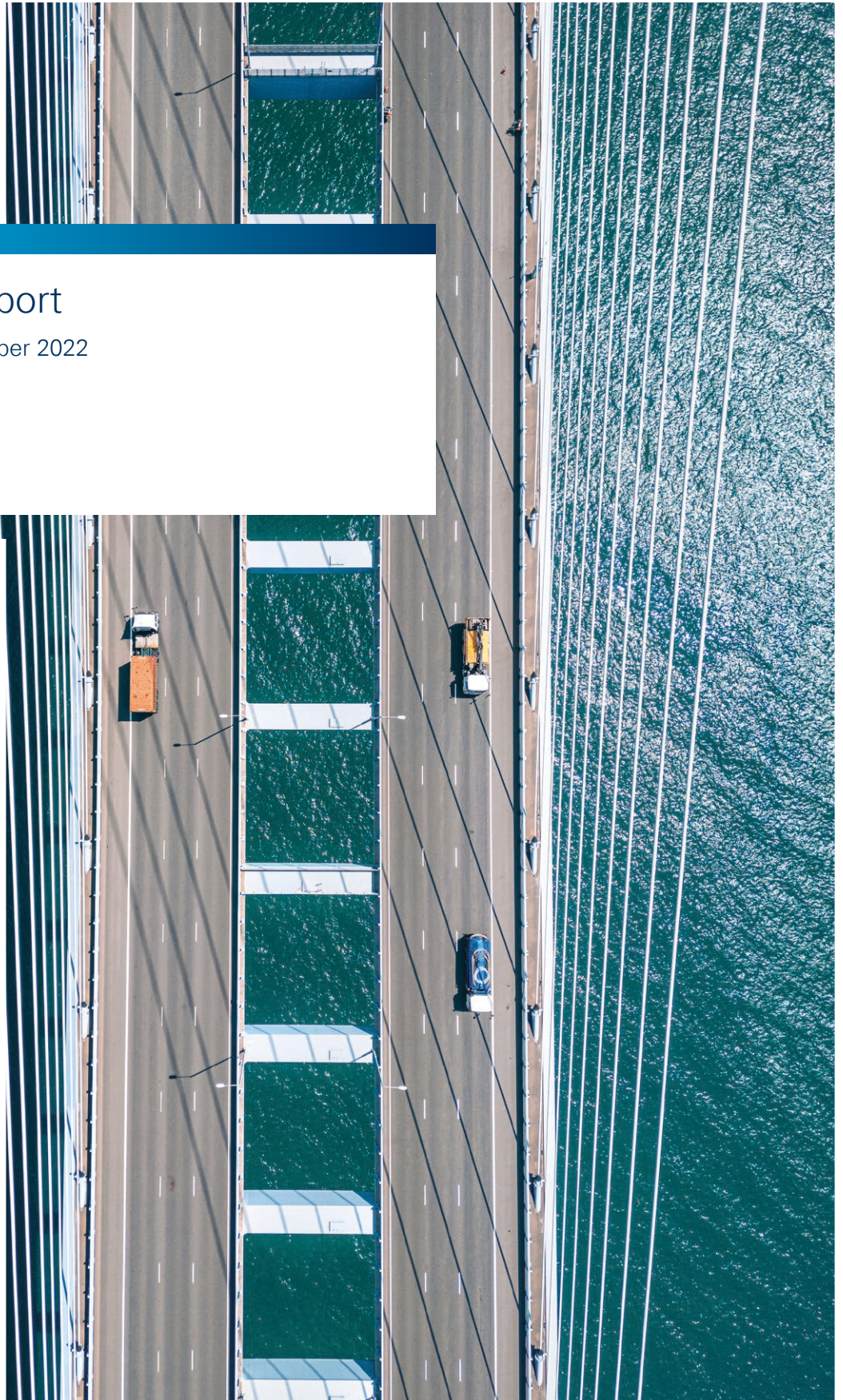


Ashmore

Engagement Report

For year ending 31 December 2022



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Source: Ashmore for all charts, graphs, and figures unless stated otherwise.

Introduction and executive summary

Ashmore believes that through strong relationships with sovereign and corporate issuers, of debt and equity, the Firm can positively influence outcomes related to ESG risks and an issuer's management of sustainability concerns. Ashmore sees such active ownership to be an integral part of its fiduciary duty as well as an important tool to enhance and preserve the value of its clients' investments.

Building on the Firm's previous engagement activities, the Ashmore Engagement Strategy continues to be refined to reflect prevailing industry guidance. The Strategy consists of four areas – outlined in this report:

- direct engagement with issuers;
- collaborative and collective engagement efforts;
- escalation strategies; and
- exercising voting rights and responsibilities.

The main body of Ashmore's engagement efforts is in the form of engagements between Ashmore's portfolio managers and issuers. In 2022 Ashmore engaged with 169 issuers across 193 engagement efforts. Of these, 46% had a pre-determined objective. The main topic for engagement was 'strategy, financial, and reporting' followed by 'decarbonisation'.

Another important component of the Engagement Strategy is engagement conducted as part of collaborative efforts with other investors or collective efforts typically arranged by industry initiatives. In 2022 Ashmore increased its participation in the Climate Action 100+ initiative by joining the engagement groups for two further target companies.

In cases where Ashmore determines that its engagement efforts are not yielding the desired results the Firm might choose to escalate the engagement. This is considered on an exception basis and can take several forms e.g. a downgrade of the Ashmore ESG score, a vote against the re-election of Directors, or divestment. Selling a position is considered a last resort as by divesting, Ashmore would no longer have the opportunity to directly influence the issuer.

Ashmore considers exercising voting rights and responsibilities to be an important aspect of its role as a responsible investor. Consequently, Ashmore aims to vote on all votable ballots and voted in 2022 on 95% of the votes presented. Ashmore has an active approach to voting with all votes being instructed by portfolio managers. As a result, in 2022 10% of votes were against management while 4% of votes were against independent advice.

Direct engagement

Ashmore seeks to engage with issuers, both sovereign and corporate, carried out as part of an ongoing dialogue with government officials and company management as well as other key stakeholders.

As a longstanding investor in Emerging Markets economies Ashmore recognises the importance of ongoing issuer engagement in its investment strategy. In markets where, historically, corporate disclosure has been less transparent than in developed markets, effective stewardship to promote high standards of corporate governance has been proven to add value and to the success of companies. As an active manager, Ashmore believes that stewardship helps to safeguard and enhance the risk-adjusted returns of clients' investments. Furthermore, good corporate governance supports the alignment of the interests of company management with those of its investors. Consequently, through effective stewardship, Ashmore aims to deliver long-term performance for clients. Furthermore, Ashmore believes engagement with issuers can impact investment outcomes as it is an important avenue both for managing ESG risks and as a lever to have an impact on sustainability matters.

The Engagement Strategy is consistent across Ashmore's offices and asset classes as far as practically possible to ensure expectations are consistent and best-in-class practices are shared. Nonetheless, it is acknowledged that there be certain differences to reflect local requirements and norms. Primarily, these disclosures cover sovereign debt, corporate debt, and equities, which accounts for the bulk of the Group's AUM.

Defining 'engagement'

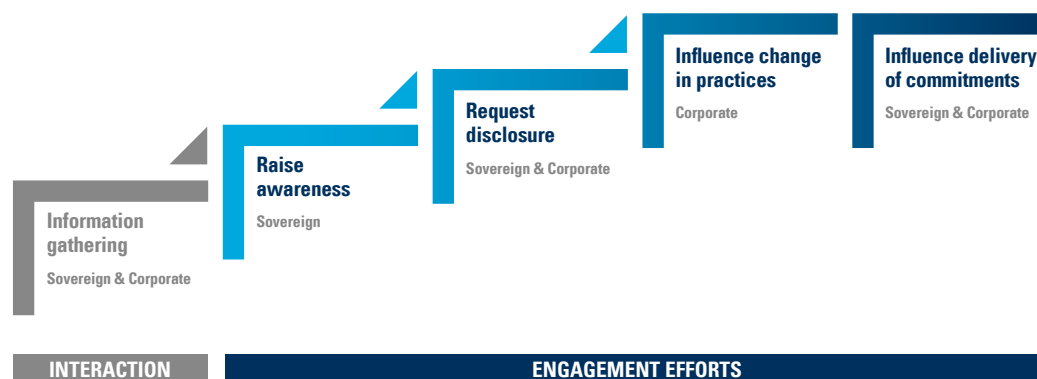
Ashmore has adopted the UK Investment Consultants Sustainability Working Group (ICSWG)'s definition of an 'engagement' as:

"a purposeful, targeted communication with an entity on particular matters of concern with the goal of encouraging change at an individual issuer and/or the goal of addressing a market-wide or system risk"

The majority of Ashmore's engagement efforts are conducted through 'bilateral efforts' led by the relevant Portfolio Manager and typically triggered by the identification of unintended ESG risks or sustainable issues, overseen by the ESG Committee. In addition, 'thematic engagement efforts' are also conducted triggered by Ashmore's involvement in initiatives such as Climate Action 100+ or the Net Zero Asset Management Initiative (NZAMI).

Engagement objectives

Over the past year Ashmore has refined its engagement objectives to better accommodate corporate and sovereign engagement approaches. For example, when engaging with corporate issuers it might be appropriate to influence changes in practices, for sovereign issuers it is often more natural to frame engagement efforts around the delivery of existing commitments. Efforts to gather information on ESG and sustainability issues continues to be tracked as interactions* but are not considered 'an engagement'.



Methods of engagement

Each engagement effort consists of one or more activities designed to achieve the engagement objective. Methods used for such engagement activities with issuers include:



• Conferences	• Call / zoom	• Formal letters
• Email correspondence	• Questionnaires	• In-person meetings

During 2022, 73 in-person meetings took place. Of the remaining engagement activities, 33% were done over calls and zoom, 22% as part of email correspondence, and the remaining during virtual conferences or by letter or questionnaire. Ashmore engages with the following types of groups:



• Board-level	• ESG / Sustainability team	• Investor relations
• Executive-level	• Senior management	• Government representative

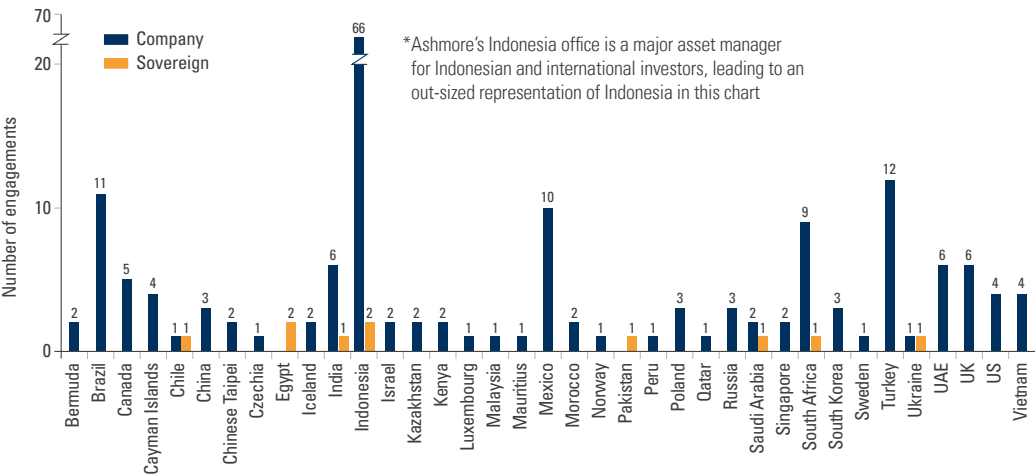
If Ashmore finds that these methods are not effective, the Firm may escalate the engagement efforts as outlined later in this Report.

*Reporting in 2022, 'raising awareness' is recorded as an interaction rather than an engagement due to the previous objective framework.

Direct engagement during 2022

In 2022 Ashmore engaged with corporates and sovereign issuers in 37 different countries as shown in Figure 1. The most frequent were Indonesia, Turkey, Brazil, Mexico, and South Africa.

Figure 1



169

Number of issuers with which Ashmore engaged.

193

Number of engagement efforts undertaken by Ashmore.

Figure 2 shows how Ashmore's engagement efforts are distributed across corporate debt, equities, and sovereign debt.

In 2022 Ashmore engaged with 169 issuers across 193 engagement efforts. Of these, 46% were considered engagements i.e. they had pre-determined objectives, while the remaining 54% represented interactions with issuers. Combined, these covered a range of different topics with the primary being 'strategy, financial, and reporting' followed by 'decarbonisation'.

'Generic ESG', in Figure 3 below, relates to ESG disclosure and reporting. With differing standards in Emerging Markets compared to developed markets, this has continued to be an important area of engagement during 2022.

Key engagement issues

Ashmore focuses its engagement efforts on ESG risks and sustainability issues that are of particular relevance to where it invests i.e. the Emerging Markets. The most prominent of these is climate change, including the risk to individual issuers as the low-carbon transition materialises and the physical impact of climate change worsens. Furthermore, Ashmore views climate change as a multiplier issue, meaning that action on climate change (SDG 13) will also affect many of the other Sustainable Development Goals.

The focus on climate change further influences social issues such as the rights to a Just Transition and allowing for Climate Equity. Consequently, climate change has influenced the Portfolio Managers in much of their bilateral engagement work.

Figure 2

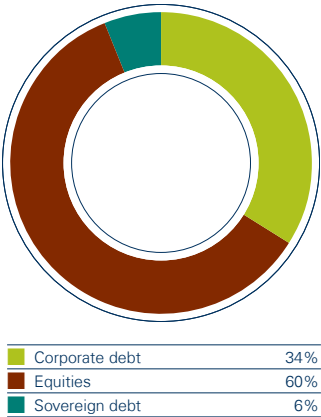
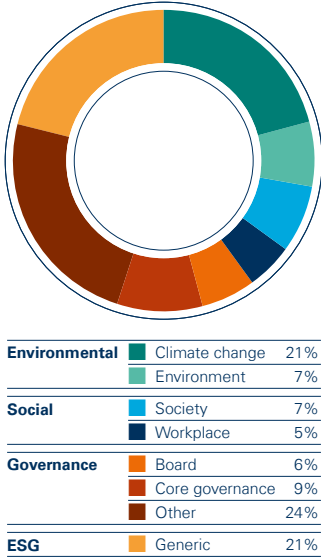
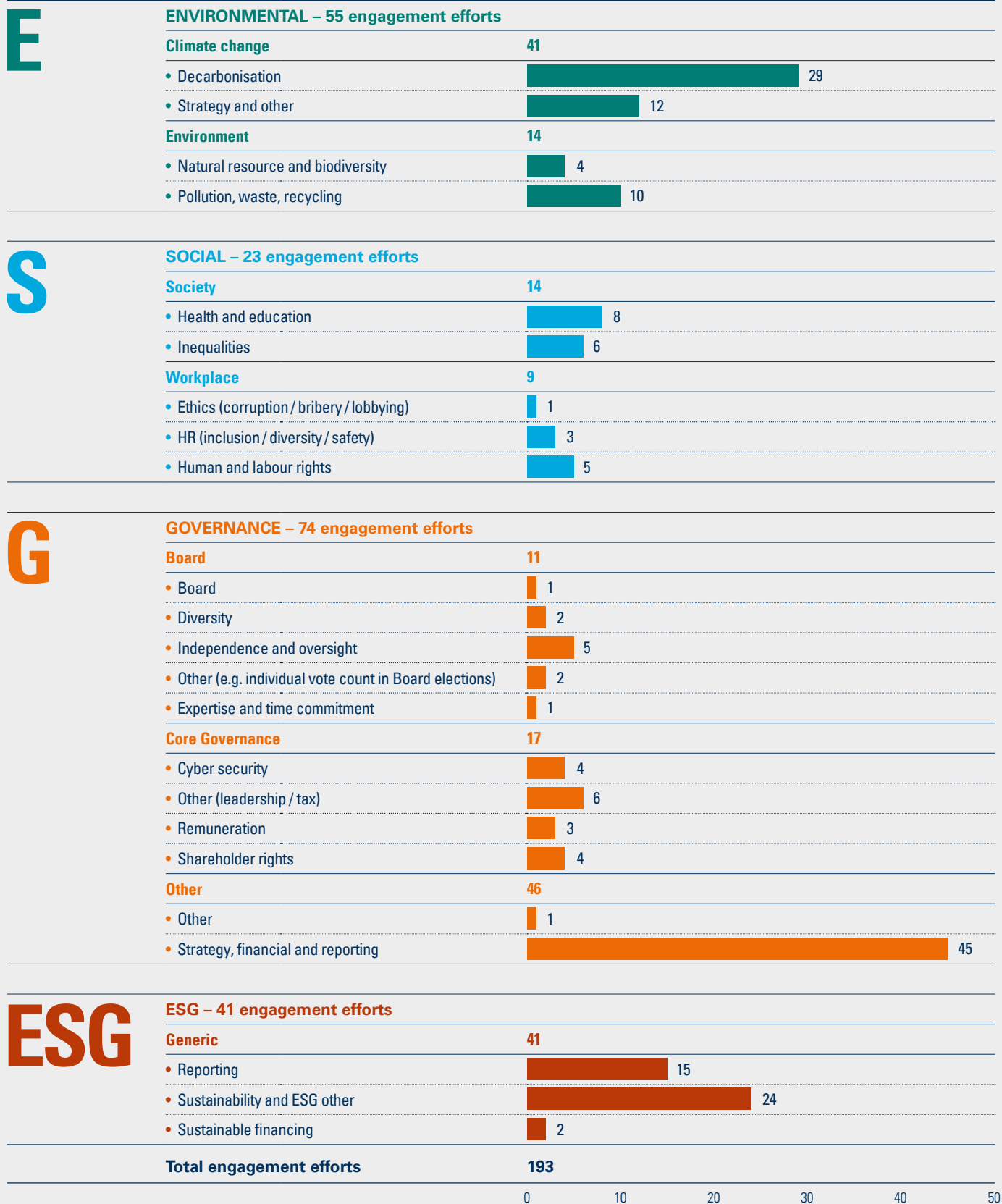


Figure 3: Engagement themes



Engagement themes



Examples

Bilateral engagement – Equities

What was the key issue/trigger for the engagement?	Ashmore's equity team invests in a dominant banking and financial services provider in Kenya and east Africa. Our assessment of the company's employee compensation framework, conducted via our proprietary ESG scorecard, was highlighted to be underdeveloped. This in turn risked suboptimal alignment of company employees and the company's shareholders, as well as weak employee retention potentially eroding the company's expertise.
What became of the engagement objective?	The equity team sought to leverage its experience investing across developing countries to propose to the company a 'best in class' long-term investment scheme and a key performance indicators framework. The goal was to see the company improve employee alignment with minority shareholders and also to sustain the company's growth rate by ensuring incentivised employees. The team also hoped that by setting an example to other, especially regional companies, it could highlight the importance and reward of implementing strong employee compensation structures.
What activities did Ashmore do over the year?	The team examined the best examples of employee share option and long-term investment schemes within its universe of developing countries. The team also engaged with other investors across Ashmore seeking more examples of 'best in class' schemes in more advanced countries. A detailed list of the key criteria for compensation and reward schemes was ultimately shared with the bank's management team, together with supporting rationales. This included, for example, highlighting that by issuing shares to employees at market price this would align with prices paid by investors.
What was the outcome?	Our motivation was supported by the company's willingness to be guided towards implementing a more structured and equitable employee share owning scheme. Consequently, this has become an ongoing source of dialogue; for example, the equity team have since met with the company CEO, alongside other senior members of the management team, who thanked Ashmore for its engagement. They also fed back that they have incorporated an employee share owning scheme for senior, as well as lower level employees, reflecting the recommendations. They now plan to table the framework at the next Extraordinary General Meeting.
What were the implications for Ashmore's investment?	Ashmore is encouraged by the willingness and aspiration of the company, which have underpinned the constructive view of the company, and serves to highlight the value of proactive engagement with companies.

Bilateral engagement – Sovereign Debt

What was the key issue/trigger for the engagement?	The devastating floods in Pakistan in 2022 put sustainability on the agenda as both an investment risk and a relevant sustainability issue. The floods affected 33 million people, with more than 1,700 lives lost and over two million houses damaged or destroyed. Unsafe water, poor sanitation, and malnutrition are now concerns.
What became of the engagement objective?	An engagement was initiated with the government of Pakistan to raise the government's awareness regarding ESG investments and open an ongoing positive dialogue with the government on sustainability issues. In particular, the effort concentrated around raising awareness of the value of publishing an annual sustainability report and provide information to investors on ESG initiatives.
What activities did Ashmore do over the year?	The engagement activity was conducted during an in person one-on-one meeting, led by Ashmore with the central bank deputy governor and MOF officials. This meeting provided an opportunity to raise the benefits of improved sustainability disclosure and communication.
What was the outcome?	This engagement effort is still ongoing. Progress on developing and communicating on the country's ESG efforts remain slow, as Pakistan has been faced with mounting political and economic challenges. However, the government has been directing enormous attention to climate risk adaptation in particular following the floods. In January, international donors committed over USD 9 billion to help Pakistan recover from the floods, paving the way for a new model on raising funds to fight climate disasters in poorer countries.
What were the implications for Ashmore's investment?	The engagement itself has not led to specific portfolio allocation decisions, but the country's response to the floods, and the support that the country has received for climate adaptation has been an integral part of the investment decision to remain invested since last year.

Bilateral engagement – Corporate Debt

What was the key issue/trigger for the engagement?	A leading provider of car parts to the global automotive industry announced medium-term GHG reduction targets for 2026 and 2031 but did not provide further guidance beyond 2031, which in Ashmore's view is lagging industry best practice.
What became of the engagement objective?	The objective for the engagement was to highlight to the management of the importance of also setting ambitious long-term GHG emission reduction targets and the value to both investors and issuers of this being done in a clear and transparent way.
What activities did Ashmore do over the year?	Ashmore reached out to the management in Q3 2022 asking if they could provide long-term targets for GHG reduction and especially if they could confirm if they have a net zero long-term target.
What was the outcome?	The management came back stating that they do have the ambition to reach net zero by 2050 and they are currently working on a business plan to get there. Unfortunately, they were not ready to formally commit (and publicly announce) such a target at this point.
What were the implications for Ashmore's investment?	Ashmore remains invested due to an overall otherwise positive view of the company, and will continue to engage with the company on this topic with the hope that in 2023 they might be able to make a formal commitment towards a 2050 net zero target.

Thematic engagement

What was the key issue/trigger for the engagement?	Building on the thematic engagement focus of 2021, on the need for companies to consider their decarbonisation strategy and disclosure, the focus for 2022 remained on decarbonisation efforts however with a stronger focus on target setting.
What became of the engagement objective?	The setting of corporate 'net zero targets' has become a frequent occurrence over the past few years. Efforts were made to encourage such target setting and to highlight the need for targets to be science-based, clear, comprehensive, and transparent.
What activities did Ashmore do over the year?	Ashmore raised the topic of decarbonisation and climate strategy 41 times with 39 issuers. Of these engagements, eight had a specific objective to increase disclosure, with a further 15 requesting change such as setting an appropriate decarbonisation target. These efforts were particularly prevalent with Ashmore's Corporate Debt issuers.
What was the outcome?	Climate change continues to be an important area for Ashmore to engage with the companies and markets of which it invests. Improved GHG emission disclosure aids the tracking of net zero investment products, while target setting and climate transition plans are increasingly becoming best practice. With concepts such as a Just Transition and Fair Share particularly prominent in Emerging Markets, this is an area Ashmore will continue to focus on.
What were the implications for Ashmore's investment?	These engagement efforts contributed to the inclusion of 'climate targets' to be a standard item in the Ashmore ESG Scorecard meaning it will, going forward, be formally assessed for all Ashmore's investments. Given the long-term, complex nature of climate change this theme is expected to be a multi-year thematic engagement effort.

Collaborative and collective engagement

Ashmore believes that there is value in collaborating with investor and industry groups when engaging with issuers. Furthermore, the Firm finds that by engaging collaboratively and joining collective initiatives, it can reach a wider number of issuers and that such avenues are particularly suitable for policy engagement.

Ashmore has adopted the ICSWG's definition of collaborative and collective engagement as:


"a form of engagement where investors work with each other in some way to achieve a common engagement goal."


Ashmore is willing to engage and act collectively with other investors, where appropriate and in the interests of clients, and permitted by regulations. In addition to collaborating with other investors, Ashmore will look to join collective engagement opportunities with relevant initiatives who bring together investees to engage and discuss focused issues.

Ashmore has engaged with the Climate Action 100+ initiative as part of three collaborative engagement efforts. The nature of such initiatives means that it is not always possible to measure the contribution to the success of the initiatives themselves but below are some reflections of the outcome of the Firm's involvement.

Examples of collaborative and collective engagement efforts over 2022

	About	Climate Action 100+ (CA100+) is a global investor initiative to address climate change, focused on the world's top GHG emitters. Ashmore became a signatory to CA100+ in 2019.
	Type	Collaborative engagement
	Ashmore's involvement in 2022	<p>Since joining in 2019, Ashmore has been engaging with one Latin American state-owned energy provider as part of a working group led by a fellow investor. In 2022, Ashmore joined a further two working groups: one focused on a Middle Eastern state-owned energy provider, and one focused on a Latin American paper company.</p> <p>Over 2022, Ashmore participated in several CA100+ dialogues with these issuers. With exposure to these issuers across sovereign debt, corporate debt, and equity strategies, Ashmore representatives from both fixed income and equity teams participated in these engagement efforts.</p>
	Outcome	<p>These dialogues have been useful to gain a better understanding of how the issuers approach climate action and their decarbonisation efforts.</p> <p>Ashmore will continue to engage with these issues over 2023.</p>

	About	The Investor Agenda is a group of ESG-focused investor initiatives, including the UN PRI of which Ashmore is a signatory.
	Type	Collective engagement
	Ashmore's involvement in 2022	Following on from the 2021 letter, Ashmore again supported the call for governments to radically raise their climate ambition ahead of and beyond the upcoming COP. Ashmore signed the 2022 Global Investor Statement to Governments on the Climate Crisis letter, sent in advance of COP27 in Egypt.
	Outcome	Ashmore believes that it is important to highlight the urgent need for action, and the significant need for clear and meaningful climate policies as these would aid investor response to the challenge. There is still a need to increase policy pressure and Ashmore looks forward to supporting future such efforts by The Investor Agenda.

	About	The Net Zero Asset Managers Initiative (NZAMI) is an initiative for asset managers committed to support investing aligned with net zero GHG emissions by 2050 or sooner. Ashmore became a signatory to NZAMI in July 2021.
	Type	Collective engagement
	Ashmore's involvement in 2022	Ashmore responded to the consultation on the Net Zero Asset Owner Alliance (NZAOA) Target-Setting Protocol version 3. In particular the feedback focused on supporting the use of the PCAF Standard and the Assessing Sovereign Climate-related Opportunities and Risk (ASCOR) for assessment of sovereign issuers. As an Emerging Markets investor, Ashmore is conscious of the particular challenge of many developing countries in adapting to a changing climate and transitioning to a low-carbon economy while also growing their economy. Consequently, Ashmore stressed these topics in the consultations.
	Outcome	The third version of the Protocol has been published and both PCAF and ASCOR remained in the final report.

Escalation

Ashmore prefers to conduct its engagement efforts as part of confidential and constructive dialogue with issuers but accepts that where this is not yielding the desired results there might be a need to take a different approach. This could be where specific concerns are repeatedly raised with management without signs of these being taken seriously, where no clear action materialises, or it could be where ethical concerns warrant the escalation of activities. Any escalation activities conducted are typically dependent on the relationship Ashmore has with the issuer and the implication of the issue on the investment strategy.

The aim of any escalation tends to be achieving the original engagement objective although through stronger means. In certain situations Ashmore accepts that there may need to be a degree of compromise. Whilst Ashmore's intention is not to 'name and shame' issuers, where appropriate, the Firm may make its position public should it consider this to be the appropriate action to achieve the objective.

Escalation activities

Ashmore considers escalation activities on an exception basis. Whether an engagement activity is considered 'an escalation' is dependent on the situation and context.

Ashmore looks to maintain good relations with issuers in its belief that constructive dialogue is more likely to yield the intended results, not to mention the resource-intensive nature of certain escalation activities. Ashmore expects investees to respond to requests in a timely manner. Where they fail to respond or to appropriately engage in dialogue on the issues raised, the investment team may review its investment decision in consideration of the materiality of the issue and its impact on the long-term value of the investment.

Portfolio Managers have several escalation options at their disposal as listed below:

- Write formal letter to company
- Request meetings with Board or other independent directors
- Collaborative engagement
- Downgrade Ashmore's ESG score
- Engage with regulators and policymakers
- Vote against Directors
- Vote against Management proposals at shareholder meetings
- Make concerns public
- File or support shareholder resolutions
- Divestment

In 2022, there were limited cases where engagement efforts were escalated. There was one case where Ashmore chose to divest from an issuer due lack of receptiveness to engagement efforts. This is outlined in more detail on the next page, where poor governance and unwillingness to change led Ashmore to exit the stock.

For sovereign and corporate debt, there were no need to escalate the engagements during the period.

Approach

Ashmore's approach to engagement aims for consistency across its local offices. However, Ashmore is conscious of how stewardship expectations vary across the markets it invests in and attempts to strike a balance between being clear about expectations of issuers while also accommodating the different stages of stewardship across markets. For example, while throughout 2022 there has been increased guidance and public expectations when it comes to issuer engagement, including escalation, in the UK and northern Europe, this is not the case in many developed and Emerging Markets.

Example of escalation – Equity

What was the key issue/trigger for the engagement?	Ashmore's equity team engaged with a leading Asian IT service provider given several specific concerns around governance. These comprised: weak board independence with only two 'truly' independent directors out of a total of eight; poor financial disclosure given regular changes in the company's reporting structure; and concerns over related party transactions given the issue of convertible notes at favourable terms, among other factors.
What became of the engagement objective?	Ashmore notably wanted the company to put in place steps to improve board independence and to make the structure of financial reporting more systematic and periodic to facilitate comparison and analysis. Ashmore also advocated that the company's official accounts be aligned with their divisional breakdown to improve the analysis of its operational performance.
What activities did Ashmore do over the year?	The company was scored poorly for its Governance score in Ashmore's proprietary ESG scorecard with the lowest possible score for the company's governance and transparency standards. This directly weighed on the 'Quality' view of the stock, an attribute the team targets. Ashmore also applied a 100 basis point cost of capital penalty in the valuation model to compensate for the associated risks, which weighed on the forecast upside for the stock price. The poor scoring and highlighting of specific concerns triggered a request for a meeting with management.
What was the outcome?	A video call took place with investor relations where the company acknowledged the equity team's concerns but did not commit to make any material changes.
What were the implications for Ashmore's investment?	After the release of the company's Annual Report, which showed no improvement in financial disclosure, the decision was taken to divest from the stock.

Exercising rights and responsibilities

Ashmore sees voting as a core responsibility and aligned with its clients' interests. Furthermore, active voting can be used as a tool to influence issuers and is therefore an important part of the Firm's Engagement Strategy.

Ashmore's aim is to vote on all proxies presented by portfolio companies. If the investment team has a concern, then it seeks to engage with the company management, Board of Directors, or other stakeholders to address the issue. The review of voting statistics is a standard item on the ESG Committee's agenda. The voting process is kept as consistent as possible across Ashmore's offices, appreciating local variations.

Protecting the financial interests of its clients is the primary consideration for Ashmore. This generally means proxy voting with a view to enhancing the value of the securities held by or on behalf of Ashmore's clients, through maximising the value of securities, taken individually or as a whole.

Where appropriate, Ashmore will inform issuers of planned negative votes as part of its engagement efforts, including engaging with the companies in advance of an upcoming shareholder meeting should it consider the resolutions contentious.

Ashmore discloses its firm-wide [Proxy Voting Policy](#) on its website.

Fixed income

As a bondholder, Ashmore has a responsibility to exercise its rights and responsibilities. Whilst as bondholders, the investment team does not regularly vote on governance issues, it frequently uses engagement to inform its investment decisions, which ultimately has an impact on issuers. The fixed income approach in seeking amendments to terms and conditions, contracts, and other legal documentation depends on the issue in question, type of security held, investment strategy and the fiduciary duty to act in clients' best interests. Bondholder meetings tend to be less frequent but follow a similar approach to that of listed equities. The following forms of proxy votes are typical of those presented to Ashmore for debt: accelerations, exchanges, corporate reorganisations, restructurings, events of default, bankruptcy proceedings, and buy-backs.

Ashmore's in-house Legal team are responsible for all contractual matters and where appropriate, will use external advisers. Additionally, the Legal team manages the more complex private debt and alternatives transactions. The lawyers responsible for these areas work alongside Portfolio Managers as well as other departments to ensure transactions are structured and executed in a highly professional manner and to ensure the legal documents reflect the commercial objectives and have the rights and protections necessary to protect the investment made by the funds and accounts.

Listed equities

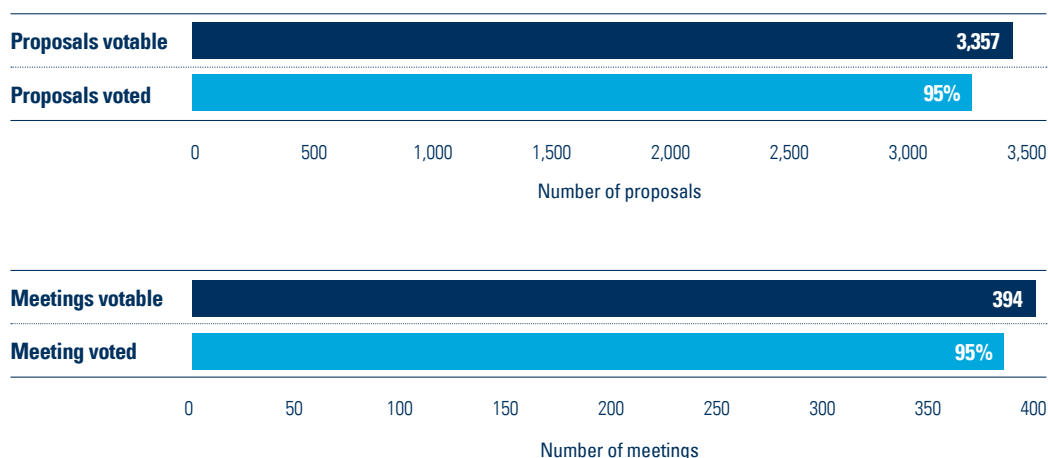
The following forms of proxy votes are typical (but not exhaustive) of those Ashmore is presented with: election of directors, ratification of auditors, management and director remuneration, changes to capital structures, takeovers, mergers and corporate restructurings, social issues, environmental issues, and corporate policy issues.

During the year, the Firm voted on 95% of votable proposals. Reasons for why the Firm did not vote on the remaining 5% include situations where votes could not be completed due to sanctions prohibiting Ashmore from voting, or where voting would have led to Ashmore being blocked from selling the stock until the upcoming meeting, or where Ashmore exited the company before the votes took place.

95%

Percentage of votable proposals on which the Firm voted.

Figure 4: Voting statistics over 2022



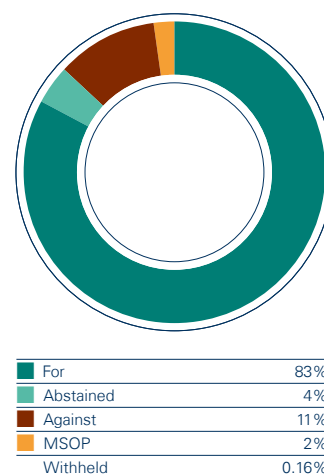
Client overrides and direct voting

Ashmore has a long-standing tradition of supporting institutional clients who wish to instruct the voting. The Firm has clients who wish to maintain their right to cast votes directly or to set out voting principles, and Ashmore welcomes the opportunity to take into account clients' values and preferences.

All voting decisions are made by the Portfolio Manager responsible for the investment. This process is supported by the Operations team, which manages the proxy voting process. Ashmore's equity Portfolio Managers aim to vote on all proxies presented to them, using the ISS platform or equivalent to submit votes.

Figure 5 shows Ashmore's voting record for 2022. While 83% of votes were for the proposal, the Firm abstained from 4% of the votes, withheld 0.16% of the votes, and voted against 11%.

Figure 5: Vote cast statistics



Proxy advisers

ISS research and voting recommendations are available to the Ashmore investment teams to help inform voting decisions. While Portfolio Managers take into account this independent advice from ISS, they maintain full discretion as to how to vote on any one resolution.

During 2022 Ashmore applied ISS's house policy, which was followed for 96% of the resolutions. For the remaining 4% the Portfolio Managers chose to vote against ISS's advice, believing this to be in the best interests of clients.

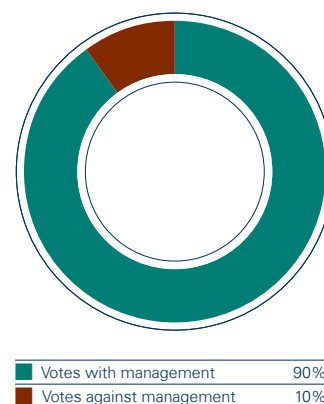
Figure 6: Vote alignment with ISS Policy



In cases where Ashmore's voting decision was either against Management's recommendations or shareholder resolutions, this would be either based on ISS recommendations or where the Portfolio Manager believed these not to be in clients' interests.

For example, as shown in Figure 7, Ashmore voted against management on 10% of resolutions. This type of active management is encouraged at Ashmore.

Figure 7: Vote alignment with Management



Among the resolutions put to Ashmore, there is a clear lack of shareholder proposals, accounting only for 3% of all the votable proposals.

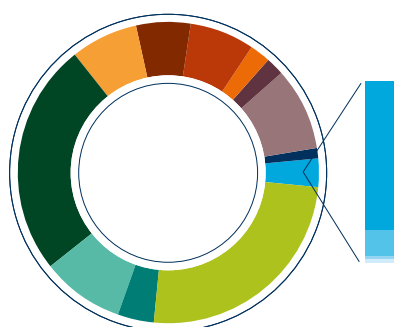
Figure 8: Proposal categories

Management proposals

	Votes	%
Routine/Business	841	25
Non-routine/Business	137	4
Directors related	311	9
Director election	834	25
Capitalisation	236	7
Audit related	200	6
Company articles	222	7
Strategic transactions	83	2
Miscellaneous	72	2
Compensation	308	9
E&S blended	1	
Social	13	1
No research	3	

Shareholder proposals

	Votes	%
Audit related	8	0.24
Director election	56	1.67
Directors related	14	0.42
Miscellaneous	13	0.39



Examples

Ashmore has embraced the work by the Pensions and Lifetime Savings Association (PLSA) to standardise voting reporting to institutional investors. The outcome of the equity resolutions Ashmore voted on in 2022 can be found below using the PLSA format.

Figure 9: 2022 voting

PLSA Question	Ashmore
How many meetings were you eligible to vote at?	394
How many resolutions were you eligible to vote on?	3,357
What % of resolutions did you vote on for which you were eligible?	95%
Of the resolutions on which you voted, what % did you vote <u>with</u> management?	90%
Of the resolutions on which you voted, what % did you vote <u>against</u> management?	10%
Of the resolutions on which you voted, what % did you <u>abstain</u> from voting?	4%
In what % of meetings, for which you did vote, did you vote at least once against management?	42%*
What % of resolutions, on which you did vote, did you vote contrary to the recommendation of your proxy adviser?	4%

*This number also includes votes withheld and abstained.

ENGAGEMENT REPORT 2022

EXERCISING RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Please find some examples below, aligned with what Ashmore considers 'significant votes' as per PLSA guidance.

Figure 10: Voting examples

Company sector	AIRPORT	TELECOM	BANK	MATERIALS	CONSUMER
Date of vote	April 2022	June 2022	June 2022	September 2022	April 2022
Approximate size of fund's/mandate's holding as at the date of the vote (based on % of portfolio)	<1%	<1%	<1%	<1%	<1%
Summary of the resolution	Board related: Elect Director.	Political spending: Approve donations.	Miscellaneous: Management compensation.	Merger: Minority investors.	Charitable donations: Approve charitable donations.
How Ashmore voted	AGAINST	FOR	AGAINST	AGAINST	FOR
Whether Ashmore communicated its intent to vote against management to the company ahead of the vote	No	No	Yes	N/A	Yes
Rationale for the voting decision	Ashmore voted against management aligned with independent advice by ISS, on the proposal to elect the Director at a Mexican consumer staples company. The nominee served on more than five public boards making him considered 'overboarded' under ISS's policy. Ashmore believed that the Board needed a refresh, a matter which had been the topic of past engagements.	Ashmore voted in favour of authorising a telecom company primarily operating in Africa, to make political donations and incur political expenditure. The Board was seeking shareholder approval for the authority to make UK political donations. ISS recommended to vote FOR because the intention is not to make large political payments but is attempting to avoid inadvertent contravention of UK legislation.	Ashmore voted against management, aligned with independent advice by ISS, requesting to increase disclosures at a Slovenian banking and financial group surrounding management compensation. Through engagement with the company on the matter, it was uncovered after the vote that disclosure was limited due to confidentiality and commercial sensitivity, this was considered reasonable.	A South Korean gas producer planned to merge with subsidiary which would mean buying-out minority investors (including Ashmore) at a price meaningfully below our appraisal of the stake's fair value. Ashmore believed that minority investors did not have a fair influence on the matter, not least given the company held 49% of the subsidiary. Ashmore considered this poor governance which would also limit the potential upside in the investment.	Ashmore voted in favour of management's proposal to allocate a proportion of net profit after tax to for charitable activities at a Vietnamese consumer company. The activities included supporting the Government of Vietnam's prevention of Covid-19. ISS recommended voting against the proposal due to a lack of information on the proposed donation, however this concern was not considered material by Ashmore since the size of the donation was very modest.
Outcome of the vote		FOR	FOR	FOR	FOR
Implications of the outcome e.g. lessons learned and likely future steps in response to the outcome	Ashmore will continue to engage on this issue and to vote against future appointments should the issue persist.	No specific implications are expected resulting from this outcome.	Ashmore will continue to engage with the company on adequate and timely transparency.	Given its significance to the investment thesis, Ashmore exited the stock.	No specific implications are expected resulting from this outcome.
Criteria used to assess the vote as 'most significant'	Voted against management	ESG relevance (donations)	Voted against management	Voted against management	ESG relevance (donations)

Note: Instructions of Do Not Vote are not considered votes, and in cases of different votes submitted across ballots for a given meeting, votes cast are distinctly counted by type per proposal where total votes submitted by type may be higher than unique proposals voted.

Figures may not total 100% due to a variety of reasons, such as lack of management recommendation, scenarios where an agenda has been split voted, multiple ballots for the same meeting were voted differing ways, or a vote of 'Abstain' is also considered a vote against management.

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