Reporting Sustainability Program Information—Amendments to RPGs 1 and 3: Additional Non-Authoritative Guidance

This summary provides an overview of Reporting Sustainability Program Information—Amendments to RPGs 1 and 3: Additional Non-Authoritative Guidance.

Project Objective: To provide additional guidance to facilitate the reporting of sustainability program information.

Approved: The International Public Sector Accounting Standards Board® (IPSASB®) approved Reporting Sustainability Program Information—Amendments to RPGs 1 and 3: Additional Non-Authoritative Guidance in March 2023. It was issued in May 2023.

Project History: The IPSASB initiated the Reporting Sustainability Program Information project in 2023.

In November 2022, the IPSASB issued Exposure Draft (ED) 83, Reporting Sustainability Program Information—RPGs 1 and 3: Additional Non-Authoritative Guidance with an exposure period of 3 months.

In March 2023, the IPSASB reviewed the responses received on SMC 1 and SMC 2, as appropriate revised the additional guidance proposed to facilitate the reporting of sustainability program information.
Project Overview

The purpose of Reporting Sustainability Program Information is to enhance awareness of the applicability of existing guidance in RPG 1 and RPG 3 to reporting sustainability program information.

Why the IPSASB Undertook this project

This limited-scope project responds to the urgent need for public sector sustainability reporting and emphasizes the applicability of RPG 1 & RPG 3 when reporting sustainability program information.

Amendments to RPG 1 Non-Authoritative Guidance

The amendments to RPG 1 added implementation guidance to:

(a) Emphasize that RPG 1 applies to reporting information on the impact of sustainability programs on an entity’s overall finances;

(b) Explain how sustainability program impacts on the three dimensions (service, revenue, and debt) of long-term fiscal sustainability should be assessed; and

(c) Highlight the applicable principles for reporting on sustainability program information.

Amendments to RPG 3 Non-Authoritative Guidance

The amendments to RPG 3 added implementation guidance to:

(a) Emphasize that RPG 3 applies to reporting information related to sustainability programs; and

(b) Explain how RPG 3 can be applied to individual sustainability programs.

and illustrative examples were also added to show how the guidance in RPG 3 could apply to different sustainability programs, such as:

(a) A program financed by a green bond;

(b) A program financed by a carbon tax;

(c) An investment in infrastructure to mitigate the impacts of climate change; and

(d) A tax expenditure provided for sustainability investments.