

Independent verification helps put you in control – uncovering efficiencies and driving greater transparency across every aspect of your sustainability agenda.

# The importance of independent verification

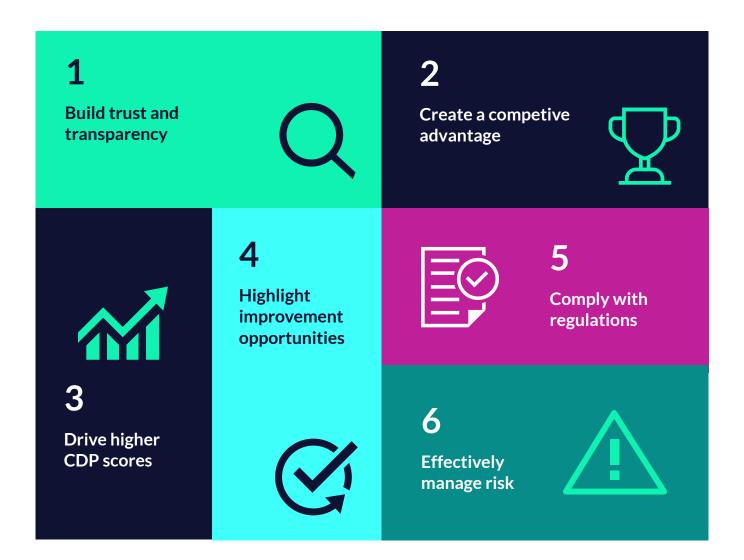
As global leaders look for agreements and commitments to the achievement of environmental and sustainability goals, companies, large and small, are determined to play their part. At the same time, stakeholders such as investors, staff, customers, and suppliers seek reliable and accurate ESG (environmental, social and corporate governance) information that helps them to make well-informed decisions.

Monitoring and disclosure are important first steps for a company to take on the path from data collection to carbon management. Verification is a crucial part of this process, providing assurance about the accuracy and completeness of data and information.

LRQA can independently verify your data, information and reports to drive credibility and confidence with the people that matter most to you. Delivered against the world's leading standards and schemes, such as ISO 14064, the World Resource Institute's (WRI) GHG Protocol and the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI), or through a tailored program built around your specific requirements, our verification services will help push your performance forward.



## The benefits of LRQA verification



## **Trust and transparency**

An LRQA Assurance Statement gives stakeholders and investors' confidence that data is accurate, representative and usable in benchmarking activities. This helps them make informed decisions based on a company's strategy, performance, risks and growth opportunities.

### Competitive advantage

Customers choose products from companies they trust to act responsibly and sustainably. By disclosing LRQA verified information, companies can demonstrate their commitment to sustainability, enhance brand value and improve attractiveness to potential investors.

## Higher CDP scores and inclusion in CDP A-List

Third-party verification drives higher CDP disclosure, awareness, total management and leadership scores while improving your standing on various other sustainability indices.

#### Efficiency gain

LRQA verification can reveal inefficiencies, waste, data gaps, errors or misstatements in a process that results in cost savings and opportunities for continuous improvement within companies and their supply chains.

## Regulatory compliance

LRQA's expert and highly experienced verification teams can ensure that data is provided to demonstrate compliance with both existing and forthcoming regulations, which rely on the accuracy, integrity and robustness of information.

## Risk and opportunities

Verification confirms that your systems and reporting are fit for purpose, highlighting any weak points and risks.



## The LRQA verification process

As a leading global assurance provider, our verifiers are experts in the auditing business. We're also one of the longest standing greenhouse gas verification bodies globally, with accreditation from the United Kingdom Accreditation Service (UKAS) and the ANSI National Accreditation Board (ANAB).

LRQA can verify any information your organization tracks, targets, measures, or publishes. Depending on the criteria, we

can deliver our verification services in line with international assurance standards such as ISO 14064-3, ISAE 3000 and ISAE 3410.

We can also support your existing verification programs or work with you to build new ones that support your unique requirements – this could include company-specific criteria and standards, tracking the progress of site-specific goals, or ways to cascade verification best

practices throughout your supply chain.

Depending on the complexity and the level of assurance required, LRQA verification is delivered remotely in most cases – reducing unnecessary travel and increasing access to technical experts and stakeholders worldwide.

### Stage 1

Initial data review, verification plan and sampling plan.



## Stage 2

Working through the sampling plan via record review, interviews, and recalculations.



#### **Deliverables**

Final Report and LRQA Assurance Statement.

## **Your LRQA Assurance Statement**

As part of the final step of the verification process, you'll receive an LRQA Assurance Statement that is recognized by global schemes such as CDP – it will confirm the following information:

- Terms of engagement
- Approach
- Level of assurance and materiality
- Opinion

Depending on your requirements, we can deliver your LRQA Assurance Statement to a limited or reasonable level of assurance.

#### **Limited Assurance**

Requires less detail than reasonable assurance with smaller sample sizes and fewer, if any, site visits. If no errors are found, the verifier will confirm that nothing has come to their attention to suggest that the information is incorrect or incomplete in relation to the agreed criteria.

#### Reasonable Assurance

Requires sufficient detail so the verifier can form an opinion around completeness and accuracy. This typically includes more extensive sampling, reviews and site visits.





## Why choose LRQA?

We're here to help negotiate a rapidly changing world by working with you to manage and mitigate the risks you face. From compliance to data-driven supply chain transformation, it's our job to help you shape the future rather than letting it shape you.

### **Technical expertise**

Our people are sector experts. They bring with them a clear understanding of your sustainability challenges and requirements – then deploy deep knowledge of verification, certification and assurance to help you meet them.

## Global capability

Operating in more than 120 countries, recognized by over 30 accreditation bodies worldwide and covering almost every sector, we can help you manage risk, drive improvement and build credibility with stakeholders around the globe.



We are a recognized CDP verification partner and a long-standing greenhouse gas (GHG) verification body accredited by UKAS and ANAB to deliver services against a range of standards, schemes and guidelines, including ISO 14064, The Climate Registry (TCR), WRI GHG Protocol, EU/UK ETS, GRI and AA1000.

## Strategic vision

Our technical know-how, sector expertise and innovative, forward-thinking approach will help you meet the challenges of today – and become a safer, more secure and more sustainable organization tomorrow.

## Effective partnership

We collaborate with our clients and industry partners to provide the credibility and transparency they need to drive their sustainability agendas and build their competitive advantage.

### Fresh perspective

We have led the way in shaping our industry and continue to take every opportunity to collaborate with clients and pioneer new ideas, services and innovation.

## **Find out more**

To find out more about how LRQA can help your organization visit www.lrqa.com/us

## **Get in touch**

Visit www.lrqa.com/us for more information 866-971-LRQA info-usa@lrqa.com







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