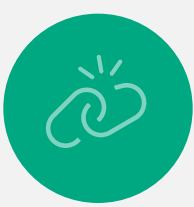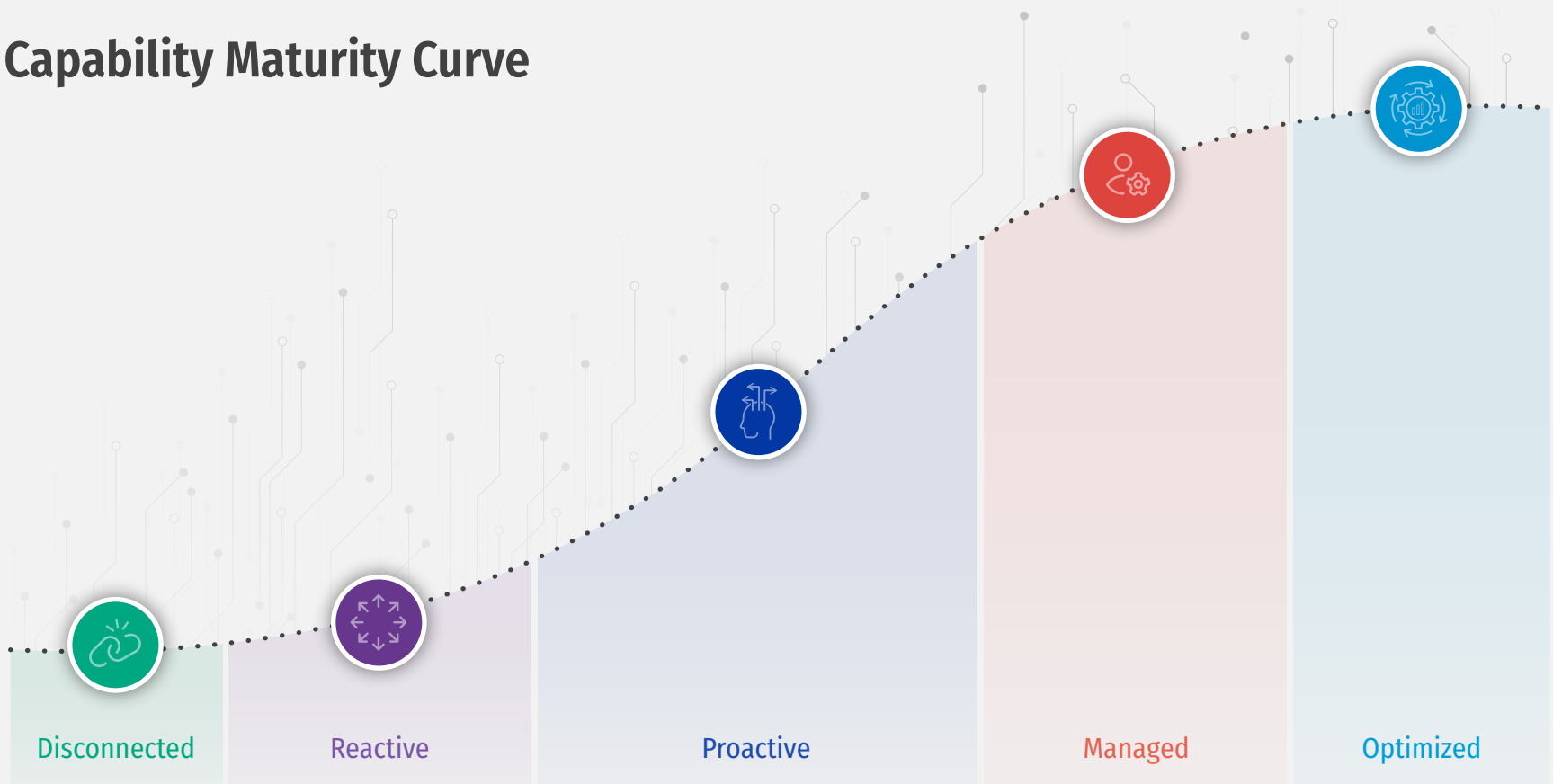# Maturity Curve for a Digitized Sustainability Program

Technology has become an integral part of any sustainability data collection and reporting process. Sustainable practices require a stringent adherence to data protocols. And with so many regulatory requirements involved, it's important to build a foundation of not only accurate, but accessible data.

This infographic outlines the stages to build a reliable and usable sustainability data management program.

Level of effort=LOE

Capability Maturity Curve

Disconnected | Reactive | Proactive | Managed | Optimized

STAGE 1
Disconnected
Missing strategies and processes
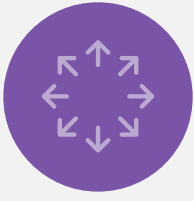
LOE to get to the next stage

Key identifiers:
- ► Non-standard ESG business processes
- ► Vague strategies
- ► Inefficient data collection and auditing
- ► Data verification and accuracy concerns

Steps to get to the next stage:
- ► Identify reporting requirements and frameworks
- ► Assess and strategize metric reporting
- ► Define metrics and goals
- ► Assign and improve data collection and verification responsibilities

Limited ability to respond to stakeholder requests and external reporting requirements

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STAGE 2
Reactive
Disjointed and siloed data

LOE to get to the next stage

Key identifiers:
- ► Inconsistent data quality, transparency, and accuracy
- ► Lacking complete understanding of data sources and standardization
- ► Fragmented data reviews by multiple individuals

Steps to get to the next stage:
- ► Develop and document business processes consistent with sustainability strategies
- ► Implement data verification methods
- ► Begin data standardization process

Completed materiality assessments and a defined plan or strategy for sustainability reporting

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STAGE 3
Proactive
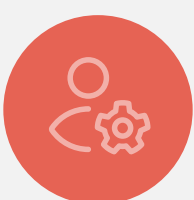Purpose-driven sustainability processes

LOE to get to the next stage

Key identifiers:
- ► Developing processes for better data quality and timeliness
- ► Defining risks and emerging opportunities
- ► Interconnected analysis of data sets
- ► Deploying disparate technologies for data management and sustainability tasks

Steps to get to the next stage:
- ► Select and deploy enterprise sustainability software solution for standardized data collection and reporting
- ► Implement data verification practices
- ► Adhere to and refine business processes to close remaining gaps

Improved ability to respond to stakeholder requests and external reporting requirements

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STAGE 4
Managed
Enhancing to create value

LOE to get to the next stage

Key identifiers:
- ► Use of software, data management and analytics tools enabling internal/external data integrations
- ► Improved risk/value identification through use of data
- ► Drill-down metric capabilities at the site/asset level
- ► Enhanced data visualization for decision-making

Steps to get to the next stage:
- ► Streamline data collection and enhance accuracy through software integrations
- ► Increase data verification frequency
- ► Collect data at detailed levels (site, asset)
- ► Improve data visualization with business intelligence tools
- ► Make process improvements based on sustainability data

Technology-enabling corporate governance to manage ESG impacts and decisions

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STAGE 5
Optimized
Business Integrated and nimble

Sustainable and technology

Key identifiers:
- ► High data specificity, frequency, and accuracy
- ► Capability to review, predict, and adjust goal attainment strategies
- ► Use of AI and Machine Learning for enhanced data quality and predictive sustainability insights

Capabilities in this stage:
- ► Timely management of risks and opportunities
- ► Confident decision-making based on sustainability data and its impact
- ► Adaptability to regulatory and political changes using reliable data

Technology and business integration enables business adapability, proactive decision-making, full transparency and disclosure

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The digitization of sustainability data can be a daunting task as an organization progresses through the stages of the maturity curve. There are many facets of data collection and reporting that need to be taken into consideration throughout the growth cycle of a sustainability program, some more challenging than others.

The Trinity DGS team possesses extensive expertise in ESG and climate data disclosures and can assist companies across diverse industry sectors in preparing for company-wide disclosure requirements.

Visit our **website** to learn more and setup a consultation.

Trinity Consultants