



# POLICY GUIDELINES FOR SUSTAINABILITY INVESTMENT

Vels Institute of Science, Technology and Advanced Studies (VISTAS),  
Chennai-600117.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

The Vels Institute of Science, Technology & Advanced Studies (VISTAS) recognizes the critical importance of integrating Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) considerations into its investment decisions. This Sustainable Investment Policy provides a structured framework to align the University's investment practices with sustainability principles. It aims to promote responsible, ethical, and impact-oriented investments while ensuring optimal financial returns over the long term.

## 2. OBJECTIVES

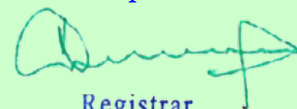
- 2.1 ESG Integration:** To systematically incorporate environmental, social, and governance factors into investment analysis and decision-making processes.
- 2.2 Positive Impact:** To identify and support investment opportunities that contribute to sustainable development, environmental conservation, and social well-being.
- 2.3 Responsible Investment:** To avoid investments in industries or entities engaged in activities that have significant adverse environmental or social impacts.
- 2.4 Long-Term Perspective:** To adopt a long-term investment approach that ensures sustainability, resilience, and value creation over time.
- 2.5 Impact Investing:** To proactively support projects and initiatives that generate measurable environmental and social benefits alongside financial returns.
- 2.6 Monitoring and Reporting:** To conduct periodic assessments and ensure transparency and accountability in achieving policy objectives.

## 3. POLICY STATEMENT

VISTAS is committed to making investment decisions that reflect its core values of environmental stewardship, social responsibility, and good governance. The University shall prioritize investments in organizations, funds, and projects that demonstrate strong sustainability practices while excluding those that negatively impact society or the environment.

## 4. POLICY GUIDELINES

- 4.1 ESG Criteria and Due Diligence:** VISTAS shall establish comprehensive ESG criteria and undertake rigorous due diligence for all investment opportunities.
- 4.2 Exclusionary Screening:** The University shall avoid investments in fossil fuels, tobacco, weapons, and entities with poor compliance records.
- 4.3 Positive Screening:** Priority shall be given to renewable energy, clean technology, healthcare, and socially responsible enterprises.
- 4.4 Engagement and Advocacy:** VISTAS shall engage with investee organizations to improve ESG performance.
- 4.5 Diversification and Risk Management:** Investments shall be diversified to manage risks effectively.
- 4.6 Performance Evaluation:** Regular evaluation of financial and ESG performance shall be undertaken.



Registrar  
Vels Institute of Science, Technology  
& Advanced Studies (VISTAS)  
Pallavaram, Chennai - 600 117.

## 5. REPORTING AND TRANSPARENCY

*5.1 Public Disclosure:* The policy shall be publicly available.

*5.2 Periodic Reporting:* Reports on ESG performance and investments shall be published.

## 6. COMPLIANCE AND REVIEW

*6.1 Regulatory Compliance:* Adherence to all applicable laws and standards.

*6.2 Periodic Review:* Regular updates to align with best practices.

## 7. IMPLEMENTATION

- Phased implementation with ESG assessment of existing investments.
- KPIs and milestones for tracking progress.
- Capacity-building initiatives.
- ESG integration procedures and divestment timelines.
- Training for stakeholders.

## 8. TRANSPARENCY AND DISCLOSURE

- - Policy published on official website.
- - Disclosure of ESG performance and investment practices.
- - Regular communication to stakeholders.

## 9. CONCLUSION

VISTAS reaffirms its commitment to responsible and ethical investing. By integrating ESG principles, the University aims to achieve long-term financial sustainability while contributing to environmental protection and social equity.



Registrar

Vels Institute of Science, Technology  
& Advanced Studies (VISTAS)  
Pallavaram, Chennai - 600 117.