# **Methodology and Scoring Rubric**

This analysis is based on publicly available information collected over the course of 2022 from the public websites, annual reports, ESG/sustainable/responsible investing reports, climate plans and strategies, regulatory filings, press releases and other publications of pension funds, as well as news articles, briefing notes and reports from NGOs, academics and civil society organizations. All sources are listed in the report's references and endnotes, and include up to date information to the best of the authors' knowledge.

To assign climate scores to each criteria, Shift assessed publicly available information against a scoring rubric. We acknowledge that given the nature of qualitative information and inconsistency across disclosure, these scores are necessarily subjective.

# **SCORING RUBRIC**

# **PARIS-ALIGNED TARGET** Grade Criteria The pension manager: has made a public commitment to a Paris-aligned target (net-zero by 2050 or sooner), and has set interim targets, defined net-zero, accounted for scope 3 emissions, planned to achieve real world emission reductions, and placed a limit on the role of offsets, and is part of a credible and accountable net-zero body such as the Net Zero Asset Owner Alliance (NZAOA) or the Paris-Aligned Investment Initiative (PAII). Net-zero by 2050 target, including *most* of the following: interim targets definition of net-zero plan to account for scope 3 emissions plan for achieving real world reductions while bringing portfolio to net-zero · limits on the role of offsets membership in a credible and accountable net-zero body such as the Net Zero Asset Owner Alliance (NZAOA) or the Paris-Aligned Investment Initiative (PAII). Net-zero by 2050 target, but without all or most of the following: interim targets definition of net-zero plan to account for scope 3 emissions plan for achieving real world reductions while bringing portfolio to net-zero limits on the role of offsets. No target, but an indication that a target is forthcoming.

No target, and no indication that a target is forthcoming.

# **INTERIM TARGETS**

### **Grade**

### Criteria



### **GHG** emissions:

2025 and 2030 Paris-aligned targets covering 100% of the portfolio and scopes 1, 2, and 3. The presence/absence of absolute targets and intensity-based targets was considered.

### Climate solutions:

2025 and 2030 targets for increased investments in climate solutions.

# **Engagement or transition targets:**

2025 and 2030 targets for percent of portfolio covered by a credible net-zero pathway.

Other additional climate-related targets were also considered in assigning this score, as was the ambition of the targets.



### **GHG** emissions:

2025 and 2030 targets to reduce scope 1 and 2 emissions of the total portfolio. Plan to incorporate scope 3 into targets. The presence/absence of absolute targets and intensity-based targets was considered.

### **Climate solutions:**

At least one near-term target (by dollar or percentage AUM) for increased investments in climate solutions.

# **Engagement or transition targets:**

At least one near-term target for percent of portfolio covered by a credible net-zero plan.

Other additional climate-related targets were also considered in assigning this score, as was the ambition of the targets.



Short and/or mid-term targets exist but are incomplete, e.g.

- · GHG target does not cover the total portfolio
- · targets in one area (e.g. emissions) but not others (e.g. climate solutions investments)



No short and mid-term targets but reasonable indication that they will be announced soon.



No short and mid-term targets and no definite indication that targets are forthcoming.

# **CLIMATE URGENCY**

### **Grade** Criteria



# The pension manager:

- acknowledges the climate crisis poses risks to and opportunities for its portfolio;
- · acknowledges that it has a role in addressing the climate crisis;
- acknowledges the urgency, emergency and existential nature of the climate crisis;
- acknowledges that investors have agency to influence the trajectory of the climate crisis;
- articulates an ambition, determination and responsibility to centre climate in its investment strategy.



# The pension manager:

- · acknowledges the climate crisis poses risks to and opportunities for its portfolio;
- · acknowledges that it has a role in addressing the climate crisis;
- acknowledges the urgency, emergency, and existential nature of the climate crisis;
- acknowledges that investors have agency to influence the trajectory of the climate crisis.



# The pension manager:

- · acknowledges the climate crisis poses risks to and opportunities for its portfolio, and
- acknowledges that it has a role in addressing the climate crisis.



# The pension manager:

- acknowledges the climate crisis poses risks to and opportunities for its portfolio
- does not acknowledge its own role in addressing the climate crisis.



- no acknowledgement of risks to and opportunities for the portfolio.
- no acknowledgement of the role of finance in addressing the climate crisis.

# **CLIMATE ENGAGEMENT**

# **Grade** Criteria

# A-F

A score between A-F was assigned based on whether or not the pension manager had the following elements in place, and the strength and specificity of these elements:

- Publicly stated expectations for owned companies to have credible net-zero alignment strategies
- Clear climate-related expectations in proxy voting guidelines, including the expectation for credible net-zero strategies
- Public, specific and Paris-aligned goals for climate-related engagements
- Disclosure of targets and metrics to determine success of climate engagements (e.g. % of owned companies that have credible net-zero transition plans)
- A timebound and escalatory framework, up to and including divestment, to apply to climate engagements.

# CLIMATE INTEGRATION Grade Criteria A-F A score between A-F was assigned based on public disclosure of these indicators: Disclosure of exposure to high-carbon assets, particularly fossil fuels Quality and disclosure of scenario analysis Extent of carbon footprinting (portfolio coverage and scopes) Board level climate expertise (raised score) Board level fossil fuel entanglement (lowered score) Detail and currency of climate plan Compensation structure linked to climate targets Membership in a credible and accountable net-zero body such as the Net Zero Asset Owner Alliance (NZAOA) or the Paris-Aligned Investment Initiative (PAII).

FOSSIL FUEL EXCLUSIONS	
Grade	Criteria
A	Exclusion of all investment in coal, oil and gas.
В	Exclusion of at least two of coal, oil and gas.
С	Exclusion of at least one of coal, oil, gas.
D	Limited exclusions (e.g. weak thermal coal exclusion).
F	No fossil fuel exclusions.

# References

The References section lists the pension manager publications reviewed to develop scores for each fund.

# **Canadian Pension Managers**

### AIMCo

### Reports

- 2021 Annual Report (June 2022)
- 2020 Annual Report (June 2021)
- 2021 Responsible Investment Report (Nov 2021)
- TCFD 2022 Report (December 2022)
- TCFD 2021 Report (Nov 2021)
- Stewardship Report (October 2022)

### **Documents**

- AIMCo Strategic Response to Climate Change (approved April 30, 2020)
- Responsible Investment Policy (effective January 29, 2020)
- Proxy Voting Guidelines (January 2022)
- Responsible Investment Engagement Guidelines (April 2021)
- AIMCo Realty Green Financing Framework (September 2021)
- <u>Exclusion Guidelines</u> (February 2021)
- Our Strategy 2022 and Beyond (accessed July 2022)

### Webpages and press releases

- Governance (webpage) (accessed July 2022)
- Responsible Investing Highlights (webpage) (accessed July 2022)
- Responsible Investing (webpage) (accessed July 2022)
- Q4 & Year-End 2021 Investment Performance (April 2022)

## BCI

# Reports

- 2021-2022 Corporate Annual Report (2022)
- 2021 ESG Annual Report (2022)
- 2021 ESG Annual Report. Supplementary Case Studies (2022)
- 2020 ESG Annual Report (2021)

# Documents

- 2022 Climate Action Plan (November 2022)
- Forward Together. F2023-2025 Three-year Business Plan (2022)
- BCI's Climate Action Plan and Approach to the TCFD Recommendations (2018)
- Proxy Voting Guidelines. Tenth Edition (2021)
- ESG Governance Policy (2020)
- ESG Engagement in Public Markets. Our Priorities, Objectives & Processes (2019)
- ESG Strategy (2020)
- Investment Inventory (to March 31, 2022)
- Investment Inventory (to March 31, 2021)

# Webpages and press releases

- BCI Managing Risk Culture & Framework (webpage) (accessed July 2022)
- BCI Climate Action Plan & Approach to TCFD Recommendations (webpage) (accessed July 2022)
- Board Members (webpage) (accessed July 2022)
- Proxy Voting (webpage) (accessed July 2022)
- Policy Advocacy (webpage) (accessed July 2022)

- Our Net Zero Commitment (Quadreal webpage) (accessed November 14, 2022)
- Press release BCI Releases 2021 ESG Annual Report (August 3, 2022)
- Press release British Columbia Investment Management Corporation Sets Climate-Related Targets for Public Markets (Feb 19, 2021)
- QuadReal Press release Quadreal Targeting Net Zero For Entire Portfolio By 2050 (October 17, 2022)

### **CDPQ**

### Reports

- 2021 Annual Report (2022)
- 2021 Annual Report Additional Information (2022)
- 2021 Sustainable Investing Report (2022)
- Highlights 2021 Sustainable Investing Report (2022)

### **Documents**

- Climate Strategy (2021)
- Policy Sustainable Investing (October 2021)
- Policy Governing the Exercise of Voting Rights of Public Companies (October 2020)
- Profils de compétence et d'expérience pour la nomination des membres du conseil d'administration de la Caisse de dépôt et placement du Québec (August 12, 2022)
- Mandate of the Investment and Risk Committee (February 22, 2022)
- Green Bond Framework (April 2021)

### Webpages and press releases

- <u>Climate Innovation Fund</u> (webpage) (accessed July 2022)
- Executive Committee (webpage) (accessed July 2022)
- Board of Directors (webpage) (accessed July 2022)
- Sustainable Investing Governance (webpage) (accessed July 2022)
- Press release CDPQ posts -7.9% six-month return and 6.1% five-year return, outperforming its benchmark portfolio over all periods (August 17, 2022)
- Press release CDPQ posts a 13.5% return in 2021, 8.9% over five years (February 24, 2022)

### **CPPIB**

# Reports

- Summary Report 2022 Report on Sustainable Investing (2022)
- 2022 Report on Sustainable Investing (2022)
- 2021 Report on Sustainable Investing (2021)
- 2020 Report on Sustainable Investing (2020)
- Annual Report 2022 (May 2022, for fiscal year ended March 31, 2022)
- Reporting in accordance with the recommendations from the Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures (TCFD) for Fiscal Year 2022 (May 2022)

### **Documents**

- Proxy Voting Principles and Guidelines (February 2021)
- Policy on Sustainable Investing (November 2021)
- Thinking ahead. Investing in the path to net-zero (February 2022)
- · Message from our Inaugural Chief Sustainability Officer (November 2021)
- Green Bond Framework (June 2022)
- <u>Cicero: CPP Investments Green Bond Second Opinion</u> (June 2022)
- The Decarbonization Imperative (November 2022)
- The Future of Climate Change Transition Reporting: Practitioner Roundtables (June 2022)
- Investing in the Potential of Carbon Credits (March 2022)
- Investing to Enable an Economy-wide Evolution to a Low-carbon Future (December 2021)
- The Future of Climate Change Transition Reporting. Abatement Capacity Assessment and Projected Abatement Capacity Reporting.

  A decision-useful, consistent and auditable approach to transition reporting (October 2021)

### Webpages and press releases

- Investing in the path to net-zero (webpage) (accessed September 2022)
- FAQs about our net-zero commitment (webpage) (accessed September 2022; appears to no longer be available)
- Board of Directors (webpage) (accessed September 2022)
- Sustainable Investing | How We Invest (webpage) (accessed September 2022)
- The Fund (webpage) (accessed September 2022)
- Green Bond Program (webpage) (accessed September 2022)
- Holdings and Relationships (webpage) (accessed September 2022)
- Real Assets Investments (webpage) (accessed September 2022)
- Our Investments (webpage) (accessed September 2022)
- Press release CPP Investments Net Assets Total \$529 Billion at Second Quarter Fiscal 2023 (November 10, 2022)
- Press release CPP Investments Publishes 2022 Report on Sustainable Investing (September 28, 2022)
- Press release <u>CPP Investments Net Assets Total</u> \$523 Billion at First Quarter Fiscal 2023 (August 11, 2022)
- Press release <u>CPP Investments Net Assets Total \$539 Billion at 2022 Fiscal Year-End</u> (May 19, 2022)

### HOOPP

### Reports

- 2021 Annual Report (2022)
- 2020 Annual Report (2021)
- HOOPP 2021 Real Estate Sustainability Report (2022)

### **Documents**

- HOOPP Sustainable Investing Policy (effective January 1, 2022)
- HOOPP Statement of Guidelines and Procedures on Proxy Voting (effective January 1, 2022)
- Statement of Investment Policies & Procedures (SIP&P) (effective January 31, 2022)
- Real Estate Sustainability Policy (2018)

# Webpages and press releases

- TCFD disclosures (webpage) (accessed June 2022)
- Climate Change (webpage) (accessed October 27, 2022)
- HOOPP Board of Trustees (webpage) (accessed June 2022)
- A message to our members. HOOPP's action on climate change (blog post) (February 3, 2022)
- Sustainable Investing at HOOPP (webpage) (accessed June 2022)
- Press release Strong returns keep Plan secure for long-term benefit of Ontario's healthcare workers (March 16, 2022)

### **IMCO**

# Reports

- Ontario Pension Board 2021 Annual Report (2022)
- Ontario Pension Board 2020 Annual Report (2021)
- IMCO 2021 ESG Report (2022)
- IMCO 2021 Annual Report (2022)
- IMCO 2020 Annual Report (2021)

### **Documents**

- 2022 Climate Action Plan (November 2022)
- Stewardship Guideline (2022)
- IMCO Environment, Social, and Governance Screening Guideline (2021)
- IMCO Responsible Investing Policy (effective January 1, 2022)
- IMCO Proxy Voting Guideline (August 2021)
- Ontario Pension Board Statement of Investment Policies and Procedures for the Ontario Pension Board as Administrator of the Public Service Pension Plan (effective Dec 2, 2021)

### Webpages and press releases

- Ontario Pension Board blog post OPB and IMCO's commitment to ESG and Climate Risk (December 22, 2021)
- Responsible Investing Investments (IMCO webpage) (accessed November 22, 2022)
- Proxy Voting IMCO Investments (IMCO webpage) (accessed July 2022)
- Climate Action Responsible Investing (IMCO webpage) (accessed November 22, 2022)
- Case Studies IMCO Investments (IMCO webpage) (accessed July 2022)
- IMCO press release IMCO releases interim net zero targets (November 21, 2022)
- IMCO press release IMCO releases inaugural Environment, Social and Governance Report (June 29, 2022)
- IMCO press release IMCO posts 2021 net return of 9.6%, outperforms benchmark (April 25, 2022)
- · IMCO press release IMCO joins the Paris Aligned Investment Initiative (PAII) on Climate Action (November 8, 2021)

### **OMERS**

### Reports

- 2021 Annual Report (2022)
- 2020 Annual Report (2021)
- Oxford Properties 2021 Global Sustainability Report (2021)

### **Documents**

- Statement of Investment Policies and Procedures (SIP&P) Primary Plan (effective March 1, 2022)
- Sustainable Investing Policy (effective January 1, 2022)
- Proxy Voting Guidelines (effective March 01, 2022)
- · Board and Director Competencies. Governance Manual (effective January 1, 2022)
- OMERS Sponsor Corporation Board Competency Framework. SC Governance Manual (effective date January 1, 2020)
- Our Approach to Climate Change (November 24, 2021)
- OMERS Sustainable Bond Framework (March 2022)

### Webpages and press releases

- Administration Corporation (webpage) (accessed June 2022)
- Board of Directors (webpage) (accessed June 2022)
- A Letter from our CIO (webpage) (accessed June 2022)
- Climate change (webpage) (accessed September 2022)
- Sustainable investing (webpage) (accessed September 2022)
- ESG at OMERS (webpage) (accessed September 2022)
- Proxy Voting Record (webpage) (accessed June 2022)
- Our Targets. Sustainability at Oxford (webpage) (accessed June 2022)
- Press release and letter from Blake Hutcheson <u>OMERS commits to Net Zero 2050 emissions goal, building on its Sustainable Investing program</u> (November 24, 2021)
- Press release <u>OMERS successfully completes first sustainable bond offering</u> (April 21, 2022)
- Press release <u>OMERS investments steady in a difficult market environment</u> (August 18, 2022)

# **OPTrust**

### Reports

- 2021 Responsible Investing Report (2022)
- 2021 TCFD Report (2022)
- 2021 Funded Status Report (2022)

### **Documents**

- Aligning our portfolio with the global path to net zero. Climate Change Strategy (October 2022)
- Preparing our Portfolio for the Future: Integrating Climate Scenarios into Asset-Liability Management. An OPTrust Case Study (October 2022)
- Statement of Investment Policies and Procedures (effective Dec 15, 2021)
- Statement of Responsible Investing Principles (effective October 7, 2021)

- Proxy Voting Guidelines (effective October 7, 2021)
- Climate Change Action Plan. A Thousand Mile Journey (2018)

### Webpages and press releases

- Responsible Investing at OPTrust (webpage) (accessed June 2022)
- <u>Climate Change</u> (webpage) (accessed October 2022)
- Board of Trustees (webpage) (accessed June 2022)

### **OTPP**

# Reports

- Annual Responsible Investing and Climate Strategy Report (2022)
- Annual Responsible Investing and Climate Change Report (2021)
- 2019 Climate Change Report (2020)
- 2021 Annual Report (2022)
- Our responses to the Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures (2022)
- 2022 Ontario Teachers' Finance Trust Green Bond Report (2022)

### Documents

- Ontario Teachers' Green Bond Framework (2020)
- Climate Change FAQ (undated)
- 2022 Proxy Voting Guidelines (2022)
- · Responsible Investing Guidelines (2022)
- Ontario Teachers' 2021 Corporate Governance Principles & Proxy Voting Guidelines updates (2021)
- Power Shift. Investing in electric grids to accelerate the energy transition (2022)

# Webpages and press releases

- Our leadership (webpage) (accessed September 2022)
- Our robust, resilient portfolio (webpage) (accessed September 2022)
- Press release Ontario Teachers' delivers positive return in first half of 2022 (August 15, 2022)

### **PSP**

### Reports

- 2022 Annual Report (2022)
- 2021 Annual Report (2021)
- 2022 TCFD Report (2022)
- 2022 Responsible Investment Report (2022)
- 2021 Responsible Investment Report (2021)

### **Documents**

- PSP Investments Green Asset Taxonomy. Advancing Climate-Aligned Portfolio Management (2022)
- Climate Strategy Roadmap (2022)
- Green Bond Framework (2022)
- Corporate View on Climate Change (April 21, 2022)
- · Risk Appetite Overview (November 2021) (accessed in July 2022 but appears to no longer be available on PSP's website)
- Statement of investment policies, standards and procedures for assets managed by the Public Sector Pension Investment Board (November 2021)
- Responsible Investment Policy (February 2020)
- Proxy Voting Principles (February 2020)

# Webpages and press releases

- Annual Report 2022 (webpage) (accessed July 2022)
- Responsible Investment Report 2022 (webpage) (accessed November 10, 2022)
- Board of Directors (webpage) (accessed June 2022)

- Investing responsibly (webpage) (accessed October 7, 2022)
- Press release <u>PSP Investments' 2022 Responsible Investment Report demonstrates continued momentum on climate change commitments, data integration and active ownership (November 10, 2022)</u>
- Press release <u>PSP Investments launches inaugural Climate Strategy with targets to guide climate action and emissions reduction</u>
  (April 21, 2022)
- Press release PSP Investments Posts 10.9% Return in Fiscal Year 2022 as Net Assets under Management Grow by 12.7% to \$230.5
   Billion (June 9, 2022)

### **UPP**

### Reports

2021 Annual Report (2022)

### **Documents**

- <u>UPP Climate Action Plan</u> (June 2022)
- Top single name public equity holdings (2022)
- Quick Guide to Responsible Investing (2022)
- Statement of Investment Policies and Procedures (April 27, 2022)
- Proxy Voting Policy (October 2021)
- Responsible Investment Policy (June 10, 2021)
- Investment Exclusion Policy (April 27, 2022)

# Webpages and press releases

- Member Engagement My UPP (webpage) (accessed September 2022)
- Frequently Asked Questions My UPP (webpage) (accessed October 27, 2022)
- Origins and Governance MyUPP (webpage) (accessed September 2022)
- Responsible Investment My UPP (webpage) (accessed September 2022)
- Partners and associations My UPP (webpage) (accessed September 2022)
- Strategy MyUPP (webpage) (accessed October 12, 2022)
- News post (webpage) <u>UPP joins the UN-convened Net-Zero Asset Owner Alliance</u> (November 9, 2022)
- News post (webpage) <u>UPP launches roadmap to net zero portfolio emissions by 2040, reports on 2021 Year</u> (July 21, 2022)

### International Funds

# AP2

### Reports

- Sustainability Report 2021 (2022)
- Sustainability Report 1 Januari 30 Juni 2022 (2022)
- Annual Report 2021 (2022)
- Climate Report 2021 in accordance with the TCFD's recommendations (2022)

### Documents

Voting Guidelines (March 2021)

## Webpages and press releases

- A unique pension system (webpage) (accessed November 4, 2022)
- Our mission (webpage) (accessed November 4, 2022)
- About AP2 (webpage) (accessed November 4, 2022)
- Holdings (webpage) (accessed November 4, 2022)

# NEST

# Reports

- 2021-2022 Annual Report (2022)
- Investing for a better future. Our responsible investment outcomes over 2020/21 (2021)

- Nest quarterly investment report. At end September 2022 (2022)
- Climate change progress for Nest's investments 2021/2022 (2022)
- Climate change progress for Nest's investments 2020/21 (2021)

### **Documents**

- Climate Change Risk Policy (December 2021)
- Nest's global voting guidelines (2022)
- Nest's voting and engagement standards UK (2022)

### Webpages and press releases

- How climate change could impact your pension (webpage) (accessed November 7, 2022)
- Working for Change together (webpage) (accessed November 7, 2022)
- Members' Panel | About Nest Corporation | Nest Pensions (webpage) (accessed November 7, 2022)
- · Board Members | About Nest Corporation | Nest Pensions (webpage) (accessed November 7, 2022)
- Growing your money (webpage) (accessed November 7, 2022)
- How we're investing responsibly (webpage) (accessed November 7, 2022)

### **NGS SUPER**

### Reports

- 2020-2021 Annual Report
- 2022 Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures Report

### **Documents**

- Statement on Climate Change (June 2022)
- Active Ownership and Engagement Policy (September 2022)
- Responsible Investment Policy (September 2022)
- Trustee Board (July 1, 2022)

### Webpages and press releases

- <u>Diversified MySuper Investment Options</u> (website list of holdings)
- NGS Super divests from Woodside, Santos and more (website post August 5, 2022)
- Press release: Super Fund Divests From Major Fossil Fuel Companies On Path To Carbon Neutral (August 4, 2022)
- AGL's failed demerger plan and what it means (website post July 8, 2022)
- Carbon neutral by 2030: Member update (website post May 2, 2022)
- 2030 target: a carbon neutral investment portfolio (website post March 16, 2021)

### NYSCRF

### Reports

- Progress Report on the New York State Common Retirement Fund's Climate Action Plan (July 2022)
- Progress Report on the New York State Common Retirement Fund's Climate Action Plan (April 2021)

### **Documents**

- New York State Common Retirement Fund Proxy Voting Guidelines (2022)
- New York State Common Retirement Fund Asset Listing as of March 31, 2021

# Webpages and press releases

- Press release DiNapoli: State Pension Fund Posts 9.5% Annual Investment Return (August 1, 2022)
- Press release NYS Pension Fund Launches Review of Integrated Oil & Gas Companies (August 12, 2022)
- · Press release DiNapoli: State Pension Fund Calls on Corporations to Address Environmental and Climate Risks (April 20, 2022)
- Press release NYS Pension Fund Commits \$2 Billion to Climate Transition Index (December 9, 2021)