



NSF HELPS FORTUNE 500 COMPANY IMPROVE CDP DISCLOSURES AND ADVANCE SUSTAINABILITY EFFORTS



NSF works with companies to respond to investor requests and showcase their sustainability efforts. In 2019, NSF prepared the CDP Climate Change, Water Security, and Forests disclosures for a Fortune 500 company. Through data analysis, stakeholder interviews, and review of internal and external documents, NSF identified key gaps in previous CDP responses to implement targeted improvements. As a result, NSF crafted a more complete and consistent disclosure that raised the companies Climate Change score by a full grade from the previous reporting year, while freeing up time for the client’s team to stay focused on their sustainability priorities.

As an accredited CDP solutions provider, NSF International effectively communicates sustainability performance, efficiently collects data, and aligns responses to CDP’s rigorous scoring methodology.

THE CHALLENGE

Responding to CDP disclosures takes a significant amount of time, resources and expertise. Like many other organizations, this company and its employees are passionate about advancing sustainability initiatives and would prefer to spend their valuable time embarking on new efforts rather than reporting on past ones. Furthermore, as teams and responsibilities shift, the persons responsible for CDP disclosures changed frequently, making the reporting process inefficient and cumbersome year over year. Given the high visibility and complexity associated with CDP reporting, the company needed a better option.

THE SOLUTION

To streamline the CDP reporting process and improve scores, the company chose NSF as its CDP reporting partner.

NSF began by conducting a thorough review of the company’s sustainability activities, which included previous CDP disclosures, sustainability reports, internal initiatives, and relevant data.

Next, using NSF’s CDP gap assessment framework, we identified key improvement areas for each questionnaire. Improvement opportunities were prioritized based on the sector-specific CDP scoring methodology; for this company, Governance and Risk Management responses were weighted more heavily than other topics.

Once NSF identified key gaps and focus areas, we gathered content through a series of **interviews**, **data collection** and additional **document review**. Through this process, we unearthed information that could be incorporated into the disclosure responses to more fully and accurately reflect the company’s sustainability efforts.



NSF provided disclosure drafts to the company for final review well in advance of the CDP submission deadline and ensured that all company disclosure protocols and policies were followed. We performed a final CDP gap assessment to showcase improvements that were made, and made recommendations on areas for future improvement and consideration.

THE RESULTS

NSF drafted responses for all three CDP disclosures for the company — Climate Change, Water Security and Forests — that were aligned with the CDP scoring and guidance and designed to maximize the company’s ability to communicate their sustainability progress.

Through NSF’s CDP disclosure development process, the company was able to better communicate sustainability efforts already underway, while gathering information and considering new initiatives to pursue to take their sustainability efforts to the next level. With NSF’s help, the company improved their CDP Climate Change score by a full letter grade — from a “C” to a “B” — over the previous year.

The reporting process for CDP disclosures is complex, time-intensive, and requires both thorough detail and a technical capacity. NSF provided the expertise to review, identify and develop responses in accordance with CDP guidelines, while helping the company leverage their reporting process to gain insight to improve future CDP disclosures.

The client contact was grateful for NSF’s support in the reporting process, saying that NSF provided this expertise at a “very price-competitive” rate, and with “excellent project management—above a competitor’s offering in quality for the same service.”

	2018 REPORT				2019 REPORT			
	D	A	M	L	D	A	M	L
	RISKS AND OPPORTUNITIES				RISKS AND OPPORTUNITIES			
C2.1								
C2.2								
C2.2a								
C2.2b								
C2.2c								
C2.2d								
C2.3								
C2.3a								
C2.4								
C2.4a								
C2.5								
C2.6								

Results from the company’s gap assessments before and after engaging with NSF for the Risks & Opportunities section in the CDP Climate Change Questionnaire. *Note: Green indicates full points are expected, yellow indicates some areas may be missing and red indicates no points are expected.

NEED HELP ON YOUR CDP DISCLOSURES?

Contact us at sustainability@nsf.org or visit www.nsfustainability.org.

Our goal is to reverse climate change and improve the environment for the health and well-being of all who inhabit it.

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