

Investec UK's environmental and energy policy statement

Introduction

Investec, comprising Investec plc and Investec Limited, is an international specialist bank and asset manager that provides a diverse range of financial products and services to a select client base in three principal markets, the United Kingdom (UK) and Europe, South Africa, and Asia/Australia as well as certain other countries. Investec's corporate sustainability builds resilient profitable businesses focused on growing and preserving stakeholders' long-term wealth while contributing in a positive and responsible way to the health of our economy, our people, our communities and the environment to ensure a prosperous future for all. This commitment to sustainability means integrating social, ethical and environmental considerations into our day-to-day operations with solid corporate governance ensuring sustainable management with a long-term vision.

Philosophy

Guided by our purpose to create sustained long-term benefits, we aim to achieve a positive influence from all our core businesses and in the societies in which we operate. We empower communities through entrepreneurship and education and leverage the value in our diversity. We recognise the challenges that climate change presents to the global economy and will consider supporting any meaningful activity that either reduces the negative impact, or prolongs life, on our planet.

Our philosophy seeks to align the interests of shareholders and stakeholders. This provides the individual business units and regions with a basis from which to determine their own approach. The group's philosophy is not mutually exclusive or exhaustive but concentrates on key focus areas. The executive is responsible for oversight, direction, coordination and integration of Investec's group environmental and climate change policy statement. The individual business units provide the key drivers behind our activities.

Strategy

As a niched specialist financial services organisation with a small physical presence, the direct environmental and social impacts of Investec's daily operations are limited. We recognise that we have a responsibility to understand and manage our wider environmental and social footprint. Our environmental and energy policy states:

- we will consider any meaningful activity that reduces the negative impact, or prolongs life, on our planet
- we believe that as a financial services organisation, with our position in the first world and emerging world, we can make a meaningful impact in addressing climate change
- internally, we focus on limiting or reducing our direct operational footprint while creating awareness and encouraging behavioural change
- externally, we incorporate environmental considerations into our daily business activities. We recognise the opportunities for our clients and businesses in cleaner and renewable energy sources, energy efficiency and responsible lending and investing
- we have a deliberate focus on financing infrastructure solutions that promote renewable energy and we have developed strong expertise in this sector.



Scope

Investec recognises that effective environmental and energy management is an essential part of embedding this philosophy into the organisation and is therefore committed to operating an effective integrated environmental and energy management system (EMS) compliant with the international standards ISO 14001:2015 and ISO 50001:2018 to minimise our direct operational impact. The management system is initially focused on the activities and operations of supporting functions and infrastructure which have a direct environmental impact.

The policy currently applies to the facilities function for all UK and Ireland offices for ISO 50001:2018 to manage energy consumption (gas and electricity) and at the 30 and 65 Gresham Street sites in the UK for ISO 14001:2015.

Commitment

All areas within the above scope are assessed to determine how they impact on the environment. Necessary objectives and operational controls are implemented to ensure continual improvement in environmental and energy performance and to protect the environment. Specifically, Investec is committed to:

- complying with all the applicable environmental legislation and relevant compliance obligations
- ensuring the security of natural resources in all operations
- setting energy reduction targets to reducing overall energy consumption and considering viable solutions to draw energy from renewable sources
- reducing emissions arising from energy and transport use
- minimising water usage and ensuring water is responsibly sourced
- operating a zero waste to landfill policy
- implementing all feasible possibilities to avoid, reduce, reuse and recycle waste and using raw materials and utilities as efficiently as possible
- preventing and reducing pollution in and around our buildings and minimising any direct activities from polluting the local environment
- using raw materials and utilities as efficiently as possible
- encouraging and embedding sustainable procurement practices including environmental and energy efficiency into project management and design processes
- benchmarking our group environmental footprint and continually finding ways to reduce our direct environmental impact
- looking for products and services to reduce our carbon impact and considering technologies to reduce our carbon footprint
- increasing staff awareness so they may personally contribute to Investec's goals
- monitoring Investec's environmental performance on a regular basis
- reporting the company's environmental performance on a regular basis
- engaging and communicating with stakeholders on environmental issues on a regular basis.

To ensure these commitments and objectives are achieved, Investec will ensure the availability of necessary resources, information and training for its workforce. All staff, and those working for or on behalf of Investec, will be kept aware of this policy and their individual responsibilities within it.

David van der Walt Investec plc executive January 2020

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