



## CHRISTIAN

### AMITY FOUNDATION INVESTMENT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE, CHINA

Amity Foundation is a Christian-initiated NGO established in Nanjing in 1985 with goals to contribute to China's reform and opening, to help Chinese society better understand Christianity and to contribute to social development, to world peace and the ecumenical sharing of resources. It has financial investment resources of around 200 million RMB (USD 30 million). Due diligence investigation is done according to the guidelines, providing reports to the Investment Consultative Committee.

#### *Exclusions*

Amity does not invest in companies involved in armaments, tobacco or any other intoxicant, gambling, high interest rate lending, and companies polluting, destroying or negatively affecting environment.

#### *Positive investment*

Amity currently invests in:

- social enterprise and companies with sustainable environmental practice, fair treatment of customers and suppliers, responsible employment practice.
- Invests in renewable energy projects (bio gas, solar energy);
- Youth learning centres for people who live in urban slums.

#### *In the future*

There should be more investment in poverty eradication projects and initiatives such as education and access to clean water.

### *Future hopes and needs*

More and more organizations and faith groups could have a platform to share and learn from each other. This platform could also provide a selection of suitable projects for organizations to choose to invest.

Due diligence research is very time consuming and costly, if there is a portfolio of pre-screened projects available, will be very convenient and helpful for all the faith group.

### **Principles and understandings that affect how Amity invests**

#### *On where we start:*

According to the late Bishop KH Ting, spiritual leader and founder of Amity: “Our starting point is the Love of God or the God of Love: Behind all creation is Love. Love is the key to all mysteries of human existence. God’s love moved God to create, to teach, to forgive, to save and to sanctify, so that more and more people may find the source of energy in this love. God’s ultimate goal is to create a universe of love, a world of love in which a human community lives by the principle of voluntary mutual love.”

Amity Foundation believes that Love is faith in action. It is through our practice that we will be known.

#### *On creation:*

Christians believe that God created the heaven and the earth and everything in it. Humans are not the masters of creation but only stewards of God’s creation. Current forms of development have led to over-exploitation of the earth’s resources and continuing destruction of the planet, its people and its ecology. As stewards of God’s creation we have the responsibility to change this and move towards an ecologically sustainable economy and society. It is urgent and essential that we break away from industries that pollute and destroy the earth and invest in those that lead to the restoration of a green, sustainable planet. We should divest from industries and activities that contribute to conflict, violence and war.

#### *On people:*

Christians believe that human beings are created in God’s image. Each and

every human being should be respected as such and there should be equality for all regardless of race, gender and culture. In a world in which the human is under constant threat, whether by powers and principalities or by the technological developments of our times, it is important for us to be reminded of this reality. God is also a relational God. Our relationship with God compels us to relate and care for all and make sure that no one is left behind.

*On prosperity:*

Prosperity is not about short-term economic growth. We need a new understanding of growth that enables everyone to grow and realize his or her God-given potentials in a holistic way and in community with others regardless of differences. Essentially, it means that there should be equal access to safe and clean water, food, education, healthcare and human security for all. Christians should acknowledge their share in the injustices in today's world and join an anti-poverty strategy that will bring an end to poverty and hunger.

*The original version of this was created by the Amity Foundation Board Secretary in collaboration with the Amity Foundation Investment Consultative Committee*