years of experience in audits, audit regulation, quality monitoring, and control, Nagy has held leadership positions in both small and large auditing firms, including serving as a director and regional head at South Africa's fifth-largest audit network firm.

Internationally, Nagy is a prominent figure in the global audit community. As a board member and audit and finance committee chairperson of the International Forum of Independent Audit Regulators (IFIAR), he represents 56 countries and has played a pivotal role in shaping international audit standards and regulatory practices.





Jyoti Vallabh is a partner at Deloitte specialising in ESG assurance and reporting, with 22 years of experience as a chartered accountant.

For the past 13 years, she has focused on sustainability assurance and advisory services, including external assurance on non-financial information like green bonds.

She also advises clients on stakeholder relationship quality and reporting frameworks.

Jyoti is the acting chair of the IRBA's Sustainability Standing Committee, helping develop guidance for sustainability assurance engagements.

## Agenda – Session 1

#	Item	Time	Presenter
1.	Welcome	09:00 - 09:05	Imran Vanker
2	Opening remarks	09:05 - 09:20	Imre Nagy
3	Panel Discussion 1: Regulatory Sustainability Landscape	09:20 – 09:50	Yvette Lange Loshni Naidoo Sarah McPhail Kershia Singh
4	The preparation of Sustainability Reports – the role of technology, controls, and data	09:50 – 10:05	Zniko Nhlapho
	Q&A (5 minutes)	10:05 – 10:10	Ian Mtegha

**Comfort Break (15min)**

## Agenda – Session 2

#	Item	Time	Presenter
5	Ethics Standards for Sustainability Assurance	10:25 – 10:40	IESBA Chairperson
6	Ethics (greenwashing and greenhushing)	10:40 – 10:55	Sarah Lane
7	The assurance response	10:55 – 11:15	Neil Morris (IAASB Member)
	Q&A (10 minutes)		Ian Mtegha
8	Panel Discussion 2: The Future of sustainability reporting and assurance	11:25 – 12:10	Shaheed Osman David Madon Bruce Vivian Mohsin Yahya Nana Sharon Machado
9	Academic Research Presentation: A globally relevant definition for the term 'sustainability'	12:10 -12:25	Peter Brodrick

**Webinar Conclusion (5min)**



Yvette Lange is an Adjunct Professor at Wits University's School of Accountancy, focusing on executive education and the Chief Value Officer (CVO) programme. She is also a technical consultant for A4S.

Previously, she was a Director at PwC and a Technical Specialist at the International Integrated Reporting Council (IIRC). Her expertise includes assurance, risk management, integrated reporting, and sustainability.

Yvette serves on several committees, including as a technical advisor to the IAASB and chair of SAICA's Sustainability Technical Committee. She also judges the Chartered Governance Institute of Southern Africa's integrated reporting awards.





Loshni Naidoo is the Chief Sustainability Officer (CSO) at the Johannesburg Stock Exchange (JSE), a role she assumed on 28 August 2023.

With 18 years of experience in climate change, sustainability services, and Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) practices, she is responsible for overseeing the JSE's sustainability initiatives, measuring ESG metrics for listed companies, and driving the exchange's transformation and regulatory improvements.

Loshni holds a Bachelor of Science in Chemical Engineering, a Bachelor of Commerce in Informatics, a Master's in business administration, and a Post-Graduate Diploma in Future Studies.



Sarah McPhail is the Lead Policy Analyst for Sustainable Finance at the South African Prudential Authority (a division of the South African Reserve Bank), where she develops regulatory frameworks for climate-related risks and monitors sustainable finance trends. She has held various director roles at the National Treasury, gaining extensive experience in public finance, asset management, and financial sector policy.

Sarah is a member of numerous domestic and international committees. She also played a key role in developing the SA Green finance taxonomy and holds a Business Science degree with Finance honours and a Master's degree in Public and development management.



Kershia Singh is the head of the Policy Support department at the Financial Sector Conduct Authority (FSCA) in South Africa. She focuses on promoting financial inclusion, transforming the financial sector, and developing sustainable finance policies. Her department also enhances customer and market insights to inform regulatory policies.

Kershia holds an Honours degree in Development Studies from Wits University and a Masters in Finance and Financial Law from the University of London.



Zniko Nhlapho (nee Ndlovu) is a seasoned expert in sustainability and climate change with nearly a decade of experience. Currently, she is the Principal Specialist Environment at Vodacom Group, where she leads the company's environmental sustainability strategy.

Previously, she worked with the Science Based Targets initiative (SBTi) at WWF South Africa and as a consultant at Environmental Resources Management (ERM).

Zniko holds an MSc in Interdisciplinary Global Change Studies and a Post Graduate Diploma in Business Administration from the University of the Witwatersrand.



# Sustainability reports – the role of technology, controls, and data

21 November 2024

Zniko Nhlapho  
Principal Specialist  
Environment  
ESG and Sustainable Business  
Vodacom Group





# The mercury continues to rise...



2024 2023 2022 2021 2020 2019 2018 2017 2016

## Group



Environmental, Social and Governance report 2024 [↓](#)



ESG addendum 2024 [↓](#)



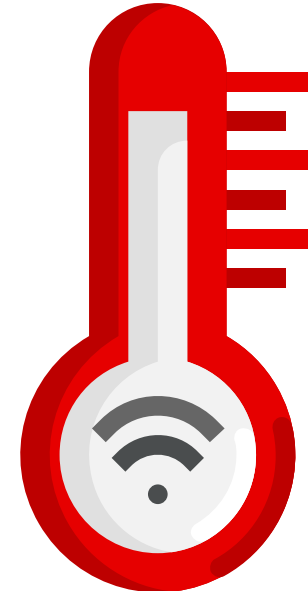
ESG addendum methodology 2024 [↓](#)



Climate and TCFD report 2024 [↓](#)



Vodacom Group CDP 2024 [↓](#)





# Ongoing improvements in data collection


## Data collection




- Policies and standard operating procedures
- Establishing ownership across departments and functions
- Regular training, awareness and ongoing collaboration
- Leveraging technology to streamline processes


 Planet Policy


 ESG Targets and Reporting Policy

 Human Rights and Child Protection Policy

 VFESGRP 1a CTP KPI Definitions.pdf

 VFESGRP 8 - Waste and Circularity Policy.pdf

 VGESGRP 1 - Energy and Environment Definitions.pdf


 VGESGRP 2 - Planet organisational boundaries.pdf

 VGESGRP 3 - Planet base year reporting.pdf

 VGESGRP 4 - Planet Estimates.pdf

 VGESGRP 5 - Reporting definitions for Networks Products.pdf

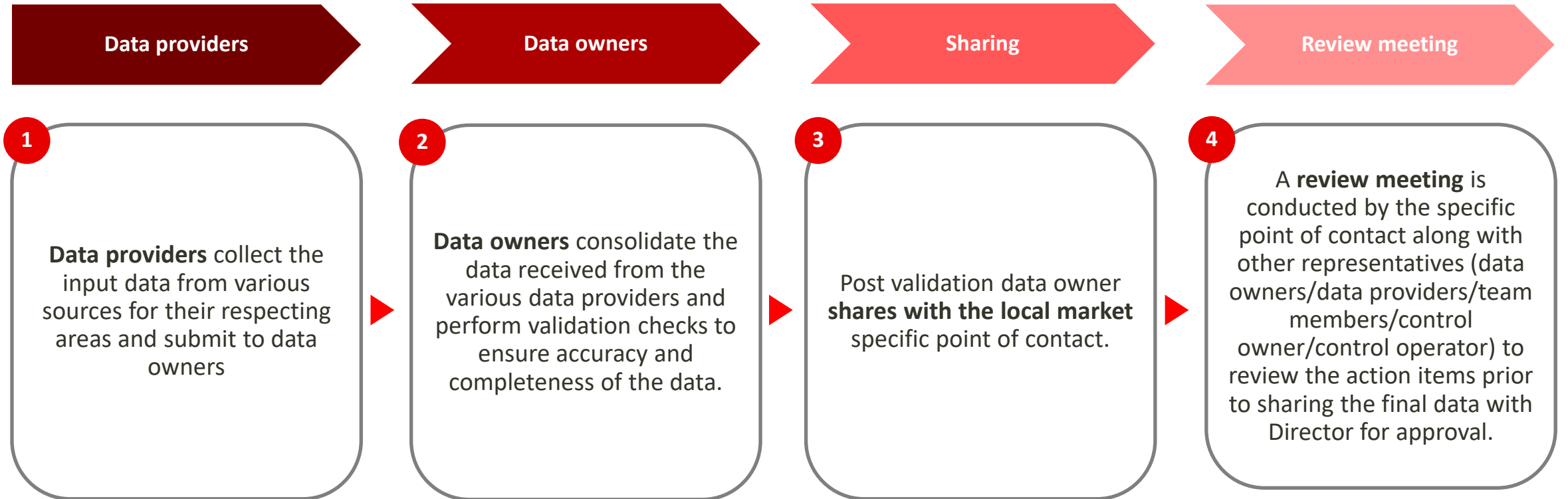
 VGESGRP 6 - Health & Safety Definitions.pdf

 VGESGRP 7 - Financial Inclusion.pdf

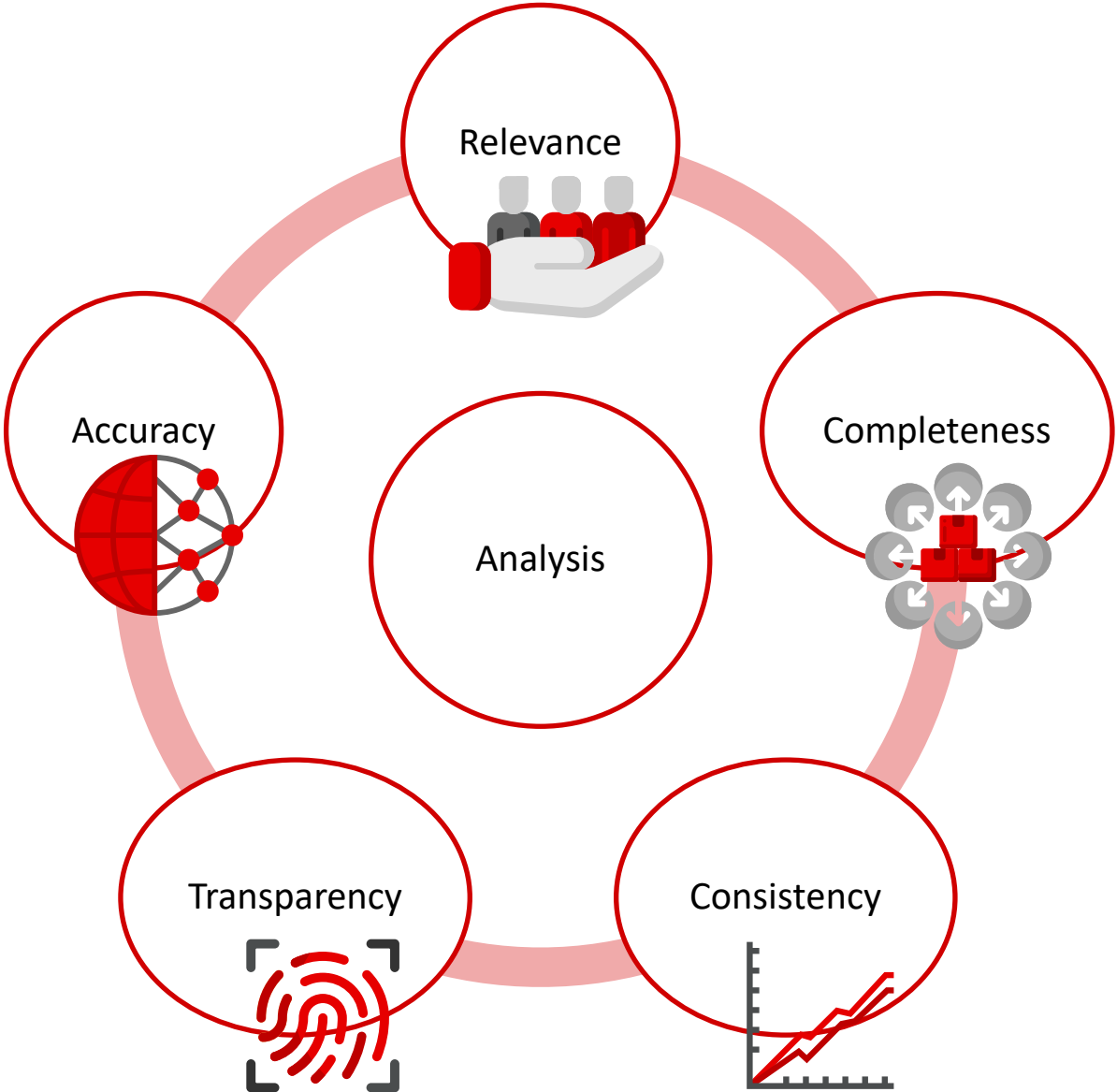
 VGESGRP 9 - Reporting definitions for Digitalising Small Businesses.pdf



# Strengthening our control environment

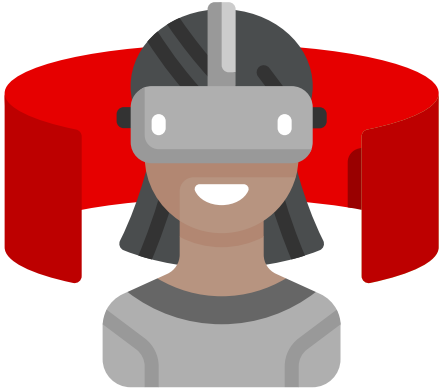


# Understanding trends, anomalies and areas of improvement through analysis



# Allowing for an objective assessment of the accuracy and completeness

## Verification

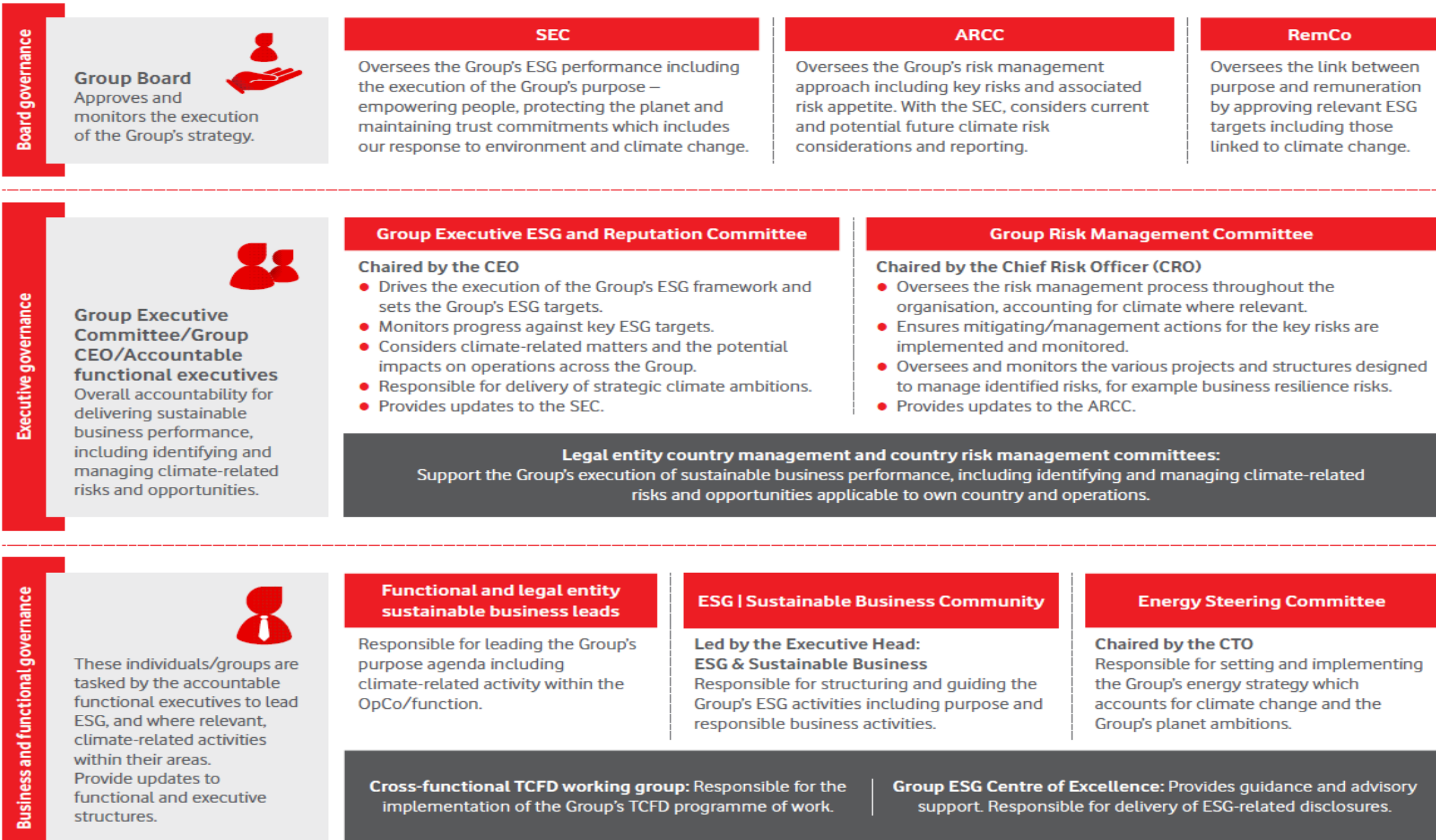


- Combined assurance approach
- **Enhances** transparency and accountability
- **Maintain** stakeholder confidence
- **Stepping** stone to developing credible targets
- **Meet the evolving** sustainability reporting regulatory requirements
- Support continuous **improvements**





# Driving accountability in all layers



## Key take-aways

- Build **strong and accountable networks** to support
- Explore existing and upcoming **technologies**
- **Training and awareness** is vital to success



**Questions**

**Zniko and Ian in  
conversation**





## Tea / Comfort Break

We will recommence at 10:25am SAST

