

ESG Responsibility @Aperture

(Environmental, Social & Governance Policy)

Introduction

Aperture is active management with accountability. At Aperture, we are on a mission to produce outperformance by aligning our interests with those of our clients. Our core values are Human - we embrace the best of what makes us human, Aligned - we only do well when our clients do well, and Explicit - we are clear about who we are and how we think. We believe that in order to pursue our mission and live our values we must consider Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) implications in our work.

We trust that, over time, mindfulness of ESG factors will improve outcomes for our portfolios and clients. We believe that ESG will evolve over time, and we, like others, will enhance our ability to identify and measure ethical behaviors and systems that can lead to better outcomes across the issues about which we care. These issues include climate change, corporate governance, the rule of law and social justice, and they affect all human beings globally, just as they affect those of us who work at Aperture. It is for these reasons we consider ESG a core tenet of our firm's culture and a worthwhile consideration in our investment decision-making processes.

Human

We are committed to delivering returns in excess of our benchmarks, and we believe that ESG factors can be meaningful drivers of long-term performance. They are certainly not the only factors, nor are they always easy to define, but we do expect that companies and governments which conduct themselves in an ethical, responsible, and sustainable manner will produce greater returns over time.

Aperture portfolio managers have each adopted a proactive approach to responsible investing. By integrating ESG factors that go beyond simple negative screening into their fundamental research processes, they can implement more nuanced and innovative ESG tilts within their portfolios. Specific assets or types of assets are not automatically excluded from portfolios because of any single ESG factor or set of factors, but our extensive fundamental analysis typically includes a disciplined analysis of those factors. This comprehensive research process considers ESG risks alongside others in an attempt to better understand the total risk and reward profile of any given investment opportunity.

By way of example and not limitation, we may evaluate corporations and governments using factors including:

- Control of corruption
- Effectiveness of governance structures and practices
- Regulatory quality and controls
- Rule of law
- Impacts on public health and safety
- Pervasiveness of ethical behavior and systems

Ultimately, we do not treat ESG evaluation as a “one size fits all” exercise, so we deliberately give our investment teams ultimate autonomy and discretion in their investment processes.

Aligned

Aperture was founded on the simple premise of performance-linked compensation; we only succeed if our clients succeed. We believe that it is this unwavering pursuit of alignment across our practices that differentiates us: a commitment we make amongst ourselves as employees, with the companies in which we invest, and to our clients.

Explicit

We embrace our responsibility to take an active approach in adopting ESG policies and practices, both by our investment and non-investment teams. We are keen to have ongoing discussions around responsible investing and sustainability and will continue to enhance and evolve our approach, seeking ever-greater alignment with and serving the best interests of our clients. In doing so, we hope to contribute to a fairer and more sustainable world while ultimately creating better value for our clients and stakeholders.