

## Sustainability Reporting in Turkey: Analysis of Companies in the BIST Sustainability Index

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### Abstract

Sustainability reporting is a responsibility practice that towards sustainable development goals as related to corporate performance measurement, explaining and being accountable to internal and external stakeholders. Non-financial information relating to operating activities can be disclosed through sustainability reports. Sustainability reporting is a vital step of managing change towards a sustainable global economy—one that combines long-term profitability with environmental care and social justice. Sustainability reports developed using the GRI Reporting Framework covers results and consequences the emerged in the context of organization's commitments, strategy and management approach during the reporting period. Through the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) Sustainability Reporting Framework, the GRI works to increase the transparency and exchange of sustainability-related information. The Borsa Istanbul Sustainability Index, published since 2014 is an important development for the business in Turkey which is aimed sustainable development. Sustainability reports have been prepared on a voluntary basis in Turkey and in many countries. In line with global developments the number of business is increasing who prefer to explain activities of economic, environmental and social dimensions through corporate sustainability reports in Turkey as well. This study conceptually reviews sustainability reporting and its benefits for the business. In order to see the effectiveness of the sustainability reports, sustainability reports of business in the BIST sustainability index will be subjected to content analysis basis GRI Reporting Principles on voluntary basis.

Keywords: Sustainability Reporting, Sustainability Index, Global Reporting Framework, Application Level

### Introduction

The definition of sustainable development that addresses the concept of sustainability in terms of macro focuses on meeting the needs of the present generation not to damage the ability of future generations to meet their needs to establish the right balance and the continuity of humanity. In this regard the sustainability incorporates the themes of economic development, **social development and environmental protection (Kuşat, 2012)**. A sustainability report is an organizational report that provide information about economic, environmental, social and governance performance. Sustainability reporting is a term used synonymously with various concepts such as triple responsibility reporting, corporate social responsibility reporting, non-financial reporting and so on. (GRI, 2011, 3). Sustainability reports can be called general non-financial reporting because of the emergence of an alternative to traditional financial reporting system.

Investors are increasingly viewing sustainability as a crucial factor in overall business success and there is a growing movement to invest in companies that set industry-wide best practices with regard to sustainability (Searcy & Elkhawas, 2012, s. 79). In Turkey the number of businesses that prefer to explain to the public through the corporate sustainability report dimension of the economic, environmental and social activities are increasing. In particular, public business illustrates many indicators in published sustainability reports.

Some firms are the members of Sustainability Disclosure Database and disclose their reports according to database. **Companies' sustainability reports are prepared and disclosed in various levels as G4, G3, G2, G1, and A, B, and C level.**

The GRI criteria or performance indicators have been used to assess companies' sustainability reports by researchers. In addition, the BIST start running Sustainability Index since 2014 in Turkey. It is obvious that It is an important development that in terms of responsible investors aiming to make sustainable investments and sustainable development aimed at businesses and Istanbul Stock Exchange.

In our study, benefits and importance of sustainability reporting system is introduced, then the development of sustainability reporting in Turkey is given. Finally, the reports of the companies are located in the Sustainability Index in BIST were analyzed yearly .

#### Literature Review

This section presents an overview of the relevant literature.

Farneti ve Guthriea (2009) to date research has been primarily focused on what organisations report, and why organisations undertake SR. Interviewing a number of preparers for each public sector organisation, imposed practical limits on the number of organisations and interview in Australia. 25 of transcribed interviews were analysed. In conclusion, corporate SE reporting is an established practice and have attached a comprehensive literature. Practitioners have also begun to realize the importance of acting and reporting in a sustainable way, however, this has been slow in public sector organisations.

Williamsa, Wilmshursta, & Clift (2011) conducted to a study the current and future state of local government sustainability reporting in Australia. Researchers utilized a mail survey instrument to collect data. They found that local government in Australia reports on aspects of sustainability, with 50% of respondents indicating that they report on at least one area of sustainability with social reporting being most prevalent.

Roca ve Searcy (2012) were identified based on a content analysis of 94 Canadian reports from 2008. The findings show that a total of 585 different indicators were used in the reports. Differences in the use of indicators between sectors were described. The use of indicators suggested by the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) was also investigated. It was found that 31 of the 94 reports included indicators explicitly identified as GRI indicators. The most reported GRI indicators appeared in 28 of the reports, while the least reported indicators appeared in 5 of the reports. This paper provides one of the first in-depth reviews of the indicators used in corporate sustainability reports. Searcy and Elkhawas (2012) analyzed 24 listed firms in terms of using Dow Jones Sustainability Index (DJSI). According to this research less than half of those firms use the logo of DJSI in their sustainability reports and websites for increasing ability of stakeholders to understand sustainability reports which would help them making different decisions than from their competitors. Gurvitsh and Sidorava (2012) conducted survey among 15 listed firms in Estonia. Authors have analyzed English web-published annual reports for years 2007-2010. In this studyit was demonstrated continuous uptrend in the number of social and environmental accounting disclosures, and a fairly low number of issued standalone CSR reports. As a conclusion, this demonstrates that Estonian companies show strong intention to integrate sustainability reporting into their annual reports. Dissanayake and others (2016) employed content analysis in this study to examine the annual reports, separate sustainability reports and websites of 60 of the top 100 Sri Lankan publicly listed companies, for the 2011 to 2012 financial reporting period. The results indicate that Sri Lankan sustainability reporting is quite significant, particularly among larger firms, but other factors found to be relevant in previous literature do not necessarily have any influence. This suggests that there is more work to be done to understand the motivations behind the reporting practices of Sri Lankan firms.

There are few studies related to sustainability reporting in Turkey.

PWC (2011) conducted survey among 215 listed firms in Turkey. As a result of the study it was found that the vast majority of the companies was not published Sustainability Report. It has been seen that the vast majority of companies published report is production companies. As a consequences it is emphasized that impact of reporting effects mostly brand recognition and competitive advantage and impact of reporting in funding was reached to remain low as a result.

Senal and Aslantaş Ateş (Senal & Aslantaş Ateş, 2012) examined the structure accounting and reporting in corporate sustainability process. In this study they claimed that sustainability development promotes using various accounting and costing methods such as environmental accounting, environmental managerial accounting, and life cycle costing.

**Aktaş and others (2013) discussed elements of corporate sustainability reporting and detected sustainability reports of selected public firms in Turkey. Sustainability reports of nine firms have been analyzed based on the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) indicators. The results show that selected firms' sustainability reports usually meet the minimum requirements of the GRI standards based on their application level. However there are differences between firms' scores even though they are in the same application level.**

Istanbul Stock Exchange Sustainability Reports of companies located in the Sustainability Index was investigated by Pamukçu and Ozdemir (2016) . It was found that companies which is included in sustainability index have published business and incenssant reports since 2007. In these premises they concluded that companies share business of financial reporting as well as **social, environmental and governance performance clearly. Aracı and Yuksel (2016) studied 15 sustainability reports of the companies in BIST Sustainability index in November 2014-October 2015 period. In this study they found that 8 of them prepared sustainability reports according to GRI reporting principles, 2 of them not prepared sustainability reports according to GRI reporting principles, 4 of them announced principles of sustainability issues in business, administration and operation to users on the website and one of the company's annual report has included a section on sustainability information. They emphasized the GRI Reporting Principles would be more appropriate to use the G4 in order to ensure the malleability standardization of reporting, transparency and accountability. Ergüden and Çatlıoğlu (2016) investigated enviromental performance evaluation of four chosen companies taking care of the sustainability report data published in 2013. Sustainable contribution to energy companies using TOPSIS method was examined on the basis of different criteria. Companies that most contribute to sustainability in Turkey was defined as Zorlu Energy. Turkey's sustainable development in the energy companies, sustainability activities that will support the main input of the manufacturing sector and has emphasized that reporting should be the leader. Many companies are interested in the social and economic dimensions of sustainable reporting. Especially environmental issues are not being priorities of many firms.**

### Sustainability Reporting

Sustainability concept in corporates economic development, social development and environmental protection. Mainly the evoking of economic development; due to the fact that sustainability is directly associated with activities related to decision-making unit. We give the name of economic decision-making units; households, companies, government and outside **World which is called economic decision units include non governmental organizations with new economic order (Kuşat, 2012).**

There are many definitions of sustainable development. According to the definition of the World Commission on Environment and Development "*Development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.*" is expressed(UN, 1987). On United Nations 2005 World Summit sustainable development is defined in three sub-headings; economic development, social development and environmental protection (UN, 2005: p.12). However, corporate sustainability is a concept that includes only part of the sustainable development representing the continuation of commercial enterprises- particularly in the economic decision-making units in charge of production.

Social responsibility reporting is an improved corporate social responsibility reporting based on the trio performance criteria. The sustainability reports has environmental, social and economic performance also included to interact with each other. In other words, sustainability reporting is prepared include environmental and social performance of the company impact on economic performance or ways in which economic performance is affected and to what extent they (Akarçay, 2014, s. 3).

### Benefits and Importance Of Sustainable Reporting

A sustainability report is a report published by a company or organization about the economic, environmental and social impacts caused by its everyday activities. Sustainability reporting can help organizations to measure, understand and communicate their economic, environmental, social and governance performance, and then set goals, and manage change more effectively. A sustainability report is the key platform for communicating sustainability performance and impacts – whether positive or negative.

Sustainability reports should not be seen merely as a tool of communication and accountability. Sustainability report, which contains information on the environmental and social impacts of business activities, the types of reports that can be considered as a tool for ensuring transparency in corporate governance and sustainability. A sustainability report is a report published by a company or organization about the economic, environmental and social impacts caused by its everyday activities. A sustainability report also presents the organization's values and governance model, and demonstrates the link between its strategy and its commitment to a sustainable global economy. ([www.globalreporting.org](http://www.globalreporting.org))

Sustainability reporting can be considered as synonymous with other terms for non-financial reporting; triple bottom line reporting, corporate social responsibility (CSR) reporting, and more. It is also an intrinsic element of integrated reporting; a more recent development that combines the analysis of financial and non-financial performance. Companies in the reporting process, to develop long-term objectives, management strategies within the framework of sustainability vision they create, are shaping policies and business plans. In this way, company management can focus on areas that need development by identifying the negative and positive aspects of the company, in other words can see the possible risks and opportunities. So businesses can more easily identify the steps needed to strengthen their position in the business world. Reporting sustainability performance of companies helps to reveal the value of intangible and thus consolidate its corporate reputation and brand loyalty. In addition, reports prepared based on certain reporting principles offers company to compare with other companies operating in the same sector (Borsa İstanbul , 2014, s. 20).

Sustainability report is a tool that can be accountable to internal and external stakeholders and makes it reliable in line with for the purpose of sustainable development of the company. Sustainability reporting, is a general term used to report on economical, environmental and social parameters. Sustainability report, the report prepared by the company's sustainability performance balanced and annotated in a reasonable manner and should be evaluated. The report must include the company's stakeholders all contributions to positive or negative. In addition, these sustainability reports must be clearly explain companies' strategies, projects and management styles (PWC, 2011).

#### Global Reporting Initiative (GRI)

Approaches such as Global Reporting Initiative (GRI Global Reporting Initiative), created in 1997, are trying to establish a standard format for sustainability reports. Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) is working in close cooperation with United Nations programs such as United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the UN Global Compact (UNGC). GRI is a non-profit organization and has multiple stakeholders. It is operating worldwide. Its mission is to improve globally applicable Sustainability Reporting Guidelines and to disseminate sustainability reporting by making routine and comparable it as financial reporting. This guide will offers a framework which the companies can report on their environmental, economic and social activities and the results of these activities.

GRI has participation of organization active in business, finance, investment, environmental, human rights, and organizations active in the research and study subjects all over the world. Sustainability reports based on the GRI Reporting Framework offers outcomes and results that occurred within the reporting period as part of the organization's commitments, strategy, and management approach. Purposes of the reports:

- **Assessing sustainability performance with regards to laws, norms, codes, performance standards, and voluntary initiatives**
- **Explaining how the organization influences and is influenced by expectations about sustainable development**
- **Benchmarking performance within an organization and between different organizations over time.**

The GRI Reporting Framework (Figure.1) is designed to serve as a generally accepted framework for reporting on an organization's economic, environmental, and social performance. It is prepared for use by organizations regardless of size, sector, or location. It considers the practical factors faced by a diverse range of organizations. The GRI Reporting Framework includes general and sector-specific content to be generally applicable for reporting an organization's sustainability performance. This content has been agreed by a wide range of stakeholders around the world.



Figure 1: The GRI Reporting Framework

Source: Sustainability Reporting Guidelines 2000-2011 GRI

<https://www.globalreporting.org/resourcelibrary/G3.1-Guidelines-Incl-Technical-Protocol.pdf>

### Sustainability Reporting in Turkey

Sustainability Index calculating by Istanbul Stock Exchange in Turkey offers a possibility to measure corporate sustainability achievements at the national and international basis. Sustainability reporting is a result or an output. On the basis of the results of adopting sustainability concept as a corporate culture and taking concrete steps in this direction, organizations should move to the reporting process. In this regard, companies first must develop a methodology for what they must do. Collection of information on the subject, accessing to this information and assessment of the institution must be provided in the light of this information. Report is a means encouraging improvements as a result of the assessment process. But many reports in Turkey is not yet the level of this awareness and assessment. According to many opinions, the majority of the report is more in the form of public relations and communications work. As activities carried out company describing in detail, it appears that internal information is very limited.

Published reports under many different topics such as Corporate Social Responsibility, Corporate Citizenship, Sustainability, non-financial reporting include social, environmental and governance performance of the company briefly. CSR reporting is also seen as an important management tool to incorporate CSR into their corporate strategy. When increasing importance of the transparency of social and environmental information the other actors also gain importance in CSR reporting. The European Commission's work in this field that represents a good example of this. The Commission **makes reporting mandatory legal framework and conducting a study based on the "Apply, if you don't then explain" policy.** Furthermore, the European Union aims to reach 17,500 CSR reports until 2017, of which at around 2500 reports in 2013. Despite CSR reports are not adopted in this level, also the number of companies preparing report in Turkey is increasing every year. Companies active in Corporate Social Responsibility practices must begin to do CSR / Sustainability Reporting. Reporting via corporate activities undertaken in the Social Responsibility can be delivered to transparently stakeholders via reporting, as well as determining corporate Social Responsibility strategy and vision, each year to assess the progress in this field will make a major contribution to respective companies. (<http://tisk.org.tr/wp-content/uploads/2016/04/CSR.pdf>, s.34)

### Analyzing Sustainability Reports in Turkey

Turkey has taken important steps towards sustainability practices in recent years.

#### 4.1 GRI's Data Partners in Turkey

Kiyemet-i Harbiye is a management consultancy firm. It provides advisory and applied services on sustainability and CSR management. Kiyemet-i Harbiye attempts to extend sustainability reporting and GRI guidelines since it was founded in 2009. in Istanbul, Turkey, Kiyemet-i Harbiye provide services in the areas of sustainability reporting, performance assessment, stakeholder engagement, strategy building, sustainability communication, CSR projects and training. Kiyemet-i Harbiye

offers the details of the sustainability report published in Turkey to the attention of users through corporate sustainability portal ([www.kurumsalsurdurulebilirlik.com](http://www.kurumsalsurdurulebilirlik.com)). Below is an overview of reports submitted by Kiymet-i Harbiye:

Table 1: Turkish Company Reports on the GRI Database for The Period Between 2014 and 2016 According to the Firm size

Year	Firm Size			Total
	Large	MNE	SME	
2014	44	10	5	59
2015	38	10	6	54
2016	8	3	12	23
Total	90	23	23	136

Source: [https://www.globalreporting.org/services/analysis/Reports\\_list/Pages/default.aspx](https://www.globalreporting.org/services/analysis/Reports_list/Pages/default.aspx)

A total of 59 companies issued sustainability reports in 2014, as shown in Table 1. 44 of them are large scale. it was seen that 54 companies published report in 2015, the majority large-scale company. In the current year, 2016, there are 23 companies' reports in the system, and it is expected to increase until the end of the year. The last three years mainly large companies published sustainability report.

Table 2: Turkish Companies' Report on the GRI Database for The Period between 2014 and 2016, According to the Reports Type

Year	Type of Reports					Total
	GRI G3	GRI G3.1	GRI G4	GRI-Referenced	NON-GRI	
2014	9	27	12	5	6	59
2015		8	35	3	8	54
2016			22		1	23
Total	9	35	69	8	15	136

Source: [https://www.globalreporting.org/services/analysis/Reports\\_list/Pages/default.aspx](https://www.globalreporting.org/services/analysis/Reports_list/Pages/default.aspx)

Table 2 shows the distribution of reports based on the reports type. The last three years, 15 of the published reports were not prepared in accordance with GRI framework. Most of the published reports (69 pieces) were prepared in accordance with GRI G4 principles for the period 2014-2016.

Table 3: Turkish Companies' Report on the GRI Database for The Period between 2014 and 2016, According to the Sector

Sector	Year			Total
	2014	2015	2016	
Automotive	5	5	1	11
Aviation	1	2		3
Chemicals	1			1
Commercial Services	1	2		3
Conglomerates	9	9	1	19
Construction	2	1		3
Construction Materials	3	1		4
Consumer Durables	1	1		2
Energy	4	3	1	8
Energy Utilities	1		1	2
Equipment			13	13
Financial Services	9	9	4	22

Food and Beverage Products	3	3	1	7
Healthcare Products	3	2		5
Healthcare Services	1			1
Logistics	2	1		3
Media	1	1		2
Metals Products	1	1		2
Other	3	6		9
Retailers	1	1	1	3
Technology Hardware		1		1
Telecommunication	4	3		7
Textiles and Apparel	3	2		5
Total	59	54	23	

Source: [https://www.globalreporting.org/services/analysis/Reports\\_list/Pages/default.aspx](https://www.globalreporting.org/services/analysis/Reports_list/Pages/default.aspx)

Mostly, the banks operating in the financial services sector were released sustainability reports, as shown in Table 3. Conglomerates are in second place with 19 reports when total of three year, Equipment sector companies follow these structures with 13 reports.

#### 4.2. Bist Sustainability Index

In countries where the sustainability report prepared on a voluntary basis, sustainability index has an important role to promote the preparation and publication of the sustainability report. Exchanges traditionally play an important role to create transparent, regulated markets and to promote best practices of financial statement and corporate governance among listed companies.

Perhaps the most effective products that improve by the Stock Exchange in the field of responsible investment is the sustainability index (Borsa Istanbul, 2014, p. 36). The purpose of the BIST Sustainability Index is to create an index will take place in companies quoted on the stock Exchange in Istanbul and with a high level of corporate sustainability performance and to increase of knowledge, understanding and practices about sustainability among the companies in Turkey, particularly in Borsa Istanbul.

BIST Sustainability Index has been calculated and published as the price and yield with XUSR code since November 4, 2014. With this roadmap and mind, 'Sustainability Index' support the development of investment conditions in Turkey. It will ensure the transparency of works in the field of corporate sustainability of the private sector and provide objective and clear evaluation of the private sector. The ISEE with a basic guideline to move forward in terms of the sustainability performance of our companies will create an important basis for institutional and sectoral development. Milestones of Bist sustainability work is split in Figure 2:





Figure 2: Milestones of Bist sustainability works (Sustainability Report 2015)

Sürdürülebilirlik Raporu 2015, Etkin ve Sürdürülebilir Piyasalar <http://www.borsaistanbul.com/docs/default-source/yayinlar/borsa-istanbul-2015-surdurulebilirlik-raporu.pdf?sfvrsn=12>

There are a total of 29 companies in the Bist Sustainability Index for the period between November 2015-October 2016.

Tablo 4: BIST Sustainability Index Constituents for The Period Between November 2015- October 2016

1	AKBNK	AKBANK	16	PETKM	PETKIM
2	AKSEN	AKSA ENERJI	17	SAHOL	SABANCI HOLDING
3	AEFES	ANADOLU EFES	18	SAFGY	SAF GMYO
4	ARCLK	ARCELIK	19	TSKB	T.S.K.B
5	ASELS	ASELSAN	20	TAVHL	TAV HAVALIMANLARI
6	BRISA	BRISA	21	TOASO	TOFAS OTO. FAB.
7	CCOLA	COCA COLA ICECEK	22	TCELL	TURKCELL
8	DOAS	DOGUS OTOMOTIV	23	TUPRS	TUPRAS
9	EREGL	EREGLI DEMIR CELIK	24	THYAO	TURK HAVA YOLLARI
10	FROTO	FORD OTOSAN	25	TTKOM	TURK TELEKOM
11	GARAN	GARANTI BANKASI	26	ULKER	ULKER BISKUVI
12	ISCTR	IS BANKASI	27	VAKBN	VAKIFBANK
13	KCHOL	KOC HOLDING	28	VESTL	VESTEL
14	MGROS	MIGROS	29	YKBNK	YAPI VE KREDI BANK.
15	OTKAR	OTOKAR			

Corporate sustainability reports of the companies included in the BIST Sustainability Index were explored through to **companies' website and Kıymet-i Harbiye's corporate sustainability portal** [www.kurumsalsurdurulebilirlik.com](http://www.kurumsalsurdurulebilirlik.com). According to the obtained data in the BIST Sustainability Index of 29 companies of the sustainability reports are summarized in Table 5 with respect to publishing year, reporting period, report language, number of pages, GRI application level, GRI status and references. Information about the organizations included in this study were examined by the year of 2014.

Table 5: Sustainability Index Constituents' Reports for The Year 2014

Name of the Organization	Reporting Priod	Pub. Year	Type of the Reports	Application Level	Status	Pages	Languages	References
Akbank	2014	2015	GRI G4	Comprehensive	GRI -checked	156	Turkish, English	UNGC-United Nations Global Compact



Garanti Bankası	2014	2015	GRI G4	Comprehensive	GRI -checked	197	Turkish, English	CDP- Carbon Disclosure Project IFC Performance Standard, AA1000 UNGC-United Nations Global Compact
T.S.K.B	2014	2015	GRI G4	Comprehensive	GRI -checked	156	Turkish, English	CDP- Carbon Disclosure Project UNGC-United Nations Global Compact
İs Bankası	2014	2015	GRI G3.1	A	GRI -checked	113	Turkish, English	CDP- Carbon Disclosure Project IFC Performance Standard UNGC-United Nations Global Compact AA1000
Yapı ve Kredi Bankası	2014	2015	GRI G4	Core	GRI -checked	105	Turkish, English	UNGC-United Nations Global Compact IFC Performance Standard
Vakıfbank	2014	2015		Core	GRI -checked	94	Turkish, English	Non
Aksa Enerji	2014	2015		Core	GRI -checked	45	Turkish, English	Non
Anadolu Efes	2014	2015	GRI G4	Core	GRI -checked	68	Turkish, English	UNGC-United Nations Global Compact
Arçelik	2014	2015	GRI G4	Core	GRI -checked	68	Turkish, English	UNGC-United Nations Global Compact CDP- Carbon Disclosure Project
Aselsan	2014	2015			Self- declared	46	Turkish, English	Non
Brisa	2014	2015	GRI G4	Comprehensive	GRI -checked	91	Turkish, English	UNGC-United Nations Global Compact CDP- Carbon Disclosure Project UNGC-United Nations Global Compact
Coca Cola İçecek	2014	2015	GRI G4	Core	GRI -checked	108	English	CDP- Carbon Disclosure Project UNGC-United Nations Global Compact CDP- Carbon Disclosure Project

Name of the Organization	Reporting Period	Pub. Year	Type of the Reports	Application Level	Status	Pages	Languages	References
Doğuş Otomotiv	2014	2015	GRI G4	Comprehensive	GRI -checked	185	Turkish, English	UNGC-United Nations Global Compact
Ereğli Demir Çelik	2014	2015			Self- declared	55	Turkish, English	Non
Ford Otosan	2013-2014	2015	GRI G4	Core	GRI -checked	120	Turkish, English	UNGC-United Nations Global Compact UNGC-United Nations Global Compact
Koç Holding	2014	2015	GRI G4		GRI -checked	67	Turkish, English	UNGC-United Nations Global Compact CDP- Carbon

Company Name	Year 1	Year 2	GRI Level	Core Level	Report Type	Page Count	Language	Disclosure Project
Otokar	2014	2015	GRI G4	Core	GRI - checked	55	Turkish, English	UNGC-United Nations Global Compact
Sabancı Holding	2014	2015			Self-declared	47	Turkish, English	UNGC-United Nations Global Compact
TAV Havalimanları	2014/2015	2016	GRI G4	Core	GRI - checked	48	Turkish, English	UNGC-United Nations Global Compact CDP- Carbon Disclosure Project
Tofaş Oto. Fab.	2014	2015	GRI G4	Core	GRI - checked	55	Turkish, English	UNGC-United Nations Global Compact CDP- Carbon Disclosure Project
Turkcell	2014/2015	2016			Self-declared	31	Turkish, English	UNGC-United Nations Global Compact
Tüpraş	2014	2015	GRI G4	Core	GRI - checked	72	Turkish, English	UNGC-United Nations Global Compact
Türk Hava Yolları	2014	2015	GRI G4	Core	GRI - checked	136	Turkish, English	Non
Ülker Bisküvi	2015	2016	GRI G4	Core	GRI - checked	41	Turkish, English	Non

From the 29 companies in the index, 24 of them have published reports on the activities related to sustainability in 2014. 20 of them was approved by GRI. 4 is not GRI report. Core level was the base of the application level mainly. There are 13 reports in Core level, 5 report in comprehensive level, and only 1 report is A level. It is observed that the report prepared in both Turkish and English.

While 23 reports were included in the report type GRI G4, there is 1 report with GRI G3.1 type. In terms of the number of pages it is seen that financial sector entities published reports over 100 pages. Likewise, companies operating in the **automotive sector, Doğu Otomotiv and Ford Otosan, is released reports over 100 pages. While 18 organizations have UNGC membership, 8 organization does not have the UNGC membership. 5 institutions located in the index has not been publishing a separate sustainability report. They share activities concerning the sustainability with information users by the company's website.**

## Conclusions

Sustainability reports is the type of corporate reports that ensure to the transfer of economic, environmental and social impact of business activities to users. In our country sustainability reports is preparing on a voluntary basis like in many countries in the world. Sustainability indices is an important incentive in ensuring the preparation and adoption of sustainability reports.

Sustainability are taken into account, country, national and international organizations, businesses, academics by all stakeholders related with the business. Therefore, the operating activities of environmental, social and economic impact on the preparation of sustainability reports in order to ensure transparency and accountability regarding the malleability should be mandatory for companies quoted BIST. Prepared in accordance with GRI sustainability reporting guidelines can be initially required to prepare reports for companies to be included in the BIST Sustainability Index. In this case, the index calculations will be more reliable and practical. The company prepares and publishes sustainability report transparency and accountability will increase the malleability. Direct or indirect relationship with all stakeholders in the business, to reach non-financial information they need for their business operations more comfortable; It will increase their confidence in the company. As a result, the company will be available needed funds at a lower cost. In the future with the increasing number of business sustainability report published increase the confidence of stakeholders will be provided to businesses Investments will be directed more to this business.

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