

# OPTIMISING SUPPLY CHAIN SUSTAINABILITY REPORTING IN 2024



## WHAT IS ESG?

Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) frameworks are used to ensure organisations are implementing best practices in sustainability. There is no singular 'ESG' regulation in the UK, and the impact on organisations differ depending on size and industry.

In some cases, organisations must provide evidence through reports using data collected across their supply chains (scopes 1-3).

Optimising the way this data is collected has considerable benefits to organisations, including saving time and costs, and reporting reliable data in real-time.

## BENEFITS:

- Streamlined access to data
- Efficient and automated reporting processes
- Reduced costs and effort
- Increased efficiency
- Promote best practices
- Increase trust with consumers and stakeholders

## HOW CAN RESPONSIV HELP?

Responsiv has the specialist skills required for connecting systems and data within retail supply chains.

- Ensure secure handling and sharing of data
- Provide integration into existing platforms for ESG reporting for improved data access
- Build custom processes for report generation and requests
- Format data into predefined and approved templates for internal and external use
- Create tamperproof and auditable data logs

## CHALLENGE

The intricate and lengthy nature of supply chains impact everything around them, including the environment and people.

Organisations across industries are required to address their environmental and social impacts and practices, and evidence this by reporting on their scope 1, 2, and 3 emissions, modern slavery policies, and more. This includes up- and downstream of their position in the supply chain.

Retailers must take responsibility for the environmental and social impacts of their supply chains by accurately evidencing these practices to the regulator through ESG reporting.

## SUPPLY CHAIN SUSTAINABILITY REPORTING

Retailers should consider the following when optimising supply chain sustainability reporting in 2024:

- **Data:** understanding what data is available, where it is stored, and managing it accurately is critical to making informed decisions and mitigating risk. Finding the gaps in the data is then possible, and actions can be taken to locate and access it where possible. Retailers should ensure raw data is reliable and tamperproof for auditable reports, and that it can be transformed into actionable insights to drive business decisions.
- **Collaboration:** collaborate internally and externally to understand how suppliers are working towards sustainability targets. Utilise your position to help educate, promote, and influence sustainable practices throughout your supply chain.
- **Process automation:** identify where processes can be optimised or automated to improve efficiency, consistency, and reliability. Automate ESG report generation using integrated data sources and pre-defined reports and dashboards.
- **Actively improve transparency:** with access to your sustainability data, improve transparency with customers and stakeholders to showcase your dedication to best practice and achieving your targets. Acknowledging issues and the steps you need to take to improve is also important.

Optimising anything starts with understanding. In this case, it is understanding the stakeholders, data, and processes that contribute to holistic sustainability reporting. Once the as-is has been defined, you can take steps to improve your reporting processes to save time, effort, and costs whilst satisfying the regulator and other stakeholders.