



LEA 02	Disclosures Materiality	Reason for Interaction	Principle PRI 1,2,3
Individual/ internal staff engagements	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> To support investment decisionmaking in a company relevant ESG areas <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> To enhance corporate transparency or identify the need for additional or improved ESG disclosure <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> To engage investor ESG advisors <input type="checkbox"/> Other: specify _____ <input type="checkbox"/> We do not engage in internal staff	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> To support investment decisionmaking in a company relevant ESG areas <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> To enhance corporate transparency or identify the need for additional or improved ESG disclosure <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> To engage investor ESG advisors <input type="checkbox"/> Other: specify _____ <input type="checkbox"/> We do not engage in collaborative engagements	
Collaborative engagements	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> To support investment decisionmaking in a company relevant ESG areas <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> To enhance corporate transparency or identify the need for additional or improved ESG disclosure <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> To engage investor ESG advisors <input type="checkbox"/> Other: specify _____ <input type="checkbox"/> We do not engage in collaborative engagements	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> To support investment decisionmaking in a company relevant ESG areas <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> To enhance corporate transparency or identify the need for additional or improved ESG disclosure <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> To engage investor ESG advisors <input type="checkbox"/> Other: specify _____ <input type="checkbox"/> We do not engage in collaborative engagements	
Service provider engagements	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> To support investment decisionmaking in a company relevant ESG areas <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> To enhance corporate transparency or identify the need for additional or improved ESG disclosure <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> To engage investor ESG advisors <input type="checkbox"/> Other: specify _____ <input type="checkbox"/> We do not engage in service providers	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> To support investment decisionmaking in a company relevant ESG areas <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> To enhance corporate transparency or identify the need for additional or improved ESG disclosure <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> To engage investor ESG advisors <input type="checkbox"/> Other: specify _____ <input type="checkbox"/> We do not engage in service providers	

RI TRANSPARENCY REPORT

2014/15

Société d'assurance-vie inc. (SSQ)

About this report

The PRI Reporting Framework is a key step in the journey towards building a common language and industry standard for reporting responsible investment (RI) activities. This RI Transparency Report is one of the key outputs of this Framework. Its primary objective is to enable signatory transparency on RI activities and facilitate dialogue between investors and their clients, beneficiaries and other stakeholders. A copy of this report will be publicly disclosed for all reporting signatories on the [PRI website](#), ensuring accountability of the PRI Initiative and its signatories.

This report is an export of the individual Signatory organisation's response to the PRI during the 2014-15 reporting cycle. It includes their responses to mandatory indicators, as well as responses to voluntary indicators the signatory has agreed to make public. The information is presented exactly as it was reported. Where an indicator offers a response option that is multiple-choice, all options that were available to the signatory to select are presented in this report. Presenting the information exactly as reported is a result of signatory feedback which suggested the PRI not summarise the information. As a result, the reports can be extensive. However, to help easily locate information, there is a **Principles index** which highlights where the information can be found and summarises the indicators that signatories complete and disclose.

Understanding the Principles Index

The Principles Index summarises the response status for the individual indicators and modules and shows how these relate to the six [Principles for Responsible Investment](#). It can be used by stakeholders as an 'at-a-glance' summary of reported information and to identify particular themes or areas of interest.

Indicators can refer to one or more Principles. Some indicators are not specific to any Principle. These are highlighted in the 'General' column. When multiple Principles are covered across numerous indicators, in order to avoid repetition, only the main Principle covered is highlighted.

All indicators within a module are presented below. The status of indicators is shown with the following symbols:

Symbol	Status
✓	The signatory has completed all mandatory parts of this indicator
☑	The signatory has completed some parts of this indicator
🔒	This indicator was not relevant for this signatory
-	The signatory did not complete any part of this indicator
Ⓜ	The signatory has flagged this indicator for internal review

Within the table, indicators marked in blue are mandatory to complete. Indicators marked in grey are voluntary to complete.

Principles Index

Organisational Overview				Principle						General
Indicator	Short description	Status	Disclosure	1	2	3	4	5	6	
OO 01	Signatory category and services	✓	Public							✓
OO 02	Headquarters and operational countries	✓	Public							✓
OO 03	Subsidiaries that are separate PRI signatories	✓	Public							✓
OO 04	Reporting year and AUM	✓	Public							✓
OO 05	Breakdown of AUM by asset class	✓	Asset mix disclosed in OO 06							✓
OO 06	How would you like to disclose your asset class mix	✓	Public							✓
OO 07	Segregated mandates or pooled funds	✓	Private							✓
OO 08	Breakdown of AUM by market	✓	Private							✓
OO 09	Additional information about organisation	✓	Private							✓
OO 10	RI activities for listed equities	✓	Public							✓
OO 11	RI activities in other asset classes	✓	Public							✓
OO 12	Modules and sections required to complete	✓	Public							✓

Overarching Approach				Principle						General
Indicator	Short description	Status	Disclosure	1	2	3	4	5	6	
OA 01	RI policy and other guidance documents	✓	Public							✓
OA 02	Publicly available policies / documents	✓	Public							✓
OA 03	Policy components and coverage	✓	Public	✓	✓					
OA 04	Conflicts of interest	✓	Public							✓
OA 05	RI goals and objectives	✓	Public							✓
OA 06	Main goals/objectives this year	✓	Private							✓
OA 07	Governance, management structures and RI processes	-	n/a							✓
OA 08	RI roles and responsibilities	✓	Public							✓
OA 09	RI in performance management, reward and/or personal development	✓	Private							✓
OA 10	Collaborative organisations / initiatives	✓	Public				✓	✓		
OA 11	Promoting RI independently	✓	Public				✓			
OA 12	Dialogue with public policy makers or standard setters	✓	Private				✓	✓	✓	
OA 13	ESG issues in strategic asset allocation	✓	Private	✓						
OA 14	Allocation of assets to environmental and social themed areas	✓	Private	✓						
OA 15	ESG issues for internally managed assets not reported in framework	✓	Private							✓
OA 16	ESG issues for externally managed assets not reported in framework	🔒	n/a							✓
OA 17	RI/ESG in execution and/or advisory services	🔒	n/a	✓	✓					
OA 18	Innovative features of approach to RI	✓	Private							✓
OA 19	Internal and external review and assurance of responses	✓	Private							✓

Direct - Fixed Income				Principle						General
Indicator	Short description	Status	Disclosure	1	2	3	4	5	6	
FI 01	Breakdown by passive, quantitative, fundamental and other active strategies	✓	Private	✓						
FI 02	Breakdown of investments by credit quality	✓	Private							✓
FI 03	Description of ESG incorporation	-	n/a	✓						
FI 04	Percentage of each incorporation strategy	✓	Public	✓						
FI 05	Type of ESG information used in investment decision	✓	Private	✓						
FI 06	Types of screening applied	✓	Public	✓						
FI 07	Processes to ensure screening is based on robust analysis	✓	Public	✓						
FI 08	Processes to ensure fund criteria are not breached	✓	Private	✓						
FI 09	Types of sustainability thematic funds/mandates	🔒	n/a	✓						
FI 10	Description of ESG integration	🔒	n/a	✓						
FI 11	Review of ESG issues while researching companies/sectors	🔒	n/a	✓						
FI 12	Processes to ensure integration is based on robust analysis	🔒	n/a	✓						
FI 13	Incorporation of ESG issues into analysis and decision making	🔒	n/a	✓						
FI 14	ESG issues in index construction	🔒	n/a	✓						
FI 15	How ESG incorporation has influenced portfolio composition	-	n/a	✓						
FI 16	Incorporation of ESG issues has improved financial/ESG performance and reduced risk	-	n/a	✓						
FI 17	Examples of ESG issues that affected your investment view / performance	-	n/a	✓						
FI 18	Disclosure of approach to ESG incorporation	✓	Public		✓					✓
FI 19	Engagement with corporate issuers	✓	Private		✓					
FI 20	Engagement with government issuers	🔒	n/a		✓					

Société d'assurance-vie inc. (SSQ)

Reported Information

Public version

Organisational Overview

PRI disclaimer

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Basic Information

OO 01	Mandatory	Gateway/Peering	General
-------	-----------	-----------------	---------

OO 01.1 Select the category which best represents your primary activity.

- Non-corporate pension or superannuation or retirement or provident fund or plan
- Corporate pension or superannuation or retirement or provident fund or plan
- Insurance company
- Foundation or endowment
- Development finance institution
- Reserve - sovereign or government controlled fund
- Other, specify

OO 02	Mandatory	Peering	General
-------	-----------	---------	---------

OO 02.1 Select the location of your organisation's headquarters.

Canada

OO 02.2 Indicate the number of countries in which you have offices (including your headquarters).

- 1
- 2-5
- 6-10
- >10

OO 02.3 Indicate the approximate number of staff in your organisation in full-time equivalents (FTE).

FTE

2000

OO 03	Mandatory	Descriptive	General
-------	-----------	-------------	---------

OO 03.1 Indicate whether you have subsidiaries within your organisation that are also PRI signatories in their own right.

- Yes
- No

OO 04	Mandatory	Gateway/Peering	General
-------	-----------	-----------------	---------

OO 04.1 Indicate the year end date for your reporting year.

31/12/2014

OO 04.2

Indicate your total AUM at the end of your reporting year, excluding subsidiaries you have chosen not to report on, and advisory/execution only assets.

	trillions	billions	millions	thousands	hundreds
Total AUM		4	105	649	000
Currency	CAD				
Assets in USD		3	758	026	974

OO 04.5

Indicate the level of detail you would like to provide about your asset class mix.

- Approximate percentage breakdown to the nearest 5% (e.g. 45%)
- Broad ranges breakdown (i.e. <10%; 10-50%; >50%)

OO 06

Mandatory

Descriptive

General

OO 06.1

To contextualise your responses to the public, indicate how you would like to disclose your asset class mix.

- Publish our asset class mix as broad ranges

	Internally managed (%)	Externally managed (%)
Listed equity	<10%	<10%
Fixed income – corporate	10-50%	0
Fixed income – government	>50%	0
Fixed income – other	10-50%	0
Private debt	0	0
Private equity	<10%	0
Property	<10%	0
Infrastructure	0	0
Commodities	0	0
Hedge funds	0	0
Forestry	0	0

Farmland	0	0
Inclusive finance	0	0
Cash	<10%	0
Other (1), specify	0	0
Other (2), specify	0	0

○ Publish our asset class mix as per attached file (the following image formats can be uploaded: .jpg, .jpeg, .png, .bmp and .gif)

Gateway asset class implementation indicators

OO 10	Mandatory	Gateway	General
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OO 10.1

Select the responsible investment activities your organisation implemented, directly and/or indirectly, for listed equities in the reporting year.

- We incorporate ESG issues into investment decisions on our internally managed assets
- We engage with companies on ESG issues via our staff, collaborations or service providers
- We cast our (proxy) votes directly or via service providers
- We address ESG incorporation, engagement and/or (proxy) voting in our external manager selection, appointment and/or monitoring processes
- None of the above

OO 10.2

Indicate if your combined internally and externally managed listed equities are 10% or more of your total AUM.

- Yes, our total listed equities are 10% or more of our total AUM
- No, our total listed equities are less than 10% of our total AUM

OO 11	Mandatory	Gateway	General
-------	-----------	---------	---------

OO 11.1

Indicate if in the reporting year you incorporated ESG issues into your investment decisions and/or your active ownership practices in the following internally managed asset classes.

- Fixed income – corporate
- Fixed income – government
- Fixed Income – other
- Private equity
- Property
- Cash
- None of the above

OO 12.1

The modules and sections that you will be required to complete are listed below.

This list is based on the percentages provided in your AUM breakdown and your responses to the gateway indicators. You are only required to report on asset classes that represent 10% or more of your AUM. You may report voluntarily on any applicable modules or sections by selecting them from the list. Fixed Income and Infrastructure are voluntary.

Core modules

- Organisational Overview
- Overarching Approach (including assets which do not have a separate module)

RI implementation directly or via service providers

Direct - Listed Equity incorporation

- Listed Equity incorporation

Direct - Fixed Income

- Fixed Income - Corporate

Closing module

- Closing module

Société d'assurance-vie inc. (SSQ)

Reported Information

Public version

Overarching Approach

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Responsible investment policy

OA 01	Mandatory	Gateway/Core Assessed	General
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OA 01.1 Indicate if you have a responsible investment policy.

- Yes
- No

OA 01.2 Indicate if you have other guidance documents or more specific policies related to responsible investment.

- Yes
- No

OA 01.3 Provide a brief description of the key elements of your responsible investment policy or, if you do not have a policy, of your overall approach to responsible investment. [Optional]

Our investment policy includes a list of ESG related conditions for investing. If a condition is not met, another list of actions to take is also included in the policy.

OA 02	Mandatory	Core Assessed	PRI 6
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OA 02.1 Indicate if your responsible investment policy is publicly available.

- Yes

OA 02.2 Provide a URL to your responsible investment policy.

URL

<https://ssq.ca/a-propos/developpement-durable/investissements-socialement-responsables?inheritRedirect=true>

- No

OA 02.3 Indicate if your other policies or guidance documents related to responsible investment are publicly available.

- Yes
 - Yes, all
 - Yes, some

OA 02.4 List these other policies or guidance documents related to responsible investment that are publicly available and their URLs.

Policy or document name	URL
Plan de responsabilité sociale	http://rapportannuel.ssq.ca/doc/rapport-annuel-fr/ssq_gf_devdurable_tap_fr/2013042201/#2

No

OA 03	Mandatory	Core Assessed	PRI 1,2
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OA 03.1	Indicate the components/types and coverage of your responsible investment policy and guidance documents.
----------------	--

Select all that apply

Policy components/types	Coverage by AUM
<input type="checkbox"/> Policy setting out your overall approach <input type="checkbox"/> (Proxy) voting policy <input type="checkbox"/> Engagement/active ownership policy <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Specific guidelines on corporate governance <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Specific guidelines on environmental issues <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Specific guidelines on social issues <input type="checkbox"/> Asset class-specific guidelines <input type="checkbox"/> Screening/exclusion policy <input type="checkbox"/> Other, specify <input type="checkbox"/> Other, specify	<input type="radio"/> Applicable policies cover all AUM <input checked="" type="radio"/> Applicable policies cover a majority of AUM <input type="radio"/> Applicable policies cover a minority of AUM

OA 04	Mandatory	Core Assessed	General
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OA 04.1	Indicate if your organisation has a policy on managing potential conflicts of interest in the investment process.
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Yes

No

Objectives and strategies

OA 05	Mandatory	Gateway/Core Assessed	General
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OA 05.1	Indicate if your organisation sets objectives for its responsible investment activities.
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Yes

OA 05.2

Indicate how frequently your organisation sets or revises objectives for responsible investment.

- At least once per year
- Less than once per year

OA 05.3

Indicate how frequently your organisation formally reviews performance against its objectives for responsible investment.

- Quarterly
 - Biannually
 - Annually
 - Every two years or less
 - It is not reviewed
- No

Governance and human resources

OA 08

Mandatory

Gateway/Core Assessed

General

OA 08.1

Indicate the roles present in your organisation and for each, indicate whether they have oversight and/or implementation responsibilities for responsible investment.

Roles present in your organisation

- Board members or trustees
 - Oversight/accountability for responsible investment
 - Implementation of responsible investment
 - No oversight/accountability or implementation responsibility for responsible investment
- Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Chief Investment Officer (CIO), Investment Committee
 - Oversight/accountability for responsible investment
 - Implementation of responsible investment
 - No oversight/accountability or implementation responsibility for responsible investment
- Other Chief-level staff or head of department, specify
VP Investments, Director Investments

- Oversight/accountability for responsible investment
- Implementation of responsible investment
- No oversight/accountability or implementation responsibility for responsible investment
- Portfolio managers
 - Oversight/accountability for responsible investment
 - Implementation of responsible investment
 - No oversight/accountability or implementation responsibility for responsible investment
- Investment analysts
 - Oversight/accountability for responsible investment
 - Implementation of responsible investment
 - No oversight/accountability or implementation responsibility for responsible investment
- Dedicated responsible investment staff
- External managers or service providers
- Other role, specify
- Other role, specify

Promoting responsible investment

OA 10

Mandatory

Core Assessed

PRI 4,5

OA 10.1

Select the collaborative organisation and/or initiatives of which your organisation is a member or in which it participated during the reporting year, and the role you played.

Select all that apply

- Principles for Responsible Investment

Your organisation's role in the initiative during the reporting period (see definitions)

- Basic
- Moderate
- Advanced

Provide a brief commentary on the level of your organisation's involvement in the initiative.
[Optional]

Attendance at PRI in Person in Montreal in addition to sponsoring the event.

- Asian Corporate Governance Association
- Association for Sustainable & Responsible Investment in Asia
- Australian Council of Superannuation Investors
- CDP Climate Change
- CDP Forests
- CDP Water
- CFA Institute Centre for Financial Market Integrity
- Council of Institutional Investors (CII)
- Eumedion
- Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI)
- Global Investors Governance Network (GIGN)
- Global Real Estate Sustainability Benchmark (GRESB)
- Institutional Investors Group on Climate Change (IIGCC)
- Interfaith Center on Corporate Responsibility (ICCR)
- International Corporate Governance Network (ICGN)
- Investor Group on Climate Change, Australia/New Zealand (IGCC)
- Investor Network on Climate Risk (INCR)/CERES
- Local Authority Pension Fund Forum
- Regional or National Social Investment Forums (e.g. UKSIF, Eurosif, ASRIA, RIAA), specify
- Shareholder Association for Research and Education (Share)
- United Nations Environmental Program Finance Initiative (UNEP FI)
- United Nations Global Compact
- Other collaborative organisation/initiative, specify

PRI Québec

Your organisation's role in the initiative during the reporting year (see definitions)

- Basic
- Moderate
- Advanced

Provide a brief commentary on the level of your organisation's involvement in the initiative.
[Optional]

Attendance at all PRI Quebec meetings in 2014

- Other collaborative organisation/initiative, specify
- Other collaborative organisation/initiative, specify
- Other collaborative organisation/initiative, specify

OA 11	Mandatory	Core Assessed	PRI 4
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OA 11.1	Indicate if your organisation promotes responsible investment, independently of collaborative initiatives.
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Yes

OA 11.2	Indicate which of the following actions your organisation has taken to promote responsible investment, independently of collaborative initiatives.
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- Provided or supported education or training programmes for clients, investment managers, broker/dealers, investment consultants, legal advisers or other investment organisations
- Provided financial support for academic or industry research on responsible investment
- Encouraged better transparency and disclosure of responsible investment practices across the investment industry
- Spoke publicly at events and conferences to promote responsible investment
- Wrote and published in-house research papers on responsible investment
- Encouraged the adoption of the PRI
- Other, specify

SSQ's Sustainable Development and Societal Responsibility plan and its Responsible Investment Policy are published on its website.

No

Société d'assurance-vie inc. (SSQ)

Reported Information

Public version

Direct - Fixed Income

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ESG incorporation in actively managed fixed income

Fixed Income - Corporate

Implementation processes

FI 04	Mandatory	Gateway/Core Assessed	PRI 1
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FI 04.1

Indicate (1) which ESG incorporation strategy and/or combination of strategies you apply to your actively managed corporate fixed income investments; and, (2) the breakdown of your actively managed corporate fixed income investments by incorporation strategy or combination of strategies.

ESG incorporation strategy (select all that apply)

Screening alone (i.e. not combined with any other strategies)

Percentage of active corporate fixed income to which the strategy is applied (estimate +/- 10%)	%
	100

- Thematic alone (i.e. not combined with any other strategies)
- Integration alone (i.e. not combined with any other strategies)
- Screening + Integration strategies
- Thematic + integration strategies
- Screening + thematic strategies
- All three strategies combined
- No incorporation strategies applied

Total actively managed fixed income - corporate

100%

FI 04.2

Describe your primary reasons for choosing a particular incorporation strategy.

This strategy is best adapted to ensure compliance with our responsible investment policy.

(A) Implementation: Screening

FI 06	Mandatory	Descriptive	PRI 1
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FI 06.1

Indicate and describe the type of screening you apply to your internally managed active corporate fixed income investments.

Type of screening

- Negative/exclusionary screening

Screened by

- Product
- Activity
- Sector
- Country/geographic region
- Environmental and social practices and performance
- Corporate governance

	Description
--	-------------

Twice a year we have our corporate bond issuers assessed by a firm who specializes in analyzing corporate ESG issues. This firm offers us research services on ESG matters for our corporate bond issuers. This assessment will provide us with the information we need to judge if an issuer needs to be excluded for ESG purposes

- Positive/best-in-class screening
- Norms-based screening

FI 06.2

Describe how the screening criteria are established, how often the criteria are reviewed and how you notify clients and/or beneficiaries when changes are made.

Twice a year we have our corporate bond portfolio issuers assessed by a firm who specializes in analyzing corporate ESG issues. on ESG matters. They base their analysis on a set of ESG criteria and take into consideration extra criteria specified in our policy. With the research they provide us, we are able to screen our issuers.

FI 07	Mandatory	Core Assessed	PRI 1
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FI 07.1

Indicate which processes your organisation uses to ensure that screening in corporate fixed income is based on robust analysis.

- Comprehensive research is undertaken or sourced to determine issuers' ESG performance
- Issuers are given the opportunity by you or your research provider to review ESG research on them and correct inaccuracies
- External research and data used to identify issuers to be excluded/included is subject to internal audit by ESG/RI staff, the internal audit function or similar
- Information on ESG issues and/or ratings is updated regularly to ensure that portfolio holdings comply with fund policies
- A committee or body with representatives independent of the individuals who conduct ESG research reviews some or all screening decisions
- A periodic review of the quality of the research undertaken or provided is carried out
- Other, specify
- None of the above

Communication

FI 18

Mandatory

Core Assessed

PRI 2,6

FI 18.1

Indicate if your organisation proactively discloses information on your approach to ESG incorporation in all fixed income investments.

- We disclose it publicly

Provide URL

https://ssq.ca/documents/10593/79693/SSQ_DDRS_2013_FR.pdf/493a92d9-5df9-4b53-9bbc-3b4d2682e0b3

FI 18.2

Indicate if the information disclosed to the public is the same as that disclosed to clients/beneficiaries.

- Yes

FI 18.3

Indicate the information your organisation proactively discloses to clients/ beneficiaries and the public regarding your approach to ESG incorporation.

- Broad approach to ESG incorporation
- Detailed explanation of ESG incorporation strategy used

FI 18.4

Indicate how frequently you typically report this information.

- Quarterly or more frequently
- Between quarterly and annually
- Less frequently than annually
- Other, specify
- No
- We disclose it to clients/beneficiaries only
- We do not proactively disclose it to the public and/or clients/beneficiaries