Sustainable Investments

The World Bank’s Mission:

To fight poverty and to help people help themselves

The World Bank is a global development cooperative owned by 188 member countries. Its purpose is to help its members achieve equitable and sustainable economic growth in their national economies and find effective solutions to pressing regional and global problems in economic development and environmental sustainability, all with a view to overcoming poverty and improving standards of living for people worldwide.

Focus on Social Development

The World Bank is the single largest investor in the social sectors worldwide with a portfolio of approximately USD 40 billion invested in over 600 projects for social development. The World Bank projects aim to:

- Improve health care, nutrition, childhood development and education
- Strengthen social security, pension and legal systems
- Protect and empower the most vulnerable groups of society, including women and the poor in rural areas
- Reduce poverty, improve living standards and raise incomes and productivity

Focus on the Environment

The World Bank is the single largest financier of environmental projects worldwide, with a portfolio of USD 12 billion in projects with clear environmental objectives that:

- Address biodiversity conservation and pollution and natural resource degradation challenges
- Prepare national plans and legislation to protect the environment
- Foster clean energy investments to help meet the needs of developing countries in an environmentally responsible way, reduce greenhouse gas emissions and help countries adapt to climate change

Focus on "Social Returns"

Investment strategies that integrate social and environmental criteria into investment decisions are becoming increasingly popular. "Sustainable Investing" is one of many terms used to describe strategies that aim to maximize social good and financial returns. Others include social, sustainable, ethical, mission-based or impact investing. The World Bank’s mission to fight poverty in a sustainable way, through education, health and environment, make World Bank bonds suitable for investors with such an investment strategy.