

STOA Disclosure Statement









This Disclosure Statement affirms that all assets of STOA are managed in alignment with the Operating Principles for Impact Management (the "Impact Principles") (set out below for reference). These principles provide a benchmark against which the impact management systems of funds and institutions can be evaluated. The principles draw on emerging best practices from a range of asset managers, asset owners, asset allocators, and development finance institutions.

STOA (the "Signatory") hereby affirms its status as a Signatory to the Operating Principles for Impact Management (the "Impact Principles").

This Disclosure Statement applies to STOA Infra & Energy. The total Covered Assets in alignment with the Impact Principles is EUR 423,6 million¹ as of 31st December 2022.

The information contained in this Disclosure Statement has not been verified or endorsed by the Global Impact Investing Network ("the GIIN") or the Secretariat or Advisory Board. All statements and/or opinions expressed in these materials are solely the responsibility of the person or entity providing such materials and do not reflect the opinion of the GIIN. The GIIN shall not be responsible for any loss, claim or liability that the person or entity publishing this Disclosure Statement or its investors, Affiliates (as defined below), advisers, employees, or agents, or any other third party, may suffer or incur in relation to this Disclosure Statement or the impact investing principles to which it relates. For purposes hereof, "Affiliate" shall mean any individual, entity or other enterprise or organization controlling, controlled by, or under common control with the Signatory.



Name of Institution: STOA Infra & Energy
Authorized Representative: Marie-Laure Mazaud
Title: Chief Executive Officer
Date: 30 April 2023.

Principle 1 – *Define strategic impact objective(s), consistent with the investment strategy:* The Manager shall define strategic impact objectives² for the portfolio or fund to achieve positive and measurable social or environmental effects, which are aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), or other widely accepted goals. The impact intent does not need to be shared by the investee. The Manager shall seek to ensure that the impact objectives and investment strategy are consistent; that there is a credible basis for achieving the impact objectives through the investment strategy; and that the scale and/or intensity of the intended portfolio impact is proportionate to the size of the investment portfolio.

STOA is an infrastructure fund created in 2017 by AFD (Agence Française de Développement) and CDC (Caisse des Dépôts et Consignations) aiming at building long-term partnerships in strategic sectors to meet people's needs for essential infrastructure in emerging markets, thereby promoting sustainable and resilient economies. As a result, the fund was thought to be an impact investing financial instrument at its creation. In 2019, the French Parliament passed the Pact Act on the growth and transformation of French companies. It encourages them to include a purpose ("raison d'être") in their articles of association. By declaring this purpose, the company sets out "the principles for which it abides by and for which it intends to allocate resources in the course of its business".

In 2021, after three years of growth, we deemed it essential to look back on the path we have taken and to discuss the meaning we give to our work. Defining our purpose has led us to clarify the principles that guide our action, so that we can better pass them on to those who will join us in the years to come.

The purpose we have chosen – and the common approach we have adopted – is

² Impact objectives can be defined as the intended impact that contributes to financial, institutional, social, environmental, or other benefits to a society, community, or group of people via one or more investment. Adapted from OECD-DAC (www.oecd.org/dac/).



¹ Equivalent to USD 462.88 million (as of 31 December 2022)





"Financing and supporting the development of sustainable and resilient infrastructure for future generations in Africa, Latin America and Asia."

Our purpose is based on three axes of reflection encompassing all aspects of our core business. These three axes are operationalized in the form of targets that define the trends of our investments and define our 2024 strategy. The axes and targets initially chosen in 2021, have been updated by our purpose committee held in September 2022:







Sustainable and resilient infrastructures

STOA's goal has been clear since its creation in 2017: to finance essential infrastructure projects with the aim to meet the needs of people in Africa, Latin America and Asia. Infrastructure sustainability and resilience are at the heart of our investment choices.

- Finance 50% of climate co-benefit projects by the end of 2024
- Finance the production of 1,500 megawatts of renewable energy by the end of 2024, to cover the energy access needs of 20 million people by 2024.
- Reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 2 million tons of CO₂ equivalent per year by the end of 2024
- Engage in a dialogue with our participations to minimize gross CO₂ emissions.











Impact for future generations

As an impact fund, STOA is committed to ensuring that its investments generate long-term economic, social, and environmental benefits for societies. Our goal is to foster the development of sustainable and resilient economies.

- Commit EUR 600 million in financing to essential infrastructure by the end of 2024
- By the end of 2024, a minimum of 50% of projects financed will be in Africa
- At least 60% of projects financed will be high impact
- Measure direct, indirect, and induced jobs in all our business sectors by the end of 2024
- At least 70% of the direct jobs provided by our participations are held by local employees











Responsible support

We view our investment as long-term support and not just as financing. Our aim is to maximize the impact of each project while controlling the risks associated with their implementation.

- Implement a workforce and skills' management policy by the end of 2022
- Align all financed projects with International Finance Corporation (IFC) performance standards
- Have our impact achievements and targets verified by a qualified third-party auditor every two years
- At least a 12-fold leverage effect (total amount of financing raised relative to STOA's investments)



Exhibit 1: Theory of change

Our impact statement remains unchanged as it is intrinsically linked to our purpose. The impact statement is closely bound to the underlying Theory of Change, which represents the different pathways through which STOA's interventions lead to impact results. Exhibit 1 reads from left to right and shows STOA's impact statement and the Theory of Change.

By financing Energy, Transport, Telecoms, Environment and Social infra projects, STOA aims to "meet people's needs for essential infrastructure in emerging markets". Meeting these needs means providing people with accessible, functional, and sober infrastructure. The three outcome areas are defined as follows:

- An accessible infrastructure provides a service which is available (measured as the number of users that can benefit from it) and/or affordable (measured as end-user service's price).
- A **functional** infrastructure is intended as such if it can deliver a reliable and safe service (measured as the decreased duration of service failure and number of accidents).
- A **sober** infrastructure delivers a service that either has a low carbon footprint itself or enables the users to reduce or avoid their greenhouse gasses emission reduction.

Depending on the characteristics of specific projects the pathways leading to impact may vary: a project can address any of the impact areas individually as well as different combinations of the three.







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The overarching impact goal for STOA is to "promote sustainable and resilient economies" contributing to the SDGs while aligning with the Paris Agreement. To do so, STOA contributes to affordable and clean energy (SDG 7) as well as to innovation, industry, and infrastructure (SDG 9, SDG 11). Across portfolio, STOA supports jobs and economic growth (SDG8) while making efforts towards inclusiveness (SDG 10) and climate action (SDG 13).

Through pipeline projects, STOA also seeks to cover good health and well-being (SDG 3), quality education (SDG 4) and clean water & sanitation (SDG 6). During 2022 STOA has formalized a Biodiversity Strategy presented through the Principle 5, allowing the study of assets contributing to life below water (SDG 14) and life on land (SDG 15), STOA has also developed in 2022 its Resilience and Climate Change Adaptation Strategy aligned with Climate Action (SDG 13).

Principle 2 – *Manage strategic impact on a portfolio basis:* The Manager shall have a process to manage impact achievement on a portfolio basis. The objective of the process is to establish and monitor impact performance for the whole portfolio, while recognizing that impact may vary across individual investments in the portfolio. As part of the process, the Manager shall consider aligning staff incentive systems with the achievement of impact, as well as with financial performance.

STOA was created by AFD and CDC to bridge the gaps of infrastructures needs in emerging and developing countries. Following its intrinsic motivation to make an impact with its capital, STOA has implemented an impact framework to inform its decision-making process and steer on maximum positive effects in portfolio. This means incorporating impact as a strategic factor in screening, selecting, monitoring, and reporting the fund's investments. As a signatory of the Operating Principles for Impact Management since 12 April 2019, STOA ensures that its approach to impact management is both functional and efficient across the whole investment cycle. Within this framework, STOA aligns incentives with impact. To this end, STOA has built an impact framework in place that informs the organization on the potential contribution of pipeline projects. The impact objectives as well as the projected and achieved impact of projects in portfolio are also assessed.

STOA uses impact metrics that can be aggregated across the full portfolio to show the socio-economic effects (jobs supported, economic value added) as well as the environmental effects (GHG avoided, reduced country CO_2 footprint) generated.

To further align STOA's investment processes with Principle 2, STOA monitors its objectives on a regular basis and includes the impact score in its global scoring tool.

Impact assessment throughout the investment cycle requires the involvement of the E&S and investment teams. STOA ensures that all investment team members are trained and updated regarding STOA's ESG & Impact methods. In the first semester of 2021, the whole team attended a training session organized by the E&S team specifically on social issues. In 2022, a climate change workshop was organized to aware the team on the issues related to climate change. And in 2023, as part of the operationalization of STOA's Biodiversity Strategy, a training on biodiversity risk management will be held to reinforce awareness on the importance of robust and well-informed biodiversity management and key implications for STOA's investments.

Principle 3 – Establish the Manager's contribution to the achievement of impact: The Manager shall seek to establish and document a credible narrative on its contribution to the achievement of impact for each investment. Contributions can be made through one or more financial and/or non-financial channels³. The narrative should be stated in clear terms and supported, as much as possible, by evidence.

³ For example, this may include: improving the cost of capital, active shareholder engagement, specific financial structuring, assisting with further resource mobilization, providing technical/market advice or capacity building to the investee, and/or helping the investee to meet higher operational standards.







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STOA is an additional impact fund, meaning that it makes a unique financial and extra-financial contribution to its infrastructure projects. Additionality means a unique, differentiated contribution.

Beyond our mandate for long-term investments and our active role in the companies in which we invest, STOA is an additional impact investor that creates added value through its intentionality and internal expertise. In 2020, we built an additionality tool to identify our added value in a formal, systematic manner. The tool is composed of three elements:

- Financial additionality: STOA can contribute capital where other actors would not.
- Additionality in the mobilization of private capital: STOA acts as a catalyst and
 contributes to projects' appeal by unlocking private capital from other actors. To cover
 ourselves against foreign exchange and political risks, STOA mitigates those risks through
 appropriate indexation provisions, local funding (to the extent available on competitive
 terms), grants or seed capitals allocation as well as specific insurance covers. STOA also
 regularly leads investor pools by attracting co-investors on certain projects.
- Extra-financial additionality: STOA supports projects by improving their socioeconomic impact, ensuring a robust ESG risk management, implementing more rigorous ethics and compliance policies and/or creating a better project structure in the development phase.

STOA contributes to projects by bringing a unique added value that can be financial and extra-financial (related to E&S and business ethics). An additionality framework has been developed to systematically formalize this value. Each new investment opportunity is analyzed thanks to this tool, to obtain an additionality degree that is integrated into our decision-making process. See the exhibit 2 below:

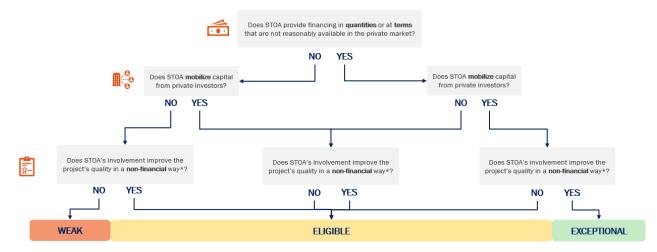


Exhibit 1: Structure of the additionality tool

This information produces an additionality score that is subsequently integrated into our decision-making process. For example, below are our results for our investment in 2022 :

Categorization of our investment by type of impact (% of net commitments) ⁶		
High-impact investments	Medium-impact investments	Low-impact investments
63%	24%	14%

Principle 4 – Assess the expected impact of each investment, based on a systematic approach: For each investment the Manager shall assess, in advance and, where possible, quantify the concrete, positive impact potential deriving from the investment. The assessment should use a suitable results measurement framework that aims to answer these fundamental questions: (1) What is the intended

⁴ Our scoring tool based on three impact criteria (accessibility, functionality, sobriety) allows us to categorize the impact level of our projects. STOA does not finance any zero impact projects.



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impact? (2) Who experiences the intended impact? (3) How significant is the intended impact? The Manager shall also seek to assess the likelihood of achieving the investment's expected impact. In assessing the likelihood, the Manager shall identify the significant risk factors that could result in the impact varying from ex-ante expectations.

In assessing the impact potential, the Manager shall seek evidence to assess the relative size of the challenge addressed within the targeted geographical context. The Manager shall also consider opportunities to increase the impact of the investment. Where possible and relevant for the Manager's strategic intent, the Manager may also consider indirect and systemic impacts. Indicators shall, to the extent possible, be aligned with industry standards⁶ and follow best practice.⁷

STOA tracks whether the investments achieve the effects STOA expects to deliver. At each stage of the investment cycle, from projects screening to selection, monitoring and reporting, STOA assesses the expected impact of each investment, based on a systematic approach. Indeed, STOA has developed a framework and Impact toolkit with the support of the impact specialist Steward Redqueen (SRQ) to promote rigor and candor in STOA's assessment.

- At the screening stage, a high-level assessment is conducted at first, which flags that the project matches at least one of the criteria (Accessible, Functional, Sober).
- At the selection stage, the project is scored through the impact tool developed by SRQ, considering the project impact potential and country need. The score is submitted as part of other decision-making information, to the investment committee, for final go/no-go decision. As soon as the project moves into due diligence, the Investment Team collects more detailed impact data to quantify the project's (estimated) future impact. The set of metrics used by the tool, to track if investment achieve the effects STOA expects to deliver, are aligned with industry standards (such as HIPSO18 and IRIS29 while considering the data availability at STOA) and follow best practices. These metrics reflect STOA's current portfolio and include a few placeholders for future investments. The use of Joint Impact Indicators (JII), which is part of a more complete legal framework, have not been formalized yet.
- The likelihood of achieving the investment's expected impact is closely linked to the operational risk assessment and depends mainly on the good execution of the construction and operation of the infrastructure and associated facilities. Once the project is in portfolio, the impact-related data are monitored on an annual basis and published in the annual investors and impact reports. The Impact toolkit connects STOA's ex-ante assessments with a results measurement system that tracks actual impact during implementation. By using project and market indicators identified ex-ante, STOA measures progress against the achievement of the impact.
- Infrastructure projects support socio-economic impact during their construction phase, but most importantly support the so called "enabling effects", on both an economic and environmental level once the infrastructure becomes operational. STOA captures both type of effects with two modelling methodologies: Input-Output modelling developed by the Nobel Prize winning economist Wassily Leontief and an in-house methodology developed by Steward Redgueen for the quantification of the enabling effects.

Developed in 2019, the current version of the tool covers Renewable (hydro, wind, solar), Transport (road, port, public transportation) and Telecom (optic fiber, datacenter), and provides job modelling of direct, indirect, and induced jobs in the renewable sector only.

STOA aims to update the tool by the end of 2023 to include new relevant sectors such as social infrastructure (health, education) and environmental infrastructure (water, waste, and nature-based



⁵ Adapted from the Impact Management Project (www.impactmanagementproject.com).

⁶ Industry indicator standards include HIPSO (indicators.ifipartnership.org/about/); IRIS (iris.thegiin.org); GIIRS (banalytics.net/giirsfunds); GRI (www.globalreporting.org/Pages/default.aspx); and SASB (www.sasb.org), among others.

⁷ International best practice indicators include SMART (Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Relevant, and Timely), and SPICED (Subjective, Participatory, Interpreted & communicable, Cross-checked, Empowering, and Diverse & disaggregated), among others.

⁸ https://indicators.ifipartnership.org/indicators/

⁹ https://iris.thegiin.org/metrics/





solutions), and to extend the sectors covered to job modelling. This new version should also propose new adaptation to climate change indicators that consider the vulnerability result of the resilience tool presented in Principle 5.

Principle 5 – Assess, address, monitor, and manage potential negative impacts of each investment: For each investment the Manager shall seek, as part of a systematic and documented process, to identify and avoid, and if avoidance is not possible, mitigate and manage Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG)¹⁰ risks. Where appropriate, the Manager shall engage with the investee to seek its commitment to take action to address potential gaps in current investee systems, processes, and standards, using an approach aligned with good international industry practice.¹¹ As part of portfolio management, the Manager shall monitor investees' ESG risk and performance, and where appropriate, engage with the investee to address gaps and unexpected events.

STOA is involved in operations comprising E&S risks. To reduce them, the company has chosen to follow an analysis and management approach that integrates the 8 IFC Performance Standards, the international labour standards of the International Labour Convention (ILO), the EDFI common principles and the UN principles for Responsible Investments. This approach is applicable to every project STOA might consider investing in. Hence, STOA tends to go beyond local regulation to make sure the highest ESG standards are applied.

STOA relies on a robust Environmental and Social Management system with an experienced and dedicated ESG head: ESG risks are managed at each stage of the investment cycle. Exhibit 3 reads from top to bottom and shows STOA's E&S risk management at each stage of the investment cycle.

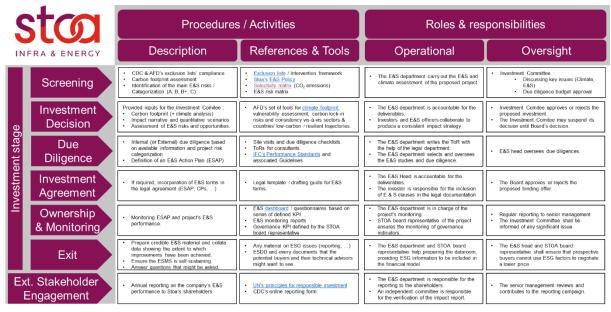


Exhibit 2: ESG management system

STOA's ESG and Impact Policy is not publicly available. Non-confidential information is available through the <u>Investment process</u> and the <u>Climate Strategy</u>.

¹¹ Examples of good international industry practice include: IFC's Performance Standards (https://www.ifc.org/performancestandards); IFC's Corporate Governance Methodology (http://www.ifc.org/cgmethodology), the United Nations Guiding Principles for Business and Human Rights (https://www.unglobalcompact.org/library/2); and the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises (http://mneguidelines.oecd.org/themes/human-rights.htm).



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¹⁰ The application of good ESG management will potentially have positive impacts that may or may not be the principal targeted impacts of the Manager. Positive impacts resulting from ESG matters shall be measured and managed alongside with, or directly embedded in, the impact management system referenced in Principles 4 and 6.





The current ESG management system will be enhanced with:

- STOA's internal **Biodiversity Strategy** (developed at the end of 2022 with the support of The Biodiversity Consultancy).
 - The biodiversity criterion was already integrated into our ESG & Impact policy through the application of IFC performance standard 6.
 - STOA has decided to strengthen the process covering negative impacts on biodiversity, to ensure no net loss of biodiversity for natural habitats and produce a net gain as defined by the mitigation hierarchy.
- STOA's Resilience and Adaptation to Climate Change Strategy (developed at the beginning of 2023 with Resallience and Cibola Partners).
 - During the "investment decision" (Exhibit 3) a climate analysis using AFD's "Climate screening" tool, the World Bank's "Think Hazard!" and the NDGain ranking is realized.
 - To complete this process, the operationalization of the new strategy, through a prescreening tool, aims to define monitoring KPIs related to adaptation and resilience aspects and to understand the risks to which projects may be exposed in terms of climate change.

Principle 6 – *Monitor the progress of each investment in achieving impact against expectations and respond appropriately:* The Manager shall use the results framework (referenced in Principle 4) to monitor progress toward the achievement of positive impacts in comparison to the expected impact for each investment. Progress shall be monitored using a predefined process for sharing performance data with the investee. To the best extent possible, this shall outline how often data will be collected; the method for data collection; data sources; responsibilities for data collection; and how, and to whom, data will be reported. When monitoring indicates that the investment is no longer expected to achieve its intended impacts, the Manager shall seek to pursue appropriate action. ¹² The Manager shall also seek to use the results framework to capture investment outcomes. ¹³

- To track whether the investments achieve the effects STOA expects to deliver, STOA measures progress against 65 metrics, selected from standard catalogues (HIPSO¹⁴ and IRIS¹⁵). The set of metrics provides a pragmatic framework to give substance to the different levels of the Theory of Change.
 - At the activity level, STOA quantifies for example the financing provided or the efforts made towards climate adaptation.
 - At the output level STOA quantifies the direct results of projects, such as the renewable energy capacity installed.
 - At the outcome level STOA aims at measuring to what extent the infrastructure brings concrete benefits for the population reached.
 - Finally, with key metrics at the impact level, STOA quantifies the socio-economic and environmental impacts supported, such as the jobs and value added supported as well as the GHG emissions.
- As part of the Environmental and Social Action plan, STOA outlines data collection, methodologies, and responsibilities prior to the beginning of supervision activities and requires that its partners report on key monitoring indicators each year. This helps STOA report on its own performance in ways that reinforce trust.
- To ensure responsible investment, STOA has carried out an extensive review of its methodologies and impact KPIs with the third-party auditor I Care



¹² Actions could include active engagement with the investee; early divestment; adjusting indicators/expectations due to significant, unforeseen, and changing circumstances; or other appropriate measures to improve the portfolio's expected impact performance.

¹³ Outcomes are the short-term and medium-term effects of an investment's outputs, while the outputs are the products, capital goods, and services resulting from the investment. Adopted from OECD-DAC (www.oecd.org/dac/).

¹⁴ https://indicators.ifipartnership.org/indicators/

¹⁵ https://iris.thegiin.org/metrics/





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Principle 7 – Conduct exits considering the effect on sustained impact: When conducting an exit, ¹⁶ the Manager shall, in good faith and consistent with its fiduciary concerns, consider the effect which the timing, structure, and process of its exit will have on the sustainability of the impact.

STOA's goal is to be a medium to long-term investor and to improve the performance of the project on the long run. Hence, for projects in STOA's portfolio and future projects, STOA will be able to rely on key performance indicators, documents relating to impacts, as well as E&S risk and opportunity management systems to evaluate the outcomes of the impact. The structural integration of high standards into the projects contributes to maintaining best practice beyond the investment horizon. In other words:

- STOA's goal is to be a medium to long-term investor and to improve the performance of the project on the long run.
- STOA is monitoring its projects based on key performance indicators, documents relating to impacts, as well as E&S risk and opportunity management systems to evaluate the outcomes of the impact. Moreover, the structural integration of high standards into the projects contributes to maintaining best practice beyond the investment horizon.
- At exit, STOA would consider the timing, the structure, and the choice of the buyer in a concerted manner with its client's needs and preferences as these can have an instrumental effect on sustaining development impact. This process is however not formalized in a procedure yet but will be in the future

A first exit happened in February 2020. This exit happened too early after its investment (less than one year) for STOA to demonstrate the positive outcomes of the impacts and E&S policy on the value of the company.

In December 2022, STOA finalized the sale of 100% of its shares in a provider of renewable energy for commercial and industrial (C&I). STOA has actively contributed to its strategic orientation towards larger-scale projects intended primary for industrial customers. Within a few years the provider has become the leader of this industrial segment, bringing reliable energy to businesses that reduces power costs and pollution. The new buyer, a lead player in the energy sector, issued a binding offer in July 2022 and will be able to support the company in its new stage of growth.

Principle 8 – Review, document, and improve decisions and processes based on the achievement of impact and lessons learned: The Manager shall review and document the impact performance of each investment, compare the expected and actual impact, and other positive and negative impacts, and use these findings to improve operational and strategic investment decisions, as well as management processes.

Each project is analyzed with regards to the impact it will generate. STOA has built a reporting tool that integrates ESG and Impact monitoring. Quarterly and monthly monitoring are performed to manage E&S risks for projects in portfolio with sometimes the inclusion of regular E&S committees for high-risk projects.

Continuous improvement is being performed every year and 2020 focused on integrating E&S reporting with monthly meetings dedicated to the projects in portfolio to improve the interactions within STOA's organization. In 2022, STOA has targeted specific E&S risks and provide support to improve the performance of the companies on these specific identified risks (road safety, health and safety, decent work).

Each year, the impact and ESG performance of each investment is presented in a transparent and documented way to the Board (with AFD and CDC representatives). The impact performance of each investment is compared to the expected and actual impact. The E&S risks are also presented. The findings are used to improve operational and strategic investment decisions, as well as management processes.

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¹⁶ This may include debt, equity, or bond sales, and excludes self-liquidating or maturing instruments.





Principle 9 – Publicly disclose alignment with the Impact Principles and provide regular independent verification¹⁷ of the alignment: The Manager shall publicly disclose, on an annual basis, the alignment of its impact management systems with the Impact Principles and, at regular intervals, arrange for independent verification of this alignment. The conclusions of this verification report shall also be publicly disclosed. These disclosures are subject to fiduciary and regulatory concerns.

This Disclosure Note re-affirms the alignment of STOA's procedures with the Impact Principles and will be updated annually.

The 2022 independent assurance report on the alignment of STOA with the Operating Principles for Impact Management in 2021 is available here.

As the verification will be replicated once every two years, the present Disclosure Statement has not been verified by a third-party auditor.

Information on the previous independent verifier is as follows:
Name and Address:
I Care
28 rue du 4 Septembre
75002 Paris

I Care is a leading consulting company in the environmental field. Since 2008, I Care assists companies, financial actors and the public sector in their transition towards a low environmental impact society. For more information on I Care, please visit the website: https://www.i-care-consult.com/fr/

Most Recent Review: April 19, 2022

¹⁷ The independent verification may be conducted in different ways, i.e., as part of a financial audit, by an independent internal impact assessment committee, or through a portfolio/fund performance evaluation. The frequency and complexity of the verification process should consider its cost, relative to the size of the fund or institution concerned, and appropriate confidentiality.



Progress Builder



http://www.stoainfraenergy.com