



COCHIN UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

SUSTAINABLE INVESTMENT POLICY

<i>Title</i>	<i>Sustainable Investment Policy</i>
<i>Authority</i>	<i>Registrar Cochin University of Science and Technology</i>
<i>Purpose of the Policy</i>	<i>The purpose of the policy is to ensure environmental sustainability and deliver social responsibility</i>
<i>Date of Incorporation</i>	<i>1971</i>
<i>Date of Review</i>	<i>Once in three years This can also be reviewed as per the requirement of the University</i>

SECTION 1: BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE

Cochin University of Science and Technology acknowledges the vital role of its endowment in driving positive environmental outcomes and combating global climate change in alignment with the Paris Agreement. This policy states the University's commitment to ESG-based investment portfolios.

SECTION 2: SCOPE

The policy establishes criteria for effective supervision, monitoring, and evaluation while taking into account Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) insights to improve long-term outcomes.

SECTION 3: GUIDING PRINCIPLES

The following concepts guide our sustainable investing policy:

Environmental Impact:

- Investing in companies and projects that promote environmental sustainability, such as renewable energy, clean technology, energy efficiency, and sustainable agriculture.



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- Supporting initiatives that aim to reduce carbon emissions, combat climate change, and protect natural resources and biodiversity.

Social Responsibility:

- Investing in companies with strong commitments to fair labour practices, human rights, and diversity and inclusion.
- Fostering investments that positively impact local communities, contributing to social welfare, education, and healthcare.

Governance Integrity:

- Seeking investments in companies with transparent and ethical governance structures.
- Supporting businesses that prioritize shareholder rights, accountability, and responsible corporate behavior.

Positive Impact:

- Allocating capital to impact investments with measurable social and environmental benefits, such as affordable housing, access to clean water, and sustainable infrastructure.

Long-Term Value:

- Focusing on investments that not only provide financial returns in the short term but also contribute to long-term value creation and resilience.

Risk Management:

- Considering ESG factors to assess and manage potential risks associated with environmental, social, and governance issues that may impact investment performance.

Active Engagement and Advocacy:

- Engaging with companies in the investment portfolio to encourage and influence sustainable business practices.



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- Using shareholder influence to advocate for positive change, such as supporting ESG-related shareholder resolutions.

Transparency and Reporting:

- Emphasizing transparency in sustainable investment strategies, practices, and outcomes.
- Requiring investment managers to provide regular reports on the ESG performance of the portfolio.

Education and Awareness:

- Promoting sustainable investment education among stakeholders, including investors, employees, and the wider community.
- Raising awareness about the importance of sustainable investing and its potential impact on global challenges.

Collaboration and Partnerships:

- Collaborating with like-minded institutions, organizations, and initiatives to share knowledge, best practices, and amplify sustainable impact.

SECTION 4: POLICY STATEMENT

- (a) University investments address long-term sustainability, social responsibility, and corporate governance.
- (b) The Sustainability is the main focus while investing into the resources required for the university. University recognizes environmental changes and the need for a greener, more sustainable society in practical ways.
- (c) University uses negative and positive screenings to reject enterprises that may harm society or the environment and invest in companies with responsible culture, practices, and governance.
- (d) University investment supports UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and other frameworks and boosts critical business sectors (Renewable energy,



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Sustainable transport, Waste management, etc.) to India's Nationally Determined Commitment (NDC) to meet Paris climate change targets.

SECTION 5: SUSTAINABLE INVESTMENT STRATEGY

Investment Exclusions:

CUSAT will refrain from investing or associating with projects of companies or entities that engage in activities that undermine its sustainability goals and ethical standards. The university will actively avoid investments in industries such as:

- **Fossil Fuels:** Companies involved in the extraction, production, or distribution of fossil fuels.
- **Tobacco:** Companies manufacturing or distributing tobacco products.
- **Weapons:** Companies involved in the production or sale of weapons and firearms.
- **Controversial Activities:** Companies with significant controversies related to human rights abuses, labour practices, or environmental degradation.

Climate Positive Investments:

CUSAT will seek opportunities to invest and associate with companies and projects that actively contribute to addressing climate change. This includes investments in:

- **Renewable Energy:** Companies involved in clean and renewable energy sources, such as solar, wind, and hydroelectric power.
- **Energy Efficiency:** Companies focused on developing technologies and solutions that promote energy efficiency and reduce carbon emissions.
- **Sustainable Infrastructure:** Projects that support sustainable urban development, transportation, and resilient infrastructure.



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Pooled Funds:

CUSAT will consider investing in pooled funds, green bonds, and other investment vehicles that align with the university's sustainability objectives. Pooled funds provide diversification, allowing CUSAT to participate in multiple sustainable initiatives simultaneously.