

Common SME ESG Data Platform



frdo
cfdd

Supporting ESG reporting for companies in Belgium
6 June 2025

Agenda



1

About Febelfin

2

Banks as partner in the sustainable transition

3

Kube ESG: Common approach to ESG data gathering

4

Omnibus

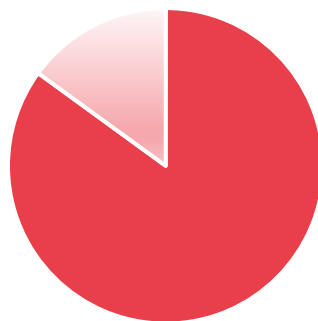
1 Febelfin

Belgian federation of the financial sector



245

Financial institutions
in Belgium



85%

Gross added value
of the **financial sector** as a whole
(excluding insurance institutions and pension funds)



± 65.000

Direct jobs
+ numerous indirect jobs

Banks

Credit
providers

Asset
managers &
funds

Stockbroking
firms and
stockbrokers

Stock
Exchange
members

Leasing
companies

Euroclear

Swift

...

Febelfin's mission & objectives

Trusted enabler

Reliable protector

ensure a **strong, resilient, and inclusive financial sector** that supports **sustainable economic growth** and **innovation** as an essential **partner**

Partner in sustainability

Driver in inclusiveness



2 Banks as partner in the sustainable transition

Banks embed sustainability

EU ESG regulatory framework

- EU Green Deal & EU Sustainable Finance Action Plan: EU Taxonomy, Green Bond Standards, CSRD, SFDR, CSDDD, etc.

Risk management

- Increasing climate & environment-related risk
- Risk & supervision: CRD, Pillar 3, EBA, ECB Guide, BNB

Stakeholders expectations

- Clients, shareholders, employees, NGOs, ...

Own climate commitments

- E.g. Net-zero, decarbonisation targets

Banks are a **key**
long-term &
inclusive
partner in the
sustainable
transition

Do ESG considerations impact financing?

- Inevitable but **gradual process**
- **Risk-based** (activity, size) and **holistic**
- Appreciate **learning curve**
- Focus on **inclusive support & guidance** of clients

Objective is not to refuse financing but to support.
→ SMEs that show **credible pro-active efforts in transition** will be **more attractive** to finance

(ESG) data are important in credit assessment

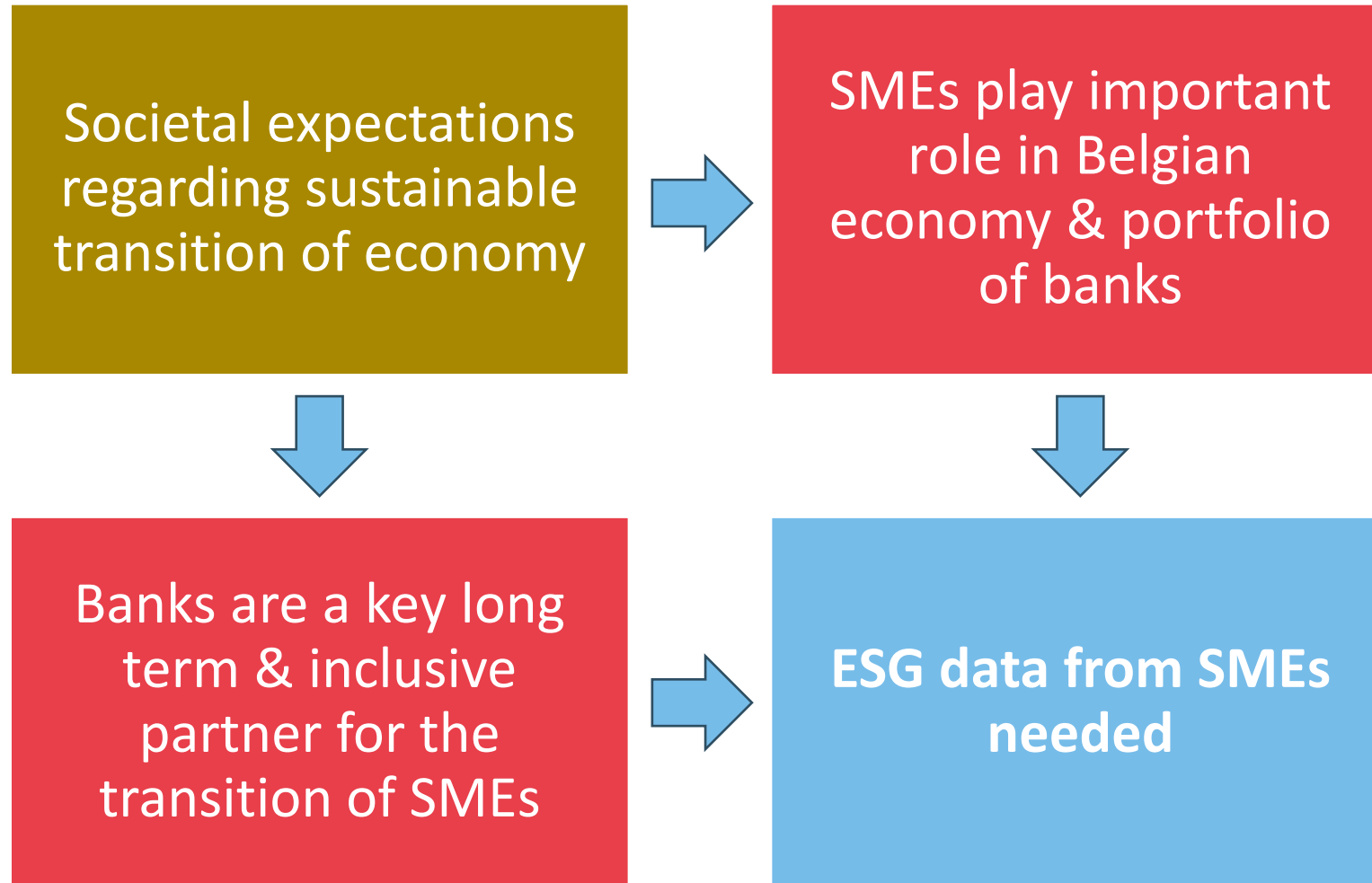
- Strong differences in **ESG impact per sector** and depending on a company's place in the **value chain**.
- Current **permits** and their durations
- What **investments in sustainability** are needed
- **Impact on income/costs** related to climate or environment?
- New **physical risks** emerge
- **Reputational risk**: screening for negative reports about (1) labour conflicts/circumstances or (2) stakeholders

ECB conducts inspections of banks to check whether banks take these elements into account



If not → additional capital requirements for the credit granting

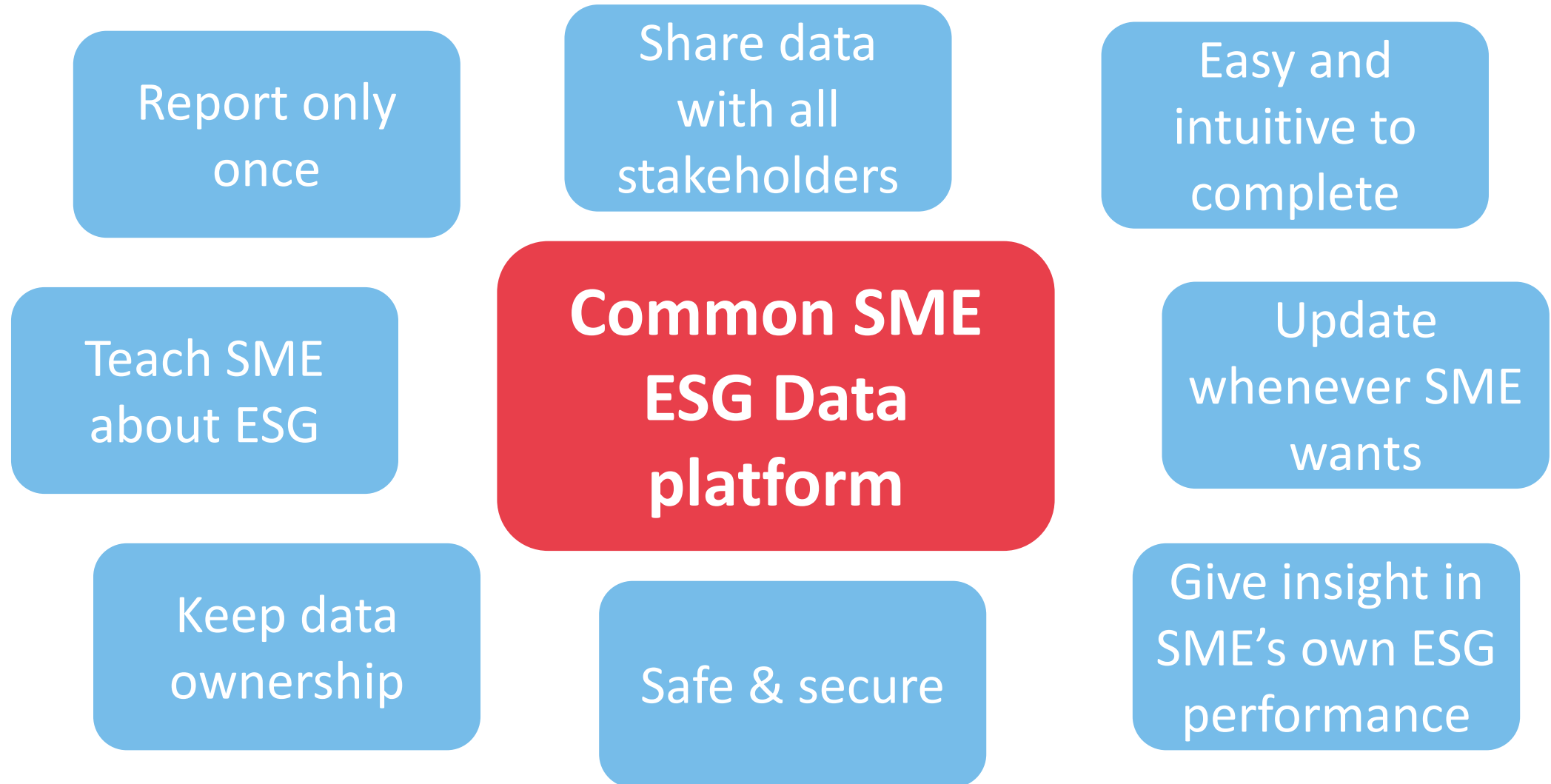
ESG data needed to support SMEs in transition



3

Kube ESG: Common approach to ESG data gathering

Making SME ESG reporting easy and efficient



febelfin sectoral initiative: Common SME ESG data platform

Kube ESG



isabel



Belfius



**BNP PARIBAS
FORTIS**

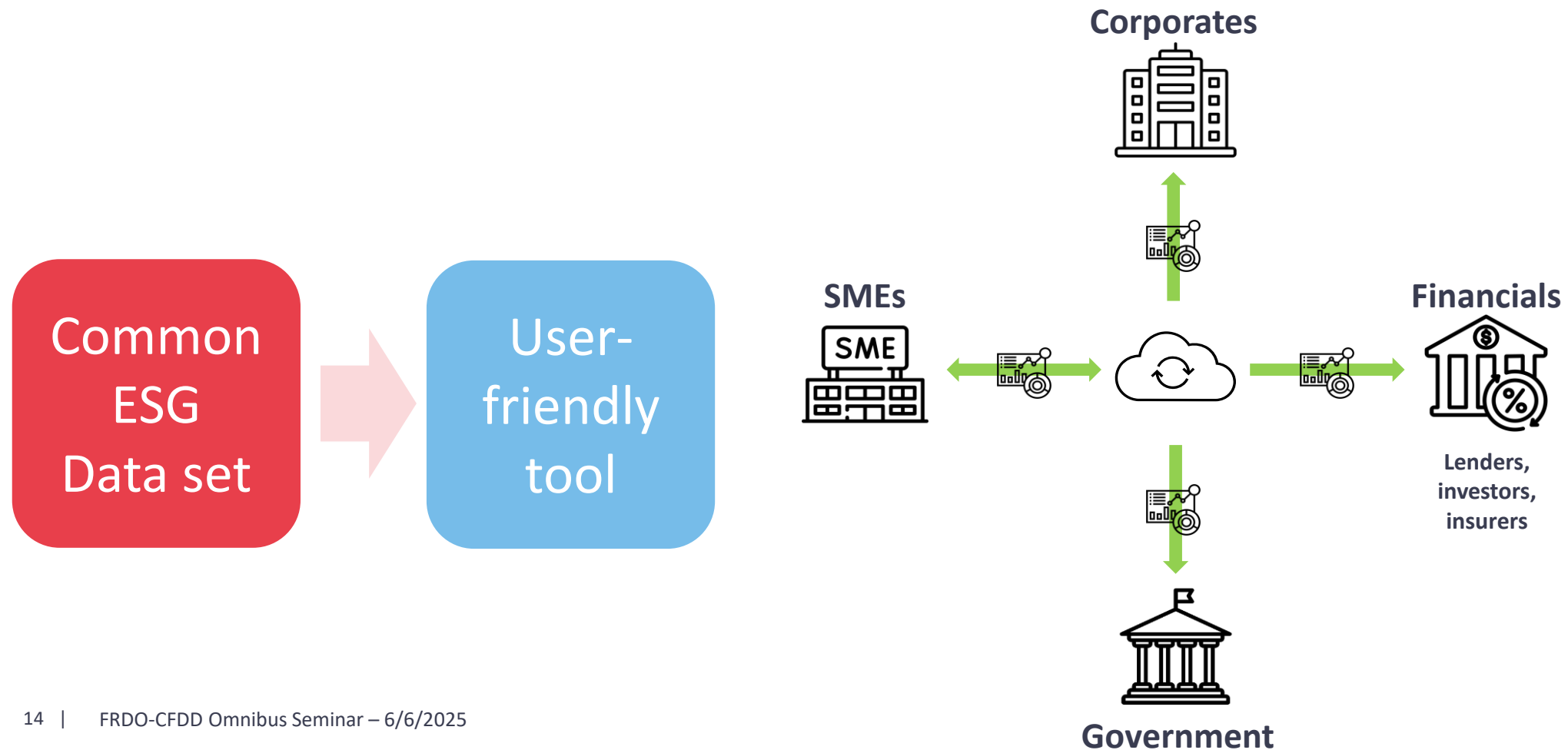


KBC

ING



febelfin sectoral initiative: Common SME ESG data platform



Stakeholders consulted

Financial institutions



SME organisation and Sector federations



Public entities

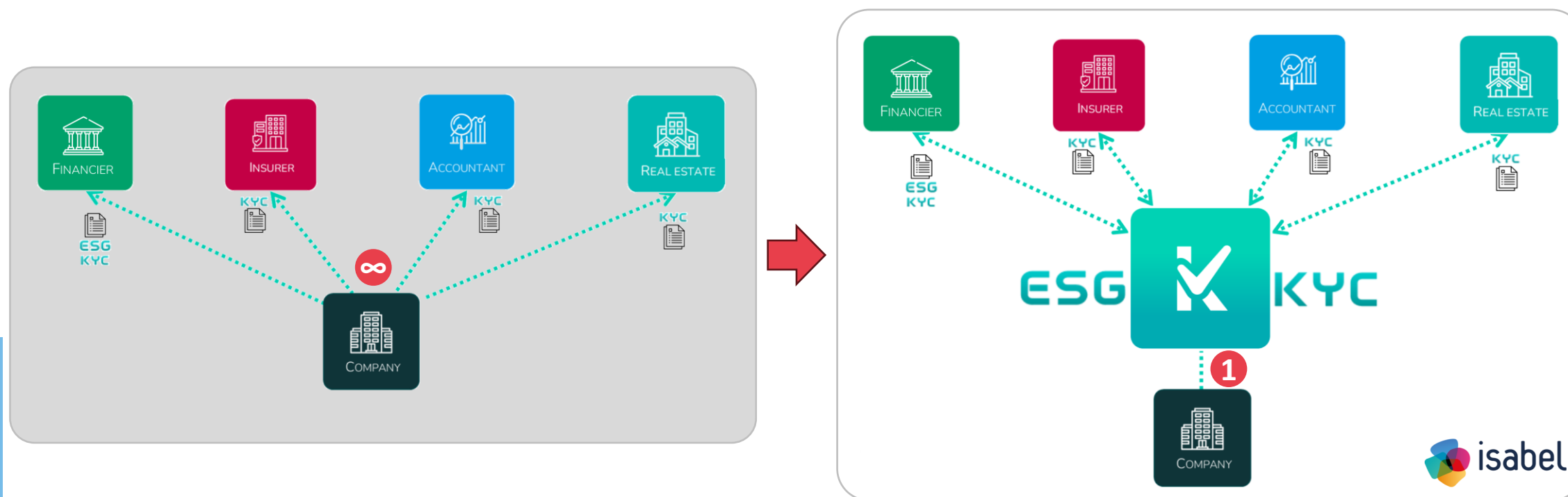


Platform for the benefit of **SMEs**

- **Generate a VSME-compliant ESG report** for free
- **Enter data only once & share securely** with selected parties
- Gain **insights** about:
 - **own ESG performance**
 - **expectations** of stakeholders
 - **benchmark** with peers
 - identification of **priorities**
- **Interoperability**, connectivity with other platforms
- **Demonstrate** sustainability efforts
- Strengthen **strategic** position
- SMEs can use ESG report to **start the conversation** with banks, investors, business relations, public entities,...

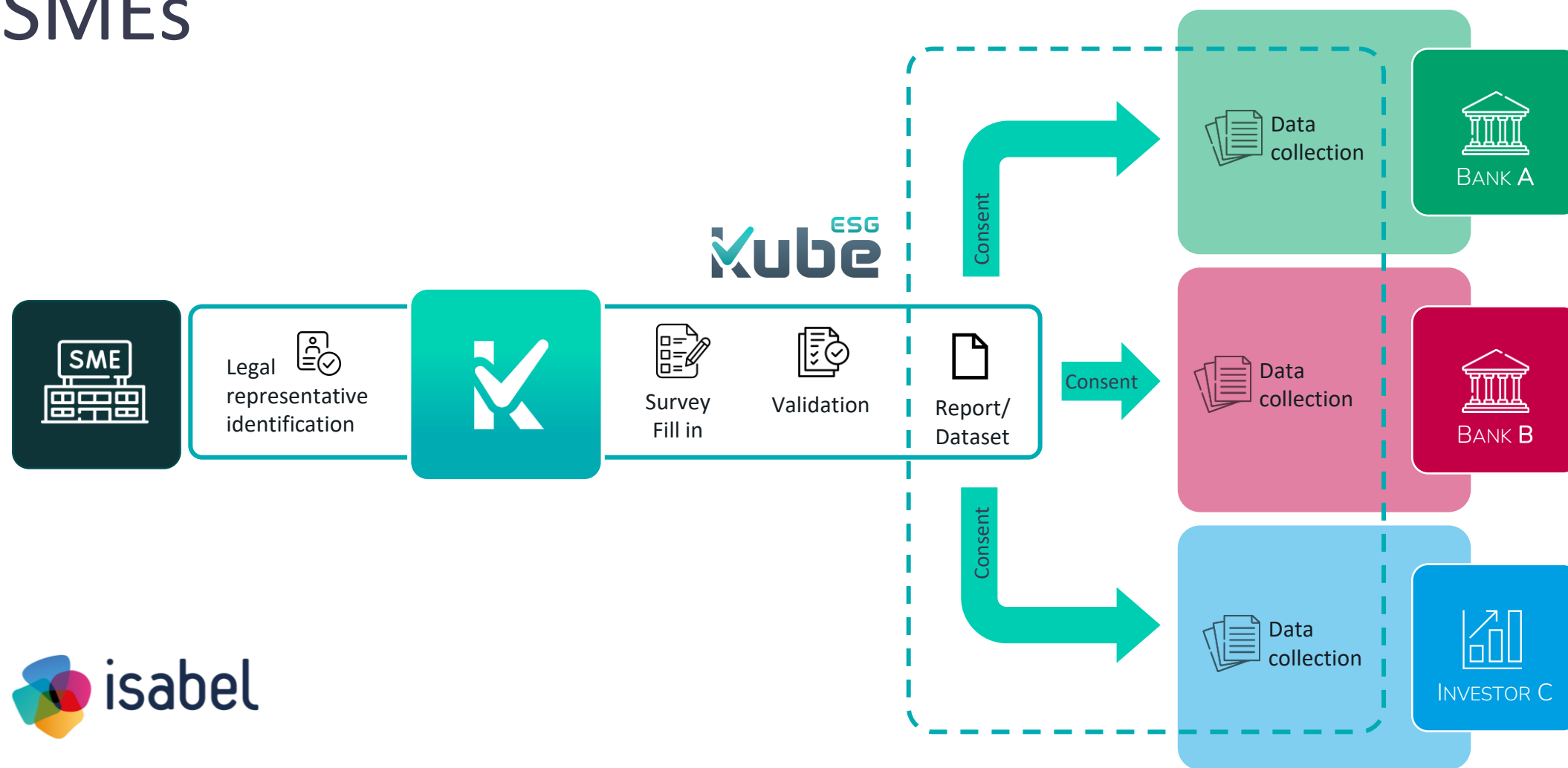
VSME data
covers big
part of ESG
data needed
by banks

Kube - Increase efficiency of company data exchanges



Ecosystem-driven platform for the standardised and secure exchange of verified and validated corporate data

Kube ESG - Streamlining ESG reporting for SMEs



Kube ESG Outreach to SMEs

Kube

Dear name

Kube ESG is a new, secure online platform designed to help Belgian SMEs approach sustainability reporting in a structured and accessible way. Before our official launch in October, we are inviting businesses like yours to pilot the platform and provide valuable feedback to refine its features.

Sustainable business practices are gaining increasing attention, and transparent reporting on environmental, social, and governance (ESG) topics is becoming a standard part of doing business. **With Kube ESG, every Belgian SME gains access to a future-proof tool to collect, report, and securely share sustainability data within today's digital economy.**

By completing a guided questionnaire, you gain insight into the key sustainability parameters relevant to your business—from environmental practices and social impact to governance.

What Kube ESG offers:

- **Structured approach** A clear methodology based on the European SME standard (Voluntary Sustainability Reporting Standard for SMEs)
- **Secure data management** Your data is stored and managed with care and integrity
- **Free access to the platform** Fully free of charge for Belgian SMEs with up to 250 employees, €20 million in assets, and €10 million in turnover
- **User-friendly tool** Easily generate a structured digital sustainability report, ready to share with stakeholders that support Kube—or to download for your use
- **Flexible sharing** Enter your data once. Then decide how often, when, and with whom you wish to share the report

[Start your sustainability report](#)

We are currently piloting Kube ESG and would love your feedback to ensure it meets the needs of SMEs before our official launch in October. Your insights will help shape the platform and make sustainability reporting even more accessible.

[Ready to get started?](#)

Register for free. As your company's legal representative, you can register via [Isabel](#) on the Kube ESG platform.

Do you have any questions?
We're happy to assist you.

Kind regards,
The Kube team

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isabel

Kube

The sustainability report for SME's

Kube ESG for efficient sustainability reporting

More and more Belgian SMEs need an ESG (Environment, Social, Governance) report, whether it's at the request of customers, banks, or to prepare for future compliance. As of autumn 2025, Kube ESG provides your SME with a clear framework to collect and analyse the right ESG data. Enter your data once, and automatically generate a standardised ESG report, ready to share securely with the right parties. Lift the weight of your ESG reporting with Kube, demonstrate your sustainability efforts, and strengthen your SME's strategic position.

Privacy and legal compliance

You stay in control of who accesses your business data. With your green light only, your data is securely shared across the Kube community. Compliance is a given: GDPR by design, AML-ready, externally reviewed, and fully auditable. Rest assured: your data stays safe in a trusted network of respected Belgian organisations.

Kube ESG - Company page

[Home](#)[User management](#)[FAQ](#)

Bob Baker Bakery

0123 456 189

[Edit Report](#)

Welcome Bob Baker, We're excited to have you on board and we look forward to support you with your corporate sustainability reporting and compliance.

[More info about ESG regulation](#)

Draft report

[Draft](#)[View](#)

Sharing with:

Allow partners and clients to gain insights from your reports. Only finished reports will be shared.

	Partner Name	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Partner Name	<input type="checkbox"/>
	BNP Paribas Fortis	<input type="checkbox"/>
	KBC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	PMV	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Wallonie Entreprendre	<input type="checkbox"/>
	finance&invest brussels	<input type="checkbox"/>
	SFPI M	<input type="checkbox"/>

Kube ESG – Detail of questionnaire

← Kube

Progress 9% complete

Report structure

General

B1 Basis for preparation 46%

B2 Practices, policies and future... 0%

C1 Strategy: Business Model and... 0%

Environmental

Social

Governance

General

B1 Basis for preparation

Name of the reporting entity

Validated

Add a label

Bob's Bakery

Identifier of the reporting entity (VAT number)

Add a label

BE1234567891

Registered address

Add a label

Kerkstraat 9A/3590, 2240 Zandhoven, Belgium

Basis for reporting (consolidated or individual basis)

Mandatory Set of 42 Finance

Consolidated

List of subsidiaries

Mandatory Set of 42

Subsidiary	Registered Address
Add name	Kerkstraat 72, 2800 Zandhoven, Belgium

Submit

← Kube

Progress 9% complete

Report structure

General

B1 Basis for preparation 46%

B2 Practices, policies and future... 0%

C1 Strategy: Business Model and... 0%

Environmental

Social

Governance

Practices, policies and future initiatives (PPI) for transitioning towards a more sustainable business

Not started

Add a label

Sustainability Issue	Do you have existing sustainability PPI that address this issue?	Description
Climate change	Yes	Write your answer in here...
Water	Select...	Write your answer in here...
Waste	Select...	Write your answer in here...
Circular economy	Select...	Write your answer in here...
Workers in the value chain	Select...	Write your answer in here...
Affected communities	Select...	Write your answer in here...
Consumers and end-users	Select...	Write your answer in here...
Business conduct	Select...	Write your answer in here...

Process to address human rights related complaints in place

Not started

Add a label

Submit

Information

Examples

Your strategy is to reduce your carbon footprint (part of climate change). Your tools to achieve this may be: you already use energy-saving LED lights (practice), or have a rule to only buy green electricity (policy), or plan to switch your delivery fleet to electric vans by 2027 (future initiative). All of these could support the objective of your strategy.

or

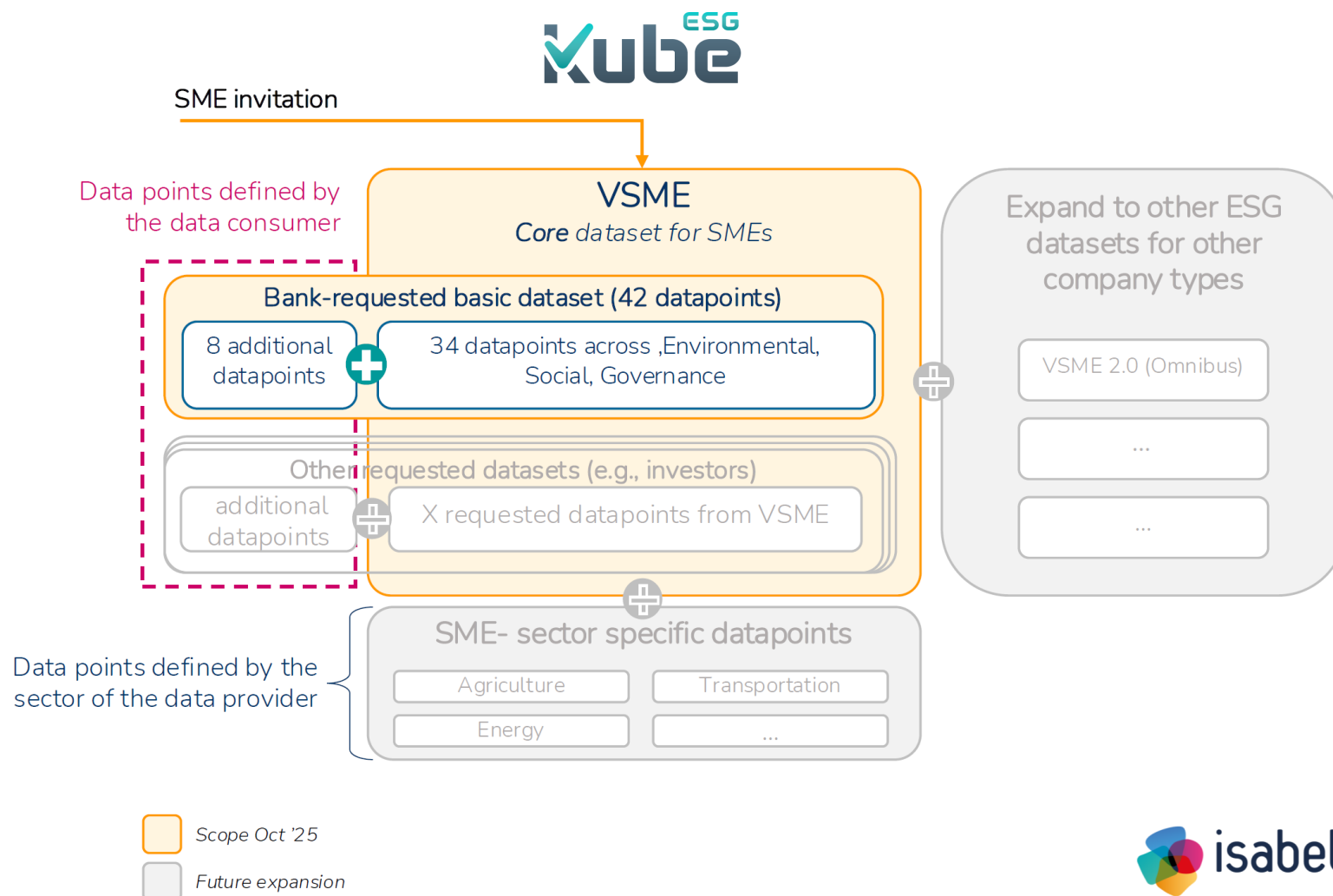
Your strategy is to ensure safety of the local community (part of affected communities). Your tools to achieve this may be: we organise yearly stakeholder meetings where concerns are raised (practice), or have a rule to install safety perimeters around construction sites (policy), or plan to develop an emergency response plan in case of an incident on the construction site involving nearby housing (future initiative). All of these could support the objective of your strategy.

What is this about

Here you can list what is already in place within your company as of practices, policies and/or future initiatives. This is an opportunity to explain what your company is already doing today about sustainability matters.

- Please consult this list if you need to see what (sub)topics are all included under sustainability : LINK VSME : Appendix B: List of possible sustainability issues.
- What you do does not have to be formalised. It may be as simple as an unwritten rule that you only buy local supplies, order organic food for employees, have LED lights to reduce energy consumption.

Kube ESG - Evolutive data scope



- Kube ESG at launch (Oct '25) will cover the **full VSME**
- The data model will enable **multiple ESG datasets** in the future
- **Additional data points** can be added if there is a common understanding and standard format among the data consumers requiring the same additional data
- The platform is designed to follow the **evolving regulations**, both on the ESG and additional data points

ESG – General

Company Information

NACE sector classification

Turnover and balance sheet total

Number of employees

Geographic information

(location of operations, location of owned, leased or managed sites)

Business activities

(significant product and service groups, markets)

Main types of business relationships

Strategy and sustainability

Description of company strategic elements with an impact on sustainability

ESG certification

Details on certificates/labels obtained

Transition to a sustainable economy

Current practices

Formal general and specific sustainability policy

Forward-looking elements (Planned initiatives, objectives and plans)

Responsible persons within the governance body

Involvement in controversial activities

Controversial weapons

Tobacco cultivation and production

Fossil fuels

Production of chemicals (pesticides and agrochemical products)

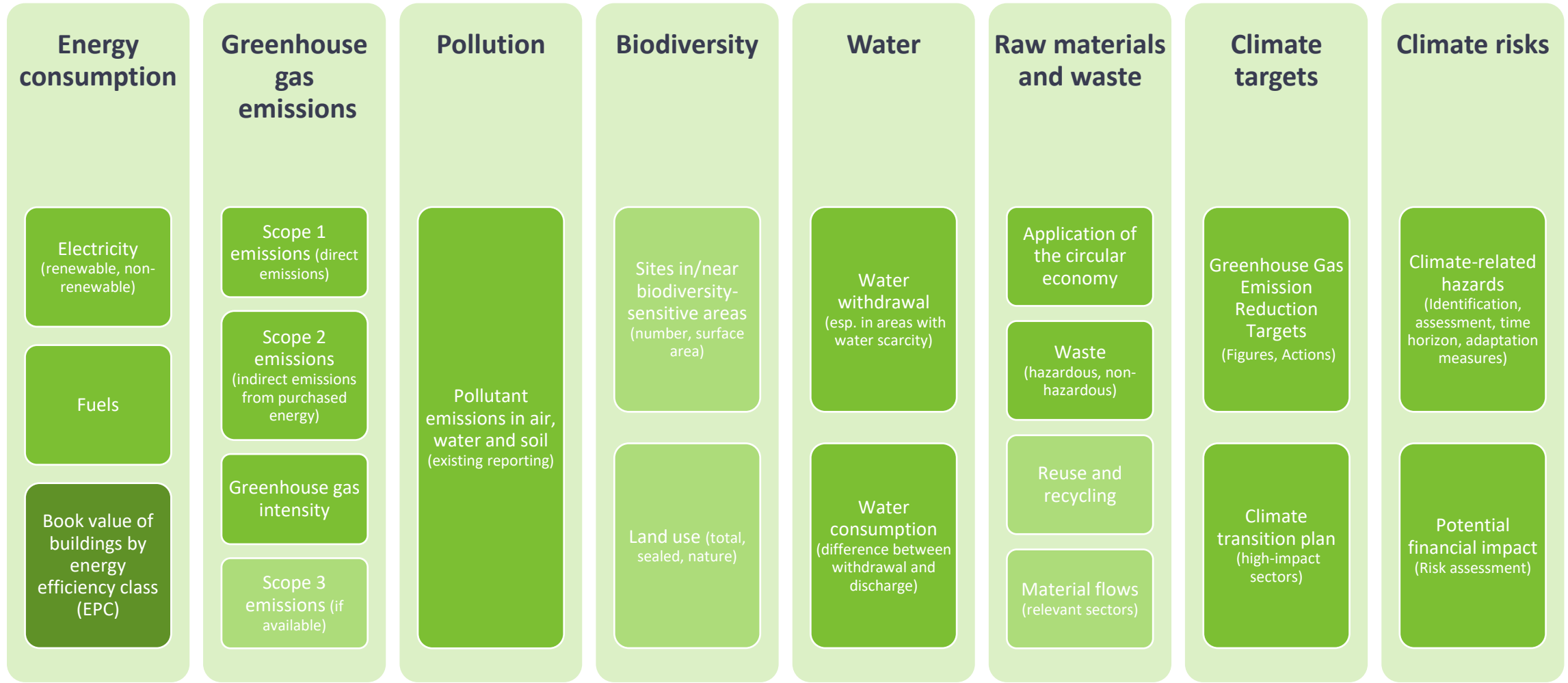
EU-benchmarks

Status of exclusion from EU Paris-aligned benchmark

In VSME & Bank prio

In VSME but no Bank priority

ESG – Environmental component



ESG – Social component

Own employees

Basic data
(type of contract, gender,
employment status)

Employee turnover
(from 50 employees)

Male/female ratio at
management level
(from 50 employees)

External workers (number of
self-employed, temporary
workers, from 50 employees)

Health and safety

Work-related accidents
(number, fatal accidents)

Remuneration, collective bargaining agreements and training

Minimum wage
compliance

Gender pay gap
(from 150 employees)

Percentage of employees
under collective bargaining
agreement

Average number of
training hours per
employee by gender

Human rights policies and processes

Code of conduct or
human rights policy for
own employees (yes/no,
themes: child labour, forced
labour, human trafficking,
discrimination, accident
prevention)

Complaint handling
mechanism

Serious human rights incidents

Incidents within the
organization and actions
taken

Incidents in the value
chain
(workers, affected
communities, consumers/end-
users)

In VSME & Bank prio

In VSME but no Bank priority

ESG – Good governance component e.a.

Corruption and bribery

Convictions and fines for
violations of anti-corruption
and anti-bribery legislation

Gender diversity

Of the governance body
(if any)

Next steps

— Timeline KUBE ESG

- Pilot testing in **Summer 2025**
- Operational planned for end **October 2025**

— Ongoing stakeholder consultation to ensure broad **support & buy-in**



4 Omnibus

Impact of EU Simplification efforts

**Is the “Omnibus 1”-
proposal the right way
forward?**

Impact of EU Simplification efforts

- Many initiatives
 - Omnibus
 - Discussions about ESG risk management framework
 - SFDR review
- **Positive**
 - More balance, proportionality, pragmatism
 - Less administrative burden
- **But possible increasing information gap**
 - Importance of transition and of climate risks will not disappear
 - **Added-value of appropriate ESG reporting** by SMEs remains, also for SMEs themselves
 - Resilient and future proof business
 - Element in attractiveness for external finance



Kube ESG for SME's & mid cap's

Q & A



Belgian Financial Sector Federation

www.febelfin.be