

Stakeholder Panel and Report Evaluation

For more than ten years now, the Volkswagen Group's sustainability reporting has been stewarded by an established Stakeholder Panel. All reports are intensively reviewed and evaluated in order to identify room for improvement from a stakeholder perspective.

Organized by imug

Each year, the Stakeholder Panel is organized and facilitated by imug, the Institute for Market, Environment and Society, based in Hanover (Germany). Its findings are made available to the Group as the basis for the preparation of the next report. Over the years there has been very little change in the composition of the Stakeholder Panel. To date this has contributed to the quality of the ongoing critical appraisal of the Group's reporting activities. In the future we will be actively involving an appropriate proportion of international stakeholders.

Composition of the Volkswagen Stakeholder Panel	
Universities and research institutes	Braunschweig/Wolfenbüttel University of Applied Sciences, Sustainable Business Institute, Braunschweig Technical University, University of Augsburg, University of Münster, University of Oldenburg, Wuppertal Institute
Suppliers	Key suppliers
Legislators, authorities and social institutions	Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety, Federation of German Industries, econsense, Protestant Academy Bad Boll, Protestant Church in Germany, Institute of Public Auditors in Germany, Stifterverband für die Deutsche Wissenschaft
NGOs and consumer protection organizations	Auto Club Europa, Confederation of German Trade Unions, Germanwatch, Südwind, Transparency International, ver.di-Bundesverwaltung, Verkehrsclub Österreich, vzbv – Confederation of German Consumer Organizations
SRI analysts	Concordia Versicherungsgesellschaft, Deutsche Vereinigung für Finanzanalysten, DWS Investment, imug Nachhaltiges Investment, Inrate

Appraisal of the 2012 Sustainability Report

The 2012 Volkswagen Group Sustainability Report scored the best marks ever. Nevertheless, numerous improvements were suggested.

Improvements compared to 2011 included: greater information content, GHG Scope 3 reporting, link between print and online reporting, nature of communication

Room for improvement was identified in the following areas: pleasure to read, degree of coverage, handling of critical topics, GRI Index, contextual interpretation of data

Evaluation of Individual Aspects at a Glance

Overall, the size of the 2012 Volkswagen Group Sustainability Report did not meet with approval, even if individual stakeholders found their concerns more fully addressed as a result. Room for improvement was identified in particular in the formulation of goals, the opportunities for dialogue and the handling of critical topics.

Comparative evaluation of the 2011 and 2012 Volkswagen Sustainability Reports

