

This checklist is a practical starting point to help you assess whether your business is exposed to sustainability risks that could materially affect your business. Rank whether the risk is low, medium or high for your business, and this will help you prioritise your next steps to address your resilience risks and opportunities.

Physical risks	N/A	Low	Medium	High
Key facilities, infrastructure, suppliers or customers located in areas of increasing environmental risk (including flooding, drought, wildfires, excess heat, extreme weather events, sea-level rise).				
Logistics or transport routes vulnerable to disruption from extreme weather events.				
Critical physical assets at risk of becoming uninsurable or facing significant increases in insurance costs.				
Business is energy-intensive or heavily reliant on affordable, reliable electricity or fuel.				
Operations or supply chain depend on natural resources (e.g. water, arable land, fish stocks, forests).				
Reputational risks	N/A	Low	Medium	High
Changes in customer expectations, technology or regulations, driven by climate change or environmental concerns, could impact demand for your products or services.				
Impact on your business relationships and reputation if forced or child labour were discovered in your supply chain.				
Business operations affect local communities, environments, or cultural sites with potential for opposition, protest or negative media/government attention.				
Competitors are doing more climate or other sustainability reporting and investment, giving them a potential competitive advantage.				
Regulatory risks	N/A	Low	Medium	High
Exports (directly or indirectly) to countries with mandatory climate reporting laws.		Low	Medium	High
Exports (directly or indirectly) to countries with modern slavery reporting obligations or forced labour import bans.				
In the value chain for EU imports of carbon-intensive goods subject to the Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM), such as cement, fertilisers, iron and steel, aluminium, or electricity.				
In the value chain for EU imports of cattle, cocoa, coffee, palm oil, rubber, soy, or wood, or products made from those goods, that could be linked to deforestation or forest degradation.				
Public sustainability, climate, or ESG statements, disclosures, or marketing claims are not regularly reviewed for accuracy, or are unsupported by a governance framework to ensure ongoing accuracy.				
Environment impact of business or supply chain, including emissions, biodiversity impacts, waste, or water usage.				

Logistic and supply chain risks	N/A	Low	Medium	High
Critical suppliers concentrated in one country or region, with increasing geopolitical, environmental, or climate exposure.				
Dependent on complex global shipping or transport routes for key inputs.				
Key suppliers' face raw material scarcity or environmental disruption.				
Contractual obligations to customers, financiers, or investors that require ESG disclosures, certifications, or compliance.				
Reliance on suppliers who may not be able to meet increasing ESG compliance demands.				
Modern slavery/forced labour risks	N/A	Low	Medium	High
Use by your business or in your supply chain of employees on Accredited Employer Work Visas or migrant workers hired through a labour hire company or third party. (high use = high risk)				
Level of visibility into supply chain beyond Tier 1 suppliers. (<i>low visibility = high risk</i>)				
Level of supply chain exposure to countries, regions or sectors with a known risk of modern slavery or human rights abuses. (<i>high exposure = high risk</i>)				
Modern slavery risk assessment integrated into procurement process. (<i>low integration = high risk</i>)				
Supplier contracts include clear modern slavery and human rights obligations. (<i>low inclusion/detail = high risk</i>)				

What next?

Identifying and triaging your risk exposure is the first step. We can help you take action by reviewing and updating contracts, policies, and internal controls to address immediate gaps, and by supporting strategic analysis and planning to build long-term business resilience.

Contact our experts



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