

**SEC hearing on proposed requirement of ESG compulsory training course for renewal of approval of capital market business personnel to promote sustainable investment**

SEC is seeking public comments on the proposed requirement of Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) compulsory training course for renewal of approval of investment consultants, investment planners, investment analysts, agricultural commodity trading management officials , fund managers and derivatives investment managers. The proposal aims to promote awareness of personnel in the capital market businesses on the ESG principles, for the benefit of investors and the capital market.

The ESG-focused business practice and investment help to promote sustainable investment. This is a growing trend in capital markets around the world. SEC thus promotes application of ESG principles in the Thai capital market in all aspects, from the areas of products, issuers , investors and the preparation for readiness of intermediaries as investment service provider. To perform their roles and responsibilities, personnel in the capital market business need to acquire knowledge and understanding of the ESG principles and apply them in providing services of investment consulting , analyzing and choosing products for investors. Moreover, providing research reports that cover ESG aspects of listed companies will urge listed companies to give more significance on this matter.

In this regard, SEC is proposing an amendment to the regulations on renewal of approval for personnel in capital market businesses whereby an ESG course would be compulsory for renewal of approval for capital market business personnel whose approval will expire at the end of 2021 onwards as follow ;

	Summary of refresher course requirement (for every 2 calendar year)	
	Current regulation	<b>Proposed regulation</b>
(1) investment consultants, investment planners, investment analysts, agricultural commodity trading management officials	<p>≥ 15 hours</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ethics &amp; regulations (≥ 3 hours)</li> <li>- Other recognized courses</li> </ul>	<p>≥ 15 hours</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ethics &amp; regulations (≥ 3 hours)</li> <li>- <b>ESG course (≥ 3 hours)</b></li> <li>- Other recognized courses</li> </ul>
(2) fund managers and derivatives investment managers	(1) Securities and Exchange Act or Derivatives Act (2) Related regulations (3) Ethics and standards of professional conduct	(1) Securities and Exchange Act or Derivatives Act (2) Related regulations (3) Ethics and standards of professional conduct <b>(4) ESG course</b>

The consultation paper is available at [https://www.sec.or.th/TH/Pages/PB\\_Detail.aspx?SECID=667](https://www.sec.or.th/TH/Pages/PB_Detail.aspx?SECID=667). Stakeholders and interested parties are welcome to give comments and suggestions via the website or email: [aurawan@sec.or.th](mailto:aurawan@sec.or.th). The public hearing ends on 11 December 2020.

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