

Business for Societal Impact:

Charter

Our Vision

A world where every business shares its management and measurement of social impact in an open, transparent, and consistent way.

Our Mission:

To provide a platform for forward-thinking businesses using the Business for Societal Impact (B4SI) Frameworks to work with each other, and with their partners across society, to maximise social impact.

About Business for Societal Impact (B4SI)

- B4SI is a network of businesses, supported by SLR Consulting, created by and for business.
- The B4SI Frameworks were created and its brand and integrity are maintained and protected worldwide by SLR Consulting.
- B4SI is for businesses dedicated to the creation of social impact in a consistent and transparent way.
- B4SI provides robust and credible Frameworks allowing for management and measurement of impact to both business and society.
- B4SI provides accurate and current information on how businesses invest in society.
- Businesses using the B4SI Frameworks are demonstrating their continued and serious commitment to impactful engagement with society.
- Key indices and standards that have embedded elements of the B4SI methodology include GRI and S&P's Corporate Sustainability Assessment (CSA).
- Use of the B4SI Framework by businesses facilitates benchmarking amongst peers, competitors, and sectors.

B4SI Practitioners

Within each B4SI member business is one or more individual whose role requires some engagement with B4SI. These are referred to as 'B4SI Practitioners'.

Expectations of B4SI Practitioners

In the drive to improve the quality of implementation, practitioners of B4SI agree to meet nine main expectations:

1. To **endorse** the mission and vision of the Network and agree to participate in group discussions.
2. To **follow** the broad principles underlying the B4SI approach to the evaluation of social impact through its Frameworks, as defined under rights of practitioners, below.
3. To **submit** data each year on their overall group-wide contribution to society aligned to B4SI's routes to impact (covering inputs, outputs and impacts), to the extent practical, for internal circulation among and benchmarking by B4SI practitioners. Should a member decide not to submit to the Benchmark, after their first year of membership, they will be denied access to benchmark results for that year.
4. To **share** examples for case study project(s) within the group.
5. To **comply** to valuation methodology being checked and any necessary qualifications added, before such input, output and impact data are circulated within the group through benchmarking.
6. To **respect** the confidentiality of all practitioners' data globally as well as discussions and comments made during all B4SI meetings and of materials posted on the B4SI communication channels.
7. To **claim** to form part of the B4SI Network and use of its frameworks only if in membership and adhering to this Charter.
8. To **maintain private use** of individual practitioner's data and never to circulate outside the network without that practitioner's permission. Network and Sector-wide performance data can be reported publicly and used for comparative purposes. This information can also be provided to interested audiences on request.
9. To **provide written notice** to end engagement with the network and use of the B4SI Frameworks three months in advance. Without doing so an invoice will be issued with the expectation that engagement with the network and use of Frameworks will continue.

Rights of B4SI Practitioners

As a practitioner of the B4SI Network, businesses are entitled to:

1. Have access to the body of established practice, comprising guidance documentation and all resources, publications and updates as posted on the B4SI website and shared by the secretariat.
2. Use internally for their own organisations use information and insights gained (and externally only when clearance has been obtained).
3. Put query guidance within the group and receive a considered response.
4. Cite their business as part of the B4SI Network in internal and external communications.
5. Use the registered B4SI logo in corporate communication materials such as annual reports and website publications.

Governance

B4SI is a network of businesses supported by SLR Consulting, and run by practitioners for practitioners.

An elected Steering Group of companies is responsible for advancing the interests of the network and ensuring the relevance and quality of the B4SI frameworks.

The overarching aims of the B4SI Steering Group are to:

- **Act** on behalf of the network's interests to maintain, protect and enhance the relevance and quality of the B4SI frameworks and to ensure consistency in their application.
- **Support** the growth of B4SI through the sharing of networks and knowledge leading to active development of new partnerships regionally and globally e.g., with other ratings tools or business groups.
- **Ensure** that the wider B4SI tools, client services, events and thought leadership are cutting edge.
- **Deliver** on the external communications strategy for B4SI.
- **Provide** direction on operational and strategic matters which do not need full plenary group consideration, such as initiating new areas of work, subject matter for plenary network meetings etc.

For a complete overview of the Steering Group's roles and responsibilities, please reach out to your account manager.

To help guide issues for discussion, a Steering Group meets at a minimum on a quarterly basis. The Steering Group represents a cross-section of practitioners, who can volunteer for up to two fixed terms of office, with each term lasting three years.

Positions on the Steering Group are open to all B4SI practitioners, and vacancies are communicated via the B4SI Newsletter and through relevant events and communications. Registrations of interest in joining the Steering Group are reviewed and decisions to appoint practitioners to the Group are based on certain criteria – detailed in the Steering Group's Terms of Reference. New practitioners' appointments are agreed at Steering Group meetings and subsequently communicated to the Network.