



# About GSICert

Global Sustainability Impact Certification or GSICert is a transitional ESG certification program for SMEs in the blockchain and digital space to be able to showcase to their various stakeholders and customers their commitment towards ESG through an assessment based progressive improvements model. Utilising a combination of assessment criteria from the various existing ESG frameworks, GSICert provides a comprehensive and robust assessment and evaluation methodology to cater to the SMEs to be part of the ESG movement and allowing them in showcasing their ESG commitment.

Companies which have been evaluated will receive the “GSICert” trustmark and the “Grading” marks.

## GSICert

### What is ESG and how does it apply to blockchain?

ESG is an acronym for Environment, Social, and Governance. These three concepts are fast replacing the previous three concepts that dominated the business world, people, process, and product.

Businesses are now putting much more investments and efforts behind protecting the environment, social justice, and more ethical governance and policies. Let's dive a little deeper into each of the three aforementioned concepts.

**Environmental** - Do the business practices and other policies that the business uses consider the environment? Are they looking to protect the environment from any potential harm that could be caused by the daily operation of the company?

**Social** - Do all of the policies and practices used by the business have the unwavering support of all of the employees, shareholders, stakeholders, and customers? This is by far the most difficult of the three concepts to measure and quantify.

**Governance** - This final concept is considered to be the most important since it goes at the heart of the business's operation. Does it follow strict ethical practices, and can it be trusted to always stick to them? Does it pay its employees responsibly and does it treat its employees, customers, and stakeholders equally?

To evaluate sustainability of Blockchain / blockchain based applications and whether their business goals are aligned with ESG – GSI Cert, Global Sustainability Impact Certification is launched by Ethica Holdings. This certification tool is powered by CorpStage and validated by a strong body of governing council comprising of thought leaders from around the world.

# GSI Cert

## – Key Pillars of Evaluation

Global Sustainability Impact Certification or GSI Cert is a transitional ESG certification program for SMEs in the blockchain and digital space to be able to showcase to their various stakeholders and customers their commitment towards ESG through an assessment based progressive improvements model. Utilising a combination of assessment criteria from the various existing ESG frameworks, GSI Cert provides a comprehensive and robust assessment and evaluation methodology to cater to the SMEs to be part of the ESG movement and allowing them in showcasing their ESG commitment. Companies which have been evaluated will received the “GSI Cert” trustmark and the “Grading” marks.

## – Key pillars of evaluation done by the tool are as follows:

1. Network / Application Profile- Development activity, number of nodes, foundation year etc.
  2. Economic Factors- Financial standing and liquidity.
  3. Environment Factors- Energy consumption and efficiency
  4. Governance Factors- Stakeholder materiality, ethics, and regulatory compliance.
  5. Technology Factors- Innovation, security, and technological performance
  6. Strategy Implementation and Risk Management Factors- KPIs, monitoring and tracking.
- The questionnaire is an easy to answer form created on a smart platform. Questions are either quantitative or qualitative. For qualitative questions scoring is based on Likert's scale. The assessment methodology is defined in such a way that the scores can then be categorized into four levels:

# GSI Cert Grading marks







GSI Cert is an Ethica Holdings initiative and powered by Corp Stage. Ethica is an impact and sustainability blockchain platform enabling impact projects to raise funds for their various impact initiatives via corporate contributions and crowdsourcing using traditional channels and blockchain based tokenisation and impact NFTs. Ethica assesses, verifies, monitors, lists and promotes screened impact projects and companies globally seeking to raise funds and awareness for their projects with the aim of enabling mass participation into the blockchain and impact sustainability space



The Corp Stage platform caters to ESG management and reporting globally as it is aligned to highly recognised sustainability frameworks such as TCFD CDP and ISSB

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