

An aerial photograph showing a dense green forest in the upper left, a winding asphalt road in the middle, and a cleared area with many thin, vertical tree trunks in the lower left and bottom. The right side of the image is a solid light blue background.

Stewardship Annual review 2019

Appendix

CANDRIAM 
A NEW YORK LIFE INVESTMENTS COMPANY

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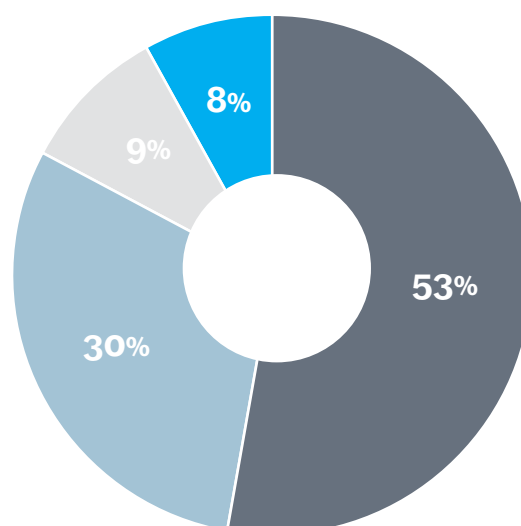
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Engagement statistics

Direct dialogue

Regional breakdown

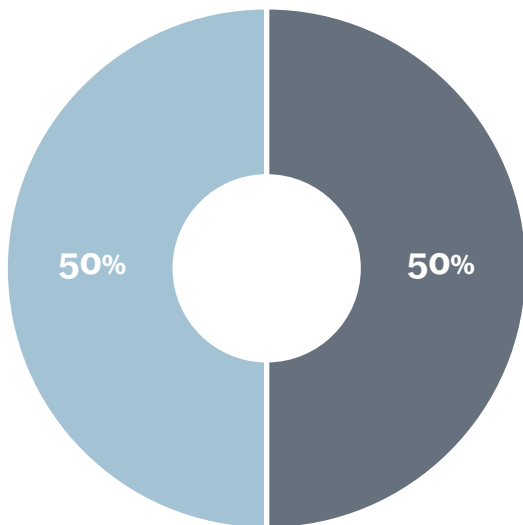
207 issuers for a total of 221 dialogues in 2019



Region	2019	2018	2017
■ Europe	53%	64 %	51%
■ North America	30%	20%	23 %
■ Asia Pacific	9%	10%	14 %
■ Emerging Markets	8%	6 %	12 %

Response rate

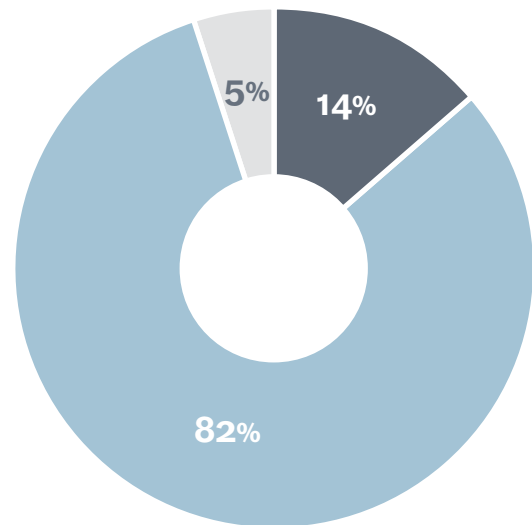
Of a total of 207 issuers contacted in 2019



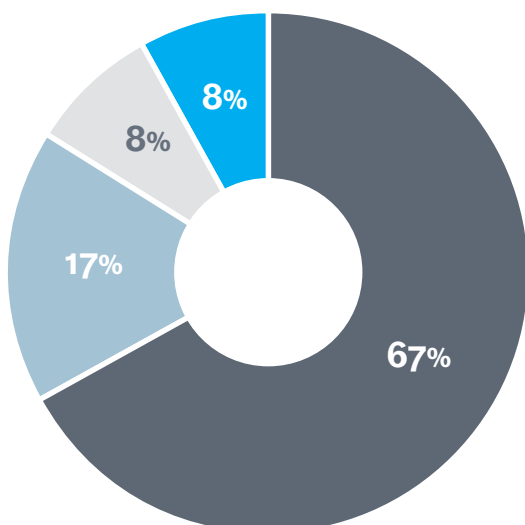
Response rate	2019	2018	2017
Responded	50 %	61 %	48 %
Did not respond	50 %	39 %	52 %

Main contact channel

Of a total of 221 dialogues in 2019



Main contact channel	2019	2018
Conference Call	14 %	18 %
(e-)Mail	82 %	67 %
Meeting	5 %	15 %



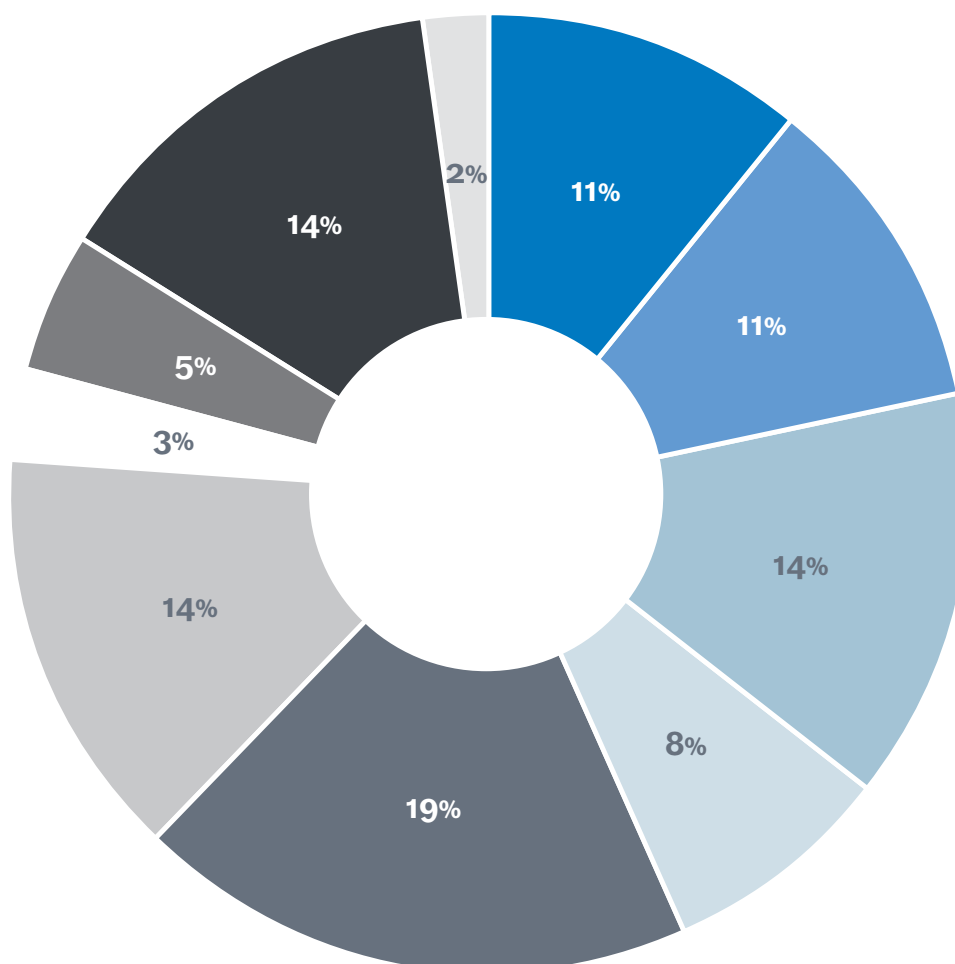
Regional breakdown of issuers which responded

Of a total of 103 issuers which responded in 2019

Region	2019	2018	2017
Europe	67 %	78 %	64 %
North America	17 %	15 %	19 %
Asia Pacific	8 %	7 %	11 %
Emerging Markets	8 %	0 %	6 %

Sector breakdown

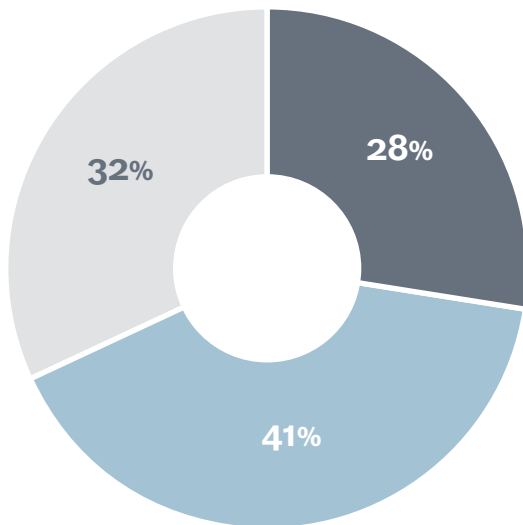
Of a total of 207 issuers in 2019



Sector breakdown	2019	2018	2017
Consumer discretionary	11%	21%	28 %
Industrials	11%	12 %	20 %
Consumer staples	14%	17 %	14 %
Materials	8%	11%	12 %
Financials (incl. Real Estate)	19%	9 %	8 %
Utilities	14%	8 %	6 %
Energy	3%	6 %	5 %
Health Care	5%	8 %	5 %
Information Technology	14%	6 %	4 %
Telecommunication Services	2%	1 %	0 %

Dialogue triggers

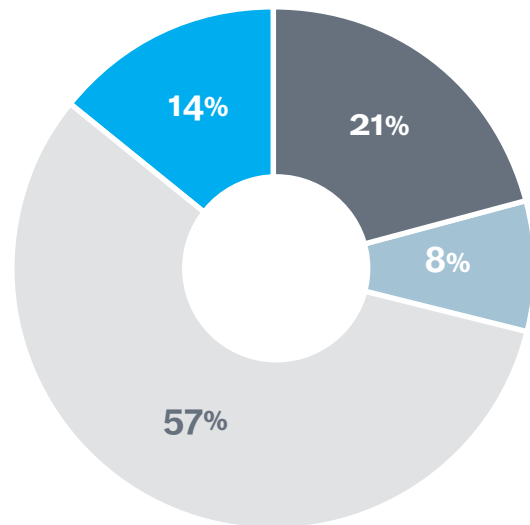
Of a total of 221 dialogues in 2019



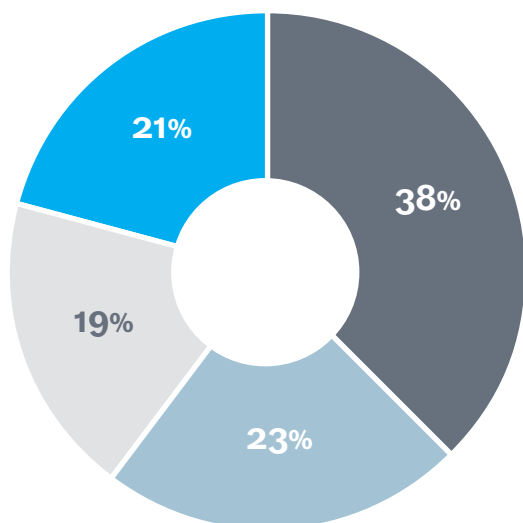
Trigger	2019	2018	2017
■ Encourage improved ESG disclosure	28%	28%	54%
■ Support investment decision-making	41%	45%	29%
■ Influence Corporate Practice (inter alia, AGMs related letters)	32%	28%	17%

Dialogue context

Of a total of 221 dialogues in 2019



Special context for dialogue	2019	2018	2017
■ SRI sector review / Cpy profile update / Specific events	21%	32%	23%
■ 'In Line' classified companies in SRI selection	8%	17%	3%
■ Other, Thematic	57%	33%	72%
■ Pre/Post AGM Engagement	14%	18%	2%



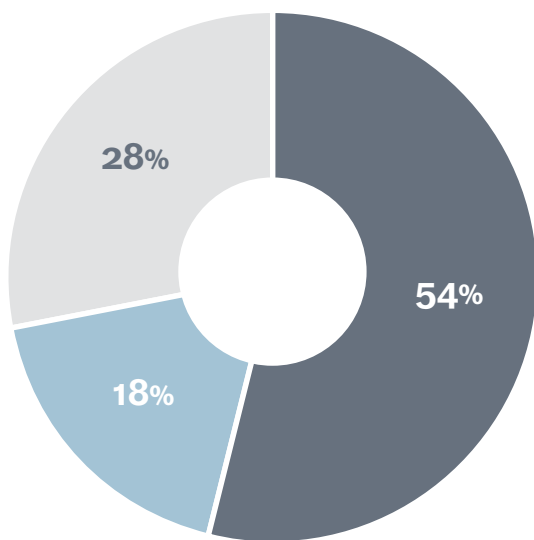
E-S-G direct dialogue breakdown

Of a total of 221 dialogues in 2019

ESG breakdown of the companies contacted	2019	2018	2017
■ Environment	38%	24%	16%
■ Social	23%	23%	30%
■ Governance	19%	31%	29%
■ Overlapping ESG issues	21%	23%	25%

Conviction topic breakdown

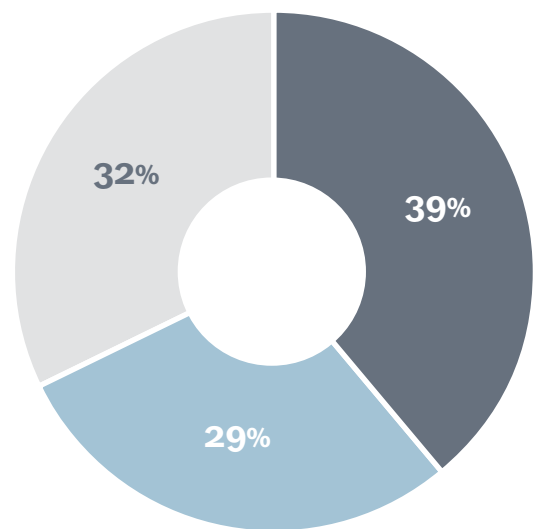
Of a total of 187 dialogues involving conviction topics



- E - Energy Transition
- S - Fair Work Conditions
- G - Business Ethics

Dialogue status

Of a total of 221 dialogues in 2019

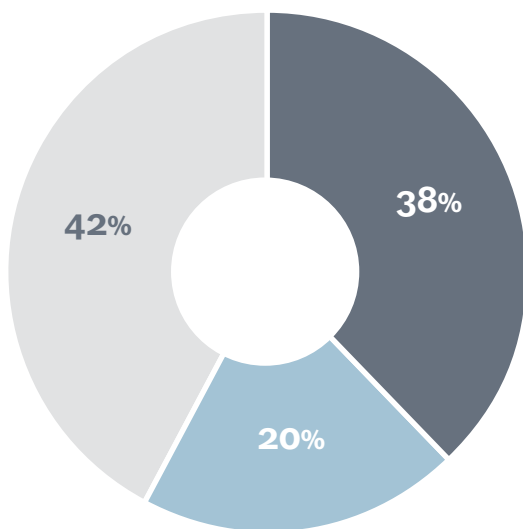


Main contact channel	2019	2018	2017
■ Closed during the year	39%	62%	50%
■ Continued through the year	29%	19%	8%
■ Initiated during the year	32%	19%	22%

Main contact channel	2019	2018	2017
■ Closed during the year	39%	62%	50%
■ Continued through the year	29%	19%	8%
■ Initiated during the year	32%	19%	22%

Impact of dialogues on Candriam ESG opinion

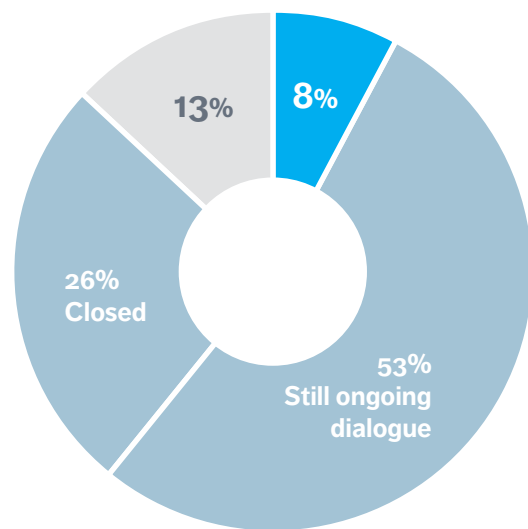
Of a total of 151 closed and ongoing dialogues in 2019



Main contact channel	2019	2018	2017
■ Yes, influenced Candriam's opinion	38 %	52 %	48 %
■ No influence	20 %	26 %	45 %
■ Dialogue ongoing	42 %	23 %	7 %

Impact of dialogues on issuer practices

Of a total of 87 closed and ongoing dialogues aimed at improving ESG disclosure or influencing company practices in 2019



■ Yes, impacted company's practices and ways of thinking

■ No impact yet

■ Not relevant

Further details on direct dialogues (including names of contacted companies) can be found under [2019 Details of direct dialogues](#).


















Collaborative initiatives

Candriam acts responsibly both an investor and as a company. We also join forces with other investors to secure greater leverage when calling on stakeholders to act responsibly. These collaborative engagements will continue to increase in importance, as ESG awareness continues to gain momentum in the financial community and as issuers are facing large and rising requests. With many requests being similar in nature, it makes sense to increase information and transparency while rationalizing issuers' reporting costs. Collective initiatives can be more powerful than individual dialogues when important changes in company practices are at stake.



Candriam's sustainable commitments



Since 2006, when we became a founding signatory to the UNPRI, we have signed the following statements:

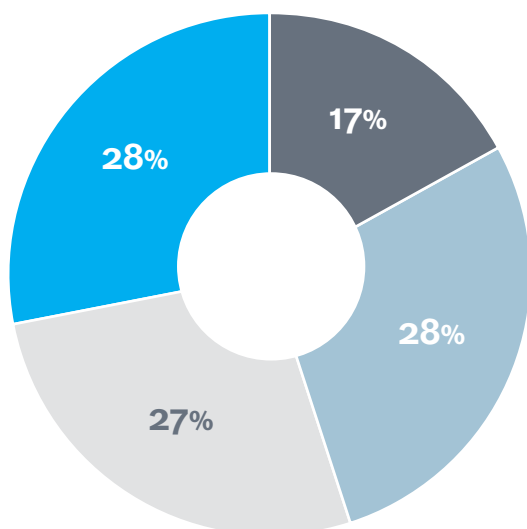
Commitments	ESG	Joined in/ Signed in	Conviction Topics
PRI - Principles for Responsible Investment 	ESG	2006	
UNGC Call to Action on anti-corruption 	G	2014	
G20 Energy Efficiency Investor Statement 	E	2015	
Montreal Carbon Pledge 	E	2015	
Paris Pledge for Action 	E	2015	
UK Stewardship code 	ESG	2016	
Investor Statement on ESG credit ratings 	ESG	2017	
Adhesion to Green and Social Bond Principles 	ES	2017	
Tobacco-Free Finance Pledge 	S	2018	
The Investor Agenda 	E	2018	
Commitment to support a just transition on climate change 	ESG	2018	

Collaborative initiatives both new and ongoing

Collaborative Initiatives Initiatives for a call to action	ESG	Joined/ Signed in	Candriam Contribution summary	Conviction Topics
CDP - Carbon Disclosure Project (incl. Climate Change, Water and Forest programs) 	E	2004	Lead investor on over 30 companies to encourage them to fill in the questionnaire (non disclosure campaign).	
Sustainable Stock Exchanges 	ESG	2010	Participation in update calls	
Access to Medicine (AtM) 	S	2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> . Letters co-signer . Lead for 1 target company . Active supporting investor with others 	
Access to Nutrition 	S	2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> . Letters co-signer & Lead for 1 target company . Active investor for several target companies 	
Bangladesh Initiative on garment industry 	S	2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> . Statements and letters co-signer to companies, OECD and authorities . Active engagement with 15 companies to encourage them to join or support The Accord 	
Labour practices in agricultural supply chain 	S	2016	Co-lead investor for 2 corporates, supporting investor for 1	
Fiduciary Duty in the 21st Century 	ESG	2017	Signatory	
Engagement on antibiotics overuse in livestock supply chains 	ES	2017	Letters co-signer	
Sustainable Protein Engagement 	E	2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> . Letters co-signer . Co-lead investor for 2 corporates 	
Workforce Disclosure Initiative 	S	2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> . Letters co-signer . Co-lead investor for 7 corporates 	
Banking on a Low Carbon Future 	E	2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> . Letters co-signer . Participation in group calls 	
Engagement on Cybersecurity	SG	2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> . Letters co-signer . Lead investor on 1 corporate . Participation in exchanges with several corporates 	
Expectations on Corporate Climate Lobbying 	E	2017	Signatory	

Collaborative Initiatives Initiatives for a call to action	ESG	Joined / Signed in	Candriam Contribution summary	Conviction Topics
Decarbonisation Initiative (incl. RE100 & EP100 Engagement)  	E	2017	Letters co-signer	
Combating Child Labour in Cocoa Supply Chains   	S	2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Statement co-signer to companies and related stakeholders Active investor for 1 company 	
Corporate Tax Responsibility 	G	2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Letters co-signer Lead investor on 2 corporates Participation in exchanges with several corporates 	
Climate Action 100+  	E	2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Active supporting investor for 5 corporates Signature of 2019 letters to US companies on Climate lobbying 2019 Letters to Audit Committee Chairs – Shell, BP and Total 	
PRI - Climate change transition for oil and gas (to be merged with CA 100+ in 2020)  	E	2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supporting Investor Signature of 2019 statement sent to O&G companies in relation to US Methane Deregulation 	
BBFAW Investor Collaboration on Farm Animal Welfare  	ES	2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Letters co-signer Active supporting investor with 1 corporate 	
PRI Water risks in agricultural supply chains 	E	2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Letters co-signer Lead investor on 1 corporate 	
Plastic Solutions Investor Alliance    	E	2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Statement co-signer Active supporting investor for 4 corporates In Lead for 2 retail corporates since H2 2019 	
UK Living Wage Engagement Campaign  	S	2018	Letters co-signer	
PRI Supported engagement on responsible sourcing of cobalt  	ES	2018	Co-Lead investor for 1 corporate	
Corporate Accountability for Digital Rights  	SG	2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Letters co-signer Co-lead investor for 1 corporate 	
Investor Statement to EU Policymakers on the future of Corporate Reporting  	ESG	2018	Statement co-signer	
Investors call on power companies to accelerate decarbonisation and support ambitious climate policy   	E	2018	Statement co-signer	
Open Letter to index providers on controversial weapons exclusions  	SG	2018	Statement co-signer	

Collaborative Initiatives new in 2019 Initiatives for a call to action	ESG	Joined / Signed in	Candriam Contribution summary	Conviction Topics
Making Finance Work for People and Planet 	ESG	2019	Statement co-signer	
PRI-coordinated Investor Working Group On Sustainable Palm Oil 	ES	2019	Supporting Investor for 6 corporates	
Investor Mining and Tailings Safety Initiative 	E	2019	. Letters co-signer . Participation in call	
Statement for mandatory human rights due diligence - Switzerland 	S	2019	Statement co-signer	
2019 Global Investor Statement to Governments on Climate Change 	E	2019	Statement co-signer	
Investor Statement On Turkmen Cotton (SourcingNetwork) 	S	2019	Statement co-signer	
2019-2020 Initiative for Pesticide Use Reduction and Safer Chemicals Management - Grocery Retail 	ES	2019	. Letters co-signer . Lead investor for 1 corporate	
Investor Statement On Deforestation & Forest Fires in the Amazon 	E	2019	Statement co-signer	
Investor Statement to support Gender Equality in the workplace 	S	2019	Statement co-signer	
Australian extractives sector, IGCC Public Sign On Letter 	E	2019	Letter co-signer	
Open Letter in support of Amazon Soy Moratorium 	E	2019	Open Letter co-signer	
PRI Investor statement on Climate change for Airlines & Aerospace companies 	E	End 2019/2020	Statement co-signer	
PRI Investors Letter to SEC 	ESG	End 2019/2020	Open Letter co-signer	



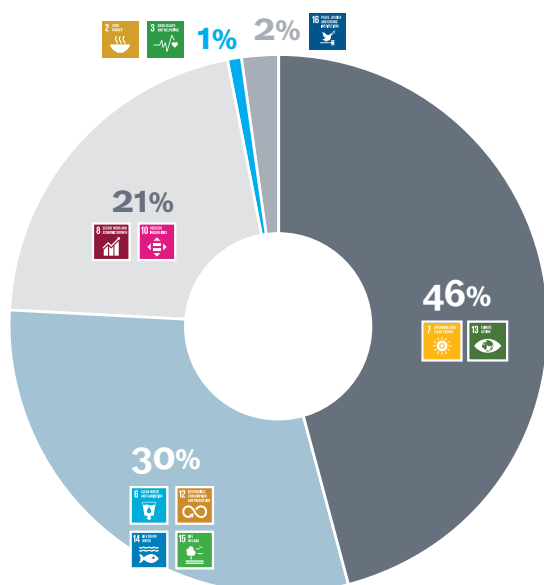
Collaborative initiatives regional breakdown

In total, 3672 issuers are targeted by collaborative initiatives we support.






Region

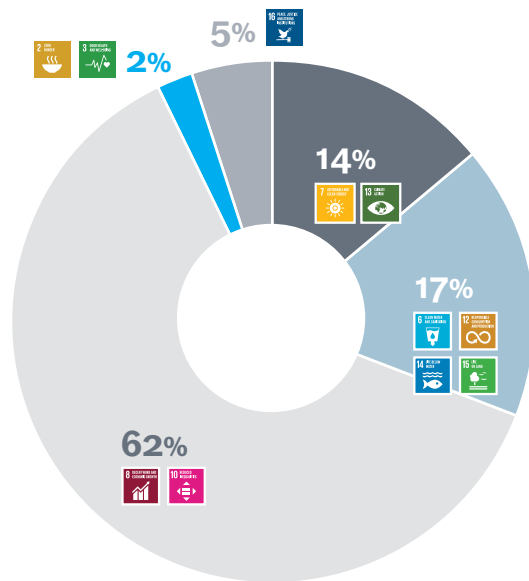
■ Asia/Pacific	■ Europe
■ North America	■ US/Can

We show the breakdown by topic of Candriam's collective dialogues, both with CDP (formerly the Carbon Disclosure Project) and excluding our work with the CDP. We do this because the large number of company conversations held jointly with CDP shows a different pattern of topics than the rest of our collective dialogues.














Topic breakdown, with CDP included


Climate, Energy transition  	CDP Climate, Climate Action 100+, Decarbonisation initiative, Banking on a Low Carbon Future, PRI Climate Change Transition for O&G, ShareAction Letter to Unicredit
Biodiversity  	CDP Water, CDP Forests, Plastic Solutions Investor Alliance, PRI Water Risks in Agriculture Supply, PRI Investor Working Group On Sustainable Palm Oil, Investor Mining and Tailings Safety Initiative, Sustainable Protein, BBFAW Investor Collaboration on Farm Animal Welfare, Initiative for Pesticide Use Reduction and Safer Chemicals Management - Grocery Retail, PRI-coordinated Investor Working Group On Sustainable Palm Oil, Investor Mining and Tailings Safety Initiative
Working conditions  	Investor Statement to support the UN Women's Empowerment Principles and achieve Gender Equality, Workforce Disclosure Initiative 2019, UK Living Wage Engagement Campaign, PRI - Labour practices in agricultural supply chain phase II, PRI - Responsible sourcing of cobalt, Child Labour in Cocoa Supply Chain, *** confidential coll engagement, Bangladesh Investor Initiative
Access to product & service, Health  	Access to Medicine, Access to Nutrition Index, Antibiotic overuse in livestock supply chains
Business Ethics 	Corporate Accountability for Digital Rights, PRI - Corporate Tax responsibility, PRI - Cyber security



Topic breakdown, all collaborative initiatives except CDP

Climate, Energy transition  	CDP Climate, Climate Action 100+, Decarbonisation initiative, Banking on a Low Carbon Future, PRI Climate Change Transition for O&G, ShareAction Letter to Unicredit
Biodiversity    	CDP Water, CDP Forests, Plastic Solutions Investor Alliance, PRI Water Risks in Agriculture Supply, PRI Investor Working Group On Sustainable Palm Oil, Investor Mining and Tailings Safety Initiative, Sustainable Protein, BBFAW Investor Collaboration on Farm Animal Welfare, Initiative for Pesticide Use Reduction and Safer Chemicals Management - Grocery Retail, PRI-coordinated Investor Working Group On Sustainable Palm Oil, Investor Mining and Tailings Safety Initiative
Working conditions  	Investor Statement to support the UN Women's Empowerment Principles and achieve Gender Equality, Workforce Disclosure Initiative 2019, UK Living Wage Engagement Campaign, PRI - Labour practices in agricultural supply chain phase II, PRI - Responsible sourcing of cobalt, Child Labour in Cocoa Supply Chain, *** confidential coll engagement, Bangladesh Investor Initiative
Access to product & service, Health  	Access to Medicine, Access to Nutrition Index, Antibiotic overuse in livestock supply chains
Business Ethics 	Corporate Accountability for Digital Rights, PRI - Corporate Tax responsibility, PRI - Cyber security

New initiatives

Making Finance Work for People and Planet	ESG	2019	Statement co-signer	
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Sustainable finance based on respect for human rights is essential for achieving the vision laid out by the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.


The EU Action Plan for Financing Sustainable Growth calls for the mainstreaming of sustainability or Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) issues in investors' risk management. The subsequent legislative proposal for a Regulation on Disclosures Relating to Sustainable Investments and Sustainability Risks (DSR Regulation) introduces disclosure obligations on how investors integrate ESG factors in their risk processes.

In 2017, as part of its broader guidance, the OECD agreed with a range of institutional investors on a definition and explanation of due diligence for investors, defining it as: the ongoing process through which investors can "identify, prevent, mitigate and account for how they address their

actual and potential adverse impacts as an integral part of business decision-making and risk management systems"¹. Due diligence is an important feature in the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (UNGPs) and the OECD Guidelines on Multinational Enterprises (OECD Guidelines).

This statement suggests that the EU should use this definition to reinforce consistency and align with existing market practice. In here, investors call for:

- Investors to set up and carry out robust due diligence processes to manage risks to people and the environment; and
- Governments to support investor due diligence through better regulation of financial systems.

PRI-coordinated Investor Working Group On Sustainable Palm Oil	ES	2019	Supporting Investor for 6 corporates	
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The Investor Working Group on Sustainable Palm Oil was formed in 2011 and is coordinated solely by the PRI. The original aim of the group was to raise awareness amongst investors of the ESG issues that arise in the palm oil value chain, to provide a unified voice in support of sustainable palm oil, and to engage with companies in support of more sustainable practices. Since its creation, investors within the group have been engaging companies across the palm oil value chain to encourage sustainable production, trade and sourcing of the commodity.

The palm oil investor working group's initial focus was on engaging palm oil buyers, however this focus shifted in 2013 to redirect attention to palm oil growers, traders and processors.

The investor working group on sustainable palm oil is now broadening its engagement scope to include ASEAN banks, particularly Indonesian, Malaysian and Singaporean banks, who finance the palm oil industry.

¹ <https://mneguidelines.oecd.org/RBC-for-Institutional-Investors.pdf>

Investor Mining and Tailings Safety Initiative	E	2019	. Letters co-signer . Participation in call	
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Following the failure and collapse of the Vale mine dam in Brumadinho, Brazil, and the tragic loss of lives, livelihoods, and the devastating environmental impact, investors called for a sector-wide focus on the establishment of an independent public classification system for tailings dams.

It applies to all tailings facilities where the company has any interest (including subsidiaries, partnerships and joint ventures).

Responses have been made public and can now be used as a basis for engagement.

A disclosure questionnaire and accompanying investor letter were sent to over 500 companies on April 2019. This disclosure requests specific details on companies' dams, including location, status, and analysis of downstream impact.


Statement for mandatory human rights due diligence - Switzerland	S	2019	Statement co-signer	
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The concept of human rights due diligence is based on the United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights and is aligned with the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises.

The present statement, launched by Ethos, calls for members of the Swiss parliament to back the introduction of mandatory human rights due diligence legislation in Switzerland, which was first discussed in the Swiss Parliament in June 2019.


Several jurisdictions (e.g. UK, France, California and the Netherlands) have already implemented related legislation to increase transparency and ensure the sound management of corporate supply chains.

2019 Global Investor Statement to Governments on Climate Change	E	2019	Statement co-signer	
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This statement reiterates the call to governments for a full and urgent implementation of the Paris Agreement. The Statement was accompanied by a new open letter from the CEOs of the seven founding partners of The Investor

Agenda. The letter draws attention to issues such as the need to achieve the 1.5 degree temperature limit effort, and a 'just energy transition'.

Investor Statement On Turkmen Cotton (SourcingNetwork)	S	2019	Statement co-signer	
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In Turkmenistan, the world's eleventh-largest exporter of cotton, the cotton industry is fully government-controlled. Domestic alternative media, and international organisations such as the ILO Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations, noted with "deep concern the widespread use of forced labour in cotton production which affects farmers, businesses, and private and public sector workers."

In May 2018, the U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) agency issued a Withhold Release Order (WRO) stating the importation of "all Turkmenistan cotton or products

produced in whole or in part with Turkmenistan cotton" could be prohibited from entering the United States.

In this statement, investors recommended that companies take the following steps:

1. Sign the Turkmen Cotton Pledge developed by Responsible Sourcing Network (RSN),
2. Assure implementation of the pledge by supporting the initiative YESS: Yarn Ethically & Sustainably Sourced, also developed by RSN.

2019-2020 Initiative for Pesticide Use Reduction and Safer Chemicals Management - Grocery Retail	ES	2019	. Letters co-signer . Lead investor for 1 corporate	
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Consumer concern is growing regarding the responsible use and management of chemicals in products and manufacturing processes, including pesticide residues in food. The purpose of this engagement campaign is to encourage some of the largest grocery retailers to adopt and implement a process of safer management of chemicals to mitigate the risks and protect human and environmental health from harmful agrochemicals.

Based on the Chemical Footprint Project's model, this engagement will target 13 of the largest publicly-traded

grocery retailers. Investors expect in particular these companies to

- adopt a safer chemical management process to assess and mitigate risks from pesticide use;
- measure and report on pesticide use in their supply chains and set reduction goals.

This initiative is co-chaired by Investor Environmental Health Network, Friends of the Earth and Mercy Investment Services, Inc.

Investor Statement On Deforestation & Forest Fires in the Amazon	E	2019	Statement co-signer	
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Tropical forests play a crucial role in tackling climate change, protecting biodiversity and ensuring ecosystem services.

Recent and ongoing Amazon fires have raised existing concerns over capacity to avoid systemic risks associated with deforestation.

Indeed, strong rainforest disruption will severely impact the agricultural sector and other economic activities, by reducing rainfall and increasing temperatures in the long term. Investee companies directly or indirectly involved in deforestation face increasing reputational, operational and regulatory risks.

The present statement, coordinated by the UN PRI, urges companies to redouble their efforts and demonstrate a clear commitment, including by:

- Publicly disclosing and implementing a commodity-specific, no-deforestation policy with quantifiable, time-bound commitments covering the entire supply chain and sourcing geographies.
- Assessing operations and supply chains for deforestation risk and reducing this risk to the lowest possible level, disclosing this information to the public.
- Establishing a transparent monitoring and verification system for supplier compliance with the company's no-deforestation policy.
- Reporting annually on deforestation risk exposure and management, including progress towards the company's no-deforestation policy.

This statement is part of a broader initiative, the Investor Initiative for Sustainable Forest (IISF). The IISF, run in collaboration with Ceres, is helping investors to understand how deforestation within the cattle and soybean supply chains represents a high material risk to companies.

Investor Statement to support Gender Equality in the workplace	S	2019	Statement co-signer	
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Gender equality is a fundamental human right. At business level, gender equality is an increasingly-regulated goal.


The purpose of this statement, the Women's Empowerment Principles (WEP), is to promote gender equality at the workplace. Launched by Mirova, these seven principles result from an alliance between UN Women and the UN Global Compact.

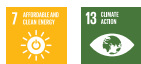
Women's Empowerment Principles

- Principle 1: Establish high-level corporate leadership for gender equality
- Principle 2: Treat all women and men fairly at work – respect and support human rights and nondiscrimination

- Principle 3: Ensure the health, safety and well-being of all women and men workers
- Principle 4: Promote education, training and professional development for women
- Principle 5: Implement enterprise development, supply chain and marketing practices that empower women
- Principle 6: Promote equality through community initiatives and advocacy
- Principle 7: Measure and publicly report on progress to achieve gender equality

Investor letters were be sent to a wide range of companies, starting with those included in the MSCI World Index, in September 2019.

Australian extractives sector, IGCC Public Sign On Letter	E	2019	Letter co-signer	
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The Australian extractive sector has a critical role to play in delivering the resources needed to deliver a prosperous low-carbon economy. As vocal supporters of the Paris Agreement, investors called upon global leaders and governments to strengthen nationally-determined contributions to meet the global emissions reduction goal and to do this by 2020. They now call on companies to do more to direct their trade associations and industry bodies in enabling Paris-aligned policies.

Given the importance of climate-related direct and indirect lobbying in the Australian political context (including a mid-October Lobbying resolution at BHP's AGM), IGCC planned to publish a letter dealing with this issue in the Australian media. Given that many of the diversified miners active in Australia also list their shares in London, signatures for this letter were gathered from a wide range of investors.

Open Letter in support of Amazon Soy Moratorium	E	2019	Letter co-signer	
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Tropical forests play a crucial role in tackling climate change, protecting biodiversity and ensuring ecosystem services.


In December 2019, a concerted movement supported by soy growers has been lobbying the Brazilian government to pull out of, and to dismantle, the Amazon Soy Moratorium.

The Amazon, host to over 10% of all global biodiversity, promotes climate stability as a carbon sink and plays a vital role in regulating rainfall, which is essential for agriculture – both within Brazil and beyond. But the balance is fragile.

As a response, several soy-buying/using companies and investors have drafted an open Letter (Coordinated by FAIRR) to show industry support for the need to maintain this moratorium.

Brazil is one of the world's major producers of soy. In 2006, a vital agreement known as the Amazon Soy Moratorium was established to ensure that soy production in the Amazon region only occurs on existing agricultural land. Since then, soy production in the Amazon has increased 400%, showing that forest protection and agricultural expansion can be compatible.

By co-signing this letter Candriam remains fully consistent with the "Investor statement on deforestation and forest fires in the Amazon" we signed in 2019.

PRI Investor statement on Climate change for Airlines & Aerospace companies	E	End 2019/2020	Statement co-signer	
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The purpose of this statement is to urge Airlines and Aerospace companies to reinforce efforts to tackle their emissions by:

- Implementing a strong governance framework which clearly articulates the board's accountability and oversight of climate change risks and opportunities
- Establishing and disclosing robust transition plans consistent with the goals of the Paris Agreement
- Establishing and disclosing robust strategies, resources, and programs
- Providing strong corporate disclosure in line with the final recommendations of the Task Force on Climate-Related Financial Disclosures (TCFD)
- Lobbying transparently and consistently in line with the Paris Agreement goals

PRI Investors Letter to SEC	ESG	End 2019/2020	Open Letter co-signer	
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The letter highlights how the SEC (US Securities and Exchange Commission) proposed new rules would be a step backwards:

- The proposed changes to the Rule 14a-8 thresholds significantly raise the ownership requirements and the percentage vote a shareholder proposal must receive to be resubmitted, making it more difficult to submit and sustain proposals ;
- Requiring proxy advisory firms to allow companies to review and comment on recommendations before investors even see them, as the SEC has proposed, would be an unprecedented intrusion of management into this arena, greatly limiting investors' access to independent advice on matters brought to a vote.

The letter urge the Commission to ensure:

- The right of shareholders to make their voices heard ;
- The ability to put forward shareholder proposals, which are a component of fundamental investor rights in the US because they enable shareholders to engage with the companies they own at annual elections on critical issues;
- The independence of proxy voting advice from being influenced by company managements.

Further details on collaborative initiatives in which we are involved



Access to Medicine (AtM)

	Supported since	Status	Candriam Contribution involvement	ESG
https://accesstomedicinefoundation.org/	2010	Active	Letter co-signer and Lead investor for one company in support of the collaborative engagement on access to medicine and SDG3, based on 2018 Access to Medicine Index	

Summary

The Access to Medicine Foundation's mission is to stimulate and guide pharmaceutical companies to do more for the people living in low- and middle-income countries without access to medicine. To that end, the Access to Medicine Index analyses 20 of the world's largest research-based pharmaceutical companies with products for high-burden diseases in low- and middle-income countries.

It ranks pharmas on their efforts to improve access to medicine in seven areas of corporate behaviour and identifies best practices, highlights where progress is being made, and uncovers where critical action is still required. The Index is published every two years. The companies in the 2018 Index accounted for approximately 70% of global pharmaceutical revenue.

As an investor, we support this initiative not only for its long-term positive impact on communities but also because we think the way pharmaceutical companies manage access-to-medicine risks and opportunities can have significant impacts on their financial performance.

Targeted Sectors: Pharmaceuticals.

Targeted Regions: Global.

Achievements

Publication of the methodology of the second AMR Benchmark



Release of an independent ten-year report on the progress of pharma companies in expanding access to medicine, based on the past ten years of Access to Medicine Index research. The report found that several pharmaceutical companies are now doing business in new, inclusive ways that aim to reach people on very low incomes. Seven companies are running a total of ten inclusive business models, eight of which are being expanded. Plus, 17 companies now set measurable targets related to access to medicine, up from eight in 2010. Yet, only some companies (nine) are tackling the risks of unethical sales behaviour by changing sales bonus structures. Fewer companies (four) have consistently supported international trade agreements designed to ensure the poorest people can benefit from medical innovation.

Set up an investor-led collaborative engagement on access to medicine and SDG3, where Candriam is both a member and also a lead investor.

Next Steps

- Publication of Methodology Report for next Access to Medicine Index
- Release of next Access to Medicine Index
- Further investor support of engagement with pharmaceutical companies on access to medicine and AMR

Access to Nutrition Index (ATNI)

	Supported since	Status	Candriam Contribution involvement	ESG
www.accesstonutrition.org	2013	Active	Letter co-signed, and Lead investor for one company	 

Summary

The aim of the Access to Nutrition Initiative is to drive change by tracking and driving the food industry's attempts to tackle undernutrition, obesity and diet-related chronic diseases at the local and global levels.

Every action taken by ATNI is intended to encourage businesses to promote good health through improved diets and nutrition. ATNI focuses on developing tools and initiatives that track and drive the contribution made by the food and beverage sector to address the world's global nutrition challenges. The Initiative is increasingly establishing partnerships with other organizations committed to solving the world's nutrition challenges by working with food and beverage companies to improve their business practices. ATNI collaborates with investors, academics, not-for-profits and foundations to develop and deliver such projects.

ATNI works extensively with the investment community to ensure that its tools are designed to provide investors with the in-depth information they need on companies' performance on nutrition not available from any other source. Investors can use Indexes and reports in their ESG research, integration and engagement.

Achievements

The year 2019 more specifically dedicated to the assessment methodology update, in partnership with stakeholders. As of 2019, the Product Profile results are integrated into the overall Corporate Profile score.

Building on work done within the food sector, and extending its scope of work, released ATNI first [review](#) of the ten largest UK food retailers' disclosure on nutrition, diets and health, in partnership with ShareAction.

Follow up of the engagement campaign with investors based on index findings, to discuss with companies the path to improvement, depending on their profile.

Next Steps



- Release of the 2020 Global Access to Nutrition Index.
- Follow-up on the engagement campaign.

Targeted Sectors: Food & Beverage (F&B).

Targeted Regions: Global.



Antibiotics overuse in livestock supply chains

	Supported since	Status	Candriam Contribution involvement	ESG
http://www.fairr.org/investor-engagements/antibiotics-overuse-livestock-supply-chains/	2016	Active	Letter co-signer	 

Summary

The overuse of antibiotics to feed farm animals in intensive livestock production is even more controversial than their overuse in human medicine. Although practices vary from country to country, approximately 50% of the antibiotics used in the UK and 80% of those used in the US are given to farm animals. In certain parts of the world, medically important antibiotics are used not just to fight disease, but as growth promoters. In addition, less intensive farming methods, coupled with improved animal welfare standards, have been identified as capable of reducing the need for antibiotics.

Coordinated by FAIRR, this collaborative engagement is focused on improving the stewardship of antibiotics in the global fast food and restaurant sector by phasing out the routine use of antibiotics in food supply chains. Company performance is evaluated using on a number of criteria that assess policy scope and implementation, including whether there are clear targets and timelines in place as well as third-party auditing across all relevant species and markets.

Targeted Sectors: Food & Beverage (F&B).

Targeted Regions: Global.

Achievements

FAIRR's new progress report on: [Improving antibiotics stewardship in livestock supply chains](#) was released in May 2019. Since 2016, the number of companies engaged with on this topic has doubled from ten to 20.

Out of these, 17 of 20 (85%) have a publicly-available policy on antibiotics. This is a remarkable shift from the launch of the engagement in early 2016, when only one company had a regional policy on antibiotics use.




The strength of the policies has also improved with seven of 20 companies (35%) now addressing all relevant animal species including fish. As an extension of its work, in June 2019 FAIRR released in June 2019 a [report dedicated to aquaculture](#).

FAIRR's new progress report on: [Improving antibiotics stewardship in livestock supply chains](#)

Next Steps

FAIRR will continue to monitor company performance, and if companies are failing to demonstrate progress and adherence to policies, FAIRR and Candriam will consider formally reengaging with these companies.

Bangladesh Investor Initiative

	Supported since	Status	Candriam Contribution involvement	ESG
https://www.iccr.org/our-issues/human-rights/protecting-worker-rights-garment-workers	2013	Active	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Statement and Letter co-signer to companies, OECD and authorities Active investor for 13 companies, encouraging them to join or support The Accord 	  

Summary

Coordinated by the ICCR, this initiative was launched after the 2013 Rana Plaza factory disaster and the deaths of 1,134 workers, which spurred international retailers to address health and safety issues in their Bangladesh contract garment factories. More than 250 investors from 12 countries signed the statement, representing \$4.5b AUM.

In May 2013, Candriam and other global investors appealed to the Bangladeshi retailing & garment industries to implement systemic reforms to ensure worker safety and welfare, and to adopt zero-tolerance policies on global supply-chain abuses. More specifically, we urged them to join The Accord on Fire and Building Safety (hereafter The Accord), a 5-year, independent, legally-binding agreement between trades unions, brands, retailers and their suppliers.

Targeted Sectors: Retailing, Textiles.

Targeted Regions: Global.

Achievements

The Bangladesh initiative reached a turning point in 2019, through investor letters to the prime minister and applicable ministries of the Bangladesh government, in obtaining a one-year extension for the Accord. In January 2020 a Transition Agreement was signed by global brands, trade unions and the BGMEA that moved Accord functions, protocols and staff to an independent body (RSC) which will be operational on June 1st, 2020, (terms under <https://bangladeshaccord.org/updates/2020/01/15/joint-statement-accord-bgmea>).




Of the 1,679 garment factories covered by The Accord, 273 (174 in 2018) factories completed initial remediation. More than 90% remediation was completed at 1,173 (934 in 2018) factories and 1.8 million (1.5 million in 2018) workers have been informed about workplace safety, including the complaints mechanism.

Next Steps

- Effective transition to the RSC.
- Ensure that the RSC continues the independent grievance mechanism for workers that has been so successful--an essential element of providing remedy to workers through a trusted process based on the United Nations Guiding Principles' effectiveness criteria for non-judicial grievance mechanisms.
- Discuss the possibility of building an international fire and building safety agreement based on the Accord for other countries

**CDP –
Formerly Carbon
Disclosure Project**
(including Climate Change, and
Water and Forest programmes)



	Supported since	Status	Candriam Contribution involvement	ESG
https://www.cdp.net/en/investor/signatories-and-members	2004	Active	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Signatory to the main disclosure request to 6000+ corporations Lead investor for more than 32 corporations worldwide – Non-Disclosure Campaign 	   

Summary

CDP is a not-for-profit global disclosure system through which thousands of companies, cities, states and regions measure, report, manage and share vital environmental information.

This data is currently shared with Investor signatories and members.

The insights offered by the data CDP collects on climate change, water, and deforestation risk management enable investors to make informed decisions about mitigating the risks of environmental issues whilst capitalizing on the opportunities that a responsible approach presents.

Targeted Sectors: All.

Targeted Regions: Global.

Achievements

In 2019, over 8,400 companies representing 50% of global market capitalization disclosed environmental data through CDP, responding to investor and/or supply chain disclosure requests.

The number of investors participating in the Non-Disclosure Campaign increased by nearly a fifth, resulting in more companies being directly targeted and more companies disclosing for the first time.



Companies targeted in the campaign were 2.3 times as likely to disclose than those that were not targeted. The new disclosures represent \$2.1 trillion in market capitalisation and over 1 billion MtCO₂ in Scope 1 and 2 emissions.

Next Steps

2020 CDP Non-Disclosure campaign.



Climate Action 100+ (CA100+)

	Supported since	Status	Candriam Contribution involvement	ESG
http://www.climateaction100.org/	2017	Active	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Active supporting investor for five corporates Support brought to climate-resolutions and co-filing actions 	 

Summary

This collaborative engagement is a five-year initiative launched by the PRI in collaboration with several other networks – Asia Investor Group on Climate Change (Asia), Ceres Investor Network on Climate Risk and Sustainability (North America), Investor Group on Climate Change (Australia/New Zealand) and the Institutional Investor Group on Climate Change (Europe).

By engaging with more than 100 of the world's largest corporate Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emitters, the aim is to curb emissions, strengthen climate-related financial disclosures and improve governance on climate change risks.

The Climate Action 100+ founding signatories have agreed on a common agenda for discussion with companies. Investors supporting the initiative will request the boards and senior management of these companies to:

- Implement a strong governance framework that clearly articulates the board's accountability and oversight of climate change risks and opportunities;
- Take action to reduce GHG emissions across the value chain, consistent with the Paris Agreement's goal of limiting the global average temperature increase to well below 2 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels;
- Provide enhanced corporate disclosure in line with the final recommendations of the Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures (TCFD) and, when applicable, sector-specific Global Investor Coalition Investor Expectations on Climate Change. The objective is to enable investors to assess the robustness of companies' business plans against a range of climate scenarios, including the well-below 2-degrees Celsius scenario, and improve investment decision-making.

Targeted Sectors: Food & Beverage (F&B).

Targeted Regions: Global.

Achievements

The 160 'focus companies' engaged through the initiative are collectively responsible for over two-thirds of global industrial GHG emissions and represent a combined market capitalisation in excess of \$8 trillion.

As stated in its first progress report released in September 2019, significant progress has been seen across a range of industries, many of which are among the most challenging to decarbonise. Examples of focus companies making substantial net zero commitments over just the first half of 2019 alone, include HeidelbergCement, Duke Energy, Nestle, Daimler, VW, Thyssenkrupp, ArcelorMittal, BHP Billiton, Centrica and Saint-Gobain, among others.

In particular, across the 161 focus companies, 70% have set long-term emissions reduction targets, 40% undertake and disclose climate scenario analysis, and 30% of companies have formally supported recommendations of the Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures.

Several shareholder climate-resolutions were co-filed / supported at 2019 AGMs by CA100+ investors.


Next Steps

Engagement follow up, as well as potential actions at 2020 AGMs, including co-filing, official support for climate-related resolutions, or director sanction votes when climate strategies obviously lag those of peers in industries identified as particularly at risk.

Lobbying reform, Net zero goals or targets and TCFD implementation are identified as engagement priorities.



Corporate Accountability for Digital Rights

	Supported since	Status	Candriam Contribution involvement	ESG
https://investorsforhumanrights.org/actions/campaigns/information-and-communication-technology-ict	2018	Active	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> . Letters co-signer. . Co-Lead investor on one corporate 	

Summary

The investor statement of the Corporate Accountability for Digital Rights is an initiative of the Investor Alliance for Human Rights. It calls on internet, mobile, and telecommunications (ICT) companies to respect human rights and refers to the Ranking Digital Rights (RDR) Corporate Accountability Index as a tool to help them improve their governance systems.

The RDR evaluates 22 of the world's most powerful ICT companies on their disclosed commitments and policies affecting freedom of expression and privacy, such as massive data breaches and manipulation of social media platforms. Investors ask them to align their policies and practices with the RDR by conducting human rights due diligence, reporting on human rights and collaborating with investors.

By signing this statement, investors commit to raising awareness among the investor community as well as to promoting respect for digital rights in their dialogues with companies, for instance by pushing them to make public commitments to respect users' freedom of expression and right to privacy, and by disclosing their policies on the matter. Investors also commit to using and developing the RDR Index in their analysis.

Targeted Sectors: ICT companies.

Targeted Regions: Global.

Achievements

The RDR Corporate Accountability Index evaluates the disclosed policies and practices of the world's most powerful internet, mobile, and telecommunications companies. These affect the freedom of expression and privacy of the users of these infrastructure services. The 2019 RDR Index was released in May 2019.


RDR's recommended questions for investors to ask companies were discussed within the engagement working group, as well as relevant regulatory developments.

Indeed, most of the 24 ranked companies improved scores in at least one area, and many made significant improvements in the past year. Yet companies still fell short under Privacy (not adequately informing users about all the ways user information is collected and shared), Expression (companies struggling to curb extremism, hate speech, and disinformation), Governance (most companies failing to anticipate and manage privacy and expression risks caused by their business models, and by the deployment of new technologies).

Next Steps

Continuous support of engagement.

Corporate Tax responsibility

	Supported since	Status	Candriam Contribution involvement	ESG
PRI & Tax Avoidance issue Evaluating and Engaging on Corporate Tax Transparency Investor Recommendations on Corporate Income Tax Disclosure	2017	Completed in 2019	. Letter co-signer . Lead investor on two corporates . Participation in exchanges with several corporates	

Summary

This PRI-coordinated initiative aims to improve corporate disclosure on tax policy, governance and risk management, and reporting areas at portfolio companies in the healthcare and technology sectors. Indeed, opaque and aggressive tax practices can lead to reputational, earnings and legal risks, and therefore may have an impact on long-term shareholder value. Tax policies can also result in social and macro-economic distortions by reducing competition and limiting capital available for sustainable development and for addressing externalities.

As global regulations are moving towards the reinforcement of legal frameworks to prevent tax avoidance, companies involved in aggressive tax policies are facing greater media and tax authority scrutiny.

The key goals of the engagement include: publication of a global tax policy that outlines a responsible approach to tax; information on tax governance and management of the tax policy and related risks; and publication of country-by-country reports.

Targeted Sectors: Healthcare and technology sectors have been selected due to higher risks (alleged tax avoidance activities, higher tax gap, complex tax strategies due to reliance on intellectual property assets) and limited reporting.

Targeted Regions: Global.

Achievements

Among the 33 companies responding, recent disclosure indicated improvement of practices compared to the ones observed when we began :

- 23 global positions on tax were published
- 27 companies made a clear commitment to avoiding over-aggressive tax planning
- 25 companies indicated that the board (or sub-committee of the board) held responsibility for tax issues

Still, only five companies explained their approach to tax havens and no company in the target list produced a country-by-country report.

Next Steps

The [outcomes report](#) was published in March 2020.

Cyber security	Supported since	Status	Candriam Contribution involvement	ESG
PRI & Cyber Security issue Stepping up Governance on Cyber Security Investor-company Dialogue on Cyber Security: five emerging findings	2017	Completed	. Letter co-signer . Lead investor on one corporate . Participation in exchanges with several corporates	

Summary

This initiative, coordinated by the PRI, provided an opportunity for investors to encourage enhanced corporate disclosure on cyber security and facilitate a better understanding of the underlying cyber risks and vulnerabilities.

This engagement aimed to:

- Build investor understanding of how their portfolio companies are positioned in terms of their policies and governance structures to demonstrate cyber resilience;
- Improve the level of company disclosure on cyber risks and governance;
- Establish investor expectations on what companies can and should disclose regarding cyber risk governance.

Targeted Sectors: Consumer goods, healthcare, information technology, telecommunications and financial sectors.

Targeted Regions: Global.

Achievements

Many companies appear to already have cyber-related policies and procedures in place and most would agree that this is a business-critical issue.



Through the engagement process, access to cyber security experts within companies, such as CISOs and Digital Directors, provided involved investors a better understanding of the cyber security policy, strategy and implementation, and how the three are interlinked.

Among the 53 companies assessed, the average scores increased from 6.8 to 8.45 (out of 14) through the engagement period, with 21 companies disclosing information across ten or more indicators, compared to seven in the previous assessment.

Next Steps

Release of the final report, detailing minimum disclosure expectations and recommendations for investors seeking to initiate or expand their work on cyber security.

Decarbonisation initiative (IDI)

	Supported since	Status	Candriam Contribution involvement	ESG
https://shareaction.org/decarbonise/	2017	Active	Letter co-signer.	 

Summary

The Investor Decarbonisation initiative, coordinated by ShareAction, brings together over 100 institutional investors. These investors lobby companies by signing letters encouraging the establishment of bold and credible climate targets.

The initiative aims to secure commitments from companies to set science-based targets (SBTs) in line with the goals of the Paris Agreement and to set complementary energy targets in support of the development and delivery of these, namely:

- RE100: source 100% renewable electricity for global operations.
- EP100: to improve energy productivity, by cutting out energy waste and operating energy-smart buildings.
- EV100: to increase electric vehicle uptake and to provide charging stations across a company's properties.

Targeted Sectors: Power generation, cement, automotive, food & beverage, retail, building and construction, steel and IT.

Targeted Regions: Global.

Achievements

In 2019, engagement efforts targeted 51 companies.

By the end of 2019, around one-third of the 195 companies targeted since 2017 had made positive efforts towards proactive emissions reductions, agreed to sign up to one or more of the RE100/EP100/EV100 initiatives, or started or completed the process to set CO2 emission science-based targets.




On average, RE100 members are currently sourcing more than 30% of their electricity from renewables.

Next Steps

The [outcomes report](#) was published in March 2020.



Plastic Solutions Investor Alliance

	Supported since	Status	Candriam Contribution involvement	ESG
https://www.asyousow.org/our-work/waste/ocean-plastics https://www.asyousow.org/initial-corporate-engagements	2018	Active	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> . Letter co-signer . Lead investor on two corporates 	  

Summary

This initiative, launched in 2018 by As You Sow, calls for a reduced usage of plastics, improved collection and recycling channels, and the development of sustainable alternatives to plastic packaging.

Plastic remains essential to our society and, in some cases, irreplaceable. However the unprecedented growth in the production and use of plastics, especially for single-use packaging, has led to excesses. Plastic production accounts for 20% of oil consumption. Plastic pollution is now a threat not only to biodiversity, with hundreds of species endangered, but also to our health. For businesses, and especially consumer brands, it is fast becoming a reputational and regulatory risk that should compel them to rethink product packaging, with impacts at supply, production and consumer-relationship levels.

Targeted Sectors: Consumer segment - food and beverages / food retail.

Targeted Regions: Global.

Achievements

Continued engagement with ten food and beverages companies, to which we added three European food retailers.

In some cases, As You Sow decided to co-file shareholder resolutions, which we supported with our proxy votes.



Over the year, target companies Unilever, Starbucks and PepsiCo made strong commitments.

Investor support for the 2019/20 As You Sow Packaging Survey.

Next Steps

Continuous support of engagement.

Decarbonisation initiative (IDI)

	Supported since	Status	Candriam Contribution involvement	ESG
https://collaborate.unpri.org/group/1401/stream	2019	Active (to be completed in 2020)	. Letter co-signer . Lead investor on one corporate	 

Summary

This initiative follows a series of systemic human rights violations in cobalt supply chains originating in the mines of the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). These violations have become a risk for companies that rely on cobalt for their products, in terms of regulation, reputation, consumer expectations and the potential negative impact on operations.

In line with the OECD Due Diligence Guidance, the initiative has the following objectives:

- Identify and assess existing corporate practices;
- Encourage enhanced communications and reporting;
- Support improved performance and impact on the part of target companies.

The engagement dialogues will seek to improve company performances and impact in several key areas, including:

- Human rights risk assessment and comprehensive due diligence efforts;
- Impact monitoring and corrective action.

Targeted Sectors: Technologies, Automobile.

Targeted Regions: Global.



Achievements

Engagement follow up.

Organization of an Investor Roundtable on Responsible Cobalt Supply Chains in November 2019, which shared updates from civil society and multi stakeholder initiatives such as the Good Shepherd International and Global Battery Alliance.

Next Steps

Continuous support of engagement and release of the final outcomes report.

Sustainable Protein	Supported since	Status	Candriam Contribution involvement	ESG
http://www.fairr.org/investor-engagements/sustainable-protein-supply-chains/	2017	Active	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> . Letter co-signer . Co-lead investor on two corporates 	 

Summary

The livestock sector accounts for more than 14% of global GHG emissions. The demand for animal-based products needs to reduce radically if the world is to stand a chance of keeping to the temperature-change targets set by the Paris Climate Conference in 2015. In this respect, large-scale food retailers and multinational food companies are central to the modern food system and well positioned to encourage a shift towards more sustainable diets.

The call for sustainable protein supply chains is not a demand for ruling out animal products entirely but rather a call for diversification of the protein range on offer or a call to move away from the dominant position of meat & dairy in our menus in order to de-risk supply chains and leverage innovation for growth.

Coordinated by FAIRR, this collaborative engagement is focused on encouraging corporates to publicly report on how a company integrates protein diversification into risk reduction, business growth planning, product development and investment decisions.

Targeted Sectors: Food & Beverages, Food & Staples Retailing.

Targeted Regions: Global.

Achievements

Release of FAIRR's new report, [Appetite for disruption: How leading food companies are responding to the alternative protein boom](#). Alternative proteins are now big business: plant-based foods are leading growth for the food sector. Milk alternatives have quickly grabbed market share and account for 13% of retail milk sales in the US. While meat alternatives still represent a small slice of total meat sales, they enjoy nearly 25% growth in annual sales. In the meantime, traditional brands are being disrupted by their plant-based counterparts.

Nearly half of all companies in the engagement now recognize the environmental impacts of animal agriculture supply chains, and are beginning to evaluate their exposure and risk profile to these supply chains through risks assessments or scenario analysis.


Preparation of 2020 engagement campaign.

Next Steps

Continuous support for the 2020 engagement campaign.

As engagement letters were sent on the 30th January 2020, dialogues with the companies are expected to take place between April and May. A progress report will be published in the Summer.

Water Risks in Agricultural supply chain

	Supported since	Status	Candriam Contribution involvement	ESG
https://collaborate.unpri.org/group/pri-coordinated-engagement-phase-2-water-risks-in-agricultural-supply-chains-3073	2018	Active (to be completed in 2020)	. Letter co-signer . Lead investor on one corporate	

Summary

Agriculture and intensive farming are two of the main reasons behind the increasing demand for global fresh water, as they are responsible for 70% of the world's water consumption. In 2014, the PRI launched the first phase of an engagement focusing on water risks in agricultural supply chains. The objective was to improve the disclosure of water risks, as well as risk management practices in 32 companies across the agricultural products, apparel and luxury goods, food & beverages, and retail sectors. By the end of the first phase, last June, 84% of the companies engaged had improved their disclosure and reached most goals.

The PRI therefore decided to launch phase 2 of the engagement. Based on phase 1 outcomes, this second phase focuses only on 17 laggard companies. The objectives are to:

- Ensure companies identify and show knowledge of water risks and impacts in their agricultural supply chains.
- Encourage companies to implement appropriate policies and measures to mitigate water risks and impacts.
- Promote public disclosure by companies.

Targeted Sectors: Textiles, food and beverages, food retailers.

Targeted Regions: Global.

Achievements

Engagement follow up / closure, with the 17 target companies.

Most of the improvements observed have been at disclosure level; in particular, when related to effective monitoring of supply chain practices. Textile companies, as an example, are leading the way.

Next Steps

Release of the final outcomes report (2020 Benchmark).



Workforce Disclosure Initiative (WDI)

	Supported since	Status	Candriam Contribution involvement	ESG
https://shareaction.org/wdi/	2017	Active	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> . Letter co-signer . Co-lead investor for six corporates 	

Summary

This initiative, coordinated by ShareAction, brings institutional investors together to secure comparable workforce reporting from listed companies on an annual basis. The data requested covers employees both across global operations, and workers in their supply chains.

The WDI involves an annual investor-led survey of multinational companies. As of the end of 2019, over 135 institutional investors, from 15 countries, supported the WDI.

Its ultimate goal is to improve the quality of jobs in multinational companies, and within the companies in their supply chains.

Targeted Sectors: All.

Targeted Regions: Global.

Achievements

Responses were received from 118 companies in 2019, up from 90 in 2018, and 34 in the pilot year of 2017.

The most commonly-encountered problem mentioned by companies which answered the survey was the difficulty in collecting appropriate and accurate data on the wide range of themes covered by the WDI survey. Among companies who did not provide information, the main barriers cited were the lack of resources to take part, and/or the belief they already publish sufficient information.

In June 2019, the first WDI conference convened 150 of the largest global asset managers, companies and NGOs to hold candid conversations about workplace issues, human rights due diligence processes, and the opportunities and costs surrounding sustainable supply chain policies.

Next Steps

Continuous support of WDI engagement campaign.

Promoting sustainable development

Industry Associations & Responsible Investment Working Groups

	Name of Association	Joined in
SRI Working Groups within:	BEAMA - Belgian Asset Managers Association	2004
	AFG - Association Française de la Gestion financière	2003
	EFAMA - European Fund And Asset Management Association	2010
Several Social Investment Forums, such as:	Eurosif - European Sustainable Investment Forum	2003
	VBDO - Dutch Sustainable Investment Forum	2007
	Forum Nachhaltige Geldanlagen (Germany, Switzerland & Austria)	2010
	Swiss Sustainable Finance (Switzerland)	2014
	Forum pour la Finance Responsable (French SIF FIR)	2014
	Forum per la Finanza Sostenibile (Italy)	2015
	UKSIF - United Kingdom Sustainable Investment Forum	2016
	US SIF - United States Forum for Sustainable & Responsible Investment	2016
Other sustainability-oriented investor bodies	ABIS - The Academy of Business in Society	2005
	IIGCC - The Institutional Investors Group on Climate Change	2020

Main events and consultations in which Candriam was involved:

- ESMA consultation on sustainable risks & factors in MIFID II
- EU Commission consultation on usability of EU taxonomy of green activities
- EU Commission engagement on eco-label criteria
- EU Commission consultation on Green Bonds standards
- PRI survey on annual report and assessment
- AMF survey on practices in SRI
- EU Commission consultation on non-financial disclosures
- IOSCO survey on Responsible Investment regulation and practices



€130 B

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