1. OUR COMMITMENT

The manufacture, design, construction, and operation of the buildings in which we live and work are responsible for the consumption of significant volumes of natural resources. Green building, or sustainable design, is the practice of increasing the efficiency with which buildings and their users consume energy, water, and materials, while reducing the impacts of buildings on human health and the environment over the entire life cycle of the building.

As a global company, we are concerned about the potential impacts of climate change on the regions and communities in which we operate. Although our industry, relative to others, is not a major emitter of greenhouse gases, our employees, customers and other stakeholders expect SGS to show leadership on climate change, both through our own energy consumption and through helping our customers and suppliers to reduce their emissions.

Energy consumption in SGS laboratories and offices represents 60% of SGS’s total CO₂ emissions for the Group. These come mainly from electricity and fossil fuels that are used to run equipment and provide heating, cooling and lighting. Consequently, building energy consumption is a major focus for SGS.

Alongside managing our own impacts, we expect our suppliers to achieve sustainable growth whilst managing the impacts of their business, by improving their environmental performance. We also encourage similar improvements further down the supply chain.

We further promote building energy efficiency among our stakeholders through our environmental services, in particular our building services which aim to improve the quality of construction and conformity of buildings to national and international codes and energy standards.

2. SCOPE OF THE POLICY

This policy applies to all offices and laboratories, both leased and owned by SGS. It also applies to offices and laboratories that SGS may obtain through business acquisitions and joint ventures.

3. TARGETS

Our Energy Efficiency in Buildings (EEB) initiative and the World Business Council on Sustainable Development’s (WBCSD’s) EEB Manifesto, have committed SGS to a 20% reduction in CO₂ emissions covering all major SGS-owned buildings worldwide. This commitment has been included in our Ambitions 2020 and underpins SGS’ Sustainability Strategic Plan.

We will achieve this target by:

- Implementing Green Building guidelines across our affiliates.
- Establishing minimum energy performance levels for all our commercial buildings using the SGS Energy Rating Tool for Offices and Laboratories.

1 Against a 2014 baseline
• Conducting energy efficiency audits and implementing corrective actions in line with our energy targets.
• Conducting due diligence on buildings that SGS may obtain through business acquisitions.
• Implementing energy efficiency programmes across our affiliates and encouraging responsible environmental behaviour amongst all SGS employees through education and awareness-raising campaigns.
• Monitoring energy consumption and CO₂ emissions from our buildings every six months.
• Publishing annual performance data on our energy consumption and our progress against targets.
• Promoting building energy efficiency and disclosure through our involvement in strategic partnerships and initiatives.

4. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Our energy management specialist reports to the Vice President Corporate Sustainability and oversees day-to-day management of the energy efficiency in buildings strategy, working across the affiliates to implement our Green Building guidelines globally and support local programmes through energy audits, technical notes, best practice-sharing workshops and providing technical expertise.

Our network of facility managers provides a platform for information sharing and advice on common themes linked to EEB.

Senior management is responsible for ensuring compliance with this policy, including but not limited to the establishment of programmes and compliance with reporting requirements. Sustainability, however, is the responsibility of all of us, at every level within our organisation.

It is the responsibility of every Managing Director to ensure that the Green Buildings policy is implemented and that appropriate resources are allocated to proactively manage energy and resource use in all offices and laboratories owned by SGS.

The Chief Executive Officer of SGS is ultimately responsible for the implementation of this policy, and is assisted by the Sustainability Steering Committee, which oversees the implementation of social and environmental programmes within SGS.

In the implementation of this policy, we act within the framework of laws and international conventions. We respect and comply with environmental legislation, agreements and safety requirements, and other provisions that set the parameters for our business operations.

Our actions are guided by transparency, fact-based decision-making and based on a preventative, precautionary and integrated approach to energy management. This means conforming to or exceeding the requirements of national or international regulations as well as engaging in continuous and informed dialogue with relevant stakeholders.

5. OTHER RELATED DOCUMENTS AND POLICIES

This policy supports the SGS Business Principles as well as the SGS Sustainability Policy Statement. In addition, the SGS Supplier Code of Conduct sets out our expectations for suppliers and business partners. This policy should be read in conjunction with other published SGS Sustainability Policies available at www.sgs.com.
6. POLICY REVISION

This policy may be revised from time to time at the discretion of SGS Corporate Sustainability. All updates will be communicated by Corporate Sustainability to Senior and Regional Management.

Daniel Rüfenacht

Group Sustainability Vice President