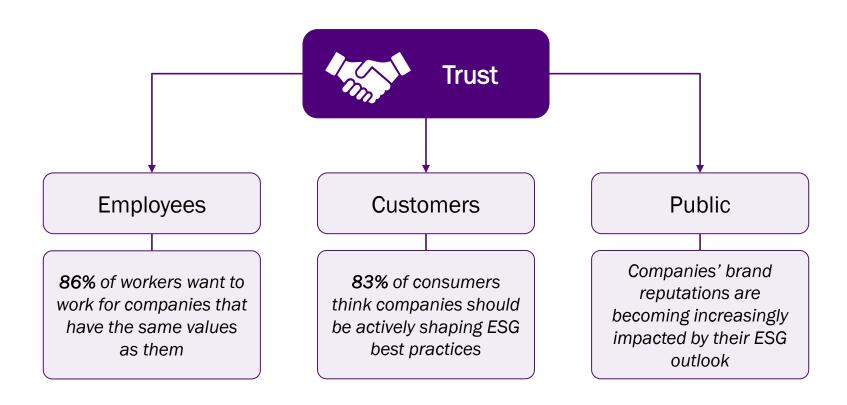


Corporate Sustainability Part 4: Culture for ESG July 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Authors: Frederick Peake

Alexander Racher

Why is ESG Culture becoming more important for organizations to prioritize?



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## Code ESG Into Your DNA

- Set a powerful, actionable and clearly-defined ESG strategy—and build it pervasively into your company strategy
- Embed ESG into other key organizational frameworks such as purpose, values and employee value proposition
- Enlist leaders in championing ESG from the top

## Set Your Mind to ESG

- Identify the specific skills, capabilities and roles needed to support your ESG priorities
- Align talent systems in of service the transformation by ensuring your talent systems are designed to hire. measure. and manage employees toward activation of the ESG strategy

## Build Your Body for ESG

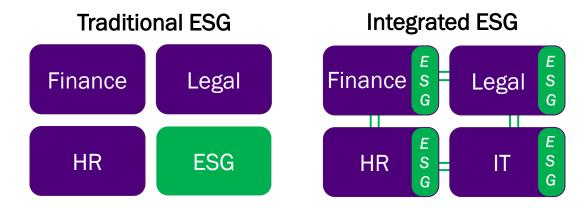
- Determine the optimal structure for ESG governance and goalsetting
- Align incentives to drive cross-functional (and cross-stakeholder) work
- Build inclusivity into your operating model and organization design

## Inspire Socially Responsible Souls

- Consider how you're engaging your employees in ESG
- Create rituals, symbols and awards that authentically showcase commitment to ESG
- Share success stories and celebrate progress along the way (not just outcomes)

#### **Integrating ESG**

ESG should not be seen as primarily a PR or communications issue. ESG should involve all different departments and increase individual's ESG participation. This should be reflected by the ESG committee, rather than a secular committee that produces reports, the committee should take on a matrix structure with members from all different departments within the company.



Within a company, ESG should not be viewed as something that is handled somewhere else; rather, it should be understood across departments as being addressed "right here".

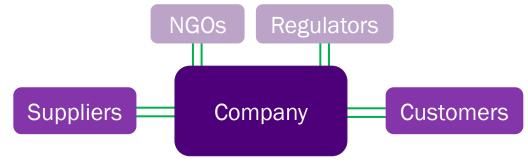
#### Collaboration through ESG

Collaborating with stakeholders both internally and externally over ESG matters can significantly boost a company's ESG culture.

Internal collaboration between employees, managers and executives sends a strong message that ESG considerations are a priority for the company.



**External collaboration** with suppliers, customers, NGOs, regulators, and companies permits a deeper understanding of ESG issues and hence allows the development of more targeted and efficient ESG strategies.



# Risk Management

#### The 3 Levels of Ambition in ESG

#### **Minimum Practice**

- React to trends affecting industry and business
- Address external vulnerabilities

- **Donate Resources** 
  - (financial, in-kind, volunteer)
- Meet and report baseline standards

#### **Common Practice**

- Tracks trends affecting business with contingency plans in place
- Implement inclusive HR practices
- Run philanthropic programs

- Engage with stakeholder groups to understand what matters
- Create a comprehensive sustainability policy

#### 'Next Level' Practice

- Increase social impact via innovation, market + customer choices
- ESG is a differentiator and core to overall strategy
- Ensure that ESG disclosures cover full operations
- Tie ESG to employee incentives and evaluations
- Leverage \*superpowers\* to move sector standards

Impact



#### **Incentives**

All employees should agree on sustainability and hence rewards should be connected to that



Strong leadership commitment at all levels is crucial for fostering an ESG Culture





#### **Group Sessions**

Allow employees to discuss what ESG means to them



#### Recruitment

Recruit people who share the company's ESG values





#### **Problem-Solving**

Engage employees in ESG oriented problem-solving exercises applied to their day-to-day



Collaborate with internal and external stakeholders to achieve optimal results



## Johnson Johnson

Johnson & Johnson is a healthy example of a company with a strong ESG culture and coordination model, with a clear top-down direction, and a well-defined operating model for execution. It has clearly prioritized ESG topic areas, revisited annually, that provide a unifying framework for ESG incentives, teams and initiatives across the company.

#### Strategic & Measurable ESG Strategies

J&J breaks down its "health for humanity" strategy into four key strategic pillars, with metrics and initiatives mapped to each with executive compensation linked to goal achievement.

#### **ESG Governance**

J&J has practical and relevant ESG leadership roles such as the chief sustainability officer, chief diversity, equity and inclusion ("DEI") officer, etc., but also a dedicated project management office ("PMO") for coordination across the entire enterprise to ensure a high degree of collaboration.

#### J&J's "Our Purpose"

We blend heart, science and ingenuity to profoundly change the trajectory of health for humanity

#### **ESG FOCUS AREAS**

Champion global health equity

Foster better health for people, communities, and planet, improving access and affordability around the world

Empower our employees

Cultivate a workforce that is healthy, inspired and reflective of those we serve Advance environmental health

Protect environmental health and the resilience of our business

4

## Lead with Accountability and Innovation

Commitment to science and data-driven decisionmaking, compliance, integrity and responsible business practices across the value chain

#### What is "Greenwashing"?

The process of conveying a false impression or misleading information about how a company's products are environmentally sound.

Why and How do Companies "Greenwash"?



To capitalise on increasing demand for environmentally sound products



To give the impression of supporting ESG to gain from potential ESG investments

These Greenwashing messages are spread via press releases and commercials touting their clean energy or pollution reduction efforts when they are not making meaningful commitment to green initiatives.

#### How to Spot "Greenwashing"

When assessing if something is "Greenwashing", it is helpful to ask yourself the following questions:

Are they transparent?

Are their goals direct and quantified?

Do they understand their role in battling the specific social cause and are they willing to choose the cause over profits?

When uncertain, conduct your own further research to be sure that the brands you support are in line with your values.



#### What Did Volkswagen Do?



- In September 2015, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) discovered that many of the cars sold by VW were equipped with a "defeat device".
- This device was a highly technical software that could detect when the cars were being tested and change the performance accordingly to give improved results.
- VW later admitted that 11 million cars worldwide are fitted with the "defeat device". The affected cars were the Jetta, Beetle, Golf and Passant.



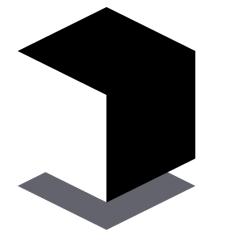






- While they were fitting these "defeat devices" in their cars, VW were also running a marketing campaign boasting their cars' low emissions.
- Once the EPA discovered this there was a huge scandal which was covered by media outlets globally, VW saw large social backlash on social media with 100,000 tweets from angry customers and appalled members of the public and their profits were down 20% from the year prior as well as a 23% drop is share price, removing €14B (20.3B CAD) from its market cap.





### The Black Box Institute

Toronto, Canada www.theblackboxinstitute.com +1.416.862.5487

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