

Corporate
Governance
Institute

Diploma in Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG)

Insight + Impact

We're educating
corporate and ESG
leaders to be a force
for good and growth
in the world.

- ✔ Practical tools, frameworks and strategies.
- ✔ Focused on the impact of good governance.
- ✔ Creating corporate governance change leaders.
- ✔ A supportive learning experience.
- ✔ Backed by a Governance Advisory Council.
- ✔ Recommended by 97.3% of our alumni.

University credit-rated. Industry approved. Globally recognised.





A trusted voice for achieving excellence

Excellent



AM Aldagh Mc Donogh
11 reviews IE



Updated Jun 20, 2023

Thoroughly enjoyed the ESG diploma...

Thoroughly enjoyed the ESG diploma course. The materials were very current and the additional reading list is expansive. Strong module on Governance. Very useful signposting to key ESG standards organisations we all need to know about. Liked the online learning methodology so I could learn at my own pace. Highly recommend this course.

JS James Sammut
1 review MT



Jul 15, 2023

A Springboard to the ESG World

A well-researched and designed course that gives people holding high positions a very strong insight on ESG and its surrounding developing landscape. Case studies were purposely selected to give the practical slant needed to put theory into practice.

It would be ideal that CGI considers more granular courses that will allow companies implement ESG based on best practice such as ESRS, SASB, GRI and SDG.

DI Dimitra
1 review GR



Jul 3, 2023










This course was a perfect combination of theory and practice

This course was a perfect combination of theory and practice. It takes you through the theoretical aspects of ESG and simultaneously shows you how can they be applied in practice through the use of industry examples. This course is well suited even for those who do not have an in depth grasp of ESG.

Your diploma in Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) at a glance

Directors are coming to the boardroom table without the practical skills to achieve good governance. Lead the change and elevate your director career with this university credit-rated programme.

Enquire now

 Format Self-paced 24/7, flexible to your schedule	 Credits 20 credits	 Level Level 5 EQF
 Programme duration Six months	 Modules 10 Modules	 Assessments Three online, multiple-choice style
 Contact hours 50* plus supplementary research, study and assessments	 Accessibility Available on any device	 Fees €4,495 Pay full price or by instalment

University credit-rated



Elevate your learning journey with CGI premium membership.

Secure 50% off with every course purchase.

~~€395~~ **€200**

[Learn more](#)

Masterclasses 

Webinars 

Practical toolkits 

Networking 

Resources 

Governance experts 



Education and professional development

Support your professional development with practical masterclasses, webinars, a vast resource library, networking, discussions and more. Optimise your leadership mindset.



Content

Explore hundreds of pieces of content tailored to your learning style including webinar recordings, toolkits, templates, news analysis, ebooks, case studies, interviews, guides and more.



Career and community

Grow your network with a community of like-minded professionals. Draw on the collective knowledge and experience of the community to help achieve your career aspirations.



Fastest Growing Community

100+ members joining monthly. Connecting you to a global, vibrant, and diverse network united to drive change and inspire growth in good governance and ESG.



Member supports

Stand out for your professional experience within the member community. Unlock access to specialised CGI thought leadership. Reach your career goals with CGI team and community support.

Your learning experience

There are 10 online modules in the Diploma in Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) course. Each module is broken into chapters that include video interviews with global ESG experts and practitioners.



Get real-world insights from actual ESG and environmental sustainability case studies.



Learn practical frameworks for ESG unique to this diploma.



Be supported and guided at every step by our friendly Learning Support Team.



Get access to tools, templates and guides to help with assessments and use immediately in the workplace.



Quiz your knowledge before and after each module.



Network through workshops and debate with fellow ESG leaders.



Complete your ESG qualification with two online assessments.



Start applying your ESG training in the workplace.



Our team of experts

You'll be taught by world-class ESG and sustainability experts who have one sole purpose: to educate a new generation of corporate and ESG leaders to be a force for good and growth in the world.



Karima Mariama-Arthur

Corporate Counsel |
Corporate Governance
Strategic Leadership
Development &
Organisational
Performance



Margot Slattery

Global Ambassador for
Diversity & Inclusion, ISS



Ramani Hariharan

Head of Sustainability,
Ynsect



Paul White

Partner, Governance
Ireland



Ariel White-Tsimikalis

Partner, Technology and
Life Sciences Group and
Capital Markets, Goodwin



Dr Vindel Kerr

International Management
Consultant, Corporate
Governance Expert



Ruth Odih

Key member of the
Secretariat Team,
Centrica plc



Paul Murgett

Sustainable Business
Manager, Britvic plc



Our alumni represent globally recognised organisations



Modules 01-10

What you will learn

Gain a deep and thorough understanding of ESG. Be clear about what ESG is and the risks and opportunities that it provides.

Develop an integrated ESG strategy so you can manage risk and use appropriate governance structures to oversee these developments.

- 01 The origins of ESG
- 02 The evolving ESG landscape
- 03 Exploring ESG investing
- 04 ESG and the role of the board
- 05 Integrating ESG into business strategy
- 06 Best practice in ESG and risk management
- 07 The importance of governance in ESG
- 08 ESG and data quality: why it matters
- 09 Best practice in ESG reporting
- 10 Leading ESG transformation in your organisation

Module 01

The origins of ESG

In this module, you'll learn the key terms associated with ESG and their definitions. You'll look at the macro-drivers of corporate sustainability action and recognise the major landmarks, and approaches, taken to advance corporate sustainability.

By the end of the module, you'll have a strong foundation in your understanding of the concept of ESG.

In this module you'll cover:

A background in sustainability

- Key sustainability trends and concepts
- Setting the context
- Climate change
- Biodiversity loss
- Social issues
- Major milestones in the history of corporate sustainability

Approaches to corporate sustainability over time

- Key approaches to corporate sustainability
- Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)
- Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG)
- Impact-led approaches
- Case study: The evolution and different approaches to sustainability
- ESG risks and opportunities

Special features

Video interview



Expert speaker Karima Mariama-Arthur of WordSmith Rapport shares her insights.

Case study

Ungraded quiz

Module 02

The evolving ESG landscape

The business world is changing as we know it. In this module, you'll consider what has led to and is currently driving the significant increase in ESG growth. Learn about the roles of stakeholder groups within this and their various approaches to ESG.

Discover the risks and opportunities associated with ESG and how ESG maturity differs across geographies.

In this module you'll cover:

The growth of ESG and the changing ESG landscape

- The rise of ESG
- The recent growth of ESG
- Why ESG has taken off
- ESG issues
- Unpacking the ESG issues
- Trade-offs

Implications for organisations

- ESG stakeholders
- Stakeholder approaches
- ESG maturity
- Where is ESG headed?
- ESG risks and opportunities
- ESG and your organisation
- ESG maturity across geographies
- Managing ESG across multiple geographies

Special features

Video interview



Expert speaker Margot Slattery of ISS shares her insights.

Interactive content

Group discussion

Peer interaction

Ungraded quiz

Module 03

Exploring ESG investing

The concept of ESG investing and how it has gained momentum over the last few years is the focus on this module. You'll get a deep understanding of what drives investors from an institutional investor perspective.

Learn popular approaches to ESG investing and familiarise yourself with the ESG rating landscape, and what organisations can do.

In this module you'll cover:

An introduction to ESG investing

- Investment and ESG
- Categories of investment approaches
- Why consider ESG
- The growth of ESG investment
- The emergence of ESG investing
- The expansion of ESG investing
- The global perspective

Approaches to ESG investment

- Diverging approaches
- Divestment versus engagement
- Measuring ESG
- The ESG rating problem
- Solving the ESG rating problem
- ESG investment advice

Special features

Video interview



Expert speaker Ramani Hariharan of Ynsect shares his insights.

Infographics

Case study

Ungraded quiz

Module 04

ESG and the role of the board

Understanding the governing principles of the board, its responsibilities and how this intersects with ESG is essential. In this module, learn about the impact of the board on ESG practices in an organisation.

Gain an in-depth knowledge of the characteristics of a well-composed board and the importance of culture in how a board carries out its functions.

In this module you'll cover:

An introduction to the board of directors

- Introducing the board
- The duties and responsibilities of the board
- ESG and the role of the board
- Board structure and composition
- Board size
- Board composition
- Board renewal

The role of the board of directors

- Board roles and responsibilities
- Important board roles
- Shareholders and investors
- Committees
- The executives
- Division of responsibilities
- A high functioning Board
- Culture and the Board

Special features

Video interview



Expert speaker Paul White of Corporate Governance Association shares his insights.

Sample documents

Group discussion

Peer interaction

Ungraded quiz

Module 05

Integrating ESG into business strategy

How you integrate ESG within your business strategy is essential. In this module, you'll explore this link and learn how to correctly identify and prioritise ESG issues that are material to an organisation.

Learn the five-step framework for developing an ESG strategy with insights on how to set reasonable ESG targets.

In this module you'll cover:

Strategic approaches to sustainability

- An introduction to ESG strategy
- Developing an ESG strategy

How to start setting an ESG strategy

- Materiality and ESG strategy
- ESG: An opportunity or risk?
- The methodology of materiality
- Steps from materiality to strategy
- Setting targets
- Setting credible ambitions for your ESG strategy

Special features

Video interview



Expert speaker Ariel White-Tsimikalis of Goodwin shares his insights.

Case study

Group discussion

Peer interaction

Ungraded quiz

Module 06

Best practice in ESG and risk management

Understanding how ESG risk can be easily incorporated into overall organisational risk is essential. In this module, you'll gain a solid understanding of managing ESG risk through oversight and management, as well as governance and organisational structure.

You'll learn how to identify, assess, review and communicate ESG risk.

In this module you'll cover:

Understanding ESG risk

- An introduction to ESG risk
- Environmental risks and opportunities
- Societal risks and opportunities
- Governance risks and opportunities
- Risk oversight and management
- Responsibility for risk oversight and risk management
- The four lines of defence model
- Governance and organisational structure

Tools and techniques in ESG risk management

- Identifying and assessing ESG risk
- Risk appetite and risk tolerance
- Identifying ESG risks
- Assessing ESG risks
- Prioritising ESG risks
- Implementing risk response
- Reviewing ESG risk
- Communicating ESG risks

Special features

 Case study

 Group discussion

 Peer interaction

 Ungraded quiz

Module 07

The importance of governance in ESG

ESG leaders need to know and understand what corporate governance is. In this module, you'll learn about good corporate governance's role in supporting and embedding strong ESG practices within your organisation.

You'll fully understand the roles and responsibilities of the various people involved in promoting good governance.

In this module you'll cover:

The principles of corporate governance

- An introduction to corporate governance
- Governance codes
- Introducing the role of the company director
- The skills and qualifications of a company director
- The governance handbook
- The role of the director in the context of ESG
- The ESG committee
- Establishing an ESG committee

Processes that underpin good corporate governance

- An introduction to governance reporting
- Communication and organisational decision-making
- Meetings
- Improving your organisation's governance reporting
- An introduction to board evaluations
- The board evaluation process

Special features

Video interview



Expert speaker Dr Vindel Kerr shares his insights.

Case study

Ungraded quiz

Module 08

ESG and data quality: why it matters

It's important to identify the gaps in your ESG data quality, know how to go about improving it and maintain it to a high standard. In this module, you will consider what types of ESG data should be collected.

You will also learn more about what good practice looks like in terms of process and maintenance of quality.

In this module you'll cover:

The quality of ESG data

- ESG data and good decision-making
- The evolution of ESG data
- The drawbacks of ESG data
- High-quality ESG data
- A roadmap for improving ESG data
- Improving ESG data quality
- Understanding improvements
- Enhancing ESG data collection activity
- Maintaining quality of ESG data
- Reporting on internal controls
- Monitoring ongoing improvements
- ESG data quality assurance

Special features

 Video interview

 Case study

 Ungraded quiz

Module 09

Best practice in ESG reporting

ESG reporting is vital to understanding progress against ESG strategy. In this module, you'll learn about corporate ESG reporting trends, understand who is reading your annual report, and how expectations have changed.

You'll discover how to navigate key ESG frameworks and the legislation and standards around reporting.

In this module you'll cover:

ESG reporting in context

- ESG reporting trends
- The main audiences of an ESG report
- Good ESG reporting

ESG Frameworks

- Introduction to the key frameworks
- Sustainability Accounting Standards Board

- Taskforce for Climate-Related Financial Disclosures
- Global Reporting Initiative
- Sustainable Development Goals
- Navigating the reporting frameworks

Mandatory reporting

- Mandatory disclosures currently in place
- Future proposals

Special features

Video interview



Expert speaker Dr Vindel Kerr shares his insights.

Case study

Ungraded quiz

Module 10

Leading ESG transformation in your organisation

This module gives you a practical insight into how to implement a sustainable ESG strategy.

You'll learn how people, organisational design and internal communications can lead to a sustainable transformation.

In this module you'll cover:

Process and enablers

- Implementing your ESG strategy
- Approaching the ESG strategy implementation process
- Design and enablers for your strategy

People and communications

- Organisational design and communication
- Assigning roles and responsibilities
- Internal communications
- Case study: A sustainability transformation plan

Special features

Video interview



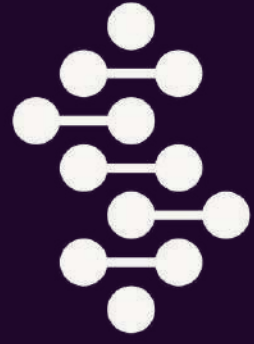
Expert speaker Paul Murgett of Britvic shares his insights.

Infographics

Group discussion

Peer interaction

Ungraded quiz



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Ready to take the next step?

Our team of education advisors are always here to help. Let them answer your questions about who we are, our faculty, programme content, our alumni and importantly, your governance career goals.

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Enquire further

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