ESG & Stewardship Report 2025

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Note: *This report covers stewardship activities undertaken during the 2025 reporting period and is therefore structured around the 12 Principles of the UK Stewardship Code 2020. As 2026 is a transition year for current signatories moving to the revised, streamlined framework, a mapping of the 2020 Principles to the 2026 framework is provided on the final page of this report for reference.*

April 2026

Principle 1

Signatories purpose, investment beliefs, strategy and culture enable stewardship that creates long-term value for clients and beneficiaries leading to sustainable benefits for the economy, the environment and society.

Veritas Asset Management LLP ("VAM LLP" or "Veritas") was founded on the core belief of protecting and growing client's capital in real terms. Whilst many clients wish to achieve returns in excess of an index, they primarily do not wish to see the value of their assets depreciate over time. By setting an inflation plus target, we create an investment return objective that is absolute rather than relative. In order to achieve that absolute return, we seek companies with the most predictable cashflows. These companies are those with sustainable characteristics and forward-thinking management that are aligned with shareholders.

The culture of the firm, its structure, the investment process, and the way in which we have developed the business have all evolved from this core belief in real returns.

The context in which a firm operates is critical and at Veritas we have a set of cultural traits that anchor our business. These traits have been integral to our firm since its inception and are published on our website. The 10 principles are listed below:

1	Investment-led:	The practice of investment, alongside developing the conditions within which the right degree of thought and analysis takes place, is of paramount importance.
2	Client orientated:	We aim to align ourselves with client interests by only pursuing clients who seek our philosophy, process, and core competencies. We invest alongside our clients.
3	Independence:	Independence of thought and action.
4	Entrepreneurial:	We prefer people in the Partnership to take initiatives, find solutions and 'get things done' in the interests of the clients and the Partnership.
5	Simplicity & Focus:	We believe the practice of investment and the business of investment to be complex and demanding – so we concentrate on simplicity and focus to better navigate the demands.
6	Marathon not a sprint:	We concentrate in both investment practice and business development on long term success. We are prepared to make difficult decisions that are right in the long term, and we are prepared to be different from the crowd.
7	Thoughtful, analytical & evidence based:	Seek the truth. These traits develop excellence and a meritocracy – vital for a partnership.
8	Partnership:	Influence and authority built in the boutique by excellence and contribution over multiple years. Partnership has an important implicit contract of mutual responsibility amongst the Partners and with the clients.
9	Integrity:	Vital foundation stone in a people business dealing with the management of client capital.
10	Determination:	We want a firm of able people with the right character and personality for long term success which comes from patience and determination.

By being investment-led and independent of thought, we have never proliferated mandates in order to maximise growth in assets. To us, Environmental, Social and Governance ("ESG"), is fundamental to how one looks at a business and assesses future cash flows. It should be applied to all investment strategies. We do not apply a box tick mentality to ESG or see it as something to be compartmentalised. As can be seen from the organisation chart on page 5 we offer two equity strategies. Global Equities (approximately 88% of AUM) and Asian Equities (approximately 12% of AUM). Our approach to stewardship and ESG integration is consistent across both strategies and all funds. For example, all Funds are categorised as Article 8 under Sustainable Finance Disclosure Regulation ("SFDR") and our Net Zero commitment is applied to 100% of invested assets.

Governance is central to Environmental and Social risk/opportunities and the assessment of management, its long-term vision, and how it is rewarded is key to an investment thesis. What is a material risk/opportunity for one company may differ from another but will be a critical component in assessing a company's ability to sustainably generate future cash flows. Where a company generates significant levels of carbon, we would expect to see independently verified disclosure, targets, and key performance indicators ("KPIs") in incentives as part of the governance structure. It is unlikely to satisfy our quality/sustainable threshold without these. We look to act as owners of a business rather than investors in tradeable securities and believe in active stewardship through Voting and Engagement.

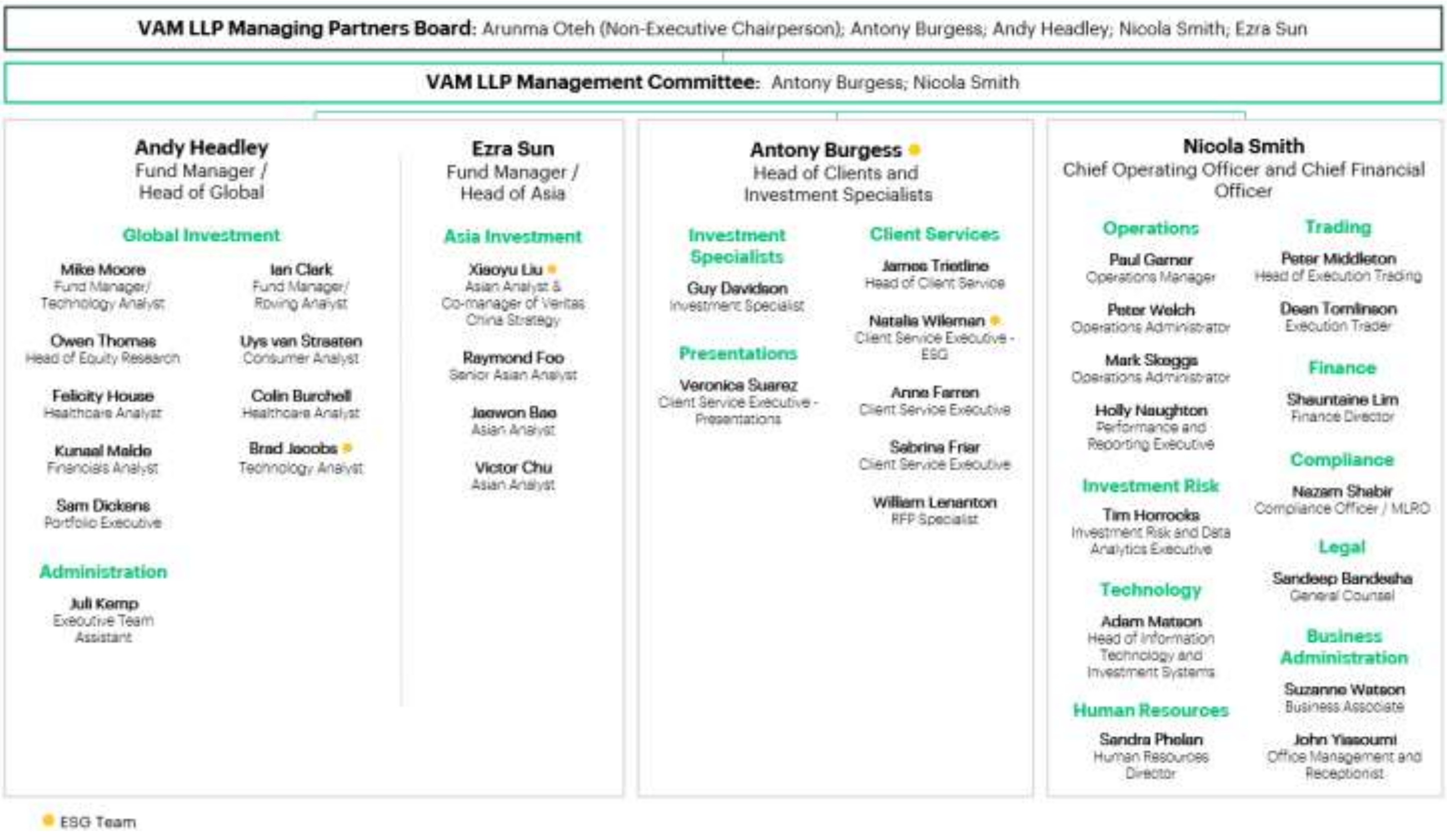
We align ourselves with our clients in other ways, to reinforce partnership and the sustainable growth of the business. We have soft closed the strategies at times where we feel not to do so may impact existing investors. The Global Equity strategy was closed for 3 years prior to 2020, as it became increasingly difficult to deploy cash at the right entry points. The strategies have predictable performance profiles on which our clients depend, and the Partners of the firm believe in 'skin in the game,' something we look for amongst investee companies. As such, employees invest their own capital in our funds, alongside our clients.

Turning the lens inward, we strive to set a precedent in sustainability within our own operations. Our Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Team oversees our CSR endeavours.

- Veritas works with a designated charity, Sponsors for Educational Opportunity London ("SEO"), which aims to deliver superior educational, training, and mentoring support to young people from underrepresented and underserved background, thus aiming to increase the pool of diversified talent in the financial industry. SEO assists students from A Levels through university into finance, accountancy, and law careers. Throughout 2025, beyond financial contributions, Veritas staff have supported SEO initiatives through mentoring, job shadowing, and hosting insight days.

- At Veritas we aim to embrace a culture of inclusion where our people feel respected, are treated fairly and where different viewpoints, thoughts and ideas are shared and listened to. To achieve this, we proactively seek, develop and retain the best talent from all walks of life and backgrounds. We believe that by nurturing a diverse team, we achieve better business outcomes for our clients and encourage our teams to be more engaged.

- Veritas is committed to Net Zero as an organisation. We are signatories of both the Net Zero Asset Managers initiative and the Science Based Target initiative. The organisation has been carbon neutral since 2022.



Regulatory Developments and ESG Outlook

Many decisions made are influenced by discussions with investors and consultants and the evolution of RFI requests, enabling us to identify emerging areas of focus. Simultaneously, we monitor global regulatory developments. During the reporting period, in light of the implementation of the UK's Sustainability Disclosure Requirements (SDR) enforced by the FCA, the Firm fell within scope of the Anti-Greenwashing Rule. As a result, our legal and compliance teams conducted a thorough review of all ESG-related materials across departments to ensure compliance. No material findings emerged from the review.

The pooled funds managed by VAM LLP were not in scope of the SDR labelling regime, as they are domiciled in Ireland. However, with SFDR 2.0 provisions underway and further guidance expected later this year, we anticipate greater alignment between SFDR and SDR labels - offering improved clarity for both investors and the broader asset management industry.

We have also reflected on how the evolving sentiment in the US, particularly regarding DEI and climate, and believe it is critical to remain grounded in our core principles and true to our commitments. Climate change is a material long-term investment risk, and diversity in all its forms is essential to robust decision making and governance. As such, we do not intend to make material changes to our ESG framework in response to the current political climate.

Action taken in the 12 months to 31 December 2025

- **ESG Team members**
  The most recent update to the ESG Team relates to the Global Desk representative. We look to rotate the investment personnel every three to four years. Owen Thomas has been replaced by Brad Jacobs, a roving analyst who joined the partnership in 2022. Owen, in his

capacity as Head of Research, has taken on additional responsibilities, and we viewed this as a timely opportunity to refresh the desk representation. Rotating representation from the investment teams brings fresh perspectives, encourages constructive challenge, and keeps our thinking dynamic.

- **Firmwide Training**
  During the year, we decided to roll out a bespoke ESG training session for all staff, based on our own approach to ESG integration,. This was designed to provide employees with a more tailored and practical framework, aligned with our investment process and internal policies. We considered using standard ESG training courses developed for businesses such as our own. However, given the breadth of ESG as a subject, we concluded on review that such materials would be less effective. Much of the content was not directly applicable to VAM LLP, by covering multiple asset classes when we invest only in equities, or by using business examples that did not reflect the types of material risks and opportunities relevant to the companies in which we invest. As a result, while such training may have provided a broad base of information, we did not believe it would have been as useful in supporting the day-to-day work of our employees. Further details on this change are set out under Principle 3.

- **Service Providers**
  During 2025, we undertook a review of our ESG service providers, including our long-standing relationship with the Carbon Trust, which had supported both the development of our Net Zero transition pathway and our annual assessment of progress against it. Following a review of several providers, we appointed South Pole as its replacement. Further details on this change are set out under Principle 8.

- **Refinement of Proprietary ESG Rating Model**
  In 2025, we made several refinements to the ESG Rating Model. The framework initially operated on a 1–5 scale but was subsequently revised to a 1–3 scale to provide clearer differentiation, particularly when identifying companies that are not eligible for investment. Further detail is provided under Principle 5 of this report.

Principle 2

Signatories' governance, resources, and incentives support stewardship.

ESG and Stewardship Governance Structure

The organisation has a flat structure which embodies our cultural trait of simplicity and focus. There are three broad areas to the business: investment, clients, and operations. Each is headed by a Managing Partner that sits on the Managing Partners Board ("MPB"). Within the client and operational areas, there are Heads of departments which report to the appropriate Managing Partner. This ensures that no individual within the firm is more than two steps removed from decision making, facilitating the sharing and implementation of ideas. Veritas promotes the concept of 'team of teams' with individuals across the firm involved in initiatives.

The MPB consists of four Managing Partners and a Non-Executive Chairperson: Arunma Oteh (Non-Executive Chairperson), Antony Burgess (Head of Clients and Investment Specialists), Nicola Smith (Chief Operating Officer, COO), Andy Headley (Fund Manager and Head of Global), and Ezra Sun (Fund Manager and Head of Asia). The MPB has ultimate responsibility for the consideration and signing off on key initiatives that affect the business. All members of the MPB hold a range of financial related qualifications and an average of over 30yrs. of industry experience.

Responsibility for investment and the integration of ESG rests with the investment teams and the Portfolio Managers, with oversight by the Managing Partners Board ("MPB"). This approach has been consistent since the inception of the firm. We have an ESG Team that oversees specific processes and infrastructure ensuring compliance with regulation and education within teams throughout the firm.

The ESG team currently consists of four individuals across departments:

- Antony Burgess (Head of Clients and Investment Specialists, and Managing Partner)
- Brad Jacobs (Analyst - Global Team)
- Xiaoyu Liu (Co-Manager, Veritas China strategy, and Analyst - Asian Team)
- Natalia Wileman (Client Services Executive - ESG)

The ESG team considers new initiatives that may be additive to the investment process, specifically related to stewardship or client reporting. There is clear accountability and oversight from start to conclusion. Before anything is endorsed, it will be signed off by the MPB, which includes one member of the ESG team who will present to the MPB. Any agreed action, e.g., the introduction of a new policy, will be communicated to the various teams by the appropriate team leaders, e.g., the Head of Global Investments will inform the analysts within the Global team. It is important that a Managing Partner and Investment professionals are involved to ensure oversight of all business areas. By having a client service executive in the team, any impact on reporting can be assessed. There are regular meetings for the ESG team to evaluate new initiatives, attendance of relevant conferences/ webinars and thorough discussions on the latest ideas/ regulations with third party experts. The aim is to rotate the investment professionals every 3-5 years.

The team has representation from both Global and Asian investment teams. Brad and Xiaoyu have experience implementing ESG, specifically assessing ESG Risks or Opportunities and factoring analysis into financial models and valuations, where appropriate. By having a client service executive in the team, any impact on reporting can be assessed.

Further oversight on ESG activity is also provided by Antony Burgess (Head of Investment Specialists & Clients and Managing Partner) in his position within the ESG Team, as well as being a Managing Partner of VAM LLP and therefore sitting on the MPB. Having representation across multiple business areas, including each investment team, ensures the ESG approach is consistent across VAM LLP. The Team is also responsible for training on ESG developments.

Data Resources

ESG information is integrated into proprietary research conducted in-house with full integration within the investment process. We do not rely on third party ESG ratings but prefer to conduct our own analysis utilising some of the data from third party providers. We source ESG data from several external providers, listed below. We also use data to help generate reporting for investors. Every two years, the ESG Team reviews the data offerings from third-party providers.

Bloomberg L.P.	MSCI ESG Research LLC	Institutional Shareholder Services (“ISS”)	Carbon Disclosure Project (“CDP”)
• Besides leveraging publications such as the sustainability reports obtained directly from the businesses in which we invest to conduct in-house research, we utilise Bloomberg ESG data to enhance our analysis.	• Bespoke alerts for breaches of global norms frameworks. • Screening for controversial weapons. • Data that will enhance our climate transition work. • Data to aid thematic engagement initiatives. • Peer ESG comparative positioning data to investee companies. • Investor reporting	• Voting policy application and execution. We have produced a custom ESG Red Line Voting policy that ISS applies to all company meetings.	• Data from the CDP is used to assess the progress made by investee companies in their transition to a low carbon economy in line with TCFD guidelines. We use the output as part of the climate related engagement with companies.

Principle 3

Signatories manage conflicts of interest to put the best interests of clients and beneficiaries first.

Remuneration

Fund Managers are incentivised to consider ESG risks by virtue of seeking sustainable businesses. Performance is measured over 1,3- and 5-year periods and any underperformance will be examined for lessons learnt and whether ESG related factors played a role. The Fund Managers are fully aware that the majority of clients seeking investment services, wish to appoint Managers that embrace sustainability and have clear stewardship policies in place.

Each Investment Analyst is rewarded for stock ideas and the impact they have had on the fund and within the team. There are both quantitative measures (performance over 1 year 3 and 5-year periods) and qualitative measures (sharing of ideas, new initiatives, impact). Given the types of business we look for, we do not strip out ESG metrics or targets as these are embedded in the stock thesis. As part of the assessment of quality, the analyst will assess the quality and sustainability of a business, its management and ESG practices.

We believe that given the size of our partnership and the fact our only business activity is asset management, we do not encounter some of the conflicts faced by larger financial services companies. Notwithstanding this, we still ensure that we have a robust Conflicts of Interest Policy which clearly sets out how we identify, consider, mitigate, manage, disclose, and record all conflicts ensuring they are dealt with in a manner that is not prejudicial to any of our clients. We seek to create an environment where staff awareness of conflicts of interests and potential conflicts of interests is conducive to identifying and resolving issues as they arise. Our core aim is to always act in the interests of clients.

We endeavour to undertake a risk-based approach to conflicts of interest and consider all conflicts when implementing policies and procedures. Disclosure of actual or potential conflicts forms a central part of the Conflicts of Interest Policy and any conflicts that arise will be disclosed to the relevant parties.

We have put numerous procedures in place to manage and mitigate conflicts, including prior approval of all employees' personal trades, gifts and entertainment, conflicts of interest register and policy, anti-bribery and corruption policy, and an annual disclosure of outside interests, if applicable.

We seek to act in the interests of all our clients when considering stewardship activities. Conflicts of interest may arise from time to time, such as voting on matters affecting an investee company whose pension scheme may be one of our clients or where our clients are shareholders in two companies involved in both sides of a deal or dispute. To identify such conflicts, on a monthly basis, the ESG team reconciles the firm's list of investee companies against its client list in the CRM system. If no conflicts are identified, the Compliance team will be advised of a nil report. If a conflict is identified, the Compliance team will be notified, and the item will be logged in the conflicts of interest register, along with the date of the next AGM or EGM for the investee company (if available). Notification of the conflict will also be provided to the Investment team, who will engage with the ESG team to ensure there is no risk of inappropriate influence in the voting process. If required, matters will be escalated to the Management Committee.

As long-term investors, who manage concentrated portfolios, it is rare that we encounter a conflict of interest that relates to stewardship. Conflicts of interest management practices are reviewed periodically by the Compliance team and Chief Operating Officer on a regular basis within the Operating Committee and Management Committees. The Conflicts of Interest Policy, procedures, and the conflicts register is updated and approved annually by the Operating Committee. The only conflict of interest identified in 2023 was the result of pension fund client onboarding in the previous year, the shares of the parent company of which are held within the Global Focus Fund. The above procedure has been followed to ensure no inappropriate influence in voting.

The ‘conflicts register’ of both potential and actual conflicts of interest is available to clients on request. The Conflicts of Interest Policy is available on our website at www.vamllp.com.

Single Team Approach

The structure of our organisation helps mitigate conflicts of interest. Each investment team serves only one strategy. The analysts are not conflicted by having to find ideas for more than one team. Any company analysed as suitable quality will be added to the Universe List of stocks. Only these stocks can be purchased for client portfolios and any stock purchased or sold will be actioned across all clients (subject to any investment restrictions). In the event of onboarding a new client, a trade is stopped for allocations to be reconfigured, meaning the incoming client is treated fairly.

In the event of being made insiders to a position, either inadvertently or knowingly, there are set procedures in place to halt trading and add the stock to a restricted list. Staff undergo annual training involving assessments that need to be passed that cover areas including conflicts of interest. Specifically related to stewardship, we aim to apply the same holistic approach in order that all clients benefit and there is less chance of conflicts of interest. When we introduce an initiative, we will formally assess whether it can and should be introduced across all funds and for all clients.

Training

Employees participate in comprehensive training that’s assessed for effectiveness. The topics covered include personal trading, insider dealing, and anti-money laundering - critical areas directly tied to our clients’ best interests. As the ESG landscape is evolving at a far quicker pace than other business areas, this results in multiple training sessions per year, with a key focus on the following objectives:

1. Senior Management Involvement:

All training sessions include senior management. Active participation reinforces our commitment to ESG principles. For example, in 2025, we hosted a biodiversity training session for the Investment and ESG teams, as well as members of the Managing Partners Board. The session was delivered by MSCI and focused on how the investment industry is increasingly incorporating biodiversity risks and opportunities into investment analysis, the data available to support this, and the metrics emerging as industry standards for comparison across companies and for aggregation at portfolio level for reporting purposes.

2. External Expertise:

When introducing new regulations or reporting initiatives, our ESG team consults with external organisations. These organizations encompass NGOs like the Science Based Targets initiative (SBTi) and the Carbon Disclosure Project (CDP), as well as the UK Investment Association, legal firms, and data providers such as MSCI ESG Research LLC, as illustrated above.

3. All Staff ESG Training

Internal training is provided to all staff through Skillcast, a computer-based training platform. Regular mandatory modules include Market Abuse, Financial Crime Prevention, Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Terrorist Financing, Consumer Duty, and SMCR Code of Conduct training, each of which includes an assessment that staff are required to pass.

Recognising the importance of ensuring that all employees understand our ESG strategy and its evolution, in 2025 we expanded our mandatory training programme to include ESG for all staff. This reflected the fact that responsibility for ESG extends beyond the Investment and ESG teams, with functions in the commercial team such as Compliance, Operations and Client Services, also playing an important role in the firm's broader ESG framework.

While we continue to regard the Skillcast format as effective, we concluded that the commercially available ESG content was not sufficiently tailored to VAM LLP. ESG is a broad and complex area, we believe the content is most effective when adapted to the specific context of the business. We therefore developed our own internal training materials, drawing directly on the strategy, policies and processes implemented at VAM LLP.

4. Continuous Learning Culture:

Beyond mandatory training, employees are encouraged to pursue courses like the CFA ESG Certificate. Several individuals in the organisation already hold this qualification.

Principle 4

Signatories identify and respond to market-wide and systemic risks to promote a well-functioning financial system.

Our investment approach involves assessing risks/ opportunities over a 10-year time horizon. As such systemic risks form part of the discussion and where these are material, may form part of a theme/trend which both aids idea generation but also frames engagement with companies. The output of this approach is to contribute to an improvement in a well-functioning financial system. Once a risk is determined, change needs to be encouraged through policies and measurable actions.

Systemic risks, including changes in market sentiment and broader industry perspectives, also need to be considered when assessing the environment in which we operate and the areas where meaningful progress is, or is not, being made. Over the past five years, the initial intensity of focus on ESG, during a period when the subject was particularly prominent, has begun to moderate. In its place, industry participants have developed a more mature and nuanced understanding of the underlying components of ESG and their relevance to individual businesses. This has helped move the discussion away from overly broad expectations and towards a more grounded assessment of the specific ESG factors that are material to long-term corporate performance rather than geared towards impact investing. However, following the change in US administration in 2025, ESG, which had increasingly become a BAU item on the agenda for many company meetings and, has experienced a degree of renewed disruption, as discussed further below.

1. The Changing Landscape of U.S. Corporates

> *"In the 20th century, the United States unlocked the potential of half its population. In the 21st century, we will unlock the potential of the other half" - Warren Buffett*

Market Context

As Warren Buffett has noted, future U.S. growth depends on unlocking the "other half" of its talent—women. However, since the Republicans returned to power in 2025, with Donald Trump sworn in as the 47th President of the United States, corporate sentiment towards Climate & Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) has shifted. This change appears to be influenced by evolving political priorities and a series of executive orders enacted under the Trump administration, reshaping the broader policy and market environment in the U.S.

In response to the change in sentiment towards ESG matters, a number of U.S. companies and service providers have scaled back or reframed DEI initiatives to remain aligned with changing political and legal signals. Notably, Institutional Shareholder Services (ISS), our proxy voting advisor, removed diversity-related factors from its benchmark voting policy shortly after the Republicans took office, signalling a broader recalibration across the stewardship ecosystem.

The Trump administration has reiterated its opposition to Net Zero commitments and climate-related regulation. A series of executive actions have been taken to roll back environmental protections and accelerate domestic fossil fuel production, reinforcing a policy environment less supportive of climate transition objectives.

In light of the evolving U.S. policy backdrop, we have observed a range of responses and levels of commitment across companies held in the Fund. Alphabet, for example, has removed its target to increase hiring from underrepresented groups, citing the influence of recent court decisions and executive orders. Amazon has reportedly begun winding down certain standalone DEI programmes, instead integrating inclusion principles more broadly across its operations. Microsoft, by contrast, reaffirmed its DEI commitments earlier this year despite mounting political pressure, with its Chief Diversity Officer noting that "inclusivity helps Microsoft build better products and services for a global audience."

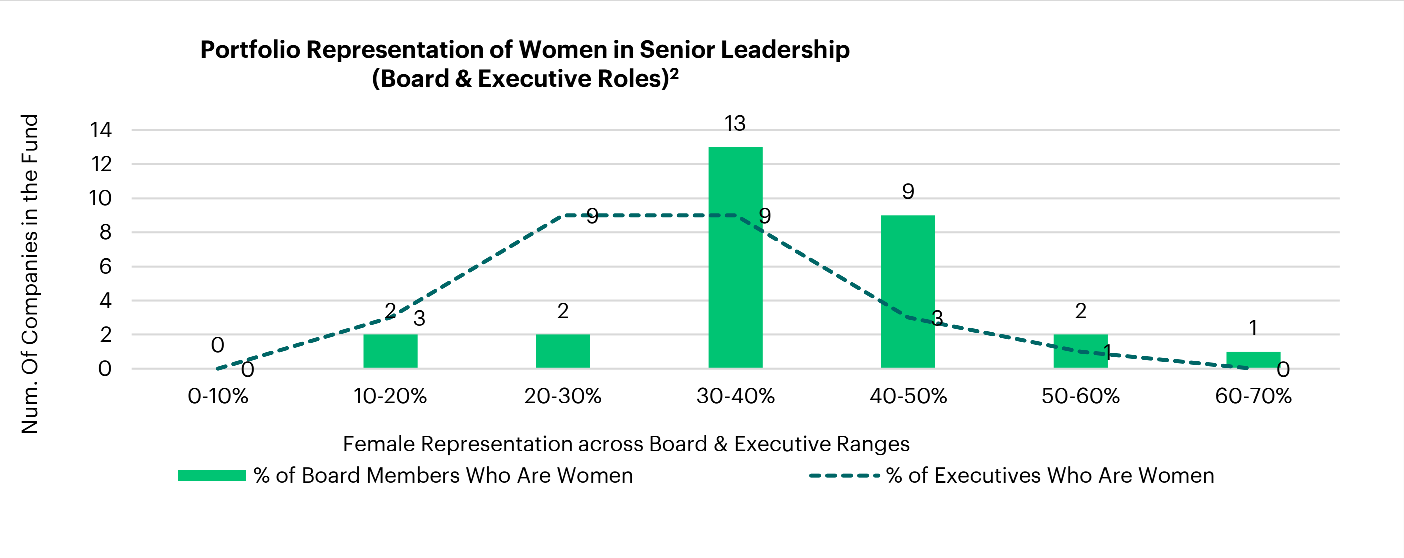
A similarly mixed picture is emerging on climate. Some companies are recalibrating the pace or framing of their Net Zero ambitions in response to U.S. political developments. Despite this shifting political signal, across both DEI and climate, we continue to uphold our custom ESG Red Line Voting Policy. This policy maintains clear expectations around board and senior leadership diversity, while also encouraging companies to develop credible, science-based, Net Zero-aligned transition plans. Our position on both issues remains firmly unchanged, reflecting our belief that diversity and climate preparedness are fundamental components of long-term value creation and risk management.

Portfolio Overview

A growing body of research highlights the benefits of gender diversity within leadership and senior management, linking more balanced teams to stronger decision-making, innovation, and long-term performance. In our view, these governance characteristics also support more effective oversight of complex risks, including climate transition and physical risk exposure.

The chart below illustrates the distribution of female representation across boards and executive teams for companies held in the Veritas Global Focus Fund. For board-level representation, the majority of companies (13) fall within the 30–40% range, followed by nine companies in the 40–50% bracket. In contrast, executive management remains more male-dominated, with significantly fewer companies achieving comparable levels of female representation.

The data suggests that while most portfolio companies have made meaningful progress towards gender balance at the board level, female representation in executive roles continues to lag.



Current Position & Outlook

In light of shifting U.S. legal and political dynamics, we do not believe a reactive rollback of our standards is warranted. Instead, we will continue to anchor our expectations in the guidance set out in our policy documents, which call for meaningful board and leadership diversity alongside robust climate governance and credible transition planning. Implementing changes to workforce composition or climate strategy is inherently complex and typically takes years to deliver measurable outcomes. As an active manager with a 4 to 5 year investment horizon, we are well positioned to engage with management teams over a meaningful period to support such progress.

For example, where board diversity requires improvement, we do not advocate box-ticking or forced turnover. Rather, we focus on succession planning and the development of a strong, qualified pipeline of candidates. We encourage companies to review nomination processes and broader talent strategies to organically widen candidate pools and strengthen leadership diversity over time. These considerations form a core part of our engagement discussions.

Similarly, on climate, we engage with companies on the credibility of transition plans, capital expenditure alignment, and board-level oversight of climate risks and opportunities, recognising that effective execution is as important as ambition.

The table below highlights the top five leaders and laggards for board diversity within the Global Focus Fund. Charter Communications remains an active engagement target, with prior discussions focused on improving board-level gender diversity. Notably, it is also the company with which we have the longest-standing climate engagement, reflecting ongoing concerns regarding the absence of a credible, Net Zero-aligned transition plan. Additional engagement targets include those listed among the laggards, where companies fall below our established minimum 40% threshold for gender diversity.

We remain pragmatic when engaging with U.S. companies, acknowledging that the current administration's stance on both DEI and climate is likely to influence corporate decision-making in the years ahead. However, our overarching approach remains unchanged. We continue to advocate for clear frameworks, measurable progress, and transparent reporting. We believe that consistency in expectations strengthens our stewardship agenda and supports companies as they navigate an increasingly complex and evolving societal, regulatory, and environmental landscape.

Portfolio Board Diversity Leaders and Laggards

Top 5 | Leaders		
Num.	Company	% Female Board Composition
1	Diageo	67.00
2	Dassault Systemes	57.14
3	Intercontinental Exchange	54.55
4	Safran SA	50.00
5	ASML Holding N.V.	44.44

Top 5 | Laggards		
Num.	Company	% Female Board Composition
1	Charter Communications	15.38
2	Alphabet	20.00
3	Hyatt Hotels Corporation	27.27
4	Waters Corporation	30.00
5	Amazon.com	33.33

2. Climate Change

Climate change in our view remains a key systemic risk. There is growing evidence of a 'carbon bubble' and the need for an orderly transition to prevent a rushed, disorderly transition. We spend considerable time engaging with professional networks, academics and reading, and climate transition is front of mind. We engage with a concentrated number of companies, the majority of which cite climate as a material risk to the financial system.

There is also a risk within the investment industry of refusing to acknowledge the growing awareness of climate change and the tightening regulations. The majority of clients do not wish to invest in funds that have no clear climate policies in place and companies will find fewer investment houses wishing to hold their equity which may hinder raising of capital.

Company Management is responding to pressure but there remain hurdles posed by varying regulatory responses, and changes in sentiment and/or ambition, as expressed above. Areas of inconsistency include Scope 3 emissions, Net Zero pledges without specific measurable goals, and when to use and not use offsets. Some companies choose to keep a low profile on climate but there are strong incentives to reduce their emissions and their own climate risk.

Against this backdrop, Veritas remains committed to achieving Net Zero by 2050 with the percentage of AUM managed in line with Net Zero being 100% of invested assets by that date. This is a self-imposed commitment by virtue of becoming a signatory of the Net Zero Asset Managers initiative ("NZAM"). As part of our commitment to the Science Based Targets initiative ("SBTi"), we were required to establish interim targets for both SBTi and the Net Zero Asset Managers initiative (NZAM). For SBTi, the interim target needed to be set within five years from the base year of 2021, making 2026 the target year. Additionally, our NZAM commitment required setting a target for 2030.

- **Summary of Climate Commitments**

  We endorse the initiatives Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures ("TCFD") and Transition Pathway Initiative ("TPI"). These bodies encourage disclosure on areas related to climate change, in a standardised format, which is comparable across company and sector. To make sense of a 1.5-degree world and how companies are positioned, it is necessary to first bring about standardised reporting. Ultimately, we believe that there should be an open architecture to carbon disclosure rather than the need to sign up to a third-party provider. Veritas is a signatory of several globally recognised ESG Non-Governmental Organisations ("NGOs").

2014	2017	2019	2020	2021
• Financial Reporting Council's (FRC) UK Stewardship Code	• UN Principles for Responsible Investment (UNPRI)	• Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures (TCFD)	• Transition Pathway Initiative (TPI)	• Net Zero Asset Managers Initiative (NZAM) • Science Based Targets Initiative (SBTi)

  We take a pragmatic view to sustainability. To focus on only those companies that demonstrably offer only benefits, would reduce the investable universe to a handful of companies. If we take Net Zero and only invest in companies with SBTI approved targets today and screen out those that do not or eliminate those that are removed from SBTI, maybe temporarily, clients will need to understand that their risk/ return profile would be very different and maybe not aligned with all objectives. It also does little to help with Net Zero aspirations at a global level. Instead, we see ESG as progressive and take a more holistic approach. There is wide spectrum today, ranging from the compliant company, through to the 'low hanging fruit' where change can be encouraged relatively quickly, out to the non-compliant that will take more encouragement. In short, we subscribe to the view that as long only active managers, we should use the two tools afforded to us, voting and engagement, rather than exclusion and/ or disinvestment.

Climate Initiatives

- **TCFD Aligned Engagement**

  Whilst there is no hard exclusion, prior to investing in a business, the investment team assesses the materiality of risks posed by climate change on a case-by-case basis and where necessary, the financial impact of physical risks. Any company deemed to be at significant risk from climate change will not be added to the Universe List.

VAM LLP implemented a Taskforce on Climate related Financial Disclosures ("TCFD") engagement structure, whereby all investee companies are mapped against TCFD framework and engagement will result in those companies where there is a shortfall.

More specifically the team are trying to identify how the business is positioned in their transition to a low carbon economy, this includes identifying the following:

- Does the board have oversight of the company's climate strategy?
- What risks and opportunities does the business face?
- Does the business achieve Net Zero or is further innovation required within the sector?
- Has the company reviewed their carbon inventory and are disclosures independently verified?
- Where in the value chain are the bulk of emissions produced and does the business make meaningful changes to reduce emissions?
- Has the business identified carbon emission reduction targets that are science-based?
- What temperature trajectory are these targets aligned with?
- Will carbon offsets play a significant role in the business's transition strategy?
- Does the business achieve Net Zero or is further innovation required within the sector?

By implementing a process that assesses all companies held, the team are not only capturing material climate related risks from a bottom-up perspective during the initial research, but the team are also ensuring that companies that are not materially impacted by climate change are keeping abreast of changes, irrespective of the business sector, activity, or location.

The tables below present a high-level overview of our top 10 portfolio holdings for the two primary investment strategies, mapped against the TCFD framework.

Net Zero & Carbon Management Oversight[1]

- **Veritas Global Focus Fund**
  Top 10 Portfolio holdings as of 31 December 2025

			TCFD Framework[1]								
Portfolio Holdings			Governance			Strategy		Risk	Metrics & Targets		
Top 10	Security name	Portfolio Weighting %	CDP Score[4]	Governance Oversight	Executive remuneration linked to climate	R&D required to align product or service	Climate Scenario Analysis	Imminent Climate Risks Identified	SBTi Near-Term Target Status[3]	Near Term Target Ambition °C	Company Claims Net Zero Emissions Target[2]
1	Microsoft Corp	6.1	Not disclosed N/A	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✓	1.5	✗
2	Amazon.com Inc	5.9	C	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	○	-	✓
3	Vinci SA	4.8	B	✓	✓	✗	✓	✗	✓	Well-below 2	✓
4	UnitedHealth Group Inc	4.7	C	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	1.5	✓
5	Unilever PLC	4.7	B	✓	✓	✗	✓	✗	✓	1.5	✓
6	Safran SA	4.6	A	✓	✓	✗	✓	✗	✓	1.5	✓
7	Salesforce Inc	4.2	A-	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	1.5	✓
8	London Stock Exchange Group	4.2	A-	✓	✓	✗	✓	✗	✓	1.5	✓
9	Aon PLC	4.0	D	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	◊	-	✓
10	Canadian Pacific Kansas City	3.9	Not disclosed N/A	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✓	Well-below 2	✓

[1] *Task Force on Climate Related Financial Disclosures. The company has either formally committed to the TCFD or disclosed publicly they have adopted the framework. 2 A net-zero target must consist of two main elements; a target to reduce value chain emissions by an amount consistent with net-zero in global scenarios that limit warming to 1.5°C or well-below 2°C ; a target to neutralize the impact of residual emissions (i.e., emissions that are unfeasible for society to abate in 1.5°C scenarios) by permanently removing an equivalent amount of CO2 from the atmosphere. Carbon neutral refers to a policy of not increasing carbon emissions and of achieving carbon reduction through offsets.* [3] *Science Based Targets Initiative (SBTi) are considered 'science-based' if they are in line with what the latest climate science deems necessary to meet the goals of the Paris Agreement – limiting global warming to well-below 2°C above pre-industrial levels and pursuing efforts to limit warming to 1.5°C. Targets are confirmed or Implementation anticipated within the next 2yrs.* [4] *Climate Disclosure Project (CDP) Score based on annual submission.*

- **Veritas Asian Fund**
  Top 10 Portfolio holdings as of 31 December 2025

			TCFD Framework[1]								
Portfolio Holdings			Governance			Strategy		Risk	Metrics & Targets		
Top 10	Security name	Portfolio Weighting %	CDP Score[4]	Governance Oversight	Executive remuneration linked to climate	R&D required to align product or service	Climate Scenario Analysis	Imminent Climate Risks Identified	SBTi Near Term Target Status[2]	Near Term Target Ambition °C	Company Claims Net Zero Emissions Target[3]
1	TSMC	9.3	B	✓	✓	✗	✓	✗	✗	-	✓
2	Samsung Electronics Co Ltd	6.0	B	✓	✓	✗	✓	✗	✗	-	✓
3	Delta Electronics Inc	4.4	A	✓	✓	✗	✓	✗	✓	1.5	✓
4	SK hynix Inc	4.1	-	✓	✓	✗	✓	✗	✗	-	✓
5	Tencent Holdings Ltd	3.8	C	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✓	1.5	✓
6	Newmont Corp-CDI	3.8	A-	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	Well-below 2°C	✓
7	Hanwha Aerospace Co Ltd	3.7	A	✓	✓	✗	✓	✗	✗	-	✓
8	CATL	3.6	B	✗	✓	✗	✓	✗	✗	-	✗
9	Hon Hai Precision Industry Co	3.5	B	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✓	1.5	✓
10	Sieyuan Electric Co., Ltd.	2.9	-	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	-	-	✗

- **Engagement on Climate Objectives resulting from TCFD shortfalls**

As long-term investors, our strategies typically have an investment horizon of approximately 3-5 years. We often work closely with management to achieve engagement objectives, sometimes requiring multiple interactions on the same issue. The engagement example below demonstrates our interaction with an investee company regarding their climate disclosure.

Company: Aon PLC

Date of Interaction: October 2025

ESG Category: Environmental

Company Overview:
Aon plc ("Aon") is a global professional services firm that primarily provides risk, insurance brokerage and consulting services, alongside human capital solutions.

Engagement Objective: Encourage Aon to submit Scope 3 net zero targets and address diversity and technological oversight.

Rationale for Engagement: From a climate perspective, Aon currently lacks a Scope 3 net zero target, and provides limited disclosures, creating notable gaps relative to peers and growing market expectations. We also note that gender representation in managerial positions remains limited and board diversity sits at around 30% women. While board independence remains strong, there has been a notable reduction in average tenure. On AI and data, the company's increasing reliance on digital tools, such as AI dashboards and the establishment of an AI steering committee, underscores the need for continued oversight of technological integration and governance practices.

Summary of Interaction: Discussions with Aon focused on governance, remuneration, climate strategy, and the responsible use of technology. The board demonstrated a high level of activity and awareness around succession planning, though diversity at both the board and senior management levels remains an area for improvement. On the climate front, Aon has yet to commit to Scope 3 emission reduction targets, which limits the credibility of its net zero strategy. The firm's growing adoption of AI, including the rollout of dashboards and the formation of an AI steering committee, was noted positively, though continued engagement will be needed to ensure responsible governance of these technologies.

Outcome: We will continue to press Aon to strengthen its climate strategy, including establishing scope 3 net zero targets. A detailed analysis of Aon's Scope 3 emissions has been prepared to support future engagement and strengthen our position in subsequent discussions. Should the company fail to demonstrate sufficient progress by the 2026 AGM, we will consider escalation in line with our policy, which includes voting against management where appropriate, guided by the company's non-adherence to our ESG Red Lines, which are discussed in further detail below..

This example illustrates an engagement opportunity identified through our standard review process as a TCFD related shortfall. The issue is also captured within the custom ESG component of our proxy voting guidance, the ESG Red Lines, further details of which are set out below.

- **ESG Red Line Voting**

  We introduced ESG Red Line voting in 2017. The policy incorporates guidance on the disclosure on GHG emissions from the Carbon Disclosure Project ("CDP") and the UN Global Compact ("UNGC"). We have customised the Red Lines to apply them across all Global mandates. Currently we apply 29 Red Lines of which 5 are related to Environmental topics. The Red Lines trigger a 'comply or explain' action which ensures we communicate to clients the action being taken by a company if we vote alongside management. It is often more constructive to work with management than apply a blunt tool. The 5 Environmental Red Lines are listed below and reviewed at least annually, to ensure relevance. They form part of the formalised approach to company engagement.

ENVIRONMENT	E1	Climate Change: Requirement for an Environmental Sustainability Committee	If the company does not have a sustainability committee with responsibility for environmental issues including climate change chaired by a board director, or if the company is outside the FTSE 350 and does not have a named board member with responsibility for this area as evidence of appropriate concern, vote against the chair of the board.
	E2	Climate change: Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures"	If the company does not report in line with the recommendations of the Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures ("TCFD") vote against the chair of the board.
	E3	Climate change: introduction and disclosure of emission reduction targets	If the company has failed to commit to introduce and disclose science-based emission reduction targets, a coherent strategy and action plan in line with a 1.5°C scenario, vote against the chair of the board.
	E5	Climate change: disclosure of information via CDP questionnaires	If the company has failed to disclose quantitative and qualitative environmental information through for example CDP's water and forests questionnaires or similar, vote against the re-election of the chair of the sustainability committee or, in the absence of such a committee, against the re-election of the chair of the main board.
	E6	Environmental damage	If the company has a history of major incidents of environmental damage, or a major incident in the year under report, and the directors' report does not include a substantial account of how it is responding to resulting criticism and of the ways in which it proposes to minimise the risks of repetition, vote against the reappointment of the chair.

After several years of assessing the effectiveness of Red Lines, and in order to move further towards consistency across the firm, Red Line Voting was introduced to the Asian equity funds during the 1st half of 2024. As with the Global Red Lines, this has the benefit of improving the level of company disclosure to the benefit of all market participants. The Asian Red Lines are discussed further under Principle 5.

Red Line Voting Policy Example

Company: Zoetis Inc

Date of Interaction: May 2025

ESG Category: Environmental

Company Overview:
Zoetis is the world's largest independent animal health company, focused on discovering, developing and manufacturing medicines, vaccines and diagnostic products for pets and livestock.

Red Line Breached: Ahead of the 2025 AGM, we engaged with Zoetis Inc ("Zoetis") to discuss potential breaches of our ESG Red Line proxy voting policy. Four issues were identified:

- E3 - The company has failed to commit to introducing and disclosing science-based emission reduction targets with a coherent strategy and action plan in line with a 1.5-degree scenario
- S4 - The level of gender diversity on the board is below 40% and has not improved compared to the previous year
- G20 - Performance-based awards account for less than 50% of the total LTI awards
- G23 - The CEO's remuneration package does not include criteria for awards to be linked to relevant sustainability targets including those in relation to climate change

Summary of interaction: As part of this engagement, we met with members of the Zoetis team, including Andrea Nance, Head of Sustainability. The conversation primarily centred on Red Line S4 and E3, where we felt further clarity and progress were needed beyond what had been disclosed publicly. The engagement provided greater insight into Zoetis' current position on climate strategy and governance and helped inform our assessment of whether the issues identified warranted escalation at this stage.

Outcome:
The primary focus of our engagement was E3, where we sought greater clarity on Zoetis' climate progress and next steps. The company has set a target to achieve net zero Scope 1 and 2 emissions by 2030 and is currently working to establish its Scope 3 baseline ahead of seeking SBTi validation. Zoetis noted that recent changes to the SBTi target-setting methodology had added complexity to this process, a challenge also raised by other investee companies. While progress has been slower than we would ideally have liked, the discussion indicated clear intent and a willingness to engage constructively on the issue. As new shareholders, we intend to revisit this area following publication of the latest sustainability report and would expect, at a minimum, a full Scope 3 carbon inventory to be in place by the 2026 AGM, which we see as the next key milestone.

Beyond E3, we also considered S4 and the relevant governance-related Red Lines. Gender diversity on the board remains at 33% and has not improved, which is below our 40% threshold. However, we considered the current US backdrop and the increasing resistance to diversity mandates, alongside the fact that the company is led by a female CEO, Kristin Peck, and that we saw no broader indication of gender imbalance in leadership. In relation to remuneration, although G20 and G23 were not the primary focus of the meeting, we noted that 50% of Zoetis' long-term incentive is delivered through performance share units linked to three-year TSR relative to the S&P 500 and that, due to underperformance, the payout for the 2022–2024 period was zero. We therefore considered the structure to provide a meaningful link between pay and performance. While the CEO's remuneration package does not include explicit sustainability targets, the annual incentive framework does reflect broader strategic and operational priorities, including environmental and community initiatives. Given that G23 was only introduced into our policy in 2024, and that we believe ESG-linked pay is most effective where it is clearly measurable, we supported management while continuing to monitor progress. Overall, although not all ESG Red Lines were met, we considered the company's trajectory, the timing of our investment and the quality of engagement to be sufficient to support management at this stage, while maintaining the position under review over the next 12 months.

Measuring Success

1. Implied Temperature Rise (ITR)

As a way of measuring the impact of policies, we appointed the company South Pole to assist with calculating the implied temperature rise (ITR) of all assets to determine an overall pathway to Net Zero. South Pole are respected advisors to organisations and governments on climate transition pathways and use SBTi approved methodology.

VAM LLP has committed to manage 100% of AUM in-line with Net Zero by 2050, excluding cash and assets invested in money market funds.,). Given that we have signed up to NZAM and the Science Based Targets initiative (SBTi), we are obliged to set interim targets for both SBTi, which needs to be five years from the base year (2021 is base, so 2026) and for NZAM, which is the 2030 target.

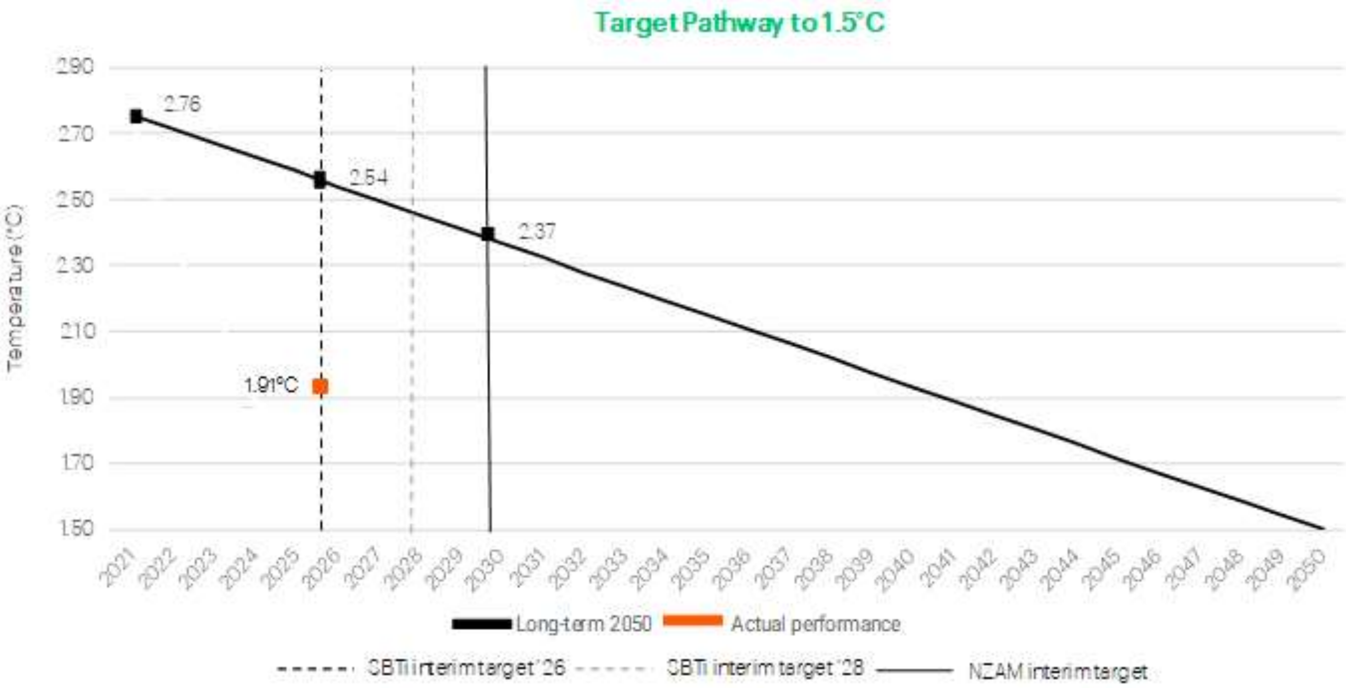
The decarbonisation framework is consistent with the SBTi Financial Institutions Target Methodology, which incorporates the IPCC pathway to 1.5°C. The Temperature Rating methodology is used to determine our targets for financed emissions. The baseline year set was 2021, at which point the firm-level metrics were 2.76°C (Scopes 1+2) and 2.93°C (Scopes 1+2+3).

The Implied Temperature Rise (ITR) model, developed by South Pole, includes only companies that have set targets reported to the CDP or verified by SBTi. Companies that have committed to SBTi but have not yet had their targets approved, or those without set targets, are assigned a default score of 3.2°C. Whilst the model uses the weighted average approach (the respective weighting is the invested value in a company divided by the total value of all portfolios), this hardline default approach impacts the overall implied temperature rating, which is the key to encouraging action.

The ITR will reduce quickly by encouraging companies to commit to having their targets verified by SBTi or report to the CDP, which aligns with our TCFD engagement policy. Conversely, if a company fails to adhere to its commitments to the SBTi, it can be removed, potentially raising the Implied Temperature Rise (ITR).

VAM LLP: Transition Pathway to 1.5°C

Target setting	VAM LLP Long-term target 2050
Baseline Year	2021
Longer-term target	2050
Interim Target (NZAMI)	2030
Interim Target (SBTi)	2026
Baseline TS S1&2	2.76 °C
Target TS S1&2	1.50 °C
Performance S1&2 2025	1.91 °C



The chart illustrates the independently SBTI approved transition pathway to Net Zero for 100% of VAM invested assets, and the progress made over the 12 months to YE 2025, against the interim targets required by NZAM and SBTI. The implied temperature rise (ITR) fell by 0.85°C since the base year established in 2021.

Pooled Fund ITR

During the reporting period, some clients have requested ITR data for a specific fund, to help with their own disclosure requirements. Whilst the Firm's commitment is on 100% AUM, we now provide fund data to clients that request it.

Veritas Global Focus Fund

For the VGFF, we have established a transition pathway to align the Fund with 1.5°C, aligned with the overarching goal of achieving Net Zero by 2050 for 100% AUM. The base year is 2021, with an initial temperature rating of 2.63°C. Two interim targets have been established, in line with our commitments to the Science Based Targets Initiative (SBTi) and the Net Zero Asset Managers Initiative (NZAM), with targets of 2.44°C by 2026 and 2.28°C by 2030, respectively. Progress is reviewed annually by the third-party South Pole. By the end of 2025, we have achieved a reduction of -31% (Scope 1+2), resulting in a temperature rating of 1.82°C, surpassing both interim targets.

Veritas Asian Fund

For the VAF, we have established a transition pathway to align the Fund with 1.5°C, aligned with the overarching goal of achieving Net Zero by 2050 for 100% AUM. The base year is 2021, with an initial temperature rating of 3.19°C. Two interim targets have been established, in line with our commitments to the Science Based Targets Initiative (SBTi) and the Net Zero Asset Managers Initiative (NZAM), with targets of 2.90°C by 2026 and 2.66°C by 2030, respectively. Progress is reviewed annually by the third-party South Pole. By the end of 2025, we have achieved a reduction of -16% (Scope 1+2), resulting in a temperature rating of 2.69°C, surpassing both interim targets.

Fund Results	Temperature Ratings (For the calculations, the weights of companies with available data were normalised to 100%.)				Change YoY	
	2025		2024		2025 vs 2024	
FUND NAME	**Scope 1+2 TR (°C)**	**Scope 1+2+3 TR (°C)**	**Scope 1+2 TR (°C)**	**Scope 1+2+3 TR (°C)**	**Scope 1+2 Δ Temp**	**Scope 1+2+3 Δ Temp**
VAMLLP	1.91	2.30	1.88	2.35	2%	-2%
Veritas Asian Fund	2.69	2.81	2.55	2.66	5%	6%
Veritas China Fund	2.85	2.86	2.92	2.95	-2%	-3%
Veritas Global Equity Income Fund	1.62	1.87	1.72	2.05	-6%	-9%
Veritas Global Focus CCF	1.82	2.26	1.80	2.32	1%	-3%
Veritas Global Focus Fund	1.81	2.26	1.80	2.32	1%	-3%
Veritas Global Real Return Fund	1.82	2.25	1.82	2.33	0%	-3%
Veritas Izoard Fund	1.81	2.18	1.83	2.28	-1%	-4%

Principle 5

Signatories review their policies, assure their processes, and assess the effectiveness of their activities.

Evaluation of Policies and Processes

We actively consider the obligations of ownership and stewardship of our client's capital. We aim to preserve the real value of client's capital but to also report on how we fulfil our stewardship responsibilities. Behind each of our stewardship policies is an output which is reported to clients in a detailed quarterly report. Each of these polices is assessed on an annual basis for effectiveness by listening carefully to feedback from our clients, attending conferences, webinars on current and proposed future regulations and interactions with the UK Investment Association ("IA"), the United Nations Principles for Responsible Investment (UN PRI), the Transition Pathway Initiative ("TPI"), Science Based Targets Initiative ("SBTi"), the Net Zero Assets Managers Initiative ("NZAM") etc. The reporting is reviewed by the investment teams, the Management Committee, the MPB, Legal and Compliance Team, and the client team. The report is combined with regular quarterly client reporting and discussed in quarterly calls with clients and consultants. We host several ESG specific meetings with clients, who provide valuable feedback and highlight what they would like to receive going forward. Given Veritas has only two main investment strategies, we believe that this review and feedback process is appropriate for a firm of our size and assets under management.

Key outcomes over the reporting period:

i. Sustainable Finance Disclosure Regulation (SFDR) Binding Elements

Since all strategies at Veritas are categorised as Article 8 Funds, as per our commitments under the Sustainable Finance Disclosure Regulation ("SFDR"), we can monitor the alignment with the binding elements. The table below provides a summary of the specific commitments made in terms of managing portfolios to ensure compliance with the Article 8 status for the Veritas Global Focus Fund. Post-investment, we continue to monitor any changes impacting these thresholds. Notably, two of the binding elements relate to climate and provide a further measure of success as detailed in the Annex IV annual report. In 2025, we made a change to the measurement of the binding elements. We decided to replace Carbon Footprint with Weighted Average Carbon Intensity (WACI). Given the similarities across the Funds and our overarching approach to ESG integration, it made sense to implement these changes across the board. There were also some further tweaks to the methodology, as explained below.

Regulation

- The Sustainable Finance Disclosure Regulation ("SFDR")

Proportion of investments

- The Investment Manager intends to invest a minimum of 60% of the Fund's NAV in investments which attain the environmental and/or social characteristics promoted by the Fund. The remaining 40% of investments will be in investments which seek to achieve the broader objectives of the Fund, including those which may not match the Fund's ESG criteria in its entirety.

Binding Elements[2]

- 1. The Fund will ensure that a minimum 30% of net assets are invested in companies committed to achieving Net Zero. Compliance will be measured using verification and commitments aligned with Science-Based Net Zero Target methodologies and/or pledges to the Business Ambition for 1.5 °C campaign, each as promoted by the SBTi.

- 2. A set of fixed exclusion criteria is in place to exclude companies or issuers from consideration for investment where their revenue is significantly derived from controversial weapons (for example, anti-personnel mines, cluster munitions, chemical weapons, and biological weapons).

- 3. The Fund will be managed to ensure that at least 60% of assets achieve an overall Weighted Carbon Intensity (WACI) (calculated with regards to Scopes 1+2) that is in line with or lower than that of the MSCI World (Net Dividends Reinvested) Index, measured on a 12-month rolling basis.

Blended Methodology

- To achieve the minimum 60% threshold of investments in companies that promote environmental and/or social characteristics, we apply a blended methodology that weights the binding elements equally.

The key changes and rationale are set out below:

a) We measured WACI rather than Carbon Footprint (Absolute Emissions). This removed the impact of fluctuations in Market Cap or Enterprise Value Including Cash, influencing our figures, as WACI focused on revenue which was more consistent over a longer duration.

b) Measurements were stated to take place on a 12-month rolling basis. This ensured the wording was consistent with the measurements reported in Annex IV disclosure included in Fund Financials.

c) The key change around Net Zero related to the wording, which allowed for a broader and more flexible assessment of portfolio alignment. As the way companies transitioned and disclosed their decarbonisation strategies continued to evolve, it was important that our methodology was not overly restrictive.

Annually, we assess our compliance with the binding elements, and the results are disclosed in our financial statements within the SFDR Annex IV report. Below, we summarise how our two largest Funds were aligned with the sustainability indicators identified during the 2025 reporting period.

Sustainability Indicators[2,3]:	Veritas Global Focus Fund	Veritas Asian Fund
The percentage of the Sub-Fund's portfolio companies aligned with Net Zero	42%	26%
Carbon footprint (calculated with regard to Scopes 1+2) that is a minimum of 50% lower than that of the MSCI World Index.	80%	84%
Percentage of the Sub-Fund's total assets complying with global norms frameworks including the UNGC and UNGP.	100%	100%
Percentage of the Sub-Fund's total assets that consisted of portfolio companies that were involved with controversial weapons	0%	0%

ii. Refinement of Proprietary ESG Rating Model

As noted in our 2024 report, we completed the development of our proprietary ESG rating framework and have since implemented it across the business. Following the initial implementation, in 2025, several refinements were made to ensure the model better reflected our investment approach and decision-making process. Initially, the framework operated on a 1–5 scale. This was subsequently revised to a 1–3 scale. The change was made to provide clearer differentiation, particularly in identifying companies that are not eligible for investment. Under the revised framework, companies with an overall ESG score of 1 are not eligible for investment, and any company downgraded to 1 from 2 or 3 must be subject to review.

[2] Average performance 12 months to 30 September 24. Third party data sourced from MSCI ESG Research LLC, and the Science Based Target Initiative (SBTi) is used as an input to calculate sustainability indicators. Investment manager seeks to cover 100% of assets excluding cash; however, some companies may be held where coverage is not available from the data provider.

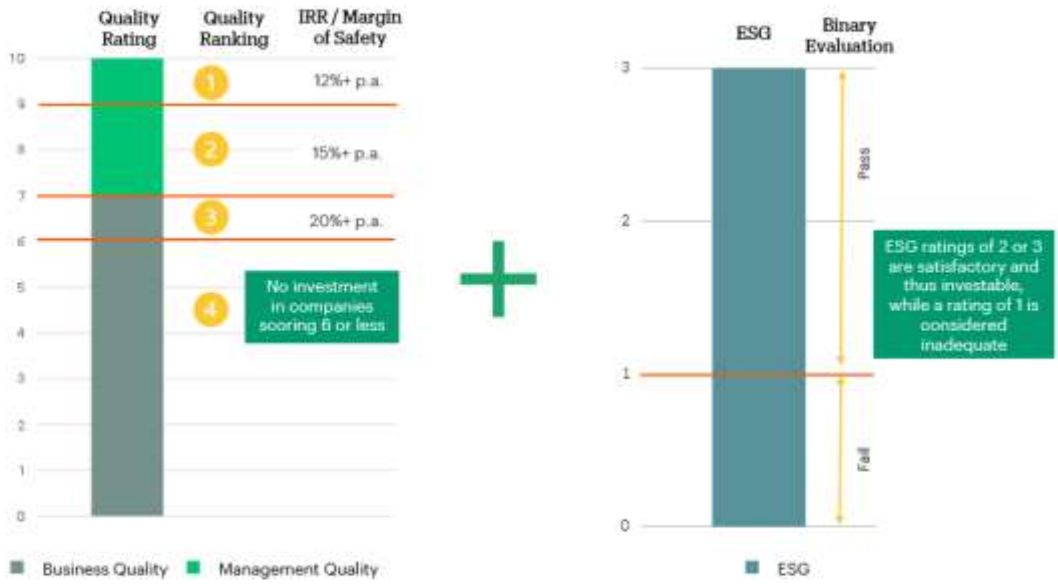
[3] The information presented is unaudited. This unaudited information has been prepared by the Investment Manager. While this information has been prepared with due skill and care, it has not been independently verified or audited by external auditors, and therefore, no assurance is given as to its accuracy or completeness.

For example, we assessed Tractor Supply, a U.S.-based retailer with a nationwide footprint of more than 2,300 stores across 49 states, offering a broad range of farm, ranch and home improvement products, including livestock feed, pet food, tools, tractor parts, apparel and lawn care equipment. On 27 June 2024, the company announced that it would no longer submit data to the Human Rights Campaign, it had eliminated dedicated DEI roles and formally retired its DEI objectives. The same announcement confirmed the withdrawal of its carbon emissions targets. Taken together, these developments represented a material step back from previously stated ESG commitments. Under our framework, the company now scores a 1 on ESG, rendering it uninvestable.

The diagram below illustrates an example of how the Quality Rating is structured and where ESG is applied. The overall business quality is assessed using a Quality Score rated out of 10, which comprises a Business Quality Score (out of 7), and a Management Score (out of 3). The score out of 10 will determine the Internal Rate of Return (IRR) sought from the investment, with a 9 or 10 score only requiring a 12% IRR and a 6 rating a higher margin of safety and a 20% IRR. Anything below a 6 is deemed not suitable for investment. The ESG rating is marked out of 3 and binary: 1 rating is unacceptable for investment, while 2 and 3 are Acceptable for investment, with 3 being the strongest conviction. If a company's ESG rating drops to 1, a review is triggered which will include any relevant engagement and/or voting. The stock may ultimately be eliminated from portfolios.

Investment Process: Quality and Margin of Safety

- **Business Quality Score:** Assesses the predictability and reliability of a company's ability to generate free cash flow. High-quality companies excel in generating high returns on capital, converting these into substantial free cash flows, and maintaining significant barriers to entry to protect these flows. They also benefit from enduring trends.



- **Management Team Score:** Evaluates past and present stewardship, effectiveness in managing shareholder expectations, ability to clearly demonstrate the company's long-term vision. We seek companies with forward-thinking, transparent management teams capable of adapting to future risks and opportunities while making decisions that enhance long-term profitability and align with the best interests of shareholders.

- **ESG Performance Rating:** The ESG Rating Model is built on in-house research and a proprietary framework that incorporates up to 100 fields. We draw from multiple sources, including Bloomberg ESG Data, MSCI Research, and third-party platforms like Glassdoor, covering topics such as climate, human rights, and board composition. We focus on primary ESG data, that hasn't been influenced by external parties or their assessments, ensuring our analysis is based solely on original data sources. Any subsequent evaluations and judgments are reserved for our investment analysts. Governance is given a minimum weighting of 50% in the final ESG rating, with Environmental and Social scores then weighted depending on the materiality to the business.

It should be noted that the Management quality score essentially can be decomposed into two things - operational competence and capital allocation. Governance within the ESG score would be the framework that allows/encourages them to exercise that expertise to the benefit of shareholders and other stakeholders.

Case Study: Diageo Plc

Diageo is a London-based global leader in beverage alcohol, boasting a portfolio of over 200 brands (including Johnnie Walker, Guinness, Smirnoff, and Don Julio) sold in over 100 countries. The company focuses on premium spirits, beer, and, increasingly, non-alcoholic options, with a strong emphasis on sustainability and innovation.

During the latest review, we reduced Diageo's environmental rating to reflect slippage against prior climate targets, with weaker interim ambition across Scopes 1–3, although the company remains aligned with a 1.5°C SBTi pathway. We view these revisions as an evolution of planning as data and understanding improve, rather than a dilution of long-term commitment. Water remains a material risk, but Diageo has robust targets and continues to make progress, including improved water efficiency and meaningful replenishment in stressed basins. The company remains a leader in diversity and inclusion, with strong female and ethnically diverse representation across leadership and the board. Its premiumisation strategy supports responsible consumption through a "drink less but better" approach, alongside partnerships addressing underage drinking, drink driving and binge drinking, with advertising complaints at record lows. Following the death of CEO Ivan Menezes, we are maintaining a watching brief on governance and management changes, including the new Chair's limited sector experience and the appointment of Sir Dave Lewis as CEO, as well as the expected evolution of executive remuneration, which we have historically viewed positively relative to peers.

The diagram below illustrates the application of the quality and margin of safety framework:

Evaluation Criteria	Diageo
Quality Rating: Scored out of 7	**6**
Management Rating: Scored out of 3	**2**
ESG Rating: Scored out of 3	**2**

The table below outlines the binary ESG framework in isolation, followed by the rationale for the scores assigned to the individual E, S and G components. The company moved from a 3 (Excellent) to a 2 (Average), as outlined below.

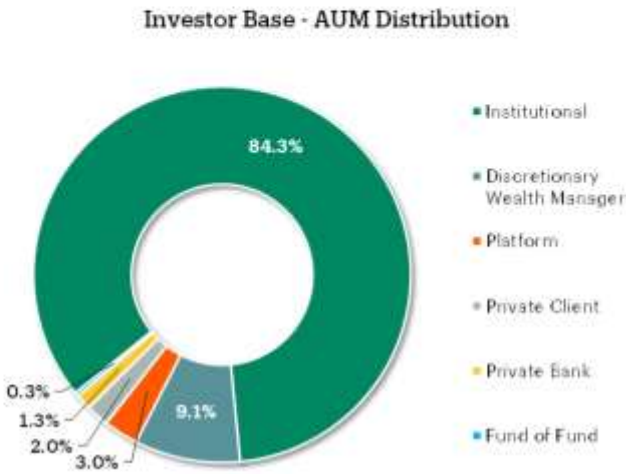
ESG Rating	2		
Component	E	S	G
Score	2	3	2
Weight	25%	25%	50%

Environmental Score Justification	Diageo's environmental rating was reduced to reflect slippage against its previous emissions targets. For direct operations, the company's prior target of reaching net zero across Scope 1 and 2 emissions by 2030 has been revised to a 50% reduction by 2030 and net zero by 2040. For value chain emissions, the previous target of a 50% reduction in Scope 3 emissions by 2030 has been revised to a 26% reduction by 2030, with net zero across all scopes now targeted by 2050. Nevertheless, the company remains aligned with the SBTi 1.5°C pathway. These revisions are not considered to reflect any weakening of commitment, but rather an evolving decarbonisation plan as more information and understanding have become available. Water remains a priority environmental risk for the business, and the company continues to maintain robust targets around water efficiency and replenishment in stressed jurisdictions, including a 40% improvement in water efficiency in water-stressed areas by 2030 and a net-positive water impact in key water basins. Progress in 2025 was encouraging, with a 2.6% improvement in the water efficiency index year on year and a 20.6% improvement since the 2020 baseline. The company also continued replenishment efforts in priority water basins, delivering more than 3 million cubic metres of additional capacity through collaboration with key partners to support the communities in which it operates.
Social Score Justification	Diageo is viewed as a leader in diversity and inclusion, with 43% of leadership roles held by women and 46% by individuals from ethnically diverse backgrounds. Women also account for 75% of the Board and 38% of the executive team, including the current interim CFO, Chief Marketing Officer and Head of North America, its most important market. In relation to problematic alcohol consumption, the company's premiumisation strategy is considered to support a "drink less but better" approach. It is also actively focused on tackling underage drinking, drink driving and binge drinking through partnerships with initiatives such as DRINKiQ, SMASHED and UNITAR. Complaints relating to Diageo's advertising are also at a record low.
Governance Score Justification	The death of the CEO, Ivan Menezes, has led to a significant degree of management change, and two areas remain under close review. The first is the transition in Chair from Javier Ferran to Sir John Manzoni, whose directly relevant sector experience is more limited. The second is appointment of Sir Dave Lewis as CEO. The company's approach to remuneration has historically been viewed favourably, particularly as the compensation structure has appeared more stretching than those of peers, with a clear emphasis on growth and cash flow. This framework may evolve under new management, with return on invested capital likely to receive greater weighting, which would not in itself be a concern. As with the wider management changes, this remains an area under active monitoring. It is also viewed positively that 5% of the LTIP is linked to changing attitudes towards the dangers of underage drinking, particularly given that underage drinking continues to decline on a long-term secular basis.

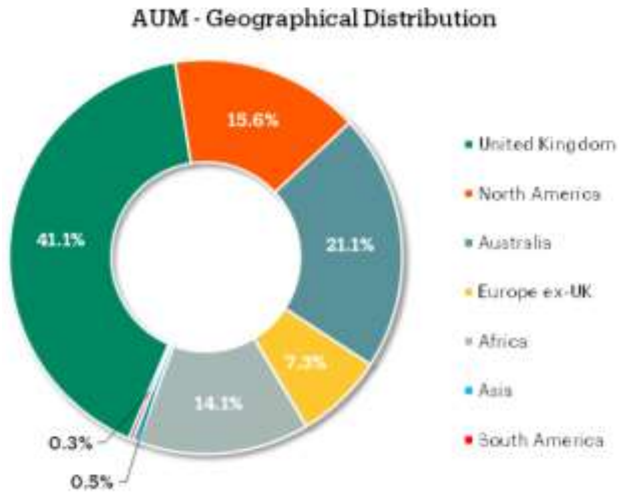
Principle 6

Signatories take account of client and beneficiary needs and communicate the activities and outcomes of their stewardship and investment to them.

Veritas is run with a partnership culture and owners' interests are aligned with those of its clients. Veritas' partners and employees are invested alongside clients. Approximately 85% of clients are institutional. This number may be understated given the nature of nominee accounts where there is little look through to the underlying client. The balance is retail clients investing via wealth managers and platforms. The business is broadly split geographically with over 50% of clients domiciled outside of the UK. As of 31 December 2025, Veritas had GBP 14bn of assets under management ("AUM"). We have two core investment strategies, Global and Asia, both strategies have an investment horizon of 3-5 years. Both strategies seek quality characteristics which incorporate sustainability and produce an approved Universe List from which portfolios are built. In the case of Global Equities, the Universe List is approximately 250 stocks, and in the case of Asia, approximately 65 stocks.



As long-term investors, we think of ourselves as 'engaged owners' of the businesses we invest in, not just shareholders who buy and sell shares each day. Therefore, stewardship of investee companies is key to our investment approach, and a prerequisite expected by investors. We also have a partnership culture. We are invested alongside our clients; we control the growth of the business, and we are in constant dialogue with our clients. The onboarding of new clients includes a rigorous process to not only comply with all relevant regulations but to ascertain the level of reporting a client wishes to receive and the best methods for eliciting feedback. Whilst we produce detailed quarterly reports which include an extensive section on ESG as described below, we understand that some clients wish to be more interactive when it comes to stewardship of their assets. This may include a one-to-one meeting to discuss how to assist clients with their own stewardship reporting.



Veritas operates an investment specialist model. Clients are offered a quarterly call/meeting with an assigned Investment Specialist to cover the management and stewardship of their assets over the previous quarter. Over 80% of our segregated clients have such calls/meetings and this, together with the one-to-one meetings, provides the feedback loop from which we can further improve processes and reporting. Given that the Head of Investment Specialists is also a member of the ESG team and a Managing Partner on the MPB, any new initiative that is discussed can be fast tracked for consideration and implementation.

Our reporting is available to all our clients, irrespective of investment size and jurisdiction. We can also accommodate custom reporting where required. Some clients prefer to request we complete a custom template that covers specific questions. Where reporting can be enhanced, we look to introduce, where we can, reporting for the benefit of all clients.

During the period, clients increasingly sought greater clarity on ESG risks and opportunities, ESG-related sentiment, and the quality of underlying ESG data. In response, we placed greater emphasis on explaining ESG integration in context, including through case studies based on our ESG Rating Model, and developed new slides to communicate this information more clearly to clients.

Principle 7

Signatories systematically integrate stewardship and investment, including material environmental, social and governance issues, and climate change, to fulfil their responsibilities.

VAM LLP's investment philosophy of identifying high quality companies and investing at attractive entry points, has sustainability at its core. In order to value companies in the future based on the cash they generate, it is necessary to focus on two broad areas: a) how sustainable a business is, in terms of the product it sells, its business model, its corporate structure and its management; the more sustainable and predictable a business, the better the quality, and b) any risks or opportunities that arise from a changing landscape and whether management is alert and focused on those changes, as well as being aligned with shareholders.

The E and S factors are undoubtedly dependent on the management of a business, i.e., its governance structure, the G factor. Well governed businesses will address risks and opportunities that are not only relevant today but also in the future and where material will include environmental and social factors. The quality characteristics sought when selecting an investment in a company are synonymous with sustainability and many of the factors labelled under ESG. These overall beliefs are embedded throughout the firm and applicable to all products. When introducing an initiative or commitment, the intention will be to ensure it is applicable across all portfolios, for example, the commitment to Net Zero, is done so on 100% of AUM.

The investable 'universe list' of high-quality companies with sustainable business models comprises less than 10% of the total universe of companies, adjusted for size and liquidity – most listed equities simply do not qualify to be added to the universe list. The process is deliberately designed to ensure the universe list is highly selective and 'narrow' which allows a more in-depth understanding of the companies i.e., the approach of applying a positive screen rather than to negatively screen out companies.

ESG risks and opportunities are integrated into company analysis throughout the investment process and across multiple dimensions, as illustrated below:

Sustainable demand and growth | The sustainability of the demand for a product or service is vital for a long-term investor. VAM LLP does not invest in companies that may benefit from a short-term fad and instead look for a growing demand for their products and services over 10+ years. This holistic analysis considers whether the company's primary business proposition will likely become more relevant in creating a sustainable growth tailwind over time. This is a forward-looking judgment and hence does not exclude sectors like defence. Traditional 'environmental' factors fall out of this approach, for example commodity producers or utilities where the sustainability of demand (and/or regulatory backdrop) over a 10-year horizon is questionable, due to the high carbon intensity of the production process. The main reason the portfolio has a low carbon footprint (as measured by third-party independent vendors) is a result of this approach. However, the approach is not dogmatic, and investment may be made in utilities, such as renewable energy businesses that meet the criteria.

Sustainable business model | A sustainable growth backdrop for the product is necessary, but more is required for a business to generate shareholder value. A robust business model with demonstrable barriers to entry and the ability to generate cash flows is essential for value creation. ThermoFisher is a mission critical global supplier of analytical instruments, clinical development solutions, specialty diagnostics, laboratory, pharmaceutical and biotechnology services. Their equipment is found on every floor of a hospital as well as in R&D. Once equipment is installed, the business receives subscription-based cash flow from reagents and consumables associated with the equipment. The R&D spend ensures they maintain a leading edge to competition in an industry where reputation and reliability is key.

Sustainable earnings and cashflows | A software company can 'pull forward' earnings by signing long term contracts with up-front payments, but it is taking on a form of 'debt' by borrowing from the future. Similarly, businesses charging unsustainably high prices for products and services will be able to report higher margins, which are unsustainable. A good example is the US Healthcare company, United Health. United Health has increasingly moved to a 'value based' pricing model, where it is rewarded based on results achieved rather than 'fee for service', where physicians are rewarded based on the number of patients they treat and drugs they prescribe. Given governments are focused on cost reduction, the business is aligned with the direction of travel.

Sustainable capital structure | VAM LLP is mindful of being equity holders and are cognizant of being subordinated to debt, off-balance sheet obligations, pensions and other hidden 'liabilities' that must be serviced before common shareholders can access cash flows (for example, dividends or future growth). Some businesses are inherently more stable and can support higher leverage to benefit equity holders (infrastructure assets like airports e.g., Aena or Vinci or cable networks like charter communications) – other, more cyclical industries with lower entry barriers leave themselves vulnerable if they take on more financial leverage.

Sustainability in Governance

Governance is a broad important topic and ultimately all ESG is about 'G'. After all it is senior management that determines whether a company has a climate policy in place. Governance is multi-faceted, and it is considered from a variety of standpoints in each case. These include the following:

i. **Board of directors |** At the core, sustainable governance structures require the 'principal/agent' problem to be addressed by companies. A well-functioning Board provides oversight and challenge to operating management ("agent") and represents the risk capital of minority shareholders ("principal" or "owners"). The key judgment to form is whether the principal-agent relationship is adequately represented. This may be evident by a company using different share classes with unequal voting rights or the presence of stakeholders whose incentives may not be aligned with shareholders (e.g., state owned Chinese companies).

ii. **Executive remuneration and shareholder alignment |** A key element of governance is incentives that drive behaviours at all levels. VAM LLP prefers management teams with 'skin in the game' which are aligned with shareholders and are likely to think as well as act like shareholders would in assessing all relevant variables (and risks) that affect the long-term value of the business, ESG or otherwise. The appropriateness and disclosure of KPIs that form part of incentive compensation, remuneration structures and convexity/symmetry of payoffs that do not encourage excessive short-term risk taking to the detriment of long-term value creation is vital.

iii. **Capital allocation |** Capital allocation is central to value creation and encompasses all aspects of the business, including environmental and social factors. This is a key tenet to the link between 'ESG' and 'value creation' – businesses that allocate capital wisely in innovation, in treating stakeholders fairly, and for future growth and opportunities will be able to drive healthy cash flows, returns on capital and hence shareholder value. It's important to judge the appropriateness of capital allocation policies relative to the firm's position in the industry and its own lifecycle. The investment teams look for discipline and restraint in pursuing M&A (and avoiding value destructive deals), appropriateness of dividend coverage and willingness to do stock buybacks (at the appropriate time and at the appropriate price).

iv. **Engagement with management |** VAM LLP are 'engaged owners' and are hence willing to engage with companies to influence governance. A constant dialogue on all key issues will be maintained.

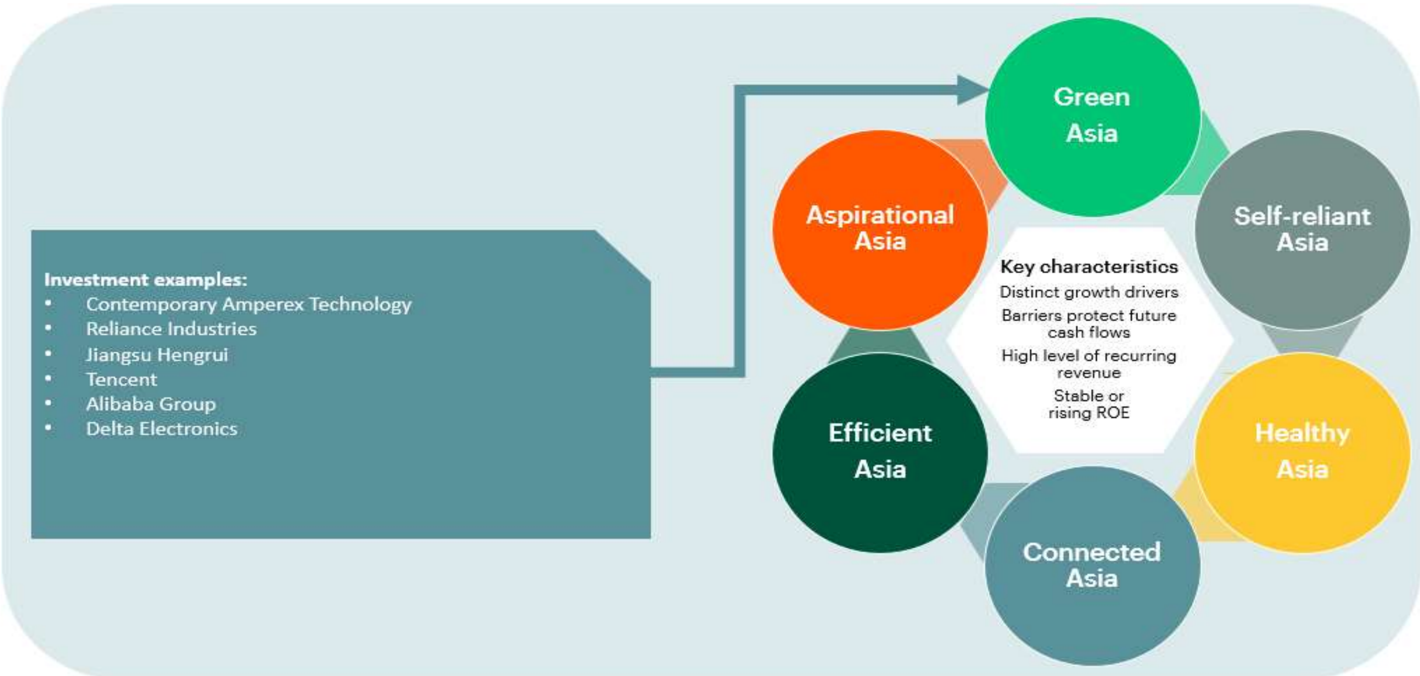
v. **Disclosure and Accounting |** Quality and conservatism of financial accounting policies, especially when significant management discretion is involved in preparing accounts is highly important. Attention is paid to off-balance sheet liabilities, opaque risks, and the quality and transparency of disclosures of key performance indicators for outside investors to judge performance.

vi. **Governments and regulatory context |** It is essential to recognise the importance of governments in driving societal change. While 'ESG' factors continue to drive changes (mostly for the better), the role of governments will also come under scrutiny, and businesses are prone to be either helped or harmed by this (through say, regulation or taxation). This is a direct link between ESG 'policy' and shareholder value creation (or destruction). Capitalism and private investors cannot affect all changes on their own. Regulation affects many fixed asset industries directly (such as infrastructure or utilities) but an example of regulation being used in a traditionally unregulated sector is the Chinese gaming regulator restricting new game licenses amid concerns over children's health. Whilst education plays a role, the use of mobile phones and gaming has undoubtedly exacerbated the mental health problems of the younger generation which has consequently proved to be a huge risk for some companies. Regulation, in other instances, can in fact benefit companies by raising the barrier to entry to new entrants.

Sustainability Examples

One of the ways we generate ideas is by looking at long term trends/themes. Some of these themes can have an environmentally or socially beneficial tilt.

Asia Investment Themes



Green Asia and Healthy Asia are enduring themes within the Asian equity portfolios that help generate ideas. The team of investment analysts will assess companies that they believe will benefit from the commitments of countries and companies to reduce emissions in the near term. Many companies have now set aggressive reduction targets, which are unlikely to be met without help. We are starting to see this manifest itself with several companies withdrawing or being removed from the SBTi. The beneficiaries of this trend are not limited to 'solution providers', as defined by third-party rating companies. The definition used focusses on the obvious candidates (EV, battery companies, solar/wind, etc.) and misses those companies that are focusing on the future and pivoting business practice to help address the transition.

Within the idea generation stage of the investment process the theme of climate transition focusses the investment analysts minds on beneficiaries in a broader sense.

Asian Investment Desk: Delta Electronics, Inc

Delta Electronics is a Taiwanese electronics manufacturing company, with operations spanning mobility, automation and infrastructure. The company's core capabilities sit in high-efficiency power conversion, energy management and industrial technology, and these have enabled it to build strong positions in markets such as data centre power systems, industrial automation, electric vehicle charging, renewable energy infrastructure and building energy management. Delta describes its mission as providing "innovative, clean and energy-efficient solutions for a better tomorrow," reflecting the close alignment between its commercial activities and long-term structural sustainability themes.

From an investment perspective, Delta's products are often embedded within mission-critical infrastructure where energy efficiency, reliability and performance are essential. This is particularly relevant in areas such as data centres, electrified transport and industrial automation, where customers are seeking to reduce energy intensity, improve resilience and prepare for tighter carbon and regulatory constraints.

From an ESG perspective, Delta's contribution across its products and systems can support decarbonisation, electrification and resource efficiency in the real economy through enabling lower-energy operation of buildings, data centres, transport systems and industrial processes.

Key Sustainability Drivers

Delta's sustainability proposition is built around the application of power electronics and infrastructure technologies to reduce energy use, enable electrification and support lower-carbon economic activity. Its growth areas increasingly overlap with sectors that are central to the energy transition, including A data infrastructure, electrified mobility, renewable energy and smart industrial systems.

Key drivers include:

- improved energy efficiency across energy-intensive infrastructure, particularly data centres, buildings and industrial operations;
- electrification of transport through EV charging and related grid-support technologies;
- support for renewable energy deployment and storage integration;
- reduced operational waste and stronger resource efficiency through circularity, design and lifecycle management; and
- greater resilience and transparency across supply chains and infrastructure systems.

These drivers span multiple stages of the value chain, from product design and materials management through to usage-phase energy efficiency and end-of-life considerations. Delta's annual report highlights actions across production, transportation, usage and final disposal, including reduced packaging volume, recyclable materials, design for recyclability and improved product energy efficiency.

Contribution to Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

Delta's products and services align most closely with SDG 7 (Affordable and Clean Energy), SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure), SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities), SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production) and SDG 13 (Climate Action).

Key Delta solutions contributing to these outcomes include:

- **Data centre power and thermal management solutions**
  Delta provides high-efficiency power shelves, DC power conversion modules, air-cooling and liquid-cooling systems for data centres and AI server applications. These products are designed to improve energy conversion efficiency and thermal performance in one of the fastest-growing areas of electricity demand globally. The company states that some of its latest power systems achieve efficiency levels of up to 97.5% and 98.2% in specific applications.

- **EV charging infrastructure**
  Delta's EV charging systems support the shift towards low-carbon transport through modular charging solutions for commercial fleets and public infrastructure. The company also notes that its Vehicle-to-Grid chargers enable bidirectional power flow, supporting load balancing and grid stability.

- **Renewable energy and energy storage solutions**
  Delta offers solar inverters, energy storage systems and energy management platforms that support renewable electricity integration and more flexible grid operation. Its DeltaGrid energy management platform is designed to integrate EV charging, storage and solar-plus-storage systems through real-time analytics and system control.

- **Industrial automation and smart energy-saving solutions**
  Across manufacturing and buildings, Delta's solutions are aimed at reducing energy consumption, improving process control and supporting more efficient resource use. This links its business model not only to climate mitigation, but also to broader productivity and operational resilience themes.

Measurement of Taxonomy-Aligned Green Business Activities

The EU Taxonomy is a useful framework for assessing the extent to which Delta's activities contribute to environmental objectives. Delta's business includes both directly enabling technologies and manufactured products that can support low-carbon transport, energy-efficient infrastructure and circular economy outcomes. In its 2024 Sustainability Taxonomy Disclosures, Delta reported that 42.29% of turnover, 22.08% of CapEx and 21.73% of OpEx were associated with taxonomy-eligible or aligned activities. The company stated that this was driven primarily by activities linked to data processing and hosting, low-carbon transport technologies and infrastructure enabling low-carbon road transport, with growth supported by rising demand for AI-related data infrastructure and low-carbon technologies. Delta has also identified potential taxonomy-relevant activities linked to circular economy and IT/OT-driven solutions, including manufacturing of electrical and electronic equipment, repair and remanufacturing, sale of spare parts and product-as-a-service models. This suggests that the company's relevance to sustainable finance frameworks.

Climate Commitment and Governance[4]

As illustrated in the diagram below, beyond the good products and services offered by the company, the business has been making steady progress across its internal operations. The figures in the chart present a positive picture of continued progress across economic, environmental and social indicators. The company has maintained steady revenue growth, alongside a clear increase in innovation and R&D spend and cumulative granted patents, whilst reducing its carbon intensity. Social indicators are also encouraging, with the ratio of female managers rising significantly, offer acceptance rates remaining strong, training hours per person increasing, and volunteer participation expanding materially. Taken together, these trends suggest a business that is continuing to strengthen its commercial position while also making measurable progress on products and service that support a circular economy.

Global Investment Desk: SAP SE

SAP SE was founded by former IBM engineers with the objective of developing standardised enterprise software capable of integrating business processes in real time. The company has evolved into one of the world's largest providers of enterprise application software, with solutions spanning across resource planning, finance, procurement, supply chain management, human capital management, and customer experience.

Its software underpins core functions such as financial reporting, procurement, logistics, and compliance, creating high switching costs and strong customer retention. While implementation costs can be significant, ongoing licence and subscription fees typically represent a relatively small proportion of Total Opex. As a result, SAP's systems often remain embedded for decades, evolving incrementally as regulatory requirements and operational needs evolve. This creates a durable competitive advantage and a recurring revenue model.

From an ESG perspective, SAP's contribution is best understood as enabling rather than direct. The company's own operational footprint is relatively limited, but its software is deeply embedded in the operational and financial decision making of thousands of large organisations globally. As sustainability considerations become increasingly integrated into regulatory frameworks, capital allocation and corporate governance, SAP's platforms play a growing role in enabling companies to measure, manage and report ESG related risks and opportunities within core business processes.

Contribution to Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

SAP's products and services align most closely with SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production), SDG 13 (Climate Action) and SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure).

[4] Delta Electronics Sustainability Report 2024

Key Sustainability Drivers

SAP has identified a set of sustainability drivers aimed at embedding ESG considerations throughout the lifecycle of business processes. Its sustainability solutions support climate action through product-level carbon footprint analysis across the value chain, help advance circular economy objectives through better material tracking and waste reduction, enable automated and audit-ready ESG reporting, and provide tools to monitor social factors such as equality and labour practices. SAP Green Ledger further strengthens this approach by linking financial and carbon data to support more transparent accounting.

Key drivers include:

- the integration of sustainability data into financial and operational decision-making;
- greater transparency across supply chains to support responsible sourcing and risk management;
- process optimisation to reduce waste, inefficiencies and unnecessary resource use;
- regulatory compliance and evolving sustainability disclosure requirements; and
- circular economy principles through improved tracking of materials, assets and product lifecycles.

These drivers span multiple stages of the value chain, from sourcing and production through to use phase optimisation and reporting.

[5]Sustainability Drivers by lifecycle stage

Key SAP solutions contributing to these outcomes include:

- **SAP Sustainability Control Tower**
  This platform is designed to support the measurement, management and reporting of sustainability performance across operations and value chains. It enables companies to consolidate ESG data from multiple sources, monitor progress against targets, and support

[5] SAP SE Sustainability Report 2024

external reporting requirements. The platform reduces reliance on manual data collection and standalone ESG systems, improving consistency and auditability.

- **SAP Ariba**

  SAP Ariba connects buyers and suppliers across global procurement networks. By improving transparency around sourcing practices, supplier performance and contractual compliance, it supports more responsible procurement and strengthens oversight of environmental and social risks across extended supply chains. This is particularly relevant for multinational companies operating through large, complex and deeply layered supply chains that require careful management.

- **SAP Environment, Health and Safety (EHS) Management**

  SAP EHS supports compliance with environmental regulations, workplace safety standards and incident management. This contributes to improved employee safety outcomes and better management of operational environmental risks.

Measurement of Taxonomy-Aligned Green Business Activities

The EU Taxonomy provides a framework to assess the extent to which a company's activities contribute to defined environmental objectives. Given SAP's software led business model, its activities are primarily enabling in nature, supporting customers in identifying, managing and scaling environmentally sustainable activities rather than directly delivering physical green assets. A meaningful proportion of SAP's revenues and capital expenditure are considered EU Taxonomy eligible, reflecting the role of its software in enabling climate mitigation, resource efficiency and sustainable production processes. SAP's platforms play an important role in enabling customers to generate Taxonomy aligned revenues and to produce the data required to evidence alignment.

Principle 8

Signatories will monitor and hold to account managers and/or service providers.

Veritas works with three primary ESG service providers: Institutional Shareholder Services (ISS), MSCI ESG Research LLC, and Bloomberg L.P. Notably, Bloomberg ESG data was appointed during the 2024 reporting period, significantly enhancing our data sourcing capabilities.

Following a comprehensive review of providers, we selected Bloomberg as our primary data source for our proprietary ESG Rating Model due to seamless integration with various Microsoft applications and improved ESG data capabilities compared to our last assessment in 2021.

Since 2017, ISS has managed the application and execution of our voting policy, including the development of a custom voting policy based on ESG Red Lines for the Global Strategies. When a Red Line breach occurs, ISS flags the incident, prompting a review by the investment team to determine an appropriate course of action. This may involve voting against management or providing a detailed rationale for any alternative decision.

As highlighted in our 2024 report, we have expanded our Red Line Voting framework to include Asian Strategies, aiming for consistent policies across all assets. However, applying the Global Strategy's Red Lines directly to the Asian context was not entirely appropriate. We considered what would be both meaningful and practical, particularly regarding ISS's capability to monitor and flag breaches in time to prompt a response. Through collaboration with ISS, we developed a custom ESG Red Line Voting Policy for Asian Strategies, combining elements from the Global Desk Red Line Policy and ISS's Sustainable Responsible Investment (SRI) policy. ISS provides comprehensive details when a breach occurs, enabling our investment team to adhere to a "comply or explain" approach, either voting against management or providing a clear rationale for alternative actions.

We monitor all service providers through Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) and conduct review meetings on a quarterly and annual basis. Should a provider fail to meet the criteria outlined in the Service Level Agreement, we undertake a thorough review process to address and rectify any deficiencies.

Service Provider Changes

During 2025, we undertook a review of several ESG service providers, including our long-standing relationship with the Carbon Trust, which supported the establishment of our Net Zero transition pathway and our annual assessment of progress against that pathway. Following a review of several providers, the shortlist was narrowed to two, including South Pole.

This review reflected the evolution of our requirements since the Net Zero pathway was first established. At that time, Carbon Trust's use of raw CDP data provided a valuable complement to our MSCI ESG Research data. While MSCI enables us to calculate Implied Temperature Rise (ITR) metrics, its methodology differs in several respects, including not all figures being science-based or benchmarked against a default temperature aligned with IPCC expectations. In addition, MSCI's methodology is periodically updated, and changes in sector treatment can have a notable effect on reported portfolio ITRs, particularly in concentrated portfolios.

Following changes to Carbon Trust's underlying data approach in 2024, the service no longer aligned with our requirements compared to when they were initially appointed. This prompted us to reassess the market and identify a provider better suited to our current needs. Independent verification of ESG metrics remains important and continues to be valued by ourselves, investors and consultants.

After considering provider capabilities, methodology, service offering, and cost, South Pole emerged as the preferred option. South Pole offers a robust and credible solution that is well aligned with our current requirements, including independent assessment capability and a methodology that supports clear, consistent, and decision-useful reporting of the ITR. On this basis, we have now appointed South Pole to conduct the annual assessment for the firm and underlying Funds.

Principle 9

Signatories will engage with issuers to maintain or enhance the value of assets.

Veritas seeks to buy high quality businesses at the right price. Amongst the characteristics sought when assessing the quality of a business, we would include attractive returns on invested capital (“ROIC”), the generation of significant free cash flow, high barriers to entry to protect future cash generation, and ability to reinvest cash at equally high rates of return In short, we seek to invest in businesses that are sustainable over the long term at an attractive price.

A business's governance is central to the investment case. The management and board are accountable for the company's long-term strategy and should be cognisant of the risks and opportunities over a 10-year time horizon and deploy capital accordingly.

Strong management will incorporate sustainability and governance policies and be better placed to deal with emerging risks and opportunities; for example, addressing the use of plastics, developing greater fuel efficiency/ electrification of air travel, or positioning themselves for the transition of healthcare to a value-based system that focusses on reducing drug pricing. Weak management will find their businesses displaced or become uncompetitive.

As such, it makes little sense to compartmentalize E (Environmental) and S (Social) factors from G (Governance). As active long-term investors, on behalf of our clients, we have two main tools with which to challenge management, proxy voting and engagement. We believe exiting a position should be a last resort.

Positive not negative screening

Veritas runs a concentrated strategy of 25-40 stocks. The level of research is extensive, and a significant element of the research effort is centred on company management. This includes assessing the following:

- Changes in management’s long-term objectives and how they intend to deploy cash. Do they have a good understanding of target markets, competitive advantages, barriers to entry, any environmental/ social factors relevant to their business that may pose a risk or reward.

- Whether management incentives are aligned with shareholders and KPIs are reasonable and not too short term. Where KPI ‘s are unreasonable we will write to the company with our suggestions as well as speaking to management

- If the Quality rating of the company changes it may impact the internal rate of return (IRR) sought or trigger engagement.

Two Tiers of Engagement

We think of ourselves as ‘engaged owners’ of the businesses in which we invest on behalf of our clients and will engage with companies to influence governance. We engage actively and regularly with the companies and maintain a constant dialogue on all key issues. Coupled with Materiality, we believe VAM LLP has a part to play in encouraging constructive behaviour. As such, we effectively have two tiers of engagement.

Tier one engagement is conducted where the item poses a material financial sustainability issue. As material issues differ from company to company, the focus is placed on material issues relevant to a particular company. An assessment from the original research as to what is material for a specific business will have been made, this will include which issues have the highest potential to affect the company's ability to create or destroy shareholder value. If the company engages in an activity that challenges the sustainability of its operations or demonstrates a lack of vision to adapt, there will be reason to engage.

Tier two engagement is more thematic in nature and involves interactions with a company to promote good business practices, which benefits all market participants. For example, in relation to environmental positioning, companies should have their transition plans independently verified by an organisation like the Science Based Targets Initiative (SBTi), irrespective of whether it is a high carbon emitter. Whilst the VAM LLP Funds have a lower carbon footprint than the index, disclosure of climate credentials is essential if any sense is to be made at the portfolio level, or in the industry as a whole. This has meant instigating an SBTi thematic engagement initiative where companies not signed up to the SBTi, but in our view should be, are being encouraged to do so.

VAM LLP introduced a specific Taskforce on Climate related Financial Disclosures ("TCFD") engagement structure, whereby all investee companies are mapped against TCFD framework, and engagement will result in those companies where there is a shortfall.

Engagement with companies also occurs in relation to social areas such as gender diversity. Each year a topic of focus is chosen, and all investee companies are assessed to identify those not compliant with expectations. Where feasible, the engagement objective is aligned with industry best practices or a higher standard. As long-term global investors seeking to work with businesses, best practice must be considered on a case-by-case basis from a regional and industry perspective to ensure expectations are practical. Persistence and patience are both critical as the timeframe to achieve a thematic engagement objective will often exceed 12 months.

Engagement Triggers

Engagement can be triggered in several ways:

- Action that is not aligned with shareholder interest. This can include buying/ or attempting to buy a company that adds no value to shareholders (i.e., poor deployment of cash) or changing the compensation scheme to include targets that do not align interests with shareholders.

- Breach of the ESG Red Line Voting Policy. The Voting Policy consists of an ESG specific tier. There Red Lines relate to ESG factors that if breached will lead to a vote against management but potentially engagement before doing so.

- Controversy flagged that breaches UN Global Compact ("UNGC"). Investment analysts receive an email prompt regarding any breaches of the UN Global Compact 10 Principles. Should they not already be aware of the infringement, the investment analyst may request a meeting to discuss it with management.

- Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures ("TCFD") shortfalls. Specific to climate transition and reducing the overall temperature on the portfolio. Investee companies are mapped according to disclosures made in line with TCFD guidelines. Where there is a shortfall, we will raise it with management.

- Deterioration in the Quality rating. If the ESG part of the rating deteriorates, this will trigger engagement before a potential exit of the position.

Process of Engagement

1. Once the engagement objective has been identified, in the first instance the Investment Team will usually write to company management explaining the issue and what action should be taken.

2. If the issue is not addressed, the Investment Team will seek to speak with senior management (CEO, CFO, COO etc.) to address the issue.

3. In cases where there is a regulatory or political angle, the Investment Team may have already spoken to third party professionals through an expert network.

4. Post meeting with management, where relevant, the Investment Team will follow up again in writing. At this juncture, we will determine the expected timeframe for any suggested actions to be achieved and how they will be monitored/ measured.

5. If the investment team believe that company management are not addressing the matter efficiently or the timeframe to action any changes is not being met. The Investment Team may choose to vote against management at the next opportunity and notify them of our intentions to do so.

6. If engagement and voting fail, the Investment Team may choose to exit the position, and the company will be removed from the Universe List. All activity and milestones are recorded in the engagement log.

Constructive Dialogue

The Investment Team believes in treating management with respect and conduct its engagement activity away from press/media. On occasion, the Investment Team works with management to give them time to implement a strategy e.g., introducing more Non-Executive Directors (“NED’s”) to the board. Where one of the Red Lines within our Environmental, Social and Governance (“ESG”) Voting policy is breached, but the Team does not deem it to be material for full engagement, they may inform management that it will not vote against them but suggest they may wish to consider a cause of action.

The Investment Team applies the principles behind engagement across the funds within VAM LLP. Given the long-term nature of our approach, the team generally has good access to management. However, access may be limited to large companies, where VAM LLP represents a small percentage of the market capitalisation. In these cases, the Team may collaborate with other investment managers.

Engagement Examples

We have incorporated a variety of engagement examples throughout this report with engagement objectives that relate to Governance and Environmental issues. Below we have provided an engagement example that’s focuses on Gender Diversity, a social issue:

Strategy: Global Focus Strategy
Company: Becton Dickinson & Co.
Date of Interaction: July 2025
Sector: Healthcare
Country: United States
ESG Category: Governance
Topic: Strategy, Financial and Reporting - Capital allocation
Communication Type: VC Meeting

Company Overview: Becton, Dickinson and Company (BD) is a leading global medical technology company, headquartered New Jersey (US). It develops, manufactures, and sells medical devices, instrument systems, and reagents, focusing on improving drug delivery, diagnostic accuracy, and patient safety, with over 70,000 employees worldwide

Engagement Objective: To encourage BD to adopt a more flexible capital allocation framework that prioritises higher-return opportunities, such as share repurchases, debt reduction and internal investment, over M&A transactions that have not delivered optimal shareholder value.

Rationale for the engagement: BD's protracted EPS and share price weakness has not been fully diagnosed by management, in our view. The Embecta spinoff and the dilution from the 2020 equity raise masked what would otherwise have been stronger EPS growth. Over the past decade, BD has spent $43bn on M&A, yet its market capitalisation has only risen by $36bn. This track record shows that capital has been deployed without generating adequate returns. We believe shareholder value has been sacrificed in pursuit of growth, whereas peers such as Mettler Toledo have demonstrated the compounding power of margin expansion and share repurchases alongside steady organic growth.

Actions taken: We expressed concern that BD may be receiving advice from parties with misaligned incentives, pushing them towards large-scale M&A. We highlighted the destruction of value from the Embecta spinoff and questioned the default reliance on M&A to lift organic growth metrics. We provided comparative examples, such as Mettler Toledo versus Boston Scientific and Stryker, to show that long-term EPS compounding and capital efficiency, not headline growth, drive shareholder value. We emphasised that at the current valuation, share repurchases present a compelling return on capital relative to M&A or debt paydown, but flexibility should remain the guiding principle depending on prevailing conditions.

Outcomes and next steps: Post meeting BD has signalled openness to buybacks, including a commitment to use $2bn of the $4bn LifeSciences divestment proceeds for share repurchase. However, these remain verbal commitments rather than tangible outcomes. In the near term, the company must prioritise some debt reduction, limiting immediate action. We will continue to monitor BD's capital deployment, with particular focus on whether meaningful buybacks are executed in 2026, which will serve as a stronger indicator of alignment with long-term shareholder value creation.

Principle 10

Signatories, where necessary, participate in collaborative engagement to influence issuers.

Collaborative Engagement

Ordinarily, we would engage with management on an individual basis to rectify an issue. In cases where management is unresponsive or we hold a small percentage of the float, we may collaborate with other interested parties. Given our concentrated investment approach, all holdings are important irrespective of the significance of our holding in terms of the issued share capital. Thus, if the issue is material and we must collaborate to elicit a response, we will do so.

ThermoFisher
SCIENTIFIC

Thermo Fisher Scientific is a global life sciences company that provides laboratory equipment, analytical instruments, diagnostics, software, and services to pharmaceutical, biotech, healthcare, academic, and industrial customers. In simple terms, it helps scientists and healthcare providers research, test, manufacture, and analyse everything from medicines and vaccines to biological samples and industrial materials.

At the 2025 AGM, Veritas, along with many of shareholders voted against Thermo Fisher's 2025 remuneration package. We then engaged with the business, as did many other shareholders, as part of the broader investor dialogue with the company on executive pay. Through this collaborative engagement, investors collectively pressed for a stronger alignment between pay and long-term performance, including longer LTIP measurement periods, greater weighting to performance-based RSUs across the executive team, and tighter limits on the use of one-off awards.

In our discussions, we supported the move to three-year LTIP performance periods and an increase in PRSU weighting from 40% to 50% for all executives, not just the CEO. The company indicated it intends to reflect changes in the 2026 AGM materials, confirmed there are no current plans to increase the CEO's weighting beyond 50%, and acknowledged investor concern around one-off grants, stating these would only be used in exceptional circumstances going forward.

We await the 2026 AGM remuneration disclosures to confirm that this collaborative shareholder engagement has translated into tangible change, specifically the adoption of three-year LTIP performance periods, 50% PRSU weighting across all executives, and clearer guardrails around exceptional awards. Alongside this, we will continue engaging on wider governance and sustainability themes, including DEI oversight and climate progress, by monitoring board-level accountability, legal and regulatory risk management, and whether the proportion of supplier spend covered by science-based targets increases beyond the current 28% and delivers measurable decarbonisation outcomes.

Collaboration with Financial Market Participants

VAM LLP is a member of the UK Investment Association ("IA"). For approx. four years we had seat on the IA Sustainability and Responsible Investment Committee, ending on the 31 December 2023 – due to seat rotations amongst UK Asset Managers. A key focus of the forum is to discuss draft position papers presented by regulators; committee members take a position on the paper, which is then communicated to the regulator. Most recently, we have provided our position on alignment with Net Zero initiatives and targets in response to a request submitted by the Financial Conduct Authority ("FCA"). As our partnership IA Sustainability and Responsible Investment Committee has concluded, we are currently exploring ways to collaborate with other participants within the financial market which is consistent with investment approach.

Principle 11

Signatories, where necessary, escalate stewardship activities to influence issuers.

Where we perceive there to be a potential risk to shareholder value and where we believe action taken by management could avert those risks, we will engage. Engagement often takes place where there is potential poor deployment of cash lack of transparency in some part of business (this may relate to incentives or company structure), reputational risk (e.g., data protection in social media businesses) or working conditions (e.g., factory standards in clothes outsourcing). The investment team will be responsible for any company engagement, with portfolio managers and at least one analyst involved in the dialogue with the company. Engagement is a fundamental part of the process and can play a significant role in ensuring the sustainability of a business.

Escalation Approach

Placing escalation into context, we would start by saying we believe in treating management with respect and will endeavour to work with management to find a solution. To retain a strong long-term relationship, we hold our discussions with companies in a confidential manner subject to the engagement summaries provided for client reporting purposes. The objective behind escalation is to ensure a company is working towards a solution, particularly in an area that questions whether the holding remains appropriate for client portfolios. It is also worth noting that the portfolios are concentrated, so the number of engagements will be commensurate with concentration.

Usually, we initially write to management, and an issue will either be escalated if there is no response or an unsatisfactory response. As long-term holders, in most cases management are willing to discuss the issues raised. Meetings will follow, after which we will write again with recommendations. These will often lay out key thresholds we expect to be met. Should the change not take place, the issue will be escalated again.

We keep a log of engagements with an alert prompt to indicate when we expect to receive an update from management. Should we receive no response, we will contact the company to escalate the matter. This was more formally introduced during the reporting period in relation to thematic engagement. Given the work on SBTI and diversity, it was necessary to ensure there is a prompt follow up with management 12 months after the previous engagement.

If we engage with a company and the engagement is unsuccessful, we will either:

1. vote against the company if applicable and inform company management of our intentions
2. continue to hold the investment and engage with the company but lower the intrinsic value
3. sell the investment

An example of how we used voting as an escalation tool in 2025 is provided below:

Strategy: Global Focus Strategy
Company: Compagnie Financiere Richemont
Date of Interaction: August 2025
Sector: Consumer Discretionary
Country: Switzerland
ESG Category: Social

RICHEMONT

Company Overview: Compagnie Financière Richemont SA ("Richemont") is luxury goods holding company founded in 1988, operating as one of the world's leading luxury groups. It specializes in jewellery, watches, and accessories through prestigious "Maisons" like Cartier, Van Cleef & Arpels, and IWC Schaffhausen. With a strong focus on jewellery and high-end watches, it is a major component of the Swiss Market Index

Engagement Objective: Notification that we will be voting against management on six items at the upcoming AGM.

Rationale for the engagement: Richemont remained a focus of engagement across both 2024 and 2025 due to ongoing governance concerns, particularly in relation to diversity and inclusion. The principal issues related to board and senior leadership diversity, committee independence, director tenure, over boarding and remuneration transparency. While the company pointed to some areas of progress, including a longer-term improvement in female representation and the transition of the Remuneration Committee towards full independence, concerns persisted. Female representation at board level stood at 33% in 2024 and remained below our 40% expectation in 2025, with no women occupying the key roles of Chair, CEO, CFO or Senior Independent Director. Additional concerns were also noted around the independence of the Audit and Remuneration Committees, the tenure of certain directors, and the external commitments of one nominee, whose multiple roles appeared inconsistent with best practice expectations.

Summary of interaction: We engaged with the company in both years to communicate our governance concerns and explain our voting intentions ahead of the AGM. In 2024, discussions covered female representation, committee independence, board size and the company's limited disclosure on remuneration targets. The company expressed disappointment with our initial intention to vote against the re-election of Johann Rupert, although it also provided mitigating arguments on certain issues. Having considered these, we concluded that the better outcome for clients was to support his re-election while maintaining votes against management on six other resolutions. In 2025, we again informed the company that we would be voting against management on six items, reflecting continued concerns around insufficient gender diversity, lack of full committee independence, excessive director tenure and potential overboarding. Our engagement was intended to reinforce the need for stronger governance practices, improved board refreshment and more meaningful progress on diversity.

Outcome and next steps: While the company demonstrated some responsiveness on certain points, overall progress remained insufficient, particularly in relation to diversity at both board and senior leadership level. We have since exited the position. Although these governance concerns were not the primary reason for doing so, they were a contributing factor.

Principle 12

Signatories actively exercise their rights and responsibilities.

Given the concentrated, focused nature of our investment approach, we believe our investment teams understand the businesses we invest in on behalf of our clients and take stewardship responsibility seriously, including our proxy voting responsibilities.

We commit to voting on all resolutions tabled. With this in mind, our firm approach is to not engage in stock lending, to mitigate empty voting. We are also philosophically opposed to lending out stock in a company of which we are long term shareholders. When casting our vote, whilst we take third party views into consideration, such as ISS Policies, and questions raised by clients who use external proxy advisors, it is important that where mandated, the final decision rests with the investment team.

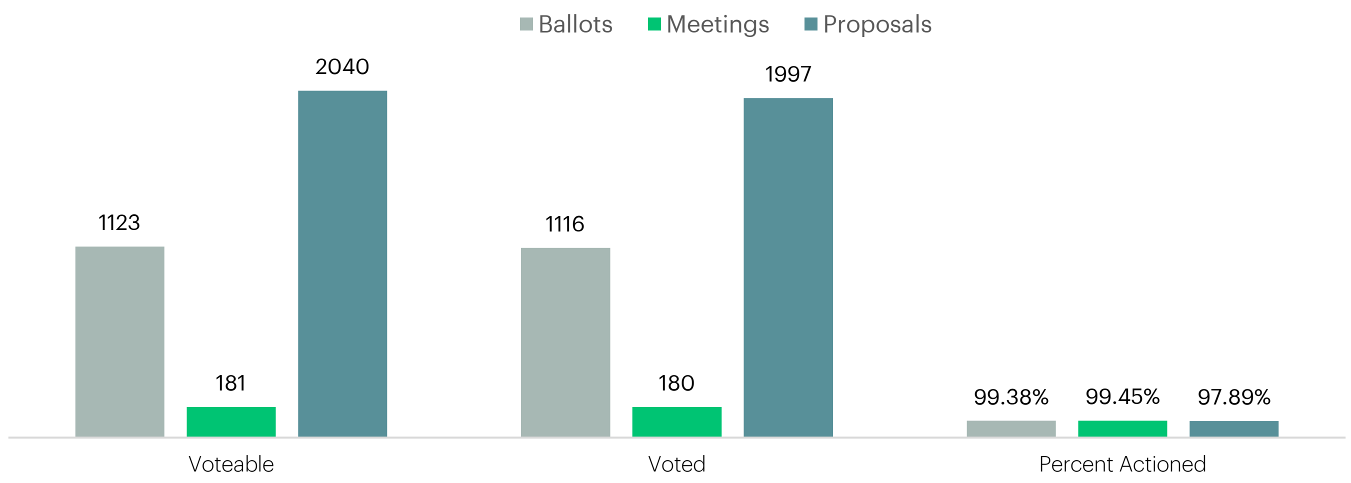
There have been cases where resolutions brought against management by shareholders for good reason have failed simply because third party proxy firms have recommended voting against the resolution and with management instead. Veritas maintains independence of decision based on detailed knowledge of the company.

Voting on key issues is rarely done in isolation and is often a follow up post engaging with management. A decision to vote in favour of management could be conditional to implementing a course of action, e.g., introducing more Non-Executive Directors within a set time period or adjusting a Long-Term Incentive Plan.

Common practice is for shareholders to rely on their investment manager to vote and Veritas takes this responsibility seriously. Some segregated clients will choose to indicate how to vote, and, in these instances, Veritas will vote in line with a client's wishes, even if this is contrary to our "house view" but will offer an explanation as to why the house view differs. The proxy voting policies can be found under the sustainability section of website: https://www.vamllp.com/sustainability/. A summary of all votes cast for pooled vehicles under the Veritas Funds Plc umbrella, is available on the following webpage: https://vds.issgovernance.com/vds/#/NzgyMA==

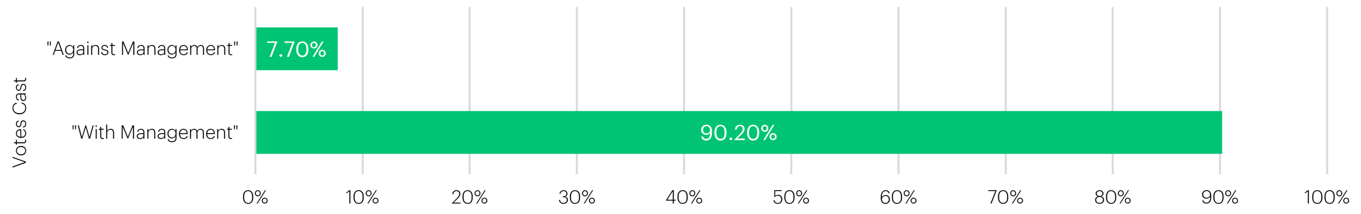
Our Voting Policy consists of two parts, one of which is ESG specific. We vote on all resolutions and ISS provides vote recommendations and vote execution services. We also follow a customised ESG Red Line policy. The Red Lines contain guidelines covering topics associated wit

VAM LLP Company Meeting Overview – 12 months to 31 December 2025



ESG. For example, red lines that relate to climate related factors include a redline to vote against senior management if the business has no climate change committee with board oversight. Should any of the red lines be breached, the instruction is to either vote against management or explain why not. This enables us to effectively communicate with clients.

Votes "FOR" and "AGAINST" Management



The votes cast during the reporting period were aligned with management recommendations in 90% of cases.

Votes Cast by Proposal Categories

When reporting our voting activities to clients, we divide this information into two parts. The first section addresses votes cast that resulted in a vote contrary to management's recommendation.

Votes "AGAINST" Management Guidance

Unilever Plc

- **Proposal** | Approve Remuneration Report
- **Management Vote Reccomendation** | "FOR"
- **VAM LLP Vote Instruction** | "AGAINST"
- **Rationale** | A vote AGAINST this item is warranted because: - Fernando Fernandez's base salary as new CEO is significant and represents a small discount to the former CEO Hein Schumacher's base salary. The Company does not appear to have sufficiently accounted previously raised shareholder concerns on the CEO role's pay arrangement when setting Mr Fernandez's remuneration. - The Company has disapplied time pro-rating in respect of former Executive Director's FY2022 PSP awards vesting.

Vivendi SE

- **Proposal** | Approve Compensation of Yannick Bolloré, Chairman of the Supervisory Board
- **Management Vote Reccomendation** | "FOR"
- **VAM LLP Vote Instruction** | "AGAINST"
- **Rationale** | One of the principal reasons Veritas are invested in Vivendi is the belief that Yannick Bollore is a superior capital allocator and that those invested alongside him have benefitted greatly over the years. We are also a big fan of CEO Arnaud Puyfontaine who references well, and particularly for integrity. Nevertheless, Yannick Bollore's style is to build creeping control and infiltrate management and the board with his people (which has clearly happened at Vivendi) and which presents risks to minority shareholders like ourselves. Our judgement is that we are, and will be, a net beneficiary of this control but our voting reflects the desire to minimise their degrees of freedom without recourse to shareholders and also to exert pressure to conform to best practice standards of governance.

Light & Wonder Inc.

- **Proposal** |Amend Omnibus Stock Plan
- **Management Vote Reccomendation** | "FOR"
- **VAM LLP Vote Instruction** | "AGAINST"
- **Rationale** | Based on an evaluation of the estimated cost, plan features, and grant practices using the Equity Plan Scorecard (EPSC), a vote AGAINST this proposal is warranted due to the following key factors: - The plan cost is excessive; - The plan permits liberal recycling of shares; and - The plan allows broad discretion to accelerate vesting.

The second part of the voting report focuses on the ESG Red Line component of the policy.

Votes "AGAINST" ESG Red Line Policy Guidance

Saddsault Systemes SE

- **Proposal** | Approve Remuneration Policy of Corporate Officers
- **Red Line Vote Reccomendation** | "AGAINST"
- **VAM LLP Vote Instruction** | "FOR"
- **Rationale** | Veritas voted contrary Red Line G19 - Failure to use service contracts in relation to executive directors, which should be no more than one rolling year in duration and in the case of termination be subject to mitigation. Veritas notes the absence of service of contracts and will raise this with the company in future engagements but voting against the Remuneration Policy in this instance is a disproportionate response

Svenska Handelsbanken AB

- **Proposal** | Approve Issuance of Convertible Capital Instruments Corresponding to a Maximum of 198 Million Shares without Preemptive Rights
- **Red Line Vote Reccomendation** | "AGAINST"
- **VAM LLP Vote Instruction** | "FOR"
- **Rationale** | Veritas voted contrary to the Red Line G15 - The resolution requests the disapplication of preemptive rights. This is on the basis that the amounts specified are within the typically permitted limits and the maximum discount is 10%', in this case 10%

LG Chem Ltd.

- **Proposal** | Elect Shin Hak-cheol as Inside Director
- **Red Line Vote Reccomendation** | "AGAINST"
- **VAM LLP Vote Instruction**| "FOR"
- **Rationale** | Veritas voted contrary to the Red Line Red Line S4 - Within senior leadership positions, none of the roles of Chair, CEO, Chief Financial Officer and senior independent director are held by women. Veritas believes engageming with the company on the topic of diversity will be more appropriate.

Additionally, we have provided examples of our voting activity for shareholder-tabled proposals, which are gaining significance due to the growing number of ESG-related matters presented at annual general meetings (AGMs).

Shareholder Tabled Proposals

Alphabet Inc.

- **Proposal** | Report on Lobbying and Child Safety Online
- **Management Vote Reccomendation** | "AGAINST"
- **VAM LLP Vote Instruction** | "AGAINST"
- **Rationale** | A vote AGAINST this proposal is warranted. The company provides sufficient disclosure of relevant information regarding its public policy engagement on online child safety issues and lobbying-related oversight mechanisms.

Bio-Rad Laboratories, Inc.

- **Proposal** | Submit Severance Agreement to Shareholder Vote
- **Management Vote Reccomendation** | "FOR"
- **VAM LLP Vote Instruction** | "FOR"
- **Rationale** | A vote FOR this proposal is warranted. While current severance arrangements are reasonable, the company does not disclose a policy prohibiting additional cash severance payments beyond a certain level or a mechanism that would require shareholder approval in order for excessive cash severance to be payable. The requested policy would ensure such shareholder protections.

UnitedHealth Group, Inc.

- **Proposal** | Submit Severance Agreement to Shareholder Vote
- **Management Vote Reccomendation** | "AGAINST"
- **VAM LLP Vote Instruction** | "AGAINST"
- **Rationale** | A vote AGAINST this proposal is warranted. The company maintains a policy prohibiting the payment of cash severance in excess of 2.99 times base salary and target bonus. Further, the company's severance arrangements are reasonable, and there have been no recent severance controversies identified.

Mapping to the UK Stewardship Code 2026 Framework

The table below maps the 12 Principles of the UK Stewardship Code 2020, which have been used to structure this report for the 2025 reporting period, to the revised UK Stewardship Code 2026 framework. This is intended to support continuity and demonstrate how our disclosures align with the updated structure, which will be adopted for the 2026 reporting period.

Current 2020 Code section	2026 Code equivalent
Principle 1 – Purpose, investment beliefs, strategy and culture	Policy and Context Disclosure A – Organisation, investment beliefs and stewardship approach
Principle 2 – Governance, resources and incentives	Policy and Context Disclosure B – Governance and resources
Principle 3 – Conflicts of interest	Policy and Context Disclosure D – Conflicts of interest
Principle 4 – Market-wide and systemic risks	Principle 2 – Promoting well-functioning markets
Principle 5 – Review policies, assure processes and assess effectiveness	Policy and Context Disclosure C – Policies, processes and review
Principle 6 – Client and beneficiary needs and communication	Policy and Context Disclosure E – Dialogue with clients and/or beneficiaries
Principle 7 – Integration of stewardship, investment and ESG	Principle 1 – Integrating stewardship and investment
Principle 8 – Monitor managers and/or service providers	Mainly Principle 6 – Monitoring service providers. If you appoint external investment managers, also Principle 5
Principle 9 – Engagement with issuers	Principle 3 – Engagement
Principle 10 – Collaborative engagement	Principle 3 – Engagement, and where relevant Principle 2 – Promoting well-functioning markets
Principle 11 – Escalation	Principle 3 – Engagement and Principle 4 – Exercising rights and responsibilities
Principle 12 – Exercising rights and responsibilities	Principle 4 – Exercising rights and responsibilities

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