



BITS Pilani

Pilani | Dubai | Goa | Hyderabad | Mumbai

**BIRLA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY & SCIENCE
(BITS)PILANI
("INSTITUTE")**

SUSTAINABLE INVESTMENT POLICY

This sustainable investment policy outlines BITS Pilani's commitment to integrating environmental, social, and governance (ESG) factors into its investment decisions. As a responsible institution, BITS Pilani recognizes the importance of promoting sustainability, ethical practices, and positive social impact through its investments. This policy aims to align the institution's investment strategy with its values and support initiatives that contribute to a more sustainable and resilient future.

ESG Integration:

a. Consideration of ESG factors: BITS Pilani will integrate ESG factors into its investment analysis and decision-making process to identify investments with strong sustainability practices and minimize exposure to ESG risks.

b. Research and analysis: The institution will conduct thorough research and analysis on potential investments to assess their ESG performance, including environmental impact, social responsibility, and corporate governance practices.

c. Collaboration and engagement: BITS Pilani will actively engage with companies and investment partners to encourage ESG best practices and advocate for positive change.

Impact Investing:

a. Allocate funds for impact investing: BITS Pilani will allocate a portion of its investment portfolio to impact investments, which target projects and businesses with positive social and environmental benefits.

b. Measurable outcomes: The institution will set clear objectives and track the impact of its investments to ensure they align with sustainable development goals.

c. Ensure that the investment portfolio is well diversified in respect to climate risks and opportunities across regions and industries, and liquid enough to enable rapid shifts, if necessary.

Responsible Governance:

a. Engagement with companies: The institution will engage with companies in its investment portfolio to promote responsible business practices, transparency, and accountability.

b. The investment activities of the institute will be reported to Finance Committee of the institute annually. Regular internal and external audits of the accounts will be conducted by auditing firms nominated by the Board of Governors.

Socially Responsible Investment (SRI) Funds:

a. Explore SRI funds: BITS Pilani will consider investing its corpus, endowment and surplus funds in socially responsible investment funds that align with its sustainability objectives, seeking to diversify its portfolio while maintaining its commitment to ethical investing.

b. Invest in sovereign green bonds to support investments in the field of renewable energy, energy efficiency and pollution control. See more details in link below:

[India incorporates green bonds into its climate finance strategy \(worldbank.org\)](https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2021/06/01/india-incorporates-green-bonds-into-its-climate-finance-strategy)

Avoidance of Controversial Industries:

a. Screening for controversial industries: BITS Pilani will avoid investments in industries involved in activities that have significant negative impacts on the environment, society, and human rights, such as tobacco, weapons, and unethical labor practices.

BITS Pilani will conduct periodic reviews of its sustainable investment policy to ensure its effectiveness and relevance in the evolving landscape of sustainable finance. By adopting this sustainable investment policy, BITS Pilani aims to align its investment decisions with its commitment to sustainability, ethical practices, and responsible stewardship. This policy will not only contribute to a greener and more equitable future but also serve as a model for other educational institutions in India to embrace sustainable investing for a better world.