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# **Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) Policy**

Sathguru Catalysers

#### 1. Introduction: Commitment to Responsible Investing

Sathguru Catalysers is an impact-first venture capital fund dedicated to fostering transformational change through investments in climate-resilient agriculture, sustainable food systems, and accessible healthcare. Our ESG-driven approach ensures that every investment contributes to long-term sustainability, inclusive growth, and measurable impact.

Sathguru Catalysers is committed to embedding **Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) principles** across all aspects of our investment process to drive sustainable and responsible growth. Our ESG approach aligns with global frameworks such as the United Nations Principles for Responsible Investment (UNPRI) [1] and Impact Investors Council (IIC) [2] while ensuring compliance with local and international standards.

We believe that responsible investing enhances long-term value creation, mitigates risks, and promotes positive environmental and social impact. ESG considerations are integrated throughout the investment lifecycle, from due diligence to monitoring and exit strategies.

## 2. Alignment with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

Our ESG strategy is aligned with the following **United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)** to ensure impactful and measurable outcomes:

- SDG 1: No Poverty Investing in financial inclusion and economic opportunities to alleviate poverty.
- SDG 2: Zero Hunger Supporting climate-resilient agriculture and food security.
- SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being Investing in accessible and affordable healthcare solutions.
- SDG 5: Gender Equality Promoting diversity and equitable workforce practices.
- **SDG 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure** Fostering sustainable industrialization and technological innovation.
- **SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production** Encouraging sustainable food systems and waste reduction
- SDG 13: Climate Action Advancing climate-smart technologies and sustainability-driven investments.



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## 3. ESG Integration Across Investment Lifecycle

#### 3.1 Deal Identification

- **Impact Consideration:** Assess potential investments for alignment with our impact focus areas: smallholder resilience, climate action, sustainable food systems, and accessible healthcare.
- **ESG Consideration:** Screening for ESG alignment, assessing potential impact on climate resilience, food security, and healthcare accessibility.

#### 3.2 Due Diligence

- **Impact Consideration:** Evaluate key impact metrics relevant to environmental sustainability, social equity, and governance standards.
- **ESG Consideration:** ESG risk assessment, data collection on key impact metrics, and alignment with Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) [3].

#### 3.3 Deal Execution & Agreement

- Impact Consideration: Ensure portfolio companies adopt quarterly and annual impact reporting.
- **ESG Consideration:** Formalize ESG action plans in agreements, with clear milestones and commitments, alignment with international best practices and risk mitigation strategies.

### 3.4 Investment Monitoring

- Impact Consideration: Half-yearly impact data monitoring and annual sustainability reports.
- ESG Consideration: Regular ESG performance tracking, including compliance with global ESG standards.

# 3.5 Investment Exit

- Impact Consideration: Conduct an impact analysis to measure long-term sustainability effects.
- **ESG Consideration:** Evaluate ESG performance before exits to ensure sustainable transitions.

# 4. Environmental (E) Considerations

#### 4.1 Key Focus Areas:

As a firm investing in climate-resilient agriculture, sustainable food systems, and accessible healthcare, our environmental strategy focuses on:



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#### **Climate Action & Resilience**

- Promoting GHG emissions reduction across portfolio companies.
- Supporting climate-smart agricultural solutions and sustainable food production [4].
- Encouraging resource-efficient technologies in food, healthcare, and supply chains.

### **Sustainable Agriculture & Food Systems**

- Investments in low-carbon and resource-efficient ag-tech and food-tech solutions.
- Adoption of regenerative farming practices and water-efficient irrigation [5].
- Investments in animal healthcare and animal tech.

### **Circular Economy & Waste Management**

- Reducing post-harvest losses through efficient logistics and storage solutions.
- Minimizing waste in food processing

#### 4.2 SDG Alignment:

- SDG 1 (No Poverty): Increased agricultural productivity.
- SDG 2 (Zero Hunger): Sustainable agricultural investments.
- SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption & Production): Sustainable resource management.
- SDG 13 (Climate Action): Climate resilience and low-carbon initiatives.

#### 5. Social (S) Considerations

#### 5.1 Key Focus Areas:

Sathguru Catalysers prioritizes inclusive and equitable growth by ensuring:

#### **Fair & Inclusive Workforce Practices**

- Compliance with labor laws and fair wages [6].
- Commitment to gender equality and diverse leadership teams.
- Elimination of child and forced labor [7].

### **Healthcare Access & Equity**

- Investments in affordable and accessible healthcare [8].
- Promoting digital health solutions and medical innovations.



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# **Smallholder Farmer & Rural Development**

- Enabling financial inclusion for farmers.
- Scaling tech-driven solutions for smallholder productivity.

#### 5.2 SDG Alignment:

- SDG 1 (No Poverty): Economic upliftment of smallholder farmers.
- SDG 3 (Good Health & Well-being): Investments in accessible healthcare.
- SDG 5 (Gender Equality): Promotion of diversity and inclusion.

#### 6. Governance (G) Considerations

#### 6.1 Key Focus Areas:

Strong governance ensures ethical business practices, transparency, and alignment of interests. We uphold:

#### **Ethical Business Conduct**

- Zero tolerance for corruption, bribery, and unethical practices [9].
- Transparent investment and reporting mechanisms.

# **Board & Management Oversight**

- Establishing diverse, inclusive, and accountable leadership.
- Implementing independent audit and risk management processes.

# **Regulatory & Compliance Standards**

- Alignment with local and international financial, labor, and environmental laws.
- Annual ESG performance assessments across portfolio companies.

#### **6.2 SDG Alignment:**

SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation & Infrastructure): Investments in ethical and responsible technology.



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#### 7. Exclusions List:

Sathguru Catalysers will not invest in companies engaged in the following activities:

- Forced or Child Labor Any organization involved in forced labor or child labor as defined by the ILO conventions.
- Illegal Activities Any activity deemed illegal under applicable local, national, or international laws, including but not limited to:
  - Hazardous chemicals, pharmaceuticals, pesticides, and wastes banned under international conventions.
  - o Ozone-depleting substances as defined by the Montreal Protocol.
  - Trade in endangered species as per the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES).
- Destruction of High Conservation Value Areas Activities leading to severe environmental degradation, deforestation, or destruction of biodiversity-rich areas.
- Cross-Border Trade in Hazardous Waste Any trade in hazardous waste that does not comply with the Basel Convention.
- Weapons and Munitions Manufacturing, distribution, or trade of weapons, firearms, munitions, and other military products.
- Tobacco and Related Products The production or trade of tobacco-related products.
- Pornography and Prostitution Activities related to the production, distribution, or facilitation of pornography or prostitution.
- Alcohol and Gambling Enterprises Any business where alcohol or gambling represents a substantial portion (>10%) of revenue.
- Radioactive Materials Production, trade, or use of radioactive materials, except for medical equipment or industrial applications where adequate shielding exists.
- Unsustainable Fishing Methods Fishing practices that harm marine ecosystems, including blast fishing and drift net fishing with nets exceeding 2.5 kilometers in length.
- Coal-Fired Power Plants Construction or expansion of coal-fired thermal power plants.
- Racist and Anti-Democratic Media Media that promote hate speech, discrimination, or undermine democratic values.

## 8. Implementation & Monitoring

#### 8.1 ESG Action Plans

Each portfolio company must adhere to an ESG action plan with measurable indicators.



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### 8.2 Reporting & Compliance

Annual ESG reports will assess progress against KPIs, in line with the **Principles for Responsible Investment (PRI)** and **Impact Investors Council (IIC)** guidelines and other global standards [10].

## **8.3 Continuous Improvement**

We commit to refining our ESG strategy through ongoing research, stakeholder feedback, and industry best practices.

#### 9. References & Frameworks

- 1. UN Principles for Responsible Investment (UNPRI) www.unpri.org
- 2. Impact Investors Council (IIC) www.impactinvestorscouncil.org
- 3. United Nations Sustainable Development Goals www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment
- 4. Climate-Smart Agriculture Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) www.fao.org
- 5. Regenerative Agriculture Rodale Institute www.rodaleinstitute.org
- 6. International Labour Organization (ILO) www.ilo.org
- 7. UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights www.ohchr.org
- 8. World Health Organization (WHO) www.who.int
- 9. OECD Anti-Corruption Guidelines www.oecd.org
- 10. ESG Reporting Standards Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) www.globalreporting.org

This policy is a living document and will be reviewed annually to align with evolving best practices in sustainable investing.

Sathguru Catalysers Effective Date: 04.02.2025