

ESR GROUP LIMITED

(Stock code: 1821)

ENVIRONMENTAL, SOCIAL & GOVERNANCE (ESG) POLICY

OWNER: GROUP ESG

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^{*}Policy development/revision in progress

1. <u>INTRODUCTION AND PURPOSE</u>

1.1 ESR Group Limited and its subsidiaries (collectively, "ESR" or the "Group") has developed this Environmental, Social and Governance ("ESG") Policy ("Policy") to articulate our commitment to managing our business in a sustainable manner through integrating ESG considerations across our business.

1.2 This ESG Policy is prepared in alignment with the Group's ESG Framework, ESG 2030 Roadmap and all related policies outlined in the appendices to form the Group's ESG commitment and approach. The policy encompasses all the ESG components and aims at providing direction and consensus across the Group on how to implement our ESG initiatives in accordance with core values, purpose, and objective.

2. COVERAGE

2.1 The Group integrates ESG considerations in our business activities with the view to manage scarce natural resources, to minimise our environmental footprint, our greenhouse gas emissions and impacts on biodiversity and land use change, to take care of the health, safety and well-being of our people, be they employees, workers, contractors or the community, and to uphold strong and effective corporate governance while striving to achieve financial returns for our investors. This ESG Policy is applicable to ESR and its related entities.

3. SCOPE, RESPONSIBILITY AND AUTHORITY

3.1 This policy and its relevant appendices apply to all ESR-controlled activities and operations, including its property investment, fund management and development areas and as well as ESR's funds and investment vehicles in all its countries of operation. Where necessary, certain deviations are made subject to prevailing local regulations or market conditions. Under these cases, some policies are not applicable to certain business entities, which should comply with their local ESG policies with stricter provisions.

3.2 The implementation of this policy is the responsibility of all ESR employees. This will enable the continuous improvement of our ESG performance through the enhancement of skills, knowledge, and commitment of our employees at all levels of the organisation. This ESG

Policy is endorsed by ESR's Group Co-CEOs and approved by ESR's Board of Directors

("Board"). It will be reviewed every two years, at a minimum, by ESR's ESG Committee.

3.3 Our commitments to sustainable development are underpinned by robust governance with

oversight from our highest governance body, the Board of Directors.

Board Statement - As APAC's largest real asset manager powered by the New Economy, ESR

believes ESG is our corporate responsibility as we actively integrate ESG factors into every

aspect of our business operations. The Board provides the overall stewardship and strategic

direction on sustainability management. Working closely with the Executive Senior Leadership

team and supported by the ESG Committee, the Board ensures that material ESG factors are

integrated within the Group's business and oversees the delivery of ESG performance against

established targets. The Board continues to steer the Group forward in the execution of our

ESG Strategy and ESG 2030 Roadmap, as we transit to a more inclusive, low-carbon and

climate resilient future.

4. VISION AND MISSION STATEMENT

4.1 We are committed to working closely with all our stakeholders – both internal and external –

to achieve shared business goals that also align with our core values of Excellence, Inclusion,

Entrepreneurship and Sustainability.

4.2 Our Vision - We aspire to be a leading provider of Space and Investment Solutions for a

Sustainable Future.

4.3 Our Mission – To drive long-term sustainable growth of the business by creating positive

impact on the environment, our stakeholders, and the communities around us.

5. <u>INTEGRATION OF ESG CONSIDERATIONS INTO OUR MISSION</u>

5.1 We are committed to integrating ESG considerations across the real asset development cycle

of our activities and upholding our high standards of diligence, transparency, and

accountability. We are committed to working in compliance with the local regulations and

international standards and in continuous collaboration with our internal and external

stakeholders with the view to contribute to a sustainable and successful business.

5.2 We aim to achieve the highest standards of corporate governance which are crucial to our

development and safeguarding the interests of our shareholders. At ESR we believe a culture

of strong corporate governance provides the foundation for sustained and balanced growth

over the long term. We recognise the importance of our environmental, social, transparency

and accountability responsibilities to our stakeholders to manage risks, make effective

decisions and create value.

5.3 Across the various aspects of our business, we incorporate ESG factors by putting in place

best practices, setting goals and monitoring performance as guided by the Group's ESG

Policy:

(a) Product Development - ESG considerations are integrated into the product

development stages of our assets, from site selection to property design and

construction. Assets in our portfolio are developed in accordance with applicable

governance codes and construction standards. Development of product offerings are

customised to investors' needs, including meeting their ESG requirements which are

linked to quantifiable outcomes.

(b) <u>Capital Raising</u> - Establishment of strategic partnerships with stakeholders during

capital raising, including obtaining Green Financing in the form of green loans and

bonds.

(c) <u>Investment & Capital Management</u> – Investment, portfolio management and fund

structuring, including performing impact investing analysis and due diligence to identify

ESG related risks. The principles of responsible investing are incorporated within our

investment and asset management policies and practices.

(d) Asset Management - Management of assets by teams with competencies across

various property markets and sectors, including focusing on various ESG aspects in the

asset management activities.

(e) <u>Property Management</u> – In-house local teams equipped with operational expertise, with

their key performance indicators linked to sustainability and reporting auditable ESG information to stakeholders.

5.4 In addition, the Group believes in investing in Property Technology initiatives as an important driver of innovations and productivity, to transform the real assets into smart buildings. This includes incorporating the latest technologies in the property management operations. The ESR Future Solutions Group assesses and undertakes sustainable asset enhancement initiatives to optimise performance and productivity.

6. STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT AND MATERIALITY PROCESS

6.1 Our materiality process focuses on material ESG issues, opportunities, and risks from the perspectives of our stakeholders. Key stakeholder groups are identified based on their ability to impact or be impacted by our operations and sustainability. Regular engagement with our stakeholders helps us refine our material areas of focus, as well as identify and manage our positive and negative impacts. Our stakeholders include tenants, customers, employees, investment partners, shareholders, suppliers, and communities.

Identification of issues

- Discussions with stakeholders and/or their representatives to understand their concerns
- Benchmarking against industry peers' material factors

Prioritisation

 Shortlised sustainability factors are prioritised through voting exercise with feedback from business units and stakeholders

Validation

•Final assessment conducted to refine the list of material sustainability factors

Review

 Material issues approved by the Board and reviewed periodically to ensure their continued relevance 6.2 Following the four-step process, material issues are identified based on relevance to our business, likelihood and impact and influence on stakeholders' decisions.

7. **ESG FRAMEWORK**

7.1 Our ESG framework covers three key pillars – Human Centric, Property Portfolio and Corporate Performance – supported by 15 focus areas material to our business, to drive our sustainability performance. Strategic initiatives and targets are in place for each focus area:

PILLAR 1: HUMAN CENTRIC	PILLAR 2: PROPERTY PORTFOLIO	PILLAR 3: CORPORATE PERFORMANCE
Stakeholder engagement Conduct engagement initiatives with our stakeholders such as investors, business partners, tenants, and communities to enhance our deliverables.	Sustainable & Efficient Operations Maximise the generation of renewable energy from our properties' roof space, being the largest in APAC, and pursue potential business initiatives which focus on the funding and managing of green energy. Pursue a structured and well-planned decarbonisation plan for the entire portfolio in the longer term, with milestone targets.	Corporate Governance Maintain the highest standards of corporate governance throughout the enlarged Group, with strong core values and business ethics.
Safety, Health & Well-being Maintain a safe working environment by achieving Zero ESR Workforce Fatalities and promoting the holistic well-being of our people.	Sustainable Building Certifications Increase green building certifications across all markets and accelerate in green financing to support continued business growth and align our portfolio towards facilitating transition to a low- carbon economy.	Risk Management Conduct a holistic risk management process to focus on strategic, financial, operational, technology and compliance risks, which cover sustainability and climate change factors, amongst others, to enable more informed business decisions.
Managing and Developing Talent Aspire to be an Employer of Choice and drive an	Climate Change Resilience Manage and mitigate climate- related risks and assess the impact of the future cost of	Responsible Investments Commit to the UN-PRI as a signatory and adopt its investment and asset

employee engagement climate change to the business, management policies to programme with a strong in alignment with the core enhance transparency and focus on workplace elements of the Taskforce on demonstrate our commitment satisfaction, talent retention Climate-related Financial to including ESG factors in and training. Disclosures (TCFD). investment decision making and ownership. Flexible & Diversity, and Adaptable **Disclosure & Reporting** Equity Inclusion **Properties** Actively participate in Commit Design, construct and maintain sustainability rating surveys fostering to workplaces that embrace the Group's assets to reduce and benchmarks to measure diversity and are free from material degradation. our ESG performance and discrimination, and achieve a disclosure against industry gender ratio target as part of peers. the overall DEI plan with actions monitoring and progress. Supply Chain Management **Community Investment Strategic Locations** Enhance assets in Incorporate ESG community strategic involvement and philanthropy locations, with a sustainability considerations as part of activities through a series of focus on site selection. supply chain management on planned activities involving areas relating to sustainable efficient design, green our stakeholders. construction, and energyprocurement, operational efficient operations. resilience, and sustainability performance of suppliers.

7.2 Our vision for sustainable development and ESG Framework is aligned to six of the Sustainable Development Goals ("SDGs") from the United Nations 2030 Agenda, as well as the United Nations-supported Principles for Responsible Investment ("UN PRI"), which guide our business strategies towards sustainability and help us achieve our overall mission. These are listed below each of the corresponding three pillars below:

Pillar 1: Human Centric (Social)

(a) Objectives

We believe creating a positive environment that encourages diversity, equity and inclusion is our social responsibility to the communities in which we operate, and to our employees, our tenants, and our suppliers. We believe this will create long-term benefits to society as well as to our Group.

(b) Alignment to Global Commitments

i. SDG 3: GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages.

ii. SDG 5: GENDER EQUALITY

Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls.

iii. SDG 8: DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH

Promote sustained, inclusive, and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment, and decent work for all.

(c) Actions

- We commit not only to providing safe workplaces but also to promoting the holistic well-being of our people with due consideration for the importance of a healthy work-life balance.
- ii. We are committed to fostering workplaces that embrace diversity and are free from discrimination on the basis of gender, age, religion, ethnicity, disability, sexual orientation, family status or any other personal characteristics.
- iii. We aspire to be an Employer of Choice to facilitate talent attraction, retention, and training. As part of this we seek feedback on workplace satisfaction via surveys.
- iv. We work closely with our supply chain to ensure that the employees of our contractors enjoy the same standards of protection as we expect for our own people.
- v. We create safe and quality workplaces for people working in or visiting our property sites and office properties through following contractor management and occupational health and safety practices aligned with good international standards.
- vi. We care for the health and safety of our project workers, building users and community. We adopt a sustainable approach at the design stage of new

construction and refurbishments by integrating building material attributes and

occupant well-being assessments.

vii. We aim to include, to the extent possible, natural lighting, active design features and

indoor air quality monitoring in our facilities, and to select sustainable sites that

facilitate active transport, such as walking, cycling, or using public transportation.

viii. We are committed to enhancing gender balance and empowering women in our

workforce.

ix. We engage proactively with our stakeholders, in particular our employees, tenants,

and suppliers in the areas of health and safety, sustainable procurement, and

resilience to maximise stakeholder satisfaction. We engage our tenants through

regular surveys to better understand their needs and preferences.

x. We are committed to engaging with our local communities and facilitating

opportunities to contribute positively to their well-being.

(d) Please refer to Appendix A for all relevant policies related to this section.

Pillar 2: Property Portfolio (Environmental)

(a) Objectives

We strive to mitigate the environmental impact our business generates while providing

sustainable and innovative space and solutions for the future. We are committed to

environmental stewardship by developing and maintaining sustainable and efficient

buildings.

We acknowledge that climate change poses significant risks for sustainable

development of our business throughout the Asia Pacific region due to the impact of

global warming and acute effects from extreme weather events. ESR supports the Paris

Agreement, which aims to decarbonise the global economy by promoting clean

technologies and less carbon-intensive products and services.

(b) Alignment to Global Commitments

i. SDG 7: AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY

Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable, and modern energy for all.

ii. SDG 9: INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialisation and foster innovation.

iii. SDG 13: CLIMATE ACTION

Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts.

(c) Actions

 We manage natural hazards, climate and extreme weather risks at the design, development, construction, and operations stages of our properties and in our asset management practices to increase our resilience.

- ii. We aim to maximise the generation of renewable energy from our properties' roof space and pursue potential business initiatives which focus on the funding and managing of green energy.
- iii. We aim to pursue a structured and well-planned decarbonisation plan for the entire portfolio in the longer term, with milestone targets.
- iv. We aim to increase green building certifications that focus on high-performance, low carbon buildings and spaces, for new developments across all asset classes and markets.
- v. We are embarking on a climate impact study and are taking the steps toward aligning with the four core elements of the Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures ("TCFD") framework.
- vi. We optimise, to the extent commercially reasonable, the ESG features of our new or existing developments through site selection, green design initiatives or by positioning our properties to minimise their environmental impact in terms of land

use change, biodiversity protection, and proximity to transport systems, while

providing cost benefits to our customers and long-term social considerations to the

local community.

vii. We are committed to reducing the life-cycle environmental impacts of our assets,

including greenhouse gas emissions, energy, water, and waste footprint, as well as

material degradation, by incorporating green standards and practices in the design,

development, construction, and operations stages, as well as of our corporate

operations.

viii. We protect the biodiversity and high-ecological value habitat of our development

sites and properties, through conservation, enhancement, or offsets.

ix. We are committed to meet recognised sustainable design and green construction

standards to embrace smarter ways to reduce our environmental impact. This

includes consideration of existing developed infrastructure, potential for multi-

modal transit networks and redevelopment opportunities during the site selection

stage.

x. We consider environmental and health impacts during material selection. To reduce

material degradation, we source responsible materials wherever possible within

reasonable budget and allowance, including locally extracted materials, recyclable

materials, and low-emitting VOC materials.

xi. We are committed to minimising environmental impacts, including air, light and

noise impact to the surrounding community during design, development,

construction, and operation stages.

(d) Please refer to Appendix B for all relevant policies related to this section.

Pillar 3: Corporate Performance (Governance)

(a) Objectives

We believe that effective corporate governance is critical to our success, providing the

foundation of sustained growth over the long term.

(b) Alignment to Global Commitments

i. SDG 8: DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH

Promote sustained, inclusive, and sustainable economic growth, full and productive

employment and decent work for all.

ii. UN PRI

ESR recognises the value of responsible investment, and we are committed to act in

the best long-term interests of our stakeholders. Adopting the UN PRI principles, the

Group is committed to be a responsible real assets fund manager. Please refer to

Appendix C.14: Responsible Investment Policy for more details on our commitments

to UNPRI.

(c) Actions

i. We have established robust processes and operating procedures to manage risks,

make effective decisions and create value during our due diligence, development,

and asset management processes, while remaining transparent and accountable to

our investment partners and stakeholders, recognising fiduciary duties. This

includes a comprehensive ESG investment checklist ("Scorecard") incorporated

into the Investment Memo, which is reviewed and approved by the Investment

Committee.

ii. We mitigate the risk of conflicts of interest and fraud through the use of independent

third parties such as fund administrators and the use of technology available to us.

We believe that our information technology platform improves our operational

efficiency and provides high quality internal governance controls.

iii. Our Board is responsible and has general powers over the management and

conduct of our business and oversees our overall risk control. Any significant

business decisions involving material risks, including sustainability and climate

change factors, are reviewed, analysed, and approved at the board level to ensure a

thorough examination of the associated risks at our highest corporate governance

body.

iv. We engage qualified, reputable, and independent third parties to assist us in

managing our operational risks and have in-house personnel that review our internal

control measures on a continuing basis.

v. We maintain a zero-tolerance approach to bribery and corruption and require all ESR

employees to comply with our Code of Conduct and Business Ethics at all times and

provide an annual attestation which is tracked in our compliance monitoring

solution ComplySci. This platform monitors corporate governance performance

across all ESR offices.

vi. We actively participate in sustainability ratings and benchmarks to align and

measure our ESG performance and disclosure against global best practices and

industry peers.

vii. We incorporate ESG considerations as part of supply chain management on areas

relating to sustainable procurement, operational resilience, and sustainability

performance of suppliers.

viii. We ensure the accuracy and reliability of our ESG data by establishing data

management systems, streamlining ESG data collection processes, and developing

policies while setting annual performance targets and reviews. We will also

maintain robust ESG data disclosure in our annual ESG report that is prepared in

accordance with the Hong Kong Exchange and Clearing Limited ("HKEX") Main

Board Listing Rules and ESG Reporting Guide, as well as the Global Reporting

Initiative ("**GRI**") Standards.

ix. We support the market-uptake of new, innovative ESG-related technologies and

practices where appropriate and keep up with emerging regulations.

x. We implement robust responsible investment practices to enhance transparency

and accountability, and mitigate environmental and social risks and leverage

opportunities where available in the interest of stakeholders and investment

performance.

- xi. We provide best-in-class developments for the new economy.
- (d) Please refer to Appendix C for all relevant policies related to this section.

8. TARGETS AND PERFORMANCE

8.1 The Group harmonises its operational measurements across its business operations and aggregating future asset development and operations to establish and monitor its ESG targets. Based on our ESG framework, we have established nine targets that will drive our performance towards our ESG objectives aligned with the Group's ESG 2030 roadmap. We will continue to refine our strategy by evaluating our progress against our targets:

PILLAR 1: HUMAN CENTRIC	PILLAR 2: PROPERTY PORTFOLIO	PILLAR 3: CORPORATE PERFORMANCE
 Maintain a safe working environment by targeting Zero ESR Workforce Fatalities. 	Set up 1,600 MW of solar power capacity.	Achieve a 3 Star GRESB rating average.
Achieve and maintain gender ratio of 50/50 women/men.	Attain sustainable building certifications for 50% of the Group's portfolio.	Maintain a culture of strong Corporate Governance.
Invest US\$20 million in the development of an ESG foundation programme/association.	Reduce energy consumption intensity in line with the Group's decarbonisation roadmap and net zero commitment.	Adhere to UN PRI principles in the investment and asset management policies and practices.

- 8.2 The Paris Agreement has set the stage for mitigating climate change with countries committing to cap global warming to well below 2 degrees celsius to lessen the impact on the Earth. To achieve this, setting quantifiable targets such as Net Zero Carbon ("NZC") emissions by 2050 is essential and is adopted by ESR.
- 8.3 ESR has pledged to decarbonise our operations based on the Group's NZC strategy to meet our decarbonisation targets, which are aligned to both the Science-based Targets Initiative ("SBTi") and the World Green Building Council ("WorldGBC")'s Net Zero Carbon Buildings

("NZCB") Commitment, as well as the UNPRI Principles. ESR is focused in actively participating in the Global Real Estate Sustainability Benchmark ("GRESB") assessment and

measure our ESG performance against its peers.

8.4 Within the real estate industry, the GRESB assessment sets the best practice standard for

ESG disclosure. GRESB has partnered with the WorldGBC to promote net zero carbon

targets across portfolios by 2030 and NZC targets across buildings by 2050.

8.5 As part of ESR Group's integrated ESG 2030 Roadmap and NZC commitment, all business

units are required to report their annual ESG performance to the ESG team under Group

Governance & Sustainability department to facilitate group level reporting requirements.

9. IMPLEMENTATION AND MONITORING

9.1 We have established internal processes to implement this ESG Policy across our three core

business areas of investment, fund management, and development. These processes include

feasibility studies, transaction due diligence, measuring, monitoring, and reporting on ESG

Performance Indicators to assess the progress of our ESG commitments.

9.2 We will encourage and train our internal stakeholders to adopt and implement this ESG Policy,

including the related Appendices. As part of this implementation, the Group will establish a

system to identify training needs, provide training, evaluate the effectiveness of such training,

and maintain appropriate training records. Business units are responsible for identifying and

reviewing training needs of their employees so as to meet current and future business

requirements.

9.3 We have established an ESG Committee that oversees our progress toward achieving our

ESG vision and strategy and ensures that we meet our commitments and adhere to corporate

policies and practices. We aim to continuously improve and manage our properties and

investments in a manner consistent with this ESG Policy.

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