ESG: Introduction and background, investments, lending, regulations and guidelines, analysis and data, stewardship and engagement

Training program SAM

Title / Topic	ESG: Introduction and background, investments, lending, regulations and guidelines, analysis and data, stewardship and engagement
Target audience	Asset managers
Learning content	Over the last few years, global sustainability has gained significant traction, although its concerns are not recent. Already in the last century, there were many public disconformities and manifestations on the adverse effects on society caused by issues like war, human rights violations, industrial pollution, and corruption. Together with climate change, pandemics, and the rapid growth of the world's population, these challenges must be addressed globally. This concerns the entire economy including finance and asset management. It is essentially about taking the environmental, social and governance (ESG) consequences and impacts into account in investment and credit decisions, as a complement to financial factors. In this set of modules, you will understand key trends in ESG philosophy and ESG investing, its data and analysis, as well as stewardship and investor engagement.
Learning location / Testing location	Fintelligence Online Lernplattform: https://vpbank-eam.fintelligence-net.com/
Learning time	1. ESG – Introduction and background (50 min) 2. ESG investments (50 min) 3. ESG and lending (50 min) 4. ESG regulations and guidelines (50 min) 5. ESG analysis and data (50 min) 6. ESG stewardship and engagement (50 min) 7. Learning control (70 min)
Period	2 Months

Learning goals	**ESG – Introduction and background** After studying this module, • you understand the ESG philosophy and its three key topics; • you can explain drivers and motivations of ESG investing as well as different ESG investing strategies; • you are aware of the challenges of ESG investing and what can be done to address them; • you understand the size and growth of the ESG investment market. **ESG Investments** The objectives of this module are • to get an overview of how ESG is integrated in the investment process; • to understand how the different ESG investment approaches are applied in practice; • to understand the major motivations of clients with regard to ESG investing; • to get an overview of the special features of ESG investment in different asset classes. **ESG and lending** The learning objectives of this module are • to give an overview of the goals and approaches for considering ESG factors in the financing and lending business; • to know the current relevance of these approaches in practice; • to know the importance of ESG risks in corporate financing and approaches for assessing and controlling them; • to know about approaches to promote a sustainable economy; • to know the importance of ESG factors in mortgage financing and approaches to promote the construction and renovation of sustainable real estate. **ESG regulations and guidelines** After studying this module, • you will get an overview of the international ESG regulations; • you will know how financial products are classified within an EU ESG framework; • you will understand how clients' objectives are taken into account in the advisory process and which regulatory requirements need to be complied with;

- you will learn about the ESG guidelines of SwissBanking and the FINMA guidance on greenwashing.

ESG analysis and data
After studying this module,
- you understand the key role of ESG assessments in the ESG investment process and get an overview of the content of ESG assessments, focusing on two important approaches, Best-in-Class and ESG Integration;
- you can provide examples for ESG indicators and ratings used in ESG assessments;
- you can give an overview of the sources and quality of the data used in ESG assessments;
- you can explain differences between ESG investment products by understanding the divergences of ESG assessments in practice.

ESG Stewardship and Engagement
After studying this module,
- you understand the concepts of stewardship, engagement and voting;
- you are aware of the purposes and goals of engagement;
- you can explain how engagement processes are managed in different asset classes;
- you have got an overview of stewardship codes.

Method	Self-study via interactive e-learning module with discoverable content and videos plus final learning control via online test.
Learning control	Your online self-control test consists of 15 to 20 multiple choice questions. You will pass the test if you reach at least 70% of the maximum score.