

# RESPONSIBLE INVESTMENT POLICY



## Responsible Investment Policy

Responsible investment activities are overseen by AlphaFixe Capital's upper management. Also, all Directors, Managers as well as the Chief Compliance Officer ensure its implementation. In addition, the Chief Compliance Officer and a Senior Manager are responsible for auditing processes and verifying reports.

### 1. OBJECTIVE

This Policy enumerates the principles followed by AlphaFixe Capital Inc. ( " AlphaFixe " ) for responsible investing and provides a framework for the realization of this commitment. Since becoming a signatory of the United Nations Principles for Responsible Investment in 2009, AlphaFixe is committed to respect the six Principles for Responsible Investment ([www.unpri.org](http://www.unpri.org)).

### 2. DEFINITION

For the purpose of this policy and its operations, AlphaFixe defines responsible investing as the consideration of environmental, social and governance ( "ESG" ) into client's investment portfolios with the objective of improving the risk/ reward ratio of long-term investments.

### 3. PRINCIPLES

AlphaFixe invests client's assets for the purpose of obtaining maximum long-term returns. In addition, the firm believes that responsible corporate behavior in respect to ESG factors has a favorable influence on the long-term financial performance.

AlphaFixe recognizes the relative importance of ESG factors, which varies by industry, geography and timing. Consequently, AlphaFixe recognizes that responsible investment strategies must be improved continuously and the firm aims to contribute proactively to its development and promotion worldwide.

To this end, AlphaFixe supports the Paris Agreement, the recommendations of the Task Force on Climate-Related Financial Disclosures (TCFD), collaborates with other PRI signatories, and is involved with the Canadian Climate Law Initiative as an expert.

## 4. STRATEGY

Alphafixe implements several strategies of responsible investment.

### 4.1 ESG Integration

For the purpose of the analysis of inherent investment risks, the firm attempts to identify and evaluate ESG factors that are or may have an influence on the long-term financial performance.

With the cooperation of an independent SRI advisory consultant, AlphaFixe has developed a proprietary risk assessment tool. All corporate bond investments are incidentally attributed a specific ESG quality rating.

ESG risks are appropriately assessed, reviewed and integrated as part of the investment strategy and ESG risks are monitored throughout the duration of the investment.

The assessment tool is constantly evolving to ensure its relevance and adaptability to market changes. This process allows the firm to have a better understanding of ESG risks, to compare issuer's ESG performance with peers from the industry and to obtain an overview of the overall portfolio's exposure to ESG factors.

ESG issues are assessed using relevant indicators that vary from one sector to another. Here are some examples:

- ✓ Environment: Climate change, environmental policy, good waste management.

- ✓ Social: Code of conduct for the company and suppliers, respect human and workers' rights, impact on community development.

- ✓ Governance: Quality of the board, structure and quality of the compensation of executives, financial ethics and, shareholder's rights.

### 4.2 Commitment

Through meetings, AlphaFixe will take the opportunity to warn issuers about ESG risks and the importance attributed to these factors within our assessments.

In addition, the firm participates in the development of SRI initiatives in order to determine the best processes in regards to responsible investing (for example: carbon footprint methodology and green bonds).

### 4.3 Filters

AlphaFixe excludes all investments involved in tobacco companies, gambling, weapons, alcohol and cannabis production as well as those who use child labor. In addition, all companies which operate or engage in the exploration of proven or probable fossil fuel reserves are excluded from all client portfolios and pooled funds it manages.

## 5. REPORTING

AlphaFixe provides a global picture of ESG data, including the portfolio's carbon footprint, for each of the mandates under management. This information is included in the client's quarterly report. In addition, an annual report outlines all responsible investment activities and includes a section dedicated to TCFD.

## **6. POLICY**

AlphaFixe aims to foster sustainable corporate behavior based on sound long-term risk management by overlaying a policy applicable to client's investment policies and pooled funds in which AlphaFixe is the manager.

## **7. ANNUAL REVIEW**

AlphaFixe reports all responsible investment activities as part of an annual evaluation process overseen by the United Nations Principles for Responsible Investment.

## **8. SCOPE AND REVIEW**

This policy applies to all our management activities and all types of investment solutions which are available. This policy is reviewed on an annual basis or more frequently, if necessary.