

# Sustainability Landscape

A Presentation to the Sustainability and EHS Symposium  
March 2023



# What is Sustainability?

Economic prosperity of communities and companies is directly tied to their environment, access to natural resources, and management of environment to support quality of life.



# SDGs

193 countries adopted a set of 17 new global goals to **end poverty, protect the planet, and ensure prosperity for all** as part of a [new sustainable development agenda](#). Each goal has specific targets to be achieved over the next 15 years. For the goals to be reached, everyone needs to do their part: governments, the private sector and civil society.

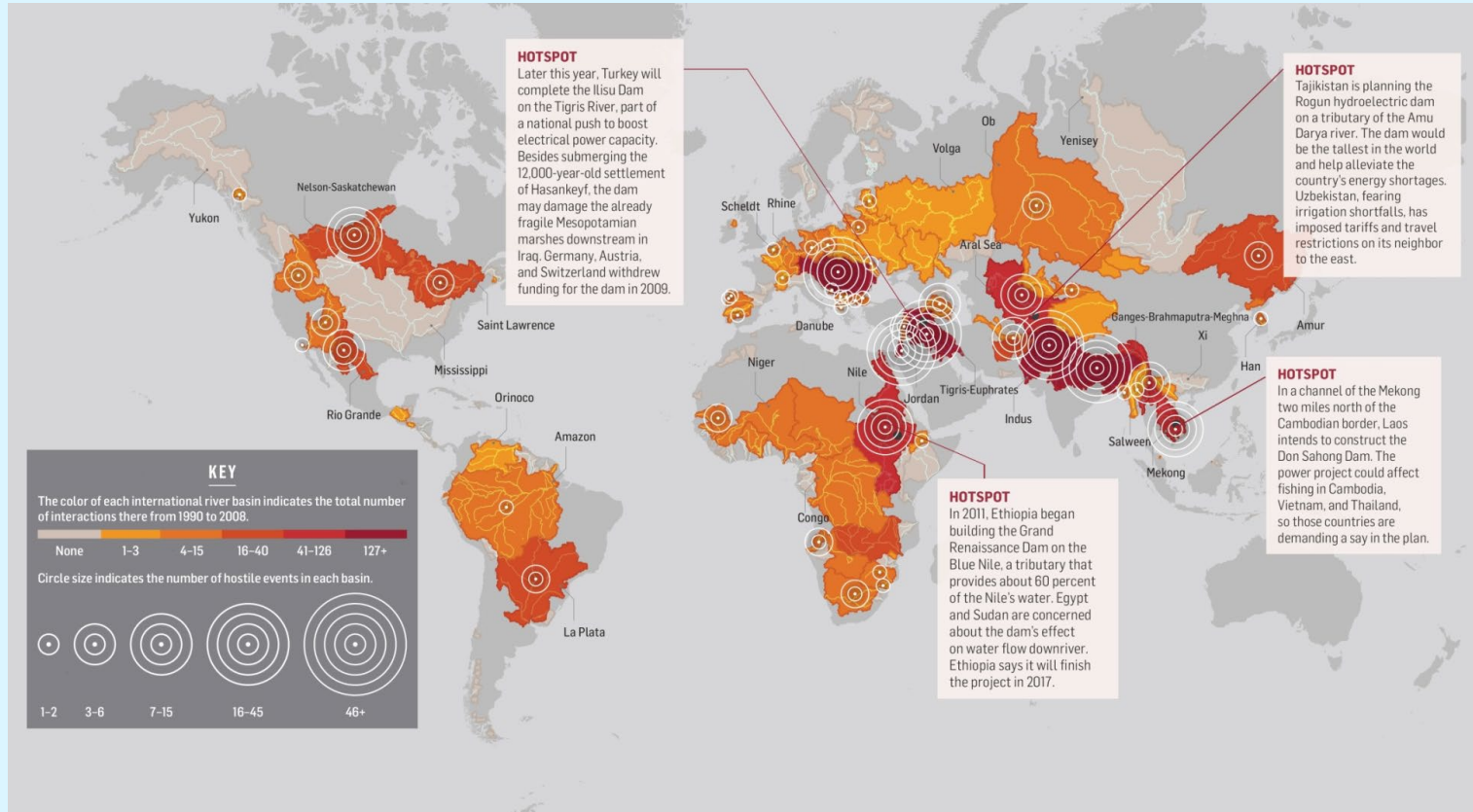
## SDG Goal 6: Ensure access to water and sanitation for all by 2030.



## Water also touches other global goals:



# Security Examples



# Sustainability Timeline

<b>Regulating</b>	<b>Efficiency-based regulatory reform and flexibility</b>	<b>Voluntary, flexible approaches</b>
1970s	1980s/1990s	2000s/2010s
Creation of USEPA, CAA/CWA, etc.	Growth in state and local environmental policy and capacity	MDGs, SDGs, shared value

# Why is the Chamber Engaged?

Members are leaders in the sustainability space.

It is appropriate for the business community to be represented in the sustainability policy discussion.

**Any government interventions should support voluntary, flexible approaches – not one-size-fits-all**



# Why are Companies Engaged?

- 1) It is a material risk to your business.
- 2) It is input or part of the product or process.
- 3) It is the focus of their business – technology developers, entrepreneurs, and engineering and environmental services companies.
- 4) It is important their customers, employees, investors, and the quality of life for the communities where they operate.



# What are we doing?

- Convene private and public sector leaders around shared sustainability priorities and showcase best practices for leveraging new opportunities to deliver positive business, environmental, and social outcomes.
- Advance voluntary, flexible, market-based policy solutions that will encourage and incentivize business innovation to enhance environmental and economic progress.
- Catalyze public and private investments and partnerships in research and development, infrastructure modernization, smart technologies and trade initiatives that support business leadership and sustainable growth.



# Member Priorities

Opportunities	Threats
Permitting reform IIJA/IRA implementation FAA reauthorization Farm bill WRDA	PFAS – CERCLA/MCL TSCA reporting and risk management WOTUS

# What is ESG?

## Subjects encompassed by 'ESG':

- Climate Change and Sustainability
- Corporate Board Diversity
- Human Capital Management
- Executive Compensation
- Political & Lobbying Spending

## To whom does ESG apply?

- Primarily to companies who participate in public capital markets
- Growing interest in private companies

# Where did ESG come from?

## Corporate Social Responsibility

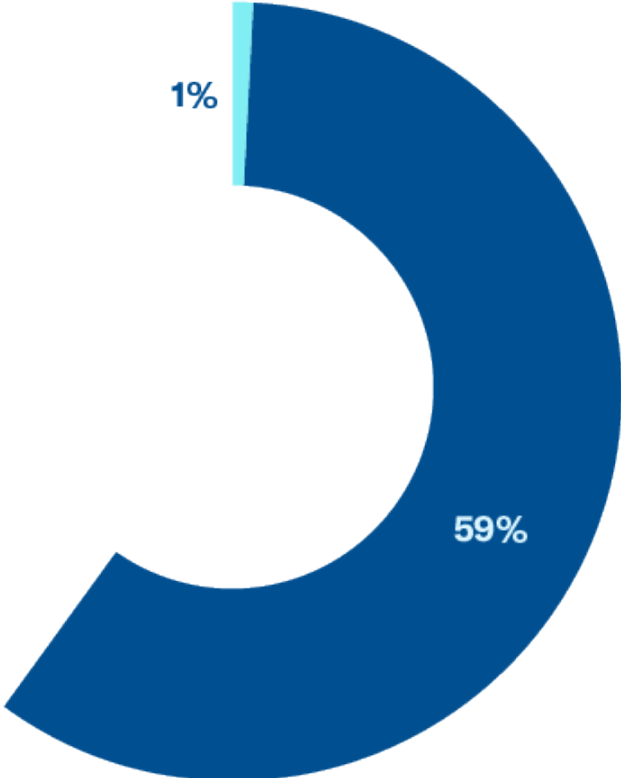
- ESG has strong roots in CSR and public relations efforts of the past
- Some companies still make ESG information available through their CSR report

## EU Regulatory Developments/ Paris Climate Agreement

- EU regulations are progressive and can repatriate to the U.S. through American companies active in Europe
- US asset managers active in Europe

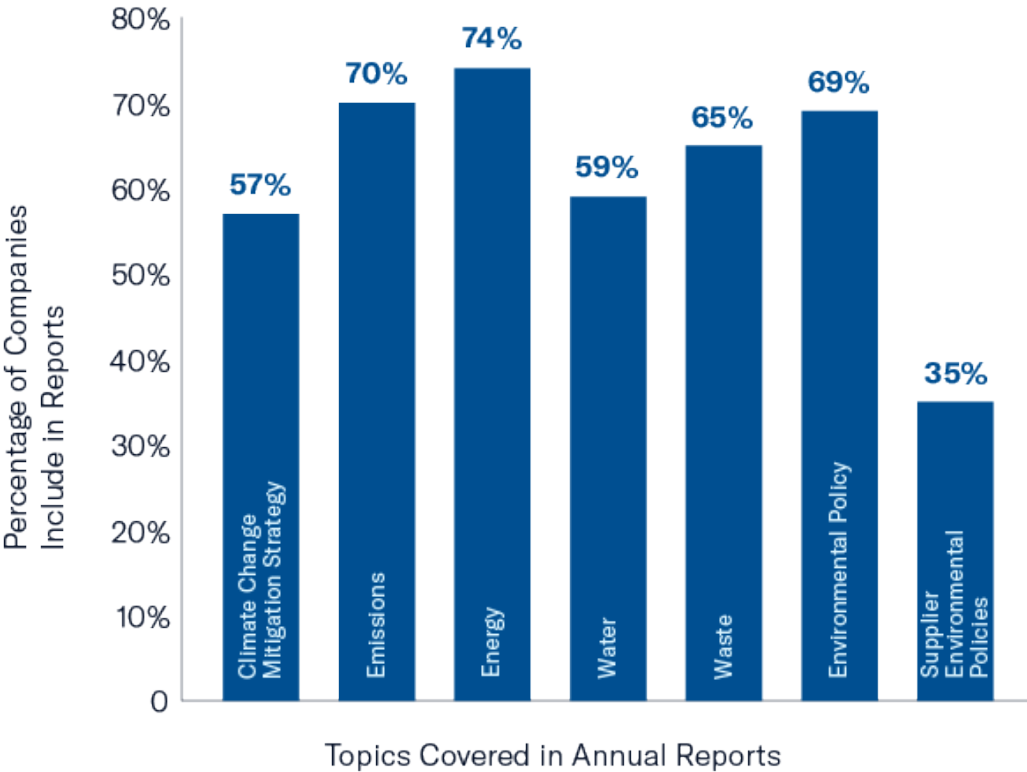
Over the last decade, most companies have increased the amount of climate change disclosure they provide.

Roughly 59% report they are disclosing more information regarding climate change since the SEC issued its 2010 guidance; only 1% of companies report they are disclosing less information during that same period.



# What Companies are Disclosing in ESG-Related Reports

Many companies also reported they include information on human capital management and diversity in their annual reports.



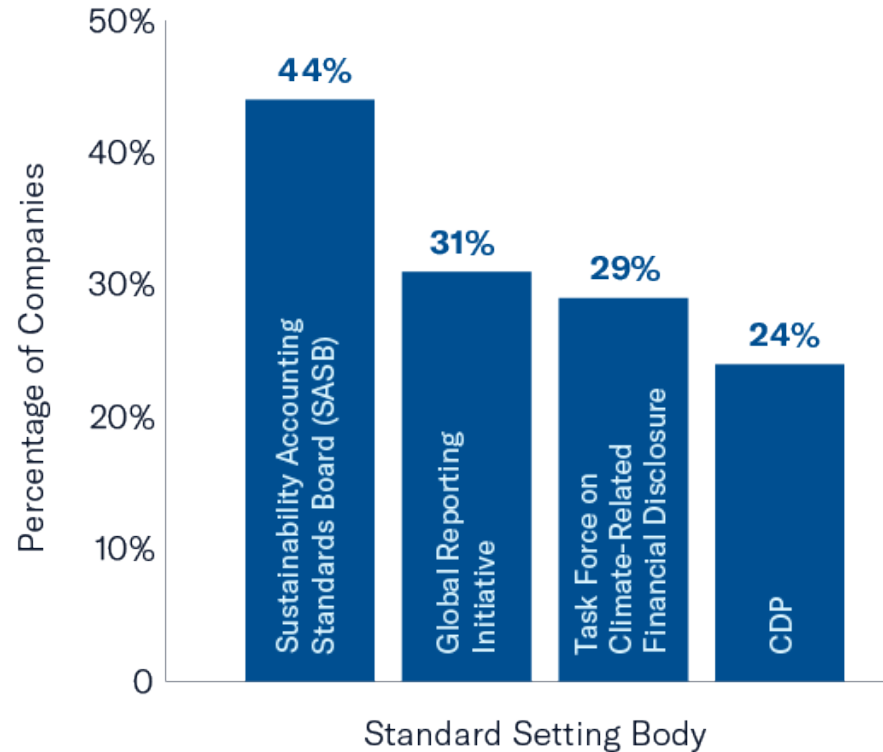
# How Companies are Disclosing ESG-Related Information

- Sustainability Accounting Standards Board (SASB): 44%
- Global Reporting Initiative (GRI): 31%
- Task Force on Climate-Related Financial Disclosure (TCFD): 29%
- CDP: 24%
- International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS): 6%
- United Nations Principles for Responsible Investment (UNPRI): 6%
- EU Non-Financial Reporting Directive: 5%



U.S. Chamber of Commerce  
Center for Capital Markets  
Competitiveness

## Companies that Rely on Standard Setting Bodies

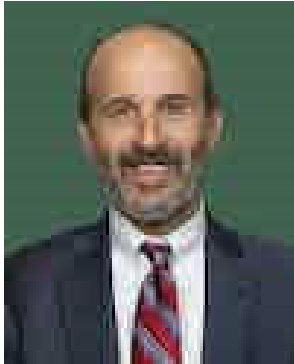


# Questions & Discussion:

Thank you!



## Biographical Information



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Chuck Chaitovitz is vice president for environmental affairs and sustainability at the U.S. Chamber of Commerce. For more than 25 years, he has specialized in environment and energy issues, working with companies on strategies to improve their bottom line and competitive positioning. At the Chamber, Chaitovitz is launching a new environment and sustainability capability to foster unique partnerships among the private sector, government, and civil society organizations. He works with members to support company leadership on sustainability — building the business case and the enabling conditions through commonsense public policy and the actions of member companies.

Previously, Chaitovitz co-founded The Coventry Group, LLP, a Virginia-based professional services firm focusing on strategic communications, marketing, and government relations. He developed new market opportunities and business plans for entrepreneurs, creating innovative environmental technologies. Chaitovitz also provided strategic counsel to clients on a range of international projects, including water and sanitation capacity building in West Africa, nutrient management best practices in Central and Eastern Europe, and U.S. water finance case studies to share with utility leaders across the Caribbean.

His experience in managing multistakeholder coalitions is underscored by his tenure as executive director of the U.S. Water Partnership — a public-private partnership of more than 120 U.S. private sector, government and civil society organizations to mobilize the best of U.S. expertise to address water challenges. There he helped launch, manage, and grow the Partnership and assisted in developing a multimillion fundraising campaign. Chaitovitz managed U.S. stakeholder participation in the Global Energy Assessment, the first comprehensive evaluation of global energy systems in more than a decade. He also coordinated the National Metal Finishing Strategic Goals Program (SGP) — a voluntary, environmental performance partnership of more than 500 companies, and state and local regulatory agencies for the EPA.