



# CLIMATE TRANSPARENCY REPORT 2019

Pekin Singer Strauss (Appleseed Capital)

# About the Climate-related Disclosure Indicators

Climate has been identified as a top priority for PRI signatories, with over 70% of asset owners reporting this as the most important long-term trend they are acting on.

The FSB Task Force's guidance on climate-related financial disclosure aim to create a single framework for disclosure on assessment and management of climate-related risk. The recommendations, supported by investors representing US\$22 trillion, identify four main disclosures, Governance, Strategy, Risk Management, Metrics and Targets, and include specific guidance for asset owners and managers.

As a result, the PRI introduced climate-related disclosure indicators that can be used to align with the TCFD recommendations in the 2019 PRI Reporting Framework.

## About this report

This report is an export of only the climate-related indicators from the 2019 Reporting Framework response. The full Public Transparency Report is available here ([https://reporting.unpri.org/surveys/PRI-reporting-framework-2019/-A7A85F6C-8E0A-43D4-B2D2-9E81E8034A29/00000000-0000-0000-0000-000000000000/doc/2/-%7C%7C\\*complete\\*%7C\\*public\\*/Merged/](https://reporting.unpri.org/surveys/PRI-reporting-framework-2019/-A7A85F6C-8E0A-43D4-B2D2-9E81E8034A29/00000000-0000-0000-0000-000000000000/doc/2/-%7C%7C*complete*%7C*public*/Merged/)). It shows the responses to all the completed climate indicators, even those you chose to keep private. It is designed for your internal review or – if you wish - to share with your stakeholders.

The PRI will not publish this report on its website if you have designated your 2019 climate reporting as “private”. Otherwise, you will be able to access the Climate Transparency Report of your organisation and that of other signatories on the [PRI website](#) and on the [Data Portal](#).

To easily locate information, there is a **Recommendation index** which summarises the indicators that signatories complete and disclose. The report presents information exactly as it was reported as per signatory preference. Where an indicator offers a response option that is multiple-choice, all options that were available to the signatory are presented in this report.

## TCFD Recommendations Index

Strategy and Governance - CC			TCFD Recommendation			
Indicator	Reported	Disclosure	Governance	Strategy	Risk Management	Metrics & Targets
SG 01.1	✓	Public				
SG 01.2	✓	Public				
SG 01.3	✓	Public				
SG 01.4	✓	Public				
SG 01.5	-	Public				
SG 01.6 CC	✓	Public				
SG 01.7 CC	✓	Public				
SG 01.8 CC	-	Public				
SG 01.9 CC	✓	Public				
SG 01.10 CC	✓	Public				
SG 01.11 CC	-	Public				
SG 01.12 CC	-	Public				
SG 02.2	✓	Public				
SG 07.5 CC	✓	Public				
SG 07.6 CC	-	Public				
SG 07.7 CC	✓	Public				
SG 07.8 CC	-	Public				
SG 13.1	✓	Public				
SG 13.2	-	Public				
SG 13.4 CC	-	Public				
SG 13.5 CC	-	Public				
SG 13.6 CC	-	Public				
SG 13.7 CC	-	Public				
SG 13.8 CC	-	Public				
SG 14.1	✓	Private				
SG 14.2	✓	Private				
SG 14.3	✓	Private				
SG 14.4	-	Private				
SG 14.5	-	Private				
SG 14.6 CC	-	Public				
SG 14.7 CC	-	Public				
SG 14.8 CC	✓	Public				
SG 14.9 CC	✓	Public				
SG 15.1	✓	Private				
SG 15.2	-	Private				
SG 15.3	-	Private				

Symbol	Status
✓	The signatory has completed this sub-indicator
-	The signatory did not complete this sub-indicator.
	This indicator is relevant to the named TCFD recommendation
Within the first column "Indicator", indicators marked in blue are mandatory to complete. Indicators marked in grey are voluntary to complete.	

# ORGANISATIONAL OVERVIEW

This section provides an overview of your organisation. These characteristics are used to define your peer groups.

## MAIN CHARACTERISTICS

<b>Name</b>	Pekin Singer Strauss (Appleseed Capital)
<b>Signatory Category</b>	Other
<b>Signatory Type</b>	Investment Manager
<b>Size</b>	US\$ 0.1 - 0.99 billion AUM
<b>Main Asset Class</b>	>50% Listed Equity Internally Managed
<b>Signed PRI Initiative</b>	2017
<b>Region</b>	North America
<b>Country</b>	United States
<b>Disclosure of Voluntary Indicators</b>	10% from 38 Voluntary indicators

# Pekin Singer Strauss (Appleseed Capital)

## Reported Information

### Public version

### Strategy and Governance

## PRI disclaimer

This document presents information reported directly by signatories. This information has not been audited by the PRI Secretariat or any other party acting on their behalf. While this information is believed to be reliable, no representations or warranties are made as to the accuracy of the information presented, and no responsibility or liability can be accepted for any error or omission.

## Investment policy

SG 01

Mandatory

Public

Core Assessed

General

**New selection options have been added to this indicator. Please review your prefilled responses carefully.**

SG 01.1

Indicate if you have an investment policy that covers your responsible investment approach.

Yes

SG 01.2

Indicate the components/types and coverage of your policy.

Select all that apply

Policy components/types	Coverage by AUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Policy setting out your overall approach <input type="checkbox"/> Formalised guidelines on environmental factors <input type="checkbox"/> Formalised guidelines on social factors <input type="checkbox"/> Formalised guidelines on corporate governance factors <input type="checkbox"/> Fiduciary (or equivalent) duties <input type="checkbox"/> Asset class-specific RI guidelines <input type="checkbox"/> Sector specific RI guidelines <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Screening / exclusions policy <input type="checkbox"/> Engagement policy <input type="checkbox"/> (Proxy) voting policy <input type="checkbox"/> Other, specify (1) <input type="checkbox"/> Other, specify(2)	<input type="radio"/> Applicable policies cover all AUM <input type="radio"/> Applicable policies cover a majority of AUM <input checked="" type="radio"/> Applicable policies cover a minority of AUM

**SG 01.3**

Indicate if the investment policy covers any of the following

- Your organisation's definition of ESG and/or responsible investment and it's relation to investments
- Your investment objectives that take ESG factors/real economy influence into account
- Time horizon of your investment
- Governance structure of organisational ESG responsibilities
- ESG incorporation approaches
- Active ownership approaches
- Reporting
- Climate change
- Understanding and incorporating client / beneficiary sustainability preferences
- Other RI considerations, specify (1)
- Other RI considerations, specify (2)

**SG 01.4**

Describe your organisation's investment principles and overall investment strategy, interpretation of fiduciary (or equivalent) duties, and how they consider ESG factors and real economy impact.

**Investment Principles**

Protect the integrity of investors' capital  
 Do not be afraid of contrarian thinking  
 Prudence is paramount in taking on leverage  
 Be patient with our investment decisions  
 Seek a margin of safety with our capital commitments  
 Seek out attractive investments around the world and across asset classes  
 Integrate ESG Investing to seek to reduce risk

All of these principles add up to an investment philosophy that is value-oriented and responsible and one that we believe has the potential to create above-average returns for our investors over the long haul while limiting downside exposure.

No

I confirm I have read and understood the Accountability tab for SG 01

I confirm I have read and understood the Accountability tab for SG 01

SG 01 CC	Voluntary	Public	Descriptive	General
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**SG 01.6  
CC**

Indicate the climate-related risks and opportunities that have been identified and factored into the investment strategies and products, within the organisation's investment time horizon.

Stranded asset risk has been factored into our strategy view to pursue a fossil fuel free portfolio.

**SG 01.7  
CC**

Indicate whether the organisation has assessed the likelihood and impact of these climate risks?

Yes

No



<b>SG 01.9 CC</b>	Indicate whether the organisation publicly supports the TCFD?
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- Yes
- No

	Explain the rationale
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unfamiliar with this organization.

<b>SG 01.10 CC</b>	Indicate whether there is an organisation-wide strategy in place to identify and manage material climate-related risks and opportunities.
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- Yes

	Describe
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As a organization we are a B Corp and look to be good enviromental citizens, as an investment policy we consider climate related risks with all of the stocks we own.

- No

<b>SG 1.12 CC</b>	Indicate the documents and/or communications the organisation uses to publish TCFD disclosures.
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- Public PRI Climate Transparency Report
- Annual financial filings
- Regular client reporting
- Member communications
- Other

<b>SG 02</b>	<b>Mandatory</b>	<b>Public</b>	<b>Core Assessed</b>	<b>PRI 6</b>
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**New selection options have been added to this indicator. Please review your prefilled responses carefully.**

<b>SG 02.1</b>	Indicate which of your investment policy documents (if any) are publicly available. Provide a URL and an attachment of the document.
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- Policy setting out your overall approach

	URL/Attachment
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- URL

URL

{hyperlink:http://www.appleseedcapital.com/investmentmanagement/how-we-invest/esg/}

Attachment (will be made public)

Screening / exclusions policy

URL/Attachment

URL

Attachment (will be made public)

Attachment

[File 1:Q4 2018 APPLX ESG presentation.pdf](#)

We do not publicly disclose our investment policy documents

**SG 02.2** Indicate if any of your investment policy components are publicly available. Provide URL and an attachment of the document.

Your organisation's definition of ESG and/or responsible investment and it's relation to investments

URL/Attachment

URL

URL

{hyperlink:http://www.appleseedcapital.com/investmentmanagement/how-we-invest/esg/}

Attachment

Your investment objectives that take ESG factors/real economy influence into account

Governance structure of organisational ESG responsibilities

ESG incorporation approaches

URL/Attachment

URL

URL

{hyperlink:http://www.appleseedcapital.com/investmentmanagement/how-we-invest/process/}

Attachment

Active ownership approaches

URL/Attachment

URL

URL

{hyperlink:<http://www.appleseedcapital.com/investmentmanagement/how-we-invest/esg/>}

- Attachment
- Reporting
- Understanding and incorporating client / beneficiary sustainability preferences
- We do not publicly disclose any investment policy components

## Governance and human resources

SG 07 CC	Voluntary	Public	Descriptive	General
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<b>SG 07.5 CC</b>	Indicate the roles in the organisation that have oversight, accountability and/or management responsibilities for climate-related issues.
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Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Chief Investment Officer (CIO), Chief Risk Officer (CRO), Investment Committee

- Oversight/accountability for climate-related issues
- Assessment and management of climate-related issues
- No responsibility for climate-related issues

Portfolio managers

- Oversight/accountability for climate-related issues
- Assessment and management of climate-related issues
- No responsibility for climate-related issues

Investment analysts

- Oversight/accountability for climate-related issues
- Assessment and management of climate-related issues
- No responsibility for climate-related issues

<b>SG 07.7 CC</b>	For the management-level roles that assess and manage climate-related issues, provide further information on the structure and process involved.
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Our Co-CEO's are also portfolio managers at our firm so part of their role is both oversight of the investment process and the integration of ESG policy and the actual assessment of investments.

<b>SG 07.8 CC</b>	Explain how the organisation engages external investment managers on the TCFD recommendations and its implementation.
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- Incorporation of TCFD in Annual Report
- Incorporation of TCFD in regular client reporting
- Request that investment managers complete PRI Climate indicators
- Request responses to TCFD Fund Manager questions in the PRI Asset Owner guide

## ESG issues in asset allocation

<b>SG 13</b>	<b>Mandatory</b>	<b>Public</b>	<b>Descriptive</b>	<b>PRI 1</b>
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<b>SG 13.1</b>	Indicate whether the organisation undertakes scenario analysis and/or modelling and provide a description of the scenario analysis (by asset class, sector, strategic asset allocation, etc.).
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- Yes, to assess future ESG factors
- Yes, to assess future climate-related risks and opportunities
- No, not to assess future ESG/climate-related issues

<b>SG 14</b>	<b>Mandatory to Report Voluntary to Disclose</b>	<b>Private</b>	<b>Additional Assessed</b>	<b>PRI 1</b>
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<b>SG 14.1</b>	Some investment risks and opportunities arise as a result of long term trends. Indicate which of the following are considered.
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- Changing demographics
- Climate change
- Resource scarcity
- Technological developments
- Other, specify(1)
- Other, specify(2)
- None of the above

<b>SG 14.2</b>	Indicate which of the following activities you have undertaken to respond to climate change risk and opportunity
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- Established a climate change sensitive or climate change integrated asset allocation strategy
- Targeted low carbon or climate resilient investments
- Phase out your investments in your fossil fuel holdings
- Reduced portfolio exposure to emissions intensive or fossil fuel holdings
- Used emissions data or analysis to inform investment decision making
- Sought climate change integration by companies
- Sought climate supportive policy from governments
- Other, specify
- None of the above

<b>SG 14.3</b>	Indicate which of the following tools the organisation uses to manage climate-related risks and opportunities.
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- Scenario analysis
- Disclosures on emissions risks to clients/trustees/management/beneficiaries
- Climate-related targets
- Encouraging internal and/or external portfolio managers to monitor emissions risks
- Emissions-risk monitoring and reporting are formalised into contracts when appointing managers
- Weighted average carbon intensity
- Carbon footprint (scope 1 and 2)
- Portfolio carbon footprint
- Total carbon emissions
- Carbon intensity
- Exposure to carbon-related assets
- Other emissions metrics
- Other, specify
- None of the above

<b>SG 14 CC</b>	<b>Voluntary</b>	<b>Public</b>	<b>General</b>
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<b>SG 14.8 CC</b>	Indicate whether climate-related risks are integrated into overall risk management and explain the risks management processes for identifying, assessing, and managing climate-related risks.
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- Process for climate-related risks is integrated into overall risk management
- Process for climate-related risks is not integrated into our overall risk management

	Please describe
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This is not part of our overall risk management but it reviewed on a security by security case.

<b>SG 14.9 CC</b>	Indicate whether the organisation undertakes active ownership activities to encourage TCFD adoption.
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- Yes
- No, we do not engage

<b>SG 15</b>	<b>Mandatory to Report Voluntary to Disclose</b>	<b>Private</b>	<b>Descriptive</b>	<b>PRI 1</b>
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<b>SG 15.1</b>	Indicate if your organisation allocates assets to, or manages, funds based on specific environmental and social themed areas.
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- Yes
- No

