

PRESS RELEASE

16 MARCH 2020

NIKKO ASSET MANAGEMENT CO., LTD.

Nikko AM Releases Its 2019 Sustainability Report

Demonstrating commitment to ESG as an asset manager and as a company

On 13 March, Nikko Asset Management (Nikko AM) released its [2019 Sustainability Report](#), showcasing the company's Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) commitments along with its progressive philosophy, goals, and the internal and external committees and standards that the firm follows and shapes.

One key aspect of the report is Nikko AM's stance on its responsibility as an investment manager and fiduciary that contributes to a sustainable society, considering ESG as a part of long-term investment strategies. Nikko AM launched Japan's first Socially Responsible Investment (SRI) fund in 1999, and for the past two decades has made a concerted effort to link ESG factors with excess returns. The report features how each of the company's diverse investment teams around the world integrate ESG into the asset class they manage.

Nikko AM President and Co-CEO Hideo Abe explained, "The pursuit of value for our clients and stakeholders means choosing investees that can produce sustained returns, and then consistently engaging them in two main ways: responsible proxy voting and disclosing those votes, and engagement on sustainability issues that matter to our clients and society." The report describes how the Nikko AM board oversees all governance decisions, including management governance, voting rights governance and fund governance.

The other key aspect of the report is the ESG initiatives that Nikko AM is engaging in with its own staff and resources, using the UN's Sustainable Development Goals as guidance, and presenting the milestones achieved. The particular focus is on diversity and inclusion (D&I), reducing inequalities, and environment and climate.

Nikko AM Senior Corporate Managing Director and Global Executive Committee Member who oversees the Corporate Sustainability Department Stefanie Drews remarked, "Nikko AM is passionate about sustainability, and it permeates all we do. Becoming a sustainable firm is an ongoing and ever-evolving journey, and we are proud to be a global player on this front."

To view the 2019 Sustainability Report, please visit the [Sustainability at Nikko AM microsite](#).
<http://sustainability.nikkoam.com/>

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About Nikko Asset Management

With US\$246.5 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 largest exchange-traded funds (ETFs).

Headquartered in Asia since 1959, the firm represents approximately 200** investment professionals and approximately 30 nationalities across 11 countries. More than 400 banks, brokers, financial advisors and life insurance companies around the world distribute the company'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 31 December 2019.

** As of 31 December 2019, including employees of Nikko Asset Management and its subsidiaries.

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