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Level 4



# What is Level 4?

- It is corporate-level SAC membership that requires advanced sustainability commitments
  - Initial development begun in 2011, to continue in 2012
  - Intended to:
    - Broadly cover social, environmental and economic issues
    - Go beyond policy commitments, including:
      - performance metrics
      - assurance measures, such as independent validation
    - Provides an easy assessment tool, or dashboard, for progress
    - Be flexible enough to apply to a range of SAC members



# Work Group Progress – Part 1

- During 2011, the Level 4 Workgroup has:
  - Reviewed many existing standards
    - Compiled resource list of standards, guidelines and indices to help inform next stage
  - Developed basic framework
    - Breaks metrics into four broad categories
      - Environment
      - Social
      - Governance
      - Economic



# Work Group Progress – Part 2

- **Developed some principles. We'd like a Level 4 standard to be:**
  - Be quantitative – where that makes sense – and **qualitative where it doesn't**
  - Allow us to differentiate between various levels of performance within a topic
  - Have it be specific enough to be verified by an independent party
  - Allow us to leverage existing standards and certifications, rather than duplicating work that is already done



# Work Group plan – 2011-2012

- Further develop specific criteria for the four categories
  - Subgroup leads already assigned, will coordinate to share outcomes
  - Subgroup membership open to interested SAC members
- Present and discuss detailed draft framework with general membership

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# Responding to External Influences on Industry Behavior: The Stewardship Action Council

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