

**Record number
of ethical
options
available to UK
investors**



NEWS RELEASE

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A recent study from global sustainable investment specialists EIRIS reveals that there are now almost 90 ethical retail funds available to UK investors. The past year saw ten new ethical retail funds (ie those funds open to the general public) launched in the UK with more on the way.

New funds include ABN Amro's Brazilian Emerging Market SRI Fund which, ABN Amro says is the first ethical retail fund available to UK investors to target shares in emerging markets. HSBC's GIF Sustainability Leaders Fund invests in mainstream European stocks classed as best in class for sustainable development. The fund directly supports the work of LEAD (an international not-for-profit organisation focussed on leadership and sustainable development) who receive a donation from HSBC's management fee.

EIRIS spokesperson Mark Robertson said "Growing concern over issues such as climate change mean that more and more people are beginning to think about the impacts their investments can have. 2006 saw a

significant increase in interest in ethical investment from both individual investors and their advisers. It's great to see innovative new ethical products launched to meet this demand".

EIRIS will be conducting its annual survey which tracks the amount of money invested in Britain's ethical retail funds shortly. It is expected that figures will show a big increase in the amount of UK money invested ethically in 2006.

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Note to editors:

1. Ethical funds launched in the last year include the Aberdeen Ethical Engagement UK Fund, ABN Amro Brazil Equity Fund, HSBC Amanah Global Equity Index Fund, Jupiter Global Green Investment Trust, King & Shaxson Cautious Balanced Income Fund, King & Shaxson Cautious Green Solutions Fund, Marlborough Ethical Fund, SVM All Europe SRI Fund, SWIP Islamic Global Equity Fund and Zurich Socially Responsible Investment Fund.
2. The EIRIS Foundation is a charity set up in 1983. Ethical Investment Research Services (EIRIS) Ltd, a subsidiary company of the Foundation, provides the independent research into corporate social, environmental and ethical performance that is needed by investors to make informed and responsible investment decisions as well as by charities wishing to screen their donors or suppliers. www.eiris.org
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 does not promote any one particular view on ethical or socially responsible issues.

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