18 January 2019 Sustainability

Helaba Invest focuses on sustainability criteria for equity funds

Helaba Invest is increasingly applying environmental, social and governance (ESG) criteria to its equity mutual funds.

The ESG screen of the funds is based on the examination of major controversies according to a variety of international standards and conventions. Among other things, this ensures compliance with the principles of the United Nations Global Compact in the areas of human rights, labour standards, the environment and the prevention of corruption. It underscores the sustainable character of Helaba Invest's entire range of mutual funds.

Olaf Tecklenburg, Senior Head of Asset Management Securities: “When we integrated ESG factors into the investment process, we noticed that this only required minor adjustments to our portfolios. What may sound surprising at first, becomes logical and understandable upon closer inspection. This is because the only companies that will operate successfully on the market in the long term are those that act in a responsible manner towards the environment, society and their employees. It is precisely these criteria that have always been the decisive factor for portfolio construction at Helaba Invest and are therefore an implicit component of risk management. The explicit consideration of ESG factors is therefore a quality check of the existing investment processes.”

»Only companies that act responsibly toward the environment, society, and their employees will be successful in the market over the long term.«

Olaf Tecklenburg
Head of the Securities Asset Management Division

By signing the UN Principles for Responsible Investments, Helaba Invest has committed itself to aligning its business activities towards sustainability. The integration of ESG criteria into investment processes underlines this approach. Helaba Invest has been managing special fund mandates according to ESG criteria for many years at the request of its clients.

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