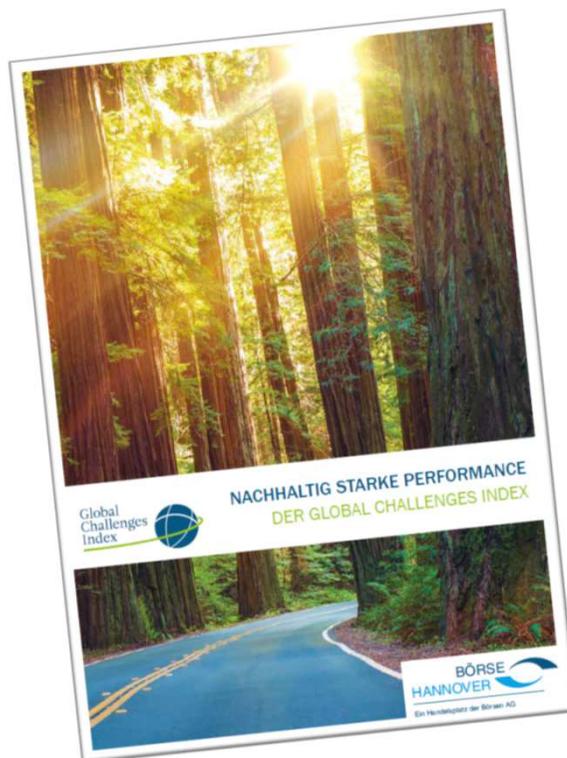


GLOBAL CHALLENGES INDEX

FACTBOOK

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BÖRSE
HANNOVER

Ein Handelsplatz der Börsen AG

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ZUSAMMENFASSUNG (I)

Der Global Challenges Index (GCX) stellte 2007 eine Innovation im Bereich der Nachhaltigkeitsindizes dar. Erstmals gelang es, das Leitbild einer nachhaltigen Entwicklung aus der häufig beklagten Abstraktheit zu holen und durch sieben Handlungsfelder zu konkretisieren. Nachhaltigkeit wurde für den Anleger greifbar. Mit der Nutzung eines absoluten Best-in-Class-Ansatzes, d. h. die Definition von branchen- und unternehmensbezogenen Standards für die Aufnahme der Unternehmen in den Index, kombiniert mit der Anwendung umfangreicher Ausschlusskriterien, verfolgt der Global Challenges Index einen besonders **konsequenten Nachhaltigkeitsansatz**.

Für die **Auswahl der Unternehmen** für den GCX ist entscheidend, inwiefern sie sich aktiv den sieben großen **globalen Herausforderungen** stellen. Von besonderer Bedeutung sind in diesem Zusammenhang die Sustainable Development Goals der Vereinten Nationen, die Nachhaltigkeitsstrategie der Europäischen Union, der „Global Environmental Outlook“ des Umweltprogramms der Vereinten Nationen (UNEP) sowie die zehn Prinzipien des UN Global Compact. Strenge Ausschlusskriterien stellen sicher, dass die Prinzipien des Global Compact eingehalten werden.

Die sieben Handlungsfelder sind im Einzelnen:

- ▶ die Bekämpfung der Ursachen und Folgen des Klimawandels,
- ▶ die Sicherstellung einer ausreichenden Versorgung mit Wasser,
- ▶ ein nachhaltiger Umgang mit Wäldern,
- ▶ der Erhalt der Artenvielfalt,
- ▶ der Umgang mit der Bevölkerungsentwicklung,
- ▶ die Bekämpfung der Armut sowie
- ▶ die Etablierung von Governance-Strukturen.

Die Herausforderungen stehen dabei nicht isoliert nebeneinander, sondern sind eng miteinander verzahnt. Maßnahmen im Klimaschutz haben beispielsweise positive Auswirkungen auf die Verfügbarkeit von Trinkwasser. Auch Biodiversität und Entwaldung stehen in einem engen Zusammenhang. Diese übergreifende Verzahnung gilt in besonderem Maße für das Thema Armut. Fortschritte in den anderen Handlungsfeldern sind immer auch wichtige Schritte zu ihrer Bekämpfung.

Durch **Positiv- und Ausschlusskriterien** werden die sieben globalen Handlungsfelder konkretisiert und so die Basis für die Auswahl geeigneter Unternehmen für den Global Challenges Index geschaffen.

ZUSAMMENFASSUNG (II)

Die Möglichkeiten der **Unternehmen**, im Rahmen ihres **Kerngeschäfts** in den einzelnen Handlungsfeldern tätig zu werden, sind unterschiedlich groß. Aktuelle Entwicklungen zeigen, dass die Unternehmen einen zentralen Beitrag zum Umgang mit den Ursachen und Folgen des Klimawandels leisten können und sich dadurch aktiv Chancen für die Unternehmensentwicklung erarbeiten.

Insgesamt profitieren diejenigen Unternehmen, die den globalen Herausforderungen aktiv entgegenreten. Durch innovative Maßnahmen können die Unternehmen Risiken für den Unternehmenserfolg, die sich aus den Entwicklungen in den sieben Handlungsfeldern ergeben, aktiv begegnen und sich Chancen für die **Unternehmensentwicklung** eröffnen, z. B. durch

- ▶ Sicherung der dauerhaften Verfügbarkeit von Ressourcen, z. B. durch eine nachhaltige Forst- und Fischereiwirtschaft,
- ▶ Reduzierung der Marktpreisrisiken, z. B. durch Steigerung der Energieeffizienz und Sicherung des Zugangs zu Rohstoffen,
- ▶ Erhalt der Wettbewerbsfähigkeit durch technische Innovationen, z. B. im Bereich der erneuerbaren Energien,
- ▶ Erschließung neuer Märkte, z. B. im Bereich Mikrofinanz,
- ▶ Erhalt und Ausbau der gesellschaftlichen Akzeptanz und Reputation.

Dabei unterscheiden sich die **Handlungsschwerpunkte** von Branche zu Branche. Während etwa die Automobilindustrie durch die Reduzierung des Kraftstoffverbrauchs einen Beitrag zum Klimaschutz leisten kann, stehen bei der Nahrungsmittelindustrie vor allem die Themen Wasser und Biodiversität auf der Agenda. Bei der Konzeption des Indexes wurden daher die Handlungsmöglichkeiten der einzelnen Branchen im Hinblick auf die globalen Herausforderungen analysiert. Das daraus entstandene Branchenraster bildet eine wichtige Grundlage für die Identifikation geeigneter Unternehmen für das Index-Universum.

Darüber hinaus werden auch die 2015 von der UN verabschiedeten **17 Sustainable Development Goals** als Weiterentwicklung der Millennium Development Goals in den Auswahlprozess integriert. Dabei wird untersucht, inwieweit die Produkte und Dienstleistungen der Unternehmen der Erreichung dieser Ziele förderlich sind oder diesen widersprechen.

ZUSAMMENFASSUNG (III)



Der **Global Challenges Index** wird in zwei Stufen zusammengestellt.

Im **ersten Schritt** prüft ISS ESG im Rahmen seines Corporate Ratings die Einhaltung von sozialen und ökologischen Standards der Unternehmen, die Bestandteil des ISS ESG Universums und gleichzeitig im Solactive GBS Developed Markets All Cap Index enthalten sind. Nur Unternehmen, die den strengen Anforderungen genügen, bekommen den Status „Prime“. Die Unternehmen mit dem besten ISS ESG Corporate Rating ihrer Branche qualifizieren sich im Rahmen dieses absoluten Best-in-Class-Ansatzes für den Index. Als Teil des Ratings überprüft ISS ESG auch, ob die Unternehmen Produkte oder Dienstleistungen anbieten, die zur Erreichung der Sustainable Development Goals beitragen oder diesen Zielen zuwiderlaufen. Darüber hinaus werden alle Unternehmen daraufhin analysiert, ob sie gegen die definierten Ausschlusskriterien verstoßen.

In einem **zweiten Schritt** identifiziert ISS ESG diejenigen Unternehmen, die substantielle Beiträge zur Bewältigung der globalen Herausforderungen leisten.

Ein unabhängiger Beirat berät die Börse Hannover und ISS ESG bei der Entwicklung des Konzepts, bei der Definition der Positiv- und der Ausschlusskriterien sowie bei der Identifikation von geeigneten Titeln.

Der Index setzt sich aus **50 Unternehmen** zusammen. Angestrebt wird eine **Mischung** aus weltweit tätigen Großunternehmen sowie kleinen und mittleren Unternehmen, die vor allem durch ihre Produkt- und Dienstleistungspalette einen Beitrag zu einer nachhaltigen Entwicklung leisten.

Die Unternehmen werden nach Marktkapitalisierung gewichtet, wobei Potentials einen Anteil von ca. 10% an der Gesamtkapitalisierung des Index haben können. Einzelwerte dürfen max. ein Gewicht von 10% am Index haben. Geographisch fokussiert ist der Index auf Unternehmen aus Europa und den G7-Staaten.

Das Universum wird laufend durch ISS ESG überwacht. Jeweils Mitte März und Mitte September eines Jahres wird die Zusammensetzung des Index überprüft. Unternehmen, die den definierten Anforderungen nicht mehr genügen, werden zu diesen Zeitpunkten ausgetauscht.

GCX-Preisindex:

GCX-Performanceindex:

Startdatum:

Rebalancing (Gewichtung):

Rebalancing (Zusammensetzung):

Regionale Ausrichtung:

Benchmarkindex:

ISIN: DE000A0MEN33

ISIN: DE000A0MEN25

3. September 2007

März/Juni/Sept./Dez.

März/Sept.

Europa und G7

DE000SLA41P6



ISS ESG ist der Responsible-Investment-Bereich von Institutional Shareholder Services Inc., dem weltweit führenden Anbieter von ESG-Lösungen für Investoren, Asset Manager, Hedgefonds und Anbieter von Vermögensdienstleistungen. Mit mehr als 30 Jahren Erfahrung auf dem Gebiet der Corporate Governance und 25 Jahren Erfahrung in der Bereitstellung von fundiertem Nachhaltigkeits-Research ist ISS ESG der Partner der Wahl für institutionelle Investoren. Diese können mit den Lösungen von ISS ESG nachhaltige Anlagepolitiken und -praktiken entwickeln und integrieren sowie entsprechende Portfoliounternehmen durch Screening Lösungen beobachten. ISS ESG bietet darüber hinaus Klimadaten, Analysen und Beratungsdienstleistungen, mit denen Investoren klimabedingte Risiken über alle Anlageklassen hinweg messen, verstehen und bewerten können. Zudem liefert ISS ESG Research und Ratings zu Unternehmen und Ländern und ermöglicht es seinen Kunden, materielle soziale und ökologische Risiken zu identifizieren und Chancen wahrzunehmen. Dieses ganzheitliche Lösungsangebot wird zusätzlich ergänzt durch einen etablierten Standard für die Analyse, Bewertung, Prognose und Berücksichtigung der finanziellen Dimension von Unternehmen.

ONE - STOP SHOP

- Der einzige „One-Stop-Shop“ im Bereich der ESG-Daten
- Abdeckung des gesamten Spektrums der ESG-Dienste in einem Ansatz: Von Daten, Analysen und Reporting bis hin zu Engagement und Proxy Voting

METHODIK UND QUALITÄT

- Detaillierte Analysen und einzigartiger Dialogprozess, von Unternehmen bestätigte Ergebnisse
- Eigenes Klimateam, Methodik mit ETH Zürich entwickelt
- Hervorragende Abdeckung im Bereich Rating, Screenings und Klima

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ÜBERSICHT: AUSWAHLKRITERIEN (I)

Positivkriterien für die Auswahl von Unternehmen

Klimawandel	Beiträge zum Umgang mit den Ursachen und Folgen des Klimawandels
Wasser	Beiträge zur Bereitstellung, Aufbereitung und Verteilung von Wasser
Entwaldung	Beiträge zu einem nachhaltigen Umgang mit Wäldern und waldwirtschaftlichen Produkten (Holz, Papier)
Biodiversität	Beiträge zu Schutz und Erhalt der Artenvielfalt
Bevölkerungs-entwicklung	Beiträge zum Umgang mit demographischem Wandel bzw. der Bevölkerungsexplosion
Armut	Beiträge zur Verringerung der Vulnerabilität, zur Unterstützung der wirtschaftlichen Unabhängigkeit sowie zur Verbesserung der Bildung und Informationsteilhabe
Governance	Beiträge zur Verhinderung von Korruption und Bestechung sowie zur Verbesserung der Corporate Governance in der Wirtschaft

ÜBERSICHT: AUSWAHLKRITERIEN (II)



Ausschlusskriterien

Geschäftsfelder

Atomenergie
Grüne Gentechnik, Pestizide
Rüstung
Fossile Brennstoffe (Kohle und Öl)
Tabak
Pornographie
Alkohol
Tierversuche (über gesetzliche Vorschriften hinaus)
Glücksspiel

Geschäftspraktiken

Kontroverses Umweltverhalten, z. B. Übernutzung oder Verschmutzung von Gewässern, Umweltkontaminationen
Menschenrechts- und Arbeitsrechtskontroversen
Kontroversen in den Bereichen Korruption, Bilanzierung und Geldwäsche

GlobALE HERAUSFORDERUNGEN & SDG MAPPING

Klimawandel



SDG 13 Maßnahmen zum Klimaschutz

Armut



SDG 1 Keine Armut

Trinkwasser



SDG 6 Sauberes Wasser und Sanitäreinrichtungen

Biodiversität



SDG 14 Leben unter Wasser / 15 Leben an Land

Bevölkerungs-entwicklung



SDG 3 Gesundheit und Wohlergehen

Entwaldung



SDG 15 Leben an Land

Governance



SDG 16 Frieden, Gerechtigkeit und starke Institutionen

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Aufgaben

Die Börse Hannover und ISS ESG werden bei der Konzeption und Zusammenstellung des Index durch einen unabhängigen Experten-Beirat unterstützt. Der Beirat hat insbesondere folgende Aufgaben:

- ▶ Beratung bei der Entwicklung des Konzepts für den Global Challenges Index
- ▶ Beratung bei der Entwicklung und Überwachung der dem Index zugrunde liegenden Kriterien
- ▶ Beratung bei der Auswahl geeigneter Unternehmen für den Global Challenges Index

Zusammensetzung

Der Beirat setzt sich aus folgenden Persönlichkeiten zusammen:

- ▶ **Dr. Bernd Balkenhol** (Emerit. Professor am Lehrstuhl für Ökonomie und Ökonometrie an der Université de Génève, ehem. Leiter der Abteilung Social Finance der Internationalen Arbeitsorganisation IAO/ILO)
- ▶ **Dr. Wolfgang Gehra** (Professor an der Münchner Hochschule für angewandte Wissenschaften)
- ▶ **Walther Hirche** (Vorsitzender, Mitglied des Vorstands der Deutschen UNESCO-Kommission, Ex-Wirtschaftsminister der Länder Niedersachsen und Brandenburg, Mitglied des RNE)
- ▶ **Marlies Hofer-Perktold** (Leiterin der Abteilung „Finanzen & Controllerdienste“ in der Diözese Innsbruck und Vorstandsmitglied bei CRIC e.V.)
- ▶ **Matthias Kopp** (Head Sustainable Finance des World Wildlife Funds WWF)
- ▶ **Wolf Martin Waldow** (Oberkirchenrat der Evangelisch-lutherischen Landeskirche Hannovers)
- ▶ **Berenike Wiener** (Stv. Vorsitzende, Head of CSR and Sustainable Finance, Direktorin der Evangelische Bank eG)

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AUSWAHL DER UNTERNEHMEN

Solactive GBS Developed Markets All Cap Index & ISS ESG Universum: ca. 6000 Unternehmen

Stufe 1:

Auswahl der Unternehmen, die im Rahmen des Best-in-Class-Ansatzes den ISS ESG Prime-Status erreichen und den definierten Ausschlusskriterien genügen

Prime Status: ESG Corporate Rating hinsichtlich der Einhaltung von sozialen, governancebezogenen und ökologischen Standards durch die Unternehmen sowie Prüfung der Produkte/Dienstleistungen im Hinblick auf die Sustainable Development Goals. Nur Unternehmen, die den strengen Anforderungen genügen, bekommen von ISS ESG den Status „Prime“.

Ausschlusskriterien: Atomenergie; Grüne Gentechnik, Pestizide, gefährliche Substanzen; fossile Brennstoffe; kontroverse Geschäftspraktiken / Corporate Governance; kontroverses Umweltverhalten; Menschenrechts- und Arbeitsrechtskontroversen; Rüstung; Tabak; Alkohol; Tierversuche; Pornographie; Glücksspiel

Universum: ca. 500 Unternehmen

Stufe 2:

Auswahl der Unternehmen, die im Rahmen ihres Kerngeschäfts einen aktiven und substanziellen Beitrag zum Umgang mit den globalen Herausforderungen leisten und eine Marktkapitalisierung von mindestens €100 Mio. haben

Global Challenges Index: 50 Unternehmen

AUSWAHLPROZESS: STUFE 1

ZUSAMMENFASSUNG



- ▶ Im Rahmen des ESG Corporate Rating werden die Unternehmen durch ISS ESG in den sechs Kategorien bewertet. In Abhängigkeit der Branche werden dabei Umwelt- und Sozialkriterien unterschiedlich stark gewichtet. Die Bewertung der unternehmensbezogenen Daten erfolgt ausschließlich durch ISS ESG.
- ▶ Die abschließende Bewertung erfolgt auf einer Skala von A+ bis D-, wobei die Ratingskala wie folgt definiert ist:
 - A = Das Unternehmen zeigt außergewöhnliche Leistungen
 - B = Das Unternehmen verhält sich weitgehend progressiv
 - C = Das Unternehmen hat grundlegende Maßnahmen ergriffen
 - D = Das Unternehmen zeigt wenig Engagement
- ▶ Für jede Branche werden individuell Standards definiert, die für die Vergabe des Prime Status erreicht werden müssen.
- ▶ Die Aktualität der dem Rating zugrunde liegenden Informationen und der Gesamtbewertung wird durch regelmäßige Updates erlangt.

Corporate ESG
Performance

Prime

RATED BY
ISS ESG 

AUSWAHLPROZESS: STUFE 2

Stufe 2 : Prime Universum / ➔ Global Challenges Index

Aus der Gesamtheit der Unternehmen, die sowohl den Prime Status erreichen als auch den Ausschlusskriterien genügen, schlägt ISS ESG die Unternehmen vor, die in einem oder mehreren Handlungsfeldern substantielle und richtungweisende Beiträge zum Umgang mit den globalen Herausforderungen leisten. Grundlage dieser Auswahl ist eine umfassende Analyse der Handlungsoptionen der einzelnen Branchen im Hinblick auf die globalen Herausforderungen und die Sustainable Development Goals.

Alle Unternehmen, die von ISS ESG vorgeschlagen werden, durchlaufen eine finanztechnische Analyse. Dabei wird die Einhaltung der Mindestanforderungen an die Marktkapitalisierung (mind. 100 Mio. Euro) überprüft. Von diesen Mindestanforderungen darf nur im begründeten Ausnahmefall abgewichen werden, wenn z. B. innerhalb absehbarer Zeit mit einer Überschreitung der definierten Schwelle zu rechnen ist. Im nächsten Schritt werden diese Indexkandidaten dem Experten-Beirat vorgestellt und im Rahmen der Beiratssitzungen besprochen und ggf. als Indexwerte bestätigt.

Die Gewichtung der Titel erfolgt dann nach Marktkapitalisierung. Dabei gilt eine doppelte 10%-Regel:

- ▶ Das Gewicht einzelner Titel am Index wird auf 10% begrenzt.
- ▶ Zusätzlich darf sogenannten „Potentials“ (kleinen und mittelständischen Unternehmen mit Anteilklassen-Marktkapitalisierung von jeweils unter 1 Mrd. EUR) zusammen maximal ein Anteil von 10% des Portfolios zugewiesen werden.

REBALANCING

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Turnusmäßiges Rebalancing

Die Zusammensetzung des Index wird regelmäßig Mitte März und Mitte September eines Jahres überprüft. Titel, die den definierten Anforderungen im Bereich des ESG Corporate Rating nicht mehr genügen bzw. die mit einer hohen Wahrscheinlichkeit nicht länger die Anforderungen in der nahen Zukunft erfüllen (z. B. aufgrund von einer laufenden Fusion), werden zu diesem Zeitpunkt ausgetauscht.

Außerordentliches Rebalancing

Fällt ein im Global Challenges Index vertretendes Unternehmen unerwartet zwischen zwei Anpassungsterminen heraus, wird ein Nachfolger benannt. Der Global Challenges Index wird zeitnah zu dem Ereignis angepasst, das die außerordentliche Anpassung verursacht hat.

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INDEX MITGLIEDER

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Global Challenges Index: 50 Unternehmen

- **Advanced Micro Devices**
- **Atlas Copco**
- **Aurubis**
- **Autodesk**
- **Befesa**
- **Benesse Holding**
- **Berkeley Group**
- **Billerudkorsnaes**
- **BioMerieux**
- **Can. Natl. Railway**
- **Coloplast**
- **CSX**
- **Dassault**
- **EDP Renováveis**
- **Fabege**
- **First Group**
- **First Solar**
- **Geberit**
- **Gecina**
- **Hannon Armstrong**
- **Hannover Rück**
- **Henkel**
- **Herman Miller**
- **Intel**
- **Interface**
- **Kingfisher**
- **Konica Minolta**
- **Kurita Water**
- **Lenzing**
- **Nordex**
- **Ormat**
- **Orsted**
- **Pearson**
- **Pennon Group**
- **Ricoh**
- **Rockwool**
- **Scatec**
- **Severn Trent**
- **Signify**
- **SKF**
- **Smith & Nephew**
- **Sonova**
- **Steelcase**
- **STMicroelectronics**
- **Sunpower**
- **Swiss Re**
- **Tarkett**
- **Union Pacific**
- **United Utilities Group**
- **Xerox**

Ausführliche Profile der Index-Unternehmen finden sich auf den nachfolgenden Seiten

DISCLAIMER

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Die auf den folgenden Seiten 21 - 70 dargestellten Informationen sind Eigentum von ISS oder seiner Tochtergesellschaften. Diese dürfen ohne vorherige schriftliche Genehmigung von ISS weder ganz noch teilweise vervielfältigt oder verbreitet werden. Es wird keine Haftung für die Folgen übernommen, die sich aus dem Berücksichtigen der Informationen für Investitionen oder andere Zwecke ergeben.

ADVANCED MICRO DEVICES

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Branche: Semiconductors

ISIN: US0079031078

Land: US

Company Profile

Advanced Micro Devices, Inc. operates as a semiconductor company worldwide. The company operates in two segments, Computing and Graphics; and Enterprise, Embedded and Semi-Custom.

Analyst Opinion Sustainability Opportunities

Advanced Micro Devices (AMD) is a major provider of graphics processor units (GPU) and also develops further semiconductor devices such as accelerated processing units, chipsets and semi-custom System-on-Chip products for e.g. computers, servers and embedded systems. The company's product range includes cloud computing components. Centrally managed cloud computing services can save energy and related greenhouse gas emissions compared to on-site servers and thus make a positive contribution towards preventing climate change. Yet, net sales generated from such products do not appear to be sizeable.

Analyst Opinion Sustainability Risks

As a fabless semiconductor company, Advanced Micro Devices (AMD) principally outsources the manufacturing of its products, e.g. to TSMC with main sites in Taiwan and to Global Foundries with its main sites in Singapore. The company has committed itself to high labor and environmental standards in its own operations as well as in its supply chain through its membership in the Responsible Business Alliance (RBA). AMD has a robust monitoring system building on the RBA validated audit process. All key supplier managers of the company are trained on the requirements of the RBA code of conduct; yet, workers do not seem to be trained on the standard. The company has established due diligence procedures in order to source conflict-free minerals. Further, it has substantiated its commitment to continued sourcing from relevant regions by joining the Public-Private Alliance for Responsible Minerals Trade, a multi-stakeholder initiative supporting conflict-free sourcing from the Democratic Republic of Congo. All AMD products comply with the EU RoHS Directive and the company has restricted the use of additional substances such as halogen. While it adequately manages energy efficiency of its products, it does not seem to manage the issue of material efficiency to the same extent and does not seem to carry out product lifecycle assessments to this end. Through its supplier management, AMD actively includes its production partners in setting and achieving water-related and other sustainability goals and compiles environmental data of its outsourced production.



Branche: Machinery

ISIN: SE0006886750

Land: SE

Company Profile

Atlas Copco AB, together with its subsidiaries, provides productivity solutions. The company operates through Compressor Technique, Vacuum Technique, Industrial Technique, and Power Technique segments.

Analyst Opinion Sustainability Opportunities

Atlas Copco's portfolio includes a broad range of products and services, including compressors (2019: 46% of revenues), vacuum technique (23%), industrial technique (18%), and power technique (13%). In 2018, the segment Mining and Rock Excavation Technique was spun off in the separately listed company Epiroc AB. By and large, Atlas Copco's product portfolio does neither contribute to nor hinder a sustainable development. In addition, Atlas Copco is clearly committed to improving its products' energy efficiency.

Analyst Opinion Sustainability Risks

With regard to social risks, Atlas Copco demonstrates a good performance, addressing relevant aspects such as health and safety related to its own operations and products. Atlas Copco manages occupational health and safety through a comprehensive management system that is certified according to an international standard and whose efficacy is reflected in a decreasing accident rate in recent years. Regarding product design and development, the company considers product safety and conducts safety tests. Furthermore, the company bans various relevant substances of concern from use in its products and provides customers with relevant safety information (e.g. sourcing of components, substances of concern, safe use and disposal of the product). In terms of business ethics, the company provides a comprehensive code of conduct, covering relevant aspects such as corruption, antitrust and conflicts of interest. Adequate compliance measures, such as whistleblowing channels for employees as well as trainings and audits, are provided. When it comes to environmental issues, Atlas Copco has set up comprehensive and certified environmental management systems, enabling the company to improve the environmental impact of its operations in terms of energy use and greenhouse gas emissions intensity. Furthermore, the company is committed to further reduce its footprint and set targets to reduce carbon emissions and freshwater use. In an effort to reduce the environmental impact of its products, Atlas Copco develops and designs its products with a life cycle approach and longevity in mind. While the company also refers to material efficiency, much insight on a comprehensive strategy to reduce and improve material use in both product design and manufacturing processes is not provided.



Branche: Metals & Mining

ISIN: DE0006766504

Land: DE

Company Profile

Aurubis AG engages in the production of copper, copper products and precious metals. The Primary Copper segment refers to the procurement of copper-bearing and precious metal-bearing raw materials to the production of marketable metals and offers copper cathodes that can be traded on the metal exchanges, as well as gold and silver products that originate from the raw materials as well as from the additional precious metal-bearing input materials processed.

Analyst Opinion Sustainability Opportunities

Aurubis produces primary copper and precious metals, recycles secondary raw materials including metal scrap, electronic scrap, and industrial residues, and processes copper into intermediate products. Aurubis has set a strategic focus on closing-the-loop-solutions, taking back production waste and residues with a varying copper content and processing them into copper again. By reintroducing copper scrap and a variety of other recycling materials to the economic cycle, Aurubis significantly contributes to tackling the global challenge of resource efficiency.

Analyst Opinion Sustainability Risks

As a metals producer, Aurubis faces risks in the areas of occupational health and safety, climate protection, and safeguarding environmental and social standards in the raw materials supply chain. Despite the implementation of a group-wide health and safety management system, the work-related accident rate among Aurubis' employees has been increasing at a comparatively high level. As a member of the UN Global Compact, Aurubis is committed to respecting internationally recognized human rights and also requires its suppliers and contract partners to comply with the UN Global Compact principles and ILO standards. Yet, human rights standards with regard to resettlement and indigenous people seem to be missing. Aurubis recently introduced Business Partner Screenings of its raw material suppliers, which include an assessment of human rights risks, and established a new supply chain management division. Further due diligence procedures such as regular trainings and the establishment of grievance channels are still lacking. The company performs very well in terms of climate protection, with a solid strategy to address climate change and sector-related risks and quantified greenhouse gas reduction targets in place. The energy and greenhouse gas emissions intensities of the company's copper production are both at a comparatively low level. To ensure ethical business conduct, Aurubis has established a sound code of conduct, covering in detail all essential topics such as corruption, antitrust violations, and conflicts of interest. Reasonable compliance measures are also in place, including compliance risk assessments and confidential reporting channels for whistleblowers.



Branche: Software & IT Services

ISIN: US0527691069

Land: US

Company Profile

Autodesk, Inc. operates as a software design and services company worldwide.

Analyst Opinion Sustainability Opportunities

Autodesk offers design software and services to various sectors including architecture, manufacturing and entertainment industries. Its software helps to create, visualize and simulate object designs before they are applied, which can lead to better-informed decisions, e.g. on factors related to environmental performance for products.

Analyst Opinion Sustainability Risks

Autodesk has taken several steps to increase energy efficiency in its data centers operations such as server virtualization and the installation of energy efficient hardware. The company has, furthermore, set itself the target to source 100% of renewable energy in its facilities and cloud services by the end of fiscal year 2021. Autodesk also addresses single environmental impacts of its office operations by sourcing energy-efficient equipment, by locating a large share of offices in buildings certified to the LEED standard and by using substantial amounts of renewable energy. Regarding the security of its software applications, the company incorporates security reviews and testing in its product development processes. In addition, several elements of an information security management system have been implemented. Employees of Autodesk enjoy some options to balance work and private responsibilities relating to dependant care and special leave. In recent years, Autodesk has implemented large-scale redundancies, without demonstrating the use of practices mitigating the effects on affected employees.

Branche: Metals & Mining

ISIN: LU1704650164

Land: LU

Company Profile

Befesa SA is a services holding company, which engages in the collection and recycling of steel dust and aluminium residues. It operates through the Steel Dust Recycling Services; and Aluminium Salt Slags Recycling Services segments.

Analyst Opinion Sustainability Opportunities

Befesa operations provide clear environmental benefits as they contribute to increasing overall raw material use efficiency in the metals industry. The development of recycling solutions further promotes the transition towards a more sustainable circular economy.

Analyst Opinion Sustainability Risks

Befesa's operations are mainly exposed to ESG issues related to the safety of workers involved in material recovery and the handling of recycling equipment, energy efficiency and climate protection, and further environmental impacts of its metal recycling and production operations (e.g. substances for concern). The company has implemented a group-wide health and safety management system certified to international standards. Though the accident rates of its employees and contractors are comparatively high, they show a decreasing trend and not fatal accident occurred in the recent years. Befesa further adheres to the UN Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The environmental risks and impacts of its operations are dealt with in a sound manner, amongst others through the company's environmental and energy management systems certified to ISO 14001 and ISO 50001. To contribute to climate protection, Befesa is committed to reducing greenhouse gas emissions and discloses its emission inventories. However, the company did not set a clearly defined climate target. Evaluation of the company's environmental data indicate a stable carbon intensity of production, yet, an increasing energy intensity of production. Respective intensity values of freshwater use and waste are decreasing. To respond to risks resulting from substances of concern, Befesa has implemented advanced hazardous waste and effluent treatment technologies, and developed emergency response plans. Air pollutants are also treated, though no evidence on specialized air emissions treatment and monitoring is provided. To ensure business integrity, Befesa has published a group-wide code of business conduct as well as additional policies covering all relevant topics such as the prohibition of corruption and facilitation payments, anti-competitive practices, and insider trading. Guidance on conflicts of interest and gifts is also provided. Several compliance procedures are in place, e.g., compliance trainings, risk assessments, and confidential and anonymous reporting channels.

BENESSE HOLDING

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Branche: Education

ISIN: JP3835620000

Land: JP

Company Profile

Benesse Holdings, Inc. provides educational, senior nursing care, and childcare services in Japan and internationally. The company operates through four segments: Domestic Education, Global Kodomo Challenge, Nursing Care and Childcare, and Berlitz.

Analyst Opinion Sustainability Opportunities

Benesse Holdings is mainly active in education (67.3% of net sales in 2019) as well as child- and nursing care (27.4%).

Benesse Holdings' educational and childcare products and services contribute to the achievement of the global sustainability objective of delivering education for all. In addition to that, the company's nursing care services enable elderly and impaired persons to better participate in daily life and therefore maintain a better state of physical, mental and social well-being.

Analyst Opinion Sustainability Risks

For education companies, main sustainability challenges are related to the quality and inclusiveness of educational services, responsible marketing and sales practices, data protection and information security, employee relations, as well as the resource-efficiency of campus operations. Benesse Holdings is a member of the UN Global Compact and addresses some employee-related issues at least at the parent company and domestic subsidiaries. To enhance access to education for students from underserved background the company provides distance-learning offers and teaching materials for disabled students, and offering scholarships. The company has also established a general policy on data protection and guarantees the security of information through an information security management system. Yet, there are no indications of procedures to ensure responsible sales practices, or measures to prevent and reduce adverse impacts of economic constraints on the quality of teaching. On the environmental side, Benesse Holdings is committed to reducing greenhouse gases emissions and has set relevant reduction targets. Some of the company's operations are also covered by an environmental management system, certified to an internationally acknowledged standard, ISO 14001. However, there is no evidence of specific initiatives to increase the energy efficiency of buildings or a strategy regarding student access to public transport or alternative forms of transportation. Nevertheless, the overall sustainability risk exposure of education companies like Benesse Holdings is comparatively low.

Branche: Construction

ISIN:GB00B02L3W35

Land: UK

Company Profile

The Berkeley Group Holdings Plc engages in the development of residential and mixed-use properties. It operates through the following brands: Berkeley, St. James, St. George, St. Edward, St. Joseph, and St. William. The company was founded by Anthony William Pidgley and Jim Farrer in 1976 and is headquartered in Cobham, the United Kingdom.

Analyst Opinion Sustainability Opportunities

Berkeley Group (Berkeley), a constructor of residential houses in the United Kingdom, has taken a very proactive approach to tackling the sustainability issues of its sector. For example, it has a comprehensive strategy to ensure that the communities it constructs take issues such as public transport or adaptability to the changing needs of residents into account. Similarly, a clear approach is in place to maximize the resource efficiency of homes.

Analyst Opinion Sustainability Risks

In the social sphere, Berkeley manages some risks such as customer health and safety rather well. It is also worth mentioning that the company is committed to paying a living wage (instead of the mere minimum wage) to all its employees. No convincing strategy is visible with regard to labor rights in the supply chain. However, as the company operates only in the homebuilding sector in the United Kingdom, the resulting risks must be considered lower than for those diversified construction companies with global operations. In terms of business ethics, the company's code covers corruption, as well as gifts, favors and entertainment in detail, but fails to address issues such as antitrust or insider dealings. Similarly, measures for whistleblower protection and non-compliance reporting are in place, yet, it remains unclear whether additional measures (e.g., compliance audits and trainings) have been taken. Regarding environmental risks, Berkeley demonstrates a reasonable strategy, with issues such as land use and biodiversity, as well as energy, water and resource efficiency during construction activities being proactively managed.



Branche: Packaging

ISIN: SE0000862997

Land: SE

Company Profile

BillerudKorsnäs AB engages in the manufacture and supply of renewable packaging materials. It operates through the following segments: Board, Paper & Solutions.

Analyst Opinion Sustainability Opportunities

BillerudKorsnas produces paper, consumer board and corrugated solutions packaging. The company could move its product portfolio in a more sustainable direction by integrating recycling aspects into its products and sourcing sustainable fibre for its production. Despite sourcing a considerable share of fresh fibre certified according to FSC and PEFC standards which contribute to the advancement of global sustainable goals, the company's initiatives for integrating recycling aspects into its product offering do not seem to be advanced. In this context, only a very small amount of recycled fibre is used in the production of the company's products and there is no indication of a strategy to increase the recycled content in its products. Moreover, BillerudKorsnas does not present a strategy to further improve the recyclability of its products and demonstrates only some steps to increase the recycling rates of its products.

Analyst Opinion Sustainability Risks

In the social domain, product safety constitutes a material sustainability issue for companies in the packaging industry. In this context, the majority of BillerudKorsnas' operations is certified according to the food safety management system ISO 22000 and the company has implemented comprehensive safety tests and assessments regarding product design and development. Despite the implementation of an adequate health and safety management system, BillerudKorsnas has been recently accused of unsafe working conditions due to accidents occurring at multiple facilities in Sweden. In this context, the company was also recently fined by Swedish authorities for one accident at its production plant. In the environmental domain, BillerudKorsnas pursues a comprehensive strategy to address relevant risks. The company demonstrates a positive performance regarding its greenhouse gas emission intensity and has set up a group-wide, certified environmental management system to mitigate the environmental impact of its direct operations and pursues a comprehensive climate change strategy including GHG emission reduction targets which are approved by the Science Based Targets initiative. Regarding the environmental impact associated with the company's products, BillerudKorsnas is clearly committed to improve the material efficiency of its products. Furthermore, the company conducts comprehensive life cycle assessments.



Branche: Health Care Equipment & Supplies

ISIN: FR0013280286

Land: FR

Company Profile

bioMérieux SA engages in the provision of in vitro diagnostic solutions, which determine the source of disease and contamination. The firm develops testing, detection, and other laboratory system for the analysis of cancer, diseases, and infections caused by bacteria, virus, and fungi. The company was founded Alain Mérieux in 1963 and is headquartered in Marcy l'Etoile, France.

Analyst Opinion Sustainability Opportunities

BioMérieux is active in the field of in-vitro diagnostics for both clinical and industrial applications. The company is specialized in the diagnosis of infectious diseases. BioMérieux's molecular biology products offer sustainable value, especially as they are the basis for personalized treatment options (e.g. for cancer patients). The company is also active in the analysis of food, pharmaceuticals, and environmental samples to determine their microbiological quality. Additionally, the company has a strong focus on helping to improve access to medicine in developing countries. BioMérieux tries to make diagnostics solutions easy to use, no matter what the situation of healthcare is like - e.g. "dry" HIV tests that do not need a very specific healthcare infrastructure or healthcare professional.

Analyst Opinion Sustainability Risks

From a social point of view, the reliability and safety of BioMérieux's products is a major challenge. The company manages this challenge well through a quality management system and through post-sales monitoring which entails customer feedback and complaints management. As bioscience and medical device companies purchase a variety of supplies from raw materials to finished products, supply chain management is another social issue. BioMérieux has an adequate supplier policy in place, but the company lacks comprehensive compliance measures and a strategy to avoid conflict minerals in its supply chain. As concerns business ethics, the company has a robust code of conduct in place, covering topics such as corruption, antitrust and interactions with healthcare professionals. Compliance with the code is assured through risk assessments, internal trainings and confidential reporting channels. Regarding environmental challenges, life-cycle thinking and initiatives to reduce the environmental burden of the company's products seem to be at a very early stage. Furthermore, the company's measures to reduce substances of concern in production and products do not seem to go beyond legal compliance.

CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAY

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Branche: Transport & Logistics

ISIN: CA1363751027

Land: CA

Company Profile

Canadian National Railway Company, together with its subsidiaries, engages in the rail and related transportation business.

Analyst Opinion Sustainability Opportunities

Canadian National Railways (CN) mainly offers rail freight services. Rail companies contribute to the solutions of global sustainability challenges through their services which enable transport of freight and passengers with low environmental impact in comparison to other modes of transport. Through its intermodal business CN offers several multi-modal transportation services such as truck pick-up and delivery, door-to-door, ramp-to-ramp and ocean shipping solutions, intermodal facilities and terminals, as well as double-stack with dockside access, enabling intermodal services availability from one operator. Intermodal transport accounts for around 25% of the company's total railway revenues. Through the promotion of intermodal transport services with low environmental impact transport modes, CN offers major sustainability opportunities.

Analyst Opinion Sustainability Risks

In order to adequately manage transport safety, Canadian National Railways (CN) has a comprehensive safety management system for its rail operations. In addition, the company has adequate procedures in place to manage stakeholder dialogue with residents and customers including two-way communication, cross-cultural training, and conflict resolutions with respect to Aboriginal communities along the company's rail lines. CN's accident rate per million train miles based on Federal Railroad Administration reporting criteria has decreased in recent years. The company's performance with regard to fuel intensity, which is based on comprehensive improvements regarding the fuel efficiency of rail transport, has improved in recent years. This also applies to further relevant environmental data including greenhouse gas emission intensities. CN acknowledges its responsibility regarding the protection of biodiversity along its tracks and has a strategy to prevent and mitigate adverse impacts of rail infrastructure on biodiversity. As a service provider for the transport of highly explosive goods such as crude oil, the company is subject to high risk regarding safe transport. To ensure safe transport of hazardous goods and substances, the company has in place several measures including staff training, audits, and an emergency response system.



Branche: Health Care Equipment & Supplies

ISIN: DK0010309657

Land: DK

Company Profile

Coloplast A/S develops and markets intimate healthcare products and services worldwide.

Analyst Opinion Sustainability Opportunities

The healthcare sector aims at providing solutions to the major challenges posed by health problems and diseases, which is positive from a sustainability point of view. Coloplast develops medical products in the areas of ostomy care, wound care, urology and continence care, which are of growing significance, especially in an aging society. Coloplast not only integrates medical aspects into product development, but also considers aesthetic and societal aspects in its design and offers e.g. catheters for women that rather look like a cosmetic product than a catheter. The company is also involved in working to improve access to health care in developing countries and remote regions, for example through the provision of healthcare training for professionals in China's Central and Western provinces. Clinicians are trained in ostomy, continence and wound care management.

Analyst Opinion Sustainability Risks

For Coloplast, from a social point of view, product-related risks arise from faulty or potentially harmful products. Coloplast integrates safety and usability aspects into its R&D processes, e.g. by nurse advisory boards and pre-market risk assessments. Regarding product tests, Coloplast carries out animal tests that are covered by a company policy that includes a commitment to adhere to the 3 Rs: Replace (use of non-animal testing methods), refine (reduce distress to animals) and reduce animal testing (using fewer animals to obtain the same level of information). For post-market surveillance, Coloplast monitors customer feedback and adverse events, and no Class 1 recall has occurred in recent years. Concerning business ethics, Coloplast has a good code of conduct in place that covers ethical interactions with healthcare professionals, and the company's compliance management system is comprehensive. As medical products might contain critical substances and single-use medical products produce rather large amounts of waste and packaging, the whole-life cycle of medical products should be taken into account from an environmental point of view. Coloplast systematically integrates life-cycle aspects into product design and manages the phasing out of critical substances by e.g. setting quantitative targets and monitoring progress. Yet, Coloplast does not demonstrate significant activities to design products for reuse or to increase the amount of recyclable components used.

CSX CORPORATION

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Branche: Transport & Logistics

ISIN: US1264081035

Land: US

Company Profile

CSX Corporation, together with its subsidiaries, provides rail-based freight transportation services.

Analyst Opinion Sustainability Opportunities

Rail companies contribute to global sustainability challenges through their services which enable transport of freight and passengers with low environmental impact in comparison to other modes of transport. CSX is mainly engaged in rail freight transportation and, through its subsidiary CSX Intermodal, provides integrated intermodal transportation, linking customers to railroads via trucks and terminals. CSX Intermodal owns and operates a system of intermodal terminals, provides truck pick-up and door-to-door services, and offers double-stack intermodal trains that allow the shipment by train, truck and vessel in a standard-sized container. Through the promotion of intermodal transport services with low environmental impact transport modes, CSX offers major sustainability opportunities.

Analyst Opinion Sustainability Risks

In order to adequately manage transport safety, CSX has implemented some important elements of a transport safety management system (e.g. safety policy, development of precautionary safety actions, staff training and emergency management) and offers some measures to protect its crew. However, the company's train accident rate (number of FRA-reportable train accidents per million train-miles) has remained stable at a common industry level over the last years. Moreover, since 2016, CSX is in the process of implementing large-scale redundancies. With regard to the environmental perspective, some risks are managed well by CSX. Several actions have been taken by the company to reduce its fuel consumption (e.g. collaboration with industry partners to develop a software tool that determines the optimal locomotive trip plan and reduces fuel consumption). Several of CSX's emission intensities (e.g. CO₂, SO_x and NO_x) and its fuel intensity have steadily decreased in recent years. As a service provider for the transport of dangerous goods such as crude oil and chemicals, the company is subject to high risk regarding safe transport. In this regard, the company has comprehensive measures in place to ensure the safe transport of hazardous goods and substances. Some shortcomings exist with regard to the use of renewable/alternative fuels in the company's fleet and a strategy to prevent and mitigate adverse impacts of rail infrastructure on biodiversity (e.g. biodiversity assessments, and special requirements for routes through protected areas).



Branche: Software & IT Services

ISIN: FR0000130650

Land: FR

Company Profile

Dassault Systemes SE, together with its subsidiaries, provides software solutions and services worldwide.

Analyst Opinion Sustainability Opportunities

Dassault Systèmes' software application portfolio includes solutions for digital manufacturing, realistic simulation, product data management, and enterprise business process collaboration. Dematerialisation software solutions, such as digital manufacturing and real-life visualisation and simulation, allow manufacturers to anticipate and to better manage the environmental impacts of their products. In addition, the production of physical prototypes becomes obsolete. Moreover, the company offers cloud computing solutions that, compared to on-premise solutions, can offer the potential for resource and energy savings. It is estimated, that the company generated 50% of its total revenue in 2018 with its cloud service solutions.

Analyst Opinion Sustainability Risks

In order to address the main environmental challenges related to its business activities, Dassault Systèmes has taken adequate steps to minimize the energy consumption of its data center operations, including server virtualization, aisle containment, and the transition to flash storage, a technology that reduces the amount of data and therefore helps saving space and reducing energy consumption. There is no indication that the company measures and discloses the power usage effectiveness (PUE) of its data centers. Yet, the company's computer equipment have received the 'Energy Star' certificate and the company has implemented various measures to reduce resource use and waste in its office operations. With regard to information security, Dassault Systèmes maintains an IT security framework including restricted access to critical and sensitive information, intrusion protection, and provides training with regards to IT security for its employees. Furthermore, the company's cloud-based services are certified according to the ISO 27001 information security standard.

Branche: Renewable Energy Operation

ISIN: ES0127797019

Land: ES

Company Profile

EDP Renovaveis, S.A., a renewable energy company, plans, constructs, operates, and maintains electricity generating power stations. The company operates wind and solar farms. As of December 31, 2019, it had an installed capacity of 4,553 megawatts in Europe; 6,342 megawatts in North America; and 467 megawatts in Brazil. The company was incorporated in 2007 and is headquartered in Madrid, Spain. EDP Renovaveis, S.A. is a subsidiary of EDP-Energias de Portugal, S.A.

Analyst Opinion Sustainability Opportunities

EDP Renovaveis is an integrated power company involved in the development, construction, and operation of renewable energy projects in Europe, North America, and Brazil. The company's project portfolio consists mostly of wind power and utility-scale solar power plants, thus contributing significantly to mitigating climate change and advancing the transition towards a more sustainable energy system. Through its projects in Mexico and Brazil, the company promotes the development of renewable energy sources in emerging markets.

Analyst Opinion Sustainability Risks

For a renewable energy project developer and operator, one of the key sustainability issues is to ensure the safety of employees, contractors and business partners involved in the construction, operation and maintenance of its wind and solar power plants. To address this, EDP Renovaveis has implemented a group-wide certified health and safety management system. The environmental risks of its projects remain limited and almost all of the company's operations are covered by a certified environmental management system. In addition, EDP Renovaveis manages the risk of local opposition to its renewable energy projects (i.e. mostly onshore wind power) through community outreach and consultation measures such as grievance mechanisms.

Branche: Real Estate

ISIN: SE0011166974

Land: SE

Company Profile

Fabege AB engages in leasing of office premises and property development. It operates through the following segments: Property Management, Property Development and Transactions. The Property Management segment focuses on operations of developed properties for its tenants. The Property Development segment involves ongoing projects. The Transactions segment focuses on transactions that can increase the contribution to the company's earnings. The company was founded in 1924 and is headquartered in Solna, Sweden.

Analyst Opinion Sustainability Opportunities

Fabege has no real estate properties with a high social benefit (e.g. in the area of community infrastructure or favorable lease conditions for tenants with a social focus). However, on the environmental side, 100% of total lettable area is certified to the green building standard BREEAM In-Use (as at 2019). Further, the company has set itself the target to certify all new buildings and major redevelopments according to the internationally recognized green building standard BREEAM.

Analyst Opinion Sustainability Risks

For a real estate company also active in property development, the main sustainability issues include the health and safety of employees, contractors and tenants, resource efficiency of buildings, and climate change related risks. Regarding the issue of health and safety, the company exclusively operates in Sweden, where high legal standards on worker health and safety prevail. Apart from general statements on well-being and safety, comprehensive strategies for the management of health and safety risks of tenants, however, are not demonstrated. In the environmental domain, the company has taken steps to improve the energy efficiency of its buildings and promotes the environmental awareness of tenants by including environmental clauses in its leases. In addition, Fabege procures environmentally certified wind power to cover the electricity demand of its property portfolio and a high share of the total energy consumption comes from renewable sources. Measures to improve the energy efficiency of its managed portfolio include, e.g., insulation, cooling, ventilation, and building automation systems. However, comprehensive strategies regarding energy efficiency of buildings and construction and demolition waste reduction are not evident.



Branche: Transport & Logistics

ISIN: GB0003452173

Land: UK

Company Profile

FirstGroup plc provides passenger transport services. The company operates through five segments: First Student, First Transit, Greyhound, First Bus, and First Rail.

Analyst Opinion Sustainability Opportunities

Firstgroup operates as a passenger transport provider in the bus and train segment. The company contributes to the solution of global sustainability challenges by improving access to basic transport services. In addition, low carbon-intensive transport modes such as bus and train promote sustainable development and the objective of fighting climate change. Firstgroup has also implemented some measures to promote intermodal transport (e.g. a bus app which enables door-to-door journey planning for bus services and other public transport modes; and exploration of opportunities to move to intermodal transport hubs).

Analyst Opinion Sustainability Risks

Transport safety is considered the main social risk for Firstgroup. In order to manage the safety of passengers and drivers adequately, the company has implemented a comprehensive transport safety management system. Various measures to manage relevant risks of its transport operations (e.g. conflict avoidance trainings, implementation of GPS systems, counselling for security incidents) are in place. The effectiveness of the measures is backed by a passenger injury rate related to road transport that has decreased in recent years. There's no evidence of adequate guidelines on responsible marketing and of a comprehensive approach to manage customer complaints. With regard to environmental risks, Firstgroup supports research into the use of alternative fuels and promotes the use of renewable propulsion systems within its fleet. Cooperation with suppliers is also conducted for the development of a gearbox software which optimises gear shift timing to reduce fuel consumption. However, the overall share of road vehicles with low emissions (NOx, particulate matter) still seems to be rather low. Except for GHG emissions, Firstgroup does not disclose environmental data (e.g. fuel intensity and NOx, SOx and PM emission) in a way that would allow for a trend assessment and fails to address further relevant aspects such as consideration of environmental aspects in buildings.

FIRST SOLAR

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Branche: Semiconductors

ISIN: US3364331070

Land: US

Company Profile

First Solar, Inc. provides photovoltaic (PV) solar energy solutions in the United States and internationally. It operates in two segments, Modules and Systems.

Analyst Opinion Sustainability Opportunities

First Solar designs, manufactures and delivers solar modules and systems for residential, commercial and utility-scale power plant customers. The company is specialized in the production of Cadmium Telluride (CdTe) solar modules. The company's products and services contribute significantly to the expansion of renewable energy sources and the transition towards a more sustainable energy system. In addition to their contribution to mitigating climate change, the company's solar modules are used for the promotion of renewable energy sources in emerging markets.

Analyst Opinion Sustainability Risks

For a producer of solar modules and systems, the main sustainability challenges are to ensure the safety of its employees, contractors and suppliers involved in the manufacturing process of its products. According to the company, all stages of manufacturing are entirely conducted in-house, which means there is no outsourced production. First Solar has implemented a group-wide certified health and safety management system and requires its suppliers to adhere with the RBA code of conduct that covers health and safety in detail. The company has also taken some measures to protect employees exposed to hazardous substances. While First Solar's management of hazardous waste remains unclear, the use of substances of very high concern as determined by EU REACH has been restricted. The company has set a target to limit its greenhouse gas emissions, and resource efficiency in recent years show a positive trend.

Branche: Construction Materials

ISIN: CH0030170408

Land: CH

Company Profile

Geberit AG engages in the development, manufacture, and distribution of sanitary products and systems for the residential and industrial construction industry.

Analyst Opinion Sustainability Opportunities

For companies active in the field of sanitary technology, opportunities with regard to sustainability are the conservation of water and the provision of reliable and affordable water management and sanitary solutions. Geberit comprehensively covers both issues as key topics within its sustainability strategy. The company conducts life cycle assessments (LCAs) and consistently focuses on eco-design in product development and modification, meaning all products are systematically optimised in terms of water-saving potential and other environmental aspects. Several of Geberit's product groups (accounting for more than 20% of the company's sales) achieve the highest classification class of the product classification system WELL (Water Efficiency Label) for water- and resource-saving products. Similarly, its water- and energy-saving, low-noise and durable products qualify Geberit as a provider for green building.

Analyst Opinion Sustainability Risks

Geberit shows a good performance in the main sustainability issues of energy- and resource-efficient production as well as worker safety and accident prevention. The company has implemented an integrated, group-wide, and externally certified management system for quality, environment, safety and energy. Since 1991, a comprehensive corporate eco-balance has been prepared each year as the basis for targeted measures to improve environmental performance. As a result, Geberit has managed to continuously improve eco-efficiency for several years, showing steadily increasing energy and water efficiency and decreasing greenhouse gas (GHG) and waste intensities. The company also calculates its overall, absolute environmental impact, which has also been continuously decreasing. In addition, as part of its climate change strategy Geberit has set a science-based target to reduce its absolute CO2 emissions. Moreover, it addresses the issue of take-back and recycling of products at the end of their service life. In order to ensure responsible business practices, Geberit has established a code of conduct which covers relevant issues such as antitrust violations, conflicts of interest, corruption and bribery, gifts and entertainment, insider dealings, and validity of financial information in detail. Corresponding compliance procedures include compliance training, compliance risk assessments and audits, and the provision of anonymous and confidential channels for reporting potential breaches of the code. The company allows little insight into third party anti-corruption due diligence and whistleblower protection.



Branche: Real Estate

ISIN: FR0010040865

Land: FR

Company Profile

Gecina SA is a real estate investment trust, which owns, manages, and develops property holdings. It focuses on the acquisition of land, construction of buildings, financing of the acquisition and construction operations, and sale of real estate rights or properties.

Analyst Opinion Sustainability Opportunities

Gecina's portfolio comprises offices, residential properties and student residences. Real estate projects with a high social benefit include student housing which contribute to social infrastructure. Due to the sale of its healthcare property portfolio in 2016, the percentage of properties with a high social benefit is now comparatively low. However, on the environmental side, properties constituting more than 50% of total floor space including in-use properties and properties under construction have been certified to the green building standard HQE (as at December 2019). In comparison to the industry average, this percentage is high.

Analyst Opinion Sustainability Risks

Gecina has implemented strategies to safeguard the health and safety of employees, tenants and customers. Important elements of a health and safety management system are in place. Additionally, Gecina has a risk management system to reduce tenant and customer exposure to health and safety risks. The risk management system includes risk mapping and assessment, audits and action plans. Preventive guidelines which also apply to construction and refurbishment activities are part of the company's proactive approach. Concerning the company's steps towards reducing negative impacts from construction on neighborhoods, only single measures are reported. Environmental issues such as climate change and resource efficiency are addressed by the company through setting energy and greenhouse gas reduction targets for all of its operations. In addition, the company has set a science-based target which is aligned with the goal to limit the global temperature increase to 2° C compared to pre-industrial levels. To achieve these targets, Gecina has implemented an environmental management systems as well as an energy management system which obtained ISO 50001 certification. In addition, the company has a strategy to reduce the energy efficiency of its buildings. Decreasing energy and greenhouse gas intensities indicate progress towards the company's targets. Further, the company's strategy also addresses water use minimization. Finally, Gecina promotes environmental awareness amongst its tenants and gives reasonable consideration to biodiversity.

HANNON ARMSTRONG SUSTAINABLE INFRASTRUCTURE CAPITAL



Branche: Financials/Specialised Finance

ISIN: US41068X1000

Land: US

Company Profile

Hannon Armstrong Sustainable Infrastructure Capital, Inc. provides capital and services to the energy efficiency, renewable energy, and other sustainable infrastructure markets in the United States.

Analyst Opinion Sustainability Opportunities

Hannon Armstrong Sustainable Infrastructure Capital (HASI) is a financial firm specialized in funding renewable energy, energy efficiency, energy storage and other forms of sustainable infrastructure, including climate adaptation measures. Its entire balance sheet is committed to combating climate change. 93% of revenues are estimated to be connected to renewable energy and/or energy efficiency measures. The remainder is concentrated in green real estate and sustainable infrastructure. Therefore, the company's business model is entirely aligned to contribute to the resolution of global sustainability challenges, primarily climate change.

Analyst Opinion Sustainability Risks

The nature of Hannon Armstrong Sustainable Infrastructure Capital's (HASI) business, climate-related finance, is associated with less risk than other forms of (energy-) finance. Nevertheless, the company has developed some further policies to mitigate adverse effects of the assets it funds. Through its environmental and sustainability investment policy it implements some safeguards for lending and investment decisions, in particular, regarding the environment. For example, the company attempts to reduce the impact of wind energy plants on bird and bat life. HASI also measures carbon emissions avoided by its portfolio through renewables energy penetration. The company does not engage with retail customers and the risk associated with customer and product responsibility hence appears limited. However, it also has no discernible strategy in place for ensuring adequate customer and product responsibility for its professional customers. HASI has less than 100 employees but does not particularly address staff-related risks, such as psychological well-being or facilitation of work-life balance. The company's business ethics setup is robust. The code of conduct covers most relevant topics and it is accompanied by various suitable compliance measures.



Branche: Insurance

ISIN: DE0008402215

Land: DE

Company Profile

Hannover Ruck SE, together with its subsidiaries, provides reinsurance products and services worldwide. It operates through Property & Casualty Reinsurance, and Life & Health Reinsurance segments.

Analyst Opinion Sustainability Opportunities

Hannover Rück is particularly active in the area of government-assisted health microinsurance solutions and reinsures index-based insurance. In addition, the company is part of the African Risk Capacity Pool, Caribbean Catastrophe Risk Insurance Facility and National Disaster Fund Deutschland to provide alternative risk transfer tools and catastrophe pools in developing countries. Hannover Rück also offers reinsurance for annuity products in the UK targeting people with pre-existing conditions; as well as for renewable energy generation covering income loss due to lack of wind or sunshine and energy-saving warranties. Although these offers are relatively comprehensive compared to the industry as a whole, they do not constitute the main business of the company.

Analyst Opinion Sustainability Risks

For a company only active in reinsurance, main sustainability risks lie in the areas of underwriting and own investments, and less in the area of customer and product responsibility. There is, so far, no evidence of underwriting guidelines. However, Hannover Rück SE engages in extensive research and product development activities regarding climate change, resource scarcity, demographic change and diseases of civilisation like obesity. The company has set greenhouse gas emission reduction targets and implements an action plan for its own operations, however, apart from single exclusions of carbon-intensive sectors (e.g., certain issuers generating more than 25% of revenue from mining or burning coal, certain coal-fired power plants and coal mines) there is little evidence of a climate change strategy covering indirect emissions stemming from the company's corporate value chain (reinsurance and investment). In addition to these climate change related exclusions, investment guidelines cover various exclusion criteria, including controversial environmental practices, violations regarding human rights and labour rights, and corruption. The company monitors its portfolio and has defined a divestment process. Staff-related risks are well-addressed through mental health measures and comprehensive work-life balance options. There is a comprehensive commitment to responsible restructuring for Hannover Rück's workforce in Germany and no significant job cuts have taken place in recent years. Moreover, important business ethics compliance procedures are implemented.

Branche: Household & Personal Products

ISIN: DE0006048432

Land: DE

Company Profile

Henkel AG & Co. KGaA, together with its subsidiaries, engages in the adhesive technologies, beauty care, and laundry and home care businesses worldwide.

Analyst Opinion Sustainability Opportunities

Henkel's product portfolio mainly consists of household and personal care products as well as consumer and industrial adhesive technologies, which do not intrinsically provide a direct and substantial contribution to global sustainable development challenges. Yet, some products clearly contribute to sustainability objectives such as ensuring health (e.g., oral care products), and sustainable energy use and the mitigation of climate change (e.g., insulating materials). Moreover, the company shows initial efforts to shift its portfolio to a more sustainable direction, by offering products with an added social and/or environmental value (e.g., Ecocert certified). In addition, Henkel has implemented some measures to promote these products, including marketing campaigns, product placement strategies as well as training of sales personnel. The share of these products and measures in terms of sales is still negligible, though.

Analyst Opinion Sustainability Risks

One of the main sustainability challenges for Henkel is consumer safety. Most aspects of consumer safety such as safety assessments of products as well as the provision of relevant product safety information to consumers are handled well. Shortcomings are especially exhibited regarding transparent and clearly understandable information on products which contain substances of concern (e.g., phthalates, parabens and triclosan). Through the sourcing of raw materials for its products, Henkel is also subject to social and environmental risks in its supply chain, and has developed a systematic approach to responsible sourcing. Yet, the company falls short in providing clear information on the main raw materials used in its products as well as exact amounts. With regard to palm oil, Henkel acknowledges its responsibility and seeks to drive progress in the physical certification of the palm and palm kernel oil supply in order to prevent deforestation. Accordingly, Henkel has established the goal to cover its entire purchasing volume with the RSPO Mass Balance certification by 2020. As at 2019, 83% percent of the purchasing volume is covered by this certification. Moreover, as a company which uses soy, soy protein, and cotton as raw materials for its products, Henkel is exposed to the risk of purchasing and using genetically modified raw materials. There is no evidence of a policy or measures to address this issue. Furthermore, the company shows efforts to reduce the overall environmental footprint of its products and operations through the systematic use of lifecycle assessments as well as measures to reduce the impact of packaging.

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Branche: Furniture & Fittings

ISIN: US6005441000

Land: US

Company Profile

Herman Miller, Inc. engages in the research, design, manufacture, and distribution of office furniture systems, seating products, other freestanding furniture elements, textiles, home furnishings, and related services worldwide.

Analyst Opinion Sustainability Opportunities

Herman Miller Inc. manufactures and sells office furniture systems, seating products, other freestanding furniture elements, textiles, and home furnishings. The company has obtained relevant sustainability labels for a large share of its products, namely the Greenguard and BIFMA level labels. These certifications demonstrate the high sustainability performance of products in certain areas such as low emissions of harmful substances and efficient material use. However, with regards to wood procurement, the company has yet to show a comprehensive approach to ensure sustainable wood sourcing.

Analyst Opinion Sustainability Risks

Herman Miller's social and environmental risks can be associated mainly with the use of hazardous substances during production, which can subsequently gas off during the use phase and have significant negative effects on the indoor air quality. Further risks include, for example customer and occupational health and safety, as well as environmental impacts along the entire value chain, including procurement. The company performs rather well in relation to all of these issues. In terms of social risks, the company conducts safety tests for its products and has established a health and safety management system certified to international standards that covers more than half of its employees. With regards to environmental risks, Herman Miller operates so-called 'Design for the Environment' (DfE) principles. These encompass aspects such as durability of products, including the reparability and recyclability of parts. DfE also means that the company extensively uses lifecycle assessments in its design processes to optimize material chemistry and material use, and to make informed decisions about the environmental impact of products from the design stage. In addition, the company's efforts to reduce its environmental impact during the production process are accompanied by a number of specific targets, such as reduction of energy and water consumption.

Branche: Semiconductors

ISIN: US4581401001

Land: US

Company Profile

Intel Corporation designs, manufactures, and sells essential technologies for the cloud, smart, and connected devices for retail, industrial, and consumer uses worldwide. The company operates through DCG, IOTG, Mobileye, NSG, PSG, CCG, and All Other segments.

Analyst Opinion Sustainability Opportunities

Intel is a producer of advanced integrated digital technology platforms that consist of a microprocessor and a chipset, and may be enhanced by additional hardware, software, and services. The company's devices are mainly applied in the computing and communications industries including products such as notebooks, desktops, servers, tablets, phones, and the Internet of Things (e.g. wearables, retail and manufacturing devices). Some Intel chips outperform peer products regarding energy efficiency. Intel's product portfolio includes key components for cloud computing infrastructures (approximately 10% of net sales in 2019). Centrally managed computing clouds have the potential to save energy and reduce related greenhouse gas emissions compared to on-premises servers. Intel's subsidiary Mobileye specializes in technology for autonomous driving. It offers advanced drivers assistance systems which improve road safety and are thus beneficial for human health. The revenue share attributable to this business line is very small.

Analyst Opinion Sustainability Risks

Intel produces the majority of its products at own production sites, mainly located in the US. The company also operates facilities in countries prone to labor rights violations such as China, Malaysia, and Vietnam and outsources the manufacturing of certain components to third-party foundries located in such countries. As a co-founding member of the Responsible Business Alliance, the company has sound labor policies and management systems in place for both in-house and outsourced production. Yet, Intel does not appear to adjust its purchasing practices to avoid repercussions, e.g. by entering into long-term agreements with suppliers. The company has been one of the leaders regarding responsible sourcing of conflict minerals and supports several initiatives that support in-region sourcing without financing armed rebel groups. Intel has established environmental and energy management systems. Furthermore, it mainly uses energy from renewable sources and constantly works towards emitting less greenhouse gases. While Intel reasonably safely disposes of hazardous waste, it does not display a comprehensive strategy to avoid using hazardous substances in production and to ban substances of concern in products. Intel has implemented major job cuts in recent years but it remains unclear how negative social impacts are mitigated.

INTERFACE



Branche: Furniture & Fittings

ISIN: US4586653044

Land: US

Company Profile

Interface, Inc., a modular flooring company, designs, produces, and sells modular carpet products primarily in the Americas, Europe, and the Asia-Pacific.

Analyst Opinion Sustainability Opportunities

Interface is engaged in the design, production and sale of modular carpet and rubber flooring. Environmental opportunities arise through production technologies to reduce waste and reclaim used carpet, allowing post-consumer material such as nylon to be recycled into new products. Besides used carpet, materials, which are recycled into new carpets, also include old fishing nets that would otherwise pollute oceans and coastal areas. The percentage of recycled and bio-based materials in the production of its carpets has increased in recent years and stood at 53% of total raw material use in 2019. Further environmental opportunities arise through products certified to sector-specific sustainability standards, which incidentally also contribute to the creation of sustainable buildings in general. It was estimated that such certified products constituted 10% of net sales in 2019. Therefore, there is still room for improvement in terms of increasing the share of such exemplary products.

Analyst Opinion Sustainability Risks

Interface's social and environmental risks can be associated mainly with the use of hazardous substances during production, which can subsequently gas off during the use phase and have significant negative effects on the indoor air quality. Further risks include occupational health and safety and the environmental management of production processes. In terms of the reduction of hazardous substances, the company has taken certain measures, such as removing PFC and PFAS in its products and having all products certified to relevant standards for low VOC emissions, including the Blue Angel and GreenGuard labels. It largely addresses the risks of occupational health and safety, as two of its manufacturing sites are certified to the OHSAS 18001 standard. In terms of environmental risks, the company has shown an exemplary performance in most of the issues, including a comprehensive strategy to product life extension and material efficiency, as well as a certified environmental management system at most of its manufacturing facilities. However, there is still room for development with regards to the topic of environmental management in the supply chain, as Interface has yet to establish a robust supplier policy regarding environmental issues as well as monitoring measures for compliance.



Branche: Retail

ISIN: GB0033195214

Land: UK

Company Profile

Kingfisher plc, together with its subsidiaries, supplies home improvement products and services primarily in the United Kingdom, Ireland, France, and internationally. The company also offers property investment, finance, digital, sourcing, and IT services.

Analyst Opinion Sustainability Opportunities

One fifth of Kingfisher's product portfolio is considered to be beneficial to global sustainability goals, including FSC/PEFC certified wood products, LEDs and insulation materials. Besides, Kingfisher pursues a convincing strategy to increase the share of sustainable home products, especially in comparison to its peers: there is a Sustainable Home Product Guidelines which provides clear definitions of product options considered to be sustainable by the company; the company targets to achieve 50% of group sales by 2020 to come from defined sustainable products. In addition, the company is currently reviewing the target and will extend it out to 2025 with a more ambitious target. Furthermore, a clear strategy to promote the sales of such product options is evident, e.g., through focused marketing campaigns and customer information as well as offering sustainability services such as product repair.

Analyst Opinion Sustainability Risks

Kingfisher demonstrates a sufficient sustainability management. In the social domain, Kingfisher shows a general commitment regarding labor rights protection through its UNGC signatory. However, there seems to be insufficient enforcement measures to ensure the compliance with UNGC principles (e.g., regarding freedom of association). Comparatively, labor rights in the supply chain are managed better through adequate supplier policies and reasonable compliance procedures. Regarding customer and product responsibility, the company has implemented general measures for relevant topics, including responsible marketing, data protection and provision of customer information. Yet, product safety is not sufficiently addressed. In the environmental domain, Kingfisher has a comprehensive climate change strategy with science-based greenhouse gas emission reduction targets. Moreover, there are adequate measures to improve transportation efficiency and energy efficiency in retail buildings. Some issues in relation to the sourcing and lifecycle of products sold are also sufficiently addressed: certain harmful chemicals (e.g., phthalates) are being phased out in all the own-brand products. Moreover, for fiber-based products, the company has comprehensive sustainable forestry standards and compliance measures in place. For electronic products, the company has taken initial steps to manage recycling impacts of the used products (e.g., take back option for customers, recycling partner with certified environmental management system).

Branche: Electronic Devices & Appliances

ISIN: JP3300600008

Land: JP

Company Profile

Konica Minolta, Inc. engages in Office, professional print, healthcare, and industrial businesses in Japan, the United States, European countries, China, other Asian countries, and internationally.

Analyst Opinion Sustainability Opportunities

Konica Minolta's portfolio mainly consists of printers for both office and professional use. Almost all of the company's printing equipment has been awarded the Energy Star certification for their energy efficiency (accounting for about 75% of total net sales in 2019). In addition, Konica operates a healthcare segment that mainly includes diagnostic equipment, which contributes to meeting global health challenges. This segment accounted for about 10% in 2019 and has been constantly growing in recent years.

Analyst Opinion Sustainability Risks

As a member of the Responsible Business Alliance (RBA) and a signatory to the UN Global Compact, Konica has comprehensive labor rights policies in both its in-house as well as outsourced production. Its labor risks in its assembly lines in China and Malaysia are addressed with measures, such as cooperation with trade unions and audits. The company has a sound health and safety management system, which is partly OHSAS 18001-certified, with adequate measures for the protection of workers exposed to hazardous substances. Risks in the supply chain are addressed with the binding RBA Code of Conduct and accompanied by reasonable) compliance procedures. With respect to conflict-free sourcing of raw materials, Konica implements due diligence procedures but shows no initiative to go beyond the US Dodd-Frank Act by covering further minerals and/or regions. Konica manages its energy and water use, material efficiency, and GHG emissions through targets setting and concrete programmes, which in turn yield decreasing intensities in most aspects. Especially noteworthy is that the company sets science-based GHG emission reduction targets covering its whole supply chain. The company manages hazardous substances in products and production in the context of compliance (e.g. with EU RoHS), but a proactive phase-out of further chemicals is not amongst the company's initiatives. Regarding the end-of-life of products, whereas adequate take-back options are offered in countries with relevant WEEE legislation, take-back in countries without legislation appears to be rather limited.

KURITA WATER INDUSTRIES



Branche: Utilities/Environmental Services

ISIN: JP3270000007

Land: JP

Company Profile

Kurita Water Industries Ltd. engages in the provision of water treatment solution products, technology, and maintenance services.

Analyst Opinion Sustainability Opportunities

Kurita Water Industries' products and services provide clear environmental benefits as they clearly contribute to conserving freshwater resources. The company's water treatment solutions reduce pollutants and harmful substances leading to a reduction of negative environmental impacts of wastewater streams.

Analyst Opinion Sustainability Risks

Kurita Water Industries' main risks include efforts to apply environmental standards for wastewater treatment, reduce environmental impacts of sewage sludge disposal, limit energy consumption during production processes, and sustainable management of chemicals. Kurita Water Industries is a Japanese company with approximately 60% of its employees being based in Japan. Just recently, in June 2020, the company became a member to the UN Global Compact, adhering to the organization's principles on human rights, labor, environment and anti-corruption. Kurita Water Industries has implemented an environmental management system with more than 40% of operations being certified according to ISO 14001 standards. To mitigate water risks and impacts, the company continuously monitors data on water intake, sources, discharge, and recycling. Though water treatment and purification belongs to Kurita Water Industries' core business, limited disclosure does not allow for a conclusive performance assessment of management procedures to ensure quality of treated water. For example, the company does not specifically address whether or to what extent it removes contaminants and suspended solids. Kurita Water Industries has implemented some measures to improve the energy efficiency of its production processes. While the company is committed to reducing its carbon footprint and reports on its greenhouse gas emissions, it has not yet set a climate target or developed an action plan. Further, data shows that the company's carbon and energy intensities in Japan have increased in recent years. As a provider of water treatment systems and facilities, occupational health and safety standards are also of significant importance. Kurita Water Industries has implemented a sound health and safety management system in Japan. No fatal accidents did occur at the company's operations in recent years and the accident rate of employees is at a common industry level. To ensure business integrity, Kurita Water Industries has established a group-wide code of business conduct covering relevant issues such as corruption and bribery, insider trading, and conflicts of interest to some extent. In addition, some corresponding compliance procedures are implemented (e.g., compliance risk assessments and anonymous reporting channels).

Branche: Textiles & Apparel

ISIN: AT0000644505

Land: AT

Company Profile

Lenzing AG engages in the production and marketing of botanic cellulose fibers. It operates through the following segments: Fibers, Lenzing Technik, and Other. The Fibers segment manufactures botanic cellulose fibers and markets them under the brands TENCEL, VEOCEL, and LENZING. The Lenzing Technik segment operates in the field of mechanical and plant engineering and offers engineering services. The Other segment covers the business activities of BZL-Bildungszentrum Lenzing GmbH, which provide training and development. The company was founded in 1938 and is headquartered in Lenzing, Austria.

Analyst Opinion Sustainability Opportunities

Lenzing supplies the textile and nonwovens industry with wood-based cellulose fibers. Its brands are TENCEL for textile applications, VEOCEL for nonwovens and LENZING for special applications in other areas, e.g., filter fibers. Due to significant activities with regard to ensuring the sustainable procurement of wood and fiber, it can be estimated that the company's product portfolio contains a large share of products that are certified to standards of sustainable forestry (estimated share of net sales 65% in 2019). In addition, the company demonstrates considerable efforts to shift its product portfolio in a circular direction, e.g., by introducing a comprehensive strategy to increase sourcing and use of recycled raw materials including recycled wood as well as also cotton.

Analyst Opinion Sustainability Risks

The company has own manufacturing operations in Europe, the United States, China and Indonesia. Its pulp mills are located in Austria and the Czech Republic. Wood and pulp is sourced from external suppliers only, as the company does not own or manage forests/plantations. Its risks mainly relate to human rights violations and staff accidents in the social sphere, as well as to wood sourcing from unsustainable sources and negative environmental impacts in the production processes in the environmental sphere. The company procures a significant share of wood/fiber from sustainably certified forest management and all other wood/fiber is procured under a certified traceability system, which enables the company to have good control over this important raw material stream. With regard to production processes, the company shows several activities to reduce substances of concern, but lacks a comprehensive approach to assess and manage water use and water-related risks. A good strategy for addressing climate change is in place. Issues related to health and safety of employees are managed well by the company, while its approach towards safeguarding human rights should be deepened further.

Branche: Machinery

ISIN: DE000A0D6554

Land: DE

Company Profile

Nordex SE, together with its subsidiaries, develops, manufactures, and distributes multi-megawatt onshore wind turbines worldwide.

Analyst Opinion Sustainability Opportunities

Nordex is exclusively involved in the development, manufacturing, and servicing of wind turbines for onshore power generation. The company's products and services contribute significantly to the expansion of renewable energy sources and the transition towards a more sustainable energy system. In addition to environmental benefits related to its part in fighting climate change, the company promotes the development of renewable energy sources in emerging markets. Furthermore, Nordex is committed to optimizing the energy efficiency of its products and the company discloses general information on the progress made for some products in this regard.

Analyst Opinion Sustainability Risks

For a provider of wind turbine equipment, the main sustainability challenges are to ensure the safety of employees, contractors, and business partners involved in the construction, operation, and maintenance of wind power plants as well as to ensure product safety and to reduce environmental and social impacts during the entire life cycle of its products. Occupational health and safety is addressed through certified management systems at a group-wide level and the company shows a decreasing work-related accident rate, which serves as an indication of the efficacy of the measures taken by the company. Regarding product safety, the company conducts safety tests and assessments and discloses general information on measures implemented to reduce noise emissions of all relevant products. For some relevant products, customers are also provided with safety data sheets and induction training, and the company monitors the safety performance of its products during the use phase. On the environmental side, Nordex has implemented comprehensive and certified environmental management systems and is committed to reducing its greenhouse gas emissions. However, environmental performance data regarding energy, greenhouse gas emissions, water, and waste shows an increasing trend. In 2019, Nordex started to conduct product life cycle assessments, but only for parts of its products. The company has also implemented a comprehensive approach to integrating longevity in product design and shows some other examples related to the extension of useful product life. Furthermore, the company discloses key materials used in its products and provides some information on measures taken to optimize the material efficiency of products and in production processes.

ORMAT TECHNOLOGIES

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Branche: Renewable Energy Operation

ISIN: US6866881021

Land: US

Company Profile

Ormat Technologies, Inc. engages in the geothermal and recovered energy power business in the United States, Indonesia, Kenya, Turkey, Chile, Guatemala, New Zealand, Honduras, and internationally.

Analyst Opinion Sustainability Opportunities

Ormat Technologies is mainly engaged in the sale of electricity from its geothermal, solar PV, and recovered energy-based power plants (accounting for 72% of total revenues in 2019). In addition, the company is involved in the design, manufacturing, and sale of equipment and services for geothermal and recovered energy-based power plants (26% of total revenues in 2019). Power generation from renewable energy sources, such as geothermal, contributes significantly to the fight against climate change and to the transition towards a more sustainable energy system. With some of its projects located in Kenya, Guatemala and Honduras, the company is also engaged in the development of renewable energies in emerging markets.

Analyst Opinion Sustainability Risks

For a geothermal energy project developer and operator, one of the key sustainability issues is to ensure the safety of employees, contractors and business partners involved in the construction, operation and maintenance of its power plants. Ormat Technologies has implemented some group-wide health and safety management structures. However, as the company does not provide comprehensive information on accident rates and on-site fatalities in recent years, it cannot be excluded that fatal accidents have occurred. Environmental risks related to most of its geothermal drilling projects are dealt with through certified environmental management systems and environmental impact assessments during the operation phase of its plants. It remains unclear whether Ormat Technologies adequately manages the risk of local opposition to its geothermal energy projects (e.g. through community outreach and consultation measures).



Branche: Utilities/Electric Utilities

ISIN: DK0060094928

Land: DK

Company Profile

Ørsted A/S engages in the provision of renewable energy solutions and operates through the following business segments: Wind Power, Bioenergy & Thermal Power, Distribution & Customer Solutions and Other Activities.

Analyst Opinion Sustainability Opportunities

Ørsted's is in the process of divesting its power distribution segment. In 2017, the company sold its oil and gas business to Ineos. In 2019, Ørsted generated most of its energy from renewable sources (wind power 55%, biomass 31%). The remainder was derived from natural gas (5%) and coal (9%). The share of renewables in energy generation has exhibited a marked increase in recent years and is expected to reach 99% by 2025, owing to the planned conversion of all coal-fired power plants to sustainable biomass (mainly wood pellets and wood chips) and significant investments in wind power projects. Given the company's strong focus on the promotion of renewables, the carbon intensity of energy generation has reached a low level and amounted to 65 g/kWh in 2019. Overall, Ørsted makes significant contributions to the fight against climate change and the transition towards a more sustainable energy system.

Analyst Opinion Sustainability Risks

Ørsted has established a progressive climate change strategy and aims to reduce its emissions by 98% by 2025 compared to 2006 levels (covering scopes 1 and 2). In doing so, the company targets a carbon intensity of energy generation of less than 10 gCO₂e/kWh by 2025. Ørsted has also set itself a scope 3 emissions reduction target (50% by 2032 compared to 2018 levels). In addition, the thermal efficiency of the company's remaining fossil fuel-fired power plants has been consistently high and amounted to 77% in 2019. In terms of renewable energy generation, sound measures are in place to mitigate adverse environmental impacts from wind power assets. Besides, the company has implemented a comprehensive strategy to ensure the sourcing of sustainable biomass. Ørsted has well-established health and safety management systems which also cover contractors working at the company's sites. The company's accident rates among own employees and contractors are at a common industry level, with the employee accident rate exhibiting an increasing trend. In addition, there has been a fatal accident of a contracted worker in 2019. Ørsted has a detailed code of business conduct that provides guidance on all relevant issues, including corruption, insider trading and antitrust violations. Compliance procedures designed to help enforce the code are equally comprehensive and include trainings, audits and an anonymous whistleblowing channel.

Branche: Media

ISIN: GB0006776081

Land: UK

Company Profile

Pearson plc provides educational products and services to governments, educational institutions, corporations, and professional bodies worldwide. The company operates through North America, Core, and Growth segments.

Analyst Opinion Sustainability Opportunities

Pearson's products and services have the potential to contribute to the achievement of the global sustainability objective of delivering education for all. The company has also taken some steps to make its products more affordable and accessible for disadvantaged groups worldwide.

Analyst Opinion Sustainability Risks

The company has established general guidelines committing to editorial independence and ethical research, and has implemented various compliance procedures regarding editorial ethics. Due to its offering of digital content, issues related to information security and data protection are also material. The company has adopted a general policy on data protection and measures to ensure information security are also in place. Management of staff-related issues (e.g., health and safety, non-discrimination, employment security) is another key challenge for media companies. The company has implemented a group-wide health and safety management system and adopted reasonable policy on non-discrimination with corresponding measures to promote diversity. Pearson is also a member of United Nations Global Compact, which reflects the company's strengthened commitment with regard to labor and human rights. However, in the course of its global restructuring program launched in 2017, around 3,000 employees had to leave the company and only very limited measures to minimize the hardship for affected employees have been implemented. On the environmental side, the company also faces risks associated with the responsible resource use, and the energy efficient management of its office and data center operations. The company has developed a comprehensive climate change strategy and set relevant environmental targets. The company's efforts are also reflected in decreasing energy and greenhouse gas emission intensities in recent years. As the company is also active in book publishing, the company also faces risks related to the paper supply chain. The company has a reasonable supplier policy in place, covering main social and environmental aspects. To ensure compliance, Pearson also conducts on-site audits to check compliance of its key suppliers. Overall, being a media company mainly active in educational publishing and services, Pearson's risk exposure with regard to sustainability issues is comparatively low.



Branche: Utilities/Environmental Services

ISIN: GB00B18V8630

Land: UK

Company Profile

Pennon Group Plc engages in the provision of water management and sewerage services.

Analyst Opinion Sustainability Opportunities

Pennon Group offers waste collection, disposal, recycling and recovery services through its subsidiary Viridor. The recycling of waste is generally regarded as a beneficial environmental service, as it reduces pollution of improperly disposed waste and enables the recovery of valuable resources. Furthermore, the subsidiaries South West Water and Bournemouth Water contribute to ensuring health and conserving freshwater resources by providing water supply, purification and wastewater treatment services. Various programs to support socially and economically disadvantaged customers are implemented.

Analyst Opinion Sustainability Risks

In line with regulatory requirements, Pennon Group addresses environmental risks related to water services in its water resources management plan and provides details on its long-term strategy in this regard. Moreover, an adequate management framework is in place to ensure the sustainable withdrawal of water and to reduce leakages from the drinking water system. Yet, environmental aspects of wastewater treatment, e.g., environmentally safe operation of waste incineration plants and landfill sites, are not as thoroughly addressed. The company's subsidiary Viridor has a comprehensive strategy to facilitate waste recycling, targeting to reach a recycling and recovery rate of 70% by 2020, and is engaged in energy recovery from waste at several sites. Pennon Group performs well with regard to climate protection. South West Water aims to support the UK Government's target of an 80% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions until 2050. In addition, Pennon Group has set annual sustainability targets which aim for a reduction of 150,000 tons CO₂e at South West Water and Bournemouth Water, and for a 10% reduction in emissions from landfills at Viridor. To achieve these targets, the company has set various sub-goals, reports on its progress in achieving the targets, and has implemented measures to improve its energy efficiency and increase its use of renewable energy sources. While certified health and safety management systems are established across the group, the company's accident rate of its own employees is comparatively high, and no information is provided regarding the accident rate of on-site contractors. Pennon Group has a comprehensive code of business ethics, covering all relevant issues such as corruption, antitrust violations, or insider trading. Corresponding compliance procedures, such as compliance trainings, risk assessments, audits, and confidential reporting channels are implemented.

Branche: Electronic Devices & Appliances

ISIN: JP3973400009

Land: JP

Company Profile

Ricoh Company, Ltd. provides various office and commercial printing solutions and related solutions worldwide.

Analyst Opinion Sustainability Opportunities

About half of the Ricoh's net sales are generated with products that meet the US Environmental Protection Agency's Energy Star standards for their excellent energy efficiency performance. In addition, Ricoh offers healthcare devices and solar power facility operation and maintenance as part of its Eco Solutions portfolio. However, such solutions do not yet account for relevant shares of net sales.

Analyst Opinion Sustainability Risks

As a signatory to the UN Global Compact, Ricoh has duly established policies covering the fundamental labour rights, including freedom of association and equality. Safeguarding measures include human rights trainings and CSR self-assessments at operations with the highest risks, i.e. factories in China and Thailand. Regarding occupational safety, the company has yet to achieve a certification to an international standard (e.g. OHSAS 18001); however, there are sound measures to protect employees from exposure to hazardous chemicals. To address its supply chain, Ricoh sets forth some labour standards but without reasonable compliance measures. Further missing are indications on Ricoh's efforts in enabling key suppliers to improve working conditions. Conflict-free sourcing is addressed on a basic level. It is estimated that more than 50% of the company's minerals processors are conflict-free but there are no visible efforts to go beyond legal compliance by addressing further minerals on a worldwide scale. On the environmental front, Ricoh builds on its certified environmental management system and a comprehensive environmental action plan that covers reduction measures in all critical areas: GHG emissions as well as energy, water and material consumption. The company's GHG emissions reduction target is in line with the emission reductions required to limit the global temperature increase to well below 2°C compared to pre-industrial levels as approved by the Science Based Targets initiative. Conversely, the amount of renewable energy sourced is rather low. On product level, Ricoh ensures worldwide RoHS compliance and also banned at least some substances not yet covered by the directive. The company's options regarding take-back appear to be limited to mainly regulated markets, i.e. EU and the US. Ricoh uses R2-certified recycling partners to ensure proper dismantling and recycling of e-waste; however, it remains unclear whether this applies to all operations. The company has implemented large-scale layoffs in recent years without providing details on how social impacts for the affected workers are mitigated.



Branche: Construction Materials

ISIN: DK0010219153

Land: DK

Company Profile

Rockwool International A/S engages in the manufacture and development of stone wool. It operates through the Insulation and System segment.

Analyst Opinion Sustainability Opportunities

Rockwool is likely to benefit from the foreseeable increased need for effective temperature regulation and thus the conceivable further rise in demand for insulation materials. It has been conducting cradle-to-grave life cycle assessments (LCAs) for many years while maintaining and improving thermal characteristics of insulation materials. Moreover, the company incorporates the implications of these assessments into all areas of its operations: Being committed to the concept of a circular economy as outlined in the UN's SDGs, the company focuses on reclaiming waste and used products for recycling, using secondary raw materials from other industries as feedstock in its production and optimising resource efficiency in general and recycling rates in particular.

Analyst Opinion Sustainability Risks

Rockwool shows a good performance in the areas of energy- and resource-efficient production as well as worker safety and accident prevention. With regard to environmental issues, the company substantiates its sound effort through the implementation of a group-wide environmental management system. Moreover, energy management systems are in place at several sites and have been certified according to the ISO 50001 standard at single locations. The company's strategy for addressing climate change and related sector-specific risks includes clear and ambitious greenhouse gas emission reduction targets. Nevertheless, environmental data provide a mixed impression of the company's eco-efficiency performance: While the greenhouse gas emission intensity has slightly decreased in recent years, other air emission intensities have only remained stable. Water-related risks and impacts as well as material efficiency, on the other hand, are comprehensively managed and vested with concrete and measurable targets regarding water use reduction and recycling rates. In order to adequately manage social risks, Rockwool has set up an OHSAS 18001 certified health and safety management system. With regard to the important issue of business ethics, Rockwool has established a code of conduct which covers several relevant issues such as antitrust violations, corruption etc. Corresponding compliance procedures include compliance training, compliance risk assessments and audits, and the provision of anonymous and confidential channels for reporting potential breaches of the code. The company allows little insight into third party anti-corruption due diligence and whistleblowers protection.



Branche: Renewable Energy Operation

ISIN: NO0010715139

Land: NO

Company Profile

Scatec Solar ASA, together with its subsidiaries, operates as an integrated independent solar power producer. The company operates through Power Production; Operation and Maintenance; and Development and Construction segments. It is involved in the project design and development, financing, engineering, procurement, construction management, ownership, operation and maintenance, and asset management of solar photovoltaic power plants. The company has a total of 1.9 GW in operation and under construction in Argentina, Brazil, the Czech Republic, Egypt, Honduras, Jordan, Malaysia, Mozambique, Rwanda, South Africa, Ukraine, and internationally. Scatec Solar ASA was founded in 2007 and is headquartered in Oslo, Norway.

Analyst Opinion Sustainability Opportunities

Scatec Solar is an integrated solar power company involved in the development, construction and operation of solar power projects. The company's project portfolio is mostly characterised by utility-scale solar power plants, which significantly contribute to mitigating climate change and advancing the transition towards a more sustainable energy system. The company also promotes access to energy in emerging markets through various solar energy projects in e.g. Rwanda, Jordan, Brazil and Honduras.

Analyst Opinion Sustainability Risks

For a solar power project developer and operator, one of the key sustainability issues is to ensure the safety of employees, contractors and business partners involved in the construction, operation and maintenance of its solar power plants. Scatec Solar has implemented group-wide certified health and safety management systems, and has recorded decreasing consolidated accident rates for its employees and contractors in the last years. In addition, the company has set up adequate management procedures for risks related to labour rights and working conditions in its supply chain. While the company may face further risks related to the opposition of local communities towards large-scale solar power projects, it has implemented community outreach and consultation measures, including prior information on potential impacts and grievance mechanisms. To mitigate environmental risks, the company conducts comprehensive environmental impact assessments in the project planning phase.

SEVERN TRENT



Branche: Utilities/Environmental Services

ISIN: GB00B1FH8J72

Land: UK

Company Profile

Severn Trent Plc operates as a water and sewerage company in England and Wales.

Analyst Opinion Sustainability Opportunities

The purification of water as well as the provision of clean drinking water and sanitary services provided by Severn Trent respond to global sustainability challenges of providing access to water, which is recognized as a universal human right according to international law. To ensure affordability of water, Severn Trent has established sound programs for customers with payment problems. Further, as co-founder of WaterAid in the 1980s it continues to support the international non-governmental organization in projects to enhance access to clean drinking water in developing countries. The company contributes to fighting climate change by generating renewable energy from wind, hydropower, and anaerobic digestion of sludge etc., which is mainly used for own consumption.

Analyst Opinion Sustainability Risks

Severn Trent has planned significant investments and taken various measures to prevent leakage from sewerage systems and wastewater treatment plants, and subsequent pollution incidents through sewer flooding. In financial year 2020, the leakage rate of drinking water stood at 21%, though the company aims to reduce this rate in the future and has also set targets to reduce the water consumption of customers. Furthermore, a strategy to reduce environmental impacts of sewage sludge is implemented in accordance with environmental standards for agricultural use of sludge. The provision of drinking water requires adequate measures to ensure sustainable water withdrawal. In this regard, Severn Trent has established a comprehensive water resource management plan and addresses various relevant aspects including groundwater abstraction, the impact on climate change on water sources, and biodiversity issues, among others. Severn Trent clearly acknowledges climate change and is committed to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions. It aims to reduce its emissions by 10% until 2020 (compared to 2014) and has officially committed to setting a science-based target in line with the emission reductions required to limit the global temperature increase to well below 2°C compared to pre-industrial levels. Severn Trent has generally high safety and labor standards and reports a decreasing accident rate at in recent years. To ensure business integrity, Severn Trent has established a code of conduct and several additional policies that cover most relevant issues including corruption, antitrust, and insider trading. Reasonable compliance structures are in place and comprise compliance trainings, anonymous reporting channels, and whistleblower protection.

**Branche: Electronic Components****ISIN: NL0011821392****Land: NL****Company Profile**

Signify NV engages in the provision, development, manufacture, and application of lighting products, systems, and services. It operates through the following segments: Lamps, LED (Light-Emitting Diode), Professional and Home. The company was founded by Gerard Leonard Philips and Anton Frederik Philips in 1891 and is headquartered in Eindhoven, Netherlands.

Analyst Opinion Sustainability Opportunities

Signify (formerly "Philips Lighting") offers solutions for professional lighting (e.g. indoor and outdoor luminaires, lamps and lighting controls) and consumer lighting (e.g. fixtures and bulbs). LED-based products constituted 78% of total sales in 2019 and the company aims to further increase their share in the overall portfolio. LEDs outperform more conventional types of lamps in terms of efficiency and toxic potential, thus contributing to reducing global energy consumption and pollution.

Analyst Opinion Sustainability Risks

Signify maintains manufacturing facilities in more than 20 countries including key plants in China and Mexico where the risk of labor rights violations and environmental pollution is comparatively high. In addition, the company also faces risks in the supply chain as it increasingly turns to suppliers to produce products, parts, and components. As a member of both the UN Global Compact and the Responsible Business Alliance, Signify has sound policies in place regarding important labor rights such as non-discrimination and freedom of association for own employees as well as for its suppliers. The company has also implemented measures to ensure compliance with these standards. With regard to conflict minerals, Signify is committed to due diligence and continued in-region sourcing, and substantiates this claim by supporting relevant initiatives in the Democratic Republic of Congo. Notably, the company focuses on substances of concern. There are not only comprehensive measures to protect employees from exposure, but the company also aims to reduce the overall amount of chemicals as well as to ban specific substances from production. All of Signify's products comply with EU RoHS legislation and almost all other relevant substances such as phthalates, beryllium, arsenic, and antimony have been banned from the majority of its products. To manage resources efficiently, the company conducts detailed water risk assessments and compiles comprising inventories. However, Signify has not set clear targets regarding a reduction of its water and energy use.


Branche: Machinery
ISIN: SE000108227
Land: SE
Company Profile

AB SKF (publ) provides bearings, seals, condition monitoring, and lubrication systems. The company operates in two segments, Industrial and Automotive.

Analyst Opinion Sustainability Opportunities

While SKF's product portfolio, including bearings, seals, and lubrication systems, does not offer clear environmental or social benefits, the company's environment, health and safety policy includes a commitment to develop, manufacture and market products that are efficient in their use of energy. As part of the company's new climate objectives, it reports aggregated revenue data from application areas such as renewable energy generation, electric vehicles, recycling industry, and bearings manufacturing. In 2018, such revenues accounted for SEK 4.1 billion.

Analyst Opinion Sustainability Risks

The company addresses health and safety risks both with respect to its own operations and its products. Certified management systems are implemented at all group locations and the accident rate has decreased in recent years. Moreover, the company has a strategy to reduce the use of hazardous substances in its production processes. As far as SKF's products are concerned, company policies refer to safe handling and relevant information is provided to customers who receive training on product handling that also covers safety issues. SKF also bans relevant hazardous substances from its products and optimizes noise and vibration of critical bearing applications, thereby further assuming product responsibility. In terms of business ethics, SKF has established a comprehensive compliance system, including a detailed code of conduct and reasonable procedures to ensure compliance with the policy (e.g. risk assessments and audits, employee training, anonymous and confidential whistleblowing channels). As a company involved in the areas of rolling bearings, seals, mechatronics and lubrication systems, SKF mainly faces environmental risks in relation to material efficiency and longevity of products. It implements comprehensive strategies to address both, with a particularly notable performance regarding material efficiency. Weight is named as one key element considered during product development and the company uses concepts such as near-net-shape, referring to process technology to form components as close as possible to the final shape. Furthermore, longer service life is considered another key feature. In an effort to improve its environmental impact stemming from operations, SKF has implemented certified management systems at all sites, whose efficacy is reflected in decreasing energy, carbon, and water intensities.



Branche: Health Care Equipment & Supplies

ISIN: GB0009223206

Land: UK

Company Profile

Smith & Nephew plc develops, manufactures, and sells medical devices worldwide.

Analyst Opinion Sustainability Opportunities

The healthcare sector aims at providing solutions to the major challenges posed by health problems and diseases, which is positive from a sustainability point of view. Smith & Nephew's surgical devices segment (representing 73% of revenues in 2019) offers products such as knee and hip implants, whereas the wound management segment (27% in 2019) offers solutions for chronic, acute and surgical wounds. Regarding access to healthcare equipment, the company offers cost-effective alternatives designed for emerging markets such as low-cost camera systems or prosthetic solutions.

Analyst Opinion Sustainability Risks

Social risks regarding Smith & Nephew's products and operations mainly arise from potentially faulty or harmful products threatening patients' health. In terms of product safety, Smith & Nephew aims to integrate user safety into product design, has product safety protocols in place, and monitors safety and quality aspects after market launch. As Smith & Nephew purchases a variety of products from suppliers (e.g. raw materials, finished products, components), supply chain management is another important social issue. The company has a basic supplier code in place, but only somewhat ensures compliance through supplier audits and risk monitoring of some suppliers. Additionally, the company's approach to prevent conflict minerals in its products is one of the most advanced in the healthcare industry. Concerning business ethics, Smith & Nephew has a fairly good code of conduct in place, covering all relevant topics - including ethical interactions with healthcare professionals and responsible marketing practices. The company's thorough compliance structures consist of risk assessments, third-party due diligence and reporting channels. Further, the company provides training on topics such as corruption and evaluates the trainings' effectiveness regularly. Regarding environmental risks, Smith & Nephew only has a few initiatives in place in order to reduce the company's and its products' environmental footprint. The company seems to integrate life cycle thinking into design and is just beginning to conduct life cycle assessments of products. Further, the company has no management structures in place to reduce the amount of hazardous or critical substances used in production and products, which is a very important issue especially regarding surgical devices and implants.



Branche: Health Care Equipment & Supplies

ISIN: CH0012549785

Land: CH

Company Profile

Sonova Holding AG designs, develops, manufactures, and distributes hearing systems for adults and children with hearing impairment. It operates through two segments, Hearing Instruments and Cochlear Implants segments.

Analyst Opinion Sustainability Opportunities

The healthcare sector aims at providing solutions to the major challenges posed by health problems and diseases, which is positive from a sustainability point of view. Sonova mainly develops hearing aids and cochlear implants and helps patients who are hearing impaired. Sonova's solutions can contribute significantly to the patient's health and quality of life and Sonova has initiatives in place in order to enhance access to hearing aids in underserved countries through its corporate foundation. Furthermore, Sonova produces some of its custom-made products with 3D printers which significantly reduces material use.

Analyst Opinion Sustainability Risks

Product safety is a major social risk regarding medical devices. Faulty hearing aids can impair the patients' quality of life and especially faulty cochlear implants can have a big impact on patients' health. Sonova manages product risk on a basic level by applying the ISO 13485 quality standard for medical devices throughout the company. Furthermore, Sonova reports on products with enhanced safety features, e.g. the possibility of online-checks in emergency situations. Another important social issue is supply chain management, as medical device companies purchase materials, components and finished medical devices. Sonova has a good supplier code in place and manages compliance on a group-wide level. As concerns business ethics, Sonova's strong code of conduct and business ethics policies covers all relevant topics such as facilitation payments, interactions with healthcare professionals, and antitrust violations in varying degrees of detail. Additionally, the company has robust, group-wide compliance mechanisms in place, such as training, audits and a whistleblowing scheme. Responsible marketing guidelines seem to have been formulated, but a clear policy is not publicly available. Regarding environmental issues, Sonova manages environmental issues in the production process, conducts life-cycle assessments of new products in the design process and offers repair and refurbishment services. Additionally, the company aims to have zero substances of very high concern in products by 2022.

STEELCASE



Branche: Furniture & Fittings

ISIN: US8581552036

Land: US

Company Profile

Steelcase Inc. manufactures and sells integrated furniture settings, user-centered technologies, and interior architectural products. It operates through Americas, EMEA, and Other segments.

Analyst Opinion Sustainability Opportunities

Steelcase manufactures office furniture and custom-made office solutions. It also offers consultancy services with regards to workspaces. Environmental opportunities arise primarily from sustainability certificates awarded to products. Based on figures from past years, it can be assumed that more than half of the company's products by revenues are certified against relevant sustainability standards, including cradle-to-cradle (C2C) and BIFMA level. Several products also contribute to the achievement of credits needed for the LEED certification. These products are estimated to make up 20% of total revenue in 2020. Regarding wood procurement, it remains unclear whether the company uses wood from sustainable sources in its manufacturing process.

Analyst Opinion Sustainability Risks

Steelcase's social and environmental risks can be associated mainly with the use of hazardous substances during production, which can subsequently gas off during the use phase of products and have significant negative effects on the indoor air quality. Further risks are found in the areas of ergonomic design and occupational health and safety, and are also related to the environmental impacts along the entire value chain, including procurement, the longevity of products and the environmental footprint of production processes. The company performs rather well in relation to most of these issues. For example, it conducts comprehensive safety tests for its products and operates a group-wide health and safety management system. There is also a comprehensive strategy in place to ensure ergonomic design of products. Regarding environmental risks, Steelcase has implemented environmental management systems at all of its sites, with a majority also being certified to the international ISO 14001 standard. The company has also implemented several measures for product lifecycle extension. However, there is still room for improvement with regards to substances of concern and sustainable sourcing of wood.

STMICROELECTRONICS

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Branche: Semiconductors

ISIN: NL0000226223

Land: NL

Company Profile

STMicroelectronics N.V., together with its subsidiaries, develops, manufactures, and markets semiconductor products in EMEA, the Americas, and the Asia Pacific.

Analyst Opinion Sustainability Opportunities

STMicroelectronics (ST) is a manufacturer of semiconductor devices for a wide range of purposes. The company offers chips for automotive applications such as airbags and anti-lock brakes, which increase the safety of drivers as well as of other road users. Further, ST enables third parties to reduce climate-relevant emissions and to improve energy efficiency by providing photovoltaic integrated circuits and components for hybrid engines and cloud computing. The contribution of such products to net sales is, however, estimated to be quite low.

Analyst Opinion Sustainability Risks

ST's products are manufactured in company-owned production sites in Europe and Asia, as well as in external facilities. Production in Asia bears higher risks of labor rights violations and environmental controversies than in Europe. As a member of the Responsible Business Alliance and the United Nations Global Compact, the company effectively addresses these risks by establishing relevant labor and environmental standards and implementing corresponding programs to strengthen adherence in its own operations and in its supply chain. ST has implemented a reasonable system to avoid financing conflicts in the Democratic Republic of Congo through its minerals sourcing, demonstrated by the fact that it purchases a major share of relevant minerals from non-controversial sources. The company has in addition joined the Responsible Raw Materials Initiative, which addresses further issues of raw materials sourcing such as child labor. Beyond reducing hazardous substances to the levels defined by the EU RoHS directive, ST forgoes use of beryllium and phthalates in all its products and the use of brominated flame retardants in the majority of its products. The company aims to generally reduce hazardous substances use and has implemented technical solutions to this end. The processes in place to dispose of hazardous wastes are sound and reduce impacts on biodiversity and natural resources such as water bodies. Further, ST engages with its suppliers on management of environmental issues, in particular of water risks and greenhouse gas emissions.



Branche: Semiconductors

ISIN: US8676521094

Land: US

Company Profile

SunPower Corporation delivers solar solutions worldwide. It operates through SunPower Energy Services and SunPower Technologies segments. The company provides solar power components, including panels and system components, primarily to dealers, system integrators, and distributors.

Analyst Opinion Sustainability Opportunities

SunPower designs, manufactures and delivers solar modules and systems for residential, commercial and utility-scale power plant customers. The average conversion efficiency of its solar panels is relatively high compared to the industry average (i.e. above 20%). The company's products and services contribute significantly to the expansion of renewable energy sources and the transition towards a more sustainable energy system. In addition to their contribution to mitigating climate change, the company's solar modules are used for the promotion of renewable energy sources in emerging markets (e.g. in South Africa and Chile).

Analyst Opinion Sustainability Risks

As a producer of solar modules and systems, SunPower's mainly face a range of ESG challenges including labor standards and working conditions of its employees, contractors and suppliers involved in the manufacturing process of its products, resource conversation in production, hazardous substances and responsible sourcing of raw materials. SunPower has implemented a group-wide certified health and safety management system and its supplier standard covers health and safety aspects. The company manages environmental risks by means of certified environmental management systems at most of its operations. At the same time, SunPower has stated to optimize the energy efficiency of its products but no clear target has been set yet. Sunpower has implemented some measures regarding the safe handling and disposal of wastewater, but relevant measures for solid waste and air emissions seem to be missing. The company still fails to report essential environmental data of its outsourced production to estimate its actual environmental footprint. SunPower company has implemented worldwide restriction of substances covered by the EU RoHS legislation, but there are no visible efforts to restrict further substances of concern beyond the directive. With regard to conflict minerals, SunPower is committed to conducting due diligence and but part of its minerals processors have been verified as conflict-free by independent third-party audits. There appear to be no further efforts to go beyond legal compliance or client demands by addressing further related issues and further minerals on a global scale.



Branche: Insurance

ISIN: CH0126881561

Land: CH

Company Profile

Swiss Re AG, together with its subsidiaries, provides wholesale reinsurance, insurance, and other insurance-based forms of risk transfer worldwide. The company operates through four segments: Property & Casualty Reinsurance, Life & Health Reinsurance, Corporate Solutions, and Life Capital.

Analyst Opinion Sustainability Opportunities

Swiss Re offers index insurance in e.g. Africa and the Caribbean as well as NatCat bonds for developing countries. Moreover, the company is part of the Pacific Catastrophe Risk Insurance Pilot, the Caribbean Catastrophe Risk Insurance Facility and the African Risk Capacity. Weather index insurance is provided to 1.5 million smallholder farmers in several Sub-Saharan countries. In addition, insurance for wind energy generation covering income loss due to lack of wind is offered. Some of these activities are quite extensive in relation to the industry as a whole.

Analyst Opinion Sustainability Risks

As a large provider of reinsurance, Swiss Re's risks lie mainly in the area of underwriting as well as own investments. The company has developed a sustainability risk framework consisting of eight policies on sensitive sectors or issues in addition to human rights, labour rights, and environmental criteria for all sectors, which is applied to reinsurance, insurance and investments. A due diligence tool assesses individual business transactions. Sensitive sectors include palm oil, mining, and oil and gas. Arctic drilling and certain oil sands and fracking activities are excluded. With regard to employees, health and safety (including mental health) and work-life balance are well managed. There is a basic commitment to responsible restructuring. However, the company's climate change strategy addresses the value chain only to some extent. Measures to ensure customer and product responsibility are lacking but these are not as important due to the company's client base (mainly insurance companies and other business customers).

Branche: Furniture & Fittings

ISIN: FR0004188670

Land: FR

Company Profile

Tarkett SA engages in the manufacture of resilient flooring. It operates through the following segments: Europe, Middle East and Africa; North America; CIS, APAC and Latin America and Sports Surfaces. The EMEA segment produces and distributes vinyl and linoleum resilient flooring, carpet, wood flooring and laminate flooring. The North American segment offers commercial carpet, resilient flooring, rubber flooring, and vinyl and rubber accessories, with wood and laminate flooring accounting. The CIS, APAC and Latin America segment comprises residential vinyl flooring, wood flooring, and laminate flooring products. The Sports Surface segment focuses in the selling of artificial turf, athletic tracks, and indoor sports flooring. The company was founded on December 29, 1989 and is headquartered in Paris, France.

Analyst Opinion Sustainability Opportunities

Tarkett manufactures and sells different flooring solutions, ranging from carpets and wooden flooring to vinyl and sports surfaces. Sustainability opportunities for this company are associated with the certification of products according to sector-specific sustainability labels such as FSC for wood products or cradle-to-cradle (C2C) for products that are directed towards achieving a more circular and healthy economy. In 2019, more than 60% of the wood used in manufacturing was certified to a sustainable wood standard (FSC or PEFC), and 21 products achieved cradle-to-cradle certification. This shows that the company is set on a path to realising relevant sustainability opportunities. However, there is still room for improvement, for instance with regard to the scope of certification coverage.

Analyst Opinion Sustainability Risks

Tarkett's social and environmental risks can be associated mainly with the use of hazardous substances during production, which can subsequently gas off during the use phase and could have significant negative effects on indoor air quality. Further risks include occupational health and safety, and the environmental management of production processes. Tarkett has taken a systematic approach to addressing these risks, primarily by adopting cradle-to-cradle (C2C) principles throughout its business activities. For example, the company has set itself the target to achieve 100% low-VOC products and 100% phthalate-free vinyl flooring by 2020. The actual rates as at 2019 were 98% and 74% respectively. It has also implemented certified management systems with regards to health and safety and the environment at many of its manufacturing sites. With the exception of the energy intensity rate which has increased in recent years, a decreasing accident rate as well as decreasing intensity rates in water use and greenhouse gas emissions seem to validate their management efforts in these areas.



Branche: Transport & Logistics

ISIN: US9078181081

Land: US

Company Profile

Union Pacific Corporation, through its subsidiary, Union Pacific Railroad Company, engages in the railroad business in the United States.

Analyst Opinion Sustainability Opportunities

As a rail freight company, Union Pacific offers freight transport with a low environmental impact in comparison to other modes of transport. In addition, the company generates a significant proportion of its turnover with intermodal transport solutions which help to reduce the environmental impact of freight transport. As part of these activities, the company already operates several intermodal facilities and terminals in the U.S. and reports on the further expansion of its intermodal facilities network. Through its services, the company promotes sustainable development and the objective of fighting climate change.

Analyst Opinion Sustainability Risks

One of the main social risks for Union Pacific is transport safety. Apart from some elements, there is no evidence of a comprehensive transport safety management system at Union Pacific. However, several measures to protect the safety of its crew are available (e.g. a fatigue risk management system, a 24-hour security technology to detect unauthorized train access and a company police department staffed with special agents to handle threats such as terrorism). Furthermore, a comprehensive contractor standard regarding safety procedures is in place. The overall accident rate related to rail transport is at a common industry level but has increased in recent years. Union Pacific has implemented large-scale redundancies affecting a significant proportion of its staff in recent years. As a service provider for the transport of highly explosive goods such as crude oil, the company is subject to a high risk regarding environmentally safe transport. Several measures regarding safe transport of hazardous goods are available and Union Pacific is certified to Responsible Care, which includes emergency preparedness. Some further relevant environmental aspects are tackled by Union Pacific (e.g. through measures to improve fuel consumption, and pilot projects to advance the use of renewable/alternative fuels), while others are not addressed (e.g. measures to reduce noise emissions and to avoid adverse impacts of rail infrastructure on biodiversity).

UNITED UTILITIES GROUP

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Branche: Utilities / Environmental Services

ISIN: GB00B39J2M42

Land: UK

Company Profile

United Utilities Group PLC provides water and wastewater services in the United Kingdom. It is also involved in renewable energy generation, corporate trustee, financing, and property management activities; and the provision of waste treatment, consulting, and project management services.

Analyst Opinion Sustainability Opportunities

United Utilities generates revenues almost exclusively by providing water and wastewater treatment services in the UK. The purification of water as well as the provision of clean drinking water and sanitary services respond to the global sustainability challenge of providing access to water. Additionally, the company offers various options to ensure the affordability of water for customers with financial hardship and payment problems. The company also generates renewable energy through solar panels, wind turbines, and the use of bioresources at wastewater treatment plants.

Analyst Opinion Sustainability Risks

Main environmental challenges faced by water and wastewater service providers include sustainable water withdrawal, leakage management, the application of environmental standards for wastewater purification, and management of environmental impacts of sewage sludge disposal. To address these challenges, United Utilities has taken comprehensive measures to ensure sustainable water abstraction and engages in various leakage control activities. To monitor and mitigate impacts on freshwater resources, the company has conducted various assessments (e.g., habitats assessment) and developed management plans, including a Drought Plan and a Water Resources Management Plan. Furthermore, United Utilities has a comprehensive program to increase water efficiency among customers. With regard to wastewater treatment, the company has established an adequate strategy to ensure integrity of its sewer systems. Additionally, its sound climate strategy includes quantitative greenhouse gas emission reduction targets and reported energy use and carbon emission data show decreasing trends in recent years. In the utilities sector, adequate management of health and safety risks is crucial. United Utilities has established certified health and safety management systems and managed to decrease their work-related accident rates among employees and contractors, which are already at comparatively low levels. To safeguard business integrity, United Utilities has developed a sound anti-bribery policy with some related compliance structures. Yet, the company does not have a comprehensive code of conduct that addresses further relevant aspects such as antitrust, conflicts of interest, and insider trading. To ensure compliance, the company conducts trainings, risk assessments and audits, and provides anonymous and confidential reporting channels.



Branche: Electronic Devices & Appliances

ISIN: US9841211033

Land: US

Company Profile

Xerox Holdings Corporation designs, develops, and sells document management systems and solutions in the United States, Europe, Canada, and internationally.

Analyst Opinion Sustainability Opportunities

Xerox has its roots in personal computing and is well known for printing and copying equipment, it operates in three segments Managed Document Services (MDS), Workplace Solutions and Graphic Communications. Equipment sales accounted for about 20% of revenues in 2018, while the remaining part is generated through post-sale offerings that include document services, equipment maintenance, consumable supplies and financing, among other elements. In recent years, all newly launched eligible products have achieved Energy Star-certifications for energy efficiency (accounting for about 20% of revenues) and a minor share of revenues stems from supply of sustainable paper.

Analyst Opinion Sustainability Risks

Xerox manufactures its products at sites in the US and Europe; yet, portions of manufacturing are outsourced to Fuji Xerox, a joint venture between Fujifilm Holdings (75%) and Xerox (25%) with a strong presence in China and to contract manufacturers exposing the company to social and environmental risks in its supply chain. At its own operations, Xerox has implemented a group-wide health and safety management system including reasonable measures to protect workers exposed to hazardous chemicals. Regarding its supply chain, the company has good social and environmental standards and related compliance measures in place as a member of the Responsible Business Alliance. Xerox has also taken first steps to integrate supplier compliance into purchasing practices by offering buyers related incentives. There are barely indications for long-term capacity building measures at suppliers. The company conducts reasonable due diligence to ensure conflict-free sourcing of minerals covered by relevant US legislation but there are no visible efforts regarding a worldwide approach including further minerals other than tin, tungsten, tantalum and gold. Xerox demonstrates responsible management of environmental issues of hardware production, e.g. regarding use water resources and handling of substances of concern at its own production sites. These efforts do not seem to extend to its suppliers as the company does not provide any environmental performance data on its outsourced production. All products comply with the EU RoHS Directive and further substances of concern such as PVC have been restricted.

ANHANG

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DIE KRITERIEN IM EINZELNEN

POSITIVKRITERIEN / AUSSCHLUSSKRITERIEN der 7 GLOBALEN HERAUSFORDERUNGEN

WEITERE AUSSCHLUSSKRITERIEN

AUSWAHLPROZESS STUFE 1

BÖRSE
HANNOVER

The logo features the text 'BÖRSE' above 'HANNOVER' in a bold, sans-serif font. To the right of the text is a stylized graphic element consisting of two curved, overlapping shapes in shades of blue and white, resembling a stylized 'C' or a wave.

Ein Handelsplatz der Börsen AG

KRITERIEN: KLIMAWANDEL



Positivkriterien

Auswahl von Unternehmen, die aktive und substanzielle Beiträge zum Umgang mit den Ursachen und Folgen des Klimawandels leisten:

- ▶ Bekämpfung der Ursachen durch signifikante Reduzierung des Ausstoßes von GHG, z. B. energie- und kraftstoffsparende Produkte, Beiträge zur Erhöhung der Energieeffizienz und Bereitstellung von Energie aus erneuerbaren Energiequellen;
- ▶ Umgang mit den Folgen des Klimawandels, z. B. in den Bereichen Versicherungsschutz, Immobilien und Hochwasserschutz.

Ausschlusskriterien

Ausgeschlossen werden **Fossile Brennstoffproduzenten** wie folgt:

- ▶ Die Förderung von Erdöl beträgt mehr als 0,5% der globalen Förderung oder erwirtschaftet mehr als 5% der Umsätze des Unternehmens
- ▶ Die Raffination (zur Gewinnung ausdifferenzierter Brennstoffe) und/oder die Verbrennung von Erdöl (zur Energiegewinnung, inkl. Wärme und Antriebe) macht mehr als 5% der Umsätze aus
- ▶ Die Förderung von Braun- und/oder Steinkohle beträgt mehr als 0,5% der globalen Förderung oder erwirtschaftet mehr als 5% der Umsätze des Unternehmens
- ▶ Die Aufbereitung (zur thermischen Nutzung) oder Verbrennung von Kohle (zur Energiegewinnung, inkl. Wärme und Antriebe) macht mehr als 5% der Umsätze aus
- ▶ Hydraulisches Fracturing ("Fracking") wird ab > 5% und die Gewinnung fossiler Brennstoffe aus Ölsanden wird ab > 0% Umsatzanteil ausgeschlossen

KRITERIEN: WASSER



Positivkriterien

Auswahl von Unternehmen, die aktive und substanzielle Beiträge zur Bereitstellung, Aufbereitung und Verteilung von Trinkwasser leisten, z. B. Abwasserreinigung, Wasseraufbereitung und -verteilung.

Ausschlusskriterien

Kontroverses Umweltverhalten

Definition:

Unternehmen, die Umweltgesetze oder allgemein anerkannte ökologische Mindeststandards/Verhaltensregeln massiv missachten. Darunter fallen beispielsweise Großprojekte (z.B. Pipelines, Minen, Kraftwerke, Staudämme), welche eine besonders schädliche Wirkung auf die Ökosysteme in der betroffenen Region haben. Gleiches gilt auch für Verstöße durch Zulieferer/Subunternehmer.

Ausgeschlossen werden:

- ▶ Verursacher
- ▶ Zulieferer / Subunternehmer
- ▶ Finanziere



KRITERIEN: ENTWALDUNG

Positivkriterien

Auswahl von Unternehmen, die aktive und substanzielle Beiträge zu einem nachhaltigen Umgang mit Wäldern und waldwirtschaftlichen Produkten (Holz, Papier) leisten, z. B. durch eine Zertifizierung nach FSC oder den Einsatz von Recyclingmaterial bei der Produktion von Papier und Karton.

Ausschlusskriterien

Kontroverses Umweltverhalten

Definition:

Unternehmen, die Umweltgesetze oder allgemein anerkannte ökologische Mindeststandards/Verhaltensregeln massiv missachten. Darunter fallen beispielsweise Großprojekte (z.B. Pipelines, Minen, Kraftwerke, Staudämme), welche eine besonders schädliche Wirkung auf die Ökosysteme in der betroffenen Region haben. Gleiches gilt auch für Verstöße durch Zulieferer/Subunternehmer.

Ausgeschlossen werden:

- ▶ Verursacher
- ▶ Zulieferer / Subunternehmer
- ▶ Finanziere

KRITERIEN: BIODIVERSITÄT (I)



Positivkriterien

Auswahl von Unternehmen, die aktive und substanzielle Beiträge zum Schutz und Erhalt der Biodiversität und des Ökosystems leisten.

Ausschlusskriterien

Kontroverses Umweltverhalten

Definition:

Unternehmen, die Umweltgesetze oder allgemein anerkannte ökologische Mindeststandards/Verhaltensregeln massiv missachten. Darunter fallen beispielsweise Großprojekte (z.B. Pipelines, Minen, Kraftwerke, Staudämme), welche eine besonders schädliche Wirkung auf die Ökosysteme in der betroffenen Region haben. Gleiches gilt auch für Verstöße durch Zulieferer/Subunternehmer.

Ausgeschlossen werden:

- ▶ Verursacher
- ▶ Zulieferer / Subunternehmer
- ▶ Finanziere

KRITERIEN: BIODIVERSITÄT (II)



Ausschlusskriterien

Gefährliche Pestizide

Definition:

Umfasst Emittenten, mindestens 5% der Einnahmen aus der Herstellung von Pestiziden mit technisch hochwertigen Wirkstoffen generieren, die von der Weltgesundheitsorganisation (WHO) als "extrem gefährlich" oder "hochgefährlich" eingestuft werden.

Grüne Gentechnik

Definition:

Umfasst Einnahmen, die der Emittent aus der Produktion genetisch veränderter Pflanzen und Tiere für die landwirtschaftliche Nutzung generiert.

Ausgeschlossen werden:

- ▶ Produzenten (>5% Umsatzanteil)

Ausgeschlossen werden:

- ▶ Produzenten von Grüner Gentechnik (>0% Umsatzanteil)

KRITERIEN: BEVÖLKERUNGSENTWICKLUNG

Global
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Positivkriterien

Auswahl von Unternehmen, die aktive und substanzielle Beiträge zum Umgang mit dem demographischen Wandel bzw. der Bevölkerungsentwicklung in den Schwellen- und Entwicklungsländern leisten, insbesondere durch Zugang zu Bildung sowie Medizin und medizinischer Versorgung insbesondere im Zusammenhang mit HIV/AIDS.

Im Hinblick auf die demographische Entwicklung in zahlreichen Industriestaaten stehen Produkte und Dienstleistungen im Vordergrund, die der Versorgung einer alternden Bevölkerung dienen, z. B. altersgerechtes Wohnen, medizinische und pflegerische Betreuung.



KRITERIEN: ARMUT (I)

Positivkriterien

Auswahl von Unternehmen, die aktive und substanzielle Beiträge zur Bekämpfung der weltweiten Armut leisten. Der Fokus liegt dabei auf Maßnahmen, die im Sinne eines Empowerment die Fähigkeit der Menschen verbessern, aus eigener Kraft die Armut zu überwinden. Dazu zählen insbesondere Maßnahmen, die Zugang zu Bildung und Informationen ermöglichen, Verwundbarkeit (Vulnerabilität, z. B. durch Microinsurance) verringern, die wirtschaftliche Unabhängigkeit (z. B. Fair Trade, Microcredit) unterstützen und Korruption bekämpfen.

Ausschlusskriterien

Arbeitsrechte

Definition:

Unternehmen, die mindestens eines der vier grundlegenden Prinzipien (Versammlungs- und Vereinigungsfreiheit, Zwangsarbeit, Kinderarbeit und Diskriminierung) der ILO (International Labour Organization) massiv verletzen. Zusätzlich handelt es sich um einen Verstoß, wenn systematisch Mindestarbeitsstandards (z.B. in den Bereichen Sicherheit & Gesundheit, Bezahlung, Arbeitszeit) umgangen wurden. Gleiches gilt auch für Verletzungen durch Zulieferer/Subunternehmer.

Ausgeschlossen werden:

- ▶ Unternehmen, die selbst oder deren Zulieferer und Subunternehmer gegen die Prinzipien in den Bereichen Versammlungs- und Vereinigungsfreiheit, Zwangsarbeit und Diskriminierung verstoßen



KRITERIEN: ARMUT (II)

Ausschlusskriterien

Kinderarbeit

Definition:

Unternehmen, denen Kinderarbeit nachgewiesen wurde, die nicht ausdrücklich von der ILO erlaubt ist (in Abhängigkeit von z.B. Alter der Kinder, Arbeitsbedingungen, Dauer der Arbeit und begleitendem Bildungsangebot). Gleiches gilt auch für Verstöße durch Zulieferer/Subunternehmer

Ausgeschlossen werden:

- ▶ Unternehmen, die selbst oder deren Zulieferer und Subunternehmer gegen die Prinzipien im Bereich der Kinderarbeit verstoßen

Menschenrechte

Definition:

Unternehmen, die international anerkannte Prinzipien wie z.B. der UN Universal Declaration of Human Rights massiv verletzen. Als Verstoß gelten insbesondere Handlungen, bei denen bewusst die massive Gefährdung der Gesundheit/des Lebens von Bevölkerung, Kunden etc. in Kauf genommen wird; Menschenhandel; massive körperliche Gewaltanwendung gegen Dritte; Handlungen, die die Selbstbestimmungsrechte oder die kulturelle Würde in massiver Weise missachten. Gleiches gilt auch für Verstöße durch Zulieferer/Subunternehmer

Ausgeschlossen werden:

- ▶ Unternehmen, die selbst oder deren Zulieferer, Subunternehmer und/oder Finanziere gegen die Prinzipien im Bereich der Menschenrechte verstoßen

KRITERIEN: CORPORATE GOVERNANCE



Positivkriterien

Auswahl von Unternehmen, die einen aktiven Beitrag zur Bekämpfung von Korruption und Bestechung in der Wirtschaft leisten und dabei zentrale Elemente eines Compliance Management Systems (CMS) implementiert haben. Dazu zählen insbesondere ein entsprechender Code of Conduct, die Einsetzung eines Compliance Officers, Richtlinien für die Auswahl von Lieferanten und die Annahme von Geschenken, die unternehmensinterne Kommunikation und Schulung sowie ein laufendes Monitoring der Einhaltung der entsprechenden Regelungen.

Ausschlusskriterien

Kontroverse Wirtschaftspraktiken

Definition:

Unternehmen, die gesetzliche Vorschriften oder allgemein anerkannte Wohlverhaltensregeln massiv missachten (z.B. Korruption, Bilanzfälschung).

Ausgeschlossen werden:

- ▶ Unternehmen mit Verstößen in den Bereichen Korruption, Bilanzierung und Geldwäsche



WEITERE AUSSCHLUSSKRITERIEN (I)

Atomenergie

Definition:

Einen Verstoß stellen diverse Aspekte der Wertschöpfungskette im Bereich Atomenergie dar. Unterschieden werden insbesondere die Produktion und Distribution von Atomenergie, aber auch die Gewinnung von Uran sowie der Bau von Kernkomponenten von Atomkraftwerken. So genannte „Dual-Use-Produkte“ werden nicht berücksichtigt.

Ausgeschlossen werden:

- ▶ Produzenten von:
 - Atomenergie (ab >0% Umsatzanteil)
 - Uran (ab >0% Umsatzanteil)
- ▶ Distribution/Service (ab >1% Umsatzanteil)

Rüstungsgüter und Dienstleister

Definition:

Gibt den Mindestprozentsatz der Einnahmen an, die der Emittent aus der Herstellung und/oder Dienstleistungen im Zusammenhang mit Kampfausrüstung und/oder Nichtkampfausrüstung generiert. Nichtkampfausrüstung umfasst u.a. nicht-kampffähige Militärfahrzeuge; Munition und Raketen (Rauch-, Leucht- und Übungsraketen); Laufwaffen für den Abschuss nicht-destruktiver Munition („non-destructive ammunition“); bestimmte elektronische Geräte, Software und Simulatoren; Maschinen für die Herstellung militärischer Ausrüstung; Schulungsgeräte und -Ausstattung. In allen Fällen muss diese Ausrüstung auf der Grundlage militärischer Spezifikationen entworfen oder geändert werden.

Ausgeschlossen werden:

- ▶ Produzenten und Dienstleister von:
 - Kampfausrüstung und/oder Nichtkampfausrüstung (ab >2% Umsatzanteil)



WEITERE AUSSCHLUSSKRITERIEN (II)

Zivile Schusswaffen

Definition:

Als Verstoß gelten Rüstungsgüter, die speziell für militärische Anwendungen entwickelt wurden. So genannte "Dual-Use-Produkte" werden nicht berücksichtigt. Unterschieden werden Produzenten und Händler. Unter den Rüstungsgütern werden zudem Waffen(-systeme) (z .B. Gewehre, Panzer, Kampffjets), nach dem Römer Statut des Internationalen Strafgerichtshofes geächtete Waffen (z. B. ABC-Waffen, Landminen) sowie sonstige Rüstungsgüter (z.B. Radaranlagen, Militärtransporter) unterschieden.

Ausgeschlossen werden:

- ▶ Produzenten und Dienstleister (ab >0% Umsatzanteil)

Kontroverse Waffen

Definition:

Umfasst Emittenten, denen jegliche Beteiligung an umstrittenen Waffen und/oder ihren Schlüsselkomponenten nachgewiesen werden kann, unabhängig der dadurch generierten Einnahmen (da jegliche Beteiligung als illegal betrachtet wird). Dies schließt die Ausrüstung und/oder den Handel von Antipersonenminen, biologischen Waffen, chemischen Waffen, Streumunition, angereichertem Uran, Brandwaffen, Atomwaffen innerhalb und/oder außerhalb des Atomwaffensperrvertrags (NVV), sowie Phosphorbomben.

Ausgeschlossen werden:

- ▶ Emittenten mit verifizierter Beteiligung

WEITERE AUSSCHLUSSKRITERIEN (III)



Fossile Brennstoffe

Definition:

Erfasst werden diverse Aspekte der Wertschöpfungskette der fossilen Brennstoffe Kohle und Erdöl. Unterschieden werden die Förderung und die Verwendung/Aufbereitung von Kohle und Erdöl. Als Verwender/Aufbereiter gelten insbesondere Betreiber von Kraftwerken, die Kohle oder Erdöl verfeuern, sowie Betreiber von Raffinerien.

Ausgeschlossen werden:

- ▶ Fossile Brennstoffproduzenten wie folgt:
 - Die Förderung von Erdöl beträgt mehr als 0,5% der globalen Förderung oder erwirtschaftet mehr als 5% der Umsätze des Unternehmens
 - Die Raffination (zur Gewinnung ausdifferenzierter Brennstoffe) und/oder die Verbrennung von Erdöl (zur Energiegewinnung, inkl. Wärme und Antriebe) macht mehr als 5% der Umsätze aus
 - Die Förderung von Braun- und/oder Steinkohle beträgt mehr als 0,5% der globalen Förderung oder erwirtschaftet mehr als 5% der Umsätze des Unternehmens
 - Die Aufbereitung (zur thermischen Nutzung) oder Verbrennung von Kohle (zur Energiegewinnung, inkl. Wärme und Antriebe) macht mehr als 5% der Umsätze aus
 - Hydraulisches Fracturing ("Fracking") wird ab > 5% und die Gewinnung fossiler Brennstoffe aus Ölsanden wird ab > 0% Umsatzanteil ausgeschlossen



WEITERE AUSSCHLUSSKRITERIEN (IV)

Tabak

Definition:

Gibt den Mindestprozentsatz der Einnahmen an, die der Emittent aus der Herstellung von Tabakerzeugnissen (u.a. Zigarren, Stumpfen, Zigaretten, E-Zigaretten, Beedi, Kretek, rauchloser Tabak, Schnupftabak, Snus und Kautabak) generiert. Umfasst außerdem Einnahmen, die der Emittent aus Vermarktung und Bewerbung von Tabakerzeugnissen generiert sowie die für die Herstellung von Tabakerzeugnissen wesentliche und notwendige Produkte liefern.

Ausgeschlossen werden:

- ▶ Produzenten (ab >0% Umsatzanteil)
- ▶ Vertrieb (ab >2% Umsatzanteil)
- ▶ Dienstleistung (ab >2% Umsatzanteil)

Pornographie

Definition:

Gibt den Mindestprozentsatz der Einnahmen an, die der Emittent aus der Produktion und/oder Verbreitung von Videos oder Bildern generiert, deren Format und sexuelle Inhalte dazu bestimmt sind, sexuelle Erregung zu erzeugen, und die speziell als für Minderjährige nicht zugänglich gekennzeichnet sind.

Ausgeschlossen werden:

- ▶ Produzenten (ab >2% Umsatzanteil)
- ▶ Vertrieb (ab >2% Umsatzanteil)



WEITERE AUSSCHLUSSKRITERIEN (V)

Alkohol

Definition:

Gibt den Mindestprozentsatz der Einnahmen an, die der Emittent aus der Herstellung, dem Groß- und Einzelhandelsvertrieb, der Lizenzierung, Vermarktung und Bewerbung aller Arten von alkoholischen Getränken generiert. Dies umfasst Brauereien, Brennereien und Winzer, sowie Emittenten, die Weinberge besitzen oder betreiben.

Ausgeschlossen werden:

- ▶ Produzenten (ab >0% Umsatzanteil)
- ▶ Vertrieb (ab >2% Umsatzanteil)
- ▶ Vermarktung (ab >2% Umsatzanteil)

Tierversuche

Definition:

Umfasst Emittenten, die Tierversuche für nicht-pharmazeutische Zwecke durchführen, mit einer öffentlichen Erklärung, dass Tierversuche über die gesetzlichen Anforderungen hinaus durchgeführt werden.

Ausgeschlossen werden:

- ▶ Tierversuche die über die gesetzlich vorgeschriebenen Anforderungen hinaus gehen

WEITERE AUSSCHLUSSKRITERIEN (VI)



Glücksspiel

Definition:

Gibt den Mindestprozentsatz der Einnahmen an, die der Emittent aus dem Betrieb oder Management von Wettaktivitäten und Glücksspielen, aus dem Vertrieb von risikoarmen Glücksspielartikeln (wie bspw. Lotteriescheinen), aus der Vermarktung oder Bewerbung von Glücksspielen und Wettaktivitäten, und/oder aus der Bereitstellung wesentlicher Schlüsselprodukte und Dienstleistungen für den Glücksspielbetrieb, sowie aus Unterstützungs- und Dienstleistungen und/oder aus der Entwicklung von Plattformen (Hard- und Software) für das Glücksspielgeschäft generiert.

Ausgeschlossen werden:

- ▶ Produzenten (ab >0% Umsatzanteil)
- ▶ Vertrieb (ab >2% Umsatzanteil)
- ▶ Vermarktung (ab >2% Umsatzanteil)

AUSWAHLPROZESS: STUFE 1 ÜBERBLICK POSITIVKRITERIEN (I)

Social & Governance Rating

Mitarbeiter & Zulieferer

- ▶ Mitarbeiter, u. a.
 - Vereinigungsfreiheit
 - Arbeitsplatzsicherheit
 - Gesundheitsschutz & Arbeitssicherheit
 - Gleichberechtigung
 - ...
- ▶ Zulieferer, u. a.
 - Zulieferer Standards
 - Überwachung der Zulieferer

Gesellschaft & Produktverantwortung

- ▶ Gesellschaft, u. a.
 - Menschenrechte
 - Parteispenden
 - Steuern und Subventionen
 - Stakeholder-Dialog
 - Produktverantwortung, u. a. Bewertung der Produkte und Dienstleistungen im Hinblick auf die Erreichung der SD
 - Branchenspezifische, soziale Aspekte

Corp. Govern. & Wirtschaftsethik

- ▶ Corporate Governance, u. a.
 - Unabhängigkeit der Leitungsgremien
 - Aktionärsrechte
 - Vorstandsentslohnung
 - Aktionärsstruktur
 - ...
- ▶ Wirtschaftsethik, u. a.
 - Code of conduct
 - Anti-Korruptionsmaßnahmen

AUSWAHLPROZESS: STUFE 1 ÜBERBLICK POSITIVKRITERIEN (II)



Environmental Rating

Umweltmanagement

- ▶ Umweltmanagementsystem
- ▶ Klimawandel
- ▶ Wasser-Management
- ▶ Umweltbezogene Zuliefererstandards
- ▶ ...

Produkte & Dienstleistungen

- ▶ Branchenspezifische Definition umweltbezogener Anforderungen an die Gestaltung der Produkte und Dienstleistungen sowie Prüfung, ob diese Produkte zu den umweltbezogenen SDGs einen Beitrag leisten oder diesen widersprechen

Öko-Effizienz

- ▶ Branchenspezifische Definition der Umweltkennzahlen, die erhoben und bewertet werden, z. B.
 - Energieverbrauch
 - GHG-Emissionen
 - Wasserverbrauch
 - Abfallaufkommen
 - ...

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