



Matrix Fund Managers - ESG Policy

December 2020

In executing our fiduciary mandate, we at Matrix Fund Managers believe we have a responsibility to commit to and support the highest standards of corporate governance and accountability.

Our objective is to ensure sustainable returns and to protect value for our clients. We believe that a board that is effective, appropriately independent and embraces transparency and accountability will result in better stewardship of shareholder interests as well as the broader stakeholder environment. We undertake to fulfil the ownership rights and obligations of our clients on their behalf.

The conscientious and consistent exercising of voting rights, active corporate engagement and the integration of sound ESG considerations into our investment process are the three pillars by which we uphold this responsibility.

This policy applies to all portfolio holdings and is guided by internal implementation guidelines detailing our ESG policy objectives; integration process; documentation and reporting procedures.

Our policies' evolution, implementation, as well as on-going engagements with company management are overseen by our Chief Investment Officer in order to ensure a consistent approach.

Integration of ESG into investment process

We continually endeavour to assess whether an investee company is well or poorly governed and how clients' interests might be best served via either: avoiding/exiting positions, corporate engagement, shareholder resolutions or incorporation of assessed risk into our valuations.

Matrix's current investment decision making framework includes a qualitative assessment of companies which includes consideration of ESG (environmental, social and governance) issues. We believe that well managed companies will be more likely to deliver sustainable long term returns for shareholders and therefore we see ESG factors as an important criteria in forming our overall investment view of the company. Where ESG issues have a financial implication they are taken into account in our valuation work. This is combined with an internal assessment of management and industry specific indicators we deem to be material to the investment case to arrive at an overall ESG evaluation of the company.

Engagement

We engage with companies where we have concerns around ESG issues or deteriorating ESG performance. We also engage with companies through our proxy voting process. Our overall objective in proxy voting is to support resolutions that are aligned with creating long term shareholder value and each proposal is evaluated on its merits. Our view on commonly occurring issues is detailed in our Proxy Voting Policy document.