In recent years, Malaysia has witnessed a significant shift towards greater transparency and accountability in corporate sustainability practices, primarily driven by the Securities Commission Malaysia (SC) and the Ministry of Environment and Water (MOEW). This shift reflects a growing recognition of the importance of corporate governance, environmental stewardship, and social responsibility among Malaysian businesses.





What to Report?

The new sustainability reporting framework in Malaysia places a strong emphasis on the following areas:

- **Environmental performance:** This includes metrics related to greenhouse gas emissions, energy consumption, water usage, and waste management.
- **Social impact:** This encompasses factors such as labor practices, human rights, community engagement, and supply chain management.
- **Governance:** These include issues to do with board of directors, executive compensation, risk management and corporate ethics.

Key Updates to Sustainability Reporting

- Alignment with Global Standards: Malaysia's new framework is closely aligned with international standards, such as the International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) released by the International Sustainability Standards Board (ISSB).
- **Increased Regulatory Scrutiny:** Non-compliance with sustainability reporting requirements can result in significant penalties and reputational damage.
- Integration of ESG Metrics: Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) metrics are becoming increasingly important for businesses. Businesses must come up with sustainable initiatives based on ESG principles to improve their market competitiveness and increase stakeholders' confidence.

As regulatory scrutiny increases and ESG metrics become more important, Malaysian companies need to align to these changes. Sustainability initiatives can thus be incorporated as part of a company's core operations, which in turn help improve the business's image, attract capital, and contribute to a positive global impact.