

ESG Report

Nordea 1 – North American Stars Equity Fund

Second quarter 2021

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Sustainability footprint

The sustainability footprint of EUR 100,000 invested in

Nordea 1 – North American Stars Equity Fund

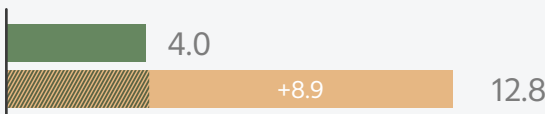
LU0772958525 (BP-USD) / LU0772957808 (BI-USD)

For illustrative purposes only

■ Nordea 1 – North American Stars Equity Fund ■ Illustrative Benchmark: Nasdaq US All Market Index

CO₂ emissions¹ **4.0 t**

Most of your savings are invested in companies that on average emit less CO₂ compared to their peers.



8.9 tonnes less than illustrative benchmark

1) Measured as CO₂-equivalent greenhouse gas emissions

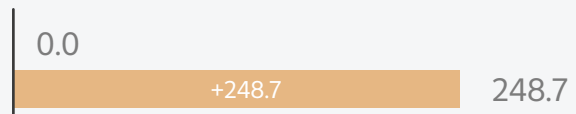
5.8



The equivalent of annual CO₂ emission from 5.8 cars

Underground oil, gas and coal reserves **0.0 t**

None of the companies in your portfolio own fossil fuel reserves, neither oil, coal nor gas.



248.7 tonnes less than illustrative benchmark

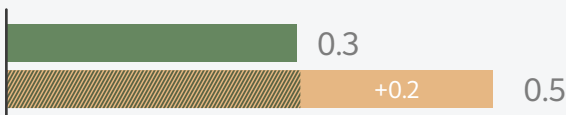


347x
CPH / BKK

Equal to 347 Copenhagen-Bangkok flights

Waste generation **0.3 t**

Most of your savings are invested in companies that on average produce less waste than their peers.



0.2 tonnes less than illustrative benchmark

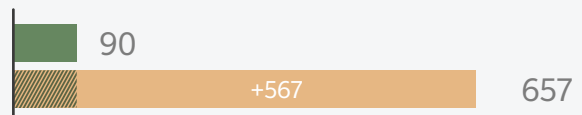
35



Equal to approx. 35 waste bags avoided

Water usage **90 m³**

Most of your savings are invested in companies that on average consume less water than their peers.



567 m³ less than illustrative benchmark



3.9

The equivalent of the water used by 3.9 households

This sustainability footprint overview is prepared by NASDAQ based on analysis of Nordea 1 – North American Stars Equity Fund's holdings as of 30.06.2021. The analysis is based on the equity investments in the fund and the holdings are compared to the Nasdaq US All Market Index, a broad market index used as benchmark for illustrative purposes only and which does not correspond to the official benchmark of the fund. The calculations are based on an example investment of 100,000 EUR, of which ca. 98% is invested in equities. For illustration purposes only. This overview does not constitute investment advice. Please note that the value of investments can go up as well as down and you might not get back the amount originally invested. Data & metrics are powered by Matter.

Overview of ESG characteristics

Corporate level ESG overlays of Nordea Asset Management

NAM's Responsible Investment Framework comprises a wide range of RI approaches. Some are decided and deployed at the corporate level – “overlays” – while others are product-specific and apply to solutions with a stronger ESG focus. The corporate “overlays” apply to all funds managed by NAM.

Active ownership

Corporate-level exclusion list

Norms-based screening

ESG integration

Corporate level PAI

All of our funds are subject to minimum sustainability-related eligibility criteria. For example, we do not invest in companies involved in the production of controversial, illegal or nuclear weapons. Nor do we invest in companies with large and sustained exposure to coal mining, with a 10% revenue threshold on thermal coal, and a 30% revenue threshold on total coal (including metallurgical coal). Similarly, we exclude companies with large and sustained exposure to oil and gas extraction through oil sand with 10%, and arctic drilling with 5% revenue threshold.

Fund specific ESG characteristics

Industry exclusions

While engagement is always NAM's preferred approach, we have made a decision to exclude certain industries from our ESG enhanced STARS range



Coal^{2*}



Nuclear weapons⁶



Conventional³ oil & gas / unconventional⁴ oil & gas



Conventional weapons**



Controversial weapons⁵



Tobacco*

* 5% revenue threshold on production ** 10% revenue threshold on production.

SFDR classification: Article 8

The fund is categorised as an Article 8 product based on Sustainable Finance Disclosure Regulation (SFDR) and adheres to the below characteristics:

- Active Ownership and Engagement
- Enhanced exclusion filters and other limits
- ESG STARS strategy
- Exclusion list
- Norms-based Screening
- Paris Aligned Fossil Fuel Policy (PAFF)
- Principal Adverse Impact (PAI) integration

ESG labels⁷



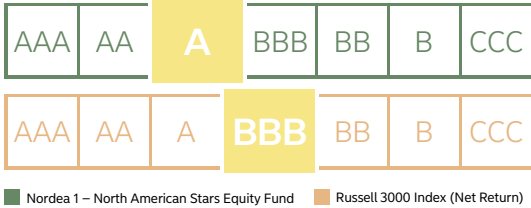
Find out more about RI at Nordea Asset Management:

- » [RI Policy](#)
- » [Paris Aligned Fossil Fuel Policy \(PAFF\)](#)
- » [Nordea's Exclusion list](#)

2) By coal is meant the extraction of both metallurgical and thermal coal. 3) 0% revenue threshold. Refers to oil & gas exploration and production companies, as well as integrated oil & gas companies (BICS classification 135 and 136). 4) 0% revenue threshold on oil sands, shale oil/gas, hydraulic fracturing, and Arctic drilling. 5) 0% revenue threshold. Controversial weapons include anti-personnel mines, cluster munitions, depleted uranium, biological/chemical weapons, incendiary devices. 6) 0% revenue threshold. Production and development of nuclear weapons. 7) Towards Sustainability recognises the Nordea 1 – North American Stars Equity Fund, validity 11.2020 – 11.2021; LuxFLAG ESG Label recognises the Nordea 1 – North American Stars Equity Fund, validity 01.10.2020 – 30.09.2021; Label ISR recognises the Nordea 1 – North American Stars Equity Fund, validity 22.11.2019 – 21.11.2022.

ESG overview

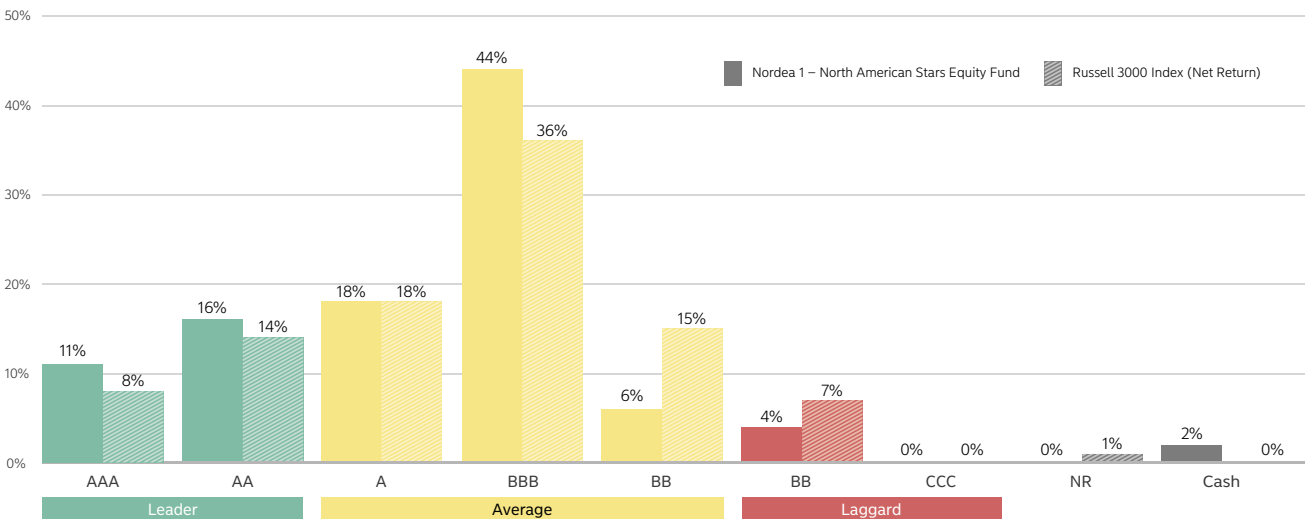
ESG rating⁸



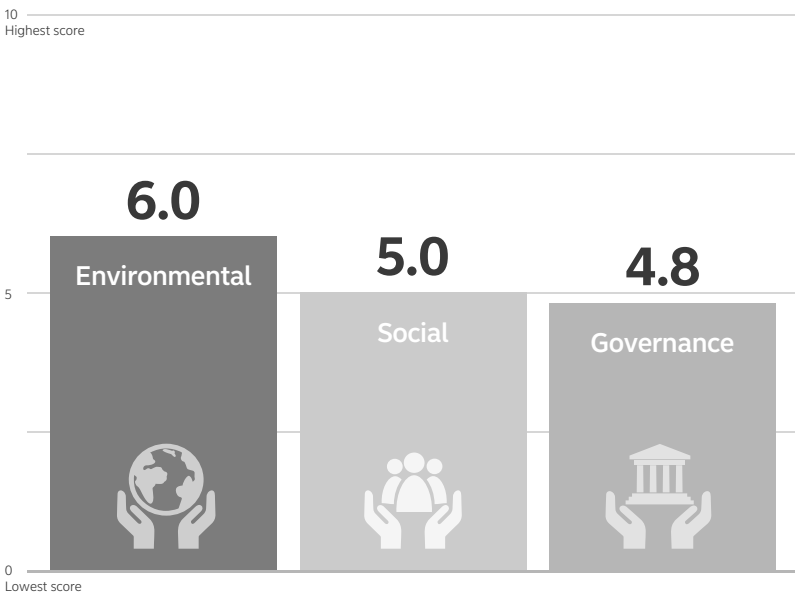
Please note that the MSCI ESG rating is mainly backward looking, relying mainly on publicly available information and can differ from Nordea’s internal ESG scoring which is based on a forward-looking approach.

The ESG Rating assesses the resilience of a fund’s aggregate holdings to long-term ESG risks. Highly rated funds consist of issuers with leading or improving management of key ESG risks.

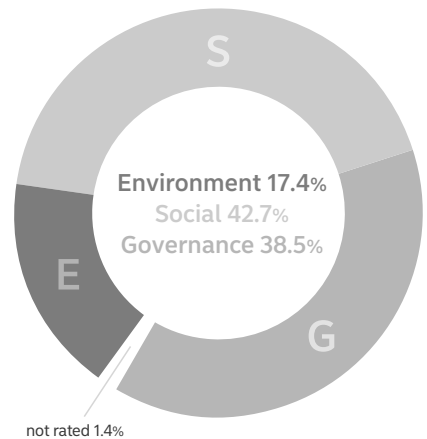
ESG Rating breakdown⁸



ESG scores by pillar⁸



ESG risk exposure⁸



8) ©2021 MSCI ESG Research LLC. Reproduced by permission.

ESG indicators

Environmental indicators

■ Nordea 1 – North American Stars Equity Fund ■ Benchmark⁹⁾



Weighted Average Carbon Intensity (tCO₂e/USD million)
The WACI measures a portfolio’s exposure to carbon intensive companies.

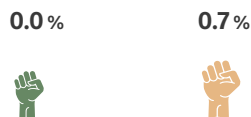


Exposure to high impact fossil fuel reserves
The percentage of portfolio’s market value exposed to companies that own high impact fossil fuel reserves.

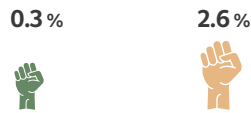


Exposure to environmental controversies
The percentage of portfolio’s market value exposed to companies facing one or more very severe environmental controversies.

Social indicators



Exposure to human rights norms violation
The percentage of portfolio’s market value exposed to companies in violation of international norms around human rights.



Exposure to human rights controversies
The percentage of portfolio’s market value exposed to companies facing one or more very severe human rights and community controversies.



Exposure to labour controversies
The percentage of portfolio’s market value exposed to companies facing one or more very severe labour controversies.

Governance indicators



Exposure to companies with no female directors
The percentage of portfolio’s market value exposed to companies with no female directors.



Exposure to companies with a majority of independent board members
The percentage of portfolio’s market value exposed to companies with board independence above 50%.



Exposure to governance controversies
The percentage of portfolio’s market value exposed to companies facing one or more severe or very severe governance controversies.

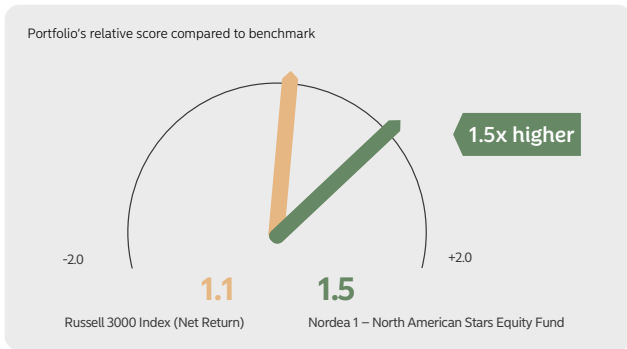
9) As measured by the iShares Russell 3000 ETF. Source: MSCI ESG Research LLC. as of 31.05.2021. ©2021 MSCI ESG Research LLC. Reproduced by permission. Portfolio coverage 98.75%.

Weighted Average Carbon Intensity based on Russell 3000 – Net Return Index as of 30.06.2021. Scope 1&2. For further information on scope 1&2 please refer to the “Methodology – Sustainability footprint” section in the appendices of this report. This metric relies on carbon data gathered by Nordea Investment Funds S.A., MSCI Inc. and is based on the Swedish Fund Association’s recommendation. Further information on the calculation approach is available at: nordea.lu/documents/esg-carbon-footprint-disclosure/ESG-CFD_eng_INT.pdf. Source: Nordea Investment Funds S.A., MSCI Inc.

Contribution to SDGs

Total sustainability score (vs benchmark)

The chart below shows the contribution of the portfolio holdings products and services to both environment and social considerations compared to companies held in the benchmark. The contribution of the portfolio to the 15 objectives (social and environmental) is 1.5x higher than the benchmark.



The relative score is calculated as follow: (Portfolio net score)/(Benchmark net score). Should the score of the benchmark be close to zero the relative score multiple might be distorted. Comparison with other financial products or benchmarks is only meant for indicative purposes.

Top contributors

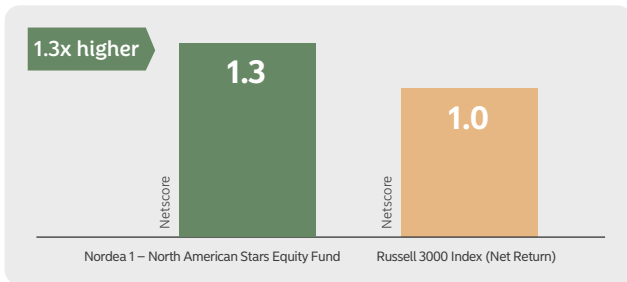
1. **Stryker** (US, Health Care)
2. **Medtronic** (US, Health Care)
3. **AbbVie** (US, Health Care)

Notes

Benchmark	Russell 3000 Index (Net Return)
Portfolio coverage	98%
Benchmark coverage	99%
Portfolio holdings	64

Exposure to the 7 social objectives¹⁰

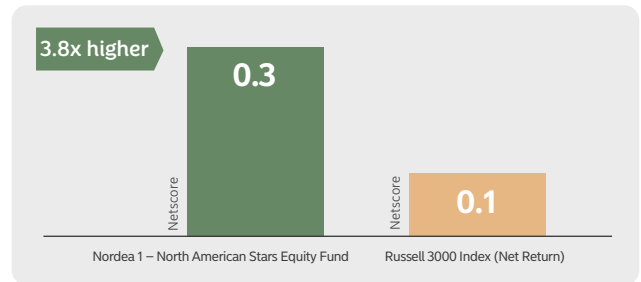
The contribution of the portfolio to the 7 social objectives is 1.3x higher than the benchmark.



Comparison with other financial products or benchmarks is only meant for indicative purposes.

Exposure to the 8 environmental objectives¹⁰

The contribution of the portfolio to the 8 environmental objectives is 3.8x higher than the benchmark.



Comparison with other financial products or benchmarks is only meant for indicative purposes.

Top 3 social objectives

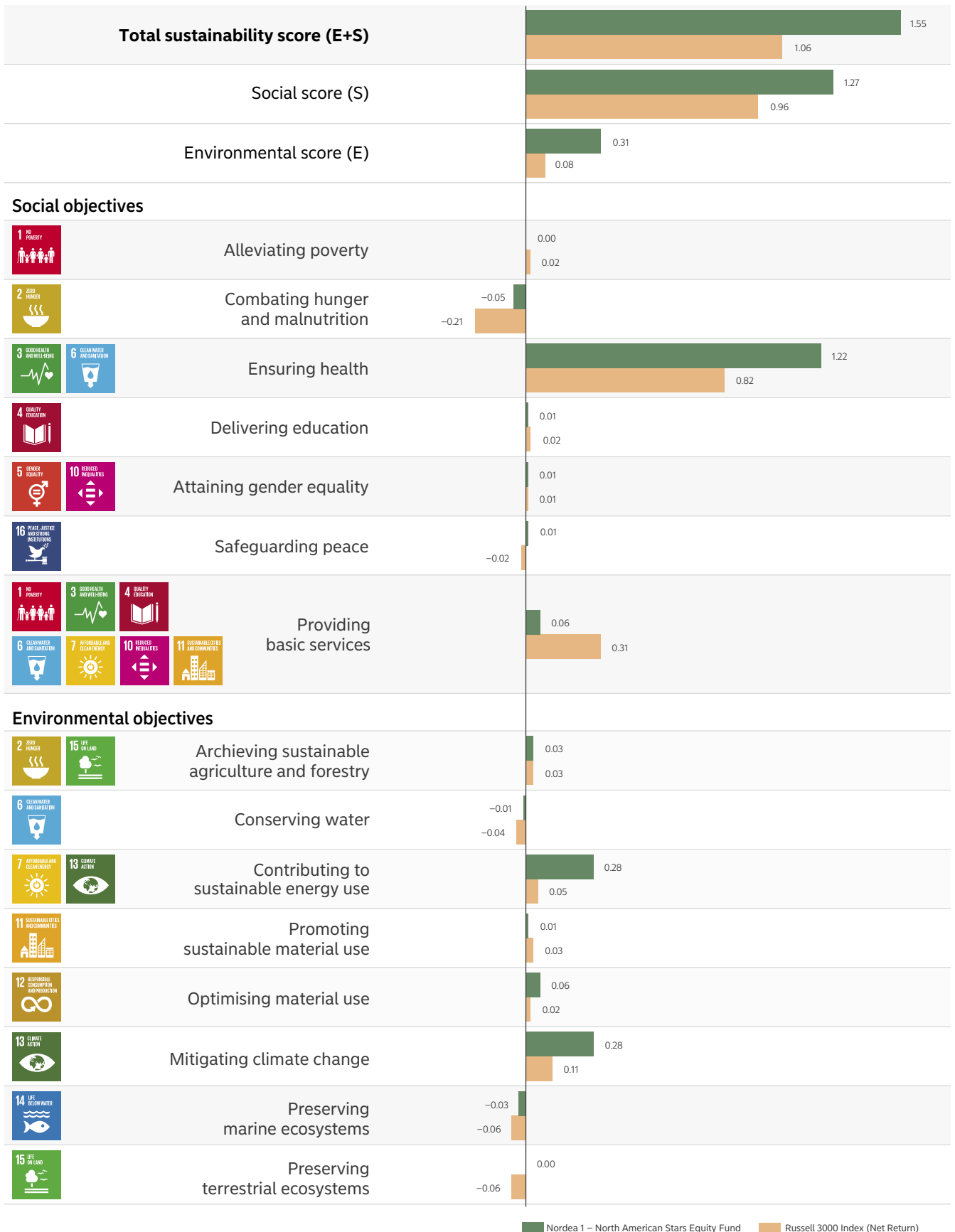
1. Ensuring health
2. Providing basic services
3. Attaining gender equality

Top 3 environmental objectives

1. Mitigating climate change
2. Contributing to sustainable energy use
3. Optimising material use

¹⁰ Please note that the total sustainability score is the sum of the social and environmental scores and may slightly differ due to rounding differences. Further information on SDGs is available at www.un.org/development/desa/en/news/sustainable/sustainable-development-goals.html. Sources: Nordea Investment Funds S.A., ISS-ESG, United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

Sustainability score details



Nordea 1 – North American Stars Equity Fund Russell 3000 Index (Net Return)

Comparison with other financial products or benchmarks is only meant for indicative purposes. The total sustainability score (E+S) represents the Overall SDG Solutions Score as defined by ISS-ESG. This score is based on the Social SDG Solutions Score (S) and the Environmental SDG Solutions Score (E). Please note that the Overall SDG Solutions score may slightly differ from the aggregated figures of the social and environmental scores due to rounding differences. Further information on SDGs is available at www.un.org/development/desa/en/news/sustainable/sustainable-development-goals.html. Sources: Nordea Investment Funds S.A., ISS-ESG, United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

Active ownership

The aim of this section is to describe some of the voting and engagement activities over the last quarter for this specific fund. This tool, therefore, is not meant to be fully comprehensive, but to allow investors to follow-up on the fund’s relevant active ownership activities.

By adhering to Nordea’s responsible investment policy, the fund excludes companies breaching international norms or involved in sectors we do not consider acceptable. However, excluding a company from our portfolios is always a last resort. Engagement is always our preferred approach and of paramount importance to NAM. We believe that active ownership is a powerful way to protect shareholder value, enhance long-term returns and foster positive change. Our active ownership efforts begin with voting on our holdings, attending Annual General Meetings (AGMs) and representation on nomination committees. Our publicly available Voting Portal shows how we have voted in AGMs for stocks held across our funds. Access to the Voting Portal as well as our Corporate Governance Principles can be found [here](#).

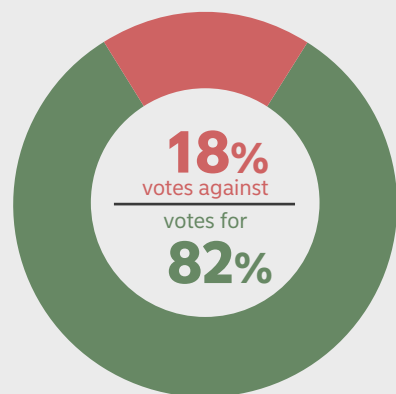
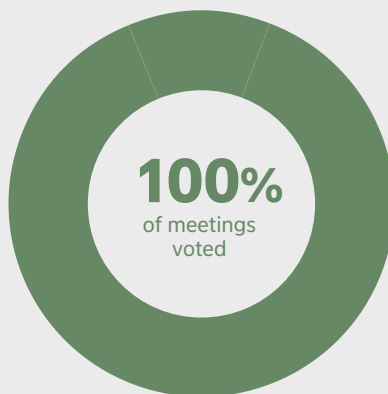
Engagement is the next step of being an active owner and is a crucial component of our RI philosophy and framework. Our engagement activities fall into one

or more of three different categories. The first type addresses companies that are in breach of international norms or conventions or those involved in ESG-related incidents. The second type relates to ESG-related risks or opportunities identified by portfolio managers and financial analysts via our company assessments. The third and final stream concerns our thematic engagements.

Engagement categories:

- **Norms- and incident-based engagement:**
engaging with companies breaching the international norms or conventions or companies having ESG related incidents
- **Investment-led engagement:**
engaging with companies on their material ESG risks
- **Thematic engagement:**
engaging on specific sustainability themes in focus

Voting



Engagement cases

Cintas

Nordea ESG scoring ¹¹	Proxy Voting ¹²	SDG Engagement	Engagement topic
B	✓	13 Climate action	Environment – Climate

Overview

Cintas is a US-based company which mainly provides corporate identity uniforms to customers via its uniform rental service. Customers can be found in a wide range of sectors including hospitality, healthcare and the service industry.

Background

The business model of Cintas allows for significant savings in resource and material use due to their scale and centralization of laundry activities. However, this also requires the company to properly and adequately monitor, mitigate and limit its own operational footprint.

The Engagement

In our conversation with the company we spoke to Mike Hansen, Chief Financial Officer, and Paul Adler, VP and Treasurer, to both reflect over the company’s first GRI (Global Reporting

Initiative)-aligned sustainability report and better understand the way forward from here with regards to topics such as emissions, water use, and energy consumption.

Outcome

From the recent report and conversation with Cintas representatives it is clear that the company has progressed well with regards to both the mitigation and disclosure of their operational footprint. For example, GHG emissions have continued to decrease in 2020 and are now approximately 10% lower than industry averages. However, we also highlighted certain areas in need of improvement such as disclosing Scope 3 emissions as well as setting timebound and quantitative targets for both emissions, water and energy consumption decreases. The company was receptive to this input and will continue to work with the topics in order to reach a higher level of performance in the future.

It is also worth mentioning that the improvements demonstrated in their sustainability report were to a large degree aided by a closer collaboration between departments within the company which allows for a coordinated effort in tackling the company’s most prevalent topics of concern. To further their endeavor the company representatives informed us that Cintas is also contemplating employing a Chief Sustainability Officer to better coordinate their collective efforts. We look favourably upon this suggestion as organisational accountability and responsibility is a key pillar in achieving sustainability targets. This will in turn aid the company with regards to both external ESG rating providers as well as how we choose to score the company internally on ESG factors.

TJX Companies

Nordea ESG scoring ¹¹	Proxy Voting ¹²	SDG Engagement	Engagement topic
B	✓	12 Responsible consumption and production	Social – Supply Chain

Overview

The TJX Companies Inc is a leading off-price apparel and home fashions retailer in the U.S. and worldwide. TJX operate stores in nine countries across three continents and has approximately 270,000 employees.

Background

TJX is a new holding in the North American Stars strategy for the year and we therefore chose to initiate and engagement with the company surrounding supply chain management and human rights, which are two of

the most pressing issues in the apparel industry.

The Engagement

We spoke with Brenna Zimmer, VP of Sustainability, among others to discuss how TJX assesses the environmental

11) Current scoring, based on Nordea proprietary ESG model. 12) Proxy voting refers to the last 12 month-period. Generally, we vote in annual reports and most of the Annual General Meetings (AGM) which occurs once a year. If there is no vote, it is generally because the fund was not invested at the time when the AGM took place. Please find out more on nordea.com/sustainability or access directly the [voting portal](#).

and social risks in their supply chain and in what way the company attempts to mitigate and limit their exposure to both environmental harm but also human rights controversies.

Outcome

TJX Companies offers both private label and sourced label products and we were therefore informed that the supply chain management between these two product streams differ. For own manufactured apparel and products the company is able to exercise significant control over the supply chain and regularly conduct audits, risk assessments and factory

visits to ensure that their products are created in a way which is in line with their values. However, as the sourcing model for the other product stream is built on flexibility, TJX Companies has a limited relationship with these vendors and instead prioritizes speed rather than long-term relationships. The company representatives were able to elaborate that this way of operating means that TJX is one of the few apparel companies that can do business with a true zero tolerance for human rights abuses, such as child or forced labour, as any trace of such conduct will result in TJX ending the relationship.

Though we appreciated the directness of the strategy we also encouraged TJX that true change can also be achieved in collaboration with vendors and suppliers and setting targets together with business partners has the potential to improve the circumstances of the individual workers. Therefore, we recommended that TJX develop corporate wide policies as it relates to their supply chain and join industry organizations to be a more active participant in improving supply chains around the world.

Littelfuse

Nordea ESG scoring ¹¹	Proxy Voting ¹²	SDG Engagement	Engagement topic
B+	✓	5 Gender equality	Social – Diversity

Overview

Littelfuse makes circuit protection products and has platforms in power control and sensing. The company is a supplier to, among others, the automotive industry, datacom and smartphone producers. Key products includes diodes, fuses, magnetic sensors, protection relays. power semiconductors, automotive sensors, and SIDACTor devices.

Background

Littelfuse operates in an industry which, on the one hand relies significantly on employees as its main asset, while on the other hand has historically failed to attract and retain a diverse workforce. We believe that a diverse workforce has the potential to better improve the performance of companies by attracting more competent applicants

and serving clients better, by offering different perspectives among other things.

The Engagement

We spoke with company representatives on the topic of diversity within Littelfuse. This was the first conversation around this topic specifically with the company and we focused on board composition, targets and goals, as well as other developments in the area. The company agreed with us that diversity is a topic of high importance given their industry and historic track record. In order to further their efforts, the company has previously signed on to the CEO pledge for Diversity and Inclusion and it has recently included diversity related metrics in leadership performance reports. We encouraged the company to take a step further and also include these types of metrics in

executive remuneration. Company representatives were also able to share that Littelfuse has several other initiatives to increase diversity and focus on inclusion, such as conscious recruiting practices, diversity councils and employee resource groups.

Outcome

Though the company has recently appointed two female board members, from previously having none, they are still lacking disclosure on other management levels. We highlighted during the call that a vital pillar to achieve diversity goals is to disclose current performance and set time bound targets to increase responsibility and accountability. We will continue to monitor the company's performance in relation to diversity and further our dialogue if metrics like the ones suggested fail to get reported.

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Stryker

Nordea ESG scoring ¹¹	Proxy Voting ¹²	SDG Engagement	Engagement topic
B+	✓	12 Responsible consumption and production	Social – Product quality and safety

Overview

Stryker develops, manufactures, and markets speciality surgical and medical products. The company operates through three primary segments Med-Surg, Orthopaedic and Neurotechnology & Spine.

Background

Stryker operates within an industry where product quality and patient safety is of the upmost importance and directly linked to the financial performance of the company. As the company has historically been criticized for its handling of these issues we chose to engage with the company to understand which steps Stryker has taken so far to mitigate further risks of major product recalls and where the company sees itself moving forward.

The Engagement

This was our second conversation with Eileen Buckley, Head of Corporate Responsibility, where we focused on the topics of risk management, quality governance and product safety. During the past several years Stryker has undergone significant organisational changes where responsibility and oversight of quality and safety topics have been centralised to provide a more consistent and coherent view of the various divisions operating within the larger company group. We were encouraged to hear that Stryker has implemented a global quality assurance organisation and created a single system for evaluation quality which has had an effect. In fact, during the past couple of years, the number of recalls has consistently decreased at Stryker which is a testament to the changes they have made. Additionally,

several Stryker facilities have been recognized as being of the highest quality and reference points for the FDA on best practices.

Outcome

We encouraged the company to continue on the path set as well as to clearly communicate how Stryker plans to accommodate the upcoming revision of the EU MDR (Medical Device Regulation). Furthermore, though the leadership team is to some degree evaluated on the basis of product quality, we encouraged clearer and more direct incentives for executive management to prioritise this issue. Lastly, we do appreciate the significant modifications that Stryker has done and recognize the decreasing number of recalls, which to a large degree fulfils our expectations on the company for this particular issue.

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US Foods

Nordea ESG scoring ¹¹	Proxy Voting ¹²	SDG Engagement	Engagement topic
B+	✓	13 Climate action	Environment – Climate

Overview

US Foods is among the largest food service suppliers in the US and it distributes both food and non-food suppliers to a broad range of customers in sectors including healthcare, hospitality, education and government.

Background

The company has a large truck fleet as well as many distribution centres which together contribute to a large emissions and energy footprint for US Foods. In order to both limit the financial and environmental repercussions of their operations it is vital that the company actively seek to reduce both fuel and electricity use.

The Engagement

Our dialogue this quarter served as a continuation of the engagement we

initiated during the previous year. We spoke with company representatives to catch up on climate disclosure, emissions and energy consumption. Prior to our call the company had recently released their first GRI (Global Reporting Initiative) -aligned sustainability report which, apart from a significant development in itself, provided a good base for us to understand in which direction the company is heading.

Outcome

First of all, the company has responded positively to our previous engagements and have, as mentioned, successfully published a GRI-aligned sustainability report. Additionally US Foods, continues to expand their sustainable product portfolio which is a topic we also stressed. Moving to this year, the company is committed to reducing the overall environmental

footprint of their operations and have for example achieved a 7.3% reduction in Scope 1 and 2 emissions as well as a 6.9% reduction in fuel use since 2015. In order to further advance their efforts, US Foods has begun investing in CNG trucks, LEED certified distribution centres and has recently piloted electric trucks.

We were pleased to hear that the company had also in the past months hired a VP of Fleet and Sustainability which will provide a singular point of responsibility within the organization for these matters. Though we recognize the progress US Foods has made so far, we stressed that time-bound and quantitative targets with regards to emissions and energy usage are vital in order to achieve desired outcomes. We also highlighted that these measures would improve their CDP scoring where they received a C score for the second consecutive year.

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Appendix

Methodology – Sustainability footprint

CO₂e emissions

Shows annual greenhouse gas emissions produced directly by the companies in the underlying funds and from their consumption of energy (Scope 1+2).

This metric is calculated by relating the annual greenhouse gas emissions (in tonnes, translated into CO₂ equivalents) of the underlying companies to the weight of those companies (equity exposure) in the fund/portfolio and to the size of the invested amount. The comparison with the car emissions is based on data from EEA/ICCT on average emissions for new cars sold in EU in 2016.

Why do we measure the CO₂e emissions footprint:

While it is good to turn lights off to save energy, 20 companies have alone contributed to 35% of all energy-related carbon dioxide and methane worldwide, totalling 480bn tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalents (GtCO₂e) since 1965. (Source: The Guardian)

Fossil reserves

Shows the future potential CO₂e emissions if oil, gas and coal reserves owned by the companies in the underlying funds are extracted from the ground and burned.

This metric is calculated by relating the proven and probable resources of oil, gas and coal that the underlying companies have disclosed, to the weight of those companies (equity exposure) in the fund/portfolio and to the size of the invested amount. Please note that the calculation considers the lifetime CO₂e emissions (in tonnes) associated with these reserves. The comparison with number of flights is based on calculations from ICAO.

Why do we measure the fossil reserves footprint:

While the business of extracting oil, gas and coal from the ground emits large amounts of CO₂, an even larger amount is emitted when the resources are used as fuel. Extraction companies can therefore potentially cause future emissions by extracting reserves.

What are CO₂ equivalents:

Different greenhouse gasses that contribute differently to global warming. According to the GHG Protocol, they are all converted into one measure, CO₂ equivalents:

Greenhouse gas	CO ₂ equivalent
Carbon Dioxide	1
Sulphur Hexafluoride	22.8
Methane	25
Nitrus Oxide	298
Hydro Fluoro Carbons	2.400
Per Fluoro Carbons	7.850

What are Scope 1, 2 and 3 CO₂ emissions:

- Scope 1 are direct emissions from owned or controlled sources
- Scope 2 are indirect emissions from the generation of purchased energy
- Scope 3 are all indirect emissions that occur in the value chain of the reporting company, upstream and downstream

For instance, a car manufacturer: The car manufacturer emits CO₂e when assembling cars (Scope 1). The manufacturer's suppliers emit CO₂e to generate electricity for the manufacturer production of electricity (Scope 2). A rental car provider operates the cars and emits CO₂e over the product's lifetime (Scope 3).

Waste generation

Shows how much waste the companies in the underlying funds produce annually, that is either incinerated or disposed to landfill.

This metric is calculated by relating the annual waste generation (in tonnes) of the underlying companies to the weight of those companies (equity exposure) in the fund/portfolio as well as the size of the invested amount. The comparison with number of waste bags considers that an average waste bag has 7kg and is based on data sourced from EU and Plast.dk.

Why do we measure the waste generation footprint:

With the current pace of plastic waste ending up in the oceans (equal to one garbage truck dumped in the oceans every minute), it is projected that by 2050, the total amount of plastic waste in the oceans will weigh more than all fish, and 99% of seabirds will have ingested plastics. Hence there is an urgent need to limit the waste. (Source: WWF)

Water usage

Shows how much water the companies in the underlying funds directly use or purchase annually.

This metric is calculated by relating the annual water use (in cubic meters) of the underlying companies to the weight of those companies (equity exposure) in the fund/portfolio and to the size of the invested amount. The comparison with household usage is based on average European household water consumption data from Eurostat.

Why do we measure the water usage footprint:

The fashion industry is the third largest annual user of water globally after oil and paper, responsible for more than 10% of the water used by all types of industry. Depending on materials and production processes, fashion companies can reduce their water footprint. (Source: Common Objective/WWF)

Disclaimer

Sustainability information

The information Nordea Investment Funds S.A. is providing to you as part of their services on specific legal entities' sustainability (the "Sustainability footprint") is based on third party information provided to or obtained by Matter from either publicly available sources on sovereign topics, third-party analysis or as third-party evaluation on corporate topics.

Nature of the Sustainability footprint

The Sustainability footprint does not constitute or form part of any offer or invitation to sell or issue, or any solicitation of any offer to purchase or subscribe for, any securities or other financial instruments in the legal entities to which the Sustainability footprint is provided on, nor shall it or any part of it be relied on in connection with any contract commitment or investment decision in relation thereto. Wording in the Sustainability footprint, including titles of the flags used are only intended for the purpose of providing an impression of the legal entities' compliance with ESG factors chosen by Matter and do not serve as a proof or detailed description of any of the issues described.

The Sustainability footprint shall not be seen as an analysis of the legal entities general performance economically/financially or in relation to the sector of industry, in which the legal entities are operating. Nothing in the Sustainability footprint constitutes or should be considered as constituting a promise or a guarantee concerning any future developments, events, figures, etc. Nordea Investment Funds S.A. assumes no obligation to provide additional information or to update Sustainability footprint or correct inaccuracies in Sustainability footprint, unless when explicitly agreed.

Limitation of liability

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Reliance

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Methodology – ESG overview

ESG rating

The ESG rating assesses the resilience of a fund's aggregate holdings to long-term ESG risks. Highly rated funds consist of issuers with leading or improving management of key ESG risks. Data provided by MSCI ESG Research LLC.

ESG rating breakdown

The percentage of portfolio's market value exposed to ESG leaders (best in class companies, rated AAA or AA), average ESG performers (rated A to BB), and ESG laggards (worst in class companies, rated B or CCC) relative to the fund's benchmark. Data provided by MSCI ESG Research LLC.

Portfolio ESG scores per pillar

The environment score represents the weighted average of all Key Issues that fall under the Environment pillar. The social score represents the weighted average of all Key Issues that fall under the social pillar. Starting with a "10", the governance score is based on the sum of deductions derived from key metrics included in the corporate governance (including ownership & control, board, pay and accounting) and corporate behavior (including business ethics and tax transparency) themes. Data provided by MSCI ESG Research LLC.

ESG risk exposure

The percentage of portfolio's market value exposed to environmental, social and governance key issues. Data provided by MSCI ESG Research LLC.

Environmental characteristics

Weighted average carbon intensity (WACI):

The WACI measures a portfolio's exposure to carbon intensive companies. Since companies with higher carbon intensity are likely to face more exposure to carbon related market and regulatory risks, this metric can serve as a proxy for a portfolio's exposure to potential climate change-related risks relative to other portfolios or relative to a benchmark.

Calculating a portfolio's WACI is achieved by calculating the carbon intensity (Scope 1 + 2 Emissions / \$M Sales) for each portfolio company and calculating the weighted average by portfolio weight. Unlike the portfolio carbon intensity, carbon emissions are apportioned based on portfolio weights / exposure, rather than the investor's ownership share of emissions or sales. This measure is in line with the EU's non-financial reporting directive and TCFD (Task force for climate-related financial disclosure) recommendations. Emissions and sales values for equities is sourced from MSCI, and for bonds from ISS-ESG.

Exposure to high impact fossil fuel reserves (%):

The percentage of portfolio's market value exposed to companies that own high impact fossil fuel reserves. High impact fossil fuel reserves include thermal coal, oil sands, and shale oil and shale gas. Data provided by MSCI ESG Research LLC.

Exposure to environmental controversies (%):

The percentage of portfolio's market value exposed to companies facing one or more very severe environmental controversies related to energy & climate change, land use & biodiversity, toxic spills & releases, water stress, or operational waste. Data provided by MSCI ESG Research LLC.

Social characteristics

Exposure to human rights norms violation (%):

The percentage of portfolio's market value exposed to companies in violation of international norms around human rights. Data provided by MSCI ESG Research LLC.

Exposure to human rights controversies (%):

The percentage of portfolio's market value exposed to companies facing one or more very severe human rights and community controversies related to Impact on local communities, civil liberties, or human rights. Data provided by MSCI ESG Research LLC.

Exposure to labour controversies (%):

The percentage of portfolio's market value exposed to companies facing one or more very severe labour controversies related to child labour, collective bargaining, discrimination, health & safety, labour management, or supply chain labour standards. Data provided by MSCI ESG Research LLC.

Governance characteristics

Exposure to companies with no female directors (%):

The percentage of portfolio's market value exposed to companies with no female directors. Data provided by MSCI ESG Research LLC.

Exposure to companies with a majority of independent board members (%):

The percentage of portfolio's market value exposed to companies with board independence between 50%-100%. Data provided by MSCI ESG Research LLC.

Exposure to governance controversies (%):

The percentage of portfolio's market value exposed to companies facing one or more severe or very severe governance controversies related bribery, fraud, controversial investments, and governance structure. Data provided by MSCI ESG Research LLC.

Methodology – Contribution to SDGs

Description

This report highlights how portfolio companies - through their products and services - have positive and negative impact on a total of 15 sustainability objectives covering both Social and Environmental aspects. These objectives have been developed by ISS-ESG and closely aligned with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. The objectives include 7 Social and 8 Environmental objectives with scores ranging from -10 to +10. The results are then compared with the benchmark.

Please note that this report does not comment on the Governance aspect as we already report on such considerations in separate reports.

As the UN SDGs primarily target states and the public sector, not all goals are relevant for companies. For this reason, ISS-ESG defined a total of 15 sustainability objectives which are closely aligned with the SDGs. They are used to assess companies' product portfolios in terms of their contribution

towards sustainable development based on their revenue weight. For each individual objective, a qualitative analysis is conducted to determine whether a product or service category contributes to or refrain from attaining the objective. As a result, the positive and negative effects of different product groups may partly cancel each other out within a given objective.

Further information on ISS-ESG and the methodology is available [here](#).

List of the 15 overarching sustainable objectives

7 Social objectives

- Alleviating poverty
- Combating hunger and malnutrition
- Ensuring health
- Delivering education
- Attaining gender equality
- Providing basic services
- Safeguarding peace

8 Environmental objectives

- Achieving sustainable agriculture & forestry
- Conserving water
- Contributing to sustainable energy use
- Promoting sustainable buildings
- Optimising material use
- Mitigating climate change
- Preserving marine ecosystems
- Preserving terrestrial ecosystems

Please note that each portfolio and benchmark are assigned a score ranging from -10 to +10 based on the above 15 sustainable objectives. For the approach to be meaningful and sound we have assumed that the minimum coverage at the fund level should at least be 60%. This means that for a fund score to be meaningful at least 60% of its holdings need to have a score.

Complete list of SDGs:



UN Sustainability Development Goals

UN Sustainability Development Goals

Corresponding ISS-ESG Sustainability Objectives

	No poverty	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Alleviating poverty – Providing basic services (access aspect)
	Zero hunger	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Combating hunger and malnutrition – Achieving sustainable agriculture and forestry
	Good health and well-being	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Ensuring health – Providing basic services (access aspect)
	Quality education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Delivering education – Providing basic services (access aspect)
	Gender equality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Attaining gender equality
	Clean water and sanitation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Conserving water (quality and quantity aspect) – Ensuring health (sanitary aspect) – Providing basic services (access aspect)
	Affordable and clean energy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Contributing to sustainable energy use (clean aspect) – Providing basic services (access aspect)
	Decent work and economic growth	—
	Industry, innovation and infrastructure	—
	Reduced inequalities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Attaining gender equality – Providing basic services
	Sustainable cities and communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Promoting sustainable buildings – Providing basic services (access aspect regarding housing, transportation)
	Responsible consumption and production	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Optimising material use
	Climate action	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Mitigating climate change – Contributing to sustainable energy use
	Life below water	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Preserving marine ecosystems
	Life on land	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Preserving terrestrial ecosystems – Achieving sustainable agriculture and forestry
	Peace, justice and strong institutions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Safeguarding peace
	Partnerships for the goals	—

Glossary

Active ownership

On behalf of its clients, NAM undertakes a range of engagement activities with companies, in order to affect and influence these to improve their environmental, social and governance practices, including promoting a long-term approach to decision-making. Our active ownership tools include voting, attending AGMs, standard setting, engagement with companies, filing resolutions etc. A detailed description of NAM's engagement processes can be found in the [NAM RI Policy](#).

Engagement

A form of active ownership. The practice of shareholders entering into a dialogue with the management of companies to change or influence the way in which the companies are run.

NAM's engagement activities can be divided into three different categories:

1. **Investment-led engagements:** Engagement on ESG-related risks or opportunities identified by portfolio managers and financial analysts via our company assessments.
2. **Norms- and incident-based engagement:** Engagement with companies breaching the international norms or conventions or companies having ESG related incidents.
3. **Thematic engagements:** Focuses on companies' exposure to specific sustainability themes in focus. We have identified 5 focus themes: biodiversity, climate, human rights, good governance, and water. We engage with these companies both individually and through collaborative engagements.

Enhanced exclusion filters and limits

Exclusions aim at limiting the investment exposure to certain sectors or activities that may be considered to be damaging for the environment and/or the society at large. Sector screenings assess a company's involvement in a specific activity measured by the revenue derived from this activity. Sector exclusions are the result of screenings based on the data and methodology of NAM's selected data vendors. Strategies are available with different exclusion filters including ethical filters targeting tobacco, alcohol, gaming, pornography etc. In addition, some products also feature targets or limits on carbon footprint/intensity relative to benchmark, targeted minimum ESG score or other exclusion lists like the so-called "NBIM list" of the Norwegian Government Pension Fund Global or the Carbon Underground 200 list.

Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG)

Environmental (E), Social (S), and Governance (G) refer to the three main areas of analysis in modern

responsible investment. ESG risks and opportunities are identified through careful analysis of a company's operations. Environmental criteria look at how a company performs as a steward of the natural environment. Social criteria examine for instance how a company manages relationships with its employees, suppliers, customers and the communities where it operates. Governance deals with a company's leadership, executive pay, audits, internal controls and shareholder rights.

ESG integration

The explicit inclusion of ESG risks and opportunities into traditional financial analysis and investment decisions based on a systematic process and appropriate research sources. This considers ESG factors alongside financial factors in the mainstream analysis of investments. The integration process focuses on the potential impact of ESG issues on company financials (positive and negative), which in turn may affect the investment decision.

ESG STARS strategies

The ESG STARS product range uses NAM's proprietary ESG scoring system and bespoke analysis carried out by the Responsible Investment team and financial analysts.

The strategies focus on selecting companies, not only with sound fundamentals, but also with high ESG scores. Using the SASB materiality map, company analysis includes enhanced due diligence on environmental, social and governance risks material to the company, and considers how companies manage their identified ESG risks. Furthermore, each company's business model alignment with the SDGs is taken into consideration, as the strategies' exposure aims to skew towards companies whose activities are net supportive or neutral, rather than detracting towards the SDGs. ESG scores are recalibrated regularly and at least annually, or if triggered by relevant negative or positive events. The ESG model sources data from several external data providers as input for the ESG score.

Exclusion list

NAM excludes companies involved in serious breaches of international norms, where engagement is deemed not to be possible or effective. For example, we ban investment in companies active in the production of controversial weapons, including – but not limited to – cluster munitions and anti-personnel mines, as well as nuclear weapons. NAM also does not invest in companies deriving more than 10% of their revenues from thermal coal, and excludes companies involved in the production fossil fuels with thresholds for revenues coming from oil sands (10%) or arctic drilling (5%). The NAM level exclusion list can be found [here](#).

Integration of Principal Adverse Impact (PAI)

The environmental and social impact of the activities of all NAM investee companies is assessed on an ongoing basis through our firm-level PAI integration. Companies identified as outliers on one or more PAI indicators, are analysed further which may result in a recommendation for action. NAM's disclosure statement on the integration of Principal Adverse Impact indicators can be found [here](#).

Norms-based screening

NAM's investment products are subject to norms-based screening, which identifies companies that are allegedly involved in breaches of international laws and norms on environmental protection, human rights, labour standards and anti-corruption. If a company is identified in this screening process, an internal assessment of the company and the incident is initiated. Typical actions can consist of engagement, quarantine or exclusion. For more information please refer to the [NAM RI Policy](#).

Paris Aligned Fossil Fuel Policy (PAFF)

In addition to the firm-wide exclusion list, a substantial and growing part of NAM's strategies is also subject to our Paris-Aligned Fossil Fuel Policy (PAFF), which sets thresholds for companies' exposure to fossil fuel production, distribution and services and excludes companies that are involved beyond these thresholds if they do not have a documented transition strategy that aligns with the Paris agreement. Funds for which the PAFF is not implemented as a hard exclusion criterion, the PAFF acts as guidance for engagement. PAFF criteria also inform the prioritisation of our top-down thematic engagements. The PAFF policy and list of Paris-aligned issuers can be found [here](#).

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are a collection of 17 global goals set by the United Nations General Assembly in 2015. The SDGs are part of Resolution 70/1 of the United Nations General "Transforming our World: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development". The goals are an urgent call for action by all countries – developed and emerging – in a global partnership. They recognise that ending poverty and other deprivations must go hand-in-hand with strategies that improve health and education, reduce inequality, and spur economic growth – all the while tackling climate change and working to preserve our oceans and forests.

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