

# Free PDF 2026 CFA Institute Sustainable-Investing: Sustainable Investing Certificate (CFA-SIC) Exam Fantastic Reliable Exam Sample



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## CFA Institute Sustainable-Investing Exam Syllabus Topics:

| Topic   | Details  |
|---------|--|
| Topic 1 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Introduction to ESG Investing: This section of the exam measures skills of Investment Analysts and Portfolio Managers and covers the foundational concepts of environmental, social, and governance (ESG) investing. It focuses on defining ESG investment, different responsible investment approaches, sustainability concepts, benefits and challenges of ESG integration, and key global initiatives in ESG.</li></ul> |
| Topic 2 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Engagement and Stewardship: Designed for Asset Managers and Stewardship Professionals, this domain covers investor engagement strategies and stewardship principles. It highlights the purpose, importance, key principles, and practical application of engagement tactics within responsible investing frameworks.</li></ul>   |
| Topic 3 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Social Factors: Focused on Social Analysts and Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Professionals, this domain reviews social factors impacting investments. It includes systemic relationships and material impacts related to labor practices, diversity, equity, inclusion, and social opportunities at multiple levels.</li></ul>   |
| Topic 4 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>ESG Analysis, Valuation, and Integration: This domain measures the capabilities of Portfolio Managers and Equity Analysts to integrate ESG factors into investment decision-making. It addresses challenges of integration, the impact on industry and company performance, security valuation, and approaches to ESG data analysis across asset classes.</li></ul>  |
| Topic 5 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The ESG Market: This domain targets Financial Analysts and Institutional Investors, examining the size, scope, relevance, and key drivers of the ESG market. It also discusses risks and opportunities within the ESG investment landscape, helping candidates understand market dynamics and trends.</li></ul>  |
| Topic 6 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Integrated Portfolio Construction and Management: Targeting Portfolio Managers and Investment Strategists, this section discusses ESG integration into portfolio construction. It covers ESG screening approaches, benchmarking, the effect on risk-return profiles, and managing ESG portfolios across various asset classes.</li></ul>   |

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| Topic 7 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Governance: This section assesses skills of Governance Analysts and Compliance Officers concerning governance structures. It covers key characteristics and models of governance, material impacts, diversity, equity, and inclusion considerations, and shareholder rights.</li></ul> |
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### **CFA Institute Sustainable Investing Certificate (CFA-SIC) Exam Sample Questions (Q245-Q250):**

#### **NEW QUESTION # 245**

Which of the following asset classes has the lowest degree of ESG integration?

- A. Investment grade corporate debt
- B. Emerging markets corporate debt
- C. Sovereign debt

#### **Answer: C**

Explanation:

Sovereign debt has the lowest degree of ESG integration compared to investment-grade corporate debt and emerging markets corporate debt. This is due to several factors:

Limited ESG Data: There is generally less ESG data available for sovereign issuers compared to corporate issuers. Sovereign ESG assessments rely on country-level indicators, which may not be as detailed or specific as corporate ESG disclosures.

Complexity of ESG Factors: The ESG factors affecting sovereign debt are more complex and broader in scope, encompassing issues like political stability, governance, human rights, and environmental policies.

This complexity makes it challenging to integrate ESG factors effectively.

Market Practices: The integration of ESG factors into sovereign debt investment processes is less advanced compared to corporate debt markets. While there is growing interest, the methodologies and frameworks for assessing sovereign ESG risks are still developing.

References:

MSCI ESG Ratings Methodology (2022) - Discusses the challenges and current state of ESG integration across different asset classes, highlighting the relative lag in sovereign debt.

ESG-Ratings-Methodology-Exec-Summary (2022) - Provides insights into the varying degrees of ESG integration in different asset classes and the factors contributing to these differences.

#### **NEW QUESTION # 246**

Which of the following most likely indicates strong corporate governance? A company board with:

- A. gender diversity.
- B. a chair who also serves as the company's CEO.
- C. directors that have similar professional backgrounds.

#### **Answer: A**

Explanation:

Gender diversity on a company's board is often seen as an indicator of strong corporate governance, as it promotes diverse perspectives and better decision-making. (ESGTextBook[PallasCatFin], Chapter 5, Page 236)

### NEW QUESTION # 247

Which of the following statements regarding optimization of portfolios for ESG criteria is most accurate?

- A. Optimization is limited to carbon data because of its absolute nature and more standardized reporting metrics
- B. ESG optimization via constraints is similar to exclusionary screening because it also applies a fixed decision on specific securities
- C. ESG integration may enhance the risk and return profile of portfolio optimization

**Answer: C**

Explanation:

ESG integration may enhance the risk and return profile of portfolio optimization. Here's a detailed explanation:

**ESG Integration:** ESG integration involves systematically incorporating environmental, social, and governance factors into investment analysis and decision-making processes. This approach aims to identify material ESG risks and opportunities that could affect the financial performance of investments.

**Risk and Return Profile:** By integrating ESG factors, investors can gain a more comprehensive understanding of potential risks and opportunities. This can lead to better-informed investment decisions, potentially improving the risk-adjusted returns of the portfolio.

**Benefits of ESG Integration:**

**Risk Mitigation:** Incorporating ESG factors helps investors identify and mitigate risks that traditional financial analysis might overlook. For example, companies with poor environmental practices may face regulatory fines, legal liabilities, and reputational damage.

**Opportunities for Outperformance:** Companies that manage ESG factors well are often more innovative, efficient, and better positioned to capitalize on emerging market trends. This can lead to superior financial performance and investment returns.

**Enhanced Portfolio Resilience:** ESG integration can enhance the overall resilience of a portfolio by reducing exposure to companies with high ESG risks and increasing exposure to those with strong ESG practices.

**CFA ESG Investing References:**

The CFA Institute emphasizes that ESG integration can enhance the risk and return profile of portfolios by providing a more holistic view of investment risks and opportunities (CFA Institute, 2020).

Studies have shown that portfolios incorporating ESG factors can achieve comparable or superior financial performance compared to traditional portfolios, highlighting the potential benefits of ESG integration.

By incorporating ESG factors into portfolio optimization, investors can potentially achieve better risk- adjusted returns and contribute to more sustainable investment outcomes.

### NEW QUESTION # 248

Which of the following statements about engagement escalation is most accurate?

- A. Litigation is an escalation tool that should be used frequently.
- B. Disinvestment is not considered a form of escalation.
- C. Collective engagement is often the most powerful form of escalation.

**Answer: C**

Explanation:

Collective engagement, where multiple investors collaborate to push for changes in a company, is typically the most powerful form of escalation as it brings greater pressure on the company to act. (ESGTextBook

[PallasCatFin], Chapter 6, Page 285)

### NEW QUESTION # 249

When integrating ESG analysis into the investment process, deriving correlations on how ESG factors might impact financial performance over time is an example of a:

- A. passive approach.
- B. thematic approach.
- C. systematic approach.

**Answer: C**

Explanation:

When integrating ESG analysis into the investment process, deriving correlations on how ESG factors might impact financial

performance over time is an example of a systematic approach. This approach involves incorporating ESG data into financial models and investment strategies in a structured and consistent manner.

It enables investors to systematically assess the impact of ESG factors on financial performance and make informed investment decisions based on these insights.

## NEW QUESTION # 250

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