

# CSR at the heart of what we do



**Vincent Hamelink**  
Chief Executive Officer

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2022 was a year of increasing complexity and challenges. Following the recovery from the global pandemic, the world was confronted with new adverse realities - geopolitical unrest from the Russia-Ukraine conflict, inflationary pressures, and escalating supply chain issues that brought about a global cost-of-living crisis. As we navigate these uncertainties, it becomes more important than ever to stand firm in our environmental, social and governance (ESG) goals.

Our dedication to Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) is not just a commitment, but at the heart of who we are as an organisation. Through our sustainable investment platform and philanthropic efforts, we hope to contribute to a more equitable and environmentally conscious world. We believe that sustainability and social responsibility are integral to building a resilient global community.

This report highlights our progress in a rapidly evolving environment. Our mission has always been to strive for excellence in our ESG commitments, and the past year was no exception. As we review our actions and their impacts, we hope to demonstrate our continuous commitment to our objectives.

As an investor, we are unwavering in our belief that sustainable investing not only safeguards our clients from ESG-related risks, but is also a means to generate long-term, risk-adjusted positive returns. Active engagement remains at the heart of our commitment to reduce the carbon intensity of our portfolios by 50% by 2030 and reach net zero by 2050. It is one of the most powerful ways to create real-world outcomes.

As an employer, we have made significant progress in creating a corporate environment that is both inclusive and sustainable, including in our diversity & inclusion strategy, our initiatives supporting workplace well-being, our flexible home working policy, and our environmentally conscious operations.

As an asset manager, we believe in the power of partnership and collective action. Our active involvement in industry associations, constructive collaborations with educational institutions, and our contributions to policy debates at the EU level are all testament to our proactive approach to embedding sustainability within the heart of society. It is through these networks that we can

share our expertise and help shape the broader investment landscape to reflect sustainable and responsible practices.

Through the Candriam Institute for Sustainable Development, we extend our ESG commitment to impactful philanthropic activities. We are dedicated to restoring fragile ecosystems, fostering social inclusion, and supporting innovative cancer research. We also understand the critical role of education in empowering individuals, which is why we partner with leading academic institutions across the world to support research that advances the field of sustainable finance.

In every aspect of our operations, we aspire to drive positive change, not only within our organisation and for our clients, but also for the wider communities and societies we touch. Our efforts serve to build a more resilient and inclusive future where the principles of ESG are deeply entrenched in our collective conscience, helping to ensure that no one is left behind in the race towards a more sustainable world.

