

STANDARDS FOR SUSTAINABLE TRADE & SUSTAINABLE TRADE FINANCE

A Roadmap and Vision for Industry, Policymakers, and Traders Worldwide 3 February 2022

AGENDA FOR TODAY

- **INTRODUCTION**
- **OVERVIEW OF PROPOSED DEFINITION, STANDARDS, FRAMEWORK**
- WHY THIS IS ALSO A TECHNOLOGY AND DATA PROBLEM
- NEXT STEPS, DISCUSSION AND QUESTIONS

OBJECTIVE OF THIS EXERCISE WAS TO BEGIN THE JOURNEY TO DEFINE AND SET THE STANDARDS FOR SUSTAINABLE TRADE AND TRADE FINANCE

? WHAT?

- Accelerate global trade's role in helping businesses meet the Paris agreement towards a reduction of global greenhouse gas emissions to limit global temperature increase to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels
- Enable global trade in contributing to and reaching the UN's Sustainable Development Goals, taking sustainability well beyond climate
- Bridge the gap in current standard frameworks which are typically not fit for purpose to be applied to the world of trade and trade finance

O HOW?

- Provide a clear definition of sustainable trade and sustainable trade finance to support businesses, banks/investors, governments and policymakers, NGOs and industry bodies, and end-consumers implement better practices globally to meet shared goals
- Set workable, pragmatic and universally applicable standards so that industry practitioners can effectively implement sustainable trade and trade finance behaviours in practice
- Provide practical recommendations on how definitions and standards can be applied in order to meet climate and wider sustainability goals
- Build and iterate framework over time to incorporate input from the wider community, while increasing relevance, depth, and breadth

WE DEFINED A COMPREHENSIVE SCOPE FOR THESE DEFINITIONS, STANDARDS, AND FRAMEWORK, CENTERED AROUND 5 AXES





The framework will cover **both goods and services** trade; within goods, it can be applied to both tangible and intangible goods



Types of Trade Finance

The framework will be relevant to **all types of trade and supply chain finance**; including trade loans, bills, letters of credit, guarantees and receivables finance



3 Types of Sustainability

The framework will focus on **sustainability holistically**, largely in line with and inspired by the **UN SDGs**, which are collapsed into 3 dimensions of sustainability



Geographic extent of Trade

The framework will be primarily designed around the needs of **international trade** but can equally be **applied to domestic trade**



5 Stages of the Value Chain

The framework will consider all upstream stages of the value chain, as well as the direct downstream (immediate next) stage

THE FRAMEWORK WILL FOCUS ON SUSTAINABILITY HOLISTICALLY, CONSIDERING THREE DIMENSIONS INTO ITS SCOPE

ECONOMIC



HUMAN / SOCIAL



ENVIRONMENTAL



SIMILARLY, THE FRAMEWORK WILL CONSIDER TRADE HOLISTICALLY, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT 5 COMPONENTS OF TRADE INTO ITS SCOPE

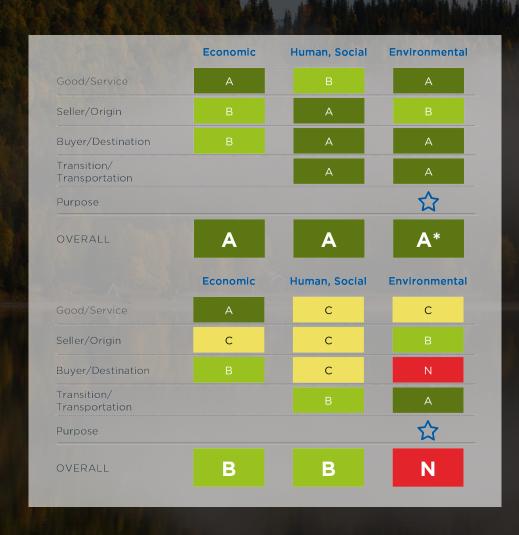


- 1 Sustainability of the **Goods** being traded
- Sustainability of the **Origin** / **Supplier** where the goods come from
- Sustainability of the **Destination** / **Buyer** where the goods go to
- Sustainability of the **Transition** from Buyer to Supplier (e.g. transport and storage)

Only for **environmental**

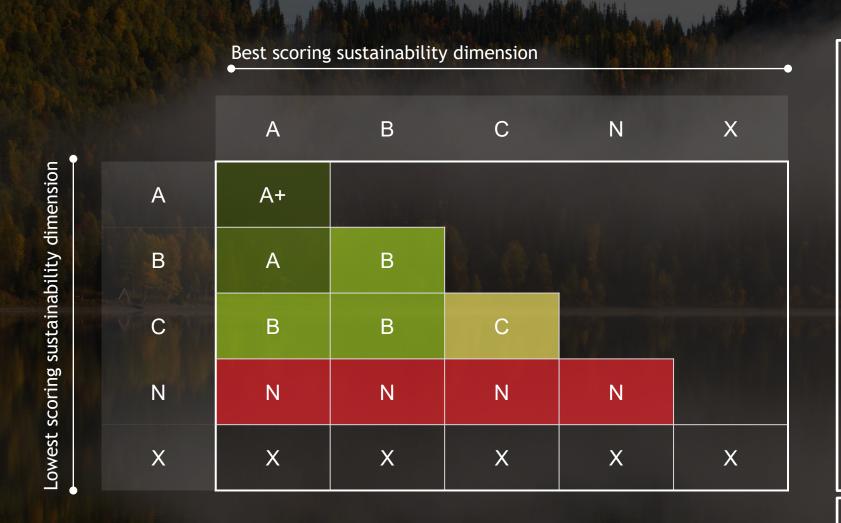
Sustainability of the **Purpose** of the trade: transition finance or actively contributes to mitigation of climate change

THE ICC PROPOSES A STANDARDIZED INFOGRAPHIC TO PROVIDE A CONSISTENT MEANS OF CONVEYING THE SUSTAINABILITY CREDENTIALS OF A GIVEN TRADE



Across each component Across each dimension Actively contributes to given Actively contributes 1 or more component(s) component Meets sustainability standards Meets sustainability standards for given component for 3 or more component(s) Does no significant harm to Does no significant harm across given component all components Does not meet min. req. for Does not meet min. req. for 1 or given component more component(s) Insufficient data for assessment Insufficient data for assessment across 1 or more component(s) Purpose is actively mitigating Purpose is actively mitigating impact of climate change impact of climate change

IN ADDITION TO THE INFOGRAPHIC, A DESCRIPTOR SCORE WILL PROVIDE A HIGH-LEVEL SUMMARY OF THE TRANSACTION'S DEGREE OF SUSTAINABILITY



Descriptor

- A+ Actively contributes to all sustainability dimensions
- Actively contributes to 1 or more sustainability dimension(s)
- B Meets sustainability standards for 1 or more sustainability dimension(s)
- Does no significant harm across all sustainability dimensions
- N Does significant harm across 1 or more sustainability dimension(s)
- Insufficient data for assessment across 1 or more dimension(s)

 $\stackrel{\wedge}{\Box}$

Added where Purpose is actively sustainable

TO MINIMISE OVERHEADS, PROPOSED METHODOLOGY WILL USE SETS OF EXISTING STANDARDS TO ASSESS THE SUSTAINABILITY OF A GIVEN TRADE TRANSACTION

Pool of existing standards & definitions...



...exhibiting 5 required characteristics...



✓ Objective

✓ In use

Representative

Comprehensive

... come together into 3 types of standards for the framework

Minimum standards to do no significant harm

ICC-recognised sustainability standards

Standards defining active contributions

NUMBER OF KEY CONSIDERATIONS AS WE MOVE TOWARDS IMPLEMENTATION



How will this work in practice?

- What specific standards will be applied for each component / dimension?
- Who will actually run the assessment on a txn-by-txn basis?
- How will we minimise the operational overhead, to genuinely make this workable?



What will be the role of technology?

- What data elements are needed to run the assessment?
- What level of automation is possible?
- Is there a role for a central repository of data?
- How will we ensure the reliability of data?



How will the framework be applied

 What are the implications of a good or weak
Sustainability score as per this framework?





