



**HIGH MEADOWS  
INSTITUTE**

**User Manual  
Business Leadership in Society Database**

This manual is a comprehensive guide to all aspects of the BLiS Database.

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# 1. Navigating the Business Leadership Society Database

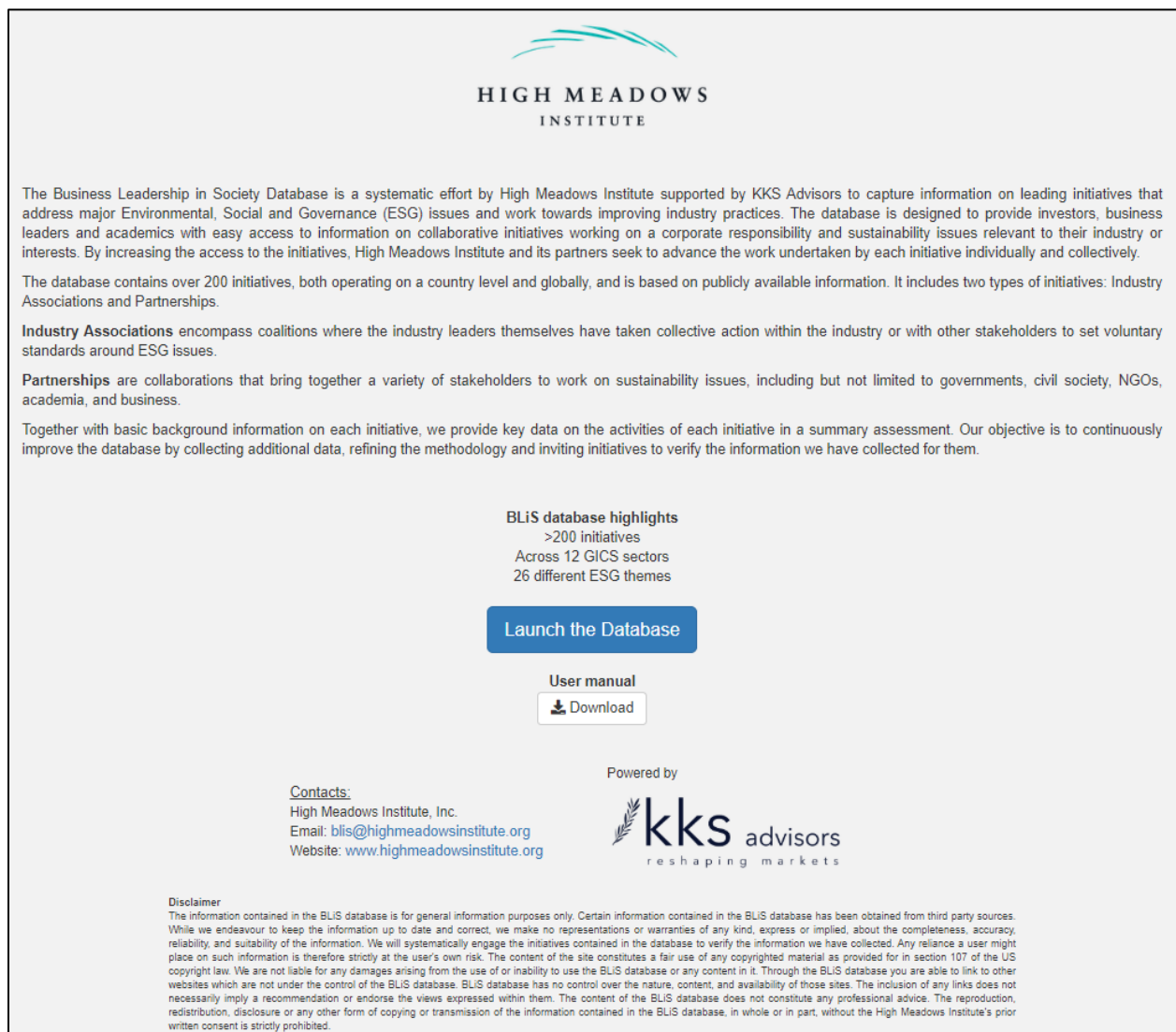
## 1.1 Access

The BLIS database is available through the following link:

<https://www.highmeadowsinstitute.org/projects/business-leadership-in-society-database/>

## 1.2 Home page

The link opens up the home page of the database. To access the full database, click on “Launch the Database”.



The screenshot shows the home page of the Business Leadership in Society (BLIS) Database. At the top center is the High Meadows Institute logo. Below the logo, there is a paragraph describing the database as a systematic effort by High Meadows Institute supported by KKS Advisors to capture information on leading initiatives that address major Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) issues. It mentions that the database is designed to provide investors, business leaders, and academics with easy access to information on collaborative initiatives. The database contains over 200 initiatives, both operating on a country level and globally, and is based on publicly available information. It includes two types of initiatives: Industry Associations and Partnerships. Industry Associations encompass coalitions where industry leaders themselves have taken collective action within the industry or with other stakeholders to set voluntary standards around ESG issues. Partnerships are collaborations that bring together a variety of stakeholders to work on sustainability issues, including but not limited to governments, civil society, NGOs, academia, and business. Together with basic background information on each initiative, the page provides key data on the activities of each initiative in a summary assessment. The objective is to continuously improve the database by collecting additional data, refining the methodology and inviting initiatives to verify the information collected for them.

Below the text, there is a section titled "BLIS database highlights" with the following statistics:

- >200 initiatives
- Across 12 GICS sectors
- 26 different ESG themes

There are two buttons: a blue "Launch the Database" button and a white "Download" button with a download icon. Below the buttons, there is a "User manual" link and a "Contacts" section with the following information:

**Contacts:**  
High Meadows Institute, Inc.  
Email: [blis@highmeadowsinstitute.org](mailto:blis@highmeadowsinstitute.org)  
Website: [www.highmeadowsinstitute.org](http://www.highmeadowsinstitute.org)

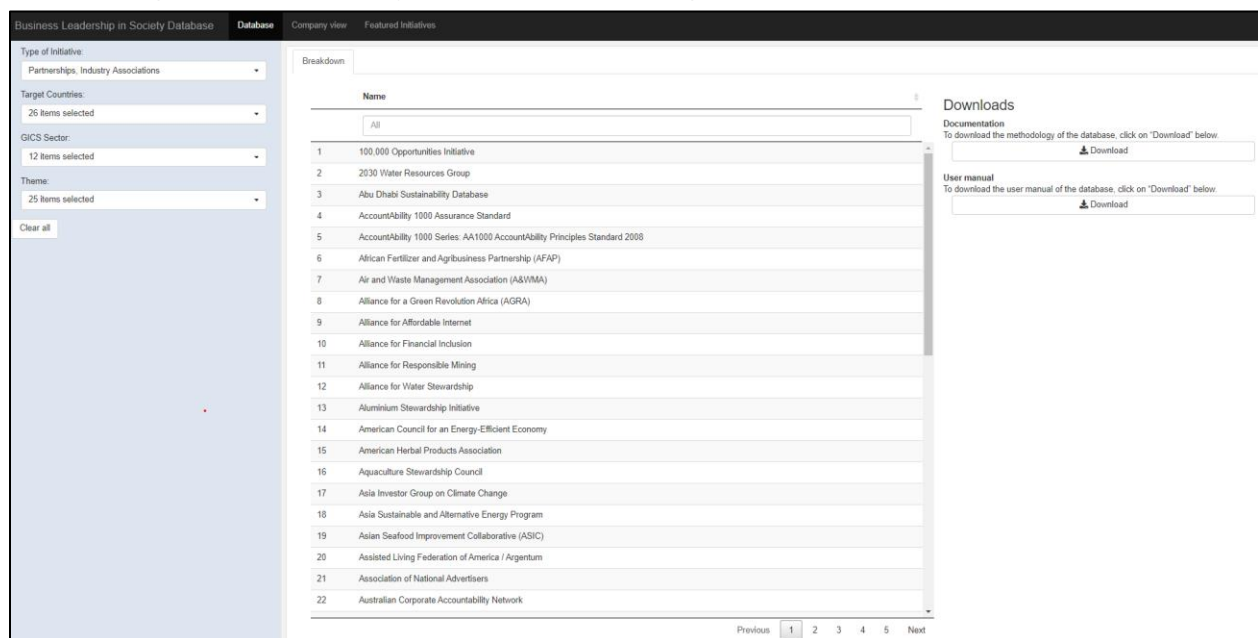
At the bottom right, it says "Powered by" followed by the KKS Advisors logo, which includes the text "reshaping markets".

**Disclaimer**  
The information contained in the BLIS database is for general information purposes only. Certain information contained in the BLIS database has been obtained from third party sources. While we endeavour to keep the information up to date and correct, we make no representations or warranties of any kind, express or implied, about the completeness, accuracy, reliability, and suitability of the information. We will systematically engage the initiatives contained in the database to verify the information we have collected. Any reliance a user might place on such information is therefore strictly at the user's own risk. The content of the site constitutes a fair use of any copyrighted material as provided for in section 107 of the US copyright law. We are not liable for any damages arising from the use of or inability to use the BLIS database or any content in it. Through the BLIS database you are able to link to other websites which are not under the control of the BLIS database. BLIS database has no control over the nature, content, and availability of those sites. The inclusion of any links does not necessarily imply a recommendation or endorse the views expressed within them. The content of the BLIS database does not constitute any professional advice. The reproduction, redistribution, disclosure or any other form of copying or transmission of the information contained in the BLIS database, in whole or in part, without the High Meadows Institute's prior written consent is strictly prohibited.

## 1.3 Database

### 1.3.1 Main Menu

The following main menu will be presented after launching the database:



The screenshot shows the 'Business Leadership in Society Database' interface. At the top, there are tabs for 'Database', 'Company view', and 'Featured Initiatives'. The 'Database' tab is active. On the left, there are four filter sections: 'Type of Initiative' (set to 'Partnerships, Industry Associations'), 'Target Countries' (26 items selected), 'GICS Sector' (12 items selected), and 'Theme' (25 items selected). Below these filters is a 'Clear all' button. The main area displays a table of initiatives with columns for 'Name' and 'Breakdown'. The table lists 22 initiatives, including '100,000 Opportunities Initiative', '2030 Water Resources Group', 'Abu Dhabi Sustainability Database', and 'AccountAbility 1000 Assurance Standard'. On the right, there is a 'Downloads' section with two links: 'Documentation' and 'User manual', each with a 'Download' button.

The filters used for generating a list of initiatives are displayed on the left. The table in the center shows the resulting list of initiatives. On the right, the documentation and the user manual are available for downloading.

The user can return to the main menu by clicking on “Database” on the header bar at the top.

### 1.3.2 Filters and Search Functionality

By default, all partnerships and industry associations in any target country, GICS sector and theme are listed. All options can be selected and deselected when clicking on the respective filter. The list can be personalized by changing the following four filters:

- Type of Initiative: Partnerships and/or Industry Associations
- Target Countries: Countries and/or regions where initiatives are operating
- GICS Sector: GICS Sectors in which initiatives are operating<sup>1</sup>
- Themes: SASB ESG issues on which initiatives are working<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> [https://www.spglobal.com/marketintelligence/en/documents/112727-gics-mapbook\\_2018\\_v3\\_letter\\_digitalspreads.pdf](https://www.spglobal.com/marketintelligence/en/documents/112727-gics-mapbook_2018_v3_letter_digitalspreads.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.sasb.org/>

**Example 1:** If a user is interested in partnerships and industry associations in the health care sector, that are active in the United States and which are working towards improving Access & Affordability, the user selects the following filters:



The screenshot shows a filter interface with the following settings:

- Type of Initiative: Partnerships, Industry Associations
- Target Countries: United States
- GICS Sector: Health care
- Theme: Access & Affordability
- Clear all button

The results table is titled "Breakdown" and has a search bar with "All" entered. The table contains the following data:

Name	
1	Consumer Healthcare Products Association
2	Healthcare Distribution Alliance
3	National Cancer Policy Forum

Navigation buttons: Previous, 1, Next

A search functionality by name is also available above the table (see Example 2. below).

**Example 2:** If a user is interested in initiatives which have the word “cocoa” in their name, the user types “cocoa” in the search functionality:



The screenshot shows a search interface with the following settings:

- Search bar: cocoa
- Results table titled "Breakdown" with a search bar containing "cocoa".

The results table contains the following data:

Name	
108	International Cocoa Initiative
236	World Cocoa Foundation

Navigation buttons: Previous, 1, Next

### 1.3.3 Initiative Profile

To access an initiative profile, click on the row associated with that initiative in the main menu. This opens the “Initiative Profile” tab and the main menu is accessible through the first “Breakdown” tab.

On the profile tab, the Initiative Description section provides background information on the selected initiative (see figure below). The Summary Assessment section presents key information on the activities of the selected initiative.

Initiative Description			Summary Assessment		
Aluminium Stewardship Initiative					
Type:	Industry Association		Governance Structure	Yes	<a href="#">Details</a>
GICS Sector:	Materials		Action required by Members	Yes	<a href="#">Details</a>
Industry:	Metals & Mining		Reporting on the State of the Industry	Yes	<a href="#">Details</a>
Founded:	2012		Driving Corporate Disclosure, Reporting or Labelling	Yes	<a href="#">Details</a>
Website:	<a href="#">Website</a>		Target Setting	Yes	<a href="#">Details</a>
Members	92	<a href="#">Details</a>	Transparency	Yes	<a href="#">Details</a>
Verified Profile:	No		Membership Audit	Yes	<a href="#">Details</a>
List of ESG Themes:			Impact Assessment	Yes	<a href="#">Details</a>
Supply Chain Management			Enforce Non-compliance	Yes	<a href="#">Details</a>
<p>The Aluminium Stewardship Initiative (ASI) is a global, multi-stakeholder, non-profit standards setting and certification organisation. It is the result of producers, users and stakeholders in the aluminium value chain coming together with a commitment to maximising the contribution of aluminium to a sustainable society.</p> <p><i>The data included in this profile were collected from June to November 2019.</i></p>					

### 1.3.4 Details

Clicking on “Details”, whenever available in the Summary Assessment, will open a new tab with a document or a website, which provides evidence for the corresponding metric. Additionally, a hover over on each metric in the Summary Assessment allows for a detailed definition. See below for an example:

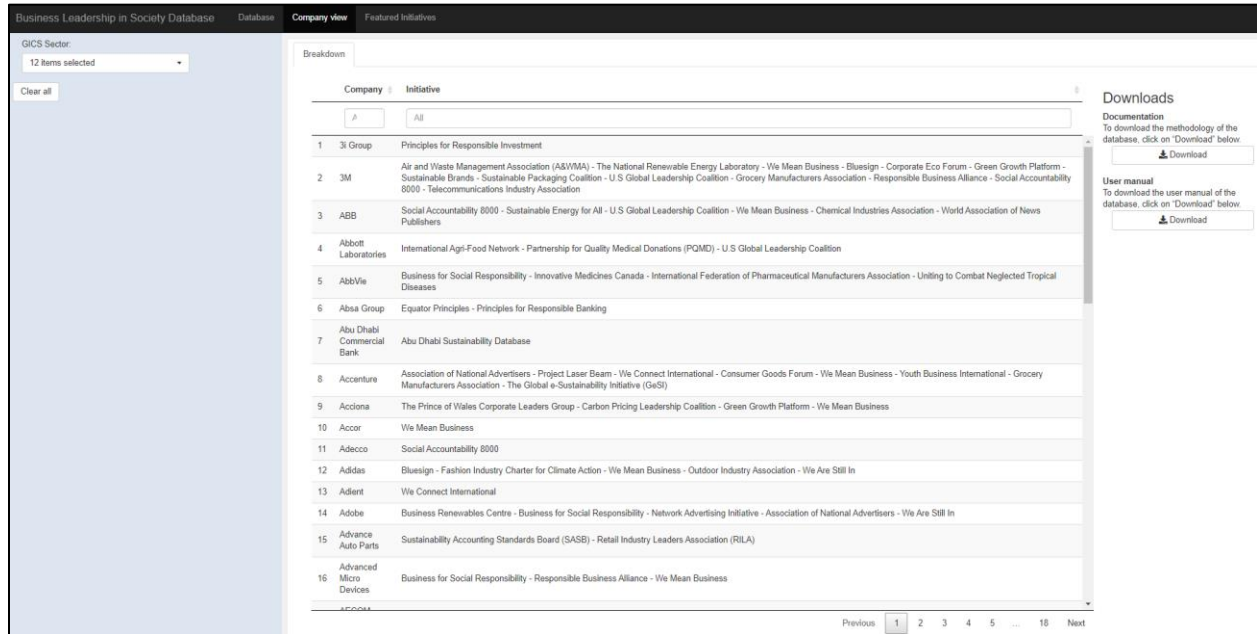
Summary Assessment		
Governance Structure	Yes	<a href="#">Details</a>
Action required by Members	Yes	<a href="#">Details</a>
Reporting on the State of the Industry	Yes	<a href="#">Details</a>
Driving Corporate Disclosure, Reporting or Labelling	Yes	<a href="#">Details</a>

*Note: A tooltip for "Action required by Members" reads: "The level of commitment required of members."*

## 1.4 Company View

### 1.4.1 Main Menu

To access the Company view, click on “Company view” on the header bar. The following main menu will be presented:



The screenshot shows the 'Business Leadership in Society Database' interface. The top navigation bar includes 'Database', 'Company view', and 'Featured Initiatives'. The 'Company view' is active.

On the left, there is a 'GICS Sector' filter with '12 items selected' and a 'Clear all' button.

The main content area is titled 'Breakdown' and contains a table with columns 'Company' and 'Initiative'. The table lists 16 items, each with a company name and a list of associated initiatives. For example, item 1 is '3i Group' with the initiative 'Principles for Responsible Investment'. Item 2 is '3M' with a long list of initiatives including 'Air and Waste Management Association (AWMA)', 'The National Renewable Energy Laboratory', etc.

On the right side, there is a 'Downloads' section with two links: 'Documentation' and 'User manual', each with a 'Download' button.

At the bottom of the table, there is a pagination control showing 'Previous', '1', '2', '3', '4', '5', '10', and 'Next'.

The filter used for generating a list of companies is displayed on the left. The table in the center shows the resulting list of companies and initiatives. On the right, the documentation and the user manual are available for downloading.

The user can return to the Company view by clicking on “Company view” on the header bar at the top.

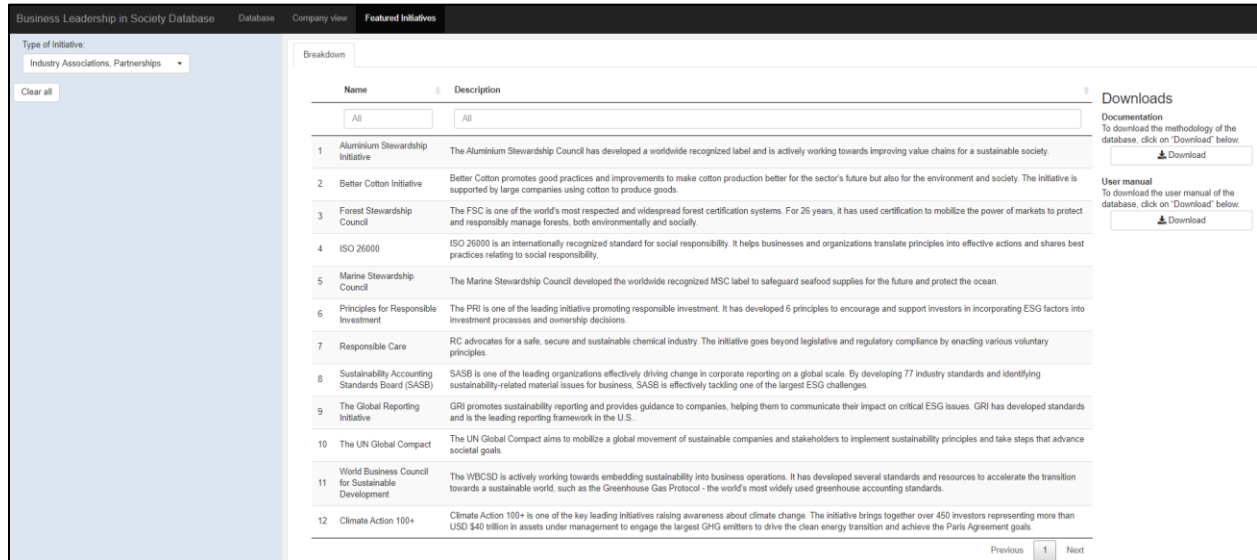
### 1.4.2 Filter and Search Functionality

By default, all companies in any GICS sector are listed. The list can be personalized by selecting a specific or multiple GICS Sector(s). All options can be selected and deselected when clicking on the filter. A search functionality by name is also available above the table.

## 1.5 Featured Initiatives

### 1.5.1 Main Menu

To access the list of Featured Initiatives, click on “Featured Initiatives” on the top header. The following main menu will be presented:



The screenshot shows the 'Business Leadership in Society Database' interface. The top navigation bar includes 'Database' and 'Company view', with 'Featured Initiatives' selected. On the left, a 'Type of initiative' dropdown is set to 'Industry Associations, Partnerships' with a 'Clear all' button below it. The main content area is titled 'Breakdown' and contains a table with 12 rows of initiatives. The table has two columns: 'Name' and 'Description'. To the right of the table, there are two 'Downloads' sections: 'Documentation' and 'User manual', each with a 'Download' button.

	Name	Description
1	Aluminium Stewardship Initiative	The Aluminium Stewardship Council has developed a worldwide recognized label and is actively working towards improving value chains for a sustainable society.
2	Better Cotton Initiative	Better Cotton promotes good practices and improvements to make cotton production better for the sector's future but also for the environment and society. The initiative is supported by large companies using cotton to produce goods.
3	Forest Stewardship Council	The FSC is one of the world's most respected and widespread forest certification systems. For 26 years, it has used certification to mobilize the power of markets to protect and responsibly manage forests, both environmentally and socially.
4	ISO 26000	ISO 26000 is an internationally recognized standard for social responsibility. It helps businesses and organizations translate principles into effective actions and shares best practices relating to social responsibility.
5	Marine Stewardship Council	The Marine Stewardship Council developed the worldwide recognized MSC label to safeguard seafood supplies for the future and protect the ocean.
6	Principles for Responsible Investment	The PRI is one of the leading initiative promoting responsible investment. It has developed 6 principles to encourage and support investors in incorporating ESG factors into investment processes and ownership decisions.
7	Responsible Care	RC advocates for a safe, secure and sustainable chemical industry. The initiative goes beyond legislative and regulatory compliance by enacting various voluntary principles.
8	Sustainability Accounting Standards Board (SASB)	SASB is one of the leading organizations effectively driving change in corporate reporting on a global scale. By developing 77 industry standards and identifying sustainability-related material issues for business, SASB is effectively tackling one of the largest ESG challenges.
9	The Global Reporting Initiative	GRI promotes sustainability reporting and provides guidance to companies, helping them to communicate their impact on critical ESG issues. GRI has developed standards and is the leading reporting framework in the U.S.
10	The UN Global Compact	The UN Global Compact aims to mobilize a global movement of sustainable companies and stakeholders to implement sustainability principles and take steps that advance societal goals.
11	World Business Council for Sustainable Development	The WBCSD is actively working towards embedding sustainability into business operations. It has developed several standards and resources to accelerate the transition towards a sustainable world, such as the Greenhouse Gas Protocol - the world's most widely used greenhouse accounting standards.
12	Climate Action 100+	Climate Action 100+ is one of the key leading initiatives raising awareness about climate change. The initiative brings together over 450 investors representing more than USD \$40 trillion in assets under management to engage the largest GHG emitters to drive the clean energy transition and achieve the Paris Agreement goals.

The filter used for generating a list of initiatives is displayed on the left. The table in the center shows the resulting list of initiatives and reasons why they are featured. On the right, the documentation and the user manual are available for downloading.

The user can return to the list of Featured Initiatives by clicking on “Featured Initiatives” on the header bar at the top.

### 1.5.2 Filter and Search Functionality

By default, all featured partnerships and industry associations are listed. The list can be personalized by selecting the type of initiative - Partnerships and/or Industry Associations. All options can be selected and deselected when clicking on the respective filter. A search functionality by name is also available above the table.

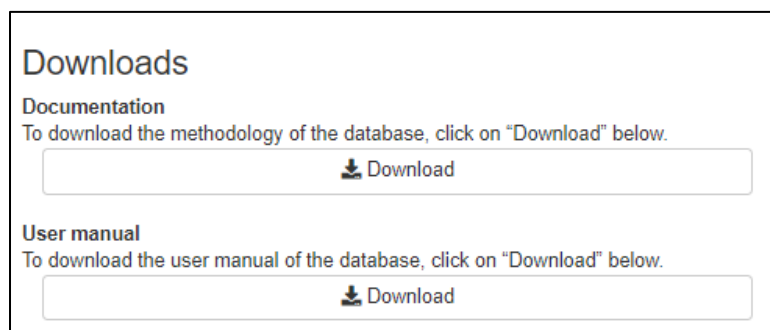
## 2. Downloads

### 2.1 Downloading Documentation

To download the methodology of the database, go to the Downloads section in the main menu on the “Database”, “Company view” or “Featured Initiatives” section and click on “Download” under “Documentation” (see figure below).

### 2.2 Downloading the User Manual

To download the user manual of the database, go to the Downloads section in the main menu and click on “Download” under “User manual” (see figure below).





## List of Abbreviations

<b>BLiS</b>	Business Leadership in Society
<b>ESG</b>	Environmental, Social and Governance
<b>GICS</b>	Global Industry Classification Standard
<b>NGO</b>	Non-Governmental Organization
<b>SASB</b>	Sustainability Accounting Standards Board