

Stewardship update

Impact Equities and Bonds



Q3 2024

For professional investors only

Stewardship approach focusing on value creation

Distinct characteristics of our stewardship approach

As stewards of our clients' assets, we integrate stewardship in every aspect of the investment management process to promote sustainable long-term value creation for all our stakeholders. We seek to create long-term value for the society by both directly and indirectly promoting better environmental, social and corporate governance practices.

See our [Investment and Stewardship Policy](#) and our [Stewardship webpage](#) for more details.

Direct company engagement

- ✓ Rooted in our Theory of Change for listed impact equities and bonds.
- ✓ A tool to accelerate 5 vital transitions towards a more sustainable economy.
- ✓ Understanding the depth of companies' commitment to long-term positive impact.
- ✓ One-on-one conversations, using a variety of methods to connect with companies.



Collaborative and industry engagement

- ✓ Collaborate with like-minded partners on sustainability challenges to shape an environment in which companies and investors can operate more sustainably aligned with our transition vision.
- ✓ Increase visibility of material topics.



Proxy voting

- ✓ We vote for all investments in which we hold voting shares.
- ✓ We vote in-person or by proxy.
- ✓ After voting by proxy, we inform all investees of our voting decisions to stimulate awareness.

[Our proxy voting guidelines](#)
[Our voting records](#)



Engagement highlights Q3 2024

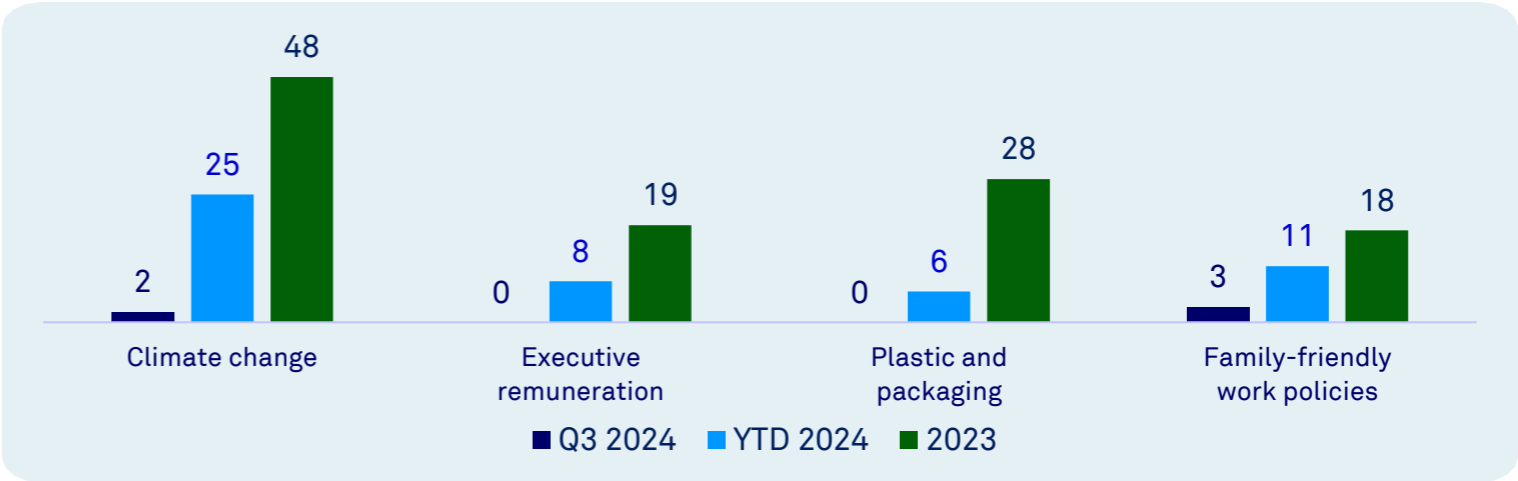
Through engagement we aim to drive positive change for society and the environment, while also boosting companies' long-term value. Our structured [engagement agenda](#) is based on the Triodos IM Theory of Change for listed impact equities and bonds

We engage with companies on a wide range of topics, ranging from company updates and sustainability issues to meeting our minimum standards. In Q3 2024, we had in total 67 contacts with companies. One company contact can serve multiple purposes; the number of contacts is therefore lower than the total number of contact purposes.

Contact purpose



Engagement projects

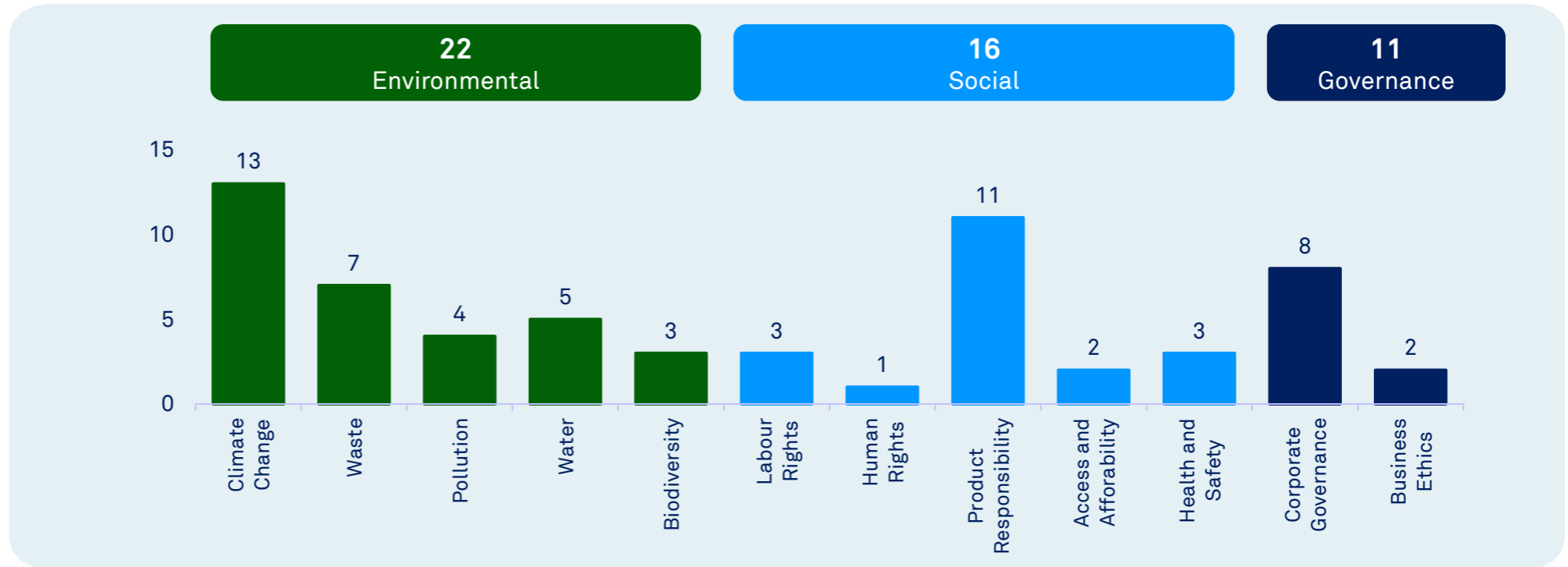


Engagement highlights Q3 2024

We engage with companies and institutions to drive positive change. Where appropriate, we discuss governance, environmental and social issues relevant to their specific business models.

In Q3 2024, we specifically engaged on Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) topics and ongoing engagement projects. Most of our contacts are used to discuss one or multiple ESG topics, so the number of ESG (sub)topics discussed is not necessarily the same as the total number of contacts (67). The diagram provides an overview of the topics discussed.

ESG topics



Governance-related engagement example: Toyota

In June, the Japanese government found that Toyota had submitted improper certification test data for several new car models (development test data instead of new data, although the data was obtained under more severe conditions than what is required for certification). In Q3 2024, we met with Toyota in person to discuss this governance matter. The company confirmed it is enhancing its test execution procedures. Following further discussions with regulators, the company plans to publicly announce the new procedures around April next year. Given these actions, we consider this issue to be of low concern.

Engagement projects – Q3 2024 update

While we have one-on-one conversations with companies to discuss ad-hoc sustainability topics, such as positive impact and alignment with our minimum standards, we also follow a formal engagement agenda.

This agenda includes four main topics:

- Climate change
- Executive remuneration
- Plastics and packaging
- Family-friendly work policies



Climate Change

The goal of this project is to encourage our portfolio companies to set science-based emission targets, in line with the 1.5°C trajectory, as set out by the Science Based Targets initiative (SBTi). For more details read the [article](#).

Energy transition

We use two complementary approaches in our efforts to reach our main objective. The first approach is to focus on companies that are still in the early stages of establishing a climate change strategy. These companies can greatly improve their strategy by setting targets that are science-based. In the second approach, we also focus on the highest emitters in our portfolio, as reducing emissions for this group can substantially contribute to our total emissions reduction. We identified the five biggest direct emitters per strategy and prioritised them for engagement.

In **Q3 2024** we engaged with the following companies on this topic:

- ✓ **Kyoritsu Maintenance Co. Ltd.**
- ✓ **Deere & Co.**



Executive remuneration

We promote balanced and fair remuneration policies and practices by limiting excessive CEO pay and reducing the pay gap in listed companies. We engaged with companies with excessive remuneration. For more details read the [article](#).

Societal transition

In 2021, we started the engagement program on remuneration, which aims to reduce the pay gap in companies, achieve concrete improvements regarding disclosure, transparency, responsiveness, risk-taking, pay for performance, and create awareness of the relationship between inequality and remuneration systems. The remuneration engagement focuses on companies in our portfolio where we see significant room for improvement in remuneration.

No new developments in **Q3 2024**.

Engagement projects – Q3 2024 update

More insights on our engagement agenda can be found [here](#)



Plastic and packaging

Extensive use of plastic has a detrimental effect on our environment, the climate, biodiversity, human rights and public health, and cleaning up the aftermath is an overwhelming task. For more details read the [article](#).

Resource transition

In this engagement project, we initially contact companies in the consumer staples and packaging industries. The goals are to improve the criteria used to evaluate plastic reduction ambition, phase out hazardous additives in virgin packaging, and reduce the use of types of plastics that are not recyclable and disrupt the effectiveness of recycling systems.

No new developments in **Q3 2024**.



Family-friendly work policies

Family-friendly work policies play an important role in enhancing and improving the wellbeing of children. For more details read the [article](#).

Wellbeing & Societal transitions

Family-friendly work policies are crucial for child and adult development and contribute to both an inclusive and healthy society. Evidence shows that the first 1,000 days of life have a lasting effect on a child's future. We engage with investees to create a family-friendly workplace, with policies such as paid parental leave, flexible working hours, facilitation of breastfeeding and childcare support.

In **Q3 2024**, we engaged on this topic with the following companies:

- ✓ **Hologic Inc.**
- ✓ **Cooper Companies Inc.**

Collaborative engagement– Q3 2024 update

Together with professional associations, public policy makers, legislators, regulators, industry bodies and other relevant stakeholders (NGOs, international organisations, etc.) we strive to shape an environment in which companies and investors can operate more sustainably.

Collaborative engagement increases the visibility of the topics being discussed and expands the overall power of our engagement activities.



Hazardous chemicals

We joined a collaborative engagement to encourage chemical companies to phase out hazardous chemicals and transition towards more sustainable solutions. For more details read the [article](#).

Following the first round of engagement on hazardous chemicals in 2021/22, we focused on synthetic, highly toxic per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances, or PFAS, in 2023. We maintained our role as lead investors for Shin-Etsu, who notably improved its ChemScore. As there is room for further improvement, we will continue our engagement efforts.

In **Q3 2024** we engaged on this topic with the following company:

- ✓ **AkzoNobel**



Investor Action on Anti-Microbial Resistance's Public Investor Statement

For more details:

[Investor Action on AMR Public Investor Statement](#)
[| Investor Action on Antimicrobial Resistance](#)

The IAAMR initiative, founded by the FAIRR Initiative, the Access to Medicine Foundation, and the UK Department of Health and Social Care, has launched the Statement to urge world leaders and policymakers to intensify efforts, coordinate action, and reaffirm commitments to tackle AMR. This comes in advance of the United Nations General Assembly High-Level Meeting on AMR this September.

Triodos Investment Management signed the statement in Q3 2024.

Initiator

Access to Medicine Foundation

Voting summary Q3 2024

In Q3 2024, we voted at 10 annual general meetings and 3 special meetings on a total of 162 resolutions.

10
AGMs

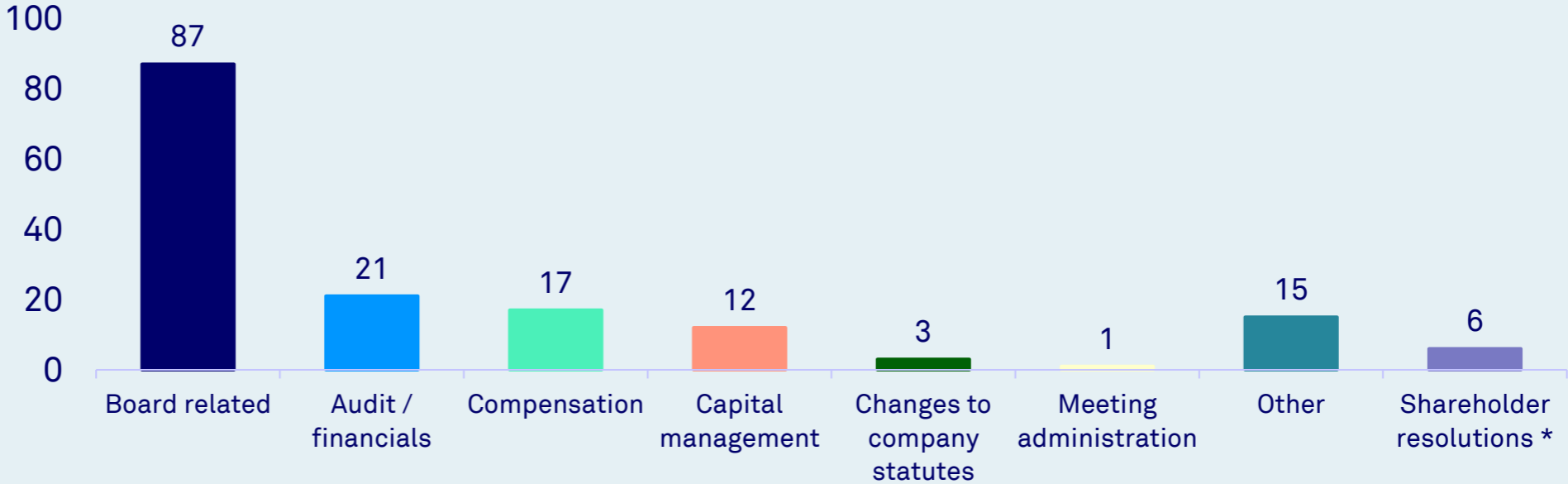
162
Resolutions

25%
against

We vote in-person or by proxy for all investments in which we hold voting shares. We inform all investees of our decisions to stimulate awareness.

See our [voting records](#) for more details.

Voting topics



Source: Triodos Investment Management

*) At Nike’s Annual General Meeting we were co-proponents, together with 5 other shareholders, of a proposal aimed at the evaluation of measures Nike has taken to safeguard human rights in its supply chain. This proposal was rejected. While Nike reports various initiatives, it continues to fail to effectively uphold human rights standards in its supply chain. An example is the failed remediation of the unpaid workers at Violet Apparel in Cambodia. For different reasons we have meanwhile divested from Nike.

About Triodos Investment Management

Triodos Investment Management (Triodos IM) is a globally active impact investor. We see impact investing as a driving force in the transition to a green, inclusive and resilient economy.

We have built up in-depth knowledge throughout our 30+ years of impact investing in sectors such as Energy and Climate, Financial Inclusion and Sustainable Food and Agriculture. Triodos IM also invests in listed companies that support sustainable solutions for the future. Assets under management as per end of June 2024: EUR 5.9 billion.

Triodos IM is a wholly owned subsidiary of Triodos Bank, a leading expert in sustainable banking.

Investing in positive change

For more information about our impact investment strategies and solutions, please contact our Business Development team at:

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