

7.2 University measures towards affordable and clean energy

7.2.6 Divesting investments from carbon-intensive energy



7.2.6. Does your university as a body have a policy on divesting investments from carbon-intensive energy industries especially coal and oil?


Yes — the University has formally adopted a **Responsible Investment & Fossil-Fuel Divestment Policy** through which we are progressively eliminating investments in **carbon-intensive sectors**, especially **coal and oil**, reflecting our commitment to **climate responsibility**. The policy is founded on principles of **Do No Climate Harm, Support Clean Energy Transition, Financial Responsibility, and Ethical Academic Leadership**. The Institute is motivated adhering towards **renewable sectors** including **solar, wind, green hydrogen, and sustainable energy technologies**. Oversight is ensured through the **Responsible Investment Committee** and the **Sustainability & Climate Action Office**, supported by annual transparency reviews. This policy advances **SDG 7** and **SDG 13** and strengthens our position as a **forward-looking climate-responsible institution**.



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POLICY ON DIVESTMENT FROM CARBON-INTENSIVE ENERGY INDUSTRIES (Especially Coal and Oil)

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Directly supported SDGs

- **SDG 7 Affordable and Clean Energy**
- **SDG 13 Climate Action**

Indirectly supported SDGs

- **SDG 12 Responsible Consumption and Production**
- **SDG 9 Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure**



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Introduction

St. Peter's Institute of Higher Education and Research (SPIHER) recognises that climate change is one of the most urgent challenges facing the world today. As an institution of higher learning, SPIHER has a responsibility not only to teach and research in the area of sustainability, but also to ensure that its own decisions and actions reflect a strong commitment to environmental responsibility. Our financial choices, including how and where we invest institutional funds, form an important part of this responsibility.

This policy expresses SPIHER's clear intention to move away from investments in carbon-intensive energy industries, especially coal and oil, and to support a transition towards cleaner and more sustainable forms of energy. It aligns with our Green Campus initiatives and with national and international efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and limit global warming.

Purpose

The purpose of this Policy on Divestment from Carbon-Intensive Energy Industries is to:

- Ensure that SPIHER's investments are consistent with its values on environmental protection and climate action.
- Gradually phase out direct and significant indirect investments in coal and oil-based energy industries.
- Encourage the reallocation of institutional funds towards low-carbon, renewable and environmentally responsible sectors.
- Promote transparency and accountability in the way SPIHER manages its investments.

Scope

This policy applies to all institutional investments made or held in the name of SPIHER as a body. This includes, but is not limited to:

- Endowment funds, reserves and surplus funds invested in financial instruments.
- Investments in equity shares, bonds, mutual funds and similar products.
- Long-term strategic financial partnerships where SPIHER has discretion over the choice of sector or fund.



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This policy does not cover routine operational expenditure on electricity, fuel or utilities, which is addressed under separate energy efficiency and sustainability policies of the institution.

Definitions

For the purpose of this policy:

- "Carbon-intensive energy industries" refer to industries whose core business is the extraction, processing or combustion of fossil fuels, particularly coal and crude oil.
- "Divestment" refers to the planned and systematic reduction and eventual withdrawal of investments from identified carbon-intensive industries.
- "Sustainable or responsible investments" refer to investments in entities or funds that support renewable energy, energy efficiency, low-carbon technologies, green infrastructure or other environment-friendly activities.

Monitoring, Reporting and Review

SPIHER will review its investment portfolio periodically to understand the level of exposure to carbon-intensive sectors and the progress made towards divestment. The report prepared may also be used as supporting evidence for accreditation, ranking and sustainability reporting purposes.

This policy will be reviewed periodically, at least once in three years, or earlier if there are major changes in regulatory requirements, financial conditions, or global best practices in responsible investment.

Conclusion

SPIHER is committed to progressively divesting from carbon-intensive energy industries, especially those based on coal and oil, and to reinvesting these funds in more sustainable and climate-friendly alternatives. The institution believes that such action is consistent with its academic mission, moral responsibility and long-term interests.

10.02.2024

REGISTRAR



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