

PRESS RELEASE
11 February 2020

AUSTRALIAN IMPACT INVESTOR ACHIEVES GLOBAL RECOGNITION FOR CARBON CALCULATOR

Melior Investment Management, a dedicated Australian equities impact investment manager, achieves global recognition for its proprietary carbon calculator which assesses potential investments for climate-related risks and accurately estimates and tracks their carbon footprint over time.

SustainCERT, the official certification body for Gold Standard based in Geneva, validated that Melior's carbon calculator is in line with best practice, as defined by the Principles of the Greenhouse Gas Protocol.

William Wu, a Portfolio Manager at Melior who developed the methodology explained: *"What makes this calculator unique is that it uses our deep financial and non-financial understanding of companies to estimate and scenario-test carbon risk. This means we are applying an additional layer of analysis in our investment process, leading to more robust investment and climate related risk insights."*

Tim King, Melior's Chief Investment Officer, added: *"With corporate Australia lagging on carbon emissions disclosures and targets, we wanted to give our investors' confidence that our measurement of carbon impact is to the highest standard. This calculator is a tool we have developed that allows us to understand our overall portfolio carbon risk relative to the market. Working closely with SustainCERT on this project has been very constructive given their team's experience in delivering groundbreaking climate and sustainability impact verification."*

Marion Verles, CEO of SustainCERT, said: *"As investors increasingly want to know the impact of their investments, it is exciting to see listed equities managers such as Melior driving forward to provide credible impact assessment. SustainCERT is proud to work with Melior as part of our efforts to mainstream climate and development impact verification in the financial services sector and beyond."*

Melior estimates that based on Scope 1 (direct) emissions alone, the ASX300 carbon footprint is equivalent to approximately a third of Australia's total emissions. The majority of companies in the ASX300 do not report Scope 1 or Scope 2 (indirect) emissions at all, with less than 25% having set emissions targets. Only 1% of ASX listed companies have set emissions targets consistent with the Science Based Targets standard.

Mercury NZ Limited, one of New Zealand's leading renewable energy companies, is a portfolio holding which has outperformed the benchmark over the past 12 months. Mercury is carbon positive – its activities absorb more carbon than it emits – and is a beneficiary of the increased demand for renewable energy driven by the NZ Government's commitment to net zero emissions by 2050.

Tim King added: *"At Melior, we believe that a failure to set appropriate emissions targets exposes companies to a greater level of financial, regulatory, legal and reputational risk given the inevitable policy response we expect to transition Australia to a low carbon economy. Through the development of tools like this calculator combined with regular industry collaboration, we are better equipped to quantify climate impact and influence companies to do better."*

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About Melior

Melior Investment Management is a Sydney-based Australia impact investment manager that is committed to driving positive change. We do this by investing in companies that are having a positive impact and influencing companies to do better. Through our Australian Impact Fund, we offer investors the opportunity to use their financial power to help bring about change. The Australian Impact Fund was launched in July 2019 and is open to Australian wholesale investors.

About SustainCERT

SustainCERT was recently launched as the official certification body for Gold Standard for the Global Goals initiative, which has 1700 projects underway across 80 countries.

Gold Standard is the benchmark standard for climate and development interventions and was established in 2003 by WWF and other international NGOs. Its next-generation standard, Gold Standard for the Global Goals, was launched in 2017. It allows climate and development initiatives to quantify, certify and maximise their impact towards climate security and sustainable development.

SustainCERT's solutions create customised certification pathways for a wide range of sustainability interventions. Businesses and investors can easily embed impact assessment and assurance into their initiatives, whether a supply chain improvement, a sustainable product, or a large-scale investment. This helps more accurately and efficiently quantify and report on the social and environmental impacts for higher credibility and recognition.