Sustainability Investment Policy for COMSATS University Islamabad

Purpose

COMSATS University Islamabad acknowledges the importance of integrating sustainable investment practices to positively impact environmental, social, and governance (ESG) factors. This policy aims to guide the university in aligning its investment decisions with sustainable principles, fostering a socially responsible financial portfolio.

Scope

This policy applies to all investments made by COMSATS University Islamabad, whether monetary or otherwise.

Objectives

1. Environmental Impact: Invest in companies and projects that promote sustainable environmental practices, reduce carbon footprint, and develop eco-friendly technologies.

2. Social Responsibility: Support entities with ethical labor practices, diversity and inclusion initiatives, respect for human rights, and positive community impact.

3. Governance and Ethics: Back organizations with transparent governance structures, strong ethical standards, and effective risk management practices.

4. Long-term Financial Performance: Seek attractive financial returns while considering sustainability impacts over the long term.

Sustainable Investment Principles

1. ESG Integration: Incorporate ESG considerations into investment decision-making processes to identify opportunities that align with sustainable principles.

2. Exclusionary Criteria: Avoid investments in entities engaged in activities harmful to the environment, society, or those with poor ethical practices (e.g., fossil fuels, tobacco, human rights violations).

3. Positive Screening: Actively seek investments in companies and projects with outstanding environmental and social performance records.

4. Engagement and Advocacy: Engage with portfolio companies to promote sustainable practices and enhance their ESG performance.

5. Transparency: Prioritize investments in entities that disclose their sustainability efforts and ESG performance transparently.

6. Risk Management: Assess the financial implications of ESG factors and evaluate associated investment risks.

Investment Management

1.Sustainable Investment Advisors: Collaborate with expert advisors specializing in sustainable investments to optimize ESG integration in the investment portfolio.

2. Diversification: Maintain a diversified portfolio across asset classes and sectors, integrating ESG criteria in the selection process.

Reporting and Monitoring

1.Performance Tracking: Establish a system to monitor and evaluate investment sustainability against predefined ESG targets.

2. Periodic Reporting: Provide regular reports to stakeholders on sustainable investment performance, progress, and achievements.

Collaboration and Partnerships

Collaborate with other educational institutions and organizations sharing similar sustainable investment objectives to amplify collective impact.

Leadership Commitment

The leadership of COMSATS University Islamabad is dedicated to supporting and promoting the effective implementation of this Sustainable Investment Policy to align financial resources with sustainability values.

Responsibilities

University Leadership (Rector, Registrar, Deans), Review, revise, and approve the Sustainable Investment Policy within the framework of the University Act. Monitor and enforce sustainable investments.

Treasurer/Director Finance:

Implement the Sustainable Investment Policy and related procedures. Manage and report on sustainable investments.

Director QEC: Ensure policy effectiveness through audits and reviews of investment processes. Communicate policy requirements to all relevant stakeholders.

Review

This policy will undergo review every two years to ensure relevance and effectiveness in achieving sustainability goals.

By adopting and adhering to this Sustainable Investment Policy, COMSATS University Islamabad aims to contribute positively to sustainable development while aligning financial strategies with global best practices in ESG investing.