

Responsible Investment Policy

Overview

At Holden Global Asset Management LLC, our work every day is rooted in our purpose as a company: to advance human flourishing. We believe business is a powerful vehicle for achieving this purpose – because it can make a positive impact, unlock human potential, and build a better world for us all.

In our view, you cannot be a strong long-term investor if you are not also fundamentally looking for responsible companies that further human flourishing. To us, responsible investing is deploying capital in ways that further human flourishing such as meeting human needs in innovative ways, creating resource efficiencies, and/or elevating the potential of people. We believe responsible companies have a mindset for sustainability and long-term impact that makes them thoughtful stewards of resources and capital, positioning them to build their earnings power and intrinsic value over time.

Identifying companies with these aims is what fuels our commitment to responsible investing and enables us to better serve the long-term objectives of our clients.

Our Research Process

There are no shortcuts when it comes to selecting investments using our investment philosophy and process. At Holden Global Asset Management LLC, we take a bottom-up, people-centric approach. Our process runs across all strategies, and research is conducted by the same investment team. We believe long-term investment results are closely tied to our firm's responsible investment philosophy, and our investment team holds both accountable.

Holden Global Asset Management LLC conducts due diligence before investing in any company. We believe that regulatory filings or external rating systems are insufficient to determine whether a company meets our investment criteria. We strive to uncover business and sustainability insights that cannot be fully captured by any screen or checklist. Screens and checklists also have limitations in providing meaningful insights into a company's fundamentals.

Our process hinges on human insight and our peer review process in which we engage management teams and those around them to better understand a company's reputation and position within their sphere of relevance. This process brings to bear multiple perspectives

Through face-to-face interactions with management teams, customers, suppliers, competitors, partners, and employees, our goal is to discover whether a company is building the necessary relationships with a broad range of stakeholders to thrive for decades to come. As a permanent holder of capital, Holden Global Asset Management LLC naturally considers aspects of an investment that may not be material during a short-term holding period. Given that long-term investment results are closely tied to a company's business practices, identifying companies with responsible business practices is often a result of our fundamental research process.

We analyze each company for our five investment disciplines: sound culture & management, strong unit growth, strategic market position, conservative accounting, and internally financed growth.

Engagement and proxy voting

The Holden Global Asset Management LLC investment team regularly engages with the company ecosystem throughout the lifecycle of an investment, and our process requires us to continually learn from industry practitioners. We believe that best-in-class companies are those that adhere to our five investment principles. We are committed to providing our perspectives and learning as much as possible from leaders. These insights provide important information for the quality of our existing investments and we often turn our attention to other high-quality businesses we might own in the future. However, we generally do not seek to change the behavior of the management teams in which we invest. Holden Global Asset Management LLC is committed to investing in outstanding companies that consistently lead their markets and industries. If a management team must be confident of a link between long-term investment results and responsible business practices, they are not a good fit for our strategy.

Additionally, we engage with the companies we own through our proxy voting process and guidelines. We believe responsible business practices are key to long-term business success and we seek to align ourselves and our clients with like-minded management teams. It is the policy of Holden Global Asset Management LLC that all proxy votes be cast in the exclusive interest of the asset accounts we manage. For most proposals, including those generally considered "ESG," those that maximize the value of the portfolio securities over the long term will be approved. Holden Global Asset Management LLC seeks to invest in companies whose philosophy aligns with our commitment to profitability and investment discipline. Therefore, we believe policy decisions are generally best left to management and the Board, and we generally vote on such proposals based on management's recommendations.

Responsible Investing Community Engagement

We are committed to helping clients navigate the ongoing landscape of responsible investing. Definitions, data, and standards for responsible investing are constantly evolving. When investing goes beyond financial returns to consider value, environmental impact, and social impact, asset managers, business leaders, and investors are unlikely to reach a unified perspective. We strive to gain a deeper understanding of current issues to help clients understand how Holden Global Asset Management LLC's approach aligns with their beliefs and goals.

Finally, embracing diverse perspectives is engrained in our approach to investing and business. We are committed to learning from and contributing to the responsible investing community through our daily interactions with business leaders, peers, responsible investing organizations, and our clients. As a firm, we are a signatory of the Principles for Responsible Investing (PRI) and continue to seek out opportunities to engage in industry discussions hosted by organizations such as PRI, the CFA Society, First Affirmative Financial Network, and US SIF.

