Sustainable Investments Program Vision

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Sustainable Investments | Agenda

Objective
Present the Sustainable Investments’ path forward to ensuring long-term sustainability for the CalPERS investment portfolio

Key Topics
• Team Overview
• Prioritization
• Integration
• Research
Sustainable Investments | Vision

Supporting the Total Fund in generating long-term cash flow

Research  Advocacy  Investments  Engagement  Integration

Benefits
Sustainable Investments | Being a Better Investor

Funded Status

- Identification and understanding of risk and opportunities which may affect company cash flows
- Avoidance of being on the wrong side of the trade in societal, technological and environmental transitions
- Improved ability to analyze investments and make higher quality decisions

The integration journey will require a focused and intentional effort and effective collaboration throughout INVO
Sustainable Investments | Why?

Harvard Business School: Dr. George Seraphim

- “From an investor’s standpoint, a sustainable company is one positioned for long-term success, one whose management understands and addresses short-term risks and innovates to exploit long-term opportunities…”
- ESG is about understanding how companies are adapting to transformational change, such as the shift to a low-carbon economy.
- There are no shortcuts… need to understand the materiality of ESG issues, identify high-quality data, deeply engage with how ESG issues are reshaping business strategies, and model the impact of ESG catalysts on future revenues, costs, and cost of capital.”*

*“Does Sustainable Investing Lead to Lower Returns?” Barron’s, June 2018
Sustainable Investments | Why?

Bank of America Merrill Lynch:

• “What if we told you how to avoid stocks that go bankrupt? We think you would listen. Environmental, Social & Governance (ESG) factors are too critical to ignore, in our view. ESG is the best signal we have found for future risk...

• Prior to our work on ESG, we found scant evidence of fundamental measures reliably predicting earnings quality...ESG appears to isolate non-fundamental attributes that have real earnings impact: these attributes have been a better signal of future earnings volatility than any other measure we have found.”*

**”Equity Strategy Focus Point: ESG Part II: a deeper dive”, Bank of American Merrill Lynch, June 2017**
**Sustainable Investments | Team Plans**

- Build and nurture a team with deep and relevant expertise at the intersection of sustainability & investment returns.

- INVO staff with a combined 50+ years of diverse investment experience have recently joined the Sustainable Investments (SI) team on a full or part-time basis.

- Develop mindset across INVO that enables identification of SI risks and opportunities. Create opportunities for broader INVO to be part of the SI team's work:
  - Participation in research projects;
  - Training through integration osmosis as well as formal opportunities.
Sustainable Investments | Diverse Skills and Expertise

This team will have the ability to analyze issues, make connections, quantify risks and opportunities, strategize and problem solve

- Policy Development
- Investment
- Project Management
- Stakeholder Engagement
- Shareowner Rights
- Company Engagement
- Media & Communication
- Advocacy
- Thought leadership
- Data & Reporting
- ESG Issue Depth
- Research & Analysis
- Strategy
- Asset Class Experience
- Partnership Management
Prioritization | Wilshire Recommendations

Consider:

• prioritizing emerging ESG issues
• resources needed
• translating issues into investment terms

Source: March 2018 Investment Committee
Prioritization | Guidance

Investment Belief 3: Sub-belief 3

• In considering whether to engage on issues raised by stakeholders, CalPERS will use the following prioritization framework:
  • Principles and Policy - To what extent is the issue supported by CalPERS’ Investment Beliefs, Principles or other Investment Policy?
  • Materiality – Does the issue have the potential for an impact on portfolio risk or return?
  • Definition and Likelihood of Success – Is success likely, in that CalPERS’ action will influence an outcome which can be measured? Can we partner with others to achieve success or would someone else be more suited to carry the issue?
  • Capacity – Does CalPERS have the expertise, resources, and standing to influence an outcome?

"Give me a lever long enough and a fulcrum on which to place it, and I shall move the world." - Archimedes
Prioritization | Multifaceted Lens

Ideas come from many sources

Stakeholders

NGOs¹

Asset Classes/Staff

SDGs²

Academia

External Managers

Partnerships

SI Research

Data & Analysis

Economic Impact Assessment

Topic for Focus

¹ Non-Governmental Organizations
² Sustainable Development Goals
Prioritization | Framework

Where SI will focus to generate economic value

High Stakeholder Interest

Low Stakeholder Interest

Low Potential Economic Magnitude

High Potential Economic Magnitude

Where SI will handle with care. Executive leadership to guide on whether/how SI should devote resources to such issues

Most Focus (Loud)

Most Focus (Quiet)
Integration | What do we mean?

INTEGRATION

[in-ti-grey-shuh n]
noun
1. An act or instance of combining into an integral whole

How SI Views Integration:

- Process utilizing a sustainable investment lens to drive investment insight and avoid uncompensated risk and missed opportunities
- A way to drive value and improve and protect CalPERS’ funded status

1. Source: dictionary.com
Integration | How will we achieve it?

Investment Belief 10: Strong processes and teamwork and deep resources are needed to achieve CalPERS’ goals and objectives

Listen to wider world’s views on SI topics, research & understand risks/opportunities

Serve as a highly skilled resource and partner at the intersection of sustainability and economic value

Share insights that help INVO staff understand SI issues to enable them to see nonobvious risks and opportunities

Be a bridge translating SI topics into investment terms, prioritizing for focused approach
**Integration | Service Model**

**PULL**
*(Asset Classes)*
- Research and SI expertise sharing regarding company, manager, industry and regulatory risks and opportunities
- Investment decision-making support and/or participation
- Engagement: External manager, portfolio company, stakeholder
- Policy analysis & development support
- Implementation of Governance and Sustainability Principles support
- Review, procurement and/or development of integration tools
- Advocacy with regulatory bodies & industry organizations

**PUSH**
*(Sustainable Investments)*
- Knowledge Sharing:
  - Ideas based on industry best practices
  - Translation of emerging SI topics into useful investment terms

Goal: Helping the Asset Classes
Each asset class faces a unique set of parameters with regard to:

- Internal vs. External Management
  - Control rights
    - Direct vs. Indirect ownership
    - Structure of investment vehicle (commingled/industry product vs custom product)
  - Position in the capital structure
- Passive vs. Active Management
- Security Level vs. Index Level
- Fundamental vs. Factor Approach
- Nature of Assets
- Legacy vs. Strategic Portfolios
- Nature of benchmark

Source: December 2017 Investment Committee
Integration | “Why Wouldn’t You?”

- Choosing between two investment options projected to get the same return, why wouldn’t CalPERS choose the one with the lower environmental, social or governance risk?

- Cases where CalPERS can get a good return while solving an environmental or social problem, why wouldn’t we choose to do so?

- In cases where CalPERS has strong conviction about where the future is going, why wouldn’t we consider whether portfolio companies or even industries will be operating in that future?

  ➢ A lens to help see the potential uncompensated risks and better identify both “win-win” opportunities and “lose-lose” situations.

  ➢ Support and insights to get to the right questions, which will be different for each asset class.
Research | Approach

Theory: Through a distributed/resource sharing approach to some SI research INVO’s culture can become one of effective integration and innovation

- Hands-up & Cross-Asset Approach
  - Climate Risk Mapping
  - Disruptive Technologies
  - Water

- Part-Time Asset Class Staff
If Material Risk or Opportunity is identified, develop, present and, where appropriate, execute strategic options such as:

- More in-depth research
- Policy development
- Company or manager engagement
- Shareholder proposal/proxy strategies
- Leveraging partnerships
- Tilt/Allocation options
- Advocacy
- Create or commission tools/research to help asset classes price risk/opportunity
Sustainable Investments | Summary

Team Plan
• Build and nurture a team with deep and relevant expertise

Prioritization
• Driving focus to achieve highest return on resources

Integration
• Serve as a highly skilled resource and partner at the intersection of sustainability and investment returns

Research
• Multiple approaches to drive investment insight & enable focus on most high value risks and opportunities
Appendix
# ESG Strategic Plan Update as Presented in March 2018

## Strategic Plan Update

### Environmental
- Data and corporate reporting standards (includes water risk)
- Manager Expectations (includes water risk)
- Research
  - Sustainable Investment Research Initiative (SIRI)
  - Global Equity Strategies
- Engage 80 100 + PRI Montreal Pledge Companies (identify water risk candidates) CA 100+
- SASB 100
- Carbon Footprinting – Total fund
- Thermal Coal Companies – (SB185)

### Social
- Data and corporate reporting standards (includes human capital)
- Human Capital Management Petition
- Manager Expectations
- Diversity and Inclusion
  - Engagement
  - Voting
  - 3D (Diverse Director DataSource)
  - Advocacy
  - External Managers
  - Internal Talent Management
- Responsible Contractor Program
  - Labor Engagements

### Governance
- Data and corporate reporting standards (focusing on the long-term)
- Manager Expectations
- Research
  - Principles Review Topics:
    - Environmental Management Practices
    - Executive Compensation (Pay Ratio)
  - Emerging Topics for Principles Review
    - Product Safety
    - Indigenous Peoples' Rights
    - HCM Disclosures
    - Geopolitical Risks
    - Compensation (Clawback)
  - Supply Chain Activities
  - Non-voting Shares and benchmarks
- Private Equity Fee and Profit Sharing Transparency (including AB 2833)
- Proxy Voting
- Shareowner Campaigns (Proxy Access / Majority Voting)
- Focus List (Japan Engagements)
- Divestment: Mandates, Policy & Principles

## Work through Partnerships to leverage resources and impact

- Sustainable Development Goals Discussion / Review
  - Corporate Engagements
  - Financial Markets Advocacy / Federal and Legislative Guidelines
  - Sustainability Report
  - Response to Ad Hoc Media and Stakeholder Requests: Indigenous Peoples' Rights, Geopolitical risk, Deforestation, Turkey, Assault Weapons
Integration | Service Model

Services Example: Corporate Governance Proxy Voting*

• Review and provide input in to determining votes on sensitive, high-profile, and emerging sustainable investment issues

• Provide subject matter expertise including insights and research on sustainable investment issues

• Participate in proxy voting governance meetings such as GSS’ proxy voting working group and meetings with senior executives to discuss final vote decisions

• Participate in relevant company, stakeholder, and partner meetings related to new and emerging sustainable investment topics

• Lead the development of new principle language relevant to sustainable investment topics

• Work with Public Affairs to craft media messaging around sensitive, high-profile, and emerging votes

*Note: An annual review post-proxy season will identify which SI topics can be transitioned to Corporate Governance
Integration | Service Model

Services Example: Corporate Governance Engagements:

• Lead the development of strategies for new sustainable investments topics
• Lead or Co-Lead portfolio engagements on new and emerging sustainable investment topics with intent to educate and transition* to Corporate Governance over time and as appropriate
• Participate in other portfolio engagements as needed
• Provide subject matter expertise research and insights on sustainable investment topics as requested
• Lead, and in some cases forge, strategic partnerships around emerging issues to leverage resources and knowledge sharing opportunities

*Note: An annual review post-proxy season will identify which SI topics can be transitioned to Corporate Governance
Research | Income Inequality Update

Sustainable Investment Research Initiative (SIRI)

• SIRI contains over 1,700 academic articles
• Approximately 1,250 Governance, 550 Environmental, and 540 Social*
• Approximately 50 mention Income Inequality in some way
• 5 papers at the December 2017 UC Davis Finance Symposium Capitol “Labor Markets in the Age of Inequality” looked at Income Inequality or technology disruption

Initial conclusions from abstracts

• Income inequality’s affect on growth is unclear
• Economic gains may have shifted from labor to owners
• Public policy can affect income inequality and growth
• Academic literature is still developing

*Some articles address more than one topic.
Income Inequality | Research Questions

Questions framing our further research:

Is this an investment issue for CalPERS?

- Does more inclusive prosperity help economic growth and drive investment returns?
- Does income inequality create risks? If so, where in the portfolio?
- How are disruptive technologies currently creating job displacement and how might they in the future?

If evidence and analysis indicates this is an investment issue, what is the recommended approach?

- What are we already doing to address this issue? (e.g. delivering defined benefit pensions, Responsible Contractor Policy, principles & advocacy on disclosure: CEO pay ratio)
Income Inequality | Next Steps

- Review most relevant academic, and industry (including partnerships) papers
- Identify and consult experts and possible partners
- Update Investment Committee March 2019
- Develop plan for IC review