

PRESS RELEASE

21 MAY 2025

NIKKO ASSET MANAGEMENT CO., LTD.

Nikko AM Wins Seven Awards from The Asset

Awards for Asset Management Company of the Year, as well as equity fund management, ESG fund management, and ETF

Nikko Asset Management Co., Ltd. (Nikko AM) was chosen as the winner in seven categories of The Asset Triple A Sustainable Investing Awards for Institutional Investor, ETF, and Asset Servicing Providers 2025. The wins, announced on 1 May, include Asset Management Company of the Year – Asia, and Asset Management Company of the Year – Japan, along with Equity Fund Manager of the Year – Japan and ESG Asset Management Company of the Year – Japan. The seven wins include Best ETF Provider in three categories: Asia, Japan and Singapore. The Asset, an influential industry publication about the asset management industry in Asia, selected the winners for each category looking at the period of 1 January to 31 December 2024 across all Asia-Pacific markets, including the Middle East.

For Nikko AM's first win as Equity Fund Manager of the Year – Japan, The Asset chose Lead Portfolio Manager of Japan Core Active Equity Strategy¹ Norihiko Kamada. Through bottom-up research, Kamada and his team identify high quality companies with earnings growth yet to be reflected in the stock price, and stocks undervalued relative to their fundamentals. The "Core" in "Japan Core Active Equity Strategy" refers to the core of Nikko AM's Japanese equity active management capability, with a robust multi-style research platform and experienced portfolio managers and in-house analysts who share the same philosophy and work closely as a team to select the best stocks. This award is for fund managers (individual, team) who have consistently generated exceptional outperformance, but unlike the other categories, The Asset's judges looked at the past five years (through end December 2024.)

Nikko AM won ESG Asset Management Company of the Year – Japan for the second consecutive year for efforts to support clients' sustainable investing pursuits without sacrificing returns. Specifically, as with last year, The Asset cited two of Investment Technology Fund Management Department's strategies. One was Japanese Equity Human Capital Empowerment Strategy¹, which employs a propriety in-house quantitative model to invest in companies that effectively and actively invest in human capital while maintaining strong management discipline, and seeks to help them improve productivity and invest more in people to achieve a positive social and economic impact and higher equity returns. The other was Climate Change Solutions – Japanese Equity Strategy¹, which uses Nikko AM's in-house greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions estimate model and aims to achieve a 50% reduction in GHG emissions compared to the benchmark TOPIX index. The award recognises "fund managers who lead the industry in ESG using investment strategies and methodologies to produce products and solutions that will service the ESG requirements of their investor clients."

This was the first time The Asset chose Nikko AM as Asset Management Company of the Year - Asia, and the second time the firm won Asset Management Company of the Year - Japan. The Asset recognised Nikko AM's efforts to launch funds, along with fund performance and an emphasis on sustainable investing. During the award period, Nikko AM

¹ The fund is not authorised by the Securities and Futures Commission and is not available to retail investors in Hong Kong. The strategy is not available as a UCITS fund.

President and CEO Stefanie Drews made a number of global appearances to promote the firm and Japan equities to international investors, including in Tokyo, New York and London. In addition, in June 2024, Nikko AM entered into a strategic partnership with alternative investment group Tikehau Capital of France to work towards meeting investors' growing demand for private assets. The partnership consists of an agreement for Nikko AM to distribute Tikehau Capital's products, to set up a joint venture in Singapore, and for Nikko AM to begin building an equity stake in Tikehau Capital.

For the exchange traded fund (ETF) awards, The Asset looked at the scope of candidates' ETF business, flagship and other ETFs and supporting services, leadership, ETF and business performance, partnerships, client engagement and other new initiatives.

Nikko AM won Best ETF Provider – Asia for the second consecutive year. During the award period, the firm carried out cross-border collaborations to grow its ETF business and boost awareness of ETFs in general, such as participating in events not only in Japan and Singapore, but also Shanghai, Hong Kong, Taiwan and Thailand.

Nikko AM won Best ETF Provider - Japan for the sixth consecutive year, managing 37 ETFs and holding a 19.8% share (based on ETF market capitalisation) of all ETFs on the Tokyo Stock Exchange as of 31 December 2024. During the award period, the Japan ETF Team listed one new ETF¹, which tracks the Nikkei Semiconductor Stock Index.

Nikko AM was awarded Best ETF Provider - Singapore for the fourth year in a row, with six ETFs listed on the Singapore Stock Exchange (SGX), reaching SGD3.2 billion as of 31 December 2024, an increase of 6.7% year-on-year with a market share of 27.1% (based on ETF market capitalisation) on the SGX.

Nikko AM President and CEO Stefanie Drews commented, "It is an honour that The Asset has recognised Nikko Asset Management once again with these prestigious awards that showcase not only our investment expertise and commitment to sustainability, but also importantly our global interconnectivity all with a client-first mindset."

For the background and decision-making process of the awards please visit the award website. <https://www.theasset.com/awards-single/asset-servicing-investor-fund-management>

Past performance of the managers or funds is not necessarily indicative of its future performance.

– ENDS –

About Nikko Asset Management

With US\$234.8 billion* under management, Nikko Asset Management is one of Asia's largest asset managers, providing high-conviction, active fund management across a range of equity, fixed income, multi-asset and alternative strategies. In addition, its complementary range of passive strategies covers more than 20 indices and includes some of Asia's leading exchange-traded funds (ETFs).

Headquartered in Asia since 1959, Nikko Asset Management and its subsidiaries employ personnel representing around 30 nationalities, including approximately 200 investment professionals**. The firm has a presence through subsidiaries or affiliates in a total of 12 countries and regions. More than 400 banks, brokers, financial advisors and life insurance companies around the world distribute the firm's products.

The investment teams benefit from a unique global perspective complemented by the firm's historic Asian DNA, striving to deliver consistent excellence in performance. The firm also prides itself on its progressive, solution-driven approach, which has led to many innovative funds launched for its clients.

Effective 1 September 2025, we are changing our name



For more information about Nikko Asset Management and to access its investment insights, please visit the firm's [homepage](#).

* Consolidated assets under management and sub-advisory of Nikko Asset Management and its subsidiaries as of 31 December 2024.

** Including employees of Nikko Asset Management and its subsidiaries as of 31 December 2024.

Important Information

This document is prepared by Nikko Asset Management Co., Ltd. and/or its affiliates (**Nikko AM**) and is for distribution only under such circumstances as may be permitted by applicable laws. This document does not constitute personal investment advice or a personal recommendation and it does not consider in any way the objectives, financial situation or needs of any recipients. All recipients are recommended to consult with their independent tax, financial and legal advisers prior to any investment.

This document is for information purposes only and is not intended to be an offer, or a solicitation of an offer, to buy or sell any investments or participate in any trading strategy. Moreover, the information in this document will not affect Nikko AM's investment strategy in any way. The information and opinions in this document have been derived from or reached from sources believed in good faith to be reliable but have not been independently verified. Nikko AM makes no guarantee, representation or warranty, express or implied, and accepts no responsibility or liability for the accuracy or completeness of this document. No reliance should be placed on any assumptions, forecasts, projections, estimates or prospects contained within this document. This document should not be regarded by recipients as a substitute for the exercise of their own judgment. Opinions stated in this document may change without notice.

In any investment, past performance is neither an indication nor guarantee of future performance and a loss of capital may occur. Estimates of future performance are based on assumptions that may not be realised. Investors should be able to withstand the loss of any principal investment. The mention of individual securities, sectors, regions or countries within this document does not imply a recommendation to buy or sell.

Nikko AM accepts no liability whatsoever for any loss or damage of any kind arising out of the use of all or any part of this document, provided that nothing herein excludes or restricts any liability of Nikko AM under applicable regulatory rules or requirements.

All information contained in this document is solely for the attention and use of the intended recipients. Any use beyond that intended by Nikko AM is strictly prohibited.

Japan: The information contained in this document pertaining specifically to the investment products is not directed at persons in Japan nor is it intended for distribution to persons in Japan. Registration Number: Director of the Kanto Local Finance Bureau (Financial Instruments firms) No. 368 Member Associations: The Investment Trusts Association, Japan/Japan Investment Advisers Association/Type II Financial Instruments Firms Association.

United Kingdom: This document is communicated by Nikko Asset Management Europe Ltd, which is authorised and regulated in the United Kingdom by the Financial Conduct Authority (the FCA) (FRN 122084). This document constitutes a financial promotion for the purposes of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 (as amended) (FSMA) and the rules of the FCA in the United Kingdom, and is directed at professional clients as defined in the FCA Handbook of Rules and Guidance.

Luxembourg and Germany: This document is communicated by Nikko Asset Management Luxembourg S.A., which is authorised and regulated in the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg by the Commission de Surveillance du Secteur Financier (the CSSF) as a management company authorised under Chapter 15 of the Law of 17 December 2010 (No S00000717) and as an alternative investment fund manager according to the Law of 12 July 2013 (No. A00002630).

United States: This document may not be duplicated, quoted, discussed or otherwise shared without prior consent. An offering of any investments, securities or investment advisory services with respect to securities may only be made by receipt of relevant and complete offering documentation and agreements, as applicable. Any offering or distribution of a Fund in the United States may only be conducted via a licensed and registered broker-dealer or a duly qualified entity. Nikko Asset Management Americas, Inc. is a United States Registered Investment Adviser.

Canada: The information provide herein does not constitute any form of financial opinion or investment advice on the part of Nikko AM and it should not be relied on as such. It does not constitute a prospectus, offering memorandum or private placement memorandum in Canada, and may not be used in making any investment decision. It should not be considered a solicitation to buy or an offer to sell a security in Canada. This information is provided for informational and educational use only.

Singapore: Nikko Asset Management Asia Limited (Co. Reg. No. 198202562H) is regulated by the Monetary Authority of Singapore.

Hong Kong: The contents of this document have not been reviewed by the Securities and Futures Commission or any regulatory authority in Hong Kong. Nikko Asset Management Hong Kong Limited is a licensed corporation in Hong Kong.

New Zealand: This document is issued in New Zealand by Nikko Asset Management New Zealand Limited (Company No. 606057, FSP22562). It is for the use of wholesale clients, researchers, licensed financial advisers and their authorised representatives only.

Kingdom of Bahrain: The document has not been approved by the Central Bank of Bahrain which takes no responsibility for its contents. No offer to the public to purchase the Strategy will be made in the Kingdom of Bahrain and this document is intended to be read by the addressee only and must not be passed to, issued to, or shown to the public generally.

Kuwait: This document is not for general circulation to the public in Kuwait. The Strategy has not been licensed for offering in Kuwait by the Kuwaiti Capital Markets Authority or any other relevant Kuwaiti government agency. The offering of the Strategy in Kuwait on the basis a private placement or public offering is, therefore, restricted in accordance with Decree Law No. 7 of 2010 and the bylaws thereto (as amended). No private or public offering of the Strategy is being made in Kuwait, and no agreement relating to the sale of the Strategy will be concluded in Kuwait. No marketing or solicitation or inducement activities are being used to offer or market the Strategy in Kuwait.

Kingdom of Saudi Arabia: This document is communicated by Nikko Asset Management Europe Ltd (Nikko AME), which is authorised and regulated by the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 (as amended) (FSMA) and the rules of the Financial Conduct Authority (the FCA) in the United Kingdom (the FCA Rules). This document should not be reproduced, redistributed, or sent directly or indirectly to any other party or published in full or in part for any purpose whatsoever without a prior written permission from Nikko AME.

This document does not constitute investment advice or a personal recommendation and does not consider in any way the suitability or appropriateness of the subject matter for the individual circumstances of any recipient. In providing a person with this document, Nikko AME is not treating that person as a client for the purposes of the FCA Rules other than those relating to financial promotion and that person will not therefore benefit from any protections that would be available to such clients.

Nikko AME and its associates and/or its or their officers, directors or employees may have or have had positions or material interests, may at any time make purchases and/or sales as principal or agent, may provide or have provided corporate finance services to issuers or may provide or have provided significant advice or investment services in any investments referred to in this document or in related investments. Relevant confidential information, if any, known within any company in the Nikko AM group or Sumitomo Mitsui Trust Holdings group and not available to Nikko AME because of regulations or internal procedure is not reflected in this document. The investments mentioned in this document may not be eligible for sale in some states or countries, and they may not be suitable for all types of investors.

Oman: The information contained in this document nether constitutes a public offer of securities in the Sultanate of Oman as contemplated by the Commercial companies law of Oman (Royal decree 4/74) or the Capital Markets Law of Oman (Royal Decree 80/98, nor does it constitute an offer to sell, or the solicitation of any offer to buy non-Omani securities in the Sultanate of Oman as contemplated by Article 139 of the Executive Regulations to the Capital Market law (issued by Decision No. 1/2009). This document is not intended to lead to the conclusion of any contract of whatsoever nature within the territory of the Sultanate of Oman.

Qatar (excluding QFC): The Strategies are only being offered to a limited number of investors who are willing and able to conduct an independent investigation of the risks involved in an investment in such Strategies. The document does not constitute an offer to the public and should not be reproduced, redistributed, or sent directly or indirectly to any other party or published in full or in part for any purpose whatsoever without a prior written permission from Nikko Asset Management Europe Ltd (Nikko AME). No transaction will be concluded in your jurisdiction and any inquiries regarding the Strategies should be made to Nikko AME.

United Arab Emirates (excluding DIFC): This document and the information contained herein, do not constitute, and is not intended to constitute, a public offer of securities in the United Arab Emirates and accordingly should not be construed as such. The Strategy is only being offered to a limited number of investors in the UAE who are (a) willing and able to conduct an independent investigation of the risks involved in an investment in such Strategy, and (b) upon their specific request.

The Strategy has not been approved by or licensed or registered with the UAE Central Bank, the Securities and Commodities Authority or any other relevant licensing authorities or governmental agencies in the UAE. This document is for the use of the named addressee only and should not be given or shown to any other person (other than employees, agents or consultants in connection with the addressee's consideration thereof).

No transaction will be concluded in the UAE and any inquiries regarding the Strategy should be made to Nikko Asset Management Europe Ltd.

Republic of Korea: This document is being provided for general information purposes only, and shall not, and under no circumstances is, to be construed as, an offering of financial investment products or services. Nikko AM is not making any representation with respect to the eligibility of any person to acquire any financial investment product or service. The offering and sale of any financial investment product is subject to the applicable regulations of the Republic of Korea. Any interests in a fund or collective investment scheme shall be sold after such fund is registered under the private placement registration regime in accordance with the applicable regulations of the Republic of Korea, and the offering of such registered fund shall be conducted only through a locally licensed distributor.