

## **Advancing Sustainability: Our Ongoing Journey in Responsible Investing**

Sustainable investing has evolved into a central tenet of responsible financial practices, with investors increasingly seeking companies that align with the principles outlined in Articles 8 and 9 SFDR and taxonomy. Our commitment to ESG and sustainable practices does not deteriorate, despite our current Article 6 status.

Our commitment to transparency and accountability is exemplified by our signing of the Principles of Responsible Investing (PRI) of the UN and our provision of daily reports on fund development through accessible platforms such as Bloomberg and our website. We maintain openness about our sustainable investment practices, fostering trust and confidence among our stakeholders.

Throughout our value chain, we attentively implement sustainable practices, exemplified by investing in companies that utilize eco-friendly resource extraction technologies. Simultaneously, we engage with local communities through education and development initiatives, showcasing our steadfast dedication to integrating sustainability into the core of our operations. Our commitment extends beyond conventional stakeholder engagement, as we believe in conducting business as a means to leave a positive impact, aligning our actions with the values of the communities we operate in and fostering a deeper connection with those who have a stake in our endeavours.

Despite our persistent efforts, challenges persist that influence our current Article 6 status. We acknowledge the hurdles posed by the lack of independent data, particularly in our engagements with small- and medium-scale mines that may not receive widespread recognition in mainstream sustainable investing discussions. Nevertheless, we understand the pivotal role these operations play in fostering local economies and community livelihoods. Our investment in these smaller mines is a testament to our dedication to grassroots sustainability, significantly enhancing the overall resilience of the supply chain. Despite the complexities of obtaining transparent and independently verified data, our commitment to improving data accessibility remains steadfast. Actively exploring partnerships with third-party organizations, we aim to elevate the transparency and credibility of our reporting mechanisms, ensuring a more comprehensive evaluation of our sustainability initiatives.

Furthermore, our intentional decision not to be listed on all ESG sites at present stems from our commitment to cultivating meaningful connections with stakeholders. Through proactive engagement, we strive to address concerns and gather valuable feedback. We believe that this strategic approach facilitates a more nuanced and comprehensive evaluation of our sustainability initiatives, steering clear of the pitfalls associated with standardized ESG ratings.

Lastly, our unwavering dedication to making long-term investments in sustainable technologies may not always align with immediate financial returns or short-term ESG metrics. Nonetheless, this approach underscores our commitment to industry-wide transformation, recognizing that sustained sustainability requires ongoing investment in innovative technologies and practices.

In conclusion, while we currently hold Article 6 status, our journey towards Article 8 recognition is marked by a steadfast commitment to transparency, sustainable practices, stakeholder engagement, and long-term investments in transformative technologies. We invite investors to consider the holistic nature of our sustainable initiatives, understanding that true sustainability goes beyond standardized metrics and necessitates a comprehensive, forward-looking approach.