

# The Environmental & Social Governance Expert (ESGE™) Programme

# The Foundation Level Online Exam 2017

Curriculum

### The Environment & Social Governance Expert (ESGE™) Programme - The Foundation Level - Curriculum 2017

The Environment & Social Governance Expert (ESGE<sup>™</sup>) Programme is a pure distance learning course <u>offered online</u> by The PTI Group (PTI) and awarded by The International Professional Managers Association (IPMA) of United Kingdom. Under The ESGE<sup>™</sup> Programme, candidates will be assessed via two levels of online examinations (online exams) as follows:

- 1. The Foundation Level
- 2. The Advanced Level

Online examination for each of the two levels will be held once a year, i.e. usually August, unless otherwise giving such notice in our website.

#### Online Exam Structure

The ESGE<sup>TM</sup> Programme</sup> consists of two levels of online exams, i.e. Foundation Level and Advanced Level. Duration of each level of the online exam is of *three hours long*. Both levels of The ESGE<sup>TM</sup> exam is an *open-book examination*, i.e. candidates can access online the e-study materials and other required reading documents and materials, while taking the online exam. However, most of the online exam questions require candidates to have a *thorough understanding of the materials and apply the knowledge to the practical cases / scenarios given*, instead of solely testing candidates' memorizing ability.

The structure of the online exams of the ESGE<sup>TM</sup> Foundation and Advanced Levels are the same as follows:

|           | Questions                    | Proportion of Total Marks |
|-----------|------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Section A | 40 multiple choice questions | 20%                       |
| Section B | 8 essay questions            | 80%                       |

For both Sections, there are no penalties for incorrect answers.

#### **Curriculum Overview**

| <u>Topic</u>  | Foundation Level |
|---|------------------|
| I. International Conventions/Collaborations on<br>Environmental Protection/Climate Change | 30%              |
| II. Fundamentals of Environmental Protection  | 35%              |
| III. Environmental/ ESG Reporting for Companies   | 20%              |
| IV. Current Developments & Market Updates of ESG  | 15%              |
| TOTAL   | 100%             |

Curriculum of **The Foundation Level** of The ESGE<sup>™</sup> Programme consists of the following sections:

Although for 2017, only the Foundation Level online exam would be available, for sake of planning and clarity for candidates, we provide an overview of both the Foundation and Advanced Levels of The ESGE<sup>™</sup> Programme as follows:

| Topic  | Foundation Level | Advanced Level |
|--|------------------|----------------|
| I. International Conventions /<br>Collaborations on Environmental<br>Protection/Climate Change | 30%              | -              |
| II. Fundamentals of Environmental<br>Protection  | 35%              | -              |
| III. Environmental/ ESG Reporting for Companies  | 20%              | 10%            |
| IV. Impacts of Environmental Pollution   | -                | 30%            |
| V. Mitigating Strategies for Environmental<br>Pollution  | -                | 30%            |
| VI. Social & Corporate Governance  | -                | 15             |
| VII. Current Developments & Market<br>Updates of ESG   | 15%              | 15%            |
| TOTAL  | 100%             | 100%           |

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#### Detailed Curriculum 2017

| ١.  | International Conventions/Collaborations on Environmental Protection/Climate Change   |
|-----|---|
|     | <ul> <li>The Kyoto Protocol: Six greenhouse gases (GHGs) identified, GHGs reduction commitment of different countries, mechanism, accounting of emissions, and other details;</li> <li>Joint Implementation under The Kyoto Protocol: Mechanism, eligibility criteria, &amp; other details;</li> <li>Clean Development Mechanism under The Kyoto Protocol: Mechanism, project cycle, methodologies, benefits, criteria, &amp; other details;</li> <li>Since The Kyoto Protocol, other major international conventions on environmental protection/climate change reached at: Marrakesh, Bali, Copenhagen, Cancun, Durban, Doha, Warsaw, Lima, Paris etc.</li> </ul>   |
| 11. | Fundamentals of Environmental Protection  |
|     | <ul> <li>&gt; Overview of the key aspects in environmental protection: Air, water, noise, waste management, indoor air quality;</li> <li>&gt; Major air pollutants and background information of each;</li> <li>&gt; Greenhouse gases &amp; fluorinated gases: Definitions, emission unit, global warming potential, major sources, and adverse effects on the environment;</li> <li>&gt; Overview of National Air Quality Standards (NAQS) in US, China, EU, UK &amp; HK</li> <li>&gt; Water contaminants &amp; water pollution: High-level overview of Water Quality Standards of US, China, &amp; EU;</li> <li>&gt; Using US as an example, other elements &amp; assessments of water contaminants &amp; water pollution: River &amp; stream, lakes, coastal conditions, wetland, groundwater, marine sceptic system / waste water, water pollution etc.;</li> <li>&gt; Control over noise pollution: Physical properties &amp; measurement of sound, quantifying noise level, &amp; sources of noise pollution;</li> <li>&gt; Waste management: Hazardous &amp; non-hazardous waste, landfills, waste water, solid waste, waste water; and</li> <li>&gt; Management of indoor air quality (IAQ): Factors, and major indoor air contaminants.</li> </ul> |

| III. | Environmental/ ESG Reporting for Companies   |
|------|--|
|      | <ul> <li>High-level summary overview of the key environmental/ESG reporting requirements of major stock exchanges of the world, including New York Stock Exchange of US, Shanghai Stock Exchange of China, Shenzhen Stock Exchange of China, London Stock Exchange of UK, Deutsche Boerse AG of Germany, Hong Kong Stock Exchange</li> <li>Basic principles in environmental/ESG reporting, including connectivity between environmental/ESG data and the company's financial performance</li> <li>Environmental impact indicators</li> <li>Environmental data collection &amp; management</li> <li>Calculating air emissions: Calculation methods for air emissions, major process-related air emissions, air emission arising from electricity usage, car usage etc.</li> <li>Environmental reporting: Major yardsticks, &amp; presentation of environmental/ESG data</li> </ul> |
| IV.  | Current Developments & Market Updates of ESG   |
|      | <ul> <li>Air emissions &amp; air quality update in US, China, EU and UK</li> <li>Recent major developments in international conventions/collaborations on environmental protection/climate change</li> <li>Recent major market developments, trends, &amp; other issues in environmental protection, such as US budget increase for FY 2017 for United States Environmental Protection Agency to support environmental protection</li> <li>Recent major developments &amp; updates in ESG reporting</li> </ul>   |
|      | NOTES:<br>Candidates have to read up the relevant articles/news on the latest national trend of air emissions in China for 2015,<br>such as The Ministry of Environmental Protection of Peoples' Republic of China etc. or other relevant sources.<br>Paris Agreement is already included under Section I above, so would <u>NOT</u> be covered under this Section. However, any<br>subsequent conventions/collaborations on environmental protection/climate change would be included in The ESGE <sup>™</sup><br>online exams up to <u>six months prior to</u> the date, e.g. up to end February 2017 for the August 2017 online exams.  |