



# MESSAGE FROM OUR CEO

As we publish our third ESG report, I want to reaffirm Explorer's unwavering dedication to transparency and our commitment to building a responsible, resilient, and forward-looking investment business.

Over the past year, our sustained growth has not only made us proud—it has deepened our sense of responsibility to our stakeholders, our portfolio companies, and society at large. We closed 15 new investments, managed 11 active funds, and successfully raised two new Article 8 funds under SFDR. With close to €500 million in assets under management and 11 successful exits, Explorer's impact has never been more tangible.

This growth enables us to extend our positive influence. In 2024 the funds were able to distribute  $80.6M \in (32\% \text{ of the fair value of portfolio companies}$  at the end of 2023) to investors and invested  $111.6M \in \text{in portfolio companies}$ . These figures reflect our continued ability to create value while reinvesting in future growth.

We are particularly proud to be expanding our ESG efforts. The launch of two Article 8 funds underscores our commitment to sustainability. Our hospitality fund has already acquired two assets that are being operated under rigorous ESG policies and procedures. Moreover, we remain vigilant in monitoring our own environmental impact. Notably, our new offices are powered entirely by renewable electricity.

Our people remain at the core of everything we do. We are currently developing a new training framework to be implemented in 2025, which will

prioritize leadership development, cross-functional collaboration, and long-term career progression.

Giving back to our community is also central to who we are. We have committed to donating 10% of our net profits annually to educational initiatives that promote meritocracy and excellence. This year, we awarded five merit-based scholarships and seven academic prizes to students in schools and universities.

As we look ahead, we recognize there is more work to be done. However, we remain steadfast in our belief that responsible investment is not only a moral imperative but also a driver of long-term value. In an era marked by uncertainty and global challenges, Explorer is prepared to lead by example—building resilient companies and creating meaningful, lasting impact.

Thank you for your continued trust and partnership.



Elizabeth Rothfield
CEO & Founder



# HISTORY -

# **EXPLORER INVESTMENTS**

stands as one of the most experienced and reputable private equity firms in Southern Europe, with a legacy spanning over two decades.

Since its founding, Explorer has played a pivotal role in shaping the private equity landscape in Portugal and beyond, consistently identifying and nurturing high-potential companies across a broad spectrum of industries.

Leveraging deep sector knowledge, rigorous investment discipline, and an entrepreneurial mindset, Explorer has successfully managed and deployed multiple funds, driving long-term value creation for investors and portfolio companies alike. Its enduring commitment to excellence, governance, and strategic growth has enabled the firm to build lasting partnerships with management teams, co-investors, and institutional stakeholders.

Through its track record of successful investments, exits, and operational improvements, Explorer has demonstrated a unique ability to navigate market cycles, unlock hidden value, and contribute meaningfully to the development of the private equity ecosystem. Today, Explorer continues to lead with insight, integrity, and innovation—anchored in a rich history and driven by a clear vision for the future.

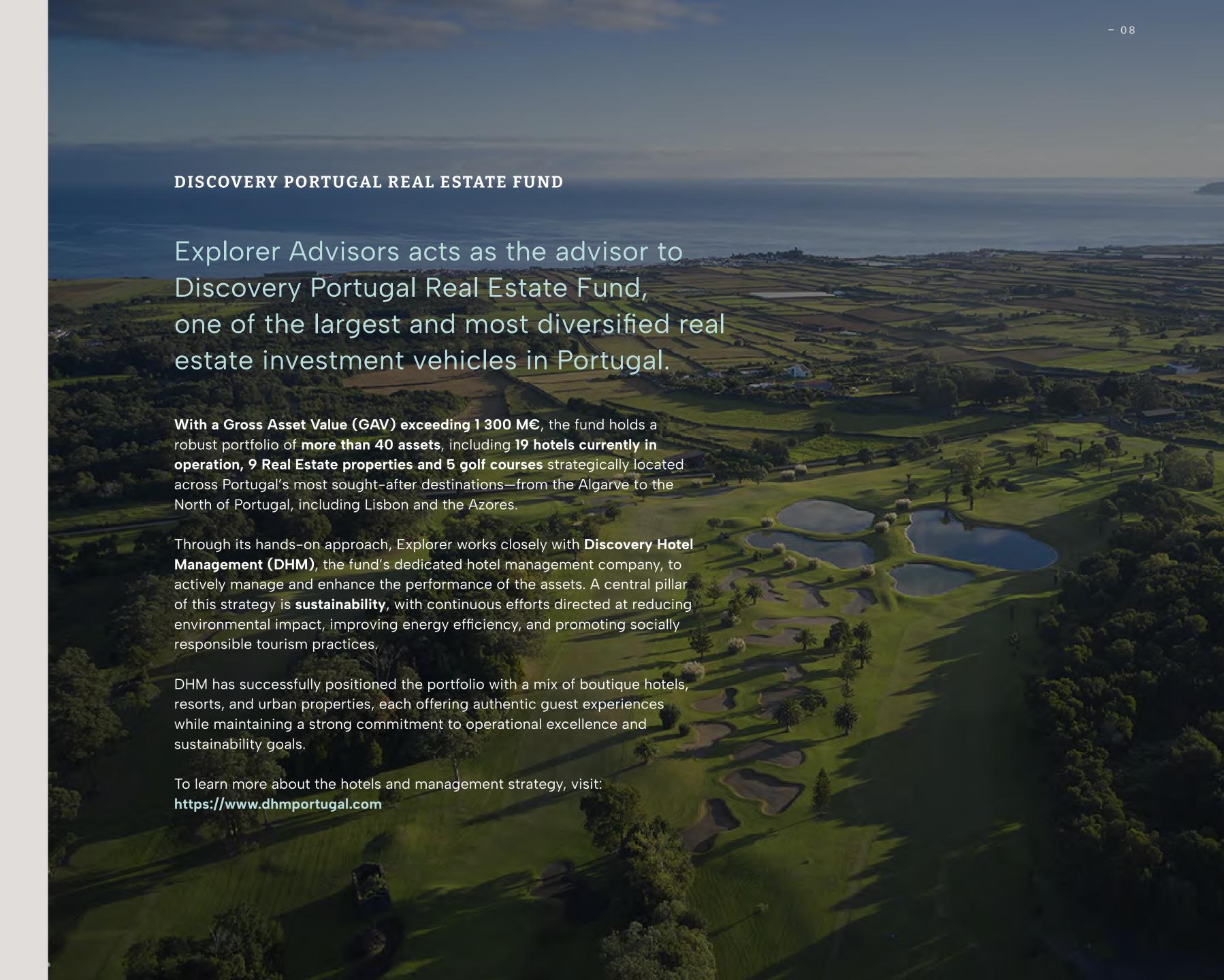


22
years in the market

40+
experienced professionals

~1095|√€ capital raised

 $\sim 100$ 



# EXPLORER AT A GLANCE -

BUSINESS IN 2024

new investments

funds in activity

funds raised - article 8 (SFDR)

exits









54
portfolio companies

~500M€

in AUM

~1.2B€

in revenue from portfolio companies\*

~7000

jobs supported by our portfolio companies\*

STAFF

44

employees

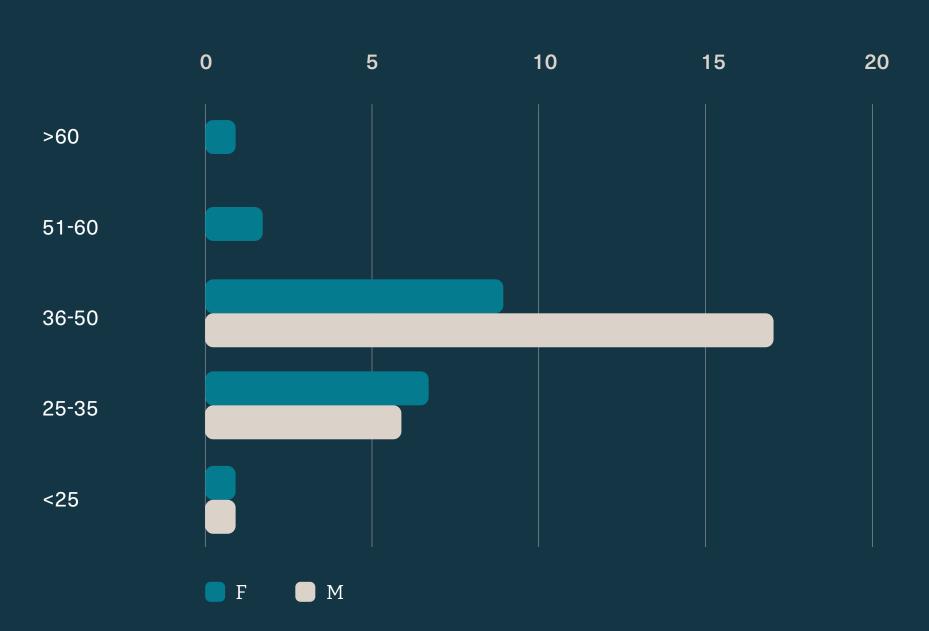
new hires

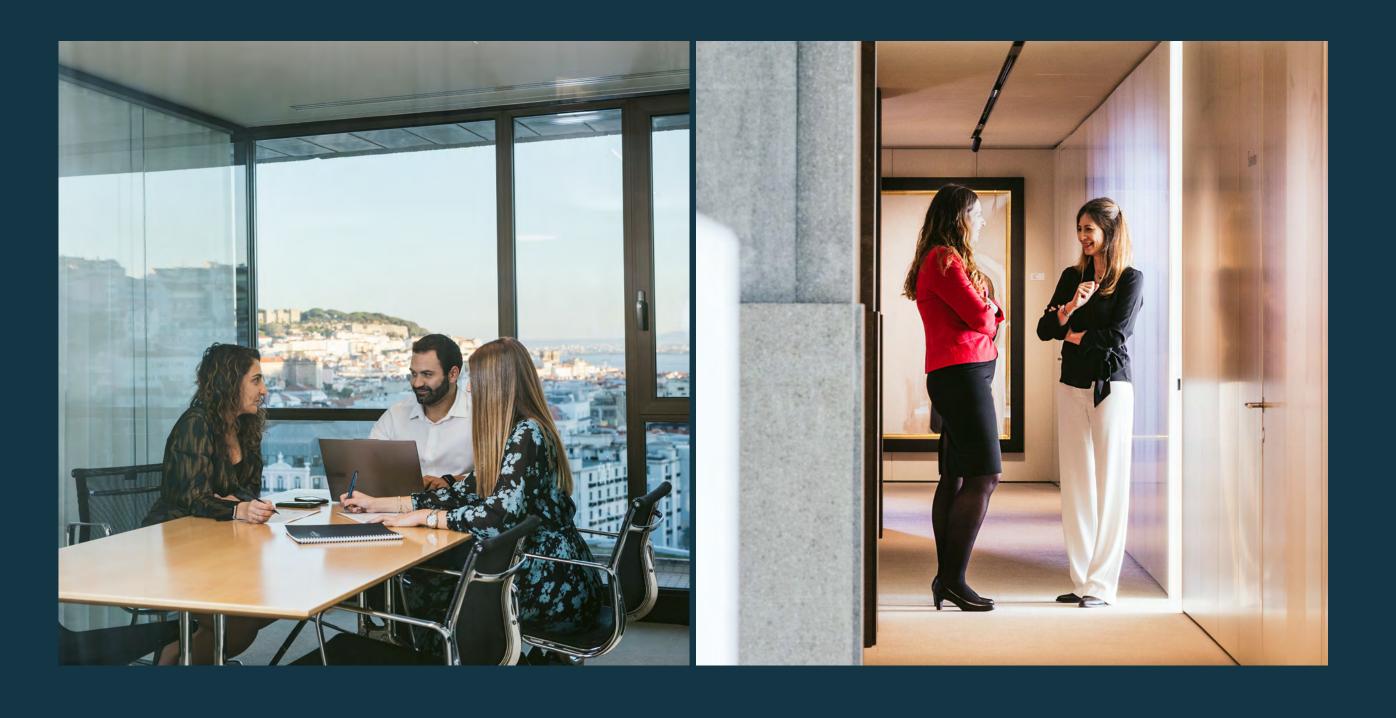
100% of investment team

Investment training

of investment team employee turnover attended ESG/Responsible

Employees by age group





# SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

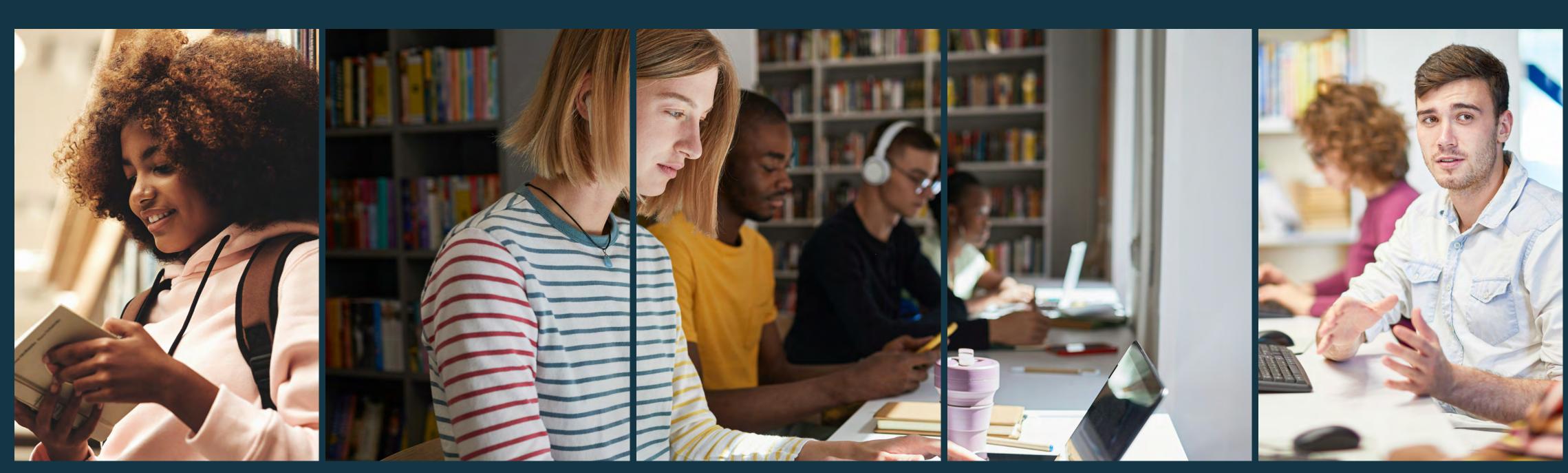
Explorer Excellence Master's Scholarship at Nova SBE

Erasmus scholarship for ISEG Business School undergraduate students

Explorer Excellence Merit Prizes to master's degree students at Universidade Católica Portuguesa

Explorer Excellence Merit Prizes to undergraduate students at Universidade Católica Portuguesa

**Education Scholarships** for students in financial need





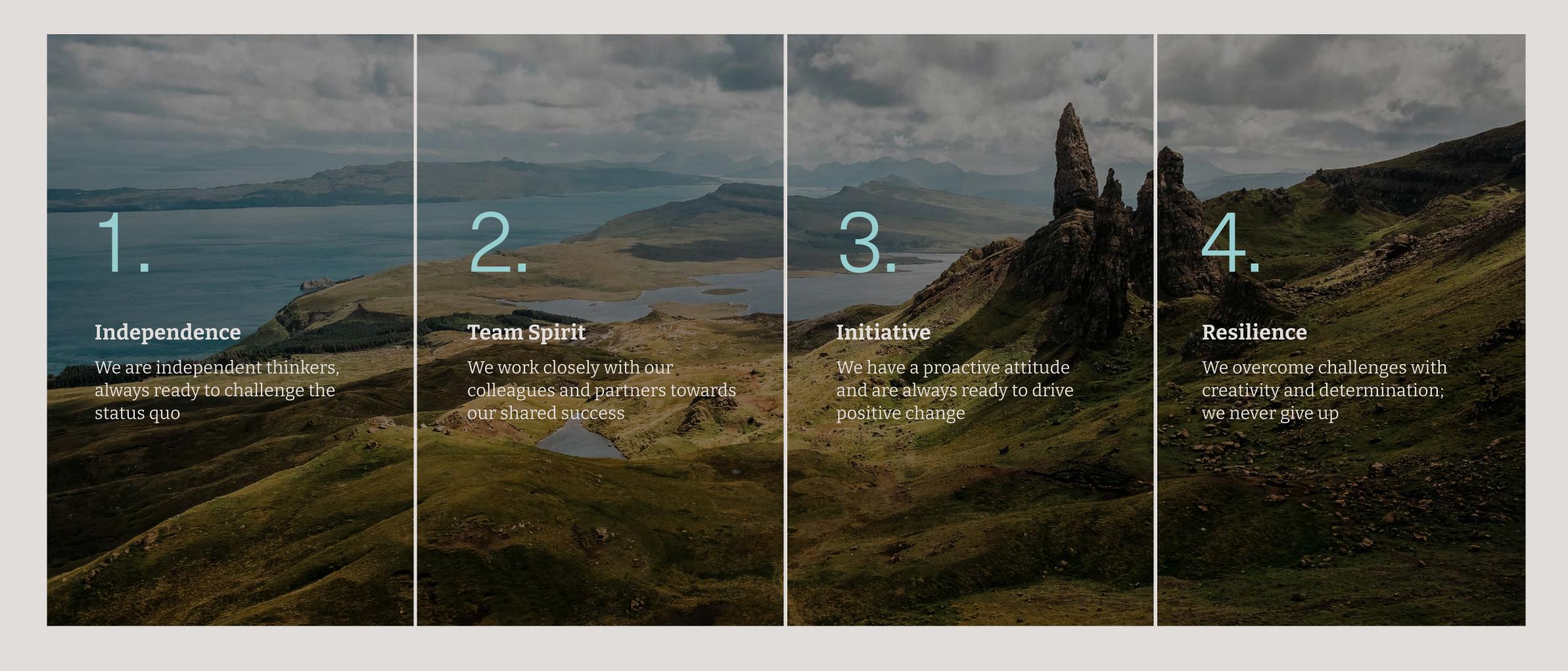






# OUR VALUES -

Generosity encompasses all our values, guiding how we think, collaborate, and overcome challenges together.



## - 13

# COLLABORATION -

# Explorer has been a signatory of the United Nations Principles for Responsible Investment since 2018.

The six basic Responsible Investment principles govern our approach to investment and the development of a more responsible financial system.

As a signatory of the United Nations Principles for Responsible Investment, Explorer commits to the following:

We will incorporate ESG issues into investment analysis and decision-making processes.

We will promote acceptance and implementation of the Principles within the investment industry.

We will be active owners and incorporate ESG issues into our ownership policies and practices.

We will work together to enhance our effectiveness in implementing the Principles.

We will seek appropriate disclosure on ESG issues by the entities in which we invest.

We will each report on our activities and progress towards implementing the Principles.



UNPRI (United Nations Principles of Responsible Investment) is an international organisation which works to promote responsible investment through the incorporation of ESG factors in investment decisions and to support its international network of signatories in this process.



APCRI – Associação Portuguesa de Capital de Risco e Desenvolvimento is the organisation that represents venture capital in Portugal. Its mission is to protect the common interests of venture capital investors.

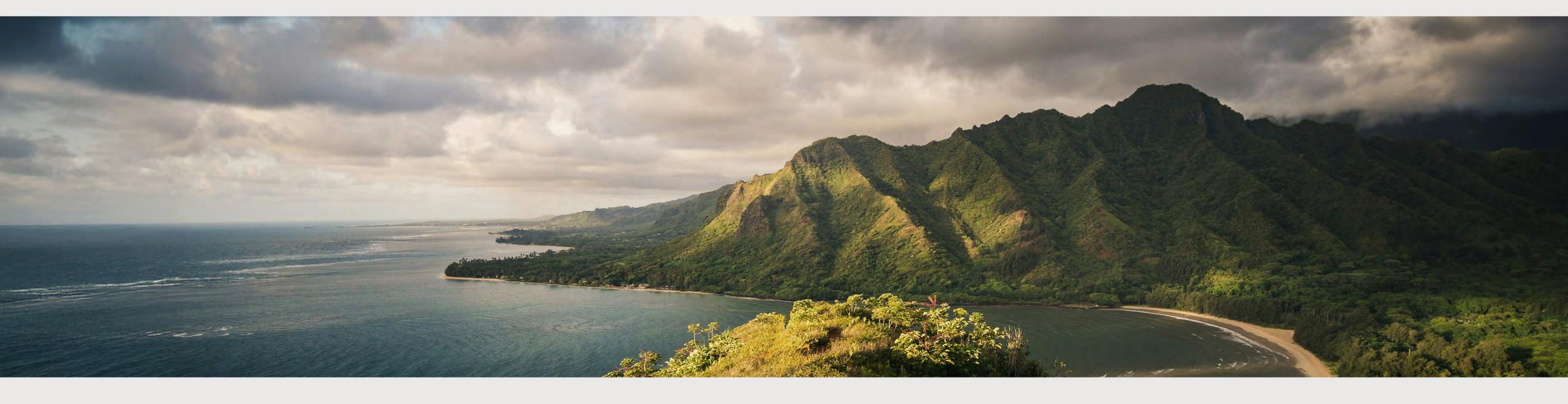


Invest Europe is the world's largest association representing Europe's private equity, venture capital and infrastructure sectors, as well as their investors, including major pension funds and insurance companies. Its mission is to build global understanding of venture capital, enabling its members to improve their asset management, and generate higher returns for their investors.



BCSD Portugal is a non-profit association representing over 140 renowned companies in Portugal, which are actively committed to the transition to sustainability. Created in 2001, it has strong sector representation and includes different size companies, ranging from PSI 20 listed to other smaller companies.

# ESG APPROACH -



At **Explorer**, we are guided by a conviction that responsible management – rooted in an understanding of the material aspects of each business – is essential to long-term value creation. We believe that sustainability is not only a matter of compliance or ethics, but a driver of performance, resilience, and opportunity.

Grounded in our value of **Independence**, we take a deliberate and informed approach to Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) factors, progressively and rigorously integrating them across all stages of our investment process. This ensures that we remain aligned with our fiduciary duty while cultivating investment portfolios that are resilient and well–positioned to thrive in the face of evolving global challenges.

Resilience is central to our philosophy. By embedding ESG considerations into our risk management frameworks, we help our portfolio companies anticipate and mitigate issues such as regulatory liabilities, operational inefficiencies, and reputational risk. Equally, we recognize the role of ESG in enabling innovation, operational excellence, and sustainable competitive advantage.

As a firm, we live our values. Our **Team Spirit** drives us to work collaboratively across all functions to ensure that our internal practices reflect the same principles we promote externally. We are committed to fostering a healthy and inclusive work environment where our people are empowered and engaged. We have calculated our carbon footprint and continue to implement measures to reduce our environmental impact, particularly across our office operations.

The value of **Initiative** is deeply embedded in Explorer's culture. We support and lead multiple social responsibility initiatives, including programs that promote education and career opportunities for students in the financial sector. Through these efforts, we seek not only to give back to society, but also to inspire the next generation of professionals committed to sustainable finance.

In every step we take, we aim to ensure that Explorer's culture, actions, and footprint reflect our ESG commitments – contributing positively to the communities in which we operate and building a more sustainable future for all.



# **ESGINTEGRATION** -

**ESG PRIORITIES** 

# Since 2018, Explorer has been actively mapping its Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) priorities.

This initiative is grounded in best market practices, our extensive experience in investment management, and a thorough understanding of the evolving ESG landscape within the Portuguese market.

To establish a robust ESG framework, we have facilitated a series of internal workshops engaging the Board of Directors, investment teams, and dedicated sustainability professionals. These collaborative sessions have enabled us to identify and define key ESG factors to be implemented, monitored, and evaluated throughout the lifecycle of each investment, where applicable and materially relevant.

Our ESG approach is further refined by integrating material factors tailored to the specific context and operational realities of each portfolio company. In identifying these material ESG aspects, we leverage the combined expertise of our team alongside guidance from internationally recognized standards and frameworks, including the Sustainability Accounting Standards Board (SASB) and MSCI, Inc. (Morgan Stanley Capital International).

The ESG criteria identified serve as the cornerstone of our ongoing engagement with portfolio companies and are progressively embedded within our investment decision–making and monitoring processes. This approach reflects our commitment to driving sustainable value creation across our portfolio, aligned with evolving market expectations and stakeholder interests.



/ ENVIRONMENT



Energy and production efficiency



Plastic, water, and paper consumption reduction



**Environmental pollution** reduction

/ SOCIAL



Creation of a healthy working environment



Social awareness



Continuous employee development

/ GOVERNANCE



**Ethics** 



Robust internal supervision



Duly skilled Board of Directors

# RESPONSIBLE INVESTMENT PROCESS

Explorer has developed a comprehensive internal ESG framework to integrate sustainability considerations throughout the investment lifecycle.

This framework was designed to equip our investment teams with practical tools that identify and manage ESG risks and opportunities at every stage of the process.

The framework includes the Risks & Opportunities (R&O) tool, which prompts analysts to flag significant risks, opportunities, scandals, controversies, and adherence to Explorer's exclusions list. It also incorporates the Due Diligence (DD) tool — a detailed survey of approximately 40 questions that assesses companies across the three ESG pillars. The DD survey is used both at the due diligence stage and annually for ongoing ESG monitoring.

This structured approach allows us to assess a company's ESG maturity, track progress over time, and benchmark performance relative to peers. Scores are adjusted based on the company's context and materiality — for example, emissions monitoring is not applicable to office-based businesses.

We are currently applying this ESG framework to the assets within the two green funds that Explorer actively manages under Article 8 (SFDR), while progressively extending its application across our remaining funds.





# R & O

# Risks & Opportunities

# **Exclusions**

- Labour exploitation
- Child labour
- Illegal or fraudulent practices
- Weapons
- Gambling
- Tobacco
- Human cloning

# Risks and Opportunities review

- Screening of scandals and controversies
- Screening of major risks (ESG)



# DD Tool

# **Pre-Investment**

# Due diligence

- Survey with about 40 questions
- Assessment of ESG maturity



# **Presentation to Executive Commitee**

# Investment decision

# **Presentation to Executive Commitee**

- Presentation of investment thesis and previous DD results
- Investment and Action Plan approval





# **ESG Commitment**

# **Investment contract**

# **ESG Commitment**

- Presentation to management of action plan and ESG criteria for monitoring purposes
- Reporting model definition

# **Annual ESG Survey**

# **Active Management**

# Management/Dialogue with Portfolio Companies

- Materiality analysis
- Action plan follow-up, definition of goals and strategies



# **Exit/Divestment**

# **Exit/Divestment**

# Exit

- Prioritise buyers/investors
   who value ongoing ESG plan
- Share ESG data





# **ESG GOVERNANCE**

Explorer's ESG Governance model underscores our commitment to integrating sustainability at every level of our organisation. Through strong leadership, collaborative processes, and continuous engagement, we aim to drive positive impact while delivering sustainable financial returns.

At the core of our sustainable investment strategy lies a robust governance framework that ensures transparency, accountability, and alignment with our ESG (Environmental, Social, and Governance) commitments.

Our Board of Directors provides overarching guidance and strategic oversight for both financial and non-financial performance. The Board appoints the Executive Committee, which is entrusted with authority to make investment decisions aligned with our long-term objectives and ESG values.

The Board also receives regular reports from the Chief Operating Officer (COO), ensuring that ESG-related risks and opportunities are embedded in operational and investment activities.

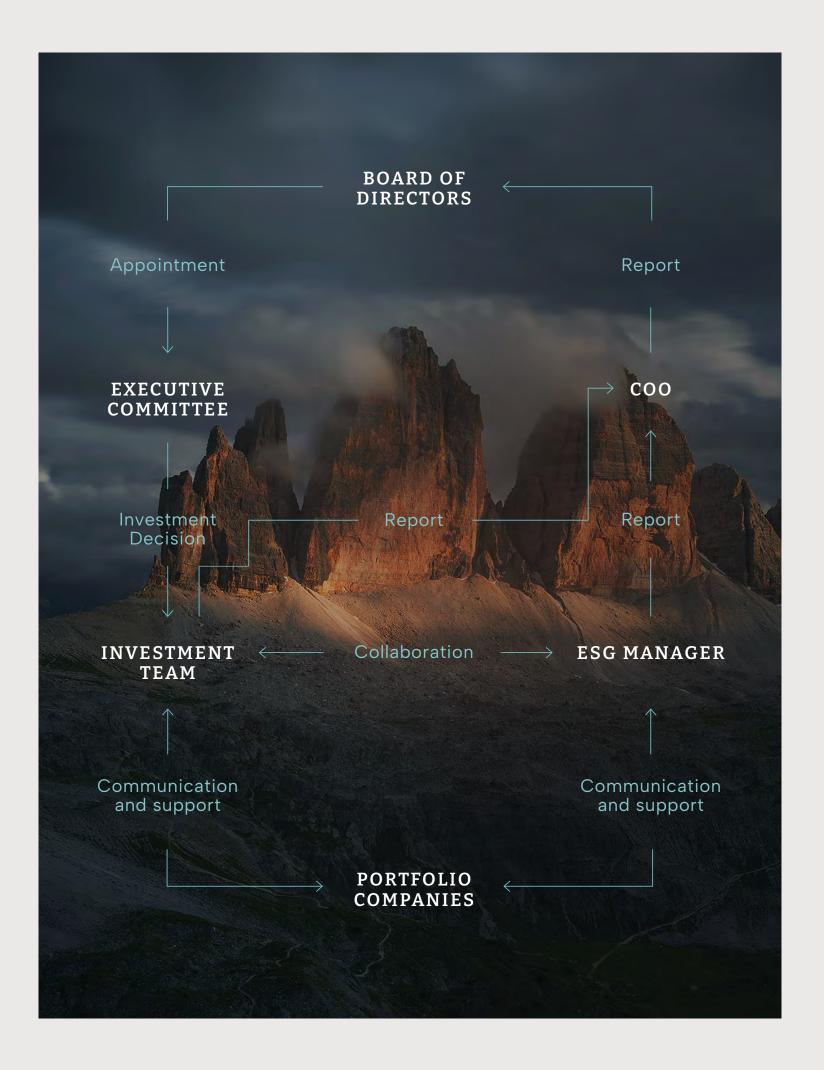
The Executive Committee serves as the central decision-making body on investment matters. Its decisions are informed by a comprehensive ESG analysis and are designed to create long-term value for stakeholders.

The COO, supported by the ESG Manager, oversees the integration of ESG principles across our operations and portfolio. The ESG Manager maintains a direct reporting line to the COO, providing detailed updates on ESG performance, risk assessments, and stakeholder engagement outcomes.

In turn, the COO consolidates and escalates ESG insights to the Board of Directors, ensuring ESG performance remains a core component of executive oversight.

A cornerstone of our sustainability approach is the collaboration between the Investment Team and the ESG Manager. This partnership ensures that ESG considerations are embedded into the investment lifecycle—from due diligence to ownership and exit. This collaborative model fosters innovative, responsible investment practices and enhances portfolio resilience.

Our Portfolio Companies are critical stakeholders in executing our ESG strategy. Both the Investment Team and the ESG Manager engage with portfolio companies through continuous communication and support mechanisms. This two-way dialogue allows us to monitor progress, identify emerging risks, and unlock value through sustainability-led transformation.



# PORTFOLIO COMPANIES -

At Explorer, we are strongly committed to fostering continuous improvement in ESG maturity across our portfolio companies. We believe that integrating robust environmental, social, and governance practices is essential not only for sustainable growth but also for creating long-term value.

As part of this commitment, we engage with each portfolio company annually through our comprehensive ESG survey. This year, between December 2024 and March 2025, we conducted our third Annual ESG Survey, designed to assess a broad range of practices including ESG governance and oversight, overall ESG maturity, monitoring of standard industry KPIs—both environmental and social—as well as climate change-related initiatives.

The survey provides us with valuable insights into each company's current ESG performance and areas for development. After collecting and analyzing the responses, we share detailed results and customized recommendations with each company. This collaborative feedback process helps companies identify strengths and gaps, enabling them to prioritize improvements effectively.

Moreover, the findings from the survey inform the definition of future ESG strategies and the setting of specific KPI targets, ensuring that ESG considerations are embedded into the active management of each investment. Our approach encourages transparency, accountability, and continuous progress, aligning portfolio companies with best practices and evolving stakeholder expectations.

Through this ongoing engagement, we aim to support our companies in building resilient, responsible businesses that contribute positively to society and the environment, while also delivering sustainable financial returns.











# → Manufacturing

Adla Aluminium

Bial

Crivedi

Eurogalva

Fapajal

Fastinov

ForTeams Lab

Gosimac

Guarnição

Hovione

Iberomassa

JJ Teixeira

Marizé

Medinfar

MM Metalica Moldit

Nortempera

PortoCanna

Sici93

Scorecode

Texamerica

Valerius

Vicoustic

Nogueira Fernandes

CME

Clube Fashion

Compracá

Exaktus

Grupo Celeste

Magos Irrigation Systems

Ramiro Leathers

Skypro

Throttleman

Undandy

# → IT & Communications

Devscope

Ethiack

Glintt

Ndrive Nexbitt

Sensei

Rows Unbabel

Uphill

BERD

DFK

Grow Energy

Grupo Your

# → Other Services

Biogerm Bhout

Codeforall

eSelf Al

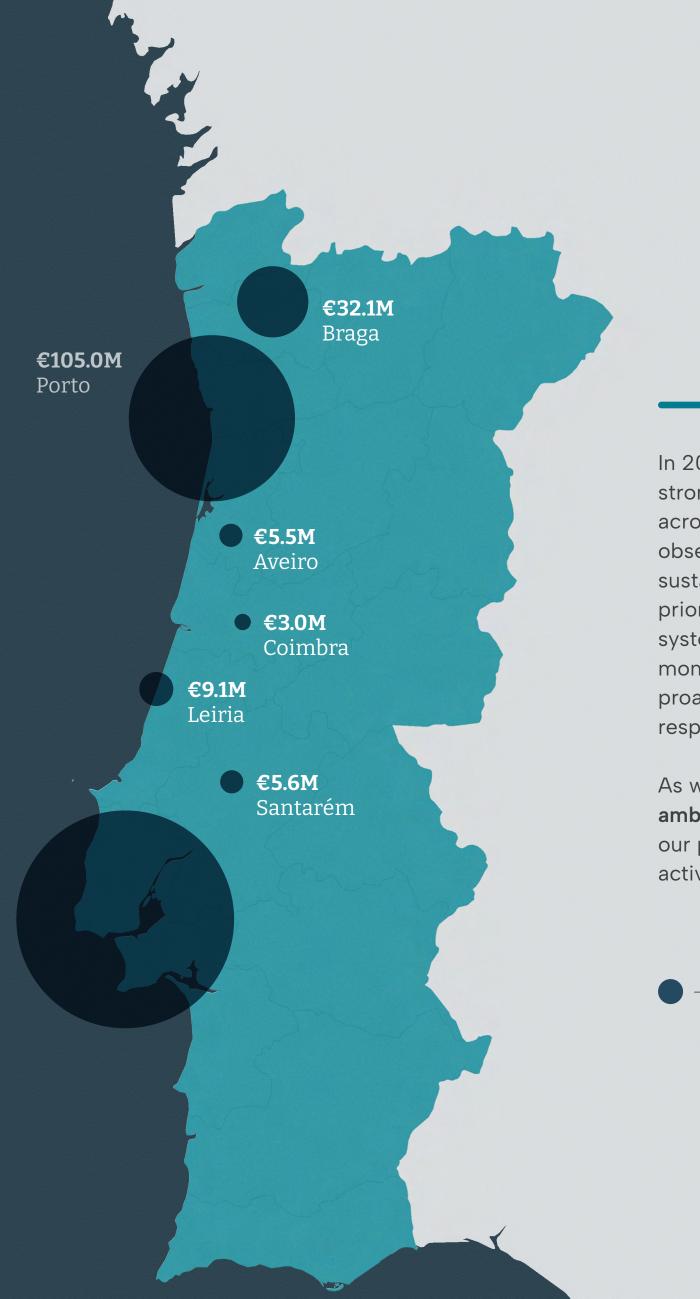
Jove EU

Knok

Lxbio

MOP

€129.1M Lisboa



In 2024, our portfolio companies continued to demonstrate a strong commitment to advancing their sustainability practices across critical dimensions. Building on the steady progress observed in previous years, this year's data confirms that sustainability is increasingly embedded in operational priorities, with particular emphasis on certified management systems, employee engagement, and environmental monitoring. These areas reflect not only compliance but a proactive approach to long-term value creation and responsible business conduct.

As we look ahead, our focus will remain on fostering ambitious yet practical sustainability leadership, ensuring that our portfolio companies not only adapt to change—but actively help shape a more resilient and responsible economy.

Value of investments by District

# Strengthening Management Systems Through Certification

A notable and sustained area of maturity within the portfolio lies in the adoption of **certified management systems**. This year, ISO 9001 (Quality Management) remained the most widely implemented standard, present in 57.1% of responses, reflecting the priority companies place on quality assurance and continuous improvement.

These figures reaffirm the positive trajectory observed in recent years: in 2024 76% of companies held at least one certification, up from 71% in 2023 and up from 60% in 2022. While this year's data suggests a stabilization of that growth, the broad uptake of internationally recognized certifications remains a strong indicator of operational maturity.

Importantly, as sustainability expectations evolve, future emphasis should be placed on broadening the scope of certifications—particularly in areas such as **information security (ISO 27001)** and **anti-bribery compliance (ISO 37001)**, which currently show limited adoption. At Explorer we will continue to promote the adoption of these standards and best practice in these standards to ensure our portfolio companies are best prepared to face future governance challenges.

# Certified Management Systems 19.0% ISO 9001 OHSAS 18001 ISO 13485 ISO 27001 ISO 14001 Others 23.8%

14.3%

# **Empowering People Through Employee Engagement**

Human capital remains at the heart of sustainable transformation. This year's results reveal that over **85% of portfolio companies** actively engage employees through **training initiatives** and **involvement through employee surveys**. Training alone accounted for 81.0% of engagement, while more than half of respondents (52.4%) combined it with employee surveys: a clear signal that many companies are advancing beyond compliance and investing in meaningful dialogue with their teams.

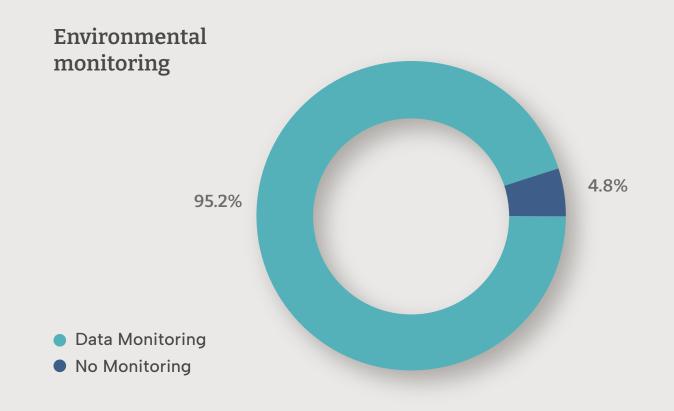
Surveys are a particularly valuable tool, as they offer insights into employee perceptions, foster transparency, and support continuous improvement. The growing integration of surveys alongside training reflects a maturing approach to engagement, where companies not only inform but also listen.

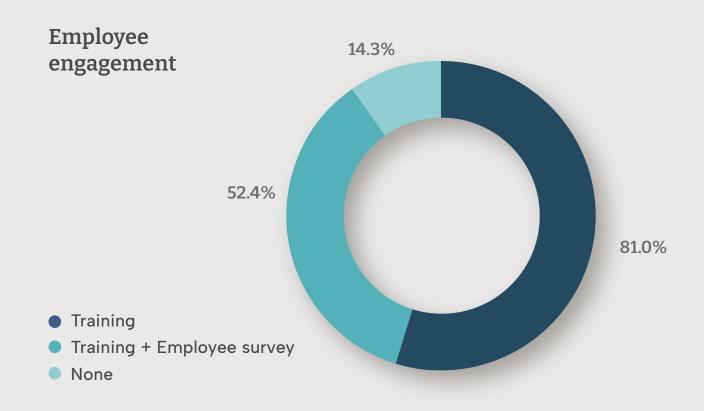
However, the data also reveals that 14.3% of companies reported no engagement initiatives, which represents a slight decline compared to the 93% engagement rate reported in 2023. This drop underscores the need to reinvigorate inclusive engagement strategies, ensuring all employees—regardless of function or location—are equipped and empowered to contribute to sustainability goals.

# **Environmental Monitoring as a Core Operational Practice**

Perhaps the most encouraging finding from this year's survey is the near-universal implementation of environmental monitoring practices, now present in 95.2% of portfolio companies. This marks a continued upward trend from 89% in 2023 and 65% in 2022, showcasing a deliberate and effective push toward environmental accountability.

By incorporating data-driven approaches to monitor key environmental parameters, companies are not only complying with regulatory expectations but also equipping themselves with the tools to manage risk, identify efficiencies, and track progress against their sustainability goals. The consistency of this growth underscores the portfolio's increasing readiness to adopt more advanced environmental performance frameworks and disclosures in the near future.





While progress has been made in many ESG areas, there are still specific aspects where Explorer's portfolio companies need to focus on further development:

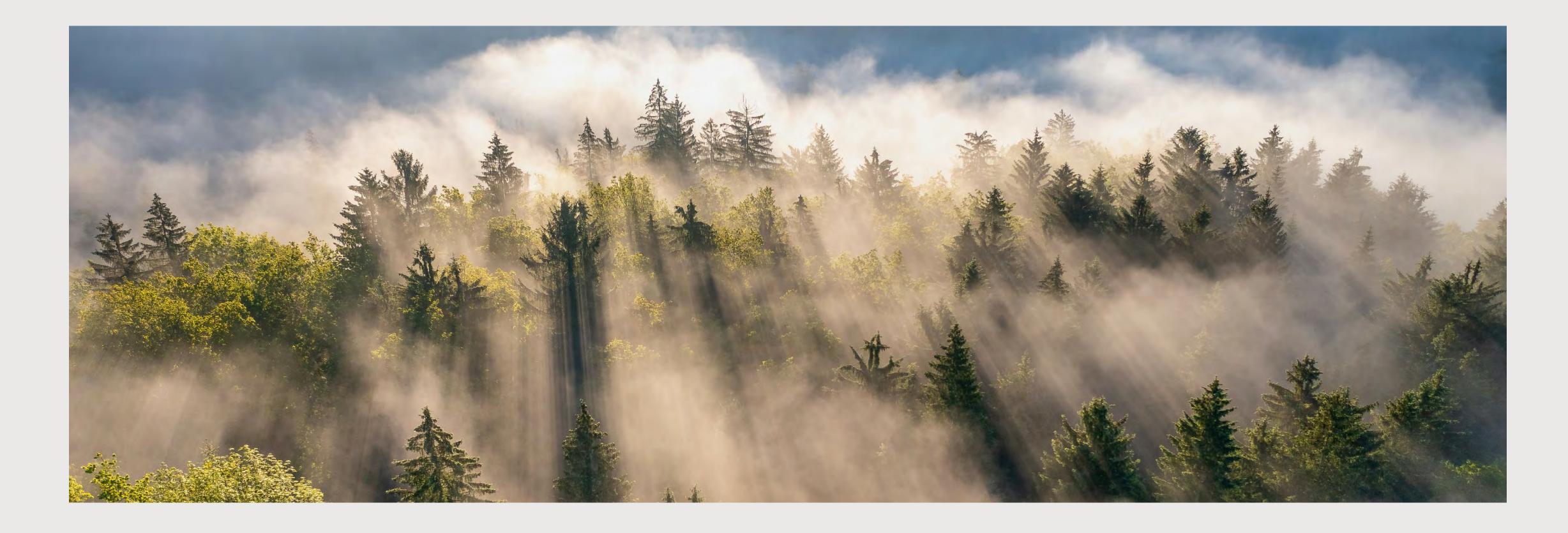
# • Materiality Analysis:

Only about 20% of portfolio companies have completed a formal materiality assessment. This indicates that many companies have yet to fully integrate this essential process into their ESG strategies, possibly due to limited resources, expertise, or prioritisation.

# • Carbon Footprint:

The number of portfolio companies calculating their carbon footprint has decreased compared to the previous year, with most companies still not measuring their emissions. This decline may reflect difficulties in data collection, lack of standardised methodologies, or resource constraints, particularly for smaller or less mature companies within the portfolio.

Explorer is committed to working closely with our portfolio companies to overcome these challenges by providing tailored support, sharing best practices, and encouraging the adoption of robust ESG frameworks to enhance overall ESG maturity.



# CASE STUDIES -

# Devscope

Company name	. Devscope
Sector	. IT & Communications
Head Office	. Porto
Staff	. 157
Turnover	. 9.1 M€
Investment Amount	. 36.3 M€
Date	. Jun. 2023
Fund	. Explorer IV, EGF III, IV e V
Website	. https://devscope.net
Awards and Certifications	
Analytics  Power Platform  Low Code  2021  Portugal Partner of the Year  Microsoft  Microsoft  Low Code  2023  Portugal Partner of the Year  We Microsoft  Microsoft	Microsoft Solutions Partner  Data 6 Al Digital & App Instrustion Modern Work Business Solutions  Advanced Specialization  Al-ML Analytics Low Code

# About the company

**DevScope** is a strategic partner that transforms data into action plans, helping organizations tackle challenges and stay competitive. Specializing in data management optimization, it enables informed decision-making, competitive advantages, and sustainable growth. With a global and diverse client base, DevScope has a strong track record in recommending and implementing data technologies across sectors such as retail, healthcare, real estate, and industry. Committed to innovation, it works with cutting-edge systems to deliver excellence and impactful business results.

# Sustainability background

**DevScope** has taken an important step in its sustainability journey, focusing on the material topics according to the **SASB** (Sustainability Accounting Standards Board) standard to guide its practices and strategies.

**Environmental:** DevScope has conducted an assessment of the environmental footprint of its hardware infrastructure, as well as energy consumption in offices and **Data Centers**, aligning with SASB guidelines with the goal of reducing its environmental impacts. This effort reflects the company's commitment to minimising its ecological footprint and promoting more sustainable practices.

Social: DevScope has a strong commitment to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, implementing inclusive recruitment programs and initiatives that increase diversity within the team. In addition, the company invests in the well-being of its employees, offering mental health programs with an NPS of 45%. Regarding community involvement, the DevScope Academy collaborates with Universities and Colleges, supporting internship projects, merit scholarships, and various solidarity initiatives.

**Governance:** DevScope adopts strict policies on **Ethics and Transparency**, data protection, and risk management, with a special focus on information security and intellectual property protection, ensuring compliance with standards and preventing breaches. Devscope is currently in the process of implementing the ISO27001:2022 standard, with the goal of obtaining certification by the end of 2025.

# CASE STUDIES -

# **Magos Irrigation Systems**

Company name	. Magos Irrigation Systems
Sector	. Wholesale & Retail
Head Office	. Salvaterra de Magos
Staff	. 120
Turnover	. 24.6 M€
Investment Amount	. 7.2 M€
Date	. Jan. 2023
Fund	. Explorer IV
Website	. https://www.magos.pt/en

# **Awards and Certifications**







# About the company

Magos IS is a leading company in the sector, offering irrigation solutions to its clients. The company operate across three main business areas, Turnkey Irrigation Projects, Sale of irrigation equipment & accessories and After-sales technical support for clients.

Operating mainly within Portugal, with projects and clients in Spain, Magos has facilities strategically located across the country: Salvaterra de Magos (Headquarters, warehouse and production unit); Beja (Warehouse and office) and Vila Real (Office).

# Sustainability background

Magos's sustainability journey started with a **materiality analysis**, which helped identify and prioritise the most relevant sustainability issues to Magos's stakeholders and long-term success. This structured program included five online workshops involving key internal stakeholders from finance, HR, operations, and project management.

Among the themes considered, two emerged as material: Business Model Resilience and Labour Practices.

Business Model Resilience focuses on Magos's ability to maintain continuity and growth amid market changes and external crises. As a result of the materiality exercise, a number of actions are on-going and have been implemented. These include the expansion of the existing risk map within the Quality Management System (ISO 9001), the review of warranties for works and equipment included in proposals—alongside updates to both the proposal and project delivery templates—the analysis of procurement policy options, the request for Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) information from suppliers, and the definition of decarbonisation measures.

Labour Practices reflects Magos's commitment to fostering safe, inclusive, and development-focused workplaces. As a result of the materiality assessment, several initiatives were identified to strengthen internal practices. These include the periodic review of competitive benefits, the development of an Occupational Health and Safety Policy, the implementation of annual performance evaluations, the creation of an employee engagement policy, and the rollout of an organisational climate survey.

Other topics were assessed during the materiality process but did not rank as critical at this stage. This focused approach allows Magos to channel resources toward the most impactful initiatives.

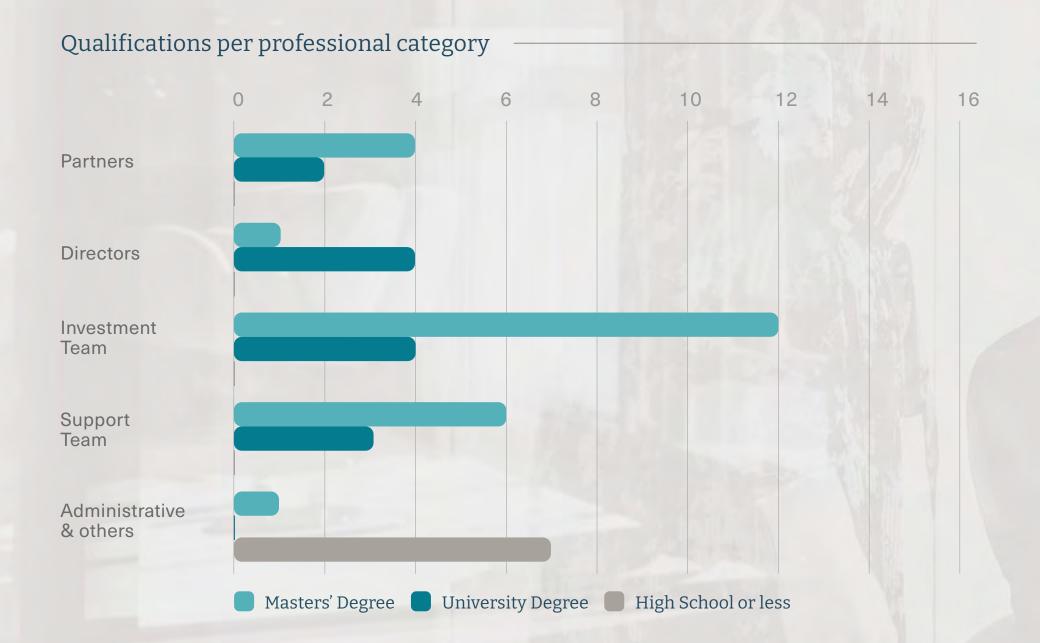


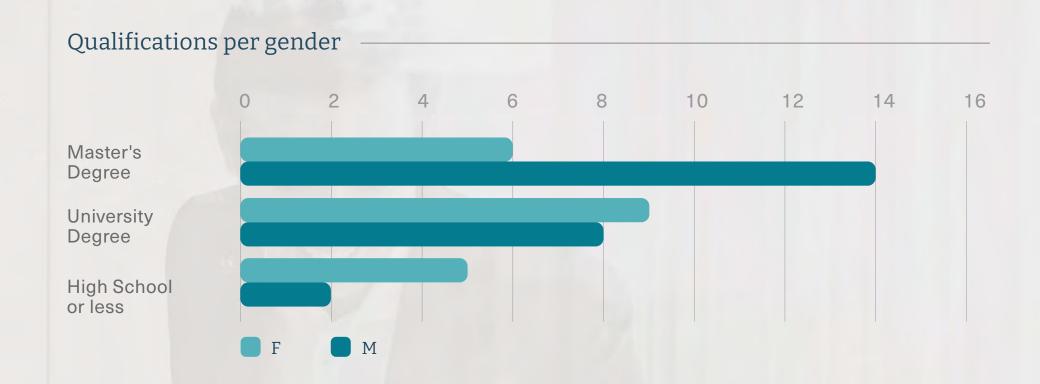


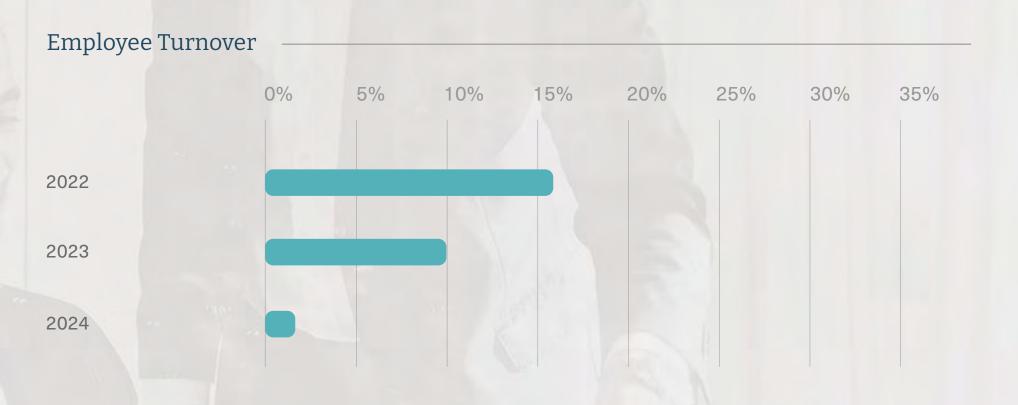
# Talent is Our Foundation

Explorer's business model relies on qualified professionals with deep knowledge of our Funds, portfolio companies, and the Portuguese business landscape. We place significant emphasis on hiring individuals who are not only well-prepared for the job but who also align with our culture of high performance and collaboration.

Given that many of our Funds have a **minimum 8-year horizon**, **talent retention** is not just desirable, it's essential. We strive to create a working environment that encourages long-term engagement, nurtures loyalty, and builds deep institutional knowledge.







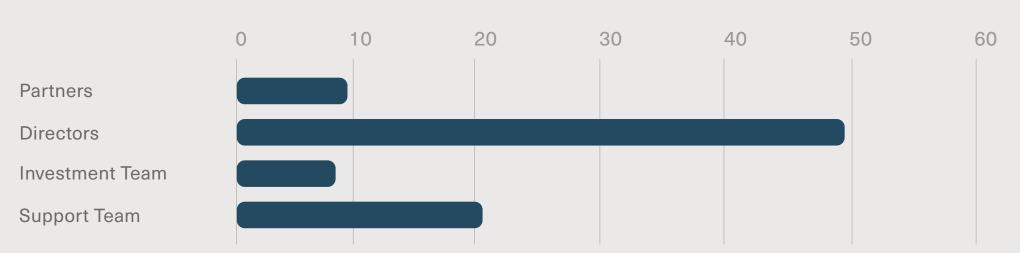
# **Continuous Learning and Development**

At Explorer, we remain deeply committed to **continuous learning and professional development** as core drivers of our long-term success. However, in 2024, we made a deliberate decision to **pause large-scale training initiatives** as we undertook a **comprehensive review of our approach to talent management.** 

This work has been led by our **HR taskforce**, which has been actively evaluating how best to align development opportunities with the evolving needs of our people and the business. Rather than continuing with business-as-usual training, we took this time to reflect, reframe, and redesign a strategy that will better support our employees' growth going forward.

As a result, a renewed training framework will be rolled out in 2025, built on the insights gathered during this review. It will focus not only on technical and industry knowledge, but also on leadership development, cross-functional collaboration, and long-term career progression—ensuring that Explorer remains a place where people can grow, thrive, and lead.

# Average number of training hours per employee per professional category



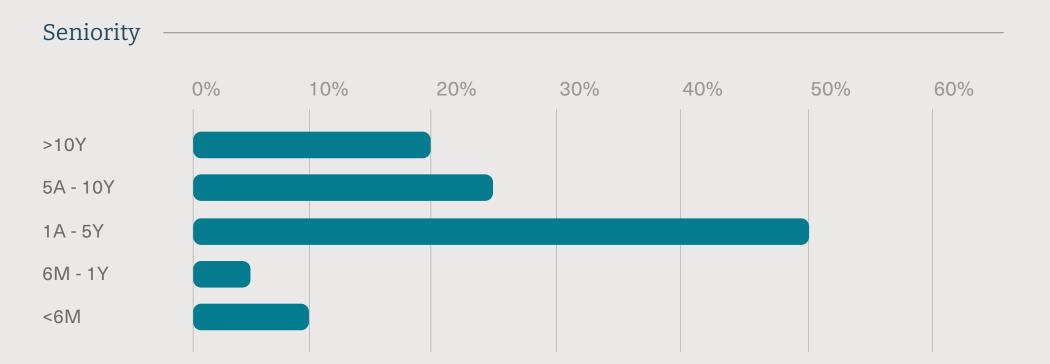
# A Focus on Culture, Well-being, and Belonging

We are committed to providing the tools, resources, and conditions our people need to thrive—professionally and personally. From onboarding through our dedicated induction process to everyday operations, we focus on creating a healthy, supportive, and inclusive workplace.

In addition to reviewing and updating our **employee benefits** (such as travel cards and childcare vouchers) regularly to keep them in line with the team's needs and market best practice, we organize **corporate events** that promote team spirit and strengthen our team-oriented culture.

# **Celebrating Longevity and Loyalty**

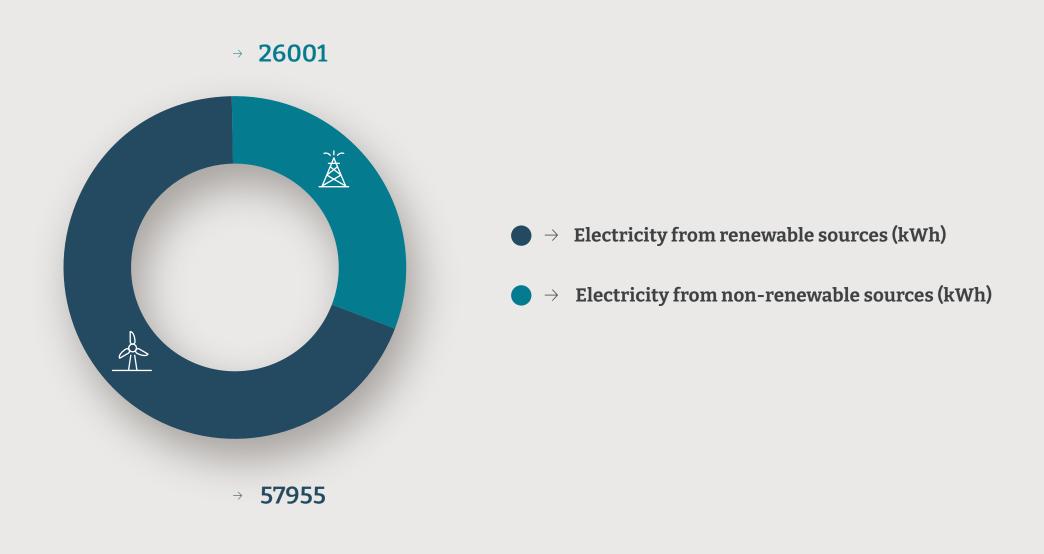
At Explorer, we understand that **loyalty and long-term commitment** are invaluable. We proudly celebrate our team's enduring dedication with special **recognition gifts at 10, 15, and 20-year milestones**.



# OUR FOOTPRINT -

At Explorer, we recognize the need to act on climate change and are committed to minimizing our environmental impact. Sustainability is not an add-on—it's a core part of how we operate and grow responsibly.

In 2024, we took a significant leap forward by transitioning to 100% renewable electricity across our operations. This change reflects our determination to support the clean energy transition and reduce our reliance on fossil fuels. By sourcing all our electricity from certified renewable sources, we are significantly lowering our Scope 2 emissions and contributing to a more sustainable energy system.





# **Carbon Footprint**





This transition is just one part of a broader effort. Over the past several years, we have consistently reduced our scope 1+2 carbon footprint on a per-employee basis and are seeing the same tendency in the last 2 years when accounting for scope 3 emissions. This downward trend is the result of multiple initiatives, including optimizing energy use, promoting responsible travel policies with hybrid vehicles, and improving the efficiency of our workplace infrastructure.

Our goal is to continue driving down emissions while maintaining a high standard of operational excellence. We recognize that environmental sustainability is a long-term journey, and we are proud to be making measurable progress toward a lower-impact future.

- <sup>1</sup> In alignment with the GHG Protocol Corporate Accounting and Reporting Standard.
- <sup>2</sup> Market based approach.
- <sup>3</sup> In 2022, Scope 3 footprint was not calculated, so this figure is not directly comparable with the figures for 2023 and 2024.

# GIVING BACK —

At Explorer, we believe that true value creation extends beyond financial performance — it also involves building stronger, more inclusive communities. Supporting society is not only part of our responsibility as a long-term investor but also a core expression of our values.

Each year, Explorer donates 10% of its net profits to education programs that promote meritocracy and excellence. Through this commitment, we aim to empower the next generation of leaders, particularly within the financial industry, by removing barriers to opportunity and recognizing outstanding academic performance. In the past year, this has translated into merit-based scholarships and awards that directly impact students and educational institutions.

Beyond our own initiatives, we are proud to see that this spirit of giving is increasingly reflected in the actions of our portfolio companies. Today, nearly half of the companies in our portfolio actively engage with the communities in which they operate—whether by supporting local employment, investing in social initiatives, or contributing to regional development efforts. This collective effort amplifies our impact and reinforces our belief that financial success and social responsibility go hand in hand.

As we continue to grow, so does our capacity—and our obligation—to give back. We are committed to fostering a culture of civic engagement and long-term impact, both within Explorer and across the businesses we support.





# This year we have supported students in the following programs:

2

Explorer Excellence Master's Scholarship at Nova SBE 1

Erasmus scholarship for ISEG Business School undergraduate students

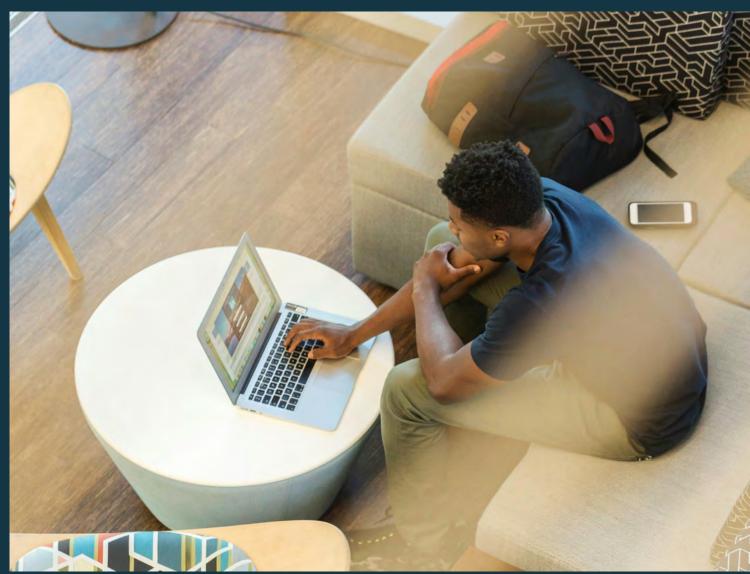
5

Explorer Excellence Merit Prizes to master's degree students at Universidade Católica 2

Explorer Excellence Merit Prizes to undergraduate students at Universidade Católica 3

Education Scholarships for students in financial need

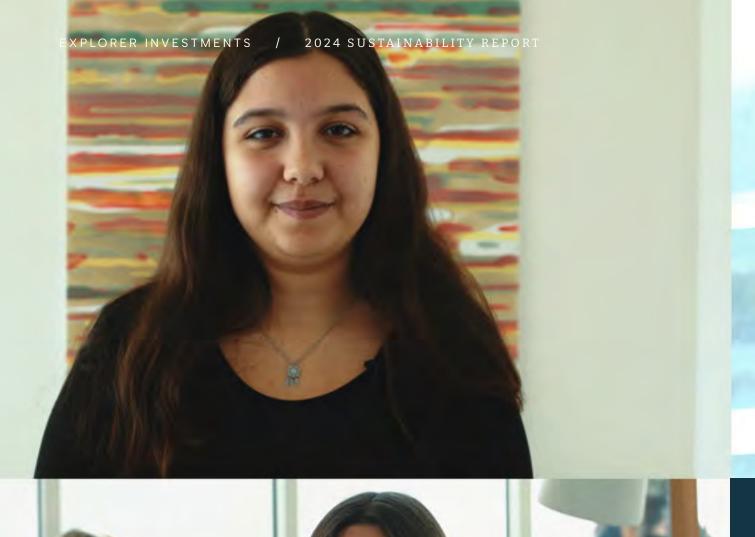






# São Tomás school

3 scholarships awarded to students in financial need. The school is a Catholic School founded in 2003 by the Association for Education, Training and Culture (APECEF). With a mission to develop the reasoning and freedom of each student, challenging everyone to take on the exciting adventure of learning.









# Instituto Rodrigo Guimarães

Rodrigo Guimarães, founding partner of Explorer, had a strong sense of justice and believed that all young people should have the chance to broaden their horizons and create their own opportunities, regardless of their financial status.

He used to say: 'All young people should be able to open their horizons and take a chance on fortune.'

To honour this vision, his family and his long-time friend and business partner, Elizabeth Rothfield, founded the Rodrigo Guimarães Institute for the Promotion of Education.

# The Association's mission is to:

- Provide financial support and mentoring to young people between the ages of 13 and 23 with fewer resources.
- Facilitate access to quality education.
- To promote entrepreneurship in future generations.

In this way, Rodrigo Guimarães' legacy lives on, providing them with more opportunities through education and entrepreneurship.

www.institutorodrigoguimaraes.org



