

OPERATIONAL SUSTAINABILITY UPDATE

January 2019

Ramboll is committed to creating a more sustainable society and is entrusted by well-known corporate clients to manage their environmental and social risks, and realise related opportunities.

This update provides details of the most pressing issues that sustainability managers will need to deal with in 2019.

SUSTAINABILITY MANAGEMENT: 5 THINGS YOU MUST DO THIS YEAR

2019: A YEAR FOR CHANGES IN COMPLIANCE REPORTING

As a result of the UK government's strategy to replace the Carbon Reduction Commitment (CRC) with a simplified approach to reporting, 2019 will see many more organisations having to comply with new rules for disclosure. With Streamlined Energy and Carbon Reporting (SECR) set to be rolled out at the end of March, it is predicted that the current 2,400 CRC participants will be replaced by over 11,900 SECR notifications, affecting both the industrial and commercial sectors.

With compliance guidelines due out in Q1 of 2019, we're anxiously waiting to see what the integrated approach of combining data gathering for ESOS, CRC and GHG reporting really means in practice.

IN TOUCH

For further information or to discuss your organisation's corporate sustainability requirements, contact

Steve Barlow
sbarlow@ramboll.com
 020 7808 1420



A NEW YEAR IS THE PERFECT TIME TO LOOK AT YOUR SUSTAINABILITY DATA

With the global economy currently measured against a variety of mandatory and voluntary sustainability reporting mechanisms, the new year is the perfect time to plan for 2019.

Organisations should be undertaking a preliminary review of the accuracy, reliability and validity of their data. There is still an opportunity for your organisation to get ahead of the competition and cleanse these issues now, and ensure you have a fantastic reporting year!



ESOS PHASE TWO: ACT NOW TO TAKE FULL ADVANTAGE OF THE BUSINESS BENEFITS

Following on from phase one of the ESOS regulations, the UK government is expecting large companies to complete their notifications by December 2019. Ramboll is receiving ESOS enquiries from some of our most proactive clients, and you can contact us to ensure you one step ahead!

As with phase one, participants are expected to undertake mandatory energy audits covering 90% of their energy usage from buildings, industry process and transportation.

Our ESOS team comprises experts who provide a comprehensive range of services in the industrial, manufacturing and commercial energy management fields.

Article 8, the European directive from which ESOS has been transposed, affects clients across Europe. We are working and will continue to work closely on behalf of organisations with facilities across all 28 EU member states and associated trading partners.

CREATE A SUSTAINABILITY REPORTING ACTION PLAN

At Ramboll, we're aware of how busy the first half of each year is for our corporate sustainability clients. Our recommendation to get ahead of the game and reduce stress is simple: prepare early and create an action plan to collate and present the information required to support your annual report and/or sustainability report. Be sure to include responses to schemes including CDP, GRESB and DJSI. This plan can be put together quickly and should include, at a minimum, a list of data providers for each required item and associated actions and deadlines.

Remember to incorporate at least a two-month window to carry out any final amendments and gain internal approvals for your disclosures.

MAKE THE MOVE TOWARDS BREEAM IN-USE

Many people in the real estate sector are eager to undertake meaningful operational assessments, which can add real value to a building portfolio, and are seeing 2019 as the year to commit to action. Effective assessments provide trustworthy snapshots of a building's environmental credentials, and accurate working models can promote improvement through effective monitoring and targetting.

Ramboll's experienced consultants provide BREEAM In-Use assessments for properties worldwide. We work closely with the UK Building Research Establishment (BRE), as scheme managers, to assist the development of a robust and flexible methodology, consolidating the trend as the market leading sustainability assessment methodology for existing assets.