GCX
Sustainability & Beyond.

Every journey needs a map.
Sustainability is no different.



CASE STUDY
LIBERTY

LIBERTY
Standard Bank Group



FINANCIAL SERVICES · REAL ESTATE

From Compliance to Confidence

How Liberty moved from chasing data owners and spreadsheets to assurance-ready Scope 1, 2 and 3 reporting on DASH Ascent.

Overview

Liberty operates within Standard Bank Group's Insurance and Asset Management (IAM) unit, which brings together insurance, asset management, investment, property and related financial services capabilities.

Within IAM, Liberty Property Portfolio (LPP) and Real Estate Services (RES) represent a material operational footprint through owned and leased property assets across South Africa. LPP and IAM RES manage commercial real estate and offices on behalf of Liberty Group Limited, consisting of retail and office assets, as well as hotel interests.

LPP and IAM RES are central to IAM's environmental and climate reporting because the buildings generate measurable energy, water, waste and emissions data, and are exposed to physical climate-related risks.

IAM aligns to Standard Bank Group's sustainability frameworks, policies and reporting expectations, ensuring that insurance, asset management and property operations apply a consistent Group approach to ESG, climate risk and other related disclosures.

Against this backdrop, GCX's engagement with Liberty is centred on the DASH platform and the need to strengthen sustainability data management across a complex organisational structure.

The platform supports IAM RES and LPP in moving from fragmented, manual data collection toward a more controlled, technology-enabled process that improves reporting confidence, supports external assurance, and helps IAM respond more effectively to Group and regulatory expectations.

Locations
Across South Africa

Size
43 properties – 13 owned and 30 leased office space

Sector
Office, Retail, and specialised.

Square Meters
Over 1,2 million square metres

Challenges

Before working with GCX, Liberty's sustainability data collection was largely regulatory in nature. That compliance-first starting point created a set of hands-on, day-to-day challenges:

01 **A manual, fragmented process**, with multiple data owners across owned and leased buildings, often working from different templates and spreadsheets.

02 **A significant time drain** spent chasing data owners and manually checking whether templates were complete and consistent.

03 **Version control issues** - as one team member put it, there was regular template updating, making it difficult for all people providing data inputs to ensure correct version usage all of the time.

04 **An error-prone consolidation process**, leaving the business exposed to human error and heavy manual time and management overhead.

05 **Internal silos**, since sustainability data collection depended on close collaboration across teams that weren't naturally aligned.

06 **It is really important to ensure that data is as accurate as possible first time around**, or it can require re-statement of data as better quality data emerges or errors are detected at a later stage

Solutions

To address these challenges, Liberty partnered with GCX and implemented the DASH Ascent platform, shifting sustainability reporting from a compliance-only mindset to a strategic one — using the data to inform real business decisions rather than simply satisfying reporting requirements.

Centralised Data Management

DASH gave Liberty a single, centralised system for data collection and reporting across its owned and leased buildings, replacing scattered spreadsheets and inconsistent templates.

Targets view

The platform shows relevant KPI targets across energy, water, waste and solar uptake, giving quick and headline access to KPIs, which Liberty measure and report against.

Automated Data Prompts

The platform automatically prompts data owners when submissions are due, removing the need for the sustainability team to manually chase colleagues for outstanding data.

Assurance-Ready Reporting

GCX supported Liberty in preparing data suitable for external assurance across Scope 1, 2, and 3 emissions, while GCX's expert technical advisors were on hand to assist during the assurance process.

Cross-Team Collaboration

Working with GCX brought Liberty's sustainability function into closer, more regular collaboration with its risk team, improving visibility into environmental risk and opportunity management.

Results

The collaborative efforts of Liberty and GCX have yielded significant results:

Data Accuracy

Named as the top improvement — giving Liberty greater confidence in its reported numbers.

Time Reclaimed

Automated prompts reduced manual chasing, freeing the team for better strategic conversations.

Assurance-Ready Reporting

Scope 1, 2, and 3 emissions data — including the wide-ranging Scope 3 category — is now prepared to a standard suitable for external assurance.

Stakeholder Confidence

Investors, customers, and other stakeholders can trust the data behind Liberty's reporting, which now supports PwC's limited assurance over selected Scope 1, 2 and 3 KPIs.



“

Before DASH, we were chasing data owners across dozens of buildings, using different templates and spreadsheets, and we were prone to human error.

Now our data is more accurate, the system prompts people when data is owed, and external assurance is far easier. Most importantly, we've moved from simply reporting numbers to a strategic focus, because when your numbers give you confidence, you make better decisions.

MATHAPELO TEMBE | SUSTAINABILITY SPECIALIST, STANDARD BANK GROUP

Facing the same challenge?

Tell us where your data sits today and we'll show you what the path looks like.

SPEAK WITH AN EXPERT →
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