

Supplier Benchmarking FAQs

Q: What is Supplier Benchmarking?

Supplier Benchmarking shows you how your performance across Labour, Health & Safety, Environment and Business Ethics compares to other businesses in your industry, using your existing Sedex data. We've released this as an enhancement to your membership, at no extra cost.

Q: What else is included in my Sedex membership alongside this?

Sedex membership gives you more than just a way to share audit information – it helps you manage, demonstrate and improve your responsible business practices while reducing the burden of meeting customer requirements.

Your membership includes:

- **Submit once, share multiple times** – complete your SAQ and upload audit results once, then securely share them with multiple customers, reducing duplication and saving valuable time.
- **Demonstrate your social and environmental credentials** – use Sedex to showcase your responsible business practices and provide customers with the information they need to meet their supply chain requirements.
- **Increase your visibility to potential customers** – your company is listed in the Sedex member directory, helping responsible buyers discover and connect with your business.
- **Management Controls Report** – gain insights into your management systems and identify opportunities to strengthen performance and drive continuous improvement.
- **Access to over 100 e-learning courses** – build knowledge across key social and environmental topics through our extensive library of short, practical courses designed to help you improve business performance and meet customer expectations.
- **24/5 expert support** – access help whenever you need it from our dedicated support team.

In short, Sedex membership helps you save time, reduce customer requests, strengthen your social and environmental credentials, improve your business practices, and create opportunities to win and retain customers.

Q: What do I actually get, and how is it different from my audit or SAQ?

Your SAQ and audit tell you where you stand today. Benchmarking goes a step further: it shows you how that compares to other businesses like you, so you know where your strengths are and where you can make improvements, in line with your industry, and where to focus next. You can also download your results to get a clear, shareable summary of your management controls score and your ranking to share with any existing customers or support RFPs and tenders with potential customers.

Q: How is my score calculated, and what am I being compared against?

Your benchmark is based on your existing Self-Assessment Questionnaire, which is data your Management Controls is based on. It compares your Management Controls performance with an anonymised, aggregated group of businesses in the same industry and region. This gives you a deeper understanding of how your sites are managed, showing not only how you are performing, but also how you compare with peers and competitors.

Q: Who's in my peer group?

Businesses are grouped by industry and location, so the comparison is meaningful rather than comparing you to businesses in an unrelated sector.

Q: How often is my benchmark updated?

Your SAQ reflects your sustainable management practices. As your business evolves and you keep your SAQ up to date, your management controls and benchmark will evolve alongside it, helping you to improve how you manage risk and demonstrate that commitment to buyers, keeping you plugged into your real competitive position.

What it means for my membership

Q: Do I need to pay extra for this?

No. It's an enhancement to your membership, at no extra cost.

Q: Does this replace my SAQ or audit?

No. Your SAQ and SMETA Audit remain the foundation – benchmarking uses that data to show you how you compare, it doesn't replace the need to keep them up to date.

Q: I'm a Supplier Plus member – do I still get something extra?

Yes. Supplier Plus still includes everything in your existing plan alongside this. In addition, Supplier Plus members have exclusive assets including badge and certificate to demonstrate your commitment to sustainable sourcing, exclusive ESG e-learning content, a 25% discount on premium paid e-learning courses and prioritised visibility in our Buyer-facing supplier directory. We are also looking to further enhance the benefits of your membership to make it easier for you to improve your performance and showcase your hard work to customers.

Q: Will more features be added for suppliers over time?

We're continuing to invest in tools that help suppliers understand and demonstrate their performance – we'll let you know as more becomes available.

Q: What else is included in my Sedex membership alongside this?

There are a lot of valuable features already, including: submit once, share multiple times for your SAQ and audit results, so you don't need to resubmit the same information to every customer; your listing in the Sedex member directory, giving you visibility to potential customers; your Management Controls Report; and 24/5 support.

How to use it

Q: Where do I find my results?

Log into the Sedex Platform and look for the “Performance” option in the left-hand navigation – or use this direct link <https://app.sedex.com/benchmark/supplier>

Q: How do I download and share my benchmark results?

From the new [Performance page](#) you just need to click the “Share” button to see a preview of your management controls score and your ranking against similar suppliers, and you can then click “Download” to take away a Sedex-branded export showcasing this information to share with existing or potential buyers.

You will need to start filling in your Self-Assessment Questionnaire in order to share and download your benchmark results, and you’ll get the most accurate results once you’ve completed your Self-Assessment Questionnaire. The new Performance page will guide you to start or continue your questionnaire if you’re in this position!

Q: My score isn't great – should I still share it, or wait until it improves?

Many suppliers find it useful to share results alongside the improvement steps they're already taking – customers tend to value transparency more than a perfect score. Being able to show a clear signal of improvements over time is an extremely positive story and demonstration of your commitment to responsible sourcing. Ultimately you own and control your data, and it is up to you if you want to share it.

Q: How do I improve my score – where do I start?

Your results highlight the specific areas where you're below your peer average and could make improvements – that's the best place to start focusing your effort. You can also review our e-learning to ensure you understand what Management Controls represents – this is embedded at the top of the new Performance page or [directly linked here](#).

Data

Q: Is my data shared with other suppliers or my competitors?

No. The peer comparison uses anonymised, aggregated data – no other company can see your individual results, and you can't see theirs. We use robust sample sizes to ensure that benchmarking scores are accurate while protecting the confidentiality of your business.

Q: Do customers see my benchmark results automatically?

No. Customers only see your performance against your benchmark results if you choose to share them. Customers continue to be able to review your individual management controls score as has been a long-standing benefit of sharing your data through the Sedex Platform.

Q: How reliable is the peer comparison – what is the benchmark built on?

It's built directly from Sedex's own SAQ data across a broad supplier base, grouped by industry, industry sub-sector and region for a meaningful comparison with robust sample sizes to ensure accuracy and confidentiality.

Support

Q: Who do I contact if I have questions or get stuck?

The Sedex Helpdesk is available to members to provide support, you can contact us at helpdesk@sedex.com or through Live Chat on the Sedex Platform

Benchmarks are provided as an informational comparison based on management control data submitted by suppliers. They are not certifications, audit opinions or guarantees of performance or legal compliance. Sedex does not recommend or endorse suppliers based on benchmarking results.