



adapt and thrive.

Professional Diploma in Sustainability.
Embrace change. Realise your potential.

Introducing the Professional Diploma in Sustainability

Sustainability: it's the future.

And it's happening now. You don't want to get left behind – and our new qualification is especially designed to keep you ahead.

Our new Professional Diploma in Sustainability is one of a kind – designed to meet the needs of your business.

Make sure your employees can adapt to new and incoming regulations, with the in-depth knowledge and credentials they need to excel. And with flexible learning, they can do it in a way that works for them – and your business.

Register your teams today – and together, we'll help you navigate regulatory standards, expand your skills, and embed truly sustainable practices throughout your organisation. What are you waiting for?



‘There’s a burning desire for organisations to upskill in all areas of sustainability. There’s still a lack of experience across finance teams in understanding how they must respond.

Our role in finance is to lead the change, to help businesses enact compliant sustainability strategies. It’s critical that finance teams develop greater understanding and maturity in this space.’

Michael Mills, Jaguar Land Rover, UK

The Professional Diploma: explained

The Professional Diploma comprises four courses, which can each be taken as individual Certificates in Sustainability. This gives you and your employees the flexibility to choose an approach that's right for you.

Your employees can choose to study separately for all four individual Certificates. Once completed, they can take a final, overarching exam to receive their Diploma. Alternatively, they can approach the Professional Diploma as a single, integrated learning programme, comprising four certificates and an exam preparation course.

The Certificates are:

- Certificate in Sustainability Frameworks and Ethics
- Certificate in Sustainability Strategy and Management
- Certificate in Sustainability Reporting
- Certificate in Sustainability Assurance

To achieve the Diploma, employees will sit an integrated case study exam which tests the application of knowledge across core areas of the syllabus. Once completed, the Diploma will act as a comprehensive accreditation in the core areas of sustainability.



The Professional Diploma: at a glance

50

More than 50 hours
of flexible, online
learning

4

courses
(available as
individual
Certificates)

2

approaches to
completion, to suit
your business needs

1

integrated
case study exam

6

‘There’s a growing need for training and development in sustainability across all areas of businesses – from the CEO to new members of the finance team.

The need is both for the wider perspective of how organisations need to approach sustainability, and the more technical areas of reporting and assurance.’

Grant Thornton, Ireland

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Who is this Professional Diploma for?

The Professional Diploma is ideally suited to finance professionals at all levels who are looking to gain a comprehensive understanding of sustainability – and an accreditation to prove it.

Finance professionals should register if they want to:

- learn how to adapt to new regulations
- gain in-depth knowledge of key issues
- protect themselves from getting left behind.

Once completed, the Professional Diploma acts as a comprehensive accreditation in the core areas of sustainability.



Course syllabus and learning outcomes

The 50+ hours of learning for the Professional Diploma in Sustainability breaks down into:

1

The Certificate in Sustainability Frameworks and Ethics

Your employees will gain a rigorous grounding in sustainability frameworks, how they differ globally, as well as ethical standards for organisations and individuals.

2

The Certificate in Sustainability Strategy and Management

Your teams will understand how to translate your organisation's sustainability goals into business activities and policies – as well as measuring risks, monitoring performance, and setting up measurement systems.

Course syllabus and learning outcomes

The 50+ hours of learning for the Professional Diploma in Sustainability breaks down into:

3

The Certificate in Sustainability Reporting

Here, your employees will learn how to create compliant reports that meet IFRS Sustainability Standards, and understand what makes reporting useful to investors. They'll also be guided on how financial statements should account for sustainability.

4

The Certificate in Sustainability Assurance

Finally, they'll understand the need for assurance – as well as the challenges associated with it – and the sustainability assurance cycle.



‘Training, development and a global assessment in sustainability are all critical. We have introduced a new strategy for our organisation, and from 2026 we will start to issue ESG reports in line with local regulations.’

The flexibility of the learning modules allows us to integrate them easily into our corporate training, to make preparing for change a seamless process.’

John Li – Wilo, China

The Exam

After the four Certificates, it's time to complete the Professional Diploma in Sustainability exam.

The exam lasts three hours and 15 minutes. It presents an integrated case study, with different exhibits of information related to sustainability in an organisation.

Questions will include a mix of computational and discursive tasks, to best test the student's knowledge and grasp of the key issues.

Included: Our exam preparation course.

Our Professional Diploma in Sustainability bundle is designed to support your employees' exam preparation. It includes a practice and revision module, and learners will have access to webinars focused on exam technique.



Assessment

The exam – FAQs

How do I take the exam?

The Professional Diploma in Sustainability exam can be taken either remotely, or in one of our partner test centres

When can I take the exam?

You can take the Professional Diploma in Sustainability exam twice a year. The upcoming exam sessions are scheduled for November 2025 and May 2026.

Can students retake the exam?

Yes – at subsequent sittings.

Is the Professional Diploma only available to ACCA members?

No – the Professional Diploma is open to non-ACCA members as well. It's designed for any professional accountant or auditor, or wider financial professionals looking to expand their sustainability knowledge.



‘Sustainability will become an important compliance engagement for accountancy firms. Environmental literacy is going to be key, and firms need formal training.

Accountancy firms need support in understanding new sustainability standards and their impact, as well as what systems and processes we need to establish to be ready for these changes.’

Eddie O'Shea, Chair of ACCA Irish Practitioner member panel

Get in touch

With the Professional Diploma in Sustainability, you can help your teams realise their potential. Don't miss out on getting ahead of the change – embrace it.

If you'd like to know more, or discuss options for your organisation, then get in touch.

Visit: [**accaglobal.com/ProDipSust**](https://accaglobal.com/ProDipSust)

Or scan the QR code:

Contact us [**here**](#)

