



# ASSESSMENT REPORT 2020

# **Mergence Investment Managers**



#### INTRODUCTION

The Assessment report is designed to provide feedback to signatories to support ongoing learning and development.

A brief description of the each section of this report and how it should be interpreted is provided below. The high-level assessment methodology can be found here and a companion document explaining the assessment of each indicator can be found here

#### ORGANISATIONAL OVERVIEW

This section provides an overview of the main characteristics of your organisation. This determined which modules and indicators you reported on and determines your peer groups.

#### SUMMARY SCORECARD

This section provides an overview of your aggregate score for each module and the median score. These bands range from 'A+' (top band) to 'E' (lowest band).

#### ASSESSMENT BY MODULE

For each module you reported on, you will see a section that shows your:

- Year-on-year performance
- Indicator scorecard
- Section scores
- Comparison to peer groups

#### **PUBLISHING IN THE DATA PORTAL**

#### YEAR ON YEAR PERFORMANCE

These charts show the trend in your module band over the last three years, and also shows the trend across the average of all reporting signatories.

#### INDICATOR SCORECARD

Your indicator scorecard summarises the scores you achieved for each assessed indicator within each module.

These will range from zero stars to three stars. It also provides basic information about the performance of your organisation compared with other signatories that responded to that indicator. The number of stars determines your overall module score. Please refer to the assessment methodology summary for additional information about how these scores are calculated.

#### PEER COMPARISON

Your total aggregated performance band for each module will be compared against your peer groups in a series of distribution charts.

Assessment Reports and private Transparency Reports are confidential and only accessible to the reporting signatory on the Data Portal.

However, the Data Portal does facilitate signatories to share these reports bilaterally with other signatories.

To request access, use the "Find A Report" tab to search, and click "Request access". To check pending requests on your own reports, go to "Settings and Requests" tab. Your nominated Data Portal Contact can approve or decline requests.

#### **PUBLICATION GUIDELINES**

It is permitted to publish your Assessment Report outside of the Data Portal, however you must take every care not to represent scores out of context, and include access to or references to: the PRI assessment methodology; your full Assessment Report (if only a section is published); and your Transparency Report.

Assessment Reports are the intellectual property of PRI. Under no circumstances, can this report or any of its contents be sold to third parties. In addition, you are not allowed to share this report with third parties unless you have been given consent by the signatory in question.

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This document is based on information reported directly by signatories. Moreover, the underlying information has not been audited by the PRI or any other party acting on its behalf. While every effort has been made to produce a fair representation of performance, no representations or warranties are made as to the accuracy of the information presented, and no responsibility or liability can be accepted for damage caused by use of or reliance on the information contained within this report.

# Organisational Overview

This section provides an overview of your organisation. These characteristics are used to define your peer groups.

MAIN CHARACTERISTICS				
Name	Mergence Investment Managers			
Signatory Category	Investment Manager			
Signatory Type	Fund management			
Size	US\$ 1 - 4.99 billion AUM			
Signed PRI Initiative	2007			
Region	Africa			
Country	South Africa			
Disclosure of Voluntary Indicators	9% from 44 Voluntary indicators			

YOUR ORGANISATION'S ASSETS UNDER MANAGEMENT (AUM)†					
Asset Class	Internally Managed	Externally Managed			
Listed equity	>50%	0			
Fixed income	10-50%	0			
Private equity	0	0			
Property	<10%	0			
Infrastructure	<10%	0			
Commodities	0				
Hedge funds	0	0			
Fund of hedge funds	0	0			
Forestry	0	0			
Farmland	0	0			
Inclusive finance	0	0			
Cash	<10%	0			
Money market instruments	0	0			
Other 1	0	0			
Other 2	0	0			

 $\dagger$  Asset classes were aggregated to four ranges: 0%; <10%; 10-50% and >50%

# Summary Scorecard

AUM	Module Name	Your Score	Your Score	Median Score		
	01.Strategy & Governance	A+				
Direct & Act	ive Ownership Modules					
>50%	10. Listed Equity - Incorporation	A				
>50%	11. Listed Equity - Active Ownership	A			в	
<10%	12. Fixed Income - SSA	Not reported				
<10%	13. Fixed Income - Corporate Financial	Not reported				
<10%	14. Fixed Income - Corporate Non-Financial	Not reported				
<10%	17. Property	Not reported				
<10%	18. Infrastructure	В				A

# Strategy And Governance

#### Indicator Scorecard

Module	Strategy and Governance
	29 ★ (out of a maximum 30 ★ from 10 indicators). Your score includes 3 additionally assessed indicators and the additional part of your score was calculated from SG 08.a, SG 11, SG 14.
Band	A+

SECTION	INDICATOR		MEDIAN	YOUR	CHANGE AGAINST		
SECTION	NUMBER	ТҮРЕ	ТОРІС	PEER SCORE (# PEERS)	SCORE	LAST YEAR	
	SG 01	CORE	RI Policy and coverage	<b>★★★</b> (2127)	***	_	
RI Policy	SG 02	CORE	Publicly available RI policy or guidance documents	<b>★★☆</b> (2127)	★★☆	-	
	SG 03	CORE	Conflicts of interest	<b>★★★</b> (2127)	***	_	
Objective & Strategies	SG 05	CORE	RI goals and objectives	<b>★★★</b> (2127)	***	_	
	SG 07	CORE	RI roles and responsibilities	<b>★★★</b> (2127)	***	_	
Governance & Human Resources	SG 08a	ADDITIONAL	RI in performance management & rewards	<b>★★★</b> (2127)	***	-	
	SG 08b	ADDITIONAL	RI in personal development / training	<b>★★★</b> (2127)	***	-	
	SG 09	CORE	Collaborative organisations / initiatives	★★☆ (2127)	***	-	
Promoting RI	SG 10	CORE	Promoting RI independently	<b>★★★</b> (2127)	***	-	
	SG 11	ADDITIONAL	Dialogue with public policy makers or standard setters	<b>★★★</b> (2127)	***	-	
ESG Issues In Asset Allocation	SG 14	ADDITIONAL	Investment risks and opportunity	<b>★★★</b> (2127)	***	-	
Assurance of Responses	CM 01	ADDITIONAL	Assurance, verification, or review	<b>★★☆</b> (2127)	★★☆	_	

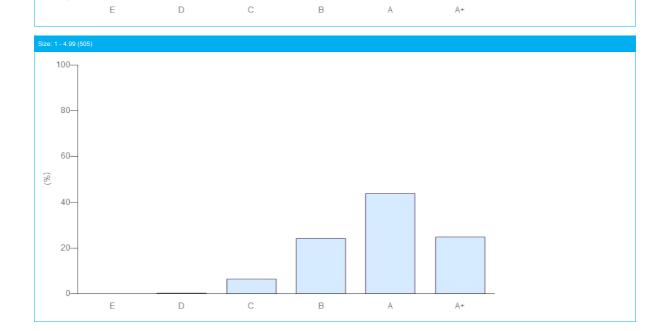
Your Strategy and Governance module score has been compared to relevant peer groups in a series of distribution charts below.



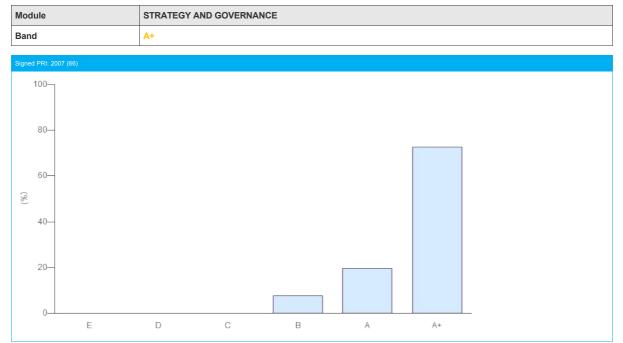
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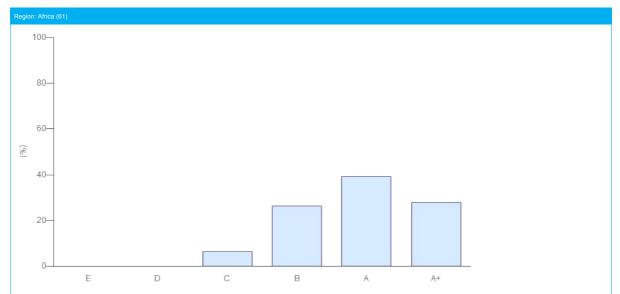
Your Strategy and Governance module score has been compared to relevant peer groups in a series of distribution charts below

Your Strate	Your Strategy and Governance module score has been compared to relevant peer groups in a series of distribution charts below.			
Module		STRATEGY AND GOVERNANCE		
Band		A+		
Category: Inv	vestment Manager (1677)			
100—	]			
80—	-			
60- 8	-			
ے 40–				
.0				
20—	-			



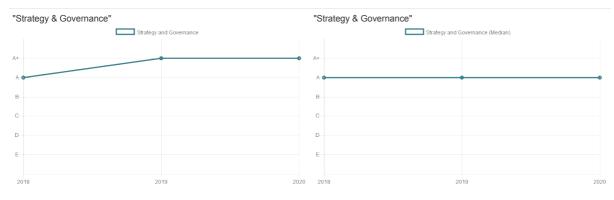
Your Strategy and Governance module score has been compared to relevant peer groups in a series of distribution charts below.





#### Your Company Year-On-Year Performance

#### Average Year-On-Year Trends



# **DIRECT - LISTED EQUITY - INCORPORATION**

#### MODULE OVERVIEW

The table below provides an overview of your Listed Equity Incorporation Band as well as your scores for Screening and/or Integration strategies. You receive a single score for this module, which is based on your main incorporation strategy, calculated using your reported information in indicator LEI 03. Both the Screening and Integration scores, if applicable, are presented in more detail in the following pages. Thematic approaches are not scored.

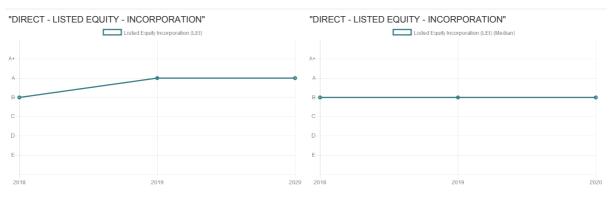
Module Band	A
Score based on	Integration
Screening	NA
Integration	Α
Thematic	Not Scored

#### OVERVIEW OF INCORPORATION STRATEGIES (LEI 03)

ESG INCORPORATION STRATEGY	PERCENTAGE OF ACTIVE LISTED EQUITY TO WHICH THE STRATEGY IS APPLIED (%)
Screening alone	0 %
Thematic alone	0 %
Integration alone	0 %
Screening + integration strategies	0 %
Thematic + integration strategies	100 %
Screening + thematic strategies	0 %
All three strategies combined	0 %
No incorporation strategies applied	0 %

#### Your Company Year-On-Year Performance

#### Average Year-On-Year Trends



# **Direct - LISTED EQUITY - INTEGRATION**

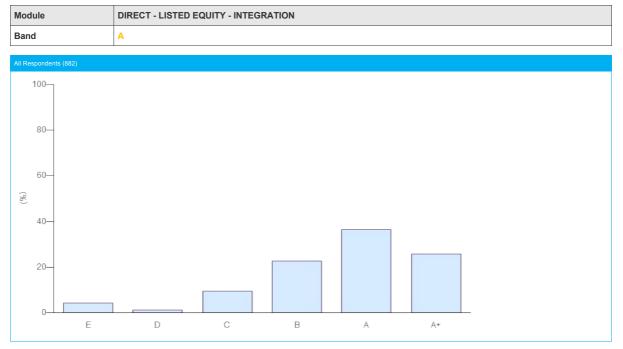
#### Indicator Scorecard

This module looks at how your organisation integrates ESG issues into investment decision making for your internally managed listed equity holdings. If your organisation did not respond to an applicable indicator, you will see a score of

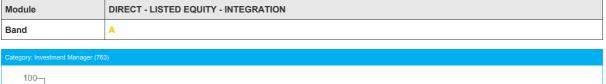
Module	LISTED EQUITY - INCORPORATION
Incorporation Strategy	INTEGRATION
Total Score	16 ★ (out of a maximum 21 ★ from 7 indicators). Your score includes 2 additionally assessed indicators and the additional part of your score was calculated from LEI 02, LEI 03.
Band	Α

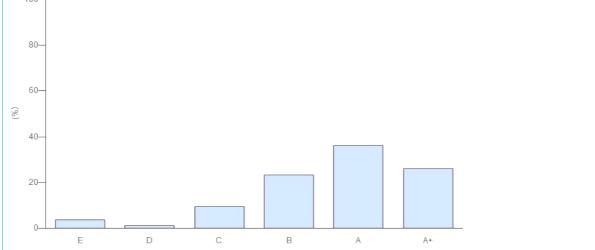
SECTION		INDICATOR		MEDIAN	YOUR	CHANGE AGAINST	
SECTION	NUMBER	TYPE	ТОРІС	PEER SCORE (# PEERS)	SCORE	LAST YEAR	
IMPLEMENTATION	LEI 02	ADDITIONAL	Type of ESG information used in investment decision	<b>★★★</b> (882)	***	_	
PROCESSES	LEI 03	ADDITIONAL	Information from engagement and/or voting used in investment decision-making	<b>★★★</b> (882)	***	_	
	LEI 08	CORE	Review ESG issues while researching companies/sectors	<b>★★★</b> (882)	★★☆	_	
IMPLEMENTATION: INTEGRATION	LEI 09	CORE	Processes to ensure integration is based on robust analysis	<b>★★★</b> (882)	***	_	
	LEI 10	CORE	Aspects of analysis ESG information is integrated into	<b>★★★</b> (882)	***	_	
COMMUNICATION	SG 19a	CORE	Disclosure of approach to public	★★☆ (882)	***	_	
CONNONICATION	SG 19b	CORE	Disclosure of approach to clients/beneficiaries	★★☆ (882)	***	_	

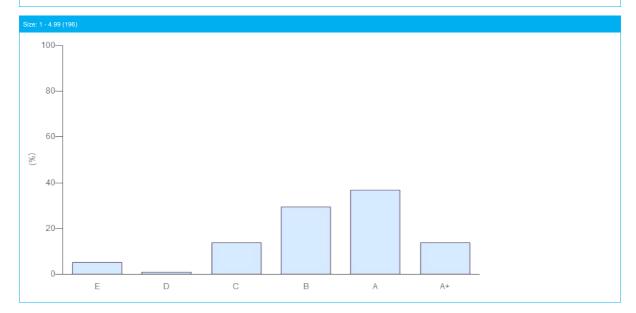
Your Direct - Listed Equity - Integration module score has been compared to relevant peer groups in a series of distribution charts below.



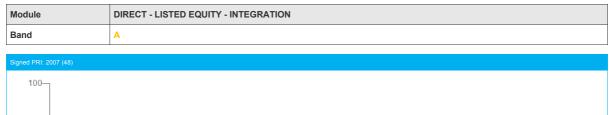
Your Direct - Listed Equity - Integration module score has been compared to relevant peer groups in a series of distribution charts below.

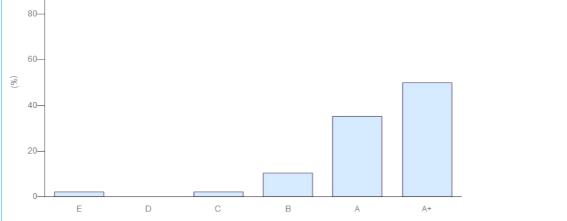


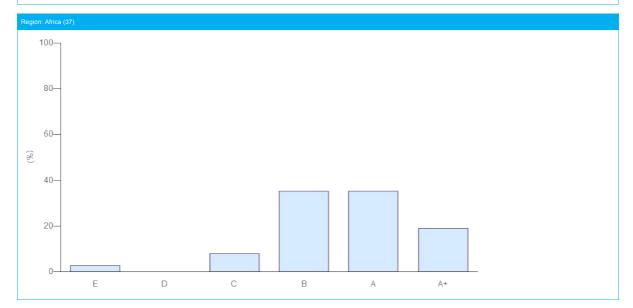




Your Direct - Listed Equity - Integration module score has been compared to relevant peer groups in a series of distribution charts below.







### **DIRECT - LISTED EQUITY - ACTIVE OWNERSHIP**

#### MODULE OVERVIEW

The table below provides an overview of your Listed Equity Active Ownership Band. This is based on your score for engagement and (proxy) voting.

If applicable, you will see a separate score for engagements run internally, collaboratively and through service providers. Your engagement score is based on your main engagement approach, calculated using your reported information in indicator LEA 11. Your main approach is based on the combination of the quantity and comprehensiveness of engagements and your role/involvement. The Engagement score is not dependent on how you conduct your engagements and the top score can be achieved regardless of who conducts the engagements. For more information please see the assessment methodology and detailed methodology.

The scores for each applicable engagement approach are presented in more detail in the following pages.

Active Ownership Band	Α
	$\sim$
Engagement Band	В
Score based on:	Individual
Individual Engagement B	and B
Collaborative Engagement B	and B
Service Provider Engagement B	and NA
(Proxy) Voting Band	Α

# **DIRECT - LISTED EQUITY - INDIVIDUAL ENGAGEMENTS**

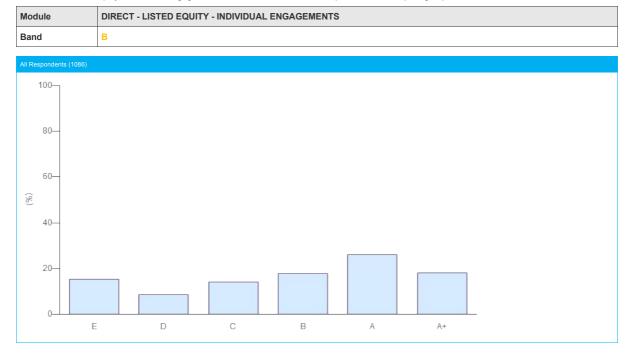
#### Indicator Scorecard

This section looks at how your organisation carries out engagements individually through internal staff. If your organisation did not respond to an applicable indicator, you will see a score of  $\frac{1}{2}$ 

Section	LISTED EQUITY - INDIVIDUAL ENGAGEMENTS
Type of Engagement	INDIVIDUAL/INTERNAL STAFF ENGAGEMENTS
Total Score	22 ★ (out of a maximum 30 ★ from 10 indicators). Your score includes 3 additionally assessed indicators and the additional part of your score was calculated from LEA 06, LEA 09b, LEA 10.
Band	В

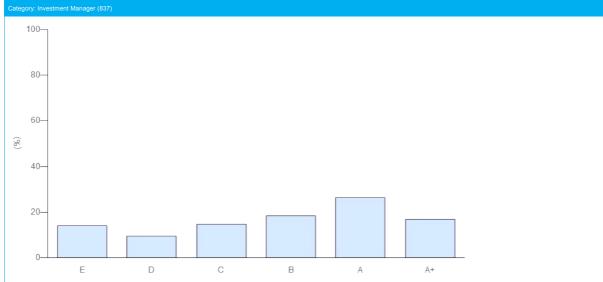
SECTION			INDICATOR	MEDIAN	YOUR	CHANGE AGAINST LAST YEAR	
SECTION	NUMBER	TYPE	ТОРІС	PEER SCORE (# PEERS)	SCORE		
OVERVIEW	LEA 01	CORE	Description of approach to engagement	<b>★★★</b> (1086)	★★☆	0	
	LEA 03	CORE	Process for identifying and prioritising engagement activities	<b>★★★</b> (1086)	***	_	
INTERNAL	LEA 04	CORE	Objectives for engagement activities	★★☆ (1086)	***	_	
PROCESSES	LEA 05	CORE	Monitor/review engagement outcomes	<b>★★★</b> (1086)	★★☆	_	
	LEA 06	ADDITIONAL	Escalation strategy	<b>★★★</b> (1086)	***	_	
GENERAL PROCESSES	LEA 07	ADDITIONAL	Share insights from engagements with internal/external managers	★★☆ (1086)	***	_	
OUTPUTS AND OUTCOMES	LEA 09a	CORE	Number of companies engaged with, intensity of	★★☆ (1086)	***	_	
	LEA 09b	ADDITIONAL	engagement and effort	☆☆☆ (1086)	***	_	
	LEA 10	ADDITIONAL	Engagement methods	★★☆ (1086)	***	_	
COMMUNICATION	SG 19a	CORE	Disclosure of approach to public	☆☆☆ (1086)	***	_	
	SG 19b	CORE	Disclosure of approach to clients/beneficiarie	★★☆ (1086)	***	—	

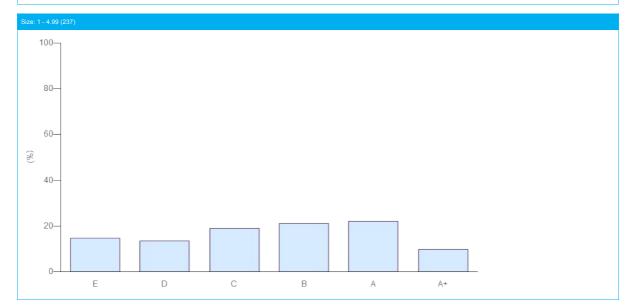
Your Direct - Listed Equity - Individual Engagements module score has been compared to relevant peer groups in a series of distribution charts below.



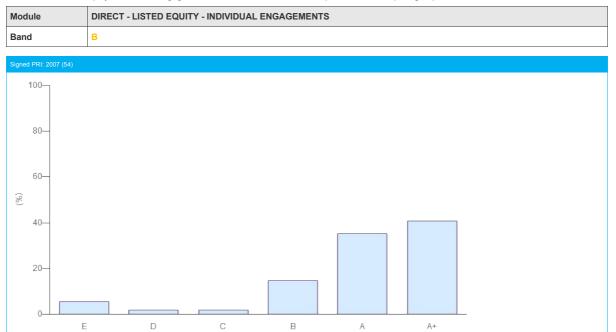
Your Direct - Listed Equity - Individual Engagements module score has been compared to relevant peer groups in a series of distribution charts below.

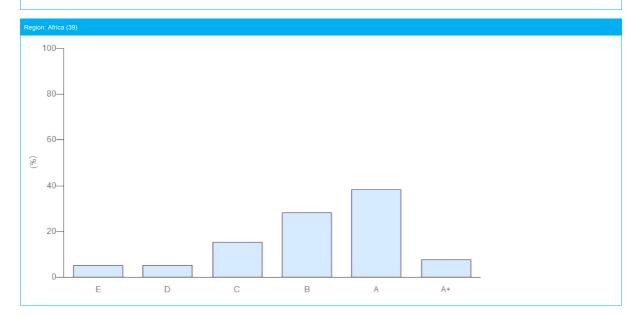






Your Direct - Listed Equity - Individual Engagements module score has been compared to relevant peer groups in a series of distribution charts below.





# **Direct - LISTED EQUITY - COLLABORATIVE ENGAGEMENTS**

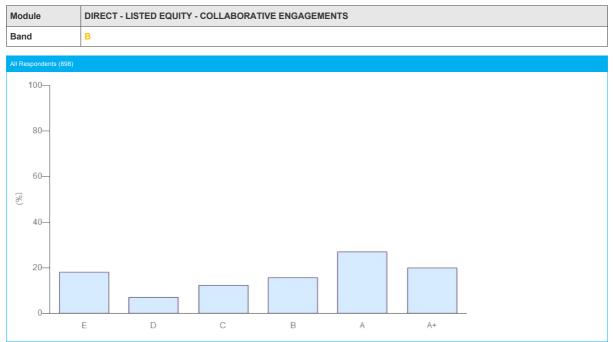
#### Indicator Scorecard

This section looks at how your organisation carries out engagements via collaborations. If your organisation did not respond to an applicable indicator, you will see a score of  $\frac{1}{2}$ 

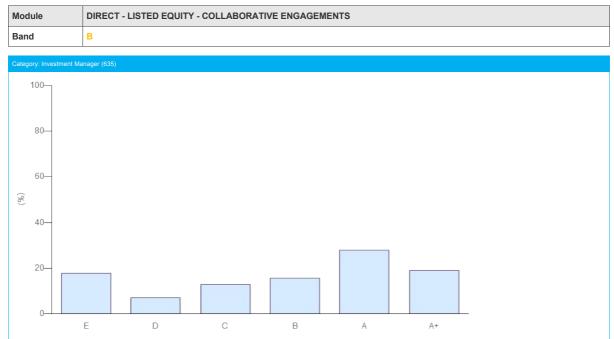
Section	LISTED EQUITY - COLLABORATIVE ENGAGEMENTS
Type of Engagement	COLLABORATIVE ENGAGEMENTS
Total Score	22 ★ (out of a maximum 30 ★ from 10 indicators). Your score includes 3 additionally assessed indicators and the additional part of your score was calculated from LEA 06, LEA 09b, LEA 10.
Band	В

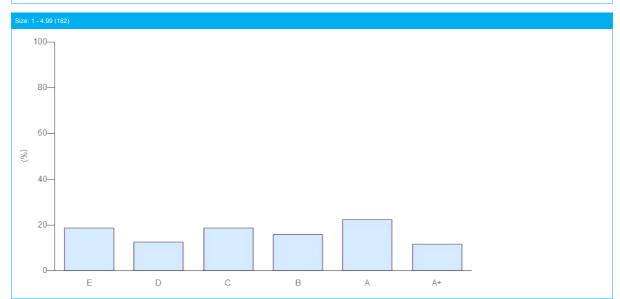
SECTION	INDICATOR			MEDIAN	YOUR	CHANGE AGAINST	
Section	NUMBER	TYPE	ТОРІС	PEER SCORE (# PEERS)	SCORE	LAST YEAR	
OVERVIEW	LEA 01	CORE	Description of approach to engagement	<b>★★★</b> (899)	★★☆	0	
	LEA 03	CORE	Process for identifying and prioritising engagement activities	★★★ (899)	***	_	
COLLABORATIVE	LEA 04	CORE	Objectives for engagement activities	★★☆ (899)	***	_	
PROCESSES	LEA 05	CORE	Monitor/review engagement outcomes	★★☆ (899)	***	_	
	LEA 06	CORE	Escalation strategy	★★★ (899)	***	_	
GENERAL PROCESSES	LEA 07	ADDITIONAL	Share insights from engagements with internal/external managers	★★☆ (899)	***	_	
	LEA 09a	CORE	Number of companies engaged with, intensity	<b>★★★</b> (899)	***	_	
OUTPUTS AND OUTCOMES	LEA 09b	ADDITIONAL	of engagement and effort	★☆☆ (899)	***	_	
	LEA 10	ADDITIONAL	Engagement methods	★★☆ (899)	***	_	
COMMUNICATION	SG 19a	CORE	Disclosure of approach to public	★★★ (899)	***	—	
	SG 19b	CORE	Disclosure of approach to clients/beneficiaries	★★☆ (899)	***	_	

Your Direct - Listed Equity - Collaborative Engagements module score has been compared to relevant peer groups in a series of distribution charts below.

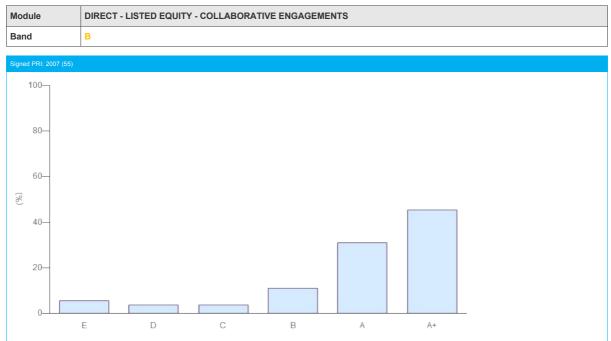


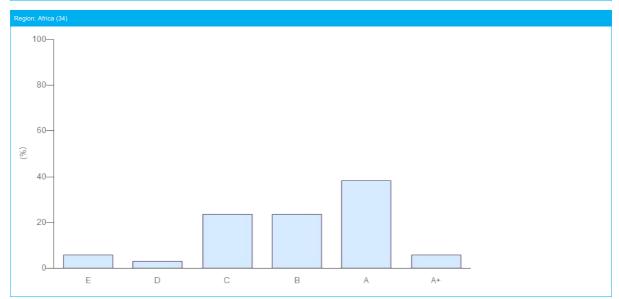
Your Direct - Listed Equity - Collaborative Engagements module score has been compared to relevant peer groups in a series of distribution charts below.





Your Direct - Listed Equity - Collaborative Engagements module score has been compared to relevant peer groups in a series of distribution charts below.





# **Direct - LISTED EQUITY - (PROXY) VOTING**

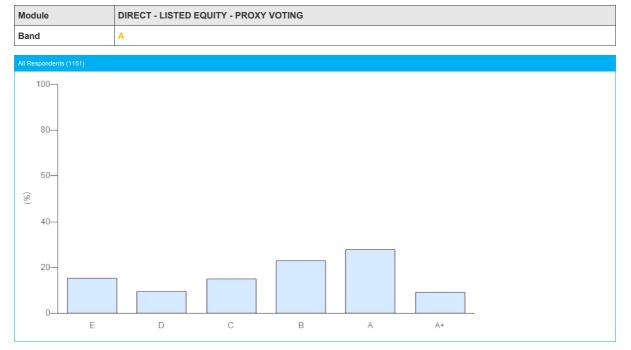
#### Indicator Scorecard

This section looks at how your organisation conducts (proxy) voting and shareholder resolutions decided upon by you or on your behalf by service providers in relation to your listed equity holdings. If your organisation did not respond to an applicable indicator, you will see a score of  $\frac{1}{2}$ 

Sect	ion	(PROXY) VOTING & SHAREHOLDER RESOLUTIONS
Total Scor		18 ★ (out of a maximum 21 ★ from 7 indicators). Your score includes 2 additionally assessed indicators and the additional part of your score was calculated from LEA 18.
Band	d	Α

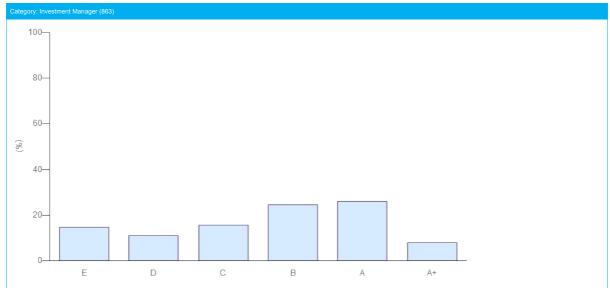
SECTION	INDICATOR				YOUR	CHANGE AGAINST	
SECTION	NUMBER	TYPE	ТОРІС	PEER SCORE (# PEERS)	SCORE	LAST YEAR	
	LEA 01	CORE	Voting policy	<b>★★★</b> (1148)	***	Ø	
PROCESS	LEA 13	ADDITIONAL	Reviewing service provider voting recommendations	★☆☆ (121)	N/A	_	
FROCESS	LEA 14	ADDITIONAL	Securities lending programme	<b>☆☆☆</b> (523)	N/A	_	
	LEA 16	CORE	Informing companies of the rationale of abstaining/voting against management	★☆☆ (1043)	***	_	
	LEA 17	CORE	Percentage of (proxy) votes cast	<b>★★★</b> (1148)	***	_	
OUTPUTS & OUTCOMES	LEA 18	ADDITIONAL	Voting instructions issued	<b>★★★</b> (1148)	***	_	
	LEA 19	ADDITIONAL	Escalation strategy	☆☆☆ (1148)	***	_	
COMMUNICATION	SG 19a	CORE	Disclosure of approach to public	<b>☆☆☆</b> (1148)	***	_	
	SG 19b	CORE	Disclosure of approach to clients/beneficiaries	★★☆ (1148)	***	_	

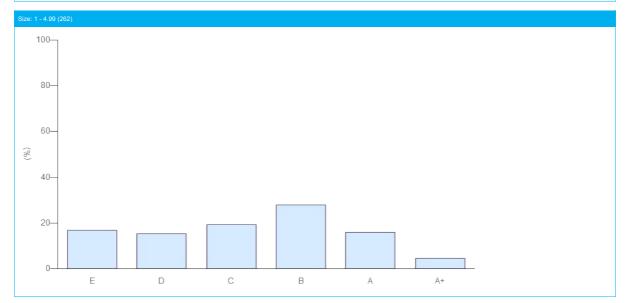
Your Direct - Listed Equity - Proxy voting module score has been compared to relevant peer groups in a series of distribution charts below.



Your Direct - Listed Equity - Proxy voting module score has been compared to relevant peer groups in a series of distribution charts below.

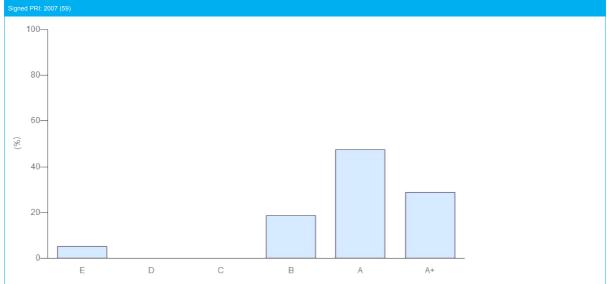
Module	DIRECT - LISTED EQUITY - PROXY VOTING
Band	Α

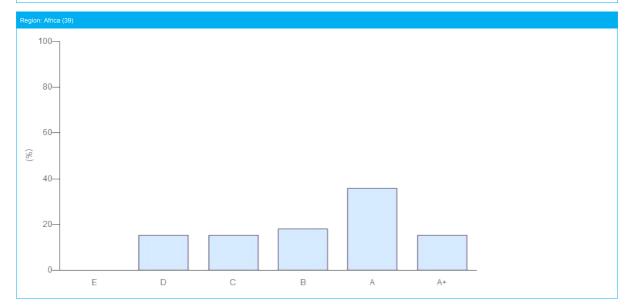




Your Direct - Listed Equity - Proxy voting module score has been compared to relevant peer groups in a series of distribution charts below.

Module	DIRECT - LISTED EQUITY - PROXY VOTING			
Band	Α			





# **DIRECT - INFRASTRUCTURE**

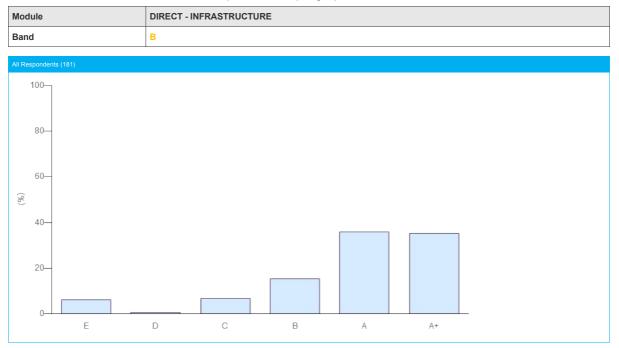
#### Indicator Scorecard

This module looks at responsible investment implementation during fundraising, pre-investment processes (i.e. initial screening, due diligence and investment decision-making processes that your organisation has in place for new infrastructure investments) and post-investment processes (i.e. consideration of ESG issues in infrastructure investment monitoring and implementation processes).

Module	INFRASTRUCTURE
Total Score	18 ★ (out of a maximum 30 ★ from 10 indicators). Your score includes 3 additionally assessed indicators and the additional part of your score was calculated from INF 17, INF 16, INF 04.
Band	В

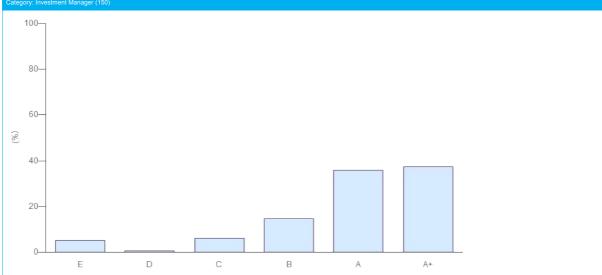
	INDICATOR			MEDIAN	YOUR	CHANGE
SECTION	NUMBER	ТҮРЕ	ТОРІС	PEER SCORE (# PEERS)	SCORE	AGAINST LAST YEAR
OVERVIEW	INF 02	CORE	Responsible investment policy for infrastructure	<b>★★★</b> (181)	***	_
FUNDRAISING OF INFRASTRUCTURE	INF 03	CORE	Fund placement documents and RI	<b>★★★</b> (143)	***	_
FUNDS	INF 04	ADDITIONAL	Formal commitments to RI	<b>★★★</b> (136)	★★☆	_
	INF 07	CORE	ESG issues in investment selection process	<b>★★★</b> (181)	***	—
PRE-INVESTMENT (SELECTION)	INF 08	ADDITIONAL	Types of ESG information considered in investment selection	★★★ (181)	***	_
	INF 09	ADDITIONAL	ESG issues impact in selection process	<b>★★★</b> (172)	***	_
	INF 10a	CORE	ESG issues in selection of third- party operators	<b>★★★</b> (81)	N/A	_
SELECTION, APPOINTMENT AND MONITORING OF THIRD-PARTY OPERATORS	INF 10b	CORE	ESG issues in appointment of third-party operators	<b>★★★</b> (81)	N/A	_
	INF 10c	CORE	ESG issues in monitoring of third-party operators	<b>★★★</b> (81)	N/A	_
	INF 12	CORE	Proportion of assets with ESG performance targets	<b>★★★</b> (181)	★★☆	_
	INF 13	ADDITIONAL	Proportion of portfolio companies with ESG/sustainability policy	<b>★★★</b> (181)	***	_
POST-INVESTMENT (MONITORING AND ACTIVE OWNERSHIP)	INF 15	CORE	Proportion of maintenance projects where ESG issues were considered	<b>★★★</b> (169)	***	_
	INF 16	ADDITIONAL	Proportion of stakeholders that were engaged with on ESG issues	<b>★★★</b> (181)	***	_
	INF 17	ADDITIONAL	ESG issues affected financial/ESG performance	★★☆ (181)	***	_
COMMUNICATION	SG 19a	CORE	Disclosure of approach to public	★☆☆ (181)	***	_
COMMUNICATION	SG 19b	CORE	Disclosure of approach to clients/beneficiaries	<b>★★★</b> (181)	***	_

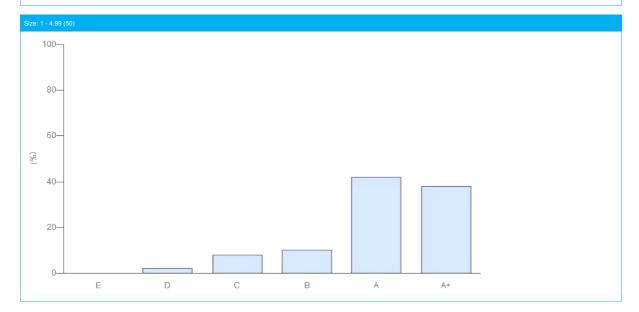
Your Direct - Infrastructure module score has been compared to relevant peer groups in a series of distribution charts below.



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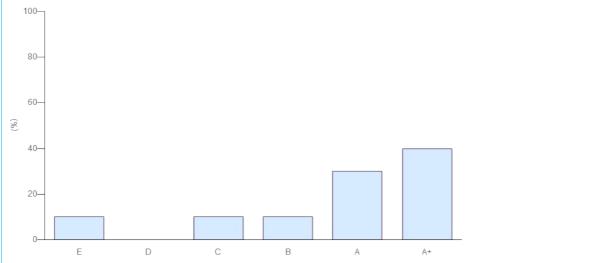
Module	DIRECT - INFRASTRUCTURE				
Band	В				





Your Direct - Infrastructure module score has been compared to relevant peer groups in a series of distribution charts below.

Module	DIRECT - INFRASTRUCTURE
Band	В
Signed PRI: 2007 (10)	





#### Your Company Year-On-Year Performance

#### Average Year-On-Year Trends

