



# ABB sustainability performance

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## **ABSTRACT**

This report was made within the project DANTES that is supported by the EU Life Environment Program.

This report describes the sustainability performance indicators (SPI) used by ABB.

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## **1. ABB SUSTAINABILITY PERFORMANCE**

ABB have used sustainability performance indicators in both environmental management and environmental reporting since several years. A first set of environmental performance indicators was presented in ABBs environmental management report 1996. The numbers of indicators has gradually been refined and in the 2000 reporting the reporting included a first set of social performance indicators. In the report 2001 a further step was taken and the ABB sustainability performance is reported according to the recommendations of the “Sustainability Reporting Guidelines” published in June 2000 by the Global Reporting Initiative, GRI. The performance indicators are grouped under three sections covering environmental, social and economic dimensions of sustainability.

- The environmental dimension of sustainability concerns an organization’s impacts on living and non-living natural systems, including eco-systems, land, air and water.
- The social dimension of sustainability concerns an organization’s impacts on the social systems within which it operates.
- The economic dimension of sustainability concerns an organization’s impacts on the economic capacity of its stakeholders and on economic systems at the local, national and global levels.

The environmental dimension of sustainability has achieved the highest level of consensus among the three dimensions of sustainability reporting.

## **2. SUSTAINABILITY PERFORMANCE PRESENTED IN ABB GROUP SUSTAINABILITY REPORT FOR 2001**

### **2.1 Environmental performance**

10 groups of environmental performance indicators are reported: energy consumption, materials, water consumption, emissions, effluents, waste, transportation, suppliers, products/services and compliance. The ABB environmental report 2001 covers the activities of approximately 80 percent of ABB’s employees compared to 65% in 2000.

### **2.2 Social performance**

13 groups of social performance indicators are reported: evidence of employee orientation to organizational vision, ranking of ABB as an employer in internal and external surveys, job satisfaction levels, health and safety, safety on construction sites, ratio of lowest ABB wage to national legal minimum, non-discrimination, discrimination-related litigation, mentoring programs for minorities, number of stakeholders dialogues, support for community development, employees in the U.S. respond to September 11 and customer satisfaction levels

### **2.3 Economic performance**

6 groups of economic performance indicators are reported: revenues and profits, assets, investments, labor productivity, taxes and number of employees.