

31 August 2022

ESMA Publishes an Update of the ESEF Reporting Manual

1.0 Background

Reference is made to the [Regulatory Technical Standard on the European Single Electronic Format \(ESEF RTS\)](#) which requires issuers¹ to prepare their Annual Financial Reports (AFRs) in the Extensible Hypertext Markup Language (.xHTML) and IFRS consolidated financial statements should additionally be marked up using the eXtensible Business Reporting Language (XBRL).

2.0 ESEF Reporting Manual

The Authority would like to draw your attention to the [2022 update of the ESEF Reporting Manual](#), published by European Securities and Markets Authority (ESMA) on 24 August 2022.

The ESEF Reporting Manual is intended to provide guidance on issues which are commonly encountered when generating Inline XBRL instance documents in compliance with the ESEF RTS.

In this regard, issuers preparing consolidated financial statements are hereby reminded of the mandatory “block tagging” requirements, **applicable for the financial years beginning on or after 1 January 2022** in terms of Annex II of the ESEF RTS.² Indeed, the 2022 update to the ESEF Reporting Manual *inter alia* provides new guidance on the requirement to mark-up the notes to the IFRS consolidated financial statements.

3.0 Contacts

Should you have any queries or request for clarifications in respect of the above, kindly contact the Authority on esef.malta@mfsa.mt.

¹ Issuers having securities listed on a regulated market, within the scope of the [Transparency Directive](#) (Directive 2013/50/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 22 October 2013 amending Directive 2004/109/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council on the harmonisation of transparency requirements in relation to information about issuers whose securities are admitted to trading on a regulated market).

² Annex II of the [Regulatory Technical Standard on ESEF](#) (Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2019/815 of 17 December 2018 supplementing Directive 2004/109/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council with regard to regulatory technical standards on the specification of a single electronic reporting format).