RISKS & OPPORTUNITIES

Investors and stakeholders must reconcile impacts of a rapidly changing regulatory landscape, social perceptions, resource scarcity and climate change from commercial and reputational perspectives.

According to organizations, such as the World Economic Forum, proactive management of environmental, social and governance (ESG) issues provides financial benefits, greater competitiveness and stronger supply chains, and assists in talent attraction and retention. This involves identifying potential risks and exploring business opportunities throughout the entire investment cycle.

Benefits of adopting a proactive ESG strategy include:
- Risk reduction: Companies will be more disciplined in identifying and tackling risks.
- Efficiency improvements: Businesses can achieve bottom line improvements by seeking efficiencies in resource use and waste minimization.
- Successful adaption to resource scarcity and emerging ESG concerns: Companies scanning the horizon are better poised for long-term competitiveness.

Improving trust: Businesses are more likely to earn the trust of stakeholders through increased transparency.

Attracting and retaining talent: Tomorrow’s work force views success differently, highly valuing long-term sustainability.

Capitalizing on changing performance criteria: Investors are increasingly including ESG considerations into their performance matrices and investment decisions.

How we can help

With over 30 years of experience providing tailored environment, health and safety (EHS) advice for a broad range of clients across industrial sectors, we understand the process, drivers, pace and language of mergers and acquisitions (M&A), and have a robust track record for responsiveness and quality.

- Traditional risk areas, such as contaminated land, compliance, health and safety, and the new material areas, including carbon, product safety regulations and supply chain
- The drivers behind ESG, as well as each client’s different starting point and aspirations in the search for innovation
- The need for post-transaction expertise to create value from identified ESG-related opportunities

Example approach to ESG screening-level desktop review

Our screening-level analysis consists on a client's sensitivity to risk. To the complex assessment of global (e.g. during the due diligence process) high-level screening advice early on.

We assist deal makers with high-level screening advice early on (e.g. during the due diligence process) to the complex assessment of global portfolios, all based on a client’s sensitivity to risk. Our screening-level analysis consists of evaluating company or portfolio awareness and performance. This review is strengthened through our focus on ESG topics that are particularly relevant to the subject industry, as identified in standards developed by the Sustainability Accounting Standard Board (SASB).

Benchmarking:

Using ESG topics developed during our screening-level review, along with those identified in collaboration with a client, Ramboll can evaluate the ESG performance of a company or portfolio and compare it with that of its peers, enabling the identification of potential areas of improvement, growth and added value.

Portfolio review and business improvement:

Building upon a screening-level review or portfolio benchmarking, or as a standalone evaluation, we have the tools to conduct an in-depth assessment of a company’s ESG understanding and performance. This effort can enable the identification of data gaps and opportunities for program development, stakeholder involvement, resource efficiency, data verification, identification and tracking of key performance indicators (KPIs), reporting and training. Once in place, this portfolio assessment, target identification and performance measurement framework can be applied to future portfolio companies.

Our advice enables clients to close out risks identified during the due diligence process, strive for EHS compliance, and seek opportunities for improvement in waste minimization and energy, water and raw material use. We add value by improving our clients’ sustainability strategies and stakeholder communications.

Value protection at exit:

When exiting an investment, we advise clients on the best solutions for protecting and creating asset value during the disposal process. Ramboll can assist companies in identifying and promoting ESG-related policies and activities that may not have been conducted under a formal ESG program, but can be captured through the development and/or strengthening of ESG management systems.

Topics covered during our ESG reviews

Environmental
- Environmental management systems (EMS)
- Energy and greenhouse gas (GHG) management
- Water use and impact
- Biodiversity and ecosystems
- Climate risk and resilience
- Waste and materials use
- Product stewardship – environmental

Social
- Human/capital employee welfare
- Stakeholder engagement
- Employee health and safety
- Human rights
- Product stewardship – social

Governance
- Ethics
- Supply chain
- ESG management framework
- ESG/sustainability reporting

Global reach

13,000 experts across 300 offices in 35 countries

Ramboll office
Countries routinely worked in
ABOUT US

Ramboll is a leading engineering, design and consultancy company employing 13,000 experts. Our presence is global with especially strong representation in the Nordics, UK, North America, Continental Europe, Middle East and Asia Pacific. We constantly strive to achieve inspiring and exacting solutions that make a genuine difference to our clients, end-users and society at large.

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