

PRESS RELEASE

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NIKKO ASSET MANAGEMENT CO., LTD.

Nikko Asset Management Issues Sustainability Report 2022

Additionally unveils new Engagement and Stewardship Strategy

On 11 April, Nikko Asset Management Co., Ltd. (Nikko AM) issued its Sustainability Report 2022, outlining the global asset manager's efforts towards a sustainable society, both as a fiduciary and responsible investor, as well as how it manages its own operations. This is Nikko AM's third Sustainability Report, and covers activities during the 2021 calendar year.

In 2021, investing with ESG (Environmental, Social and Governance) consideration was more important than ever. The report details how Nikko AM, in pursuit of sustainable returns for its clients, integrates ESG themes into its investment decision-making process, including E) engaging with investee companies to address transition risks and climate change, S) managing and investing in human capital to improve labour productivity, and G) encouraging more independent directors on company boards. In addition to its own activities, Nikko AM newly joined international collaborative efforts, such as the Net Zero Asset Managers initiative.

The report also presents commitments Nikko AM made in 2021 to make its own operations more sustainable. This includes a target to increase the percentage of management roles held by women, firmwide, to 30% by 2030, and reduce the amount of greenhouse gas emissions per employee by 40% by 2030 vs. 2019 levels. There is also an overview of individual employees' commitments on how they will be more sustainable in their daily lives. The report also features highlights of how the 9 working groups organically and passionately carried out activities aligned with the firm's three pillars of sustainability: diversity & inclusion, reducing inequalities and environment & climate.

In addition to the Sustainability Report, the firm also unveiled the "Nikko Asset Management Group Engagement and Stewardship Strategy". This explains its approach to active engagement both individually and collectively. As a steward of clients' assets, the firm believes active engagement can help investee companies achieve sustainable returns and create value for investors, while enhancing ESG disclosure and performance. In the interest of transparency, the results of engagements are in turn published in the above Sustainability Reports and other reports to clients and regulators.

Nikko AM will maintain a key focus on sustainability on behalf of all its stakeholders.

Sustainability Report 2022

<https://www.nikkoam.co.nz/sustainability>

Nikko Asset Management Group Engagement and Stewardship Strategy

https://www.nikkoam.co.nz/files/pdf/esg/global_engagement_and_stewardship_strategy_en_2022.pdf

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About Nikko Asset Management

With US\$282.5 billion* under management, Nikko Asset Management is one of Asia's largest asset managers, providing high-conviction, active fund management across a range of equity, fixed income, multi-asset and alternative strategies. In addition, its complementary range of passive strategies covers more than 20 indices and includes some of Asia's leading exchange-traded funds (ETFs).

Headquartered in Asia since 1959, Nikko Asset Management and its subsidiaries employ personnel representing around 25 nationalities, including approximately 200 investment professionals**. The firm has a presence through subsidiaries or affiliates in a total of 11 countries and regions. More than 400 banks, brokers, financial advisors and life insurance companies around the world distribute the firm's products.

The investment teams benefit from a unique global perspective complemented by the firm's historic Asian DNA, striving to deliver consistent excellence in performance. The firm also prides itself on its progressive, solution-driven approach, which has led to many innovative funds launched for its clients.

For more information about Nikko Asset Management and to access its investment insights, please visit the firm's [homepage](#).

* Consolidated assets under management and sub-advisory of Nikko Asset Management and its subsidiaries as of 30 September 2021.

** Including employees of Nikko Asset Management and its subsidiaries as of 30 September 2021.

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