

The image shows two wind turbines against a sky that transitions from a teal color at the top to a light pinkish hue at the bottom. The turbines are white with red and white striped tips on their blades. The text 'AIM corporate sustainability' is overlaid in white, with a short horizontal line underneath it.

# AIM corporate sustainability

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# AIM corporate sustainability

At AIM, our mission is to mobilise mainstream capital to address the challenges the world faces. Our corporate sustainability is central to achieving this mission. We recognise we must hold ourselves to the same – or higher – standards that we expect from the issuers and issues in which we invest.

Our corporate sustainability is underpinned by four pillars: our people, our clients, our climate and our impact community. Within each pillar, we have key focus areas and targets so we can measure our progress.



People



Climate



Clients



Community

## Our people

	Diversity & inclusion	Professional development	Wellbeing	Charitable giving
<b>2020 achievements</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gender balance at all levels</li> <li>Paid internships throughout the year</li> <li>Our People Policy was published for the first time</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Five new hires from a variety of specialist backgrounds</li> <li>Continual learning and participation in professional development initiatives</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Flexible working adopted by all employees</li> <li>Full parental leave utilised by two employees</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Charitable donations provided on behalf of all employees during the pandemic period</li> </ul>

Our people drive our success. In what has been a challenging period, we are proud that we have continued to foster an environment of collaboration. Our People Policy sets out how our core values of transparency, integrity, fairness and intellectual rigour are integrated into our policies and behaviours.

We encourage our employees to pursue ongoing professional qualifications and development. We work with individuals on a personal basis to determine study leave and funding requirements. During the year, our team progressed with qualifications such as the CFA® Program and the ICMA Fixed Income Certificate, and participated in working groups and panels, including the SEB conference regarding the Covid-19 recovery, the Swedbank panel on investing in a 1.5°C world, and Impact Investment Summit Asia Pacific on Gender Lens investing.

Flexible working has been a core value since AIM's inception. During 2020, our flexible working strategy was utilised by all our colleagues as working from home was undertaken globally. We promoted continued collaboration through all-team Zoom calls, which take place three times a week, and virtual social events. As government restrictions lift, we will continue to operate a flexible working model to facilitate in-person collaboration and varying working preferences.

We know the importance of giving back to the community, and in 2020 we encouraged all employees to nominate a charity of their choice to which we would donate on their behalf. Through this scheme, we donated to a diverse range of organisations across the globe.



of senior management are women



of employees are women



of employees are Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME)



languages spoken



paid parental leave for both female and male employees

## Our climate

	Net zero	Responsible travel	Circular world
2020 achievements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continued commitment to operational carbon neutrality for Scope 1, 2 and 3 emissions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increased take-up of the Cycle to Work scheme for London-based colleagues</li> <li>Leveraging of technology in place of in-person meetings</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Electronic materials replaced paper copies as our standard</li> <li>Recycling and no single-use plastic in our offices</li> </ul>



net carbon emissions



of London-resident employees use public transport or cycle to work



single-use plastic in our offices

Our vision is to mobilise mainstream capital to address the major challenges the world faces. One of the most pressing is climate change, highlighted in 2020 by wildfires, hurricanes and flooding across the globe.

At AIM, we offset all Scope 1 and 2 emissions, and also Scope 3 (Category 6) – Business Travel emissions. This year, we offset our corporate carbon footprint by supporting a project that upgrades and maintains a composting facility in Okhla, Delhi. This project combines environmentally beneficial soil remediation and waste recycling with social benefits by reducing the burning of waste in the surrounding area. You can read more about this project and our operational carbon footprint in the following pages.

During 2020 and the implementation of social-distancing measures, more of our colleagues took advantage of the Cycle-to-Work scheme. This London-based benefits scheme provides employer-supported discounts on bicycles and cycling equipment. The number of our team members who cycle into the office, as and when restrictions allow, continues to increase.

As a business, we have always seen the value in technology and have operated an outsourced model from the start. While we are excited to visit clients face-to-face in the near future, we continue to leverage technology as a less carbon-intensive form of communication, whether via Zoom or by sharing all materials electronically. Reviewing the balance between electronic and in-person engagement is crucial for a cleaner planet.



## Our clients

	Accountability	Insights	Impact delivery
<b>2020 achievements</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AIM Modern Slavery Statement published</li> <li>• Continued innovation of our impact reporting</li> <li>• Reporting aligned with the Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures (TCFD) expanded to include the Weighted Average Carbon Intensity (WACI) of the benchmark</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Insights and thought pieces published on our website</li> <li>• Held webinars for continued education and sharing of knowledge</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continued to deliver environmental and social impact alongside financial returns</li> <li>• Ongoing external recognition for our world-leading verification process, portfolios and impact reporting</li> </ul>

Our clients come first. We continue to succeed in our mission to deliver mainstream financial returns with environmental and social impact.



PR rating across all modules

We believe in the importance of accountability and authenticity and hold ourselves to the same standards as we do our issuers. In 2020, we published our first Modern Slavery Statement which details how we assess modern slavery in both our verification process and our supply chain. We acknowledge that the assessment of modern slavery risks is an ongoing process and will continue to review and refine our approach.

We share our knowledge with our clients and publish insight pieces and commentaries on our website throughout the year. In 2020, these included an introduction to Covid-19 bonds and our view on the importance of decarbonising real estate.



Morningstar ESG Commitment Level

Our annual Impact Reports underpin our commitment to transparency for our clients and we continue to enhance the depth of our analysis each year. As part of these reports, we measure the WACI, as recommended by the TCFD. This year, we have extended our calculation to include the portfolio benchmark to provide greater comparability for our clients. We also continue to assess the physical risk of our portfolios, building upon our work with South Pole initiated in 2019. Further details can be found in our annual Impact Reports.

We are delighted to have been recognised for the quality of our impact reporting and our portfolios. We continued to receive a number of awards including 'Best ESG Investment Fund: Green bonds' at the ESG Investing Awards and 'Best Sustainability Reporting by an asset manager, medium and small (fixed income)' at the Environmental Finance Sustainable Investment Awards.

As a firm, we have recently received a Morningstar ESG Commitment Level of 'Leader'.<sup>1</sup> In their assessment, published in May 2021, we were the only asset manager to have received this commitment level. We are also proud to have received an A+ rating from the Principles for Responsible Investment (PRI) for the 2020 reporting cycle – the highest rating that can be achieved.



SFDR classification for all European funds

The new EU Sustainable Finance Disclosure Regulation came into effect on 10th March 2021. This regulation is applicable to European financial market participants, ranging from asset managers to financial advisers, and aims to increase transparency regarding ESG-focused products. It forces asset managers to reveal the differing levels of sustainability integration and focus of each investment strategy they offer. Our flagship fund, the LO Funds - Global Climate Bond, has been classified as an Article 9 Fund, the highest sustainable classification. We expect all of our vehicles for EU distribution to be classified under Article 9.

## Our impact community



	Agent for change	Collaborator
2020 achievements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Panel and working group participation</li> <li>Participation in investor surveys, such as ICMA social and transition bonds surveys</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Collaboration with peers to drive forward initiatives</li> <li>Active engagement with potential and current impact bond issuers</li> </ul>

over  
50

collaborations  
and events

We believe in the importance of collaboration and engaging with our impact community.

Throughout 2020, we continued to partner with our peers to drive initiatives. These included providing expertise to the Inter-American Development Bank for the creation of the Green Bond Transparency Platform and the New South Wales government expert advisory group for social impact. We contributed to reporting standards, such as the early adoption of the Sustainability Reporting Standards for Social Housing, and signed investor letters, for example, calling upon the UK government to issue green Gilts. We are pleased to see the United Kingdom has confirmed that the first green Gilt will be issued in 2021.

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global partnerships

We see value in collaboration and participated in numerous surveys throughout the year. These included the S&P survey on the underlying metrics needed to uncover the climate information that matters to investors and corporations and the Environmental Finance survey on impact reporting. We subsequently participated in the Environmental Finance webinar on impact reporting best practices. We also spoke at virtual conferences, such as the Portfolio Construction Forum, where we proposed the notion that "ESG is about risk; impact is about outcomes" and the Responsible Investment Association Australasia (RIAA) conference in Australia, seeking to provide insights and educational tools for investors.

126

engagements held  
over the 2020 impact  
reporting period

Engagement is fundamental to our investment philosophy, and we engage with issuers and intermediaries both pre- and post-issuance. As outlined in the 'Engaging for Impact' section of our Impact Reports, we engage to promote impact ambition and robust disclosure. We use engagement as a medium to encourage best practice and transparency, and to develop strong relationships with our impact community.

You can read more on our partnerships, collaboration and engagement activity in our annual Impact Reports.

### 2021 initiatives

We believe in holding ourselves accountable and recognise the importance of setting measurable targets. We will continue to measure against the metrics detailed in our four pillars and we have set out the following 2021 targets:

#### Community initiative

We will launch an AIM community initiative in the coming year. This will include the nomination of a charity, selected by our colleagues. All members of the team will be able to take one day of paid leave to volunteer with this organisation.

#### Firm-wide TCFD reporting

We are continuing to develop our approach to TCFD reporting. We believe in the importance of standardising disclosures, and we seek to enhance our climate-related disclosures, recognising the importance of holding ourselves to the same standards that we expect from the issuers and bond issues we hold in our portfolios. We will be reporting across the four pillars as recommended by the TCFD: governance, strategy, risk management, and metrics and targets. We seek to hold ourselves accountable by articulating a framework through which to measure our activities and by setting firm-wide targets that apply to our investments and operations.

#### Gender pay equity review

While we promote gender equality, and have achieved gender equity at all levels of the firm, we believe it is important to formalise this with a review of salaries through a gender lens.

#### Impact collaboration

We will continue to collaborate with our peers and join initiatives that align with our mission. For example, we have recently signed up to the Net Zero Asset Managers Initiative.



An aerial photograph of a beach with turquoise water and white sand. The water is clear and shallow, showing the sandy bottom. The sand is bright white and smooth. The overall scene is serene and natural.

# Portfolio

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Deep dive

## AIM operational carbon footprint 2020

### Scope 1

0 tCO<sub>2</sub>e

Direct GHG emissions from sources that are owned or controlled by AIM<sup>1</sup>

### Scope 2

3.4 tCO<sub>2</sub>e

Indirect GHG Emissions from the generation of electricity purchased by AIM

Source	2020 electricity consumption (kWh)	GHG emissions conversion factor (kgCO <sub>2</sub> e per kWh)	GHG emissions (kgCO <sub>2</sub> e)
Office (Scope 2)	14,678	0.233	3,422.03 (3.4tCO <sub>2</sub> e)

Table 1: Approach for calculating 2020 AIM's Scope 2 GHG emissions compared to Scope 3 remote working

To derive Scope 2 GHG Emissions, a location-based approach was used in line with the UK Government's guidelines for corporate carbon footprint reporting. As shown in Table 1, AIM's office electricity consumption in 2020<sup>2</sup> was multiplied by the GHG emission conversion factor for the electricity supplied to the UK grid.

### Scope 3

29.9 tCO<sub>2</sub>e

GHG emissions resulting from assets or activities not owned or controlled by AIM

Due to the Covid-19 restrictions that have been in place over much of 2020, remote working has been the norm for us and many other businesses. This presents new challenges from a carbon footprinting perspective, as there is little established guidance on the appropriate reporting of emissions from remote working.

To address this, regional energy consumption data were used to estimate the usage of gas and electricity attributable to AIM for each staff member. This involved constructing regional average baselines for the UK<sup>3</sup>, and national baselines for other countries. The resulting gas and electricity consumption baselines were multiplied by the expected increase in consumption caused by working from home.<sup>4</sup> This provided an estimate of the total consumption of electricity and gas attributable to our business.

To derive emissions data, separate electricity conversion factors were sourced or calculated from available data for each country.<sup>5</sup> For gas emissions, the UK conversion factor was used for all regions, as emissions from natural gas vary less by location.<sup>6</sup> This approach was applied for all staff members for a period of 40 working weeks, as remote working did not begin until March in the UK. Tables 2 and 3 shows some examples of the approach taken.

Region	Average gas consumption (kWh/person/day)	Average increase in gas usage due to remote working	Natural gas emissions conversion factor (kgCO <sub>2</sub> e per kWh)	Working days	GHG emissions (kgCO <sub>2</sub> e)
Maidstone (UK)	13.00	70.68%	0.18	200	338.01
Victoria (Australia)	5.06	60.10%			111.83
USA	12.71	38.39%			358.87

Table 2: Examples of approach for calculating 2020 AIM's remote working gas emissions

Region	Average gas consumption (kWh/person/day)	Average increase in gas usage due to remote working	Natural gas emissions conversion factor (kgCO <sub>2</sub> e per kWh)	Working days	GHG emissions (kgCO <sub>2</sub> e)
Maidstone (UK)	4.49	57.79%	0.23	200	120.89
Victoria (Australia)	6.52	26.24%	0.98		335.33
USA	12.24	62.57%	0.40		1,221.83

Table 3: Examples of approach for calculating 2020 AIM's remote working electricity emissions

The final estimate of emissions attributable to our remote working is an upper bound, as some upward bias resulted from the simplifying assumptions that allowed the baselines to be constructed. For example, the UK average consumption figures were calculated from annual data that included the high-consumption months of January and February, and this drove up average consumption despite no remote working during those months. However, given the significant role played by remote working over the past year, providing these data gives a more complete picture of our total emissions over 2020.

<sup>1</sup> Scope 1 emissions are zero because the AIM office has no gas heating and therefore no direct emissions from this space.

<sup>2</sup> Source: AIM Office Manager – Electricity Consumption Data for 3rd Floor, 7 Birchin Lane, London

<sup>3</sup> Source: Regional and local authority gas consumption statistics, Statistical Data Set, BEIS, UK Government

<sup>4</sup> Source: Estimating Energy Consumption & GHG Emissions for Remote Workers, Anthesis, February 2021

<sup>5</sup> Sources as follows: National Greenhouse Accounts Factors 2020, Australian Government; eGRID2019 Dataset for the District of Columbia, US EPA; WEO 2019 Annex A

<sup>6</sup> Source: greenhouse gas reporting: conversion factors 2020, BEIS, UK Government

Source	2020 energy consumption (kWh)	GHG emissions conversion factor (kgCO <sub>2</sub> e per kWh)	GHG emissions (kgCO <sub>2</sub> e)
Remote working: gas	28,266.00	0.233	5,197.27 kgCO <sub>2</sub> e
Remote working: electricity	11,137	Varies	3,388.83 kgCO <sub>2</sub> e

Table 4: Total emissions from remote working by type of energy usage

## 21,285.65 kgCO<sub>2</sub>e Category 6-Business Travel: GHG emissions from flights and trains by AIM staff

To derive Scope 3 GHG Emissions-Category 6: Business Travel, all our staff's flights and train trips were retrieved from the AIM shared calendar and records. GHG emissions conversion factors were sourced from the UK Government's guidelines for corporate carbon footprint reporting. For air travel, flights were categorised according to their haul and origin/destination, and corresponding average passenger conversion factors were applied based on distance flown.<sup>6</sup> For land travel, rail trips were categorised according to whether they were domestic or international, and conversion factors were applied based on the distance travelled.<sup>7</sup> Due to Covid-19 travel restrictions, fewer trips were taken over 2020, which accounts for the drop in emissions from business travel. Table 5 below displays several examples of the approach for calculating our GHG emissions from business travel.

Transport mode	Origin	Destination	Haul / Type	Distance travelled incl. return (km)	GHG emissions conversion factor (kgCO <sub>2</sub> e per passenger.km)	GHG emissions (kgCO <sub>2</sub> e)
Flight	Washington	Bogota	International, to/from non-UK	3,824 <sup>2</sup>	0.18181	208.30
Flight	London	Washington	Long-haul, to/from UK	5,898 * 2	0.19085	1,125.63
Train	New York	Washington	National rail <sup>8</sup>	474	0.03659	17.51

Table 5: Approach for Calculating 2020 AIMs Scope 3 GHG Emissions-Category 6: Business Travel

## Overall AIM corporate carbon footprint

Table 6 below summarises the results for the calculation of our corporate carbon footprint in 2020.

GHG emissions boundary	Description	GHG emissions (2019)	GHG emissions (2020)
Scope 1	GHG emissions from direct sources	0 tCO <sub>2</sub> e	0 tCO <sub>2</sub> e
Scope 2	GHG emissions from electricity purchased	4.5 tCO <sub>2</sub> e	3.4 tCO <sub>2</sub> e
Scope 3-Category 6	Business travel – flights and train trips	31.3 tCO <sub>2</sub> e	21.3 tCO <sub>2</sub> e
Scope 3	Emissions from remote working	Not applicable	8.6 tCO <sub>2</sub> e
<b>AIM corporate carbon footprint</b>		<b>35.81 tCO<sub>2</sub>e</b>	<b>33.29 tCO<sub>2</sub>e</b>

Table 6: 2020 AIM corporate carbon footprint

## Offsetting our corporate carbon footprint

Offsetting is a climate action that enables individuals and organisations to compensate for unavoidable GHG emissions by supporting projects that reduce GHG emissions elsewhere. Every year, in order to offset our unavoidable corporate carbon footprint, we purchase certified emissions reductions (CERs) generated by the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) projects in developing countries. For 2020, we offset our corporate carbon footprint by supporting a project aiming to upgrade and maintain a composting facility at Okhla, Delhi, which processes municipal waste and diverts 200 tons of waste from dumpsites per day. By providing a facility to properly dispose of waste, the project hopes to reduce the burning of waste that contributes to the significant pollution problem in Delhi, and to reduce methane emissions from dumpsites.<sup>9</sup>



<sup>6</sup>Source: Business Travel - Air, 2020 Standard Set, UK Government GHG Conversion Factors for Company Reporting, BEIS & DEFRA – In particular, for air travel, GHG emission factors included radiative forcing (RF) - a measure of the additional environmental impact of aviation. As described in the source, organisations should include the influence of radiative forcing RF in air travel emissions to capture the maximum climate impact of their travel habits. However, it should be noted that there is very significant scientific uncertainty around the magnitude of the additional environmental impacts of aviation.

<sup>7</sup>Source: Business Travel-Land, 2020 Standard Set, UK Government GHG Conversion Factors for Company Reporting, BEIS & DEFRA

<sup>8</sup>Should be noted this type of travel refers to the emissions factor used, not the operator of the rail. This cell refers to the category of national rail, in the UK Government GHG Conversion Factors, rather than the UK rail network of the same name.

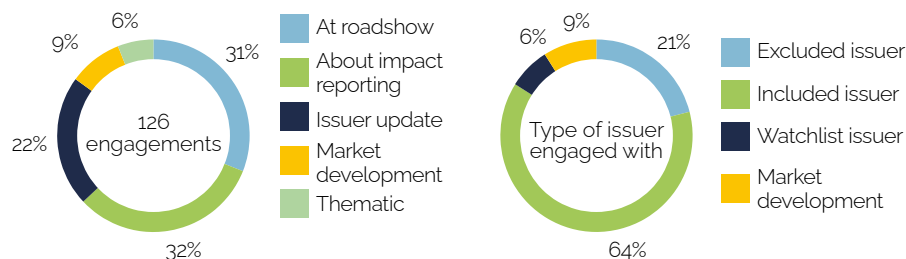
<sup>9</sup><https://offset.climateneutralnow.org/upgradation-operation-and-maintenance-of-200-tpd-composting-facility-at-okhla-delhi-2470->



# Engaging for impact

We view engagement as an integral part of impact investing and we actively engage with impact bond issuers, intermediaries and other market players to promote high-impact ambition, robust disclosure and transparency, and strong performance outcomes. We predominantly engage with SPECTRUM included issuers, but as the chart below on the right shows, we also engage with SPECTRUM excluded issuers:

Topics and types of SPECTRUM issuer that the Sustainability Team engaged with 2020-2021<sup>1</sup>



Our sustainability team's engagement with the impact bond market can be summarised in five ways

## 1. Engaging with issuers at roadshow

- **What?** Engaging with issuers at roadshow to gain further details on their framework such as choice of eligibility criteria, commitment to impact reporting, and on their ESG-related policies and performance. This includes issuers that end up being SPECTRUM include, exclude or watchlist.
- **Why?** Conversations with issuers build relationships and provide additional insights such as decisions around the construction of the framework, impetus to issue labelled bonds, and extent of integration, ambition and commitment to a strong ESG profile.

## 2. Engaging with issuers about impact reporting

- **What?** During our annual impact reporting, we engage with held issuers to confirm details or get further information related to the allocation and impact of their labelled bonds.
- **Why?** Impact reporting is not yet harmonised, and engagement can give us a better understanding of the reported allocation and impact data and methodologies used by the issuer.

## 3. Updates/thematic engagements with issuers

- **What?** As necessary, we will engage with issuers on a specific theme or issue. For example, this could be a particular theme we want to learn more about, a controversial project that has been financed through a labelled bond, or an issuer-level ESG concern.
- **Why?** Raising any concerns with an issuer allows us to understand their perspective and response and work that into our evaluation of the issuer.

## 4. Market development engagements

- **What?** We participate in market initiatives and working groups, support collaborative investor statements and respond to investor surveys.
- **Why?** This is an effective way to encourage best-practice development of the impact investing market, particularly as collaborations increase the weight of our voice. Working groups also provide important learning opportunities for our team.

## 5. Engaging with intermediaries

- **What?** Brokers often contact us with questions about issuer best practice or feedback on labelled bond frameworks or the quality of issuer impact reporting.
- **Why?** Providing feedback on frameworks and reporting is an important way to improve market practice. In addition, building relationships with brokers is helpful as they can provide introductions to issuers and supply information about market developments.

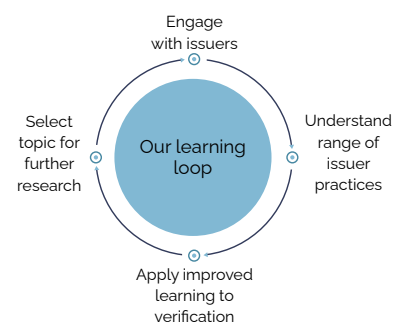
## Thematic Engagement: Adaptive capacity to climate change

This year, we engaged with several issuers with use of proceeds to renewable energy projects to understand how they evaluate the possible risks presented by different climate warming scenarios, and how they are managing or adapting correspondingly. This formed part of the physical climate risk assessment that we undertook with South Pole (described fully on pg. 26).

For this engagement we spoke to a selection of held issuers asking a standard set of questions in semi-structured interview style. The engagement covered:

- Physical climate risk and vulnerability identification
- Risk and adaptation management
- Monitoring processes
- Residual risk identification and monitoring
- Transparency and disclosure

This exercise formed a key part of the physical risk assessment. It also resulted in informative dialogues with issuers that improved our team's understanding of the ways that different issuers identify and adapt to the risks presented by future climate change.



## Recent market development engagements:

- o The European Commission conducted a review of the sustainable investment data, ratings and research market. We completed the corresponding survey.
- o Completed ICMA's social and transition bond surveys.
- o The Grantham Institute, Impact Investing Initiative and Green Finance Institute initiated an investor letter to the UK Prime Minister asking for a sovereign green bond. We signed in support of this request and shared within our networks.
- o Various virtual speaking events:
  - SEB's Covid recovery conference
  - NatWest Markets' 'What ESG investors want' panel
  - Portfolio Construction Forum: discussion on going beyond ESG investing
  - ESG Investing's Climate Risk Metrics conference
  - Swedbank's 'Investing in a 1.5C world' panel
  - Environmental Finance's 'Green bond impact reporting – shining a light on best practices' webinar

<sup>1</sup>This includes all engagements made by the Sustainability Team between June 2020 and June 2021. Engagements are undertaken with held and SPECTRUM issuers

# Partnerships for impact

Since inception, we have collaborated with other industry leaders to promote the impact bond market. In order to fulfil our vision to mobilise capital at scale, to meaningfully address the major challenges the world faces, we cannot go it alone.

Some of our key partnerships are:

## Carbon Yield© and ISS ESG



In 2016, we co-developed the Carbon Yield© metric and methodology with ISS ESG and Lion's Head Global Partners, with funding from Rockefeller Foundation. The Carbon Yield© quantifies the climate change mitigation impact of green bonds. We apply the Carbon Yield© methodology to our strategies as part of our annual impact reporting commitment and, in 2018, published a case study in collaboration with ISS ESG on our experience of applying the methodology.

## Climate Bonds Initiative

Since 2015, we have been a partner of the Climate Bonds Initiative (CBI). CBI is an international organisation working solely to mobilise the largest capital market of all, the \$100 trillion bond market, for climate change solutions.

## Colonial First State (CFS)



Since 2018, we have partnered with CFS, one of Australia's leading wealth managers, which has helped over 1 million Australians with their superannuation, investment and retirement needs, from 1988. The product of this alliance is the Affirmative Global Bond Fund—a vehicle that seeks to engage investors to deliver funding for real solutions to global environmental and social problems.

## FAIRR Initiative



Since 2019, we have been members of the FAIRR network. FAIRR's mission is to build a global collective of investors who are focused and engaged on the risks linked to intensive animal production within the broader food system. FAIRR helps investors to exercise their influence as responsible stewards of capital to engage and safeguard the long-term value of their investment portfolios.

## Impact Investing Institute



In 2021, we commenced our partnership with the Impact Investing Institute ('Institute'). The Institute's mission is to accelerate the growth and improve the effectiveness of the impact investing market in the UK and Internationally. The Institute is at the forefront of the emerging consensus that capital can and should deliver for people and planet.



## ICMA Green, Social, Sustainability and Sustainability-Linked Bond Principles

Since 2015, we have been a member or observer of the ICMA principles, starting with the Green Bond Principles, which were the first to be developed. The principles are widely used voluntary process guidelines that recommend transparency and disclosure, and promote integrity in the development of the impact bond market.

## Impact Management Project



Since 2017, we have been a member of the Practitioner Community of the Impact Management Project, an initiative to build consensus on how we talk about, measure and manage impact, bridging the perspectives of investment, grantmaking, business, non-profits, social science, evaluation, wealth management, policy, standards bodies and accounting.

## Lombard Odier Investment Managers



Since 2017, we have partnered with Lombard Odier Investment Managers. The LO Funds – Global Climate Bond is a result of this partnership. Lombard Odier Investment Managers is the asset management business of the Lombard Odier Group, which has been wholly owned and funded by its partners since its establishment in 1796.



# Partnerships for impact

## Principles for Responsible Investment (PRI)



Since 2016, we have been a signatory of the PRI. The PRI is an independent organisation and is the world's leading proponent of responsible investment. It works to understand the investment implications of environmental, social and governance (ESG) factors, and to support its international network of investor signatories in incorporating these factors into their investment and ownership decisions.

## South Pole



Since 2017, we have been a partner with South Pole, a leading provider of global sustainability financing solutions and services. We collaborated with South Pole to review a TCFD-aligned physical risk assessment tool and applied it across all our portfolios. The tool is forward-looking and examines three forms of green bond issuers' exposure to physical climate risks under four warming scenarios, 1 to 4°C.

## Stockholm Declaration

Since 2017, we have been a signatory of the Stockholm Declaration. Co-led by GRI and UN Global Compact, and supported by the PRI, our allegiance to this document reaffirms our commitment to investing for sustainable development, sustainable impact and towards the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals.

## Net Zero Asset Managers Initiative

In 2021, we became a signatory of the Net Zero Asset Managers Initiative. The Net Zero Asset Managers initiative is an international group of asset managers committed to supporting the goal of net zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050 or sooner, in line with global efforts to limit warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius; and to supporting investing aligned with net zero emissions by 2050 or sooner.

## Responsible Investment Association Australia



Since 2020 we have been a member of the Responsible Investment Association Australia (RIAA). RIAA champions responsible investing and a sustainable financial system in Australia and New Zealand. RIAA has over 350 members managing more than A\$9 trillion in assets across the globe. RIAA's mission to promote, advocate for, and support approaches to responsible investment that align capital with achieving a healthy and sustainable society, environment and economy. Our Affirmative Global Bond Fund in Australia is certified by RIAA.

# Disclaimer

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Authorised and Regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority FRN 658030, the SEC CRD Number 282138  
Registered in England & Wales no. 09077671  
Registered Office 55 Baker Street, London W1U 7EU

### Contact:

E: [kate.temby@affirmativeim.com](mailto:kate.temby@affirmativeim.com)