

Sustainability Leadership in Construction & Real Estate

OEM: ESG Institute • Code: PROGRAMME SLCRE

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The construction and real estate sector sits at the centre of the global sustainability agenda. Buildings account for a significant share of global energy consumption and carbon emissions. Lenders, institutional investors, and regulators across every major market are tightening their requirements, and organisations that cannot demonstrate credible ESG credentials face rising financing costs, stranded assets, and lost contracts. The Sustainability Leadership in Construction & Real Estate programme is a rigorous, context-specific one-day training designed for boards and senior leadership teams across construction, property development, infrastructure, and real estate management. It provides the knowledge, frameworks, and tools to govern sustainability with confidence in one of the world's most scrutinised sectors. This programme goes beyond compliance checklists. Participants leave with a clear understanding of the ESG risks and opportunities specific to their assets and operations, the disclosure landscape relevant to their markets and investors, and a concrete 90-day action plan with agreed owners and priorities.

AUDIENCE PROFILE

- Board members and non-executive directors in construction and real estate
- Chief Executive Officers, CFOs, and C-suite executives
- Development directors and project directors
- Asset managers and portfolio managers
- Risk, audit, and investment committee members
- Heads of sustainability, ESG, and corporate affairs
- Legal counsel, company secretaries, and finance directors

PREREQUISITES

- This section doesn't contain any content.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

By the end of this course, participants will be able to:

- ESG as a governance and decision-making framework specific to the built environment, not just a reporting obligation
- The sustainability disclosure frameworks relevant to real assets, your investor base, and your key markets
- Physical and transition climate risks across your portfolio, pipeline, and supply chain, and how to act on them
- Board governance duties, director accountability, and credible engagement with lenders, investors, and regulators

- A 90-day action plan, personalised certificate, and CPD record issued by The ESG Institute

COURSE OUTLINE

Module 1: Why sustainability is now a board-level priority

- The investor, lender, and regulatory pressures reshaping the sector globally
- How ESG credentials now influence access to finance, planning consent, and procurement
- The board's oversight role versus the executive team's implementation role

Module 2: The ESG landscape for the built environment

- E, S, and G as decision-making lenses across the asset lifecycle
- How materiality differs between development, investment, and operations
- What institutional investors, green lenders, and regulators in your markets expect

Module 3: The reporting and disclosure environment

- Major sustainability reporting frameworks relevant to real assets globally
- Key instruments including ISSB/IFRS S1 and S2, TCFD, TNFD, GRI, and GRESB
- Regional frameworks and green building standards applicable to your markets
- Content tailored to the specific jurisdictions and asset classes relevant to your organisation

Module 4: Climate risk across your portfolio and pipeline

- Physical climate risks: flooding, heat stress, and extreme weather exposure across assets
- Transition risks: regulation, stranded asset exposure, and evolving market expectations
- Supply chain and value chain sustainability risk
- Case studies from comparable organisations in your region & asset class

Module 5: Governance of sustainability: duties and accountability

- How sustainability integrates into investment decisions, risk committees, and remuneration policy
- Director and executive liability exposure across jurisdictions
- ESG due diligence in acquisitions, disposals, and development appraisals
- How executive teams translate board direction into project and asset-level accountability

Module 6: Strategy, targets, and credible commitments

- Net-zero pathways: operational emissions and whole-life thinking
- Setting targets credible and defensible to your lenders and investors
- Science-based approaches applicable to the built environment
- Avoiding greenwash legally and reputationally in marketing, reporting, and investor communications
- Social value, biodiversity net gain, and community impact as strategic levers

Module 7: Carbon markets and carbon credits in the built environment

- How carbon markets work and their relevance to construction and real estate organisations
- Voluntary carbon markets: credits, standards, and how to evaluate quality and credibility
- Using carbon credits as part of a broader net-zero strategy, not as a substitute for reduction
- Embodied carbon offsetting: current practice, emerging standards, and reputational considerations
- Working with carbon advisors and selecting credible partners
- Practical next steps for integrating carbon market tools into your sustainability strategy

Module 8: From understanding to action: building your 90-day roadmap

- Structured workshop for boards and executive teams together
- Three priority actions identified across governance, disclosure, and strategy
- Roles, owners, and quick wins agreed before participants leave the room
- Output: a one-page action plan taken away by every participant