



RI TRANSPARENCY REPORT

2020

Ecofact

About this report

This report is an export of the individual Signatory organisation responses to the PRI Service Provider Reporting Framework during the 2020 reporting period. It shows your responses to mandatory indicators, as well as responses to voluntary indicators that your organisation has agreed to make public. You will be able to access the public RI Transparency report of your organisation and that of other signatories on the [PRI website](#).

The information is presented exactly as it was reported. Where an indicator offers a response option that is multiple-choice, all options that were available to the signatory to select are presented in this report. Presenting the information exactly as reported is a result of signatory feedback which suggested the PRI not summarise the information. As a result, the reports can be extensive. However, to help easily locate information, there is an **Index** which highlights where the information can be found and summarises the indicators that signatories complete and disclose.

Understanding the Index

The Index summarises the response status for the individual indicators and modules. It can be used by stakeholders as an 'at a glance' summary of reported information and to identify particular themes or areas of interest.

All indicators within a module are presented below. The status of indicators is shown with the following symbols:

Symbol	Status
✓	The signatory has completed all mandatory parts of this indicator
☑	The signatory has completed some parts of this indicator
🔒	This indicator was not relevant for this signatory
-	The signatory did not complete any part of this indicator.
🔍	The signatory has flagged this indicator for internal review

Within the table, indicators marked in blue are mandatory to complete. Indicators marked in grey are voluntary to complete.

Index

Organisational Overview			
Indicator	Short description	Status	Disclosure
OO 01	Basic information	✓	Public
OO 02	Reporting year	✓	Public
OO 03	Signatory category and services	✓	Public
OO 04	Other offerings/business activities	✓	Public
OO 05	Breakdown of ESG coverage	✓	Asset mix disclosed in OO 06
OO End		✓	-

Strategy and Governance			
Indicator	Short description	Status	Disclosure
SG 01	Responsible investment policy	✓	Public
SG 02	Norms used to develop policies	✓	Public
SG 03	Policy offerings to clients	✓	Public
SG 04	ESG/RI in business offerings	✓	Public
SG 05	Outsourcing of services	✓	Private
SG 06	Providing training/education	✓	Public
SG 07	Applying, advancing and promoting the PRI principles	✓	Public
SG 08	Actions taken to promote responsible investment	✓	Public
SG 09	Long term trends	✓	Public
SG 10	Interaction with asset owners	✓	Public
SG 11	Aligning approach with investor goals	✓	Public
SG 12	ESG recommendations not aligned with investor goals	✓	Public
SG 13	Seeking feedback from clients	✓	Public
SG 14	Managing conflicts of interest	✓	Public
SG End		✓	-

Investment Consultancy

Indicator	Short description	Status	Disclosure
IC 01	Advisory and consultancy services	✓	Public
IC 02	Assets under advisement	✓	Private
IC 03	Fiduciary manager services	✓	Public
IC 04	ESG in contracts with clients	✓	Private
IC 05	Custodian services	🔒	n/a
IC 06	RI and ESG in clients' investment policy development	✓	Public
IC 07	ESG incorporation into strategic asset allocation	🔒	n/a
IC 08	Scenario analysis and/or modelling	🔒	n/a
IC 09	Demonstrating value on asset allocation	🔒	n/a
IC 10	Investment research activities	✓	Public
IC 11	Demonstrating value on investment research	✓	Public
IC 12	ESG in manager selection, appointment and monitoring	🔒	n/a
IC 13	Manager selection activities	🔒	n/a
IC 14	Incorporating asset owners' investment principles in selection of manager	🔒	n/a
IC 15	ESG in selection due diligence	🔒	n/a
IC 16	Monitoring investment managers on ESG	🔒	n/a
IC 17	Reporting back to asset owners	🔒	n/a
IC 18	Demonstrating value on manager selection, appointment and monitoring	🔒	n/a
IC 19	ESG in manager selection, appointment and monitoring	✓	Private
IC End		✓	-

Research and Data Provision

Indicator	Short description	Status	Disclosure
RDP 01	Product type	✓	Public
RDP 02	Sources for research and/or rating	✓	Public
RDP 03	Stakeholder input	✓	n/a
RDP 04	Up-to-date assessment and ratings	✓	Public
RDP 05	Balanced research and assessment	✓	Public
RDP 06	Consistency and comparability	✓	Public
RDP 07	Emerging ESG issues and trends	✓	Private
RDP 08	Client use of outputs	✓	Private
RDP 09		-	n/a
RDP End		✓	-

Confidence building measures

Indicator	Short description	Status	Disclosure
CM1 01	Other product offerings, processes and/or activities	-	n/a
CM1 02	Assurance of responses	✓	Private
CM1 End	Module confirmation page	✓	-

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Reported Information

Public version

Organisational Overview

PRI disclaimer

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Basic Information

OO 01

Mandatory

Public

Descriptive

OO 01.1 Select the location of your organisation's headquarters.

Switzerland

OO 01.2 Indicate the number of countries in which you have offices (including your headquarters).

- 1
- 2 - 5
- 6 - 10
- 11 - 50
- >50

OO 01.3 Indicate the regions where you have offices.

- Africa/Middle East
- Asia (excluding Japan & Korea)
- Australasia
- Canada
- Continental Europe
- Japan & Korea
- Nordic
- South America
- UK & Ireland
- US

OO 01.4 Indicate the approximate number of staff in your organisation in full-time equivalents (FTE).

FTE

9

Reporting Year

OO 02

Mandatory

Public

Descriptive

OO 02.1 Indicate the year end date for your reporting year.

31/12/2019

Signatory category and services

OO 03

Mandatory

Public

Gateway

OO 03.1

Indicate which of the following categories reflect your core offering or main business activity:

- Reporting
- Active Ownership Services
- Investment consultancy
- Research and Data Provision
- Other, specify (1)
Environmental and human rights due diligence / norm-based screening
- Other, specify(2)
Monitoring regulatory change and regulatory implementation pertaining to sustainable finance and corporate responsibility

OO 03.2

Indicate any other business activities that your organisation offers. Indicate whether you wish to report on these business areas.

- Reporting
- Active Ownership Services
- Other, specify (3)
- Other, specify (4)
- None of the above

OO 04

Mandatory

Public

Descriptive

OO 04.1

Please describe your core offering or main business activity.

Risk Assessments

Being linked to controversial environmental and human rights issues may lead to financial losses, reputational damage, regulatory sanctions or litigation.

We support risk management and compliance units to assess potentially controversial clients, transactions, corporate partnerships and other business relationship. We also provide assessments at the level of countries or sectors.

Norm-Based Portfolio Screening

Understand which entities in your portfolio present a material risk.

- portfolio screenings tailored to your criteria
- identify clients or investments that do not meet relevant standards
- develop assessment, engagement and exclusion strategies
- mitigate risk and prioritize necessary action

Policy Outlook

A continuously updated research package backed by an online database. This tool provides in-depth analyses of regulatory initiatives pertaining to sustainable finance and corporate responsibility across the globe.

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Strategy and Governance

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Policy on ESG beliefs

SG 01

Mandatory

Public

Gateway

SG 01.1

Describe how your organisation's philosophy incorporates environmental, social and governance factors, and the link to your business offerings.

Since 1998, ECOFACT has been helping clients to understand the risks and opportunities that ESG issues pose for the financial sector.

We provide due diligence solutions, risk assessments, and portfolio screenings for banks, insurers, and asset owners. ECOFACT also publishes the Policy Outlook tool, and the ECOFACT Quarterly.

Policy Outlook

The Policy Outlook is a regulatory monitoring system that helps our clients to monitor regulatory change pertaining to sustainable finance and corporate responsibility. Policy Outlook makes it easy to keep track of hard and soft law initiatives, stay on top of evolving ESG regulation and identify trends thanks to updates and in-depth analyses.

The ECOFACT Quarterly

The ECOFACT Quarterly is a briefing tailored to the needs of individuals and teams in charge of assessing and controlling environmental and social risks in corporate banking, investment banking and insurance.

Risk Assessments

Being linked to controversial environmental and human rights issues may lead to financial losses, reputational damage, regulatory sanctions or even litigation. We support risk management and compliance units in assessing potentially controversial clients, transactions, corporate partnerships and other business relationships.

Portfolio Screening

Regulation requires financial institutions to assess potentially controversial companies they invest in or support. We will help our clients identify criteria in line with international and national standards and determine their own unique tolerance to risk as an asset owner, lender or underwriter. We screen client portfolios as well as equity and debt portfolios consisting of both listed and non-listed entities.

Monitoring Peer Policies

Monitoring peer policies is a time-consuming task that involves significant resources. Our new research product provides financial institutions with a coordinated analysis of ESG policies based on a neutral, sound, and transparent methodology. The methodology and scope are informed by the needs of the participating institutions.

SG 01.2

Indicate whether you have policies that formalise the incorporation of your ESG beliefs in your business offerings.

Yes

SG 01.3

Indicate the components/types of your internal policy and provide the URL and/or an attachment of the document/s if they are publicly available.

Policy components/types

Policy setting out your overall ESG/RI approach

Public availability

- URL
- Attachment
- Not publicly available
- Formalised guidelines on environmental factors
- Formalised guidelines on social factors
- Formalised guidelines on corporate governance factors
- Formalised guidelines on engagement approach
- Formalised guidelines on (proxy) voting approach
- Other, specify (1)
- Other, specify (2)
- None of the above

SG 01.4

Indicate how these are put into practice internally across the organisation.

- Regular employee training on RI/ESG
 - Regular RI/ESG policy awareness building for employees
 - Establishment of policy review committee/team
 - Remuneration linked to achieving ESG objectives
 - Annual performance incentives
 - Other, specify (1)
 - Other, specify (2)
 - Other, specify (3)
- No

SG 02

Mandatory

Public

Descriptive

SG 02.1

Indicate what frameworks and guidelines you have used to develop your organisation's policies. Tick all that apply.

- UN Principles for Responsible Investment
- UN Global Compact Principles
- UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights
- Universal Declaration of Human Rights
- UN Sustainable Development Goals
- International Bill of Human Rights
- International Labour Organisation Conventions
- IFC Performance Standards
- United Nations Convention Against Corruption
- OECD Principles of Corporate Governance
- OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises
- GRI standards
- Other, specify (1)
- Other, specify (2)
- Other, specify (3)
- None of the above

SG 03**Mandatory****Public****Descriptive****SG 03.1**

Indicate whether you offer standard, off the shelf, policies to clients as part of your product offerings, and/or whether you create tailored versions for individual clients.

	Off the shelf	Tailored
Asset class-specific RI guidelines	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sector-specific RI guidelines	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Screening/exclusions policy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Engagement policy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
(Proxy) voting policy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
RI guidelines set out within the Investment Policy Statement (IPS)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
RI guidelines set out in a freestanding RI policy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Multi-year RI implementation project plan	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Conflict of interest management policy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Stockbroker allocation policy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Securities lending policy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other, please specify (1)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other, please specify (2)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other, please specify (3)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
None of the above	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

SG 03.2

Provide a brief description of the key elements, any variations, or exceptions applying to these policies.

ECOFACT supports clients in understanding the risks and opportunities that ESG issues pose for the financial sector. Whenever we support clients in developing any kind of policies, our focus is the incorporation of ESG factors into such policies. Such projects are also supplemented by policy benchmarking.

SG 04

Mandatory

Public

Descriptive

SG 04.1

Briefly describe how you include ESG/RI factors as part of your business offerings.

Business area

Investment Consultancy

How you include ESG/RI factors

With our consulting and advisory services, we translate ESG risks into relevant analyses and practical strategies for our clients. We conduct ESG risk assessments, and we screen their portfolios according to bespoke ESG/RI criteria.

Research and Data Provision

How you include ESG/RI factors

Our focused research provides insights into material ESG risks, as well as current and future regulatory expectations related to responsible business conduct, sustainable finance, and corporate responsibility.

SG 04.2

Indicate the roles in your organisation, and indicate for each whether they have oversight and/or implementation responsibilities for ESG/RI within the organisation.

Roles present in your organisation	Oversight/accountability for ESG/RI	Implementation of ESG/RI
Board	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Directors	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Chief Financial Officer (CFO)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Chief Operating Officer (COO), Chief Information Officer (CIO)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other chief-level staff	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <div style="background-color: #0070C0; color: white; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">Please specify</div> Senior Consultants	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other heads of department	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <div style="background-color: #0070C0; color: white; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">Please specify</div> Head of Portfolio Screening, Head of Risk Assessments, Head of ECOFACT Policy Outlook	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <div style="background-color: #0070C0; color: white; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">Please specify</div> Head of Portfolio Screening, Head of Risk Assessments, Head of ECOFACT Policy Outlook
Dedicated ESG/RI staff	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other role, specify (1)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other role, specify (2)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other role, specify (3)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
None of the above	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

SG 04.3

Indicate how you ensure ESG/RI expertise for the roles where there are RI oversight/accountability or implementation responsibilities.

- Staff training on ESG/RI incorporation
- Including ESG/RI knowledge factors in personal development goals
- Having development plans that aim to enhance ESG/RI knowledge of certain departments/teams/individuals
- Including ESG in selection requirements when hiring new employees
- Other, specify (1)
- Other, specify (2)
- Other, specify (3)
- Other, specify (4)

SG 04.4

Indicate whether your organisation has any ESG/RI linked incentives for its employees.

- Yes
- No
- Not applicable, we ensure that employees incorporate ESG/RI into services through other mechanisms.

SG 04.6

Describe how you ensure that your employees incorporate ESG/RI into services through other mechanisms than ESG/RI linked incentives.

All our services focus on ESG/RI, therefore, ESG/RI is always incorporated by our clients.

SG 06**Mandatory****Public****Descriptive****SG 06.1**

Indicate whether you provide training/educational services on ESG/RI. Tick all that apply.

- Board/trustee training
- Investment manager training
- Regulatory bodies/authorities or public policy makers
- Corporate executive training
- ESG analyst training
- Other, specify (1)
Client advisors; students
- Other, specify (2)
- Other, specify (3)
- Other, specify (4)
- None of the above

SG 06.2

Describe the main components of your training/educational services on ESG/RI and any variations depending on the group you provide training/education to.

Our training/educational services on ESG/RI are tailored to the needs of the target group.

SG 06.3

Describe whether these training/educational services include any commercial elements.

Our training/educational services do not include any commercial elements.

SG 07**Mandatory****Public****Descriptive****SG 07.1**

Describe how your organisation applies, advances and promotes the PRI Principles.

ECOFACT applies, advances, and promotes the PRI Principles in various ways.

For example, we host knowledge sharing events that address topics closely linked to the PRI Principles, namely environmental and social risk, and corporate responsibility:

The **Policy Outlook Conference** brings together peers and experts from the fields of public policy, legal & compliance, corporate responsibility and sustainability to explore how financial firms are addressing corporate responsibility regulations.

The **Environmental and Social Risk (ESR) Roundtable** provides an opportunity for peers to discuss the challenges that arise as environmental and social issues are further integrated into financial institutions' business with corporate clients.

In our day-to-day work, we support risk management and compliance units to assess, from an environmental and social risk perspective, potentially controversial clients, transactions, corporate partnerships and other business relationships. We also provide assessments at the level of countries or sectors. We also support our clients with strategies to address the controversial environmental and social aspects of a transaction appropriately, mitigate negative impacts and reputational risks.

With our **ECOFACT Quarterly**, we brief environmental and social risk experts on high risk sectors, emerging risks, relevant tools, and peer pressure.

The **ECOFACT Policy Outlook** supports our clients in monitoring regulatory change in corporate responsibility.

SG 08**Mandatory****Public****SG 08.1**

Indicate which of the following actions your organisation has taken to promote responsible investments during the reporting year, independently of collaborative initiatives.

- Provided or supported education or training programmes for clients, investment managers, legal advisers or other investment organisations
- Provided financial support for academic or industry research on responsible investment
- Encouraged better transparency and disclosure of responsible investment practices across the investment industry
- Spoken publicly at events and conferences to promote responsible investment
- Written and published in-house research papers on responsible investment
- Encouraged the adoption of the PRI
- Written and published articles on responsible investment in the media
- Policy engagements and other interactions
- Other, specify
- None of the above

SG 09**Mandatory****Public****Descriptive**

SG 09.1 Indicate which of the following long-term trends are addressed in your product outputs.

Changing demographics

SG 09.2 Explain how this long-term trend affects your product outputs.

ECOFACT supports clients in understanding the risks and opportunities that ESG issues pose for the financial sector. Depending on the project, changing demographics may be addressed in our research or consulting services.

Climate change

SG 09.2 Explain how this long-term trend affects your product outputs.

ECOFACT supports clients in understanding the risks and opportunities that ESG issues pose for the financial sector. Depending on the project, climate change may be addressed in our research or consulting services.

Resource scarcity

SG 09.2 Explain how this long-term trend affects your product outputs.

ECOFACT supports clients in understanding the risks and opportunities that ESG issues pose for the financial sector. Depending on the project, resource scarcity may be addressed in our research or consulting services.

Technology developments

SG 09.2 Explain how this long-term trend affects your product outputs.

ECOFACT supports clients in understanding the risks and opportunities that ESG issues pose for the financial sector. Depending on the project, technology developments may be addressed in our research or consulting services.

Other, specify (1)

Other, specify (2)

None of the above

SG 10

Mandatory

Public

SG 10.1 Indicate whether you interact with asset owner clients.

Yes, we do

SG 10.2 Indicate the typical frequency and type of interactions with your asset owner clients.

Type of interaction

- Board of trustee meetings
- Investment committee meetings
- Trustee training workshops
- Formal regular meetings outside of committee meetings
- Informal meetings or calls

	Frequency
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- Daily
- Weekly
- Monthly
- Quarterly
- Bi-annually
- Annually
- Ad-hoc basis
- Other, specify

Depends on client needs.

- Other, specify (1)
- Other, specify (2)
- Other, specify (3)
- No, we do not

SG 11	Mandatory	Public	Descriptive
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SG 11.1	Describe how you typically align your organisation's philosophy and approach to ESG/RI with your investor clients' goals.
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- Describe
- This is not relevant for my organisation

SG 12	Mandatory	Public	Descriptive
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SG 12.1	Describe what steps you take, if any, when your ESG recommendations are not in line with your investor clients' goals.
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- Describe
- This is not relevant for my organisation

SG 13	Mandatory	Public	Descriptive
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SG 13.1	Indicate whether you seek feedback from clients on your RI/ESG services and product offerings
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- Yes

SG 13.2 Describe how you use this feedback in your RI/ESG services and product offerings.

We value the feedback from our clients and incorporate it - whenever possible and applicable - into our services and product offerings.

No

SG 14	Mandatory	Public	Descriptive
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SG 14.1 Indicate whether your organisation has a policy for managing potential conflicts of interest.

Yes

SG 14.2 Describe how you manage potential conflicts of interest.

In cases of potential conflicts of interest, we have an escalation process in place.

SG 14.3 Describe how you ensure that company employees do not derive any personal gain from the use of information collected during your work process.

We have standard procedures in place to ensure that company employees do not derive any personal gain from the use of information collected during our work.

No

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Investment Consultancy

IC 01

Mandatory

Public

Gateway

IC 01.1

Indicate whether your services include any of the following.

- Custodial services
- Investment policy development
- Strategic asset allocation
- Investment research
- Manager selection and monitoring
- Other, specify (1)
- Other, specify (2)

IC 01.2

Describe how you ensure that your clients understand your service offerings and fee structure.

Before entering into a business relationship with a client, we make sure that our offerings and fee structure are well understood. This includes, for example, close coordination and feedback during the drafting of a proposal or contract with a new client.

IC 03

Mandatory

Public

IC 03.1

Indicate whether you provide fiduciary management services.

- Yes, we do
- No, we do not

Investment policy development

IC 06

Mandatory

Public

Descriptive

IC 06.1

Indicate whether you incorporate ESG into your investment policy development services.

- Yes, we systematically do
- Yes, we occasionally do
- No, we do not. Plans exist to start incorporating ESG into our investment policy development services in the next reporting year
- No, we do not

IC 06.2

Describe how you incorporate ESG factors and RI-considerations when advising clients on investment policy development.

- Reviewing clients' existing beliefs, investment strategy and policy in relation to ESG
- Aligning the investment policy with the client's overall ESG strategy and beliefs
- Helping clients define ESG investment objectives and incorporating them into policies
- Considering short-, mid- and long term time horizon of overall ESG objectives outlined in the investment policy
- Aligning the policy with the relevant ESG/RI regulations and public policies
- Determining the client's ESG risk-profile and materiality to inform the investment policy
- Providing education/training and case studies if the client has not publicly committed to an ESG strategy or beliefs, and seek to incorporate ESG in the client's investment policy
- Researching ESG trends, terminology and current debate to help create an up-to-date investment policy
- Comparing ESG investment policies of peers in the market
- Engaging the client organisations' executives, Board and any other stakeholders in the ESG investment policy development
- Outlining the internal governance structure responsible for overseeing and implementing the investment policy
- Other, specify (1)
- Other, specify (2)
- Other, specify (3)

Investment research

IC 10**Mandatory****Public****IC 10.1**

Indicate whether you incorporate ESG into your investment research services.

- Yes, we systematically do
- Yes, we occasionally do
- No, we do not. Plans exist to start incorporating ESG into our investment research services in the next reporting year
- No, we do not

IC 10.2

Indicate whether the following activities are part of your investment research process. Describe for each activity how you incorporate ESG.

Investment research activities

- Asset level research

Describe how you incorporate ESG

Our focus is ESG, we don't offer non ESG-related investment research.

- Portfolio level research

Describe how you incorporate ESG

Our focus is ESG, we don't offer non ESG-related investment research.

- Performance monitoring
- Mandate design
- Benchmark selection
- Equity research
- Credit research
- Quant research
- Sector research

Describe how you incorporate ESG

Our focus is ESG, we don't offer non ESG-related investment research.

- Thematic research

Describe how you incorporate ESG

Our focus is ESG, we don't offer non ESG-related investment research.

- Other, specify (1)
- Other, specify (2)
- Other, specify (3)
- None of the above

IC 11

Mandatory

Public

Descriptive

IC 11.1

Describe how you measure, track or otherwise demonstrate your value on investment research activities.

Our value on investment research activities is demonstrated in summary reports that we provide to clients.

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Product level

RDP 01

Mandatory

Public

RDP 01.1 Indicate your product type. Tick all that apply.

- Analysis
- Benchmarking reports
- ESG ratings
- Credit ratings
- ESG indices
- Raw data
- Second party opinion on green or social bonds
- Surveys
- Other, specify

We conduct ESG risk assessments, and we screen portfolios according to bespoke ESG/RI criteria.

RDP 01.2 Indicate whether you make any of your products publicly available.

- Yes, all products
- Yes, some products
- No, we do not

Research/process level

RDP 02

Mandatory

Public

RDP 02.1 Indicate the types of sources you use for research and/or ratings of companies/sectors/geographies or similar. Tick all that apply.

- Your organisation`s independently collected data from public sources
- Regulatory sources
- Information from NGOs and other stakeholders
- In-person meetings or calls with company or industry representatives
- Primary data (self-reported from companies or other organisations)
- Secondary data (from other research provider databases)
- Other, specify (1)
- Other, specify (2)
- Other, specify (3)

RDP 02.2

Indicate how ESG factors are incorporated into your research and/or rating methodology

- Identifying exposure and risk to ESG factors
- Considering responses to self-assessment questions on ESG
- Assessing current and future capacity to manage or mitigate ESG risks
- Assessing past and potential future performance on ESG factors
- Assessing alignment and compliance to different policies and regulations
- Assessing alignment and compliance explicitly to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
- Assessing current and future positive ESG impacts
- Other, specify (1)
- Other, specify (2)
- Other, specify (3)

RDP 02.3

Describe how you define materiality and how this is captured in your research and/or rating methodology as well as final product.

In general, we understand materiality as defined by the International Integrated Reporting Council:

“A matter is material if it is of such relevance and importance that it could substantively influence the assessments of providers of financial capital with regard to the organization’s ability to create value over the short, medium and long term. In determining whether or not a matter is material, senior management and those charged with governance should consider whether the matter substantively affects, or has the potential to substantively affect, the organization’s strategy, its business model, or one or more of the capitals it uses or affects.”

As we offer bespoke ESG research, there is no general way of capturing our understanding of materiality in our products. Depending on the project, materiality may be defined differently and in line with the definition of the client.

RDP 04**Mandatory****Public****Descriptive****RDP 04.1**

Indicate how you ensure that your ESG assessment of companies/ sectors/ geographies or similar is up-to-date and that new information is incorporated or new assessments are conducted at reasonable intervals.

- Regular update cycles (annual or more frequent)
- Allowing assessments/ ratings to be adjusted at any time by your organisation
- On-going alerts systems in place for new events and information that might have implications on the original assessment/ ratings
- On-going monitoring of possible controversies and compliance to conventions, regulations and similar
- Providing tools for companies/ sectors or others to update the researcher, rating agency or data provider with new information
- Other, specify (1)

As we provide bespoke risk assessments upon request, these are also updated upon request from the client.

- Other, specify (2)
- Other, specify (3)

RDP 05**Mandatory****Public****Descriptive**

RDP 05.1

Indicate how you typically ensure a balanced approach to your research methodology and assessing/rating of companies/sectors/geographies or similar. Tick all that apply and explain your approach to each option.

Type of indicators

- Balancing quantitative and qualitative indicators

Explain your approach

Depends on the project and the methodology agreed upon with our client.

- Balancing management/process oriented indicators and performance indicators

Explain your approach

Depends on the project and the methodology agreed upon with our client.

- Balancing reference to past and current performances, such as whether the rating object's performance is improving or deteriorating

Explain your approach

Depends on the project and the methodology agreed upon with our client.

- Balancing environmental, social and governance indicators

Explain your approach

Depends on the project and the methodology agreed upon with our client.

- Balancing self-reported and public data

Explain your approach

Depends on the project and the methodology agreed upon with our client.

- Other, specify (1)
- Other, specify (2)
- None of the above

RDP 06**Mandatory****Public****Descriptive****RDP 06.1**

Describe the control processes in place to ensure quality of research.

Our control processes to ensure quality of research include:

- clearly defined processes which are captured in manuals;
- coordination meetings in which scope, processes and methodologies are defined;
- an internal mentoring system;
- a strict 4-eyes principle; and
- full transparency on work results and methodology in our output.

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Reported Information

Public version

Confidence building measures

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