

# Good reasons to get independent assurance on your sustainability report

For more and more companies, sustainable business is not just an expression of social responsibility, but a decisive competitive factor. Publishing a sustainability report creates transparency and demonstrates a company's commitment to responsibility towards internal and external stakeholders. Sustainable business and reporting are strategic instruments in corporate management. Getting assurance on your reporting can also provide you with added value.

## Benefits

- Increased credibility and trust among stakeholders
- Improved stakeholder communication
- Quality optimisation thanks to higher accuracy and reliability of information in the sustainability report
- Stronger reputation
- Easier comparability
- Suggestions for improving internal processes
- Identification of potential for improvement in sustainability management

## Audit standards

- International: ISAE 3000
- Switzerland: Swiss Auditing Standard 950/Swiss Auditing Standard 980

## Audit items

- Non-financial reporting (GRI, SASB, CSRD, etc.)
- Counter-proposal to the Corporate Responsibility Initiative (CRI)
- Impact measurement framework
- Agreed-upon procedures (Swiss Auditing Standard 920 / ISRS 4400)

## From limited to reasonable assurance

The scope and depth of the audit procedures depend on your desired audit depth.

### Limited assurance (negatively worded audit opinion)

- Interviews
- Comprehensibility of collection processes and control environment
- Data analysis
- Reconciliation of records

### Reasonable assurance (positively worded audit opinion)

- Audit of the effectiveness of internal controls
- IT audit
- Case-by-case testing

## Looking for professionals who understand your business?

### Your contacts:

#### Zoé Imhof

Head of Sustainability Services for Suisse Romande  
Phone 022 322 24 47  
[zoe.imhof@bdo.ch](mailto:zoe.imhof@bdo.ch)

#### Simon Oswald

Senior Manager  
Audit & Assurance  
Phone 044 444 37 28  
[simon.oswald@bdo.ch](mailto:simon.oswald@bdo.ch)

Discover more:

[www.bdo.ch/sustainability](http://www.bdo.ch/sustainability)  
[sustainability@bdo.ch](mailto:sustainability@bdo.ch)

### BDO Ltd

Schiffbaustrasse 2  
8031 Zurich  
Phone 044 444 35 55

[www.bdo.ch](http://www.bdo.ch)