8 steps for developing a responsible investment strategy to **help combat climate change**



Step 1

Establish your responsible investment strategy

The responsible investment 'toolbox' has a variety of tools to tackle many social and environmental issues. *Focus is critical for success, so establish a clear 'toolbox strategy'*.

Zurich's approach to **responsible investment** was designed almost a decade ago, revised to reflect our climate change commitments, and continues to be regularly reviewed.





Step 2

Do your research

Given its complexity and long-term nature, taking investment decisions to combat climate change can be challenging.

Zurich's Market Strategy and Macroeconomics team helps us to define *high-level scenarios* and monitor developments with the support of a *scorecard* that is updated annually.

Step 3Set challenging targets

You won't achieve anything unless you set targets. Last year, Zurich joined the *UN Net-Zero Asset Owner Alliance* as a founding member and committed to a zero-emission portfolio of investments by 2050.

This will be a challenge, but now that we have set this target, we're fully focused on achieving it.





Step 4

Accelerate green innovation

Actively invest in cutting-edge climate change solutions, from *improving energy efficiency* to developing *meat substitutes*.

Zurich's *Impact Investment* strategy does this by committing USD 5bn in investments that avoid *5 million tons of CO2-equivalent emissions* annually, while improving the lives of *5 million people* each year.



Step 5

Invest in clean energy infrastructure

Transitioning to renewable energy requires huge investment in infrastructure – and investors have a key role to play.

For example, through a €150m investment in green bonds issued by Spanish utility company Iberdrola, Zurich will help develop clean energy including an offshore wind farm in the UK.





Step 6

Influence corporate behavior from the inside

As an investor, you can directly influence the activity in companies in which you invest and **ensure climate change is high on their agenda**.

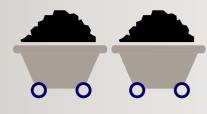
Develop a **voting and engagement strategy** to maximize this infl uence and to encourage boards to take action that will help combat climate change.

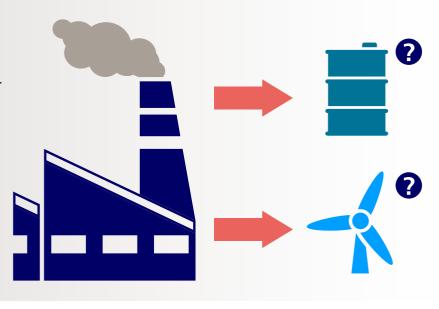
Step 7

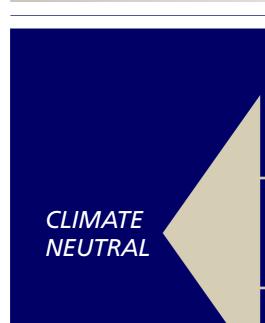
Divest from carbon-intensive businesses (without a clear plan to change)

Divestment can accelerate change but requires a targeted and pragmatic approach. Zurich has stopped investing in companies with high reliance on thermal coal, oil sands or oil shale.

But some industries require investment to transition to green technologies, so depriving access to capital for those willing to change can turn out to be *counterproductive*.







Step 8

Drive change through advocacy

To transition to a climate neutral economy and society, we need to **adjust the rules of the economic game**.











This requires our policy makers and regulators to introduce *climate-fit policies* and a *conducive regulatory framework*: from pricing carbon to measures that accelerate innovation. *Zurich uses its voice to advocate for system-level change*.