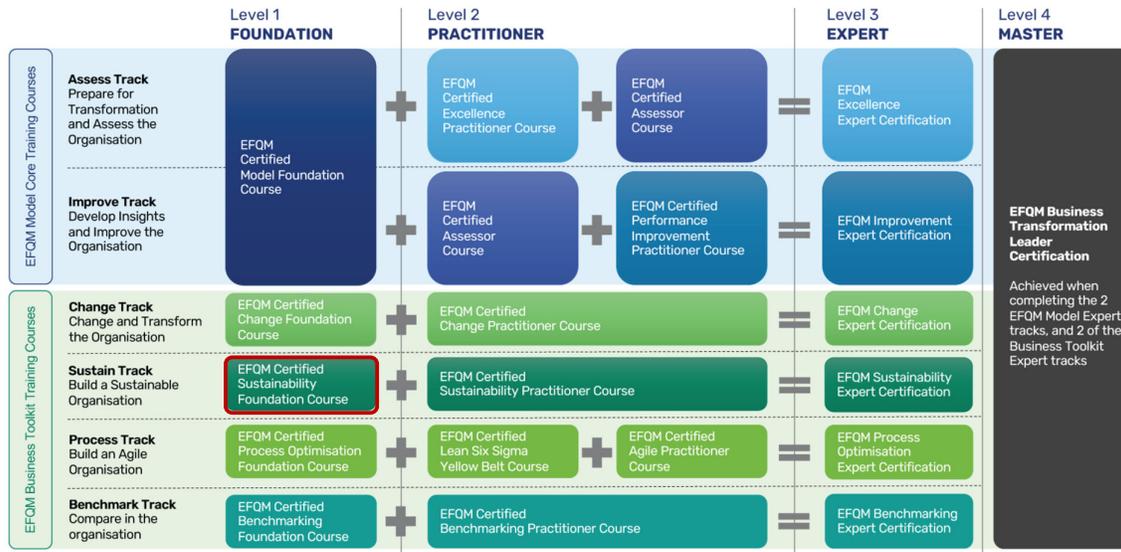


# EFQM Certified Sustainability Foundation 2025

*Build sustainability capability—linking SDGs, EU regulation, and the EFQM Model 2025.*



This course is a pre-requisite to participate in the EFQM Certified Sustainability Practitioner course.

## 8-step sustainability roadmap linked to the EFQM Model

**Stakeholder-first sustainability**

**From compliance to advantage**

### Overall course topics

An introductory, practical course that builds foundational sustainability knowledge and shows how to translate it into organisational action—covering sustainable development, the UN SDGs, corporate sustainability concepts (e.g., ESG), key sustainability regulation (with an EU focus, including CSRD/ESRS), and a step-by-step approach to embed sustainability in management using the EFQM Model 2025 and RADAR logic.

## Goals

By participating in this course, learners build a solid baseline understanding of sustainability and sustainable development (including today's key environmental and societal challenges), gain a shared language through the UN SDGs, and learn why sustainability is strategically important for organisations from both a stakeholder and performance perspective. Participants also strengthen their awareness of the rapidly evolving sustainability landscape—especially EU-focused regulation and reporting expectations (notably CSRD/ESRS and related concepts such as double materiality)—and leave with a practical roadmap to act: eight steps (plus continuous improvement via RADAR) to embed sustainability into leadership commitment, strategy, execution, stakeholder engagement, and transparent reporting, aligned with the EFQM Model 2025 logic (Direction–Execution–Results).

## Learning objectives

By the end of the course, participants will be able to:

- Understand key sustainability concepts and today's major sustainability challenges (e.g., climate, biodiversity, water stress) and why they matter for organisations and stakeholders.
- Explain the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and how organisations can use them as a common framework for sustainability priorities and action.
- Recognise the main sustainability-related regulatory expectations—especially EU-focused reporting and due diligence trends, including CSRD/ESRS and double materiality—and what they imply for organisations and value chains.
- Learn a practical implementation roadmap (“eight steps”, plus continuous improvement) to embed sustainability into leadership commitment, strategy, execution, stakeholder engagement, and transparent reporting.
- Understand how sustainability is embedded in the EFQM Model 2025 and how to use EFQM's Direction–Execution–Results structure and RADAR logic to manage and improve sustainability performance over time.

## Learning outcomes

After completing the course, participants can:

- Articulate a clear business case for sustainability grounded in stakeholder expectations, organisational impacts, and performance/risk considerations.
- Use the SDGs to frame sustainability ambition and conversations in a shared, globally recognised language.
- Describe what CSRD/ESRS and double materiality mean at a practical level and identify key implications for reporting, governance, stakeholder inclusion, and value-chain scope.
- Apply the course's step-based approach to outline an initial sustainability action pathway for their organisation (from leadership commitment and stakeholder/impact mapping to KPIs, delivery, feedback, and reporting).
- Use an EFQM-aligned diagnostic mindset (Direction/Execution) and RADAR continuous improvement cycle to identify strengths, gaps, and next actions to progress sustainability maturity over time.

## Certification (exam)

Final online exam: **30 questions, 60 minutes, open book, bloom level 1 & 2, pass mark 60%**



## Course agenda

The typical agenda of the course is as follows:



A slide titled "Sustainability Foundation Training Content" with a list of 10 topics. The slide has a dark blue background with a white list of topics, each preceded by a blue checkmark icon. The EFQM logo is visible in the bottom right corner of the slide.

- Introduction
- Sustainable development – why is it important?
- Why is sustainability important for organisations?
- Definitions of corporate sustainability
- Global declarations, agreements and frameworks related to sustainability
- Sustainability-related regulation
- How to promote sustainability in practice
- Case study
- EFQM and CSRD
- Diagnostic tool

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Breaks and lunch are scheduled throughout the days, timing is flexible and takes into account the course content, exercises and group discussions.