

# MILLTRUST EMERGING MARKETS

RESPONSIBLE & SUSTAINABLE INVESTMENT APPROACH TO EMERGING MARKETS

# **ESG POLICY**

## FUNDS:

- Milltrust GLOBAL EMERGING MARKETS Fund
- Milltrust Xingtai CHINA Fund
- Milltrust Singular ASEAN Fund
- Milltrust SPARX KOREA Equity Fund
- Milltrust Alaska BRAZIL Fund
- Milltrust Laurium AFRICA Fund
- Milltrust Marcellus INDIA Fund
- Milltrust VTB RUSSIA Fund
- The Climate Impact ASIA Fund

YEAR: 2020

### MILLTRUST ESG POLICY

#### Objective:

The objective of the Milltrust ESG policy is to add value for its shareholders and investors, through positive long term engagement with all stakeholders.

#### Milltrust Code:

All funds, companies and investment vehicles that receive investments from Milltrust must abide by the Milltrust policy and not invest capital in opportunities that do not comply with the code, if they are not able to implement improvements in this investment time. Investee organisations are expected to implement this policy even where local laws and customs may fall short of the requirements. Although investee managers may invest in opportunities that have weak ESG credentials and standards, they must demonstrate and implement improvements to strengthen these ESG standards during the investment period.

#### Milltrust ESG Principles:

Milltrust and the companies in which its capital is invested will:

- comply with all applicable laws;
- as appropriate, minimise adverse impacts and enhance positive effects on the environment, workers and all stakeholders;
- commit to continuous improvements with respect to management of the environment, social matters and governance;
- work over time to apply relevant international best practice standards, with appropriate targets and timetables for achieving them; and
- employ management systems which effectively address ESG risks and realise ESG opportunities as a fundamental part of a company's value.



#### Objectives:

- To reduce adverse impacts and enhance positive effects on the environment, as relevant and appropriate, from the businesses in which Milltrust's capital is invested;
- To encourage the businesses in which Milltrust's capital is invested to make efficient use of natural resources and to protect the environment wherever possible; and
- To support the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions which contribute to climate change from the businesses in which Milltrust's capital is invested.

**Policy:** Businesses in which Milltrust's capital is invested will:

#### Mandatory

• operate in compliance with applicable local and national laws (as a minimum);

#### As relevant

- assess the environmental impact of their operations as follows:
  - identify potential risks and appropriate mitigating measures through an environmental impact assessment where business operations could involve loss of biodiversity or habitat, emission of significant quantities of greenhouse gases, severe degradation of water or air quality, substantial solid waste or other significant negative environmental impacts; and
  - consider the potential for positive environmental impacts from business activities; and
- take appropriate actions to mitigate environmental risks, ameliorate environmental damage and enhance positive effects as follows:
  - where an activity is assessed to present significant environmental risks, work overtime to apply the relevant IFC policies and guidelines, even if these are more stringent than local legislation, with appropriate targets and timetable for improvements; and
  - as appropriate, work overtime towards international environmental best practice standards.



#### Labour and working conditions

#### Objectives:

- to require the businesses in which Milltrust's capital is invested to treat all their employees and contractors fairly and to respect their dignity, well-being and diversity; and
- to encourage the businesses in which Milltrust's capital is invested to work over time towards full compliance with the International Labour Organisation (ILO) Fundamental Conventions and with the United Nations (UN) Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

Policy: Businesses in which Milltrust's capital is invested will:

#### Mandatory

- comply with applicable local and national laws (as a minimum);
- not employ or make use of forced labour of any kind;
- not employ or make use of harmful child labour;
- pay wages which meet or exceed industry or legal national minima;
- treat their employees fairly in terms of recruitment, progression, terms and conditions of work and representation, irrespective of gender, race, colour, disability, political opinion, sexual orientation, age, religion, social or ethnic origin, or HIV status;
- allow consultative work-place structures and associations which provide employees with an opportunity to present their views to management; and

#### As relevant

 For remote operations involving the relocation of employees for extended periods of time, ensure that such employees have access to adequate housing and basic services.



#### Health and Safety

#### Objectives:

- to attain safe and healthy working conditions for employees and contractors of the businesses in which Milltrust's capital is invested; and
- To safeguard the health and safety of all those affected by the businesses in which Milltrust's capital is invested.

Policy: Businesses in which Milltrust's capital is invested will:

#### Mandatory

comply with applicable local and national laws (as a minimum);

#### As relevant

- assess the health and safety risks arising from work activities; and
- take appropriate actions to eliminate or reduce risks to health and safety as follows:
  - where an activity is assessed to present significant health and safety risks, work overtime to apply the relevant IFC policies and guidelines, even if these are more stringent than local legislation, with appropriate targets and timetable for improvements; and
  - As appropriate, work overtime towards international best practice standards for health and safety.



#### **Other Social Matters**

#### Objectives:

- To be objective, consistent and fair with all stakeholders of the businesses in which Milltrust's capital is invested; and
- To recognise and, as appropriate, promote the social development impact from the businesses in which Milltrust's capital is invested.

**Policy:** Businesses in which Milltrust's capital is invested will:

#### As relevant

- take account of their impact on employees, contractors, the local community and all others affected by their operations as follows:
  - identify potential adverse effects and appropriate mitigating measures through a social impact assessment in cases involving resettlement, critical cultural heritage, indigenous peoples, nonlocal labour or other issues where the negative impact could be significant; and
  - consider social development contributions; and
- Take appropriate actions to mitigate risks, ameliorate negative impacts and enhance positive effects.



#### Objectives:

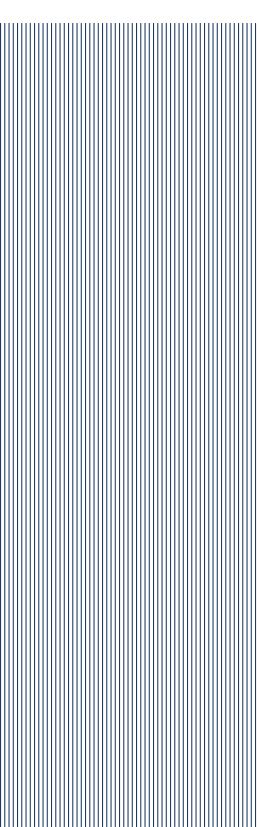
- to ensure that Milltrust, and the businesses in which Milltrust's capital is invested, exhibit honesty, integrity, fairness, diligence and respect in all business dealings;
- to enhance the good reputation of Milltrust; and
- To promote international best practice in relation to corporate governance in the businesses in which Milltrust's capital is invested.

**Policy:** Milltrust and the businesses in which Milltrust's capital is invested will

#### Mandatory

- comply with all applicable laws and promote international best practice, including those laws and international best practice standards intended to prevent extortion, bribery and financial crime;
- uphold high standards of business integrity and honesty;
- deal with regulators in an open and co-operative manner;
- prohibit all employees from making or receiving gifts of substance in the course of business;
- prohibit the making of payments as improper inducement to confer preferential treatment;
- prohibit contributions to political parties or political candidates, where these could constitute conflicts of interest;
- properly record, report and review financial and tax information;
- promote transparency and accountability grounded in sound business ethics;
- use information received from its partners only in the best interests of the business relationship and not for personal financial gain by any employee;
- clearly define responsibilities, procedures and controls with appropriate checks and balances in company management structures; and





Milltrust's capital will not be invested in the following businesses or activities:

- production of or trade in any product or activity deemed illegal under applicable local or national laws or regulations, or banned by global conventions and agreements, such as certain:
  - hazardous chemicals, pesticides and wastes;
  - o ozone depleting substances; and
  - endangered or protected wildlife or wildlife products;
- production of or trade in arms, i.e. weapons, munitions or nuclear products, primarily designed or primarily designated for military purposes; or
- Production of, use of or trade in unbonded asbestos fibres.



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