

2Q 2021

Nomura Asset Management U.K. Limited
Nomura Asset Management Co., Ltd.
Nomura Asset Management Singapore Limited
Nomura Asset Management Malaysia Sdn. Bhd.
Nomura Islamic Asset Management Malaysia Sdn. Bhd.

Responsible Investing Report

Introduction

Nomura Asset Management is committed to Responsible Investment, being a signatory to the United Nations Principles for Responsible Investment (“UNPRI”) since 2011, and has a strong track record of acting in a manner that maximises both the experiences of our clients and the other stakeholders impacted by our investments.

Nomura Asset Management U.K. Limited (“NAM UK”) has been integrating Environmental, Social and Governance (“ESG”) research (both proprietary internal research and external data providers) into all individual global equity investment committee reviews since 2013. Our engagement activity and ESG research has been published publicly online since 2Q16 in an effort to promote transparency and increase the impact of our activity. Whereas, Nomura Asset Management Malaysia SDN BHD (“NAMM”) and Nomura Islamic Asset Management SDN BHD (“NIAM”), as member entities within the NAM group in Malaysia, are also committed to standards encouraged by the UNPRI through its commitment to observe the Malaysian Code of Institutional Investors (“MCII”). Both NAMM and NIAM became signatories of the MCII on 25 April 2017.

The engagement efforts of the NAM UK Fixed Income team have been included within this report since 3Q18, and from 2Q19 has also incorporated the research and engagement processes of Nomura Asset Management Singapore Limited (“NAM SG”) and Nomura Asset Management Malaysia SDN BHD. (“NAMM”). Since 1Q20 the Responsible Investment team of Nomura Asset Management Co., Ltd (“NAM Tokyo”) have also been contributing a selection of engagements with Japanese companies to the report. Through the collaboration of research efforts across offices and asset classes we believe we can maximise the impact of engagement activity and achieve the best outcomes for all stakeholders.

It is our view that Responsible Investment is best undertaken by taking into consideration the impact of a corporation’s existence and the associated investment decisions on all stakeholders, not just ourselves as shareholders and/or bond investors. As responsible investors we must take into account the broader impact of our investment decisions and it is our duty to engage with the businesses we own and/or lend to, and even those we don’t, to push for better practices where necessary. Targets for engagement are identified through our ongoing ESG research programme, which takes into consideration the ESG risks within our client portfolios and ongoing evaluation of the impact that our investee companies have on all stakeholders. An assessment is made as to the severity of the engagement topic and the engagement itself is carried out at the appropriate level. Where we feel our engagement activity is not having the desired effect we will escalate our concerns to more senior management or directly to the board. We are proactive with regards to proxy voting as a means to express our views and we actively seek to collaborate with other investors to maximise the impact of our activity.

"NAM Group" "NAM"	These references relate to the whole Nomura Asset Management organisation and will generally be used when referring to matters such as investment philosophy, style, company structure and other policies which are consistent across the Group.
"Nomura Asset Management Co., Ltd" "NAM Tokyo"	This refers to Nomura Asset Management Co., Ltd., the Head Office of the NAM Group based in Tokyo, Japan.
"NAM UK"	This refers to Nomura Asset Management U.K. Limited, the UK based subsidiary of NAM Tokyo. NAM UK will typically be appointed as investment manager and will retain responsibility for the management, control and servicing of the client portfolio and relationship.
"NAM Singapore" "NAM SG"	This refers to Nomura Asset Management Singapore Limited.
"NAM Malaysia" "NAMM"	This refers to Nomura Asset Management Malaysia Sdn.Bhd.
"NIAM"	This refers to Nomura Islamic Asset Management Malaysia Sdn.Bhd.
"Our" "We"	This refers to the efforts and practices undertaken within the NAM UK, NAM Singapore and NAM Malaysia offices.

Summary

Over the period, 40 companies were reviewed and assigned ESG ratings. Of these, 13 were awarded a rating of ‘N’ (No Issues), 26 a rating of ‘I’ (Issues but Improving), 1 a rating of ‘I’ (Issues, Not Improving). No companies were deemed Uninvestible. In addition, 34 further companies were engaged with, supplementary to full company reviews, to discuss ESG related queries that arose over the period. In total we engaged with 68 companies to discuss ESG concerns. Of these engagements 11% were focused on Business Strategy, 24% on Social Impact, 18% on Environment, 20% on Governance, 6% on Financial Strategy and 21% on Dialogue/Disclosure. Of the companies we engaged with, 13 were based in North America, 7 in Europe, 29 in Asia ex Japan and 19 in Japan. Responses were received from 65 companies (96% response ratio).

Companies reviewed	
No Issues	13
Issues (improving)	26
Issues (Not improving)	1
Uninvestible	0
Total	40

Engagements	
Number of contacts	68
Engaged & responded	65
Engaged with no response	3
Response Ratio	96%

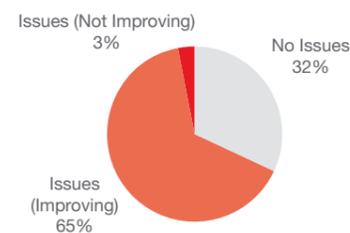
Engagements by Region	
Europe	7
North America	13
APAC ex Japan	29
Africa	0
Japan	19
Total	68

Engagements by Subject	
Business Strategy	23
Financial Strategy	12
Governance	42
Environment	36
Social	50
Dialogue/Disclosure	44

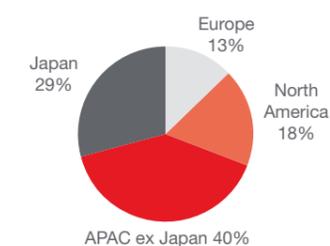
Engagements by Country	
Australia	3
Belgium	0
Britain	5
Canada	0
China	6
Denmark	0
France	1
Germany	0
Hong Kong	1
India	3
Indonesia	3
Japan	19
Kenya	0
Malaysia	3
Netherlands	0
New Zealand	0
Norway	0
Philippines	1
Singapore	2
South Korea	3
Spain	0
Sweden	0
Switzerland	1
Taiwan	2
Thailand	2
United States	13
Total	68

Please note ‘Engagement by Subject’ does not add up to total number of engagements as company engagements can typically include the covering of multiple topics.

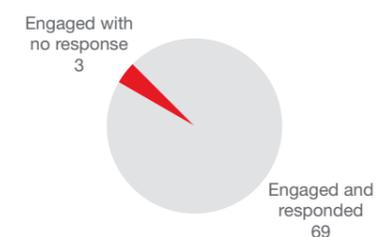
Ratings Assigned Over the Period



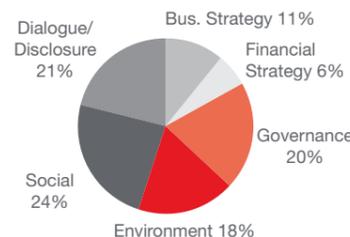
Engagement by Region



Engagement Over the Period



Engagement by Type



Notes from our Responsible Investing Research

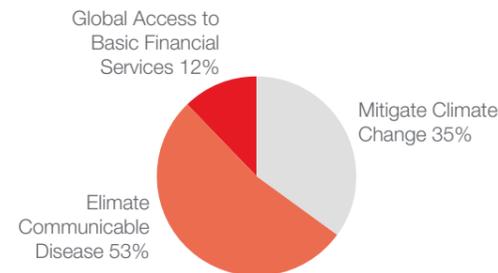
Nomura Asset Management's 6 Impact Goals

In 2Q21 we continued to work on progressing towards our 6 Impact Goals focused around the most pressing issues facing our world and where we as investors believe we can have the greatest positive impact. The impact goals are closely aligned with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDGs), and NAM's Global ESG Statement.

As part of our commitment to deeply integrate our 6 Impact Goals into our processes we strive to further increase our engagements with companies on the selected goals and work together towards achieving progress. In 2Q21, 17 of our total engagements were directly aligned to one of the identified impact goals. Of those, 6 were related to Mitigating Climate Change, 9 to Eliminating Communicable Disease and 2 to Global Access to Basic Financial Services.

Engagements by NAM Impact Goals

Mitigate Climate Change	6
Mitigate Natural Capital Depletion	0
Eliminate Communicable Disease	9
Mitigate the Obesity Epidemic	0
Global Access to Basic Financial Services	2
Global Access to Clean Drinking Water	0
Total	17



Access to Nutrition Initiative (ATNI)

We are proud to announce that in May 2021, Nomura Asset Management Co., Ltd. (NAM) signed the Investor Expectations on Nutrition, Diets and Health developed by Access to Nutrition Initiative (ATNI). As an initiative by the Access to Nutrition Foundation (ATNF), ATNI represents an independent non-profit organisation committed to tackling the global nutrition crisis and aims to achieve zero hunger, good health and well-being.

Although there has been significant progress in recent years, access to proper nutrition is still considered one of the major global sustainability challenges, and unfortunately was an area that was intensified by the COVID-19 pandemic. Both previous efforts and successful developments may have potentially been reversed during this time. The issue of insufficient nutrition is recognised in goals two and three of the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDGs) and in fact, Mitigate the Obesity Epidemic is one of NAM's 6 Impact Goals, which we have integrated deeply in our processes and efforts to influence change as responsible investors.

ATNI focuses on developing tools and initiatives by collecting data on food and beverage companies for the purpose of assessing their overall impact and contributions to addressing the global nutrition challenges we face today at national and global levels. Our collaboration with ATNI will allow us to leverage off their existing research and scoring of such companies and will facilitate more informed direct engagement with investee companies.

We hope to use our presence in Asia to strengthen ATNI's influence in the region on both companies and organisations. We believe that through a multi-office wide collaboration we can achieve our goal and play a role in mitigating the global nutrition crisis and achievement of good health and well-being and zero hunger.

More information can be found at: <https://accesstonutrition.org/> and

<https://www.nomuraholdings.com/news/nr/etc/20210531/nam20210531.html>

Responsible Investing Case Study

Polysilicon Supply Chain Links to Forced Labour

Human rights risks have also intensified due to the global pandemic. Hence, throughout the second quarter of 2021, we initiated several engagements with invested companies on the topic of alleged polysilicon supply chain links to forced labour. Overall, the production of around 75-80% of the total global supply of polysilicon belongs to China and in particular the Xinjiang Uygur area produces around half of the global supply used in the production of solar panels.

The Xinjiang Uygur region is an autonomous region in the People's Republic of China (PRC) where the placement of around 2.6m minority citizens has been reported. All four key manufacturers of solar grade polysilicon in the region participate in labour transfer programs.

We witnessed the irony of ESG "good" in the face of renewable energy and the crucial role it plays in the energy transition towards Net Zero and ESG "bad" in the face of potential links to forced labour and other various human rights violations. We identified two big issues companies were facing. On one side, intensified social risks and human rights violations and on the other side – the potential threat of future import restrictions on polysilicon produced in the Xinjiang area, similar to restrictions imposed on cotton and tomatoes by the US last year, that could potentially create disruptions in the solar generation and shortages in the future.

Although we realise the complexity of the solar panel supply chain and the extreme difficulty to perform efficient traceability efforts and supply chain due diligence, we assessed that some of the largest producers and consumers of solar energy in the world could leverage off their economies of scale and suppliers' relationships in order to play their part in influencing change. What we found as a result from our direct engagements with companies, was that although aware of the issues presented to them, companies were reluctant to do everything in their power to influence change in the supply chain. We believe that regardless of where exactly they sit in the intricate supply chain system, big corporations can leverage off their position and purchasing power to create pressure and drive change. Among the recommendations we gave to companies were to increase their supply chain traceability efforts; review and enhance due diligence processes; and where possible, have on field inspections, and last but not least base solar panel or solar energy purchases on a list of criteria broader than simply price. We also suggested basing solar panel and solar energy purchases on broader criteria than simply price.

ISS Climate Impact Assessment – Aggregate Global Equities Holdings

Nomura Asset Management has contracted Institutional Shareholder Services (ISS) to provide Climate related analysis of our portfolios, based on the stock holdings. This section provides key elements of the analysis done on the aggregated holdings of the portfolios managed by the Global Equity team. It is based on a 99.46% coverage of the underlying holdings by ISS.

Portfolio Overview

Comparison of aggregate Global Equity holdings Climate performance relative to the MSCI All Country World Index benchmark as defined by the ISS Climate Impact Assessment.

	Disclosure Number/Weight		Emission Exposure tCO ₂ e		Relative Emission Exposure tCO ₂ e/Mio USD Revenue			Climate Performance Weighted Avg
	Share of Disclosing Holdings		Scope 1&2	Incl. Scope 3	Relative Carbon Footprint	Carbon Intensity	Weighted Avg Carbon Intensity	Carbon Risk Rating ¹
Portfolio	81.5%/89.7%		255,621	1,185,326	52.51	114.42	102.72	56
Benchmark	58.4%/80.9%		467,403	1,976,565	96.01	207.86	158.16	52
Net Performance	23.1 p.p./8.8 p.p.		45.3%	40%	45.3%	45%	35.1%	-

Source: ISS ESG. Note: 1. Carbon Risk Rating data is current as of the date of report generation.

Climate Scenario Analysis

The climate transition will require companies to align themselves with international climate goals and progress on those in the future. The International Energy Agency's (IEA) Sustainable Development Scenario (SDS) is Paris Agreement-aligned and uses 1.8°C with a 66% probability, 1.65°C with a 50% probability and no reliance on global net-negative CO₂ emissions. Currently our aggregate portfolio's holdings are aligned with a SDS budget until 2030. To improve the climate profile of our holdings is a key objective for our engagement programme, hence why we included "Mitigate Climate Change" as one of our six Impact Goals and a focus area for ongoing engagement.

Portfolio and Benchmark Comparison to SDS Budget (Red= Overshoot)

	2021	2030	2040	2050
Portfolio	-23.22%	+4.59%	+85.52%	+168.15%
Benchmark	-1.97%	+27.13%	+115.7%	+194.81%

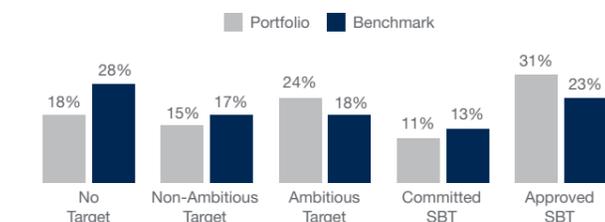
Source: ISS ESG

2030 The portfolio exceeds its SDS budget in 2030.
2.6°C The portfolio is associated with a potential temperature increase of 2.6°C by 2050.

Climate Targets Assessment (% Portfolio Weight)

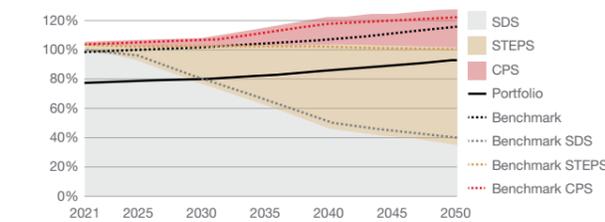
Currently 82% of our aggregate holdings are committed to align with international climate goals versus 72% for MSCI All Country World Index. Out of our holdings 31% have Approved Science Based Targets (SBT), 11% have Committed SBTs, 24% have set ambitious targets, while the remaining 33% have either non-ambitious or no targets at all.

Climate Targets Assessment (% Portfolio Weight)



Source: ISS ESG

Portfolio Emission Pathway vs. Climate Scenarios Budgets



Source: ISS ESG

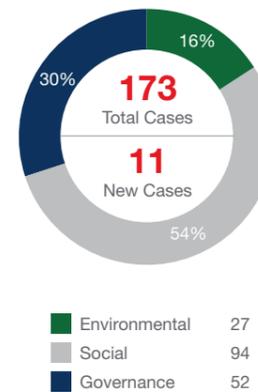
Sustainalytics Engagement

In addition to the extensive ESG research and engagement activity carried out at Nomura Asset Management, the services of Sustainalytics' engagement arm (formerly GES International) are used to maximise our engagement voice and ability to push for better practices and fairer outcomes for all stakeholders. Sustainalytics has over 1000 professional staff with more than half, dedicated to ESG research and 30+ dedicated to engagement, representing €2.5 trillion of assets under engagement globally. We include herein a summary of the engagement activity carried out on behalf of Nomura Asset Management as at June 2021.

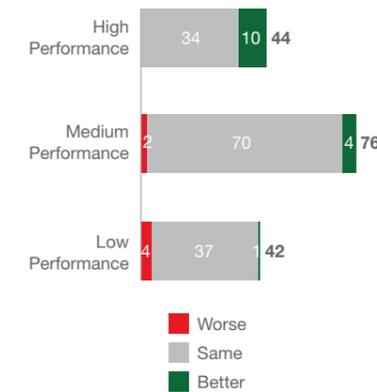
Quarterly Statistics

March 2021 – June 2021

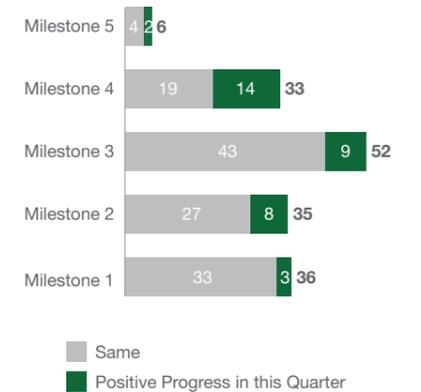
Cases by Theme



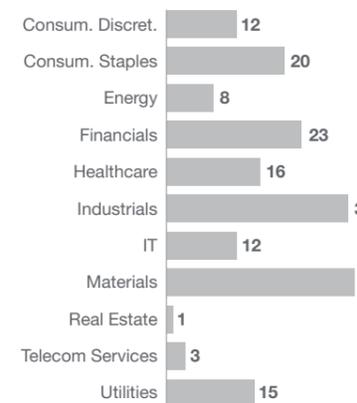
Engagement Performance Overview



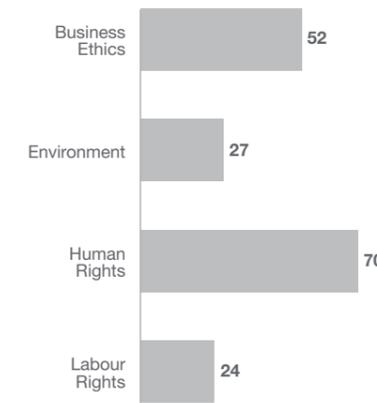
Milestone Overview



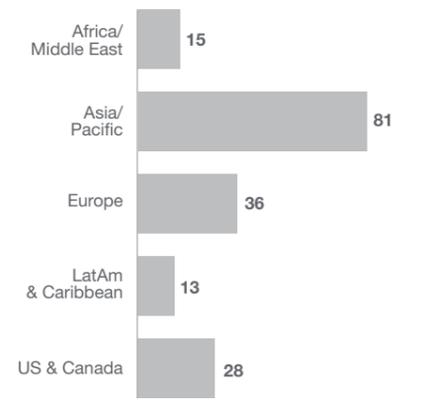
Cases by Sector



Cases by Norm



Cases by Headquarters



Proxy Voting Record 2Q21

NAM seeks to act in a manner most likely to enhance the economic value of the underlying companies owned on our clients' behalf. We engage with companies based on our "Ideal Form of Business Management of Investee Companies" in order to enhance our mutual understanding and to seek changes in their company practices. NAM employs the services of Institutional Shareholder Services (ISS) to efficiently apply our proxy voting policy to individual proposals. ISS are provided with comprehensive and proprietary guidelines set out in our proxy voting policy. NAM will closely consider the voting agenda of a company that meets certain conditions (including, but not limited to, the violation of any applicable laws, inadequate board composition, and financial strategies that are not deemed to be in the best interests of shareholders and other stakeholders). Where we believe that a specific agenda item is not in the best interests of shareholders, NAM will decide either to vote against or to abstain from voting on the item. Please see the Nomura Asset Management Proxy Voting Policy for full details.

Voting Data

Over the quarter NAM UK, NAMM and NAM SG voted on 5,533 proposals across 206 shareholder meetings and 334 ballots. In total 66.9% of proposals were director related, with a further 14.2% in relation to 'Routine Business' and 7.9% 'Capitalisation'. In total NAM UK, NAMM and NAM SG voted 'With' management on 5,143 (93%) proposals and 'Against' management (or 'Withheld' our vote) on 390 (7%) proposals. Examples of where we voted against management, or elected to withhold our vote included:

- Voted 'For' the approval of a proposed report on global median gender/racial pay gap at a US Tech company as we believe this increased disclosure will support stakeholder understanding of the company's commitment to diversity and inclusion. Management had recommended a vote 'Against' this proposal.
- Voted 'For' the approval of a proposed report on political contributions at a US Healthcare company. As the ultimate owners of companies, on behalf of our clients, we strongly believe we are entitled to receive full disclosure of lobbying activity. Management had recommended a vote 'Against' this proposal.

Proposals Voted on in 2Q21

Proposal subject	Count	Proportion of Total Votes
Directorships	3699	66.9%
Routine Business	788	14.2%
Capitalisation	437	7.9%
Compensation	340	6.1%
Reorg/M&A	159	2.9%
Antitakeover	19	0.3%
Health/Environment/Social	15	0.3%
Other	76	1.4%
Total	5533	100.0%

Voting Record vs. Management in 2Q21

	With	Against
Votes	5143	390
Proportion	93.0%	7.0%

Proposals Voted 'Against' Management in 2Q21

Proposal subject	Count	Proportion of Total Votes
Directorships	151	38.7%
Compensation	118	30.3%
Capitalisation	35	9.0%
Routine Business	21	5.4%
Health/Environment/Social	15	3.8%
Reorg/M&A	4	1.0%
Antitakeover	0	0.0%
Other	46	11.8%
Total	390	100.0%

Voting Record vs. ISS in 2Q21

	With	Against
Votes	5350	183
Proportion	96.7%	3.3%

Proxy Voting & Engagement Data – Interactive Dashboards

Nomura Asset Management believes in full transparency in its Responsible Investment activities, hence why from Q1 2021 we started reporting all proxy voting and engagements data on our website, and no longer in the appendices section of this report. The interactive dashboards on our website allow for flexible analysis of the work we have done across time and by geography, industry, category, UN SDG, our own ESG goals and more.

The full record of Proxy Voting entries can be found here: <https://www.nomura-asset.co.uk/responsible-investment/proxy-voting/> For historical Engagement entries, please refer to: <https://www.nomura-asset.co.uk/responsible-investment/engagement/>



Glossary

AML	Anti Money Laundering
BOC	Board of Commissioners
BOD	Board of Directors
CB	Convertible bonds
COGS	Cost of Goods Sold
COI	Conflict of Interests
CSR	Corporate Social Responsibility
DTA	Deferred Tax Asset
EBIT	Earnings Before Interest and Tax
EBITDA	Earnings Before Interest, Tax, Depreciation and Amortization
EM	Emerging Markets
EPS	Earnings Per Share
ESG	Environmental, Social, Governance
FCF	Free Cash Flow
GSE	Global Sustainable Equity Fund
KPI	Key Performance Indicator
LTIP	Long Term Incentive Plan
ND	Net Debt
Opex	Operating Expense
PSP	Performance Share Plan
PSU	Performance Share Unit
R&D	Research and Development
RoA	Return on Assets
ROCE	Return on Capital Employed
ROIC	Return on Invested Capital
RSU	Restricted Share Unit
SAR	Stock Appreciation Rights
SH	Shareholder
SOE	State owned Enterprise
STIP	Short Term Incentive Plan
TSR	Total Shareholder Return
UNSDG	UN Sustainable Development Goals
WC	Working capital

About Nomura Asset Management

The Nomura Asset Management Group is a leading global investment manager with over US\$440 billion of assets under management. Headquartered in Tokyo, Nomura has additional investment offices throughout the world including London, Singapore, Malaysia, Hong Kong, Shanghai, Taipei, Frankfurt and New York. With a global workforce of over 1,300 employees it has been operating in Europe for over 30 years.

Today Nomura Asset Management provides its clients with a wide range of innovative investment strategies including global, regional and single country equities, high yield bonds, alternative investments and global fixed income strategies.

US\$ **569** bn

assets under
management globally

1,334

staff employed
across **14** offices

231

portfolio managers located
strategically around the world

114

dedicated professionals committed to
fundamental and quantitative research

1959

Our investment management capability was
established in Japan over 50 years ago

30 years

Operating in Europe
for over 30 years

Source: Nomura Asset Management as at 30th June 2021

DISCLOSURES

This information was prepared by Nomura Asset Management U.K. Limited (NAM UK), Nomura Asset Management Co., Ltd. (NAM Tokyo), Nomura Asset Management Singapore Limited (NAM Singapore), Nomura Asset Management Malaysia SDN BHD (NAMM) and Nomura Islamic Asset Management SDN BHD (NIAM) from sources reasonably believed to be accurate. This document is distributed by Nomura Asset Management Europe KVG mbH – UK Branch, from sources it reasonably believes to be accurate. Nomura Asset Management Europe KVG mbH (NAM EU) is authorised and regulated by the Federal Financial Supervisory Authority (BaFin). Its UK Branch is also authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA).

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The fund is a sub-fund of Nomura Funds Ireland plc, which is authorised by the Central Bank of Ireland as an open-ended umbrella investment company with variable capital and segregated liability between its sub-funds, established as an undertaking for Collective Investment in Transferable Securities under the European Communities (Undertakings for Collective Investment in Transferable Securities) Regulations 2011. The UCITS fund is not intended for distribution to or use by any person or entity in any jurisdiction or country where such distribution or use would be contrary to law or regulation.

The prospectus, key investor information document (KIID) and other fund related materials are available on the Nomura Asset Management U.K. Ltd. website at <https://www.nomura-asset.co.uk/fund-documents/> Nomura Asset Management U.K. Ltd. is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority.

This is a marketing communication. Please refer to the prospectus and to the KIID before making any final investment decisions. The prospectus, key investor information document (KIID) and other fund related materials are available in English and, for the KIID, in the official language of the countries in which the fund is available for distribution on the Nomura Asset Management U.K. Ltd. website at <https://www.nomura-asset.co.uk/fund-documents/>

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A summary of investor rights in English and information on collective redress mechanisms are available at https://www.nomura-asset.co.uk/download/funds/how-to-invest/Summary_of_investor_rights.pdf. Nomura Asset Management U.K. Limited may at any time decide to terminate arrangements it may have made for the marketing of units of a fund in a member state other than its home member state.

NAM UK

NAM UK is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority.

Nomura Asset Management Co., Ltd. (NAM Tokyo)

Nomura Asset Management Co., Ltd. is regulated by Financial Services Agency.

Director of Kanto Local Finance Bureau (Financial Instruments Firms) No.373

Membership: The Investment Trusts Association, Japan/ Japan Investment Advisers Association/ Type II Financial Instruments Firms Association

The information on this report is for reference purposes only and does not constitute an offer to sell or the solicitation of an offer to buy securities by Nomura Asset Management Co., Ltd. to any person.

NAM Singapore

NAM Singapore is regulated by the Monetary Authority of Singapore (MAS).

NAM Singapore provided services only to accredited investors and institutional investors as defined under the Securities and Futures Act, Chapter 289 of Singapore (the "SFA") and are not available to other classes of investors, who should not rely on this communication. We hereby notify that NAM Singapore is exempt from complying with certain requirements under the Financial Advisers Act, Chapter 110 of Singapore (the "FAA") and the relevant FAA regulations, notices and guidelines, as well as certain requirements under the SFA and the relevant SFA regulations, notices and guidelines issued by the MAS in respect of the regulated activities which we may provide to you, as you are classified as a certain class of investor under the laws and regulations in Singapore.

NAM Malaysia (NAMM), Nomura Islamic Asset Management (NIAM)

NAMM and NIAM are regulated by the Securities Commission Malaysia.

Both NAMM and NIAM are signatories of the Malaysian Code of Institutional Investors (MCI), which was jointly launched by the Securities Commission Malaysia and the Minority Shareholders Watch Group on 27 June 2014.

For more information with regards to NAMM and NIAM's Responsible Investment policies and its responsible investment activities carried in Malaysia, please visit:

1. **NAMM:** <https://www.nomura-asset.com.my/nomura-asset-management-malaysia/namm-s-investment-solutions/responsible-investment>
2. **NIAM:** <https://www.nomura-asset.com.my/nomura-islamic-asset-management/niam-s-investment-solutions/responsible-investment>

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Director of Kanto Local Finance Bureau (Financial Instruments Firms) No.373

Membership: The Investment Trusts Association, Japan/Japan Investment Advisers Association/ Type II Financial Instruments Firms Association

SFDR Disclosure

The EU Sustainable Finance Disclosure Regulation ("SFDR") requires investment firms to formalise how sustainability is integrated into their business and processes, and to make new public and client-facing disclosures on sustainability matters. The aforementioned disclosures relating to Nomura Asset Management U.K. Limited are published on our website at <https://www.nomura-asset.co.uk/responsible-investment/esg-sustainable-investment/>.

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