**LG Electronics Inc.** 

**Sustainable Finance Framework** 

January 2024





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#### 1. Introduction

#### 1.1. About LG Electronics

LG Electronics Inc. ("LGE" or the "Company") is a USD 64.7 billion revenue global manufacturing company that produces major products including household appliances, electronics, automotive components, and others. Established in 1958, LGE today employs 33,405 people as of Jun 30, 2023. As a flagship member of the LG group, LG Corporation is LGE's largest shareholder and currently holds 33.67% as of Sep 30, 2023. The National Pension Service holds 7.47% as of the Jul 31, 2023. Headquartered in Seoul, South Korea, the Company operates across the H&A (Home Appliance & Air Solution), HE (Home Entertainment), VS (Vehicle component Solutions), and BS (Business Solutions) divisions and operates 154 business sites globally.

LGE's vision is to follow the "No.1 LG" way to ultimately becoming the market leader in business performance as well as management practices. The Company aims to be a trustworthy brand that provides best products and services to its customers, a greater workplace that talented individuals want to join as employees, a secure investment that yield sustained high returns for investors, and a leader that competitors are willing to learn from. LG's management philosophy embraces "Creating Value for Customers" and "Peopleoriented Management" as LGE's main operating principles. As a leading global company, LGE is promoting ESG management that pursues a "Better Life for All" and underpins the Company's commitment to carbon neutrality, resource recycling, and the development of environmentally friendly technologies for the global community.

On July 12<sup>th</sup>, 2023, LGE declared its vision to transform itself into a "smart life solutions company" building on three growth engines: pursuing new platform-based services, accelerating B2B, and expanding into new business areas such as EV charging and digital health. The declaration is accompanied by the "Triple 7" financial objectives, of which LGE will achieve an average growth rate, operating profit, and EV/EBITDA of 7%. On the backdrop of global sustainability developments, LGE identified electrification, sterilization and digitalization as key focus points and going forward will continue to drive ESG management activities to fulfill its responsibilities as a global corporation citizen.



Additional information about LGE's environmental, social, and governance policies and initiatives can be found on the Company's website<sup>1</sup>.



# 1.2. ESG Governance System

LGE has established a rational and transparent ESG decision-making system, allowing for accountability and transparency at the highest levels of the organization. The Company have been continuously strengthening governance to efficiently plan and execute LGE's objectives across its operations. The ESG Committee, established under Article 33 of the Articles of Association and Articles 13 and 14 of the Board of Directors Regulations, consists of four independent directors and one executive director (CEO) deliberates and decides ESG management related agenda more than twice a year. The Committee is tasked with establishing ESG policy with mid- and long-term goals, management and supervision of ESG management activity planning, performance supervision, and risk related responses

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> https://www.lg.com/global/sustainability/



with the goal to strengthen ESG management and realizing long term sustainable growth across the organization.

In addition, the ESG Council, the consultative group expanded from the existing Sustainability Management Consultative Body under the leadership of the CSO alongside related departments by headquarters division between the organizations performing ESG for each sector in the Company, is convened every quarter to establish the direction of ESG management activities and mid-to long-term plan. Moreover, the progress of the detailed tasks and improvements, etc. is discussed and resolved.

Especially, the Company's ESG Council is participated in by decision makers from each functional organization throughout the Company including management strategy, management planning, energy, safety environment, legal affairs, HR, purchase, R&D, marketing, etc. to be equipped with executive ability. The necessary implementation plans are discussed to achieve the goals of strategic ESG tasks of the Company including use of renewable energy, response method to GHG (greenhouse gas) in the supply chain, establishment of diversity policy, governance improvement method, etc. The structure is further underpinned by individual stakeholders and business units.

LGE's corporate risk governance is built on a strong foundation following the Company's core values and is cascaded throughout different lines of business. The Company-Wide Crisis Management Council establishes regular monitoring system by selection of key risks by business areas and establishing scenarios for abnormal symptoms and selecting risk management department for each area. "Jeong-Do Management" refers to the mode of behavior to implement LG group's management principles of "customer-value creation" and "people-oriented management" and further underpins LGE's risk management framework through various initiatives such as the embedment of the Code of Ethics and Whistleblower System. The Jeong-Do Management Risk Prevention and Process collectively helped establish a risk diagnostic system that actively mitigate risks.

LGE recognizes the right for all employees and stakeholders to pursue happiness with dignity and unique values as human beings and strives to provide a safe and happy working environment. LGE is a signatory of the UN Global Compact (UNGC) and



Responsible Business Alliance (RBA) and has aligned its strategies and operations with the principles outlined in the UN Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Labor Organization (ILO), and Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises. These specific initiatives combined with the Company's wide array of other commitments toward the environment and society, contribute to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals ("SDGs").

# 1.3. Contribution to United Nations Sustainable Development Goals



As a leading global institution, LGE is committed to generating sustainable impact internationally. LGE's sustainability agenda enables the Company to translate business activities into meaningful global contributions. Through the mapping of the Company's key management issues against specific UN SDG targets and indicators, LGE

identified the most impactful and influential SDGs.

Key Management Issues in 2022	Risk and Opportunities
Carbon Neutral / GHG emission (Scope 1, 2, and 3)	Growing public demand for reduction in greenhouse gas emissions and energy consumption in the production process due to the international community's demand for carbon neutrality
Responsible technology innovation	
7 APPROAME NO 7 GERALDERY	Amid increased customer/consumer interest in eco- friendly products and services, viewed as a long-term opportunity factor for increasing corporate sales
Circular economy  15 with the control of the contro	Increasing stakeholder demand for environmental, social, and financial risk management through formation of a circular ecosystem
Diversity and inclusion  5 tracts  10 MEDICAL STREET  \$\frac{1}{2} \bigcip_{\text{left}}	Ramp-up efforts to build an inclusive and sustainable society in order to respond to the rapidly changing



Product and service accessibility  3 GOOD REALTH 11 SUSTAINABLE OFFICE	external economy and secure business competitiveness centered on the EU social taxonomy	
Sustainable supply chain  12 REPONDED TO CORRESPONDED TO CORRE	Imperative to devise preemptive responses to the risks posed across corporate value chain, amid growing demand from stakeholders for compliance with corporate social responsibility	
	Imperative to create opportunities for shared growth across corporate value chain through support for enhancing the sustainability of partners/suppliers	

### 1.4. Commitment to Carbon Neutrality

LGE commits to reduce absolute scope 1 and 2 GHG emissions 54.6% by 2030 from a 2017 base line. LGE also commits to reduce scope 3 GHG emissions from use of sold products 20% per functional unit by 2030 from a 2020 baseline under the Science Based Targets initiative (SBTi)'s 1.5-degree decarbonization scenario, making LGE the first company in Korea home appliance industry to be SBTi validated.

LGE carries out various emission reduction activities such as investing in SF<sub>6</sub> (sulfur hexafluoride) gas treatment facilities and carbon funds, and expand the use of renewable energy at global production sites in order to achieve carbon neutrality. In June 2023, LGE joined the RE100<sup>2</sup> initiative to cover 100% of the electricity used by all global production site with renewable energy by 2050.

Among the Company's production plants, Changwon Smart Park and Tennessee Plant (US) were recognized for their excellence including robot technology, digital transformation, Albased cutting-edge technology and manufacturing know-how, energy storage technology, etc., and were selected as "Lighthouse Factory" in the World Economy Forum (WEF). Especially, the photovoltaic system in the rooftop of Changwon LG Smart Park is currently undergoing construction with completion targeted by 2025, and it is expected to replace at least 10% of the annual power usage in LG Smart Park.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> https://www.there100.org/



# 1.5. Sustainability Performance

As a global leader in corporate sustainability, LGE have been widely recognized by external assessment agencies for its holistic ESG performance. LGE have been listed on the Dow Jones Sustainability Index (DJSI) for 12 consecutive years, DJSI Asia Pacific for 14 consecutive years, DJSI Korea for 15 consecutive years, and FTSE4Good for 9 consecutive years. The Company's latest CDP Climate Change response in 2022 was rated Grade "A-" and is currently rated Grade "A" by MSCI ESG Rating.

LGE is also widely recognized for its effort to develop and deliver better and more sustainable products and services. Some of the Company's latest recognitions include "Excellence in Sustainability" Award at the Energy Star Award 2023 by the US Environmental Protection Agency, Energy Winner of the Year Award 2023 by Consumers Korea, and CES 2024 Innovation Award by the Consumer Technology Association.



#### 2. Sustainable Finance Framework

The Sustainable Finance Framework ("Framework") sets out the governance and processes under which LGE<sup>3</sup> intends to issue Green, Social or Sustainability ("GSS") bonds, loans, and other debt-like instruments and in doing so contribute to positive environmental and social impacts.

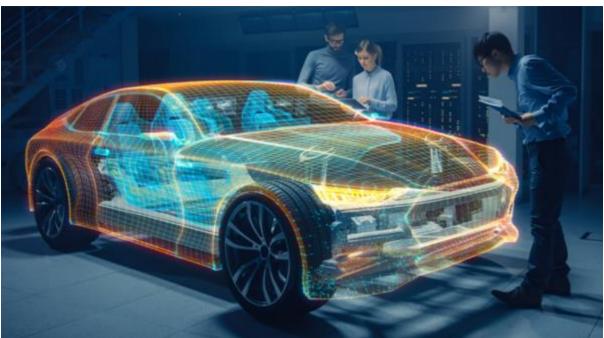
The net proceeds of any GSS finance instruments or an equivalent amount will be allocated for the financing or refinancing of eligible green and/or social projects.

The Framework aligns with International Capital Markets Association ("ICMA") Green Bond Principles (2021) and Social Bond Principles (2023), Loan Market Association ("LMA"), Asia Pacific Loan Market Association ("APLMA"), and Loan Syndications and Trading Association ("LSTA") Green Loan Principles (2021) and Social Loan Principles (2023) and adopts the following key pillars:

- Use of Proceeds
- Process for Project Evaluation and Selection
- Management of Proceeds
- Reporting
- External Review

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Includes LGE and its subsidiaries.





# 2.1. Use of Proceeds

The net proceeds raised under this Framework or an equivalent amount will be used to finance or refinance in whole or in part, expenditure on projects that are consistent with the eligibility criteria set out below.

# 2.1.1. Eligible Green Projects

Categories	Eligibility Criteria	Contribution to SDGs <sup>4</sup>
Circular Economy Adapted Products, Production Technologies and Processes	Investments and expenditure related to the design, development and production of products, components, or systems that facilitates the adoption of a circular economy, such as:  • Utilization of recycled plastics in production of products  • Development and application of ecofriendly materials, printing, disposable plastic removal and paper buffers  • Recycling of resources such as e-waste, welding tips and waste urethane	SDG 11b

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Green, Social and Sustainability Bonds: A High-Level Mapping to the Sustainable Development Goals (June 2022)



Categories	Eligibility Criteria	Contribution to SDGs <sup>4</sup>
Eco-Certified Products	Investments and expenditure related to the design, development and production of products, components, or systems that are expected to obtain recognized eco-performance labels, such as:  • EPA Energy Star	7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERBY
	<ul> <li>EU Energy Label B or above</li> <li>KEA Energy Efficiency Label Level 2 or above</li> </ul>	SDG 7a
	Products that demonstrate at least 15% energy efficiency compared against the average of current products produced in a specific market	
Energy Efficiency	Investments and expenditure related to design, development, operation, and maintenance of projects and processes resulting in improvement in energy efficiency or emissions reduction, such as:  • Installation of LED, other low energy lighting and related electrical equipment  • HVAC systems and chillers energy efficiency upgrades  • Energy storage systems, building energy management systems and maintenance programs  • Data center <sup>5</sup> /computer server room energy efficiency upgrades  • Energy efficiency in production process	7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY  SDG 7.3 / 7a  9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE  SDG 9.4
Renewable Energy	Investments and expenditure related to the construction, operation, and procurement of power generation projects from renewable energy sources <sup>6</sup> , such as:  On-site or off-site solar PV or CSP Offshore and onshore wind Bioenergy <sup>7</sup>	7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY SDG 7.3 / 7a

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Data center/computer server room is considered energy efficient only if it achieves an annualized Power Usage Effectiveness of <1.5

 $<sup>^6</sup>$  Renewable energy sources will be limited to technologies with life-cycle emissions intensity  $\leq$  100g CO<sub>2</sub>e/kWh

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> For bioenergy projects, biomass/gas/liquids will be derived from sources of high biodiversity, that competes with food sources or that depletes carbon pools is excluded



	LG Electronics

Hydropower<sup>8</sup>, wave and tidal power

Green hydrogen

**Eligibility Criteria** 



Contribution to SDGs<sup>4</sup>

SDG 9.4

#### Green Buildings

**Categories** 

Investments and expenditure related to construction, renovation, retrofitting of new and/or existing buildings/facilities that have received or are expected to receive a recognized local and/or international green building certification, such as:



SDG 9.4

- BEAM Plus gold or above
- BREEAM excellent or above
- EDGE certified or above
- G-SEED very good (green 2<sup>nd</sup>) or above
- KEA Building Energy Efficiency Certification - 1++ or above
- LEED gold or above

Any other equivalent green building certifications are also considered eligible.



SDG 11c

#### Clean **Transportation**

and Investments expenditure related to the production, procurement, maintenance, and operation of clean modes of transport, components, and related infrastructures, such as:



- Electric vehicles
- Hybrid and plug-in hybrid vehicles 9 for passenger cars and light commercial vehicles
- Charging stations for electric vehicles

SDG 11.2

Sustainable Water and Wastewater Management

Investments expenditure related development, operation, and maintenance of sustainable infrastructure for clean and/or drinking water, smart water solutions and wastewater management, such as:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Limited to sources of run-of-river plant without an artificial reservoir, sources with power density ≥ 5 W/m² or sources with life-cycle emissions intensity ≤ 100g CO<sub>2</sub>e/kWh

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Limited to HEVs and PHEVs with direct emissions of ≤ 50g CO₂e/p-km in passenger activity threshold before 2025, and vehicles with zero direct emissions after 2025



Categories

#### **Eligibility Criteria**

Contribution to SDGs<sup>4</sup>

- Recycling of used water for alternative applications through zero discharge system
- Establishment of wastewater treatment facilities and recycling systems



SDG 6.3

Pollution
Prevention and
Control

Investments and expenditure contributing to the reduction of air emissions, greenhouse gas control, soil remediation, waste prevention, waste reduction, such as:



- Development of monitoring systems for chemical leaks and air pollution prevention
- Investment and operation of facilities that reduce air emissions





# 2.1.2. Eligible Social Projects

	ingibie social i rojects	
Categories	Eligibility Criteria	Contribution to SDGs
Socioeconomic Advancement and Empowerment	Investments and expenditure related to partnerships and projects that provides financial support to socially vulnerable groups, such as:	5 GENDER EQUALITY
Empowerment	<ul> <li>Zero-Interest Direct Financing provides interest-free funds to suppliers facing financial difficulties</li> <li>Target Population: Small and Medium Enterprises<sup>10</sup></li> </ul>	SDG 5.1  8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH  SDG 8.5
	<ul> <li>Win-Win Growth Fund provides loans to suppliers at low and/or preferential interest rates</li> <li>Target Population: Small and Medium Enterprises</li> </ul>	
Access to Essential Services - Education	Provision of essential services to socially vulnerable groups, such as:  • Global IT Challenge for Youth with Disabilities  Target Population: Youth with disabilities  • LG-KOICA Hope Vocational Training School in Ethiopia and Cambodia  Target Population: Youth and women	4 QUALITY EDUCATION  SDG 4.5
Employment Generation	Provision of employment opportunities to socially vulnerable groups, such as:  • Expansion and operation of "Hanuri"  Target Population: Workers with disabilities	4 QUALITY EDUCATION  SDG 4.4

 $<sup>^{10}</sup>$  SME refers to organizations defined by Enforcement Decree of the Framework Act on Small and Medium Enterprises

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> Hanuri is a business established by LGE to expand employment to workers with disabilities where workers manage cafes, environmental restoration, dishwashing, and dormitories, etc.



#### 2.1.3. Exclusions Criteria

In any case, eligible assets/projects exclude the types of activities below:

- Production or trade of any product or activity deemed illegal under host country laws or regulations or international conventions and agreements, or subject to international bans
- Production or trade of any product or activity deemed unaligned with the UN
  Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, International Labor Organization
  Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work, United Nations Universal
  Declaration of Human Rights, and Responsible Business Alliance Code of Conduct



### 2.2. Process for Project Evaluation and Selection

The LG Electronics Sustainable Finance Working Group ("SFWG") is responsible for the management of this Framework and the compliance of all finance instruments issued under the Framework. The SFWG consists of senior representatives from the following departments:

- Finance
- ESG

The SFWG may be supplemented from time to time, or expanded, by the inclusion of representatives from other relevant teams.

For new issuances, Finance team will coordinate and compile the submission of identified projects for the SFWG's review. The identified projects' environmental and/or social credentials will be obtained and confirmed via liaison with relevant business partners and internal departments. The SFWG will consider potential projects, assess their eligibility, and may approve those that qualify as eligible projects.

The SFWG will consider all proposed projects holistically and aim to ensure that all approved projects financed under this Framework have net-positive environmental and social impacts for stakeholders and the wider society. As part of the assessment process, the SFWG will consider:

- The environmental and/or social assessments of the projects and any potential environmental and/or social risks
- The alignment of the projects with LGE's Sustainable Finance Framework, sustainability strategy and policies including SDG priorities
- The projects' compliance with relevant local, national, and/or international regulatory requirements and market standards



The proceeds of each GSS debt instrument can be used for both the financing and/or refinancing of eligible projects. A look-back period of 36 months will apply for eligible operating expenditure for refinancing<sup>12</sup>.

The SFWG will review the eligibility of those projects on a regular basis. Should a project be considered by SFWG to be no longer meeting the criteria detailed above or is subject to postponement, cancelation or divestment, LGE is committed to reallocate proceeds on a best efforts basis to ensure an amount equal to the net proceeds are allocated to eligible projects. Such monitoring will be done throughout the life of the GSS instruments.

# 2.3. Management of Proceeds

The proceeds from each GSS debt instrument issued will be managed by Finance and ESG teams, supplemented by other departments as required with oversight by the SFWG. LGE will track the allocation of proceeds to eligible projects within its internal management system ("Register") including the following information:

- Type of Funding Transaction: Key information includes issuer/borrower entity, transaction date, number of transactions, principal amount of proceeds, repayment or amortization profile, maturity date, interest or coupon, and the ISIN number in case of bond transaction
- Allocation of Use of Proceeds:
  - Name and description of eligible projects to which the proceeds of the GSS instruments have been used in accordance with the Framework
  - o Allocation of the proceeds of the GSS instruments to eligible projects
  - o The balance of unallocated proceeds
  - o Information of temporary investment for unallocated proceeds

Pending allocation, net proceeds from the sale of the GSS instruments will be invested in cash, cash equivalents or deposits, subject to exclusions criteria. For each issuance under

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> LGE have set a look-back period for operating expenditure not longer than 36 months in accordance to market best practice with reference to the <u>EU Green Bond Standard</u>



this Framework, LGE will review the Register once a year and expects to achieve full allocation within two years from the date of issuance.

### 2.4. Reporting

LGE will publish a post-issuance report annually, or more frequently in case of material developments. The reporting will provide the following information:

# 2.4.1. Allocation Reporting, to be disclosed until full allocation, will include:

- Allocation amount by eligible project category, and clearly indicating the SDG(s) of which such allocation supports
- Allocation amount by geography
- Proportion between financing and refinancing
- Project examples, subject to confidentiality
- Amount of unallocated proceeds and its temporary treatment

# 2.4.2. Impact Reporting, to be disclosed until full allocation, will include:

Where possible and subject to data availability and confidentiality, LGE strives to report environmental and social impact of the projects using relevant indicators as suggested in the ICMA Harmonized Framework for Impact Reporting.

Categories	Example of Impact Indicators
Circular Economy	Amount and type of circular economy adapted products produced
Adapted Products,	(tons)
Production	• The % increase in materials, components and products that are
Technologies and	reusable, recyclable, and/or certified compostable as a result of
Processes	the project and/or in absolute amount in tonnes p.a.



Eco-Certified	Number of products/or the share of production recognized as
Products	eco-label or certified
Energy Efficiency	<ul> <li>Annual energy conserved (MWh or GJ)</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Annual GHG emissions reduced/avoided (metric tonnes of CO2</li> </ul>
	equivalent)
Renewable Energy	Annual renewable energy generation (MWh or GJ)
	<ul> <li>Annual GHG emissions reduced/avoided (metric tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub></li> </ul>
	equivalent)
	<ul> <li>Installed renewable energy capacity (MW)</li> </ul>
Green Buildings	<ul> <li>Number of green buildings constructed/renovated, and the type</li> </ul>
	of green building certification obtained
	<ul> <li>Area of green buildings built (square feet or square metres)</li> </ul>
	$ullet$ Annual GHG emissions reduced/avoided (metric tonnes of $CO_2$
	equivalent)
Clean Transportation	<ul> <li>Number and type of clean transportation assets acquired</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Annual GHG emissions reduced/avoided (metric tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub></li> </ul>
	equivalent)
Sustainable Water	<ul> <li>Reduction in water losses in water transfer and/or distribution</li> </ul>
and Wastewater	<ul> <li>Reduction in water consumption of economic activities</li> </ul>
Management	
Pollution Prevention	GHG emissions from waste management before and after the
and Control	project in tCO2–e p.a.
Socioeconomic	Number of people benefiting from socioeconomic advancement
Advancement and	and empowerment
Empowerment	Amount dedicated to funding socioeconomic projects
Access to Essential	<ul> <li>Number of people with access to essential educational services</li> </ul>
Services - Education	Amount dedicated to funding essential educational services
Employment	<ul> <li>Number of beneficiaries from generation of employment</li> </ul>
Generation	<ul> <li>Amount dedicated to funding employment generation</li> </ul>

Should there be any co-financing of projects, LGE will only claim and report the impact proportionate to the Company's financing amount. For the avoidance of doubt, for environmental projects demonstrating social co-benefits or vice versa, LGE will only allocate to one of the either category to avoid the notion of double-counting.

The post-issuance report will be made available at LGE's company website<sup>13</sup>.

<sup>13</sup> https://www.lg.com/global/sustainability/reports/



#### 2.5. External Review

LGE has engaged DNV to provide external review to assess and confirm that the Framework is in line with relevant principles and guidelines. The external review report is published on LGE's company website.

LGE may engage an independent third party to conduct post-issuance assurance on the allocation of proceeds and impact reporting.

#### 3. Amendments to the Framework

The SFWG will review this Framework on a regular basis, including its alignment to updated versions of the Principles as and when they are released, with the aim of adhering to best practices in the market. Such review may result in this Framework being updated and amended. The updates, if not minor in nature, will be subject to the prior approval of LGE and a credible external reviewer.

Any future updated version of this Framework that may exist will either keep or improve the current levels of transparency and reporting disclosures, including the corresponding review by an external reviewer. The updated Framework, if any, will be published on the Company's website and will replace this Framework.