



News Release
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AGF chooses EIRIS' *Country Sustainability Ratings* product for its fixed income funds

AGF Asset management (AGF AM) will use EIRIS' *Country Sustainability Ratings* product to integrate environmental, social and governance (ESG) issues into its fixed income products.

AGF AM currently manages three Socially Responsible Investment (SRI) equity funds. It will use EIRIS' research on sovereign bonds to convert one of its fixed income funds to SRI.

Country Sustainability Ratings - provides analysis on 64 countries worldwide¹, including key emerging markets, on a number of ESG criteria. It draws on data from various sources including the United Nations, the anti-corruption watchdog Transparency International, and thinktanks such as Freedom House. The data can be manipulated by investors, according to their own views and weightings for particular issues, to produce a bespoke rating, ranking and profile for each country.

The product includes a range of indicators relevant to socially responsible investors including:

- government effectiveness;
- performance against Kyoto targets;

- corruption perception;
- convention ratification.

AGF AM join a growing number of international clients using the EIRIS *Country Sustainability Ratings* tool to implement their responsible investment strategies through sovereign fixed income products. These include Invesco Asset Management Deutschland who are using the service to aid in the management of their Fonds für Orden und Ökumene fund, and Etica Sgr in Italy.

Nadia Laine, Senior Client Relationship Manager at EIRIS said: “We are delighted to be working with such a key player in the French market and to be assisting AGF AM to extend its SRI product offering to one of its bond funds”.

Chloé Pruvot at AGF AM said: “We are really impressed by the scope and quality of EIRIS’ *Country Sustainability Ratings*, and the flexibility and user-friendliness of the tool.”

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Note to editors:

1 EIRIS country sustainability ratings and profiles are available for the following countries:

Argentina	Ecuador
Australia	Egypt
Austria	Estonia
Belgium	Finland
Brazil	France
Canada	Germany
Chile	Greece
China	Hong Kong
Colombia	Hungary
Croatia	Iceland
Czech Republic	India
Denmark	Indonesia
Dominican Republic	Ireland

Israel	Qatar
Italy	Romania
Japan	Russia
Kuwait	Singapore
Latvia	Slovak Republic
Lithuania	Slovenia
Luxembourg	South Africa
Malaysia	South Korea
Mexico	Spain
Morocco	Sweden
Netherlands	Switzerland
New Zealand	Taiwan
Norway	Thailand
Pakistan	Tunisia
Panama	Turkey
Peru	United Kingdom
Philippines	United States of America
Poland	Venezuela
Portugal	Vietnam

- 2 Ethical Investment Research Services (EIRIS), established in 1983, provides the independent research into corporate social, environmental and ethical performance that is needed by investors to make informed and responsible investment decisions. EIRIS does not promote any one particular view on ethical or socially responsible issues.
- 3 EIRIS is the leading global analyst of corporate social, environmental and ethical performance with the following overseas research partners: Centre for Australian Ethical Research (CAER), Fundacion Ecologia y Desarrollo (Ecodes) of Spain, Imug – Institut fur Markt-Umwelt-Gesellschaft of Germany and EthiFinance of France.
- 4 EIRIS clients include, amongst others, Aberdeen Asset Managers, ABN Amro Bank, Aegon Asset Management, AGF Asset Management, AIB Investment Managers, AllianceBernstein, ATP, AXA Investment Managers, BankInvest, Bank of Ireland Asset Management, BlackRock, Cazenove Fund Management, Co-operative Bank, Credit Suisse, F & C Asset Management, Fédérés Gestion d'Actifs, FIDH, Fonds de Réserve pour les Retraites, FTSE, Insight Investment, KBC Asset Management, Martin Currie Investment Management, M&G Investment Management, Methodist Church Central Finance Board, Mondrian Investment Partners, Montgomery Oppenheim, Morgan Stanley, New Star Asset Management , Newsweek Japan, Newton Investment Management, Norwegian Government Pension Fund, Nomura Asset Management, Old Mutual Asset Management, Oxfam, Pen-Sam, Robeco Institutional Asset Management, Royal London Asset Management, Santander Gestion de Activos, Sarasin Chiswell, Setanta Asset Management, Schroders Investment Management, Scottish Widows Investment Partnership, Standard Life Investments, WaterAid.