# **TPE**x **SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGIES**

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TPEx echoes with the competent authority's "Capital Market Roadmap," promoting the sound development of the capital market and the sustainable development of ESG as a specialized exchange for sustainable financial products. TPEx establishes a multi-tiered market with convenient financing and sound governance, develops sustainable financial products that are friendly to the environment and society, and promotes a diversified and efficient trading market to leverage the capital market driving major economic, social and environmental transformations.



**Develop ESG** Sustainability of the Capital Market **Build Ecosystem** of Sustainable Finance

**Direct Companies** to Strengthen Corporate Governance

### The force that drives the economy and cradles successful businesses.

### A prominent exchange for sustainable financial instruments.

Establishe a multi-tiered market with convenient financing and sound governance

• Enhance friendliness to innovative enterprises

• Promoe sound enterprises

 Increase the efficiency of listing and financing

• Strengthen corporate governance



**Financial Institutions** 

Develop sustainable financial products that are friendly to the environment and society	Promotes a diversified and efficient trading market
<ul> <li>Develop ESG-related indices</li></ul>	<ul> <li>Develop diverse financial</li></ul>
and products	products
<ul> <li>Better market for</li></ul>	<ul> <li>Build just and orderly</li></ul>
Sustainable Bonds	trading mechanism
<ul> <li>Promote green finance and sustainable products</li> </ul>	• Enhance trading systems' resilience
<ul> <li>Promote sustainable and</li></ul>	<ul> <li>Promote inclusive financial</li></ul>
responsible investment	education

# Market Development

# A Multi-Tiered Capital Market

TPEx currently operates a multi-tiered capital market framework that comprises the Main Board, the ESB, and the GISA. A new Pioneer Stock Board (PSB) is also scheduled to launch in the 3rd quarter of 2021. From an issuer's perspective, businesses of different sizes and stages of growth may choose to list in the most suitable board. From a trader's perspective, investors may choose to trade in a board that meets their requirements, given their wealth, risk tolerance, and investment strategies. The distinctive features of each board are explained in the following table:

Market	Positioning	Company attributes	Characteristics of registered/ listed companies	Trading system
Main Board	Main Board	Public Offering	SMEs or companies of emerging industries that are more mature in terms of operations, and have reached a certain level of performance and scale	Automatic deal matching
Emerging Stock Market - Emerging Stock Board	Preparation for listing on the Main Board:	Public Offering	<ul> <li>SMEs that are more mature in terms of operations, but do not met the criteria for listing at TWSE or TPEx</li> <li>Securities firm counseling</li> </ul>	Price negotiation
Emerging Stock Market - Pioneer Stock Board	stage-by-stage incubation applies	Simplified Public Offering	<ul> <li>New startups primarily involved in one of the Six Core Strategic Industries; mostly in the early stage of development</li> <li>Securities firm counseling</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Automatic deal matching (same as Main Board shares)</li> <li>Buyers limited only to accredited investors</li> </ul>
GISA	Offers "entrepreneurship counseling and capital raising functions"	Non- public companies	<ul> <li>Micro/small businesses with innovative and creative ideas</li> <li>TPEx's integrative counseling</li> </ul>	None



TPEx began the publication of the TPEx Exchange Capitalization Weighted Stock Index in 1995. The ESB was later created in 2002, allowing shares of public companies undergoing counseling for TWSE/TPEx listing to be traded in a legal, secure, and transparent manner. In 2014, TPEx introduced the GISA that aimed primarily to help non-public micro/small startups acquire the necessary funding, and offer professional assistance such as intermediary counseling and marketing to support their business expansion.

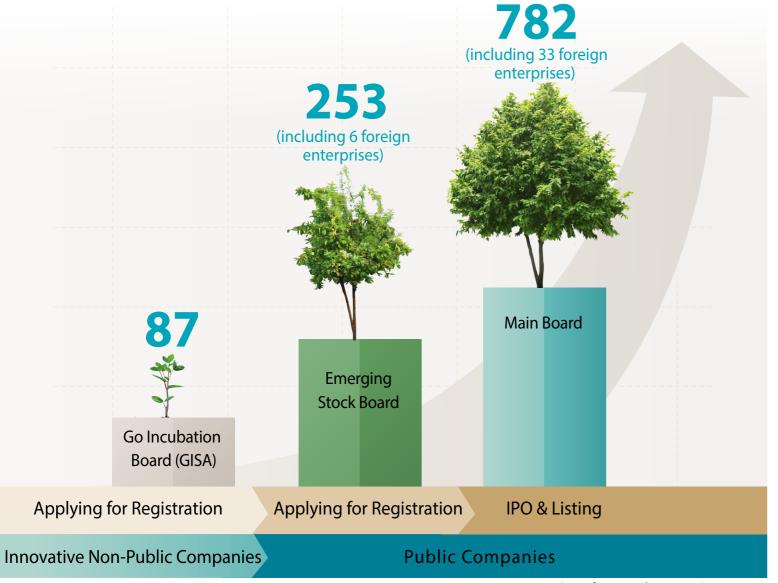
TPEx held matchmaking activities and invited GISA companies, investors, and medium/large corporations to join. The events have helped GISA companies raise visibility, connect with potential clients and investors, and gain useful guidance and recommendations on business management as well as product marketing. In return, participating institutional investors and large corporations were presented with investment and business opportunities that they would otherwise have missed out on.

# Sharing by GISA-Registered Company • • •

#### Chairman Alex Hung of GISA-Registered company Al Machine Vision Corp.:

"Our company provides customers with a comprehensive selection of AI-AOI automated visual inspection equipment and AI manufacturing system integrated solutions. Our sales process typically begins by reaching out to users in need; from knowing to actually selling to the buyer, each deal takes an extremely long time to make, and seldom do we have the opportunity to demonstrate our technological capabilities and service passion directly to customers' executive decision-makers. This business matchmaking event organized by TPEx allowed us to meet the executives of several listed/registered companies in person. Being able to talk to them and exchange opinions face-to-face has been extremely helpful to our marketing efforts and corporate image. We appreciate TPEx for the efforts they have committed to organizing this matchmaking event. It has been very helpful to the company's growth." TPEx has been organizing conferences and seminars across Taiwan in an attempt to attract and assist topperforming businesses into the capital market. Through visits with "hidden champions" of various professions, TPEx is able to help companies plan and prepare entry into the capital market. In the meantime, TPEx continues to cooperate and communicate with central and local government agencies in attracting prominent local businesses. In support of the government's New Southbound Policy targeting Southeast Asian markets, TPEx has also been working closely with the government's overseas offices, overseas Taiwanese enterprise associations, local business associations, and intermediaries in recent years, and even created a dedicated contact window for foreign businesses seeking to list in Taiwan.

The multi-tiered capital market system has worked exceptionally well. At the end of December 2020, a total of 782 companies were listed on the Main Board, 253 companies were registered on the ESB, and 87 domestic companies were registered on the GISA. The total market capitalization of Main Board companies was reported at NT\$4.35 trillion, whereas the market capitalization of ESB companies was reported at NT\$749.5 billion.



Unit: Company (As of December 2020)

TPEx is open to the idea of catering to the needs of innovative startups. In addition to observing practices of major overseas exchanges such as KONEX (South Korea), AIM (UK), Catalist (Singapore), and Nasdaq First North, TPEx also paid a visit to startups and intermediaries, including securities firms and CPA firms, and hosted a Public Hearing on PSB on October 15, 2020, to gather stakeholders' opinions. A decision was then made to create the PSB under the ESM, offering more friendly features and trading methods that appeal to new startups or businesses of the Six Core Strategic Industries<sup>1</sup>. This new board has been approved by the authority on December 2, 2020, and will be introduced sometime in the 3rd quarter of 2021. The ESM will be distinguished between General Board (which includes all companies registered in the current ESB) and the PSB (where buyers are limited to qualified investors only).

The newly established PSB complements the existing multi-tiered market framework. Since the PSB shares functions of a secondary market, it helps new startups price securities offerings and raise capital from the capital market, which in turn attracts talents into innovation and contributes to the creation of an innovation ecosystem in Taiwan. Furthermore, counseling by securities firms will enable innovative startups to uphold a well-rounded corporate management system during the PSB registration period to facilitate a robust development. Investors can also have access to more diversified asset allocation depending on their financial position, risk tolerance, investment strategy, etc.

With the support of a multi-tiered market framework and step-by-step incubation, TPEx hopes to direct capital to startups in need through the capital market, and help nurture a new generation of successful entrepreneurs.

# **Cases of Successful Incubation**

### Yeedex Electronic Corporation (Stock code: 7556)

• Main business activities: Research, development, and design of advanced semiconductor manufacturing equipment

Growth history: The company signed up for GISA counseling on June 11, 2018, registered with GISA on August 22, and later completed public offering and registered on the ESB in August and November 2019, respectively. The company was successfully listed on the Main Board on October 30, 2020. Chairman Sheng-Che Chueh: "We appreciate the counseling, assistance, and resources that TPEx has provided us along the way, which enabled our company to progress quickly from the GISA, the ESB, and finally to the Main Board."

1 Includes information and digital industries, cybersecurity industries, biotech and medical technology industries, national defense and strategic industries, green and renewable energy industries, and strategic stockpile industries.

# **Corporate Governance**

Strong corporate governance is the only way to assure that a business thrives in line with shareholders' interests and the interests of other stakeholders. TPEx has been supporting the authority's "Corporate Governance Roadmap" (2013-2017) and "New Corporate Governance Roadmap" (2018-2020). TPEx organizes Corporate Governance Evaluation, establishes and regularly amends regulations so that listed companies may progressively adopt more robust practices to manage their increasingly sophisticated businesses.

2013 - FSC announced "Corporate Governance Roadmap" 2018 - FSC announced "New Corporate Governance Roadmap" (2018~2020) 2020 - FSC announced "Corporate Governance 3.0 -Sustainability Roadmap"

After many years of hard work, Taiwanese companies are starting to see improved scores in the biennial "CG WATCH" rating published by the Asian Corporate Governance Association (ACGA). According to the latest "CG WATCH 2020," **Taiwan ranks 4th out of 12 countries in Asia in corporate governance practice**, trailing only behind Australia, Hong Kong, and Singapore. It was Taiwan's best result yet, and it shows that the efforts have been well-recognized among the world's corporate governance promoters.

Having observed rapid changes in the capital market and increased global awareness towards ESG (environmental, social, and corporate governance) issues, TPEx finds it necessary to improve corporate governance practices among local companies. TPEx has proposed a series of recommendations to the authority after gathering opinions from prominent listed companies, corporate governance opinion leaders, and industrial/commercial associations.

### Country Ranks : CG Watch 2018 and 2020

2020	2018
1. Australia	1. Australia
2. Hong Kong, Singapore	2. Hong Kong
3	3. Singapore
4. Taiwan	4. Malaysia
5. Malaysia, Japan	5. Taiwan
6	6. Thailand
7. India	7. India, Japan
8. Thailand	8
9. Korea	9. Korea
10.China	10. China
11. Philippines	11. Philippines
12. Indonesia	12. Indonesia

Source: Asian Corporate Governance Association

On August 25, 2020, the authority announced the "Corporate Governance 3.0 - Sustainability Roadmap," a 3-year plan (2021-2023) introducing 5 main themes and 39 practical measures. The Roadmap attempts to further enhance businesses' practices while promoting productive interactions with investors and stakeholders to create an ESG ecosystem that enhances Taiwan's global competitiveness.



In 2020, TPEx rolled out several initiatives to promote sound corporate governance in line with the "New Corporate Governance Roadmap (2018-2020)." Key results are as shown in the chart below. Moreover, TPEx made further efforts to impose third-party verification on CSR report contents, promote the use of sustainability index among listed companies, develop templates for filing of material information in English, and encourage listed/registered companies to announce material information in English on a voluntary basis.

#### **Corporate Governance Measures**

Main Board companies with paid-up capital of NT\$2 billion or above and financial institutions regulated by the authority are required to appoint a corporate governance officer. However, those with paid-up capital below NT\$10 billion may postpone the officer's appointment until June 30, 2021.

Where a Main Board company's chairman is the same person as or a spouse or first-degree relative to the general manager or personnel of equivalent grade (i.e. the most senior manager), additional independent directors should be introduced to the board and at least half of total board members must not undertake employment or management position

Enforcement of board of directors performance evaluation in TPEx Main Board companies

# 5 Major Action Plans 39 Practical Measures 3-year Execution (2021-2023)

Strengthening Board Duties and Functions and Enhancing Enterprise Sustainability

Enhancing Information Transparency and Promoting Sustainable Operations

Strengthening Communication with Stakeholders and Creating Open Dialogue

Advancing International Norms and Leading with Stewardship

O Deepening Corporate's Sustainable Governance Culture and Providing Diversified Products

#### Progress

As of December 31, 2020, 136 Main Board companies had appointed corporate governance officers; 29 of which had appointed out of mandatory requirement, while 107 of which had appointed voluntarily

Independent directors are due to be introduced before December 31, 2023; however, companies with paid-up capital below NT\$600 million may postpone the appointment until December 31, 2025

TPEx reminded Main Board companies to conduct the annual self/peer evaluation of board performance starting from 2020. This reminder has also been served during the online course - "The 7th Corporate Governance Evaluation Seminar" since February 26, 2020.

TPEx also pays regular visits to encourage companies to implement robust corporate governance practices, avoiding violation of insider trading, and fulfilling corporate social responsibilities. In addition, TPEx organizes Corporate Governance Evaluation and seminars on a regular basis.

	Time	Progress	Торіс	Details
	January 16, 2020	1 session(s)	Intellectual Property Management for A Robust Corporate Governance Framework - Duties of Intellectual Property Management for Board of Directors of TWSE/TPEx Listed Companies	Providing Main Board companies with an understanding of how to incorporate intellectual property management into the corporate governance framework, and have performance evaluated and supervised by the board of directors
Si	ince February 26, 2020	Online delivery	The 7th Corporate Governance Evaluation Seminar	Conveying key points on self/peer evaluation of board performance, and functions of corporate governance personnel
S	September 21, 20201 session(s)Seminar: Corporate Governance 3.0 - Sustainability Roadmap			Explaining how Corporate Governance 3.0 - Sustainability Roadmap may be amended in the future, and key points on the latest amendments
	eptember 28 o October 30, 2020	Online delivery	Seminar: Tasks To Be Performed by TPEx Main Board and Emerging Stock Board Companies	Explaining implications of Corporate 3.0, the latest amendments concerning material information, information reporting, internal control, major regulatory amendments, and insider trading-related laws and case studies
	October and ovember 2020	4 session(s)	2020 Corporate Governance and Business Integrity Seminar for Directors and Supervisors	Guiding companies enforce business integrity and anti-corruption, and explain key points of the latest amendments to the Securities Investor and Futures Trader Protection Act as well as prospects of Corporate Governance 3.0.
D	ecember 2020	4 session(s)	Seminar: Local Adoption of International Financial Reporting Standards	Conveying implications and practical issues concerning IFRSs, and raise issuers' ability to prepare financial reports.

In the future, TPEx will leverage contributions from affiliated organizations and other non-profit organizations to enforce various measures introduced under "Corporate Governance 3.0 - Sustainability Roadmap," and examine progress while making rolling adjustments each year to help raise the standard of corporate governance practices in Taiwan.



Sustainable Development Roadmap" after consulting listed large companies, opinion leaders in corporate governance, and industrial and business groups.

# **Operational Resilience**

TPEx has established risk management mechanisms such as the "business continuity plan (BCP)" and the "Emergency and Exceptions Resolution Manual" to resolve various operational risks. TPEx further introduced the ISO 22301 - Business Continuity Management system from January 2020, and was later awarded ISO 22301:2019 certification in December 2020, with BCP manuals and procedures prepared. In response to the worldwide outbreak of COVID-19 in 2020, TPEx not only launched the split operation and work-from-home measures at the first instance, but also placed additional emphasis on disinfection, personnel control, and the off-site backup of information systems. At the same time, TPEx monitors announcements from of the Central Epidemic Command Center so that disease control measures can be adjusted where appropriate. Furthermore, TPEx actively communicates and assists listed/registered companies and securities firms to adopt proper disease control and response plans. Considering the pandemic's impacts on issuers and new IPOs, TPEx announced a series of lenient measures for IPOs later in July 2020. Furthermore, under the instructions of the authority, the Main Board-listed companies were given the flexibility if they found themselves unable to make the public filing of 2019 financial reports due to the pandemic.

### Lenient Measures Undertaken for IPO in Response to the 2020 Pandemic

Measures	Details	Expected Benefits		
Adjustment of profitability criteria for TPEx-Main Board listing	Issuers will be reviewed primarily based on the stability of operations and future growth prospect. Companies that have applied for 2021 listing and were negatively impacted by COVID-19 in 2020 may, subject to rationality assessment by the recommending securities firm, be exempted from having to report higher profitability in 2020 compared to 2019.	Issuers impacted by COVID-19 but still maintained a certain level of profitability in 2020 may still apply for 2021 listing		
Extension of listing expiry	Applicants that signed a TPEx listing agreement prior to the end of 2020 but have not officially listed may request to extend the listing expiry date (from 6 months after the listing contract date informed by TPEx to 9 months after the listing contract date)	Applicants are given more flexibility to choose the timing of their listing		

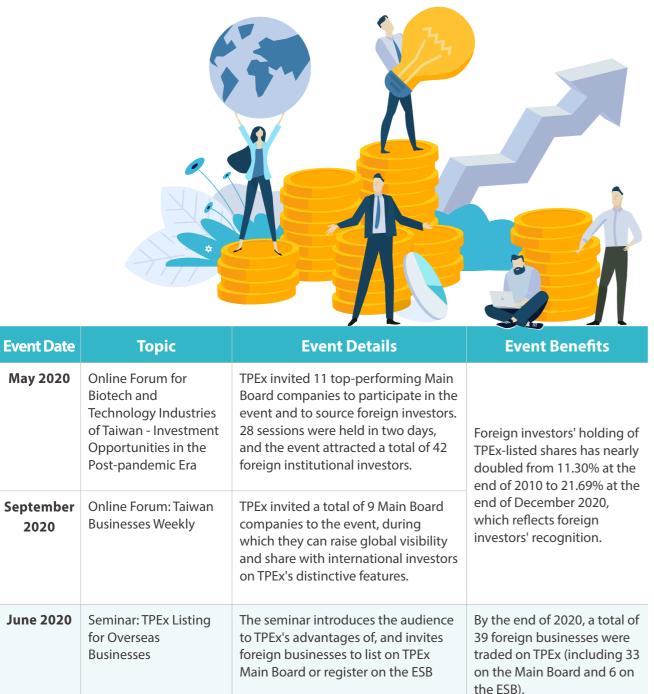
# Flexible Measures Undertaken for Information Disclosure in Response to the 2020 Pandemic

Measures	Details	Expected Benefits
Postponement of filing for 2019 financial reports	Considering that Main Board companies may be unable to make the public filing of 2019 financial reports in time, companies were permitted to file board-approved requests to seek the authority's permission to postpone filing by furnishing the required documents and making relevant announcements over Market Observation Post System	Companies may choose to adopt flexible measures as deemed necessary to avoid being penalized for late filing and protect investors' interests

The COVID-19 pandemic is still far from being contained. To attract foreign investors and businesses into investing/listing, TPEx has adopted new technologies and coordinated with intermediaries to host overseas investor conferences via video conferencing and other online channels. TPEx also organized several seminars to communicate on matters concerning issuer performance, mandatory duties, and the upcoming Corporate Governance Evaluation, so that investors are kept up-to-date to assure the proper functioning of the capital market. Videos have been uploaded to the TPEx website and made available for viewing by investors.



TPEx Media Gallery



Sustainable Products

The United Nations reached the Paris Agreement in 2015 and announced a set of SDGs later that year to remind countries and businesses to cater to social equality and environmental sustainability while pursuing economic growth. Achieving the SDGs requires considerable resources, which make the capital market critical.

TPEx envisions itself of becoming "a prominent exchange for sustainable financial instruments," and is committed to creating an efficient marketplace for sustainability bonds, preparing and commoditizing the TIP Taiwan TPEx CSR Index, introducing green/sustainable products, and promoting green/sustainable investment. Through the above actions, TPEx hopes to ensure sustainable growth among businesses and Taiwan's capital market.

# **Green Finance Strategy**

From the issuer's perspective, TPEx works closely with external partners of various professions, arranges promotional seminars or participates in those organized by intermediaries, and pays visits to iconic businesses. A total of three green energy and renewable energy businesses were registered on the ESB, and one green energy business was listed on the Main Board in 2020. TPEx expects to attract more businesses in related industries once the PSB opens in the 3rd quarter of 2021. From the trader's perspective, TPEx continues to promote the TIP Taiwan TPEx CSR Index, and pays timely visits to investment trust and securities enterprises where they are encouraged to issue products such as ETFs, ETNs, open-ended funds that link to the Index. TPEx has also been planning to introduce a wider variety of green instruments to provide investors with a more diverse selection of sustainable investments. These new offerings also serve as encouragements to TPEx companies for placing additional emphasis on corporate social responsibilities, which in turn makes Taiwan an ideal capital market. TPEx will continue observing practices of international bond markets while creating Taiwan's Sustainable Bond market and expand the scope of offerings. TPEx will also engage international institutions to gather information and learn the latest development around the world, helping raise global visibility for Taiwan's sustainable financing efforts.

# **Cases of Successful Incubation**

### Support for Listing of Green Energy Business -Avertronics (3597)

Listed on the Main Board in March 2020, Avertronics is primarily involved in the production of wire harnesses and lighting systems. Avertronics has shifted its focus towards green energy, energy conservation, smart energy storage, and wireless smart lighting control solutions. Avertronics is known for manufacturing mobile solar energy storage vehicles that collect and store energy through solar panels, which can be used to power nighttime lighting and environmental monitoring systems in place of diesel and electricity.

# **Sustainable Bonds**

# Sustainable Bond Market



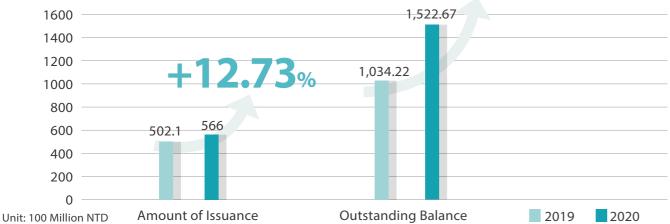
TPEx has been taking progressive steps to introduce Taiwan's Sustainable Bond Market in line with government policies. Following the launch of the Green Bond Market in 2017 and Sustainability Bond Market in 2020, TPEx expects to establish a Social Bond Market in 2021, and create the Sustainable Bond Market to accommodate the above.

By introducing the Sustainable Bond Market, TPEx hopes to provide businesses with an all-around environment. By investing in Sustainability Bonds, investors may express their support for environmental friendliness and social responsibilities while minimizing the environmental and social risks in investors' portfolios.

# 2020 - The Year of TPEx Green Bonds

More than NT\$55 billion of green bonds were issued over TPEx in 2020, adding to a total outstanding balance of NT\$150 billion at the end of the year while setting new milestones on both terms. One thing worth noting is that all NT\$56.6 billion of green bonds issued in 2020 were utilized in green investment projects in Taiwan. Furthermore, there was great diversity among issuers, including local and foreign banks, state-owned and private enterprises, and also foreign enterprises, which suggests that Taiwan's green bond platform has successfully appealed to a wide range of issuers.

# Issuance of Green Bonds in 2020 +47.23%



# **TPEx CSR Index**

Sustainable investment has become a global consensus, as the outbreak of COVID-19 further raises investors' awareness. Furthermore, there has also been a shift of focus from active investments toward passive investments (index tracking).

In addition to the Labor Employment 88 Index and the Corporate Governance Index launched in earlier years, TPEx collaborated with Taiwan Index Plus Corporation and Taiwan Business Council for Sustainable Development to introduce the first ESG-based index called "TIP Taiwan TPEx CSR Index" on June 29, 2020. Featuring a CSR theme, the index is intended to direct business' and investors' attention toward responsible investment.

Prepared based on the Corporate Governance Evaluation results and corporate social responsibility reports, the "TIP Taiwan TPEx CSR Index" urges TPEx-listed companies to persistently improve their practices and to duly disclose in their corporate social responsibility reports. TPEx will also help listed companies publish and improve the contents of their corporate social responsibility reports, which in turn optimizes index composition.

The Index started with a base period value of 5,000; at the end of 2020, the index closed at 5,765.56, representing an outstanding return of 15.31%. Some businesses have submitted requests to cite the index for decision-making, and TPEx has hopes for the index to be used as a benchmark for index-tracking instruments in the future. New sustainability indices may further be introduced depending on market movements.

### **TIP Taiwan TPEx CSR Index**

TIP Taiwan TPEx CSR Index is prepared primarily using the "CSR Evaluation" model developed by Taiwan Business Council for Sustainable Development, while taking into account the results of Corporate Governance Evaluation. The model has been licensed by the Sustainability Accounting Standards Board (SASB) and adjusted to accommodate industry classification. The model scores each Main Board company on the actions they take to protect the local environment, improve energy efficiency, reduce carbon emission, and related rewards or penalties from the government.



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# **Financial Inclusion**

# Female Entrepreneurship

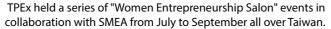
The creation of a fair, gender-friendly entrepreneurial environment and implementation of entrepreneurial policies, counseling, and assistance for women have emerged as a key policy focus for governments around the world, considering how women today are better educated and more productive than they were before. Women's ability to start new businesses, achieve work-family balance, realize their potentials, put skills to best use, and ultimately give back to society is also an issue that is quickly gathering attention. TPEx created the GISA to specifically nurture new startups, and provide female entrepreneurs with accessible resources such as counseling at the early stage, with the hope of increasing female participation in the business world.

### **Industry-Government Collaboration**

To assist women in starting up businesses, TPEx cooperated with the Small and Medium Enterprise Administration, Ministry of Economic Affairs, and jointly organized a Female Entrepreneurship Program. Through a series of seminars and conferences, female entrepreneurs were introduced to GISA and the counseling services it offers. The program also shared useful knowledge on finance, entrepreneurship, and global industry and economic trends. Additionally, TPEx arranged one-on-one free counseling to educate micro startups on how GISA may help them with fundraising, media coverage.

TPEx further held a series of promotional events in 2020, including four "Women Entrepreneurship Salons" and two "Elite Entrepreneurs Conferences," in Taipei, Taoyuan, Taichung, and Kaohsiung both online and offline with more than 100 participants in total.







Owing to the joint effort between TPEx and other affiliated organizations, the 2020 SME Report published by the Ministry of Economic Affairs shows an increasing number of female entrepreneurs in Taiwan year after year. Nowadays, four in ten entrepreneurs are female. Meanwhile, the latest "Mastercard Index of Women Entrepreneurs" published by Mastercard indicates that Taiwanese women not only have access to a friendly entrepreneurial environment and resources, but are also actively involved in business ventures. Taiwan ranks 1st in Asia and 6th worldwide, which indicates the government's strong support for female entrepreneurs.

### **TPEx Values Gender Equality**

In addition to supporting female entrepreneurs, TPEx has long been enforcing gender equality as well as workplace diversity and inclusion internally, assuring employees that their career opportunities would not be limited for any reason unrelated to their professional capacity. During the selection of Women Leaders for the World Federation of Exchanges (WFE) in early 2021, TPEx CEO Edith Lee stood out among nearly 60 nominees from around the world to be recognized by WFE, alongside 20 other winners, as Women Leaders of 2021. This accomplishment serves as an affirmation of the efforts that TPEx has committed to promoting an equal-gender workplace.



# **Investor Engagement**

Considering that investors in Taiwan are on an aging trend, TPEx has been exploring ways to attract a broader spectrum of investors by making the capital market more friendly to young, small-capital investors in recent years.

### **A Diverse and Investor-Friendly Environment**

TPEx took the initiative to support the offering of small yet diversified investment instruments including options, ETFs, and ETNs in addition to a fixed-term, fixed-amount investment plan. Exchange-traded products such as ETF and ETN offering a number of advantages such as lower entry barriers, information timeliness and transparency, etc. that allow small-capital investors to engage with limited funds. Later on October 26, 2020, system changes were made to allow Intraday Odd Lot Trading and make investments more widely accessible.



### **Intraday Odd Lot Trading**

The new system allows odd-lot trade orders to be placed at the same time as standard-lot trade orders, which begin at 9 am and end at 1:30 pm. The new system matches the first batch of deals at 9:10 am, and every three minutes thereafter using the aggregate auction approach. Deals are matched based on the price-priority principle, followed by time-priority. By addressing the illiquidity of odd-lot trades, the new system considerably lowers the barrier of entry.



### **Diverse Channels of Education**

Proper knowledge of risks and trade discipline is the first step towards successful investments. TPEx cooperated with TWSE and Taiwan Futures Exchange to co-host an awareness campaign entitled "Wealth Begins with Knowing Risks" in 2020. Using a combination of a dedicated website section, prized online guizzes, and short animations, TPEx introduced young investors Intraday Odd Lot Trading, the fixed-term, fixed-amount investment plan, and features and risks of ETF and other instruments.

TPEx also produced short animations, worked with finance celebrities, and made use of online channels such as news placement and social networking to reach the younger generation. Through the use of interactive games, young investors were given a fun and impressive lesson on risks. The campaign received favorable responses since its launch, and accumulated a participant count of 555,298 for the entire duration while attracting more than one million visits to the website.

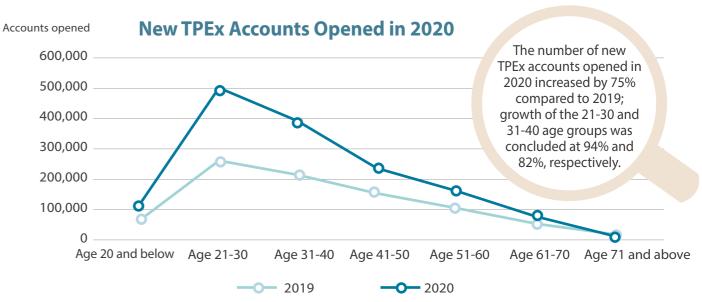




**Financial Advocacy Website** "A Complete Guide to Financial Management: Trading Risk Reports"

# Improved Investment Performance

Stock market tradings flourished in 2020 following the rollout of Continuous Trading and Intraday Odd Lot Trading. There were 640,000 new TPEx accounts opened in 2020, which grew by nearly 75% compared to 2019. Most of the increase was attributed to the 21-30 and 31-40 age groups, reflect the successful efforts appealing to young investors.







**Financial Advocacy Video** 

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# **Financial Education**

TPEx has been raising financial knowledge among the general public through four main strategies, namely: "service promotion," "campus engagement," "charity connection," and "media exposure." A diverse range of activities targeting different audience groups was organized to maximize the scope and depth of educational efforts.

### **Service Promotion**

To promote the services offered at TPEx, TPEx has been working with securities firms since 2016 in hosting annual "TPEx Investor Seminars," during which finance celebrities are invited to brief participants on trends of the global economy, outlook of Taiwan's equity market, as well as investment instruments relating to the TPEx 200 Index<sup>2</sup>. TPEx held a total of 24 Investor Seminars across Taiwan in 2020 (7 of which were streamed over the Internet), and hosted 6 seminars explaining the new trading systems to securities firms. Investors and securities employees were introduced to Continuous Trading and Intraday Odd Lot Trading, and were briefed.

Furthermore, TPEx hosts "TPEx Corporate Day" events across Taiwan each year at times when listed companies are due to publish financial reports to facilitate a better understanding of listed companies and enable professional investors to engage the management team face-to-face. TPEx also organized various conferences depending on the participating companies, and invited the management team to address the company's performance and outlook of the industry as a whole. TPEx held a total of 26 Performance Release Conferences in 2020 (24 of which were streamed over the Internet).

Furthermore, for listed companies and employees thereof, TPEx offers professional courses on a variety of topics such as accounting system, anti-money laundering, institutional investor conference, preparation of CSR report, Corporate Governance Evaluation, and insiders' shareholding to foster good practices and growth potential.

### **Diverse Media**

Despite the impact of COVID-19, TPEx still managed to deliver financial education in 2020 with technology. In addition to hosting promotion events via video conferencing and online seminars, the relevant information has also been made available on the TPEx website and disseminated through e-newsletters and the Facebook fan page to keep investors updated.

### **Promotion on Campus**

TPEx has been hosting the Securities Investment Camp for college students since 2008 to cultivate outstanding securities professionals and propagate financial knowledge. The camp offers courses that are closely related to real market practice as well as team challenges and fun activities, for which it has attracted overwhelming enrollment from local colleges. With a combination of in-depth courses and investment challenges, TPEx not only conveyed knowledge on the market and securities trading but also aroused passion for investment among college students.

Due to the pandemic, the Securities Investment Camp was first organized online in 2020, and still managed to attract overwhelming participation from college students. A total of 89 teams from 37 tertiary institutions from all over Taiwan had enrolled for the camp. This result is indicative of TPEx's unwavering commitment to promoting financial knowledge from campus in the face of the pandemic.





TPEx held "The Securities Investment Camp Awards Ceremony" on December 18, 2020.

# Taipei Exchange Online Securities Investment Camp

- · Features and history of Taiwan's capital market
- Product innovation and service diversity of TPEx
- How investors may participate and benefit from TPEx
- With NT\$50,000,000 of available capital, participants were instructed to plan their portfolios and prepare a briefing on market outlook and product analysis.

<sup>2</sup> TPEx 200 Index is a capitalization-weighted stock index in which 200 constituents are selected from TPEx-listed stocks in consideration of their market value ranking, outstanding volume and liquidity. The index is designed to illustrate the overall performance of TPEx market.

### **Opinions of Camp Participants**

#### **Group First Winner-Desert Command**

We appreciate TPEx for organizing such a great challenge. We entered the challenge with only a brief understanding of shares, and came out knowing much more about bonds, indices, futures, and gold. In my opinion, this challenge arouses every young person's passion. We were reluctant to invest because of the lack of knowledge; but now, we have the confidence to take our first step and make our plan work.

#### Group Runner-up Winner-Rolling Dime

We never studied a company seriously before. What's good about this challenge is that it guides us to studying each company. We did thorough background checks on hundreds of companies using the TPEx website before shortlisting the ones we wanted. This challenge forced us to step outside of our comfort zones to explore a realm that we never paid attention to. We really appreciate TPEx for giving us a chance.





### **Gong Ceremony for Financial Literacy**

World Investor Week (WIW) is a prominent event organized by the International Organization of Securities Commissions (IOSCO) to raise awareness across securities supervisory authorities toward investor education and protection, and promoting financial literacy for investors around the world. To demonstrate the support for WIW and its ideas, TPEx held the "Gong Ceremony for Financial Literacy" on October 5, 2020.





### Working with Charities

TPEx has been supportive of the financial industry's charity and educational efforts. As a regular participant in the annual "Financial Service Charity Carnival" organized by Taiwan Financial Services Roundtable (TFSR), TPEx developed interactive games to educate participants on the increasingly sophisticated financial system. TFSR held the 2020 "Financial Service Charity Carnival" in Pingtung and Chiayi, where TPEx had booths set up on both occasions to engage participants in fun and meaningful games of financial knowledge.

Furthermore, TPEx continued hosting the "Financial Career Development Workshop for College Students" at tertiary institutions across Taiwan to help underprivileged students develop professional knowledge and skills, and provide them with the assistance needed to obtain financial certification and turn their lives around.