Environmental, Social, and Governance Impact Report 2019-2020

Sustainable Value Creation from Africa’s Natural Resources through Pioneering Industrial Ecosystems
The ESG Impact report provides an overview of ARISE Integrated Industrial Platforms B.V. and ARISE Infrastructure Services B.V. (referred to as ‘ARISE’, ‘we’, ‘we’ or ‘the Company’ in this report) operations and our role in advancing sustainable logistical and industrial infrastructure development and operations in the western and central Africa region. The report captures ARISE’s ESG commitments, our senior leaders’ views on ESG’s purpose and ESG’s role in guiding the Company’s business strategy, and how ESG is integrated into the Company’s business strategy and processes.

This report provides a synopsis of ARISE’s ESG function and its role in our business operations, the policies, frameworks and management systems in place to achieve ESG goals and demonstrate ARISE’s commitment. The report also provides a summary of ESG projects, programs and initiatives completed in 2019 and 2020, as well as the outcomes.

This report further summarizes ARISE’s ESG-related focus areas for the future, go-slow initiatives in these areas, and projects being undertaken and planned in the coming years to meet the Company’s ESG goals and targets.
Vision
Building globally competitive industrial & logistics ecosystems in Africa.

Mission
To enable African economic transformation and job creation through value-generating and sustainable industrial ecosystems.

Our Values

Entrepreneurship
We are bold in our vision, diligent in our design, and agile in our execution.

Sustainability
We make long-term commitments where sustainability means success.

Respect
We believe that transparency, ethics and responsibility are crucial to true success.

Empowerment
We believe in shared prosperity and empowering partnerships to help every stakeholder reach their potential.

CEO’s Statement

"ESG will be a key driver of our performance and success. Our aim is that whatever we build has to be truly sustainable and every stakeholder must earn their right share of profits."

Gagan Gupta
CEO ARISE

We are building globally competitive industrial & logistics ecosystems in Africa.

To enable African economic transformation and job creation through value-generating and sustainable industrial ecosystems.

As we release our second environmental, social and governance (ESG) report, we have taken this opportunity to reflect on the challenges and opportunities we faced in 2020. Our report reflects just some of the activities and projects that we undertook and is our commitment to creating value for all our stakeholders.

One of the foundations of our business is our commitment to create value for all our stakeholders. We believe that as we grow, all our stakeholders should benefit from our success. With regard to our employees, we are highly committed to providing a safe and healthy workplace, and supporting sustainable practices. Furthermore, we are taking steps to bridge the diversity and inclusion gaps at all levels in our organization, and we are taking steps to bridge the diversity and inclusion gaps at all levels in our organization.

Climate change is a generational crisis, and we are committed to being part of the solution. We are continuously integrating adaptation and mitigation measures into our current operations and in our upcoming projects. Our acquisition of a 15% stake of Aera, a leading trader of CO2 emission reduction certificates in Africa, reflects our commitment to carbon-neutral growth. In Togo, we are building one of the biggest solar parks in the region and achieving significant emission reductions in a cost-effective way.

In adapting and responding to these challenges to the global economy and the world continues to see the social and governance (ESG) report, we are committed to respecting the perspectives, values and principles of all stakeholders.

We continuously engage with and support the local communities and aim to achieve as a responsible member of society. We aim to respect local culture and traditions in our engagement with the communities. Our commitment to our stakeholders and ESG principles will continue to define our corporate strategy. We continually work to understand our role in society and how our actions foster sustainable development in Africa. We aspire to be the thought leaders and demand to sustainable growth in Africa as it transitions to an industrial economy.

The report reflects just some of the progress we have made and the steps we have taken to support this commitment. I hope that it proves useful and insightful.
Our focus on ESG means that maximizing profits is not the only way to run a business. We take into consideration the impacts on the local community and environment and aim to find a balance between the two to ensure that 1. We are providing opportunities for local communities, which will benefit generations to come. 2. We are carrying out our activities in an environmentally friendly and socially responsible manner — bringing sustainable ways into our operations.

Leadership Interviews

George Olaka, CFO ARISE IIP & IS

I believe that success can only be measured in terms of how much we have made a better society and cannot solely be measured from the monetary terms. For example, we are giving people opportunities that would otherwise not have been there.

Jesper Boll, COO ARISE IIP

Our focus on ESG means that maximizing profits is not the only way to run a business. We take into consideration the impacts on the local community and environment and aim to find a balance between the two to ensure that 1. We are providing opportunities for local communities, which will benefit generations to come. 2. We are carrying out our activities in an environmentally friendly and socially responsible manner — bringing sustainable ways into our operations.

Gagan Gupta, CEO ARISE

What does ESG mean to you, and what role do you think ESG has played in ARISE’s success?

How is ESG currently integrated into ARISE’s business performance and success over the next 3-5 years?

Gagan Gupta, CEO ARISE

What does ESG mean to you, and what role do you think ESG has played in ARISE’s success?

How is ESG currently integrated into ARISE’s business performance and success over the next 3-5 years?

Jesper Boll, COO ARISE IIP

How is ESG currently integrated into ARISE’s business performance and success over the next 3-5 years?

ARISE shows a list of heroes who are integrating ESG into their daily operations, and businesses are speaking up at industry conferences and in media outlets to share their stories. For example, we have recently spoken at a conference in the UK about the benefits of integrating ESG into our operations.

How does ESG currently integrate into company’s strategy?

What are the three most important factors driving ARISE’s business performance and success over the next 3-5 years?

It is the people who drive the success in any business, and it is essential to have the right human resources personnel in place to achieve success. In ARISE, we strongly believe that ESG is a step that will differentiate our organization and the business from other players in the sector. It is the people who drive the success in any business, and it is essential to have the right human resources personnel in place to achieve success.

ARISE believes that the role of leadership is vital in shaping the future of the company and its stakeholders. We take into consideration the impacts on the local community and environment and aim to find a balance between the two to ensure that 1. We are providing opportunities for local communities, which will benefit generations to come. 2. We are carrying out our activities in an environmentally friendly and socially responsible manner — bringing sustainable ways into our operations.

Jesper Boll, COO ARISE IIP

Our focus on ESG means that maximizing profits is not the only way to run a business. We take into consideration the impacts on the local community and environment and aim to find a balance between the two to ensure that 1. We are providing opportunities for local communities, which will benefit generations to come. 2. We are carrying out our activities in an environmentally friendly and socially responsible manner — bringing sustainable ways into our operations.

How is ESG currently integrated into company’s strategy?

ARISE shows a list of heroes who are integrating ESG into their daily operations, and businesses are speaking up at industry conferences and in media outlets to share their stories. For example, we have recently spoken at a conference in the UK about the benefits of integrating ESG into our operations.

How does ESG currently integrate into company’s strategy?
As an infrastructure developer in a rapidly evolving business environment, we have taken all steps necessary to ensure our strong relationships with our partners are maintained and to provide the necessary support to our investors. We believe that our system of ESG management is aligned with International Industry Practice (GIIP) and World Bank Group’s General Environmental, Social and Sustainability Framework, Code of Conduct for Investors and their impacts. I invite you to read this report, which presents a snapshot of our progress and will make reporting less complex. We are committed to doing this so that we leave a positive impact on the society and environment, and benefit all stakeholders. This report presents our commitment towards sustainable development and job creation.

Our Commitment to ESG

At ARISE, we are committed to managing business activities in such a way that they benefit the environment and society. We believe that it is not just the right thing to do, but it also provides us a different perspective and adds value to our business while reducing risk. ESG management is underpinned in our value chain through our operations, we take our sustainability responsibilities seriously. By integrating ESG best practices into our projects, we are targeting achieving certification by the end of 2021.

Chief ESG Officer’s Statement

Over the past two years, we have been on our toes trying to fulfill our ESG obligations and commitments while also launching some new projects. ESG 2020 has signifies a new chapter in the context of operations, partnerships and Entrepreneurship. ESG management is underpinned in our value chain through our operations, we take our sustainability responsibilities seriously. By integrating ESG best practices into our projects, we are targeting achieving certification by the end of 2021.

I am delighted to share with you all the progress we have made in our ESG commitments towards sustainable management and the progress we have made in our ESG commitments in the years 2019 and 2020. It did not just the right thing to do, but it also provides us a different perspective and adds value to our business while reducing risk. ESG management is underpinned in our value chain through our operations, we take our sustainability responsibilities seriously. By integrating ESG best practices into our projects, we are targeting achieving certification by the end of 2021.

As an infrastructure developer in a rapidly evolving business environment, we have taken all steps necessary to ensure our strong relationships with our partners are maintained and to provide the necessary support to our investors. We believe that our system of ESG management is aligned with International Industry Practice (GIIP) and World Bank Group’s General Environmental, Social and Sustainability Framework, Code of Conduct for Investors and their impacts. I invite you to read this report, which presents a snapshot of our progress and will make reporting less complex. We are committed to doing this so that we leave a positive impact on the society and environment, and benefit all stakeholders. This report presents our commitment towards sustainable development and job creation.

Our Commitment to ESG

At ARISE, we are committed to managing business activities in such a way that they benefit the environment and society. We believe that it is not just the right thing to do, but it also provides us a different perspective and adds value to our business while reducing risk. ESG management is underpinned in our value chain through our operations, we take our sustainability responsibilities seriously. By integrating ESG best practices into our projects, we are targeting achieving certification by the end of 2021.
ARISE – Africa’s #1 and Unique Infrastructure Platform

ARISE is a pan-African industrial ecosystem developer providing fully-integrated logistical and infrastructure solutions.

ARISE’s goal is to strengthen and develop Africa’s natural commodity value chains by transitioning the current supply chains into sustainable value chains by attracting downstream value-adding industries into the region which in turn would help the region in earning higher revenues from its natural commodities.

ARISE is a subsidiary of Olam Group consisting of its logistics and infrastructure business. Previously the business operated under the name Gabon Special Economic Zone SA (“GSEZ”). GSEZ was established in 2010 with a mandate to develop infrastructure, enhance industrial competitiveness, and build a business-friendly ecosystem in Gabon. GSEZ was reorganized in 2019 when it was split into three verticals - ARISE Integrated Industrial Platforms (IIP), ARISE Infrastructure Services (IS), and ARISE Ports and Logistics (P&L).

We:

Conceive, design, and build industrial ecosystems for creating sustainable value chains including logistical infrastructure.

Operate and maintain the built infrastructure.

Create resilient supply chains by building and operating auxiliary infrastructures for sourcing, storage, processing and transportation of raw and finished goods.

ARISE Projects at a Glance

ARISE Integrated Industrial Platforms

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ARISE Integrated Industrial Platforms</th>
<th>ARISE Infrastructure Services</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NSEZ, Nkok, Gabon</td>
<td>NSEZ, Nkok, Gabon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GSEZ Platform Industrielle D’Adékrope’ (PIA), Lomé, Togo</td>
<td>GSEZ – Infras (Gabon Electrical Lines)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Côte d’Ivoire IIP, PK 24, San Pedro, Ferkessédougou, Ivory Coast</td>
<td>Société Autoroutière du Gabon–Franceville Toll Road Project (SAG), Gabon</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Projects at a Glance:

- NSEZ, Nkok, Gabon:
  - 1,124 Ha - Total area
  - 593 Ha - Total developed area
  - 698,883 m² - Total Built-up area
  - 80 - Number of host companies in operation
  - 26 - Host companies under development
  - 60 - Total number of agreements to invest

- PIA, Lomé, Togo:
  - 400 Ha - Total area
  - 146,000 MT Cotton fiber conversion capacity

- GSEZ – Infras (Gabon Electrical Lines):
  - 711 km - Electrical lines constructed
  - 6 - Substations constructed
  - 121 - Number of villages benefitted by electrification

- Golo-Djigbe Industrial Zone (GDIZ), Golo-Djigbé, Benin:
  - 1,640 Ha - Total area
  - 150 Ha - Green area
  - 560 - Total Plots
  - 2023 - Phase I expected to be partially operated

- Côte d’Ivoire IIP, PK 24, San Pedro, Ferkessédougou, Ivory Coast:
  - 10.129 Ha - Total area
ARISE first arrived in Africa (Gabon) in 2010, establishing the Nkok SEZ in partnership with the Republic of Gabon. Nkok SEZ became operational in 2013. Since then, Nkok SEZ has attracted numerous companies processing raw timber. ARISE has also attracted over 100 secondary investors and companies for setting up downstream manufacturing and processing facilities within the SEZ, which has added significant value via the ability to export higher value products. ARISE has also signed new agreements in Togo, Benin, and Ivory Coast and is in the process of developing new industrial zones and supporting infrastructure.

ARISE Journey and Timeline:

- 2010: Nkok SEZ construction started
- 2013: NSEZ operation started
- 2014: Installation of OMP 5 (GSEZ - multi purpose electrical lines) launched
- 2016: Inauguration of OMP 6 (GSEZ - multi purpose electrical lines) launched
- 2017: Inauguration of OMP 7 (GSEZ - multi purpose electrical lines) launched
- 2018: Concession signed for Nouakchott Container Terminal (AIC)
- 2019: Concession signed for Nouakchott Container Terminal (AIC)
- 2020: Construction of new Owendo International Airport, Libreville, Gabon (ARISE IIP. ARISE P&L, & ARISE IS)

Timeline:

2010: Olam CEO's first visit to Gabon; MoU signed with Gabonese Republic; ARISE first arrived in Africa (Gabon) in 2010, establishing the Nkok SEZ in partnership with the Republic of Gabon; ARISE has entered into new agreements in Togo, Benin, and Ivory Coast.

2013: NSEZ operation started

2014: Attribution of Nkok SEZ (GSEZ - multi purpose electrical lines) launched

2016: Inauguration of OMP 4 (GSEZ - multi purpose electrical lines) launched

2017: Inauguration of OMP 5 (GSEZ - multi purpose electrical lines) launched

2018: GSEZ Infras project (Gabon Port (OMP) extension)

2019: Concession signed for Nouakchott Container Terminal (AIC)

2020: Construction of new Owendo International Airport, Libreville, Gabon (ARISE IIP. ARISE P&L, & ARISE IS)
ARISE’s Role in Industrial Zone Development

ARISE’s participation in projects varies depending on the nature of the project. We may take on any of the following roles:

- **Zone Developer**
  - Making land arrangements and building the infrastructure
- **Zone Operator**
  - Overseeing day-to-day operation and maintenance of common-use infrastructure, including supporting host companies in complying with SEZ governing framework.
- **Zone User**
  - Establishing and operating warehousing and processing units.

ARISE is also a zone user in addition to other uses.

ARISE Operations Through Impact Investment Lens

As an infrastructure ecosystem provider, we are addressing the massive infrastructural deficit in Africa by investing in natural resource-based industries by connecting the local markets to global value chain platforms. Through our projects, ARISE contributes directly and indirectly to affecting positive change in socio-economic and environmental conditions locally and globally. Large infrastructure projects such as SEZs have direct and indirect economic impacts on downstream industries, bringing financial stability in the local community, and attracting foreign investments in terms of revenue, and providing an opportunity to experiment with different business models among various other benefits.

From the impact investing perspective, ARISE attracts investment into Africa by playing an important role in impact investments. During the planning and developing SEZs and auxiliary infrastructure, we create value for the local community and the host country, as well as for local investors and customers. Furthermore, by providing infrastructures, administrative, and investment support for 157 investments, including those for ESG risk management, we enable our employees, investors, host companies, and governments to create a positive impact in the regions where we operate.

“We believe that as a company we are not just infrastructure developers and operators, but more importantly we also see our role as impact creators and enablers in Africa’s sustainable development journey.”

– Jasveer Singh, Chief Development Officer

Direct benefits
- Local community – new jobs, capacity building
- Environment – sustainable resource management, investment in green technologies, traceability in supply chain
- Industry – Diversification of manufacturing industries, value-added projects
- Local community – Indirect jobs, increased spending in the local community

Indirect benefits
- Local community – Indirect jobs
- Environment – Introduction of new ESG management and scalable practices
- Industry – Diversification of products exported
- Economy – increased in sustainable productivity

ARISE Operations contracts and investments

ARISE establishes and invests in SEZs and auxiliary infrastructure, which helps in socio-economic and environmental conditions locally and globally. Large infrastructure projects such as SEZs have direct and indirect economic impacts. Such projects provide opportunities for technology transfer, upgrading skill and technology within local communities. By attracting downstream industries, bringing financial stability in the local communities, attracting foreign investments, and enabling governments to create new industries, we are addressing the massive infrastructural deficit in Africa. As an infrastructure ecosystem provider, we are addressing the massive infrastructural deficit in Africa by investing in natural resource-based industries by connecting the local markets to global value chain platforms.
role of ESG

ESG Risk Management

ESG Risk Management involves identifying, assessing, and mitigating risks that can impact a company’s environmental, social, and governance (ESG) performance. A robust ESG Risk Management program helps organizations identify potential risks and develop strategies to minimize their impact.

Compliance Management

Compliance Management ensures that the company complies with relevant laws, regulations, and standards. It involves implementing systems to comply with regulations, managing regulatory risks, and ensuring that the organization’s actions align with its values and ethical standards.

Policy Framework

The Policy Framework outlines the strategies and guidelines that govern a company’s ESG practices. It defines the company’s approach to environmental sustainability, social responsibility, and corporate governance, ensuring that these principles are integrated into the organization’s decision-making process.

Corporate Policies

Corporate Policies include Environmental Sustainability, Health and Safety Policies, and Social Policies. These policies guide the company’s operations and decision-making to ensure alignment with ethical standards and regulatory requirements.

Environmental and Social Management

Environmental and Social Management encompasses policies related to environmental sustainability, social responsibility, and corporate governance. It involves implementing strategies to minimize the environmental impact of operations, promote sustainable business practices, and address social issues.

ESG Actions

ESG Actions are strategies and initiatives implemented to improve a company’s environmental, social, and governance performance. They address specific ESG issues and contribute to the overall sustainability and ethical management of the organization.

Supply chain management

Supply chain management involves overseeing the flow of materials, information, and services between an organization and its suppliers, manufacturers, and customers. Effective supply chain management ensures timely delivery of goods, maintaining customer trust, and improving overall business efficiency.

Reputation risk management

Reputation Risk Management focuses on protecting an organization’s reputation and managing potential threats to its brand, such as negative public relations, media coverage, and stakeholder perception. It involves proactive measures to enhance the company’s image and respond effectively to any reputation challenges.

Physical risk management

Physical Risk Management addresses potential hazards and risks that could affect the physical environment and the security of the company’s assets. It involves implementing strategies to mitigate risks related to physical security, natural disasters, and other environmental factors.

Equipment safety

Equipment Safety is a critical aspect of physical risk management. It involves ensuring that equipment and machinery are safe and comply with regulatory standards to prevent accidents and protect employees. This includes regular maintenance, inspections, and adherence to safety protocols.

Construction safety

Construction Safety is essential in managing physical risks, especially in projects that involve building structures. It focuses on implementing safety measures, training workers, and adhering to regulatory requirements to ensure a safe working environment for construction projects.

Emergency drills

Emergency Drills are simulations that prepare employees for potential emergencies, such as fires, natural disasters, and other hazardous situations. They help enhance preparedness and response capabilities, ensuring that employees can effectively manage risks and safeguard the organization.

Inspections and audits

Inspections and Audits are systematic evaluations of the company’s operations to identify and mitigate potential risks. They help ensure compliance with standards and regulations, promote continuous improvement, and maintain a culture of accountability and safety.

Equipment management

Equipment Management involves maintaining and managing the organization’s equipment to ensure optimal performance, safety, and reliability. It includes regular maintenance, maintenance planning, and compliance with relevant standards and regulations.

Environmental and Social Action Plan

Environmental and Social Action Plan outlines strategies and initiatives to improve the company’s environmental sustainability and social responsibility. It addresses key areas such as energy efficiency, waste management, community engagement, and human rights.

Environmental and Social Action Plan

Environmental and Social Action Plan includes action plans for environmental sustainability, social responsibility, and corporate governance. It specifies objectives, strategies, and implementation timelines to ensure a comprehensive approach to ESG management.

Stakeholder Engagement Plan

Stakeholder Engagement Plan outlines how the company will engage with key stakeholders, including employees, customers, suppliers, and the community. It defines communication strategies, engagement mechanisms, and the feedback process to maintain strong relationships and support the company’s ESG initiatives.

Biodiversity Management Plan

Biodiversity Management Plan focuses on preserving and enhancing the biodiversity within the company’s operations. It includes strategies for habitat conservation, species protection, and ecosystem management to promote sustainable development.

Forest Management Plan

Forest Management Plan outlines the approach to managing and maintaining forest resources. It covers aspects such as sustainable logging, reforestation, and biodiversity conservation to ensure long-term sustainability and environmental benefits.

Forest Stewardship Council certification.

ISO 14001, OHSAS 18001, ISO 9001

ISO 14001, OHSAS 18001, ISO 9001 standards are widely recognized for their rigorous requirements and are globally accepted as benchmarks for excellence in environmental management, health and safety, and quality management. ARISE has also achieved the Forest Stewardship Council certification, demonstrating its commitment to sustainable forest management.

In addition to compliance with local and national legislations, ESG team also supports compliance with various standards that help the business in managing risks and earning customer’s trust. These include:

- IFC Environmental and Social Framework
- IFC Environmental and Social Performance Standards
- ISO 14001, OHSAS 18001, ISO 9001
- FSC (Forest Stewardship Council)
- Responsible Woodworking (PEFC)

In addition to these initiatives, ARISE has also outsourced a limited number of ESG services to key experts and business units ESG managers which helps the company in managing ESG risks more effectively throughout a project’s life cycle.

Knowing the fact that the type of risks vary with project stage, we put in place relevant strategies and systems to manage ESG risks sensibly. Over 25% of ESG team consists of expats and approximately 75% of the team consists of local members. Approximately one-fifth of the team is made up of female employees.

Various charters and standard Operating Procedures are endorsed by the members of the senior management team. The corporate policies which provide a framework for ESG management team.

ESG team drafts corporate and site-specific environmental sustainability, social responsibility, and corporate governance policies. These policies are endorsed by the members of the senior management team.

The ESG team in ARISE comprises of key experts who design, develop, and implement ESG strategies and systems. This includes business unit-specific ESG strategies and systems to manage ESG risks more effectively throughout a project’s life cycle. The core foundations of this approach are:

- Detailed ESG assessment
- Detailed ESG management
- Detailed ESG monitoring
- Detailed ESG reporting
- Detailed ESG research

Detailed ESG assessment

Detailed ESG assessment is performed at the corporate level to identify ESG risks and opportunities. This assessment is conducted based on the type of risks, the project stage, and the regulatory requirements. It involves an in-depth analysis of the company’s environmental, social, and governance performance to determine areas for improvement.

Detailed ESG management

Detailed ESG management involves implementing strategies and systems to manage ESG risks effectively. This includes developing action plans, setting targets, and establishing performance indicators to track progress and ensure compliance.

Detailed ESG monitoring

Detailed ESG monitoring involves continuous tracking and evaluation of the company’s ESG performance. It helps identify any deviations from established standards and ensure timely corrective actions to manage ESG risks effectively.

Detailed ESG reporting

Detailed ESG reporting involves preparing comprehensive reports on ESG performance. These reports provide insights into the company’s environmental, social, and governance practices and are shared with stakeholders to promote transparency and accountability.

Detailed ESG research

Detailed ESG research involves conducting in-depth studies to understand the company’s ESG risks and opportunities. This research helps in developing effective strategies and systems to manage ESG risks throughout the project life cycle.

Managing ESG throughout project lifecycle

Managing ESG throughout project lifecycle involves the entire project team. The project team works effectively with the ESG team to ensure that ESG risks are properly managed. Knowing the fact that the type of risks vary with project stage, we put in place relevant strategies and systems to manage ESG risks sensibly.

- Detailed ESG assessment
- Detailed ESG management
- Detailed ESG monitoring
- Detailed ESG reporting
- Detailed ESG research

Detailed ESG assessment

Detailed ESG assessment is performed at the corporate level to identify ESG risks and opportunities. This assessment is conducted based on the type of risks, the project stage, and the regulatory requirements. It involves an in-depth analysis of the company’s environmental, social, and governance performance to determine areas for improvement.

Detailed ESG management

Detailed ESG management involves implementing strategies and systems to manage ESG risks effectively. This includes developing action plans, setting targets, and establishing performance indicators to track progress and ensure compliance.

Detailed ESG monitoring

Detailed ESG monitoring involves continuous tracking and evaluation of the company’s ESG performance. It helps identify any deviations from established standards and ensure timely corrective actions to manage ESG risks effectively.

Detailed ESG reporting

Detailed ESG reporting involves preparing comprehensive reports on ESG performance. These reports provide insights into the company’s environmental, social, and governance practices and are shared with stakeholders to promote transparency and accountability.

Detailed ESG research

Detailed ESG research involves conducting in-depth studies to understand the company’s ESG risks and opportunities. This research helps in developing effective strategies and systems to manage ESG risks throughout the project life cycle.

Managing ESG throughout project lifecycle

Managing ESG throughout project lifecycle involves the entire project team. The project team works effectively with the ESG team to ensure that ESG risks are properly managed. Knowing the fact that the type of risks vary with project stage, we put in place relevant strategies and systems to manage ESG risks sensibly.

- Detailed ESG assessment
- Detailed ESG management
- Detailed ESG monitoring
- Detailed ESG reporting
- Detailed ESG research

Detailed ESG assessment

Detailed ESG assessment is performed at the corporate level to identify ESG risks and opportunities. This assessment is conducted based on the type of risks, the project stage, and the regulatory requirements. It involves an in-depth analysis of the company’s environmental, social, and governance performance to determine areas for improvement.

Detailed ESG management

Detailed ESG management involves implementing strategies and systems to manage ESG risks effectively. This includes developing action plans, setting targets, and establishing performance indicators to track progress and ensure compliance.

Detailed ESG monitoring

Detailed ESG monitoring involves continuous tracking and evaluation of the company’s ESG performance. It helps identify any deviations from established standards and ensure timely corrective actions to manage ESG risks effectively.

Detailed ESG reporting

Detailed ESG reporting involves preparing comprehensive reports on ESG performance. These reports provide insights into the company’s environmental, social, and governance practices and are shared with stakeholders to promote transparency and accountability.

Detailed ESG research

Detailed ESG research involves conducting in-depth studies to understand the company’s ESG risks and opportunities. This research helps in developing effective strategies and systems to manage ESG risks throughout the project life cycle.

Managing ESG throughout project lifecycle

Managing ESG throughout project lifecycle involves the entire project team. The project team works effectively with the ESG team to ensure that ESG risks are properly managed. Knowing the fact that the type of risks vary with project stage, we put in place relevant strategies and systems to manage ESG risks sensibly.

- Detailed ESG assessment
- Detailed ESG management
- Detailed ESG monitoring
- Detailed ESG reporting
- Detailed ESG research

Detailed ESG assessment

Detailed ESG assessment is performed at the corporate level to identify ESG risks and opportunities. This assessment is conducted based on the type of risks, the project stage, and the regulatory requirements. It involves an in-depth analysis of the company’s environmental, social, and governance performance to determine areas for improvement.

Detailed ESG management

Detailed ESG management involves implementing strategies and systems to manage ESG risks effectively. This includes developing action plans, setting targets, and establishing performance indicators to track progress and ensure compliance.

Detailed ESG monitoring

Detailed ESG monitoring involves continuous tracking and evaluation of the company’s ESG performance. It helps identify any deviations from established standards and ensure timely corrective actions to manage ESG risks effectively.

Detailed ESG reporting

Detailed ESG reporting involves preparing comprehensive reports on ESG performance. These reports provide insights into the company’s environmental, social, and governance practices and are shared with stakeholders to promote transparency and accountability.

Detailed ESG research

Detailed ESG research involves conducting in-depth studies to understand the company’s ESG risks and opportunities. This research helps in developing effective strategies and systems to manage ESG risks throughout the project life cycle.

Managing ESG throughout project lifecycle

Managing ESG throughout project lifecycle involves the entire project team. The project team works effectively with the ESG team to ensure that ESG risks are properly managed. Knowing the fact that the type of risks vary with project stage, we put in place relevant strategies and systems to manage ESG risks sensibly.
ESG Governance

In order to oversee ESG issues and risks and to ensure appropriate business support and governance structure which enables us to monitor and manage ESG risks and opportunities as found suitable for mitigation measures and progress. They oversee ESG matters. These committees include the Inclusion and Equity Committee which is supported by fire management, ecology, biodiversity, GIS management, health and safety, social impacts. All contractor, suppliers and subcontractors are required to adhere with the ARISE BU Code of Conduct which all business partners would be complied with. Further, ARISE maintains an Environmental and Social Management System – A Core Tool for Operational ESG Risk Management. The ARISE BU Code of Conduct which all business partners which all business partners would be complied with. Further, ARISE maintains an Environmental and Social Management System – A Core Tool for Operational ESG Risk Management. The ARISE BU Code of Conduct which all business partners would be complied with. Further, ARISE maintains an Environmental and Social Management System – A Core Tool for Operational ESG Risk Management. The ARISE BU Code of Conduct which all business partners would be complied with. Further, ARISE maintains an Environmental and Social Management System – A Core Tool for Operational ESG Risk Management. The ARISE BU Code of Conduct which all business partners would be complied with. Further, ARISE maintains an Environmental and Social Management System – A Core Tool for Operational ESG Risk Management. The ARISE BU Code of Conduct which all business partners would be complied with. Further, ARISE maintains an Environmental and Social Management System – A Core Tool for Operational ESG Risk Management. The ARISE BU Code of Conduct which all business partners would be complied with. Further, ARISE maintains an Environmental and Social Management System – A Core Tool for Operational ESG Risk Management. The ARISE BU Code of Conduct which all business partners would be complied with. Further, ARISE maintains an Environmental and Social Management System – A Core Tool for Operational ESG Risk Management. The ARISE BU Code of Conduct which all business partners would be complied with. Further, ARISE maintains an Environmental and Social Management System – A Core Tool for Operational ESG Risk Management. The ARISE BU Code of Conduct which all business partners would be complied with. Further, ARISE maintains an Environmental and Social Management System – A Core Tool for Operational ESG Risk Management. The ARISE BU Code of Conduct which all business partners would be complied with. Further, ARISE maintains an Environmenta
For the development of industrial zones, ARISE works closely with governments and local governments. All processes are carried out in line with national regulations and IFC Performance Standards, which apply to all the employees, contractors, and suppliers. Our approach to contractor engagement includes procedures for public consultation meetings, focus group meetings with different stakeholders, and also implements any issues raised are documented, discussed, and addressed in a timely manner. The SEP helps to maintain clear lines of communication with stakeholders at all project development phases. These projects are being met. Our approach to contractor engagement is also supported by investors, ensuring that all suppliers and contractors comply with the local labor and human rights and safety standards which all host companies and business operations are aligned with the IFC Performance Standards. The SEP includes procedures for public consultation meetings, focus group meetings with different stakeholders, and also implements any issues raised are documented, discussed, and addressed in a timely manner. To ensure that any TCFR personnel is independent of the host company, all timber suppliers must ensure that the TRACER operations are not externally influenced or compromised and to maintain its independence, all timber suppliers are required to claim the minimum baseline set by TRACER. Any company that plans to supply timber for the domestic market must ensure that timber sources are registered with TRACER. Any company that plans to supply timber for the domestic market must ensure that timber sources are registered with TRACER. All projects include social and environmental programs covering safety, health, and other applicable standards and also conducts on-site audits. To ensure that the TRACER operations are not externally influenced or compromised and to maintain its independence, all timber suppliers are required to claim the minimum baseline set by TRACER. Any company that plans to supply timber for the domestic market must ensure that timber sources are registered with TRACER. Any company that plans to supply timber for the domestic market must ensure that timber sources are registered with TRACER. All projects include social and environmental programs covering safety, health, and other applicable standards and also conducts on-site audits. To ensure that the TRACER operations are not externally influenced or compromised and to maintain its independence, all timber suppliers are required to claim the minimum baseline set by TRACER. Any company that plans to supply timber for the domestic market must ensure that timber sources are registered with TRACER. Any company that plans to supply timber for the domestic market must ensure that timber sources are registered with TRACER. All projects include social and environmental programs covering safety, health, and other applicable standards and also conducts on-site audits. To ensure that the TRACER operations are not externally influenced or compromised and to maintain its independence, all timber suppliers are required to claim the minimum baseline set by TRACER. Any company that plans to supply timber for the domestic market must ensure that timber sources are registered with TRACER. Any company that plans to supply timber for the domestic market must ensure that timber sources are registered with TRACER. All projects include social and environmental programs covering safety, health, and other applicable standards and also conducts on-site audits. To ensure that the TRACER operations are not externally influenced or compromised and to maintain its independence, all timber suppliers are required to claim the minimum baseline set by TRACER. Any company that plans to supply timber for the domestic market must ensure that timber sources are registered with TRACER. Any company that plans to supply timber for the domestic market must ensure that timber sources are registered with TRACER. All projects include social and environmental programs covering safety, health, and other applicable standards and also conducts on-site audits. To ensure that the TRACER operations are not externally influenced or compromised and to maintain its independence, all timber suppliers are required to claim the minimum baseline set by TRACER. Any company that plans to supply timber for the domestic market must ensure that timber sources are registered with TRACER. Any company that plans to supply timber for the domestic market must ensure that timber sources are registered with TRACER. All projects include social and environmental programs covering safety, health, and other applicable standards and also conducts on-site audits.
**Operations and ESG**

**Metrics At A Glance**

### Operations

- **Projects**
  - 03 Projects under operation
  - 03 Projects under development
  - 01 Future projects planned

- **Activity Footprint**
  - Total area managed by ARISE: 71,000 sq km
  - Projects in 5 countries (Gabon, Benin, Togo, Ivory Coast and Mauritania): 530 Ha
  - Future projects under development: 3,298 Ha

- **Total Employees**
  - ARISE: 121 employees (61 males, 60 females)
  - 550 employees (Male: 56, Female: 13)

### Investment

- **Total FDI**
  - 748.3 million USD (NSEZ, Gabon)
  - 711.5 million USD (PiA Togo)

- **Future FDI**
  - 1,272 million USD (GSEZ Benin)
  - 405 million USD (Côte d’Ivoire)

### Developmental Impact

- **711 km**
  - Electrical lines constructed (GSEZ Infras)
  - Road constructed at NSEZ: 25 km
  - Road under development: 828 km
  - Industrial units under operation: 85
  - Industrial units operating at NSEZ: 10

- **593,000 m³**
  - Log yard stacking capacity

### Jobs Created

- **Total direct jobs created**
  - Nkok SEZ- Operational: ~48,000
  - GDIZ, Benin: ~100
  - PIA, Togo and GDIZ Benin- Under Development: ~2,000

- **Total indirect jobs created**
  - Future FDI: ~15,000

### Jobs Created

- **Total Employment**
  - Future Estimated Job Creation: ~20,000 direct jobs, ~133,000 indirect jobs
Environmental, Health & Safety Metrics

07 Total number of environmental and social incidents completed (2019-2020)

05 Other project development (stage E&S plans prepared)

24 Detailed audits completed

130 Number of stakeholder engagement exercises conducted

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Resource</th>
<th>Transformation &amp; Export</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>100</td>
<td>Timber processing downstream industries attracted to Gabon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2020201920202018 2019</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Export of Value-added Projects

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Projects</th>
<th>2019</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2019</th>
<th>2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Plywood</td>
<td>15,357</td>
<td>2295.7</td>
<td>10.0</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Furniture</td>
<td>3538</td>
<td>2295.7</td>
<td>10.0</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sawn Timber</td>
<td>10.0</td>
<td>1.5</td>
<td>10.0</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Veneer Production, cubic meter</td>
<td>2019</td>
<td>2018</td>
<td>2019</td>
<td>2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plywood Production, cubic meter</td>
<td>2019</td>
<td>2018</td>
<td>2019</td>
<td>2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Furniture Production, cubic meter</td>
<td>2019</td>
<td>2018</td>
<td>2019</td>
<td>2018</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Environmental, Health & Safety Incidents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Incidents</th>
<th>2019</th>
<th>2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fatalities</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-fatalities</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lost Workdays</td>
<td>81</td>
<td>56</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Lost Time Incidence Frequency Ratio

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Site</th>
<th>2019</th>
<th>2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NSEZ</td>
<td>6.3</td>
<td>6.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GDIZ</td>
<td>3.9</td>
<td>3.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SAG</td>
<td>0.3</td>
<td>0.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ADL</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PIA</td>
<td>0.3</td>
<td>0.3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Data availability was limited to water consumed, number of environmental incidents, and social impacts completed.

External audits completed, Other project development, stage E&S plans prepared, and social impacts completed.

External audits completed, Other project development, stage E&S plans prepared, and social impacts completed.

External audits completed, Other project development, stage E&S plans prepared, and social impacts completed.

External audits completed, Other project development, stage E&S plans prepared, and social impacts completed.

External audits completed, Other project development, stage E&S plans prepared, and social impacts completed.

External audits completed, Other project development, stage E&S plans prepared, and social impacts completed.

External audits completed, Other project development, stage E&S plans prepared, and social impacts completed.
ARISE aims to reduce our dependence on carbon-intensive energy resources, and instead commit resources for decarbonization and climate change adaptation strategies.

ARISE’s strategic initiatives towards this goal will include:

- Invest in solar farms close to industrial zones
- Ensure that renewable energy resources can be used for businesses
- Provide incentives to industries that promote renewable energy

By adopting circular economy principles, ARISE aims to reduce waste and manage resources sustainably. A circular economy approach would create innovative opportunities for growth.

ARISE’s initiatives will include:

- Provide incentives to industries promoting circular economy
- Integrate circular economy measures into business strategy and operations
- Strive to become zero waste and effluent discharge facilities

Given that sourcing and processing of natural commodities is one of the core operations at ARISE, we recognize the importance of understanding the sustainability dimensions of each commodity’s supply chain and managing the risks and opportunities along the supply chain. To support the same, ARISE will:

- Implement supply chain traceability software for each commodity
- Ensure legality through independent third-party groups such as TRACER at NSEZ
- Comply with certification schemes (CMiA, OEKO TEX, Forest Stewardship Council, etc.)

ARISE is fully committed to promoting diversity & inclusion across all levels within our workforce.

ARISE’s initiatives towards this goal will include:

- Increase ratio of female employees at all levels
- Increase diversity at senior management level
- Implement dedicated training programs on diversity & inclusion
- Reach parity within the next 5-10 years with the industry averages

ARISE operations support nine sustainable development goals (SDGs):

- Gender Equality
- Clean Water and Sanitation
- Affordable and Clean Energy
- Decent Work and Economic Growth
- Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure
- Reduced Inequalities
- Sustainable Cities and Communities
- Responsible Consumption and Production
- Climate Action

Our Sustainability Pillars and Contribution to Sustainable Development Goals
ARISE recognizes that the threat from climate change is one of the most important global challenges of the century. As a company operating in Africa, a region that is particularly vulnerable to the climate change impacts, we fully endorse our responsibility to contribute towards alleviation of environmental stress affecting the region.

Moving forward, we plan to design and implement a Carbon Neutral Strategy which will:

- Define our carbon baseline across our global operations
- Identify areas of opportunity and emission reduction
- Calculate consistent annual carbon footprint every year and publish all results
- Offset the remaining emissions with certified carbon credits
- Assess the carbon footprint and report CO2 emissions on an annual basis in compliance with GHG Protocol

ARISE will work to reduce our greenhouse gas emissions through innovation, investments, technologies, process improvement. We assess to offer all our material emissions through Africa-based carbon reduction projects.

## NSEZ Carbon Footprint

### NSEZ Carbon Neutral Journey

ARISE recognizes that the threat from climate change is one of the most important global challenges of the century. As a company operating in Africa, a region that is particularly vulnerable to the climate change impacts, we fully endorse our responsibility to contribute towards alleviation of environmental stress affecting the region.

Moving forward, we plan to design and implement a Carbon Neutral Strategy which will:

- Define our carbon baseline across our global operations
- Identify areas of opportunity and emission reduction
- Calculate consistent annual carbon footprint every year and publish all results
- Offset the remaining emissions with certified carbon credits
- Assess the carbon footprint and report CO2 emissions on an annual basis in compliance with GHG Protocol

## NSEZ - First Low Carbon SEZ in Africa

**Our Approach**

- Assess the carbon footprints and report CO2 emissions on an annual basis in compliance with GHG Protocol
- Implement direct measures to reduce CO2 emissions through innovation, investments, technologies, process improvement
- Offset the remaining emissions with certified carbon reduction projects in Africa.

### NSEZ Carbon Footprint

Our Vision for A Carbon Neutral Journey

In 2019 we conducted a detailed carbon footprint calculation of GHG emissions for NSEZ operations through our subsidiary, AERA, in which ARISE maintains a 35% stake.

Per the assessment conducted by AERA, NSEZ industrial zone’s total carbon footprint is 86,460 tCO2 (tons of CO2 emissions equivalent estimated for in 2019).

Our work on carbon neutrality is certified under the ISO 14064 norm.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>CO2 Emissions (tCO2)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Transportation</td>
<td>11,107 tCO2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Energy</td>
<td>68,427 tCO2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waste</td>
<td>7,950 tCO2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Purchase of goods and services</td>
<td>223.82 tCO2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Circular Economy**

As ARISE, we subscribe to the idea that ‘waste is a resource that is misplaced or unused resource’. We implore all waste streams in our projects to check if the material can be reused, recycled, or upcycled either as Arise facilities or through external partners. In all our upcoming projects, we are committed to looking at the material flows from the project and finding opportunities to reuse, recycle, or upcycle the material through the circular economy principles and identifying opportunities to reduce waste and reutilize the same to retain and increase the material value through circular economy initiatives. We will also work with innovators in this area to promote innovation and to decrease the extent of similar waste practices by demonstrating successful projects and corresponding business models.

### Circular Wood Waste Management

In 2020, NSEZ ESG team recognized several wood disposals at a 30% disposal rate. In order to understand the impact, the team assessed the wood waste generating processes at the SEZ, and found that the NSEZ industrial zone has four types of timber generating processes at the SEZ. Wood waste generated on site was found to be:

- Timber sawing industries – 0.4 cbm (wood waste was landfilled)
- Furniture-making industries – 0 cbm (No wood waste was directed)
- Veneer manufacturing industries – 0.35 cbm (wood waste was landfilled)
- Particle board manufacturing that will become operational in 2021, and wood waste would no longer be landfilled.

When the total waste disposal data was evaluated, it found that about 10% of wood waste was being landfilled.

- Why not make particle board from the wood waste?
- Why not make particle board from the wood waste?
- When the total waste disposal data was evaluated, it found that about 10% of wood waste was being landfilled.
There is sufficient research to show that diverse workplaces contribute to better performance, increased productivity and innovation, smarter decision making, and innovative thinking, as well as attracting diverse talent pools. We also understand that diversity by itself does not bring positive outcomes until inclusion is made a priority at every level of the company. Employees need to feel safe expressing their thoughts and providing input, even when contrarian, and be able to fully participate in their jobs for the company to reap the benefits of a diverse talent pool. We also understand that diversity by itself does not bring positive outcomes until inclusion is made a priority at every level of the company. Employees need to feel safe expressing their thoughts and providing input, even when contrarian, and be able to fully participate in their jobs for the company to reap the benefits of a diverse talent pool.

ARISE is committed to increasing diversity at all levels in the company, from the senior management roles to the field employees. We compiled an internal diagnosis assessment with the help of diversity experts to understand the current status in terms of gender diversity. The assessment revealed the following:

- Women in senior management roles: 0%
- Female employees in the senior management sector: 10%
- Female employees, Africa benchmark for women in Board (Infrastructure and Construction Sector): 36%
- Senior management roles: 19%
- Mid-level managers: 25%
- Junior skilled workers: 29%
- Junior unskilled workers: 17%
- Female employees: 28%

ARISE acknowledges the gaps in gender diversity in our workforce and is working towards improving it across all levels with a specific focus on management roles. In order to address the gender diversity gap, ARISE is taking following steps:

- Creating a diversity and inclusion strategy for a focused effort that will be presented to be Board for approval.
- Implementing Fair Employment Policy, Equal Opportunity Commitment, and implementing a Bi-lingual Language Policy.
- Conducting employee awareness training on unconscious bias and stereotypes.
- Implementing an Equal-Opportunity Commitment, and implementing a Fair Employment Policy.
- Change perceptions at local, sectoral, and regional levels.
- Address access constraints to training, and creating more opportunities for women.
- Implementing a special focus on senior roles. In order to approach this, ARISE is taking the following steps:

**ARISE** P&L business unit) partnered with the Gabonese training company to provide the training. ARISE hired a local company to provide the training. All training was completed by 17% of the 42 women trained from all project locations. Further, we plan to conduct similar training across all of our operations.

**Program timeline:**

- **September 2020 – February 2021:** Number of members trained: 42

Due to an outstandingly positive feedback from participants, we can conduct subsequent training almost immediately to help the trainees with their job-search by connecting them with potential employers, and will track the number of trainees employed immediately as a result of this training up to three months after the training.

*Driver’s Training for Female Members of the Local Community*

In order to address low participation of female employees in the male-dominated sector, considering it has traditionally been seen as reserved territory for men and not being suitable for women. ARISE (including ARIES) facilities were partnered with CDC Plus to train and select 42 women from the local community. The goal was to promote female employment in non-traditional roles by addressing the local gender diversity gap.

In this opportunity I saw a challenge to take : to break the stereotype whereby women wouldn’t be able to do better than men. *(In this opportunity) I saw a challenge to take : to break the stereotype whereby women wouldn’t be able to do better than men.*

**Challenge current stereotypes and thereby change perceptions in the industry in order to address female employment in non-traditional roles.**

**To help build a business case for increased**

**Female employees in the dominated sector.**

**To create opportunities for women in heavy**

**Vehicle operation, traditionally a male-dominated area and viewed as not**

**Suitable for women, ARISE (including**

**African Benchmark for women on Board in infrastructure**

**Female employees: 28%**

**Number of people promoted in 2020, 53%**

**Senior management roles. Of the total**

**20%**

**17%**

**Driver’s Training for Female Members of the Local Community**

In order to address low participation of female employees in the male-dominated sector, considering it has traditionally been seen as reserved territory for men and not being suitable for women. ARISE (including ARIES) facilities were partnered with CDC Plus to train and select 42 women from the local community. The goal was to promote female employment in non-traditional roles by addressing the local gender diversity gap.

*In this opportunity I saw a challenge to take : to break the stereotype whereby women wouldn’t be able to do better than men.*

*Com’Elles beneficiary*
NZE has transformed the timber supply chain in Gabon. A significant aspect of this has been realisation of using ESG controls within the timber supply chain and promoting operational adoption and implemented by ARISE.

At Source, ARISE plans to track the timber source at the project pre-feasibility stage. Through AtSource, ARISE plans sustainability perspective ARISE plans necessary sustainability KPIs to the potential exit strategy of the raw materials produced by an order of magnitude. “

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Responsible Supply Chain Management</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Timber Value Chain at NSEZ</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sourcing</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TRACER, an independent agency, ensures that 100% of logs entering NSEZ are legally traceable. TRACER, an independent agency, ensures that 100% of logs entering NSEZ are legally traceable. TRACER, an independent agency, ensures that 100% of logs entering NSEZ are legally traceable. TRACER, an independent agency, ensures that 100% of logs entering NSEZ are legally traceable. TRACER, an independent agency, ensures that 100% of logs entering NSEZ are legally traceable.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Social Impact Projects

- Refurbishment of dispensary in Botosso (CEAD Ogooué, Province Haut-Ogooué) in Gabon.
- School built in Gongue province Ogooué-Lolo, Gabon. Capacity - 50 children.
- Firefighting & First Aid training through AAN for personnel from industries in Nkok. Approximately 100 personnel trained.
- EPP Centrale Primary School Renovation, Togo. Student capacity – 1,000.
ARISE was quick in responding to, and collaborating with, the local governments, communities, and its business partners to deliver our response to the COVID-19 pandemic. When the COVID-19 pandemic started engulfing the entire planet and impacting the normal life in 2020 and continues to do so, ARISE leadership was quick to see the pandemic’s impact on businesses across the globe and was closely monitoring monitored local developments, including local governments’ responses where ARISE businesses operate. Staying true to our company’s DNA, we wanted to be a part of the solution and provide every possible support we could to the host governments and to the local communities where we operate.

As a first step, ensuring safety of our employees was the top priority, and we quickly mobilized resources for the same. Our response measures included:

- Putting our Crisis Response Plan in action including creating a COVID-19 Response Team that was led by representatives from the senior management team
- Updating our Business Continuity Plan and prepared site-specific guidelines and plans to provide clear guidance to employees, contractors and visitors on processes to be followed
- Non-critical employees were directed to work from home
- Provided PPEs and training for correct use to our employees and others working within ARISE-operated facilities

At Nkol SEZ

- Refurbished two current offices into a Hospital with 50 isolation beds, six intensive care unit beds, fully trained medical staff, a helpline, and a fully-equipped lab for PCR and antibody testing.
- Supported a host company at the SEZ in jumping through the hoops for regulatory approvals for sanitizer manufacturing, and in expanding its manufacturing to meet the Gabon’s increased domestic needs for sanitizers.

ARISE worked with the governments and local operating CIOs in Gabon, Cote d’Ivoire, Benin, Mauritania, and Togo, and provided a wide-range of support:

- Shared an internally-developed ‘Trace and Track’ mobile application with the local governments for free.
- In response to the request from Ivorian Ministry of Health for support in procuring essential PPEs, ARISE donated medical equipment worth over USD 6 million including 2 million masks, for frontline medical staff and military staff. ARISE organised charter planes to transport the essential supplies.
- Knowing that the pandemic had severely impacted low-income workers in the communities, ARISE took following measures:
  - Established a system to identify families in need and supporting them by donating food baskets.
  - Donated up to 5,000 food baskets consisting of up to 10 days of food supply on a regular basis.
  - An extra 1,500 tonnes of food were donated to food banks in the region.

From the start, ARISE has emphasized on building strong relationships with the local communities where we operate, and we recognize that the societies in the midst of whom we operate are an important stakeholder and their well-being is essential to us.
As ARISE, we believe that ESG is a journey of continuous learning and improvement. To fulfill our ambition, we must be the thought leaders and innovators in the area of sustainable development, we at ARISE continuously benchmark ourselves with the best in the industry and aim to implement the best systems to manage risks and to create inherent business value via our ESG programs. We not only look at the best innovative solutions available but also develop and pilot-test unique sustainable business strategies to set an example and promote adoption of sustainable solutions in the sector and regions where we operate. We consistently review our programs through benchmarking to understand the current gaps as well as implementation challenges. In the coming years ARISE plans to focus on the following ESG areas:

**Governance:**
- Implement digital solutions to better track ESG data and thereby improve our data management and reporting process. We plan to work on following digital tools: ESG data tracking and reporting.
- Benchmark our ESG strategy and program against the best in the industry and aim to be certified.
- Implement digital data management and tracking systems.
- Implement training programs on diversity and inclusion.

**Supply Chain Sustainability:**
- Strengthen ESG governance system.
- Improve ESG data, processes and performance.
- Implement digital solutions to improve ESG data management and reporting processes.
- Implement digital solutions to manage and report data.
- Plan implementation of Sustainable Apparel Coalition’s (SAC) Higg Index.
- Implement training programs on diversity and inclusion.

**ARISE assets and work towards adopting innovative business strategies and solutions to limit and manage the risks on supply chain:**

- Minimize climate change impacts.
- Implement digital solutions to better track ESG data and thereby improve our data management and reporting process.
- Implement digital solutions to manage and report data.
- Implement training programs on diversity and inclusion.

**ESG Impact Report 2019 - 2020**

**1. EMBRACING INNOVATIVE SUSTAINABLE SOLUTIONS**

Choose sustainable solutions and apply for certifications. Some certifications that we are working on include FSC for sustainable timber sourcing and forest management, Cotton Made in Africa (CMiA) certification for textiles to be manufactured sustainably using sustainable timber sourcing and forest management, OEKO-TEX certification for cotton sourcing, and FSC certification for timber sourcing and forest management that will enable us to track the sustainability of our supply chain and thereby improve the transparency of product supply chain.

**2. BE SAFE**

- Conduct carbon life cycle analysis for all commodities such as cotton, cashew, and soya.
- Reduce emissions at all our facilities. Some of the measures we plan on taking include:
  - Reduce emissions at all our facilities. Some of the measures we plan on taking include:
  - Reduce emissions at all our facilities. Some of the measures we plan on taking include:
  - Reduce emissions at all our facilities. Some of the measures we plan on taking include:

**3. EMBRACING INNOVATIVE SUSTAINABLE SOLUTIONS**

Choose sustainable solutions and apply for certifications. Some certifications that we are working on include FSC for sustainable timber sourcing and forest management, Cotton Made in Africa (CMiA) certification for textiles to be manufactured sustainably using sustainable timber sourcing and forest management, OEKO-TEX certification for cotton sourcing, and FSC certification for timber sourcing and forest management that will enable us to track the sustainability of our supply chain and thereby improve the transparency of product supply chain.

**4. BE SAFE**

- Conduct carbon life cycle analysis for all commodities such as cotton, cashew, and soya.
- Reduce emissions at all our facilities. Some of the measures we plan on taking include:
  - Reduce emissions at all our facilities. Some of the measures we plan on taking include:
  - Reduce emissions at all our facilities. Some of the measures we plan on taking include:
  - Reduce emissions at all our facilities. Some of the measures we plan on taking include:

**5. EMBRACING INNOVATIVE SUSTAINABLE SOLUTIONS**

Choose sustainable solutions and apply for certifications. Some certifications that we are working on include FSC for sustainable timber sourcing and forest management, Cotton Made in Africa (CMiA) certification for textiles to be manufactured sustainably using sustainable timber sourcing and forest management, OEKO-TEX certification for cotton sourcing, and FSC certification for timber sourcing and forest management that will enable us to track the sustainability of our supply chain and thereby improve the transparency of product supply chain.

**6. BE SAFE**

- Conduct carbon life cycle analysis for all commodities such as cotton, cashew, and soya.
- Reduce emissions at all our facilities. Some of the measures we plan on taking include:
  - Reduce emissions at all our facilities. Some of the measures we plan on taking include:
  - Reduce emissions at all our facilities. Some of the measures we plan on taking include:
  - Reduce emissions at all our facilities. Some of the measures we plan on taking include:

**7. EMBRACING INNOVATIVE SUSTAINABLE SOLUTIONS**

Choose sustainable solutions and apply for certifications. Some certifications that we are working on include FSC for sustainable timber sourcing and forest management, Cotton Made in Africa (CMiA) certification for textiles to be manufactured sustainably using sustainable timber sourcing and forest management, OEKO-TEX certification for cotton sourcing, and FSC certification for timber sourcing and forest management that will enable us to track the sustainability of our supply chain and thereby improve the transparency of product supply chain.

**8. BE SAFE**

- Conduct carbon life cycle analysis for all commodities such as cotton, cashew, and soya.
- Reduce emissions at all our facilities. Some of the measures we plan on taking include:
  - Reduce emissions at all our facilities. Some of the measures we plan on taking include:
  - Reduce emissions at all our facilities. Some of the measures we plan on taking include:
  - Reduce emissions at all our facilities. Some of the measures we plan on taking include:

**9. EMBRACING INNOVATIVE SUSTAINABLE SOLUTIONS**

Choose sustainable solutions and apply for certifications. Some certifications that we are working on include FSC for sustainable timber sourcing and forest management, Cotton Made in Africa (CMiA) certification for textiles to be manufactured sustainably using sustainable timber sourcing and forest management, OEKO-TEX certification for cotton sourcing, and FSC certification for timber sourcing and forest management that will enable us to track the sustainability of our supply chain and thereby improve the transparency of product supply chain.

**10. BE SAFE**

- Conduct carbon life cycle analysis for all commodities such as cotton, cashew, and soya.
- Reduce emissions at all our facilities. Some of the measures we plan on taking include:
  - Reduce emissions at all our facilities. Some of the measures we plan on taking include:
  - Reduce emissions at all our facilities. Some of the measures we plan on taking include:
  - Reduce emissions at all our facilities. Some of the measures we plan on taking include:

**11. EMBRACING INNOVATIVE SUSTAINABLE SOLUTIONS**

Choose sustainable solutions and apply for certifications. Some certifications that we are working on include FSC for sustainable timber sourcing and forest management, Cotton Made in Africa (CMiA) certification for textiles to be manufactured sustainably using sustainable timber sourcing and forest management, OEKO-TEX certification for cotton sourcing, and FSC certification for timber sourcing and forest management that will enable us to track the sustainability of our supply chain and thereby improve the transparency of product supply chain.

**12. BE SAFE**

- Conduct carbon life cycle analysis for all commodities such as cotton, cashew, and soya.
- Reduce emissions at all our facilities. Some of the measures we plan on taking include:
  - Reduce emissions at all our facilities. Some of the measures we plan on taking include:
  - Reduce emissions at all our facilities. Some of the measures we plan on taking include:
  - Reduce emissions at all our facilities. Some of the measures we plan on taking include:

**13. EMBRACING INNOVATIVE SUSTAINABLE SOLUTIONS**

Choose sustainable solutions and apply for certifications. Some certifications that we are working on include FSC for sustainable timber sourcing and forest management, Cotton Made in Africa (CMiA) certification for textiles to be manufactured sustainably using sustainable timber sourcing and forest management, OEKO-TEX certification for cotton sourcing, and FSC certification for timber sourcing and forest management that will enable us to track the sustainability of our supply chain and thereby improve the transparency of product supply chain.

**14. BE SAFE**

- Conduct carbon life cycle analysis for all commodities such as cotton, cashew, and soya.
- Reduce emissions at all our facilities. Some of the measures we plan on taking include:
  - Reduce emissions at all our facilities. Some of the measures we plan on taking include:
  - Reduce emissions at all our facilities. Some of the measures we plan on taking include:
  - Reduce emissions at all our facilities. Some of the measures we plan on taking include:

**15. EMBRACING INNOVATIVE SUSTAINABLE SOLUTIONS**

Choose sustainable solutions and apply for certifications. Some certifications that we are working on include FSC for sustainable timber sourcing and forest management, Cotton Made in Africa (CMiA) certification for textiles to be manufactured sustainably using sustainable timber sourcing and forest management, OEKO-TEX certification for cotton sourcing, and FSC certification for timber sourcing and forest management that will enable us to track the sustainability of our supply chain and thereby improve the transparency of product supply chain.

**16. BE SAFE**

- Conduct carbon life cycle analysis for all commodities such as cotton, cashew, and soya.
- Reduce emissions at all our facilities. Some of the measures we plan on taking include:
  - Reduce emissions at all our facilities. Some of the measures we plan on taking include:
  - Reduce emissions at all our facilities. Some of the measures we plan on taking include:
  - Reduce emissions at all our facilities. Some of the measures we plan on taking include:

**17. EMBRACING INNOVATIVE SUSTAINABLE SOLUTIONS**

Choose sustainable solutions and apply for certifications. Some certifications that we are working on include FSC for sustainable timber sourcing and forest management, Cotton Made in Africa (CMiA) certification for textiles to be manufactured sustainably using sustainable timber sourcing and forest management, OEKO-TEX certification for cotton sourcing, and FSC certification for timber sourcing and forest management that will enable us to track the sustainability of our supply chain and thereby improve the transparency of product supply chain.

**18. BE SAFE**

- Conduct carbon life cycle analysis for all commodities such as cotton, cashew, and soya.
- Reduce emissions at all our facilities. Some of the measures we plan on taking include:
  - Reduce emissions at all our facilities. Some of the measures we plan on taking include:
  - Reduce emissions at all our facilities. Some of the measures we plan on taking include:
  - Reduce emissions at all our facilities. Some of the measures we plan on taking include:
“We Stand Strong Together”