

Institute for Sustainability Africa (INSÁF)

# May 2026 Newsletter

**Public-sector sustainability reporting, climate action and the road from awareness to implementation.**

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May 2026 Newsletter

# Editorial

## Turning awareness into public-sector action

As May 2026 draws to a close, this newsletter reflects on a month in which public-sector sustainability reporting continues to take centre stage across Africa. Governments are increasingly recognising that credible climate-related reporting is not just about compliance — it is about accountability, resource stewardship and building trust with citizens.

Across the continent, frameworks are maturing, capacity is strengthening and expectations are rising. From national treasuries to local councils, public institutions are working to embed environmental, social and governance considerations into planning, budgeting and delivery. The journey is complex, but the direction is clear: transparency must be translated into measurable action.

This issue spotlights our upcoming webinar, scheduled for 28 May 2026. The event is advertised within these pages, and we encourage agencies and partners to register and join the conversation.

INSAF remains committed to supporting public institutions to turn awareness into practical, reportable and impactful outcomes for people and planet.



**Thank you for reading.**

**Building shared language for practical sustainability action.**



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# From awareness to action



## Making sustainability information useful in everyday public decisions

Awareness is the first step. Action is where change happens. Sustainability becomes meaningful when information informs choices that shape how we govern, plan and invest.

When leaders and institutions use credible information, it strengthens the full cycle of decision-making. Reports highlight what matters. Budgets allocate resources more fairly and effectively. Procurement rewards good practice and local value. Infrastructure choices consider long-term resilience. Services are designed around people's needs and natural systems.

The path from awareness to action is not automatic. It requires clear data, trusted analysis and institutions that can act consistently and transparently. It requires collaboration across sectors and an openness to listen, learn and adapt.

At its best, this approach builds confidence in public decisions and delivers results that improve lives today and protect opportunities for tomorrow.

### Understand the risks

Use the best available data and local knowledge to identify environmental, social and economic risks. Context matters. Recognising what could change helps prioritise actions that build resilience and protect people, assets and ecosystems.

### Strengthen the evidence

Invest in quality data, open information and rigorous analysis. Transparent methods and inclusive participation make evidence more credible and useful. Strong evidence turns awareness into insight you can rely on.

### Act through institutions

Embed sustainability in governance, planning, finance, procurement and service delivery. Clear mandates, accountability and coordination turn evidence into decisions and decisions into lasting impact.

# INSAF continuing commitment



INSAF remains steadfast in its purpose: to strengthen practical understanding of sustainability and climate-related public-sector reporting, convene cross-sector perspectives, and support informed institutional action.

We continue to create spaces for dialogue and learning across government, oversight bodies, professional institutes, civil society, academia and the private sector. Through rigorous research, knowledge sharing and capacity development, we help public institutions navigate evolving expectations, apply relevant frameworks and improve the quality and usefulness of their sustainability reporting.

Our work is grounded in context, guided by integrity and shaped by Africa's priorities. We remain committed to independence, relevance and clarity in all that we do.

We look forward to continuing this important journey together — with purpose, curiosity and a shared commitment to institutional impact.

## Knowledge, institutions and action



# Why IPSASB SRS 1 matters for African governments

Climate and environmental risks influence how governments plan, budget and deliver services. Consistent sustainability reporting helps public institutions understand these pressures with greater clarity endid over time. It strengthens the quality of information available to decision-makers and supports more informed choices about where to focus resources.

Reliable reporting also improves accountability by showing what matters, what is changing and where action is needed. Over time, this can support long-term planning, fiscal resilience and more effective use of public funds. It helps governments anticipate climate-related impacts on infrastructure, public assets and service delivery—so systems can adapt and communities are better protected.

**"Better information supports better public choices."**



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# Looking ahead

**The next practical questions** for governments and public institutions are about connection and capability. How can climate-related sustainability information connect with planning, budgeting, risk management, infrastructure and service delivery so decisions are better informed and more resilient? How can institutions build the skills, systems and partnerships needed to use this information well, consistently and over time?

The path forward is to embed sustainability information where decisions are shaped across sector plans, investment pipelines, asset management and day-to-day operations. That requires clear ownership, practical tools, and feedback loops that link evidence to action. It also depends on dialogue: between ministries, local authorities, service providers, communities, academia, business and civil society.

INSAF will continue to support this work by convening people, sharing knowledge and strengthening the systems that turn information into better public outcomes. The opportunity is to build, together, institutions that learn, adapt and deliver for a sustainable future.

**The next step is practical, institutional and shared.**



FEATURED EVENT

# Unpacking of IPSASB SRS 1: Challenges and Opportunities for Governments



28 May 2026

10:00–11:30 CAT

Live webinar

## EVENT SPOTLIGHT

This webinar was advertised as a forum to examine the challenges and opportunities for governments in implementing IPSASB SRS 1. It forms part of INSÁF's commitment to strengthening public sector sustainability reporting and accountability across Africa.



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# Closing message and contacts






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## Closing message

This issue has highlighted the rising importance of public-sector sustainability reporting as a driver of accountability, resilience and long-term value for citizens. We also spotlitghted the upcoming IPSASB SRS 1 webinar, designed to strengthen understanding of global standards and their practical application. As institutions navigate evolving expectations, the path forward lies in moving from awareness to informed, deliberate action—embedding sustainability into systems, decisions and disclosures. INSÁF remains committed to supporting this journey through knowledge, collaboration and capacity.

From awareness to action