

Stakeholder Panel 2014: Introduction

As part of sustainability reporting on the financial year 2014 and the switch from GRI G3 to GRI G4, Geberit consulted a panel of external stakeholders for the second time. The results of the external stakeholder panel's analysis are documented in the → [panel statement](#). The external review and the recommendations contained therein are dealt with in detail in the → [response from Geberit to the panel statement](#).

Panel's objective and role

The objective of the external stakeholder panel was to provide feedback on the materiality analysis and to compare this analysis with the current sustainability strategy. The panel also examined whether the most important topics were included in sustainability reporting and whether the concerns of the stakeholders were taken into consideration.

The panel's review does not include an examination of the accuracy of the data and information presented by Geberit.

Panel composition and independence

The stakeholder panel comprises five → [members](#) with no affiliation to Geberit and different areas of expertise with respect to Geberit's core business. To ensure the panel's independence in this process, the discussions were overseen and moderated by an external party.

The → [panel statement](#) contains the review of all panel members. The panel is a consensus group. In cases where a consensus could not be reached, the diverging opinions were documented in the Statement. As a basic principle, the views expressed by the panel members are their own and do not necessarily reflect the views of their respective organization or employer.

Process and results

The process comprised several steps and was conducted and documented in a systematic manner:

- Prior to the stakeholder dialog, the panel members completed a survey on the materiality analysis. This survey also served Geberit internally as a basis for determining the material aspects.
- All panel members also received all documents on sustainability reporting for analysis, including the sustainability strategy.
- In September 2014, the panel met with CEO Albert M. Baehny and managers from various departments for a half-day workshop. The panel's responses to the survey on materiality served as the basis for the discussion. The discussion focused primarily on those topics where the difference between Geberit's internal and the panel's external standpoint was the greatest, as well as on topics where Geberit had not identified any relevance or need for action.
- In January 2015, the panel was consulted once again, the revised sustainability strategy presented and the → [panel statement](#) finalized.
- In February 2015, the → [response from Geberit to the panel statement](#) was developed on the basis of current reporting on the financial year 2014.

The GRI → [“Materiality Matters check”](#) confirms that the portrayal of key elements of the report – such as the definition of material aspects, their boundaries and the description of stakeholder engagement (G4-17 to G4-27) – has been verified by GRI.