ISS-CORPORATE

OUR CLIENT STORIES

A Materiality Assessment Case Study

CLIENT PROFILE

Market Cap
$1.04 Billion

Industry
Household and Personal Product

Country
Canada

Business Challenge

A mid-cap, publicly listed consumer goods company sought to conduct its inaugural double materiality assessment to strengthen its sustainability strategy and align with evolving investor and regulatory expectations.

While the company had been preparing its disclosures with leading frameworks (SASB, GRI) for a few years, it lacked a defensible prioritization of ESG risks and opportunities to guide decision-making and reporting.

The challenge was compounded by a small team, which limited its ability to review ESG issues across a complex, global value chain, respond to upcoming regulatory disclosure requirements, and effectively engage the Board and senior leadership on sustainability topics.

Our Solution

ISS-Corporate's Sustainability Advisory team supported the company with its double materiality assessment, helping to develop a strategic foundation to scale the company's sustainability program while operating as an extension of the company's sustainability team.

The team conducted a structured, data-driven double materiality assessment aligned with global best practices. The assessment leveraged ISS-Corporate's proprietary datasets covering over 50,000 data points from sources such as ISS STOXX QualityScore, ISS STOXX Corporate Rating, Newsroom, Norm-Based Research, and SDG Solutions Assessment. The data analysis, covering the company as well as its value chain, was complemented by stakeholder interviews with the Board and senior leadership.

The assessment identified positive and negative impacts, as well as financial risks and opportunities, across a variety of ESG topics. The process uncovered insights that enabled the company to focus on key topics such as climate change, responsible sourcing and supply chain due diligence, and product quality and consumer health impacts for further resource allocation and action. The assessment also ensured that the company's sustainability action plan had adequate buy-in and support from key internal and external stakeholders.

Results

Based on the double materiality assessment, the company established a clear, defensible set of material sustainability topics, enabling a more focused strategy and disclosure. The DMA also delivered a quantifiable baseline with the potential for refreshment in a few years.

Insights from the materiality assessment enabled the company to strengthen its ability to manage value chain risk and embed sustainability screening across key suppliers. Through its integrated suite of sustainability solutions, ISS-Corporate further supported the company in conducting Board-level training on climate change, measuring and tracking Scope 1, 2, and 3 emissions, conducting climate physical and transition risk assessments, and improving alignment with TCFD/ISSB reporting expectations and emerging North American regulatory requirements.

The materiality assessment therefore became a foundation for the company to build a structured, decision-ready sustainability program, despite limited internal capacity, while strengthening investor and leadership confidence.

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