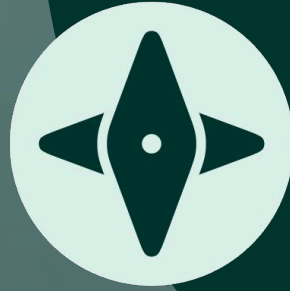


Position Green -Your complete ESG management  
software buyer's guide



Position Green<sup>•</sup>

# Your complete **ESG** management software buyer's guide

# Why ESG management software is business critical

More and more organizations are realizing that effective ESG data management opens the door to innovation, investment, and sustained success.

High-quality ESG data is helping businesses prove their value, win stakeholder confidence, and seize new market opportunities." for many companies, ESG management is still a fragmented, manual, and time-consuming process. Data is often scattered across multiple systems, spreadsheets, and business units, making it hard to maintain accuracy, ensure compliance, and generate concrete insights that spark action.

**This is where software becomes indispensable. A robust ESG platform enables organizations to:**

- Automate data collection from multiple sources, reducing errors and admin.
- Ensure seamless adaptation to evolving regulations that keep you compliant and focused on your long-term business goals.
- Leverage your data for compliance and impact, reducing wasted double reporting efforts.
- Visualize and improve ESG performance with real-time insights that drive tangible results for your business, by uncovering inefficiencies in your current operations or opportunities for strategic growth.
- Aggregate relevant data from all your apps and systems in a single place for a complete view of your performance, risks, and impact opportunities.

**Remember:** While some businesses may not need to be compliant in the coming years, aligning to frameworks and collecting high-quality ESG data is still a business-critical practice for building trust and transparency.

This is crucial for your internal stakeholders, as you are able to provide a unified understanding of your business operations across all departments.

This value goes beyond your organization, too. The ability to demonstrate 100% traceability and share this in a standardized way is essential for improving stakeholder engagement and ensuring access to investment, suppliers, and customers is never compromised.



The right ESG management platform helps businesses turn sustainability efforts into a strategic driver of business value, rather than a mere compliance must-do.

The ability to efficiently aggregate data and get actionable insights that allow you to reduce risk, pinpoint inefficiencies, and uncover opportunities opens up new avenues for value creation.

# The evolving ESG landscape: regulations, risks & opportunities

Sustainability is a business imperative driven by a blend of regulatory (e.g. ESRS) and voluntary (e.g. VSME) mandates, investor scrutiny, and shifting market expectations. Companies that fail to adapt risk legal penalties, reputational damage, and missed opportunities in an increasingly ESG-focused market.

## Regulatory drivers: a number of disclosure frameworks to deal with

Governments and financial regulators worldwide have introduced stricter ESG reporting requirements, making manual reporting and fragmented data management unsustainable.

- **CSRD and ESRS (EU):** The Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive (CSRD) and its supporting framework, the European Sustainability Reporting Standards (ESRS), require thousands of companies to disclose detailed ESG data with the same rigor as financial reporting.
- **SEC Climate Disclosures (US):** The Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) is introducing climate disclosure rules, pushing publicly traded companies to report carbon emissions and climate risks.
- **TCFD and ISSB:** The Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures (TCFD) and International Sustainability Standards Board (ISSB) set global standards that shape ESG reporting across industries.
- **VSME:** The Voluntary Sustainability Reporting Standard for SMEs (VSME) is a simplified ESRS framework that is poised to become the de-facto standard of sustainability reporting for non-CSRD companies. With it, companies will benefit from standardized sustainability reporting and easier alignment with other organizations who still need to be compliant with CSRD.

**The importance of taking a “no-regrets approach” to compliance:** Regulations may change, but your ability to drive sustainable business growth doesn't. Actionable ESG data is essential for any business looking to thrive, regardless of legislative debate.

# ESG as a business risk—and an opportunity

Beyond compliance, ESG performance is now directly linked to financial outcomes. Poor ESG management can result in regulatory fines, investor withdrawal, and reputational harm. Conversely, organizations with strong ESG credentials are better positioned to:

1

Attract investment from ESG-focused funds and institutional investors.

2

Win customers by aligning with conscious consumers and B2B partners.

3

Enhance resilience by identifying and mitigating environmental and social risks.

4

Gain a competitive edge in procurement and supply chain relationships.

# Defining your ESG challenges

Before selecting ESG management software, it helps to identify your challenges and objectives. This can vary depending on your organization, but beyond frameworks (which can change over time), you should consider goals like making data more traceable, more transparent for stakeholders, easy to share for auditors, or solutions that allow you to connect ESG efforts to real world business value.

## Some common ESG pain points include:

- **Data fragmentation:** ESG data is scattered across multiple departments, systems, and suppliers, making reporting inconsistent and time-consuming.
- **Regulatory complexity:** Compliance with evolving standards requires structured, verifiable data that can be easily reused for different frameworks without any double work.
- **Manual reporting inefficiencies** – Spreadsheet-based ESG tracking is error-prone and lacks real-time insights.
- **Investor and stakeholder expectations** – ESG transparency is now a competitive advantage, with investors prioritizing companies with strong sustainability disclosures.
- **Supply chain visibility** – Scope 3 emissions tracking and supplier assessments remain challenging without automated data collection.

By identifying your key ESG challenges, it's easier to understand what sort of software features are most important.

## Internal vs. external ESG stakeholders

- **Sustainability and ESG teams** – Need centralized data collection, compliance tracking, and reporting automation.
- **Finance & risk teams** – Require alignment between ESG and financial disclosures, especially for audit and assurance.
- **Investors & leadership** – Expect high-quality ESG performance data to inform strategic decisions and hit KPIs and targets.
- **Procurement & supply chain managers** – Need supplier sustainability assessments and Scope 3 emissions tracking.
- **Regulators & auditors** – Require accurate, verifiable ESG disclosures for compliance.

You need to be able to visualize and communicate accurate data and insights efficiently, and in a way that all stakeholders can understand.

# Why purpose-built ESG management software matters

Choosing ESG software without fully understanding your organization's specific needs can lead to costly inefficiencies. Some common mistakes include:

- **Focusing only on compliance** – While regulatory reporting is critical, ESG software should also help drive performance improvements and operational efficiencies.
- **Overlooking integration** – ESG platforms must seamlessly connect with existing enterprise systems (ERP, CRM, financial software).
- **Underestimating data challenges** – Ensuring data accuracy, consistency, and auditability is key to effective ESG reporting.
- **Choosing a solution that lacks flexibility** – ESG frameworks evolve, so software should adapt to changing regulations and keep up with your ambition level.

By addressing these factors early, organizations can ensure their ESG software investment delivers long-term value beyond compliance.

## Essential ESG software features

Selecting the right ESG management software requires a clear understanding of the core capabilities that drive compliance, efficiency, and business performance. The best solutions go beyond simple data tracking—they automate workflows, enhance transparency, and provide actionable insights that allow companies to make informed, data-driven decisions.

The following are the essential features an effective ESG platform should provide to work smarter, increase efficiency, reduce costs, and build long-term business resilience.

### 1. Centralized data management and integration

One of the biggest ESG challenges is gathering, validating, and standardizing data from multiple sources—such as internal teams, suppliers, and third-party databases. ESG software should provide a single, integrated platform that:

- Eliminates data silos by consolidating all ESG-related information in one place.
- Integrates seamlessly with enterprise systems (ERP, CRM, financial software) using off-the-shelf APIs, reducing manual data entry and ensuring data consistency.
- Supports real-time tracking for Scope 1, 2, and 3 emissions, HR data, governance metrics, and supply chain ESG management.

## Why it matters

Without structured and automated data management, ESG reporting remains time-consuming, error-prone, and inconsistent. A centralized platform ensures that ESG data is accessible, standardized, and always audit-ready—saving businesses time, resources, and compliance headaches.

“By establishing robust data management systems, implementing rigorous review processes, and engaging with external auditors early, organizations ensure a smoother reporting cycle.”



**Joana Rebola**

Senior Platform Onboarding Analyst,  
Position Green

## 2. Automation: enhancing data quality and traceability

Accurate ESG data is the foundation of credible reporting and informed decision-making. Software should have built-in automation and AI-enhanced tools that:

- Automate data collection across your whole value chain, calculations, and validation to minimize errors and ensure consistency.
- Implement the ‘four-eyes’ principle (minimum dual review process) and automatic error detection to prevent inaccuracies and enhance accountability.
- Provide fully traceable workflows with granular audit logs to meet assurance and verification standards.

“Position Green aids us in meeting rising demands for reliable sustainability data.”



**Elin Ljung**

Head of Communications &  
Sustainability, Nordic Capital

## Why it matters

Companies with high-quality, verifiable ESG data gain a competitive edge by building stakeholder trust, attracting investors, and improving risk management. With reliable data in place, businesses can confidently set sustainability targets, measure progress, and optimize ESG initiatives.

### 3. Advanced analytics and reporting capabilities

An ESG platform should transform raw data into actionable insights that drive smarter sustainability strategies. Key analytics features include:

- Visualizations and dashboards that provide real-time ESG performance visibility and insights (using AI where appropriate).
- Automated reporting tools that align with ESRS, TCFD, SFDR, and other major frameworks with full interoperability.
- Scenario modeling and forecasting to assess climate risks, emission reduction strategies, and financial impacts of sustainability initiatives.

#### Why it matters

ESG reporting is about making faster, data-driven decisions that enhance business resilience and long-term financial performance. A strong analytics engine helps companies identify trends, anticipate risks, and act proactively—rather than reactively—on sustainability challenges and opportunities.

#### Why it matters

Failing to comply with ESG regulations can result in fines, reputational damage, and lost investor confidence. The right software reduces compliance risk, eliminates administrative burden, and ensures businesses are always reporting with the latest regulatory standards.

### 4. Developed with leading ESG experts

ESG regulations shift, and what was compliant yesterday, may not be today. Our agile software:

- Is constantly updated by our team of 100+ ESG advisors, all of whom have extensive understanding of the various reporting frameworks you may comply with.
- Aligns your data to the best practice standards for data collection and organization, ensuring your inputs fit the format of every type of due diligence.
- Puts you in a position to strategically assess your data and where it comes from, informing everything from supply chain risk to new financial opportunities.

## 5. Performance tracking and benchmarking

ESG software should go beyond compliance reporting and help companies continuously improve their sustainability performance by:

- Tracking progress against ESG targets and KPIs in real time.
- Benchmarking performance against industry peers to assess ESG maturity and competitiveness.
- Providing tools to measure impact, such as emissions reduction and decarbonization, energy efficiency, and improving supply chain sustainability.

### Why it matters

By measuring and comparing ESG performance, businesses pinpoint inefficiencies, optimize operations, reduce risks, and strengthen their overall competitive position. Companies that improve ESG scores are more likely to attract investors, procurement contracts, and future-proof operations.

### Why it matters

If ESG software is too complex or siloed, adoption suffers—leading to poor data quality and limited impact. A user-friendly, collaborative platform increases efficiency, reduces training time, and ensures company-wide ESG alignment.

## 6. User experience, collaboration and scalability

Because ESG data requires cross-functional collaboration, software should be:

- Intuitive and accessible, ensuring that all teams can engage with the platform without extensive training.
- Designed for collaboration, allowing multiple stakeholders to contribute, review, and approve ESG data.
- Be flexible and scalable, supporting company-wide ESG initiatives as the business and ambition grows.

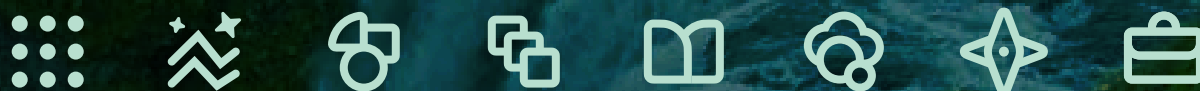
# Key takeaway

An effective ESG management platform should automate workflows, streamline compliance, and provide actionable insights that help organizations work smarter, reduce costs, and strengthen business resilience.

Companies that choose software with centralized data management, automation, analytics, and bench marking tools will be better positioned to drive sustainability performance while staying ahead of regulatory and investor expectations.

However, these necessities are the floor, not the ceiling for what your software should offer...

# The Position Green difference



Beyond core ESG management capabilities, Position Green's Sustainability Suite offers a range of additional features that increase data accuracy, improve operational efficiency, and streamline strategy execution.

Each of these features is informed and improved with the care and expertise of our leading ESG advisors; 100+ ESG experts who are authorities on ESRS, VSME, and everything in between.

# 1. Smart data validation and automation



One of the most common ESG challenges is ensuring that reported data is accurate, reliable, and auditable. Position Green's automated validation tools help organizations avoid errors, inconsistencies, and missing data points by:

- Detecting discrepancies in sustainability metrics across different reporting frameworks.
- Flagging potential errors in emissions factors, financial alignment, and double materiality assessments.
- Providing built-in audit trails, ensuring data traceability for regulatory assurance.

By leveraging automated validation, companies can improve data integrity, reduce compliance risks, and streamline external audits.

# 2. ESG performance benchmarking



Understanding how your organization compares to industry peers is essential for setting meaningful ESG targets. Position Green's benchmarking tools enable businesses to:

- Compare sustainability performance against sector-specific and global standards.
- Track progress over time, identifying key areas for improvement.
- Align ESG metrics with investor expectations, ensuring competitive positioning in capital markets.

With real-time access to ESG performance insights, companies can move beyond compliance and proactively strengthen their sustainability strategy.

# 3. Double materiality and risk assessments



Regardless of whether CSRD reporting is required, companies should assess risks and opportunities through a double materiality assessment (DMA) to understand what sustainability issues matter most to you and stakeholders.

- Identify financially material sustainability risks that could impact operations.
- Assess environmental and social impacts, ensuring alignment with regulatory expectations.
- Prioritize key ESG topics based on stakeholder importance and financial relevance.

By embedding double materiality into ESG strategy, companies can focus efforts where they matter most in terms of reducing costs and strengthening their competitive edge.

## 4. Supply chain sustainability management



Tracking Scope 3 emissions and supplier ESG performance is one of the most complex aspects of sustainability reporting. Position Green's supplier assessment tools help businesses:

- Automate ESG data collection from suppliers across all tiers, ensuring comprehensive Scope 3 visibility.
- Evaluate supplier risks and sustainability credentials using automated scoring and benchmarking.
- Engage suppliers in collaborative action plans, ensuring progress on climate and human rights commitments.

With supplier sustainability monitoring integrated into ESG reporting, organizations can ensure full value chain transparency while meeting investor and regulatory expectations.

## 5. Carbon accounting and emissions reduction



Beyond regulatory compliance, companies must also understand and reduce their environmental impact. Position Green provides:

- Comprehensive carbon accounting, covering Scope 1, 2, and 3 emissions.
- Automated and quality assured emission factor library, ensuring accuracy and efficiency in carbon footprint calculations.
- Decarbonization strategy tools and scenario modeling, helping businesses map a clear path to cutting emissions in alignment with GHG (Greenhouse Gas) protocol.

With in-depth carbon tracking, businesses can move from reactive reporting to proactive emissions reduction.

## 6. Advanced analytics for measurable impact



Companies can easily visualize the direct value their ESG reporting efforts have had on their wider business, with tangible outcomes such as:

- Where efforts have directly reduced their operational costs.
- How they have mitigated against potential risks to their organization, including vulnerabilities in their supply chain or unethical business practices.
- What new value streams they have accessed by enabling new processes or strategic initiatives directly aligned to their wider company growth.

## 7. Integrated reporting with in-built interoperability

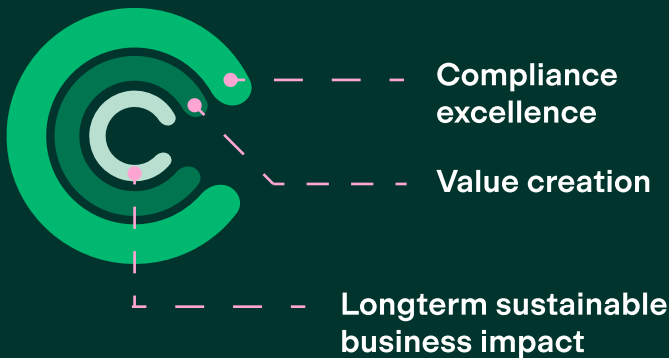


Regulatory compliance constantly fluctuates, with businesses required to report under multiple sustainability frameworks, and those frameworks changing from year to year. Position Green simplifies ESG disclosures by:

- Automatically mapping data to different reporting standards, including CSRD, ESRS, TCFD, SFDR, and GRI, easily adapting your data on the fly to different frameworks. This also sets you up to meet different stakeholder needs, without doing double the work, as you can use the same data for different disclosures
- Reducing duplication by ensuring that ESG metrics are correctly aligned across frameworks.
- Providing pre-configured templates for exporting your reports, so they are easy to disclose and share with the relevant stakeholders.

This allows companies to streamline regulatory reporting while maintaining full flexibility to meet evolving global requirements.

## 8. Total flexibility suited to your needs



Beyond these added capabilities, what truly sets Position Green's ESG management software apart is its focus on flexibility and optionality.

No matter where you are in your sustainability journey—whether you're just starting with compliance or aiming to tap into the full sustainable business value—the Sustainability Suite adapts to your needs. It ensures efficiency and clarity for you and your team.

“Having an efficient system is **vital for competitive advantage** and creates an understanding of ESG goals across the organization.”



**Jørgen Westrum Thorsen**

Senior Manager, Wallenius Wilhelmsen

# Implementation best practices



Investing in ESG management software is only the first step—successful implementation plays a huge role in whether your organization will fully realize its benefits.

A poorly executed rollout can lead to low adoption, inaccurate data, and ongoing inefficiencies, while a well-planned approach ensures seamless integration, cross-team collaboration, and measurable ESG improvements. This section outlines the key steps to ensure a smooth and effective ESG software implementation.

# 1. Planning for a smooth rollout

A structured approach to implementation starts with clear goals, a dedicated team, and a phased rollout strategy. Many organizations make the mistake of trying to implement ESG software across all functions at once, leading to confusion, data inconsistencies, and resistance from teams. Instead, a gradual rollout with defined milestones allows for smoother adoption and more effective problem-solving.

1

The first step is to align all stakeholders on the software's purpose and expected outcomes. Sustainability, finance, compliance, and operations teams must understand how the software will impact their workflows.

Holding pre-implementation workshops can help map out existing data sources, integration needs, and reporting requirements, ensuring that everyone is on the same page from day one.

2

Another critical element is data readiness. ESG software is only as effective as the quality of the data fed into it.

Organizations should conduct a data audit before implementation, identifying gaps, inconsistencies, and areas where manual data collection can be replaced with automated inputs. Cleaning up historical ESG data before migration into the new system will prevent complications later on.

3

Finally, companies should choose an implementation approach that suits their size and complexity. Large organizations with multiple business units may benefit from a pilot program where the software is first deployed in a single department or region before full-scale implementation.

Smaller organizations may opt for a direct full rollout, provided they have a strong data foundation and trained staff in place.

## 2. Setting KPIs and measuring success

One of the most common mistakes in ESG software adoption is failing to define success metrics. Without clear KPIs, it becomes difficult to assess whether the platform is delivering real business value.

At a minimum, companies should track:



Time saved on ESG data collection and reporting – In other words, how much has automation reduced manual processes?



Data accuracy and completeness – Are ESG disclosures now more precise, reliable, and audit-ready?



Regulatory compliance performance – Is the software helping meet CSRD, ESRS, TCFD, and other regulatory obligations more efficiently?



ESG target progress – Are sustainability initiatives (e.g., carbon reduction, supplier engagement) improving due to better tracking?

By setting quantifiable benchmarks, organizations can regularly review the effectiveness of their ESG software and make adjustments to maximize its impact.

Beyond internal performance tracking, companies should also consider stakeholder feedback. Are investors, auditors, or regulators finding reports more transparent and insightful? Are supply chain partners and sustainability teams able to collaborate more effectively?

Ensuring that the software meets both internal and external expectations is key to long-term success.

### 3. Engaging teams and suppliers in the ESG process

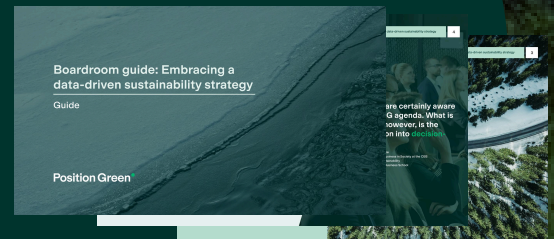
ESG software adoption is not just a technology project—it is a change management effort that requires engagement from employees, leadership, and supply chain partners. A common barrier to success is lack of buy-in from key teams, leading to underutilization of the platform and inconsistent data input.

To drive adoption, organizations should invest in training and education. Employees who interact with ESG data need to understand why the software matters, how it works, and how it benefits their specific roles. Hands-on training sessions, user guides, and a clear internal support structure can ensure a smoother transition.

Supply chain partners also play a critical role in ESG data collection, particularly for Scope 3 emissions tracking and supplier sustainability assessments. Companies should work closely with suppliers to ensure they understand how to submit ESG data through the platform, maintain data integrity, and align with the company's sustainability objectives.

A strong governance model is essential for long-term success. Organizations should designate an ESG software champion (or a small team) responsible for overseeing data governance, ensuring system updates are properly managed, and providing ongoing support to users. This prevents the system from becoming underutilized or outdated as ESG regulations and business needs evolve.

#### Learn how to bring sustainability into your boardroom



[Get the free guide](#)

# Regulations will always change. Get a platform that pivots for you.



## Your Sustainability Suite

Reliable ESG data isn't a nice-to-have — it's business critical.

Position Green comes with built-in industry best-practices ensuring you're always ready to meet evolving regulations, drive real business impact, and share audit-grade data with stakeholders.

- Used by **750+** sustainability professionals.
- Reduces reporting admin by **50%**.
- Provides a **45%** or higher data quality improvement



Scan this QR code to chat with our team today!

