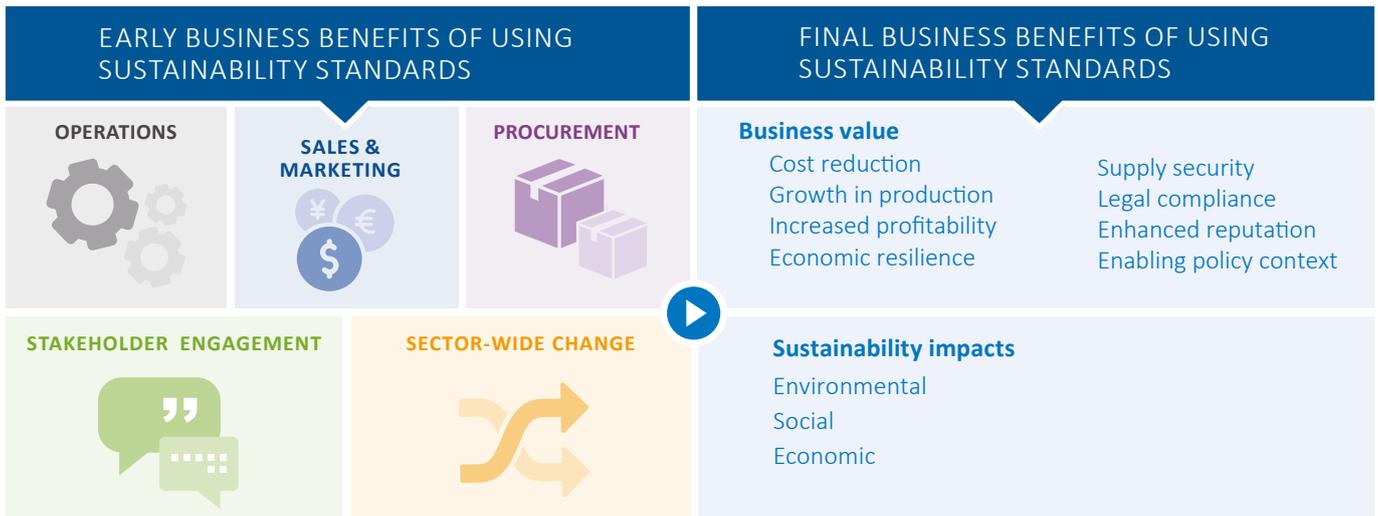


Businesses experience range of benefits from adopting sustainability standards



Independent research finds that sustainability standards **improve** market access, profitability and production for certified businesses and **enhance** reputation while **reducing** risk for manufacturers and retailers.

Business benefits framework applied in this research



Short term benefits

% refers to proportion of studies reporting a benefit



↔ **Improved** sustainability strategy



➔ **Better** supply chain coordination



← **Operational efficiency** & risk management



↔ **Improved** market access



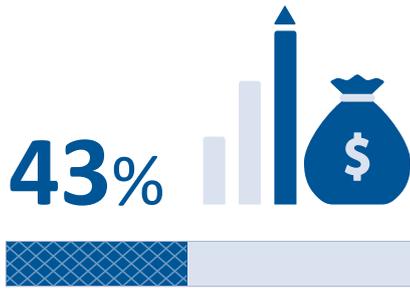
↔ **Better** access to knowledge & support



↔ **Improved** sector alignment & coordination

Long term benefits

% refers to proportion of studies reporting a benefit



Growth in production or sales



Improved reputation



Sustainability impact



Upstream businesses represent raw material extraction or product production, including large-scale producers, smallholder producer groups and primary processors in the country of origin.



Downstream businesses include importers, processors, manufacturers, brand and retail companies in manufacturing and consumer countries.

About the research

This research report is authored by [AidEnvironment](#) and commissioned by ISEAL and a refresh of the [2016 review and synthesis](#) of literature and evidence of the business benefits of adopting sustainability standards. In total 40 credible source

documents, covering seven sectors, were reviewed. Businesses in the scope of this review included **upstream businesses and downstream businesses**. Full details are available in the main report. [Read the full report.](#)

Sectors covered by the research



AGRICULTURE



FISHERY & AQUACULTURE



FORESTRY



MINING & JEWELLERY



BIOMASS



TOURISM



CARBON

About ISEAL

ISEAL supports ambitious sustainability systems and their partners to tackle the world's most pressing challenges.

From the climate emergency and biodiversity crisis to human rights and persistent poverty, the world needs scalable and effective solutions. ISEAL's convening power and thought

leadership accelerate positive change on these critical challenges, so companies and governments can meet their sustainability commitments and the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

[Find out more about ISEAL members](#)

[Explore evidence on the impacts of sustainability systems](#)



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