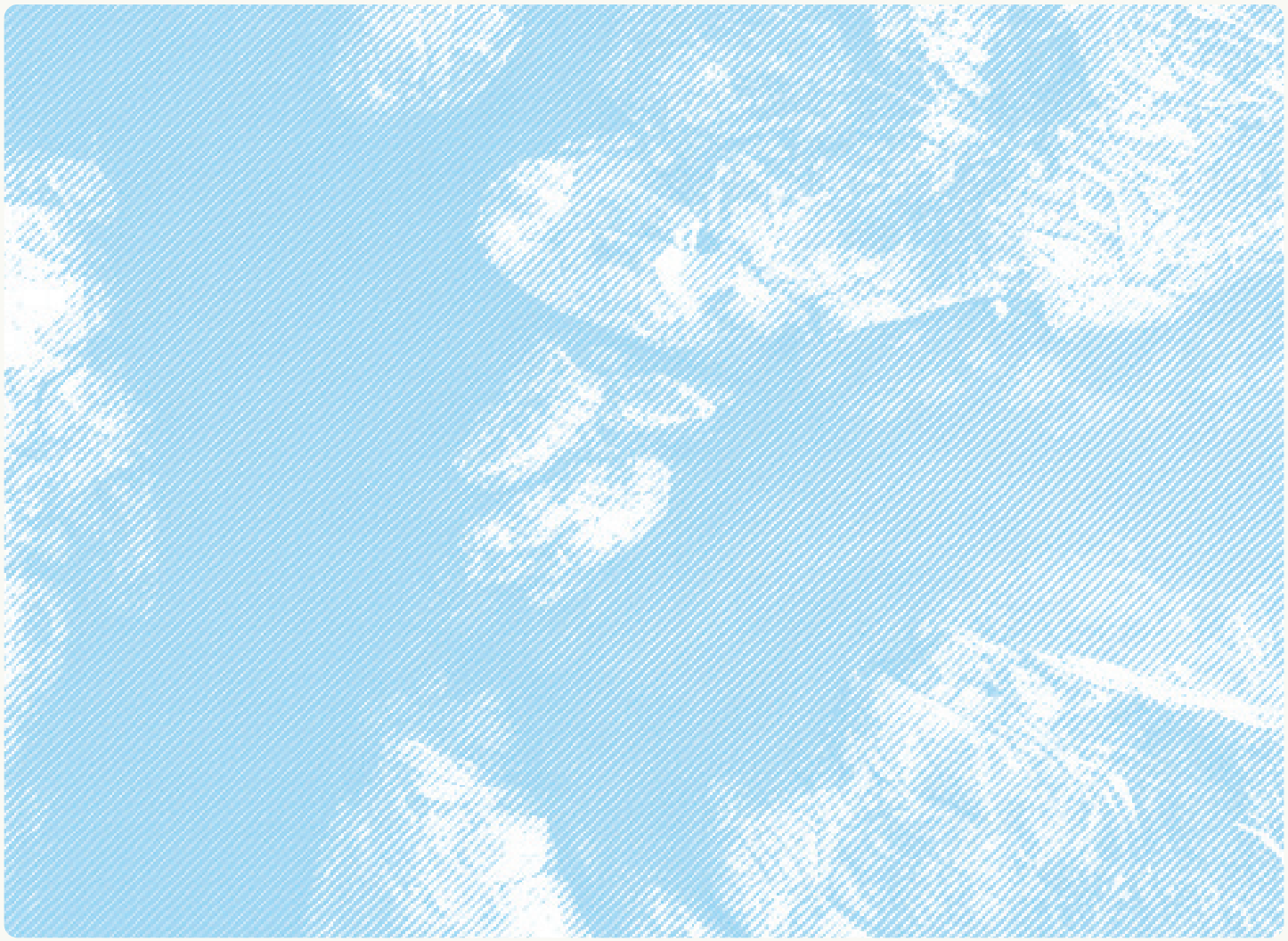
Handelsbanken

Handelsbanken Fonder Investor initiatives and collaborations

SEPTEMBER 2026



Investor initiatives and collaborations

Handelsbanken Fonder actively participates in investor networks and collaborations. Participating in collaborative initiatives is one way for us to help our industry, the asset management industry, develop its sustainability efforts. Participating in networks is also important for the fund company's own learnings and development. Among the latest networks and investor initiatives that Handelsbanken Fonder has joined are Investor Action on Antimicrobial Resistance, Nature Action 100, Investor Initiative on Hazardous Chemicals and Business Coalition for a Global Plastics Treaty. Handelsbanken Fonder also regularly supports investor appeals aimed at companies or other decision-makers, urging them to raise their sustainability ambitions in various ways.

E: Environment
S: Social
G: Governance
I: Impact

Advance - S

Advance is a collaborative initiative from PRI, where institutional investors work together to take action on human rights and social issues.
The initiative offers a strategy, support and substantial opportunities for investors to conduct collaborative, targeted engagement dialogues with companies in mining and renewable energy. During 2023, we participated in dialogues with other investors on overview and improvement issues in the mining industry regarding human rights and working conditions. Handelsbanken Fonder joined the initiative in 2022.
Advance

Business Benchmark on Farm Animal Welfare (BBFAW) – S, E

Business Benchmark on Farm Animal Welfare is a global initiative that has, since 2015, annually assessed how approximately 150 leading food companies work with farm animal welfare, including through a review of policies, targets, governance and reporting. The results constitute a structured basis for investment decision-making and form the foundation for both individual company analysis and the collective engagement carried out through letters and dialogues coordinated by the secretariat. The work focuses on encouraging companies to develop comprehensive animal welfare policies, set measurable targets and increase transparency. The initiative is supported by around thirty institutions with a total of USD 3.2 trillion in assets under management.
BBFAW

Business Coalition for a Global Plastics Treaty - E

Business Coalition for a Global Plastics Treaty – convened by the Ellen Mac-Arthur Foundation and WWF – brings together companies, NGOs and financial institutions committed to supporting the development of a legally binding UN treaty to end plastic pollution. The vision is a circular economy in which plastic never becomes waste or pollution, and instead, the value of products and materials is retained in the economy. In 2023, Handelsbanken Fonder became the first Swedish financial actor to join the coalition. Its work will continue until the treaty is adopted.
Business Coalition for a Global Plastics Treaty

Carbon Disclosure Project (CDP) - E

CDP is an independent, international not-for-profit organisation striving for increased transparency and dialogue on companies' environmental impact – and for the information about this impact being made available to investors. Since 2015, Handelsbanken has been a member and reports annually to CDP. Handelsbanken Fonder takes part in CDP's annual Non-Disclosure Campaign, which aims to boost companies' transparency around climate change, deforestation and water security, and a CDP campaign that encourages companies to set and report Science-Based Targets for emission reductions in order to reach net zero by 2050.
CDP

Climate Action 100+ - E

Climate Action 100+ is a global collaborative initiative that aims to ensure that the world's largest corporate greenhouse gas emitters take responsibility and necessary action on climate change. Handelsbanken Fonder joined the initiative in 2017.
Climate Action 100+

ESG4Real - E, S, G

ESG4Real is a non-commercial project started by Bantorget Förvaltning in Sweden together with the trade union FNV in the Netherlands in 2015. ESG4Real aims to help asset owners ensure that their capital is invested according to a minimum standard of responsible investment. During 2022 and 2023, Handelsbanken Fonder underwent a review and was in 2023 certified by ESG4Real.
ESG4Real

FAIRR - E, S, G

FAIRR is an investor network aiming to raise awareness of the material risks and opportunities associated with intensive livestock production in relation to environmental, social, and governance (ESG) issues. Handelsbanken Fonder became a member of the network in 2018 and has since actively engaged in several thematic engagement initiatives led by FAIRR, focusing on biodiversity, antibiotic resistance, aquaculture, alternative protein sources, and working conditions among meat producers.
FAIRR

About risk
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FAIRR Animal Pharmaceuticals - E, S

The WHO has identified resistance to antibiotics – antimicrobial resistance (AMR) – as one of the ten greatest global health threats facing humanity. This means that it is imperative that antibiotics are used responsibly and sparingly. The engagement calls for increased transparency on companies' AMR strategy, i.e., how they manufacture, market and sell antimicrobials, and what AMR mitigation strategies they have in place. The investor collaboration is aimed at seven of the world's largest animal pharmaceutical companies.
FAIRR

FAIRR Protein Diversification - E, S

In order to supply the world's population with protein, alternative protein sources are a necessity, especially increased access to more plant-based products. This initiative calls on companies to support the transition to a more plant-based diet by, among other things, integrating protein diversification into climate strategies, improving nutritional and sustainability attributes, and engaging consumers. Handelsbanken Fonder has participated in the initiative through 2025. The initiative will be paused in 2026 and is planned to resume in 2027.
FAIRR

FAIRR Restaurant Antibiotics - E, S

Increased antibiotic resistance is a severe problem and risks creating a situation without effective antibiotics, both for humans and animals. Many fast-food chains have some sort of antibiotic policy in place for chicken, but lack policies for other sources of protein, such as eggs, steak, and pork. This collaboration on antibiotic resistance in livestock production is aimed specifically at the fast-food industry. It aims to, through dialogues, encourage clearer and more comprehensive policies regarding the use of antibiotics in the animal protein supply chain. The dialogues include demands to phase out antibiotics as prophylaxis and other routine use – all to reduce the risks of antibiotic resistance.
FAIRR

FAIRR Seafood Traceability - E

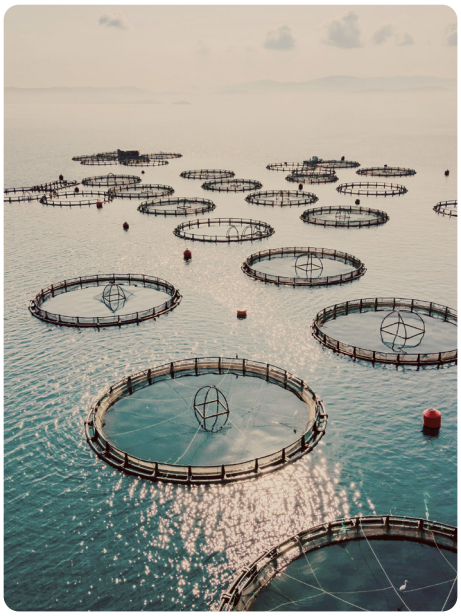
Seafood is one of the world's most traded and vulnerable commodities, mainly due to overfishing, and global demand for seafood is expected to double by 2050. Traceability – tracing a product from the point of production (in the case of seafood, from the vessel or farm) all the way through the supply chain – is crucial for companies to address ESG risks. To ensure that seafood traceability is aligned with the best practice, FAIRR has launched an investor collaboration for dialogue with a core group of seven seafood companies with support from the World Wildlife Fund (WWF-US), UNEP FI's Sustainable Blue Economy Finance Initiative, the World Benchmarking Alliance (WBA) and Planet Tracker.
FAIRR.

FAIRR Waste & Pollution - E

Industrial livestock production generates more than three billion tonnes of waste, including manure and urine, per year. The waste has a major negative impact on the environment and on ecosystems. This collaboration aims to improve both animal waste management and nutrient pollution by encouraging companies to use fertiliser in a sustainable way that adds nutrients without contaminating soil and water, in the long run reducing the need for fertilisers. The investor collaboration is aimed at ten of the world's largest pork and poultry producers as well as two agrochemical companies. The initiative will be paused in 2026 and is planned to resume in 2027.
FAIRR

UN Global Compact - E, S, G

The UN Global Compact is an initiative aimed at companies that advocates for ten principles based on international conventions. The principles, launched in 2000, include human rights, labour rights, the environment and anti-corruption. As part of Svenska Handelsbanken, the fund management company signed the principles in 2009.
Global Compact



Swedish Investment Fund Association - E, S, G

The Swedish Investment Fund Association is an industry organisation that works to promote a sound industry that operates in the best interest of the savers. The association monitors legislative work related to the fund industry and is a consultative body at both national and EU levels.
Swedish Investment Fund Association

Global Impact Investing Network, (GIIN) - I

Global Impact Investing Network is a global network that convenes impact investors to facilitate the exchange of knowledge, methods and to develop tools for impact investing. Handelsbanken Fonder became a member of the network in 2022.
Global Impact Investing Network

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Institutional Investors Group on Climate Change (IIGCC) - E

The ambition of the Institutional Investors Group on Climate Change (IIGCC) is to support and enable investors to integrate climate considerations into portfolios, advocate for a more supportive policy environment, and conduct effective engagement with companies and the market at large. IIGCC has, among other things, contributed to establishing initiatives such as Climate Action 100+, the Net Zero Asset Managers initiative, and Nature Action 100. Handelsbanken Fonder has been a member of IIGCC since 2018.
IIGCC

Investor Action on Antimicrobial Resistance (IAAMR) - E, S

Handelsbanken Fonder is one of 19 investors that have joined the IIAMR. The goal of the initiative is to collectively use investors' influence to combat drug-resistant superbugs. This growing issue is linked to an estimated 5 million deaths globally in 2019 alone and is expected to cost the world 100 trillion USD in economic losses by 2050, according to the World Bank.
IAAMR

Investor Initiative on Hazardous Chemicals (IIHC) - E

This initiative is run by investors and coordinated by ChemSec, an organisation that conducts research, cross-border collaborations and has practical tools and databases for developing more progressive chemicals legislation for the transition to non-toxic alternatives. ChemSec also works to impact and improve the implementation of chemicals legislation, an area complicated by the fact that legislation differs globally. Effective regulation of hazardous chemicals is also a key driver of innovation towards new and safe substances. The IIHC calls on the world's largest chemical producers to phase out the use of hazardous and persistent chemicals in order to transition to more non-toxic alternatives, and to increase their transparency through clearer reporting. Handelsbanken Fonder has been involved since the launch of the initiative in 2023.
IIHC

Investor Alliance for Human Rights - S

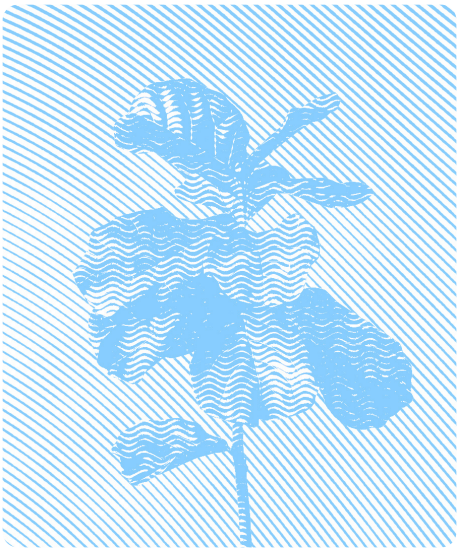
The Investor Alliance for Human Rights is a membership-based, non-profit initiative focusing on the investor responsibility to respect human rights, corporate engagements that drive responsible business conduct in relation to human rights, and standard-setting activities that push for robust human rights policies. The initiative provides knowledge and support to investors, primarily by offering practical tools to investors, supporting direct engagement dialogues and coordinating engagements towards politicians and standardising bodies. Handelsbanken Fonder joined the initiative in 2020.
Investor Alliance for Human Rights

Investors Integrity Forum, IIF - G

Investors Integrity Forum is a forum for Swedish investors coordinated by Transparency International Sweden. IIF wants to highlight companies' efforts against corruption and in various ways encourage increased regulatory compliance. Corruption is a considerable challenge for many companies, especially those with global operations, as it jeopardises the companies' ability to create value and profitability, and thus worsens the financial returns. The network collaborates within the Swedish branch of the international organisation Transparency International.. Handelsbanken Fonder joined the network in 2021.
Investors Integrity Forum

ISS pooled reactive dialogue on suspected norm violations - E, S, G

Following up on incidents is an important way to exert influence as an owner. Reactive engagement refers to dialogue that is conducted after an incident has occurred or after a serious deficiency has been identified. Reactive engagement activities are in most cases rooted in international norms, such as the UN Global Compact and the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises. The purpose of the engagement is to ensure



that the companies rectify their shortcomings and prevent similar incidents from happening again. Together with our supplier ISS and other investors, we participate in reactive dialogues concerning companies that have had incidents or deviations from current ESG standards.
ISS

The Swedish Institutional Investors Association SIIA - G

The Swedish Institutional Investors Association, SIIA, is a non-profit association consisting of Swedish institutional investors intending to promote a sound development of self-regulation in the equity market. This is accomplished mainly by the association participating, in appropriate forms, in the Swedish equity market's self-regulatory body and, if necessary, appointing or nominating members of its boards, or by participating in other activities. The association is one of the principals of the Association for Generally Accepted Principles in the Securities Market, which operates through the self-regulatory bodies the Swedish Securities Council, Swedish Corporate Governance Board and Swedish Financial Reporting Board.. Handelsbanken Fonder has been involved since the start in 2003.
Institutionella Ägares Förening

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Labour Rights Investor Network (LRIN)
Is a global investor network that works to strengthen the management of labour rights-related risks and opportunities in our investment portfolios, with a particular focus on freedom of association and collective bargaining. The initiative is linked to the Committee on Workers' Capital and serves as a platform for information sharing, knowledge exchange, and collaboration between investors, trade unions, and other labour rights experts. Through the network, investors gain access to analyses of labour rights risks, support in due diligence processes, and the opportunity to participate in coordinated engagement initiatives. Participants commit to integrating labour rights into their stewardship and engagement activities, as well as to collaborating with other investors on these issues. The network brings together a number of international investors and aims to strengthen investors' ability to manage labour rights as a financially material sustainability issue. Handelsbanken Fonder joined the network in 2026.
Labour Rights Investor Network

Nature Action 100 - E
Nature Action 100 is global investor initiative run by Ceres, IIGCC, Finance for Biodiversity and Planet Tracker. The ambition of the initiative is to influence the 100 companies in the world deemed to be most systemically important for reversing the trend of loss of nature and biodiversity by 2030. Handelsbanken Fonder joined the initiative in 2023.
Nature Action 100

Net Zero Asset Managers initiative - E
The Net Zero Asset Managers (NZAM) initiative consists of a group of international asset managers committed to supporting the goal of net-zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050 or sooner, in line with global efforts to limit warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius. Handelsbanken Fonder was one of the first asset managers to sign the initiative in 2020.
Net Zero Asset Managers initiative

Platform for Living Wage Financials (PLWF) - S
Platform foPlatform for Living Wage Financials is an investor initiative that works to ensure that companies in global supply chains secure living wages. The initiative was founded in 2018 by a number of Dutch financial institutions, and conducts annual evaluations of how companies work with wage issues, which forms the basis for joint engagement dialogues with around fifty companies in the textile, food, and retail sectors. Participants commit to using the methodology in their analysis, taking part in dialogues, and reporting on progress. Over 20 financial institutions with a total of 7 trillion euros in assets under management participate.
PLWF

Principles for Responsible Investment (PRI) - E, S, G
Principles for Responsible Investment,PRI, is a network of investors and service providers working together with the UN – through partnerships with the UNEP Finance Initiative and the UN Global Compact – to implement six Principles for Responsible Investment. The aim is to promote

responsible behaviour among financial actors and promote increased transparency and awareness of ESG issues in the companies in which these actors invest. Handelsbanken signed the principles in 2009. Within the framework of PRI, Handelsbanken Fonder participates in several initiatives.
PRI

Sustainalytics' Biodiversity & Natural Capital Stewardship Programme - E
The collaboration led by Sustainalytics aims to strengthen investors' influence through dialogues. This is accomplished through a collaboration with Sustainalytics and the aim is to bolster investors' opportunities to influence companies through dialogues. For example, this can concern supporting companies to follow best practices within the area, such as mapping and reporting in line with the Task Force on Nature-related Financial Disclosures(TNFD). The initiative is aimed at the entire value chain affecting biodiversity and natural capital, and so far, around fifty companies have been selected, ranging from financiers to food producers.
Sustainalytics

Sustainable Value Creation - E, S, G
Sustainable Value Creation is a network among some of the largest institutional investors in Sweden that aims to highlight the importance of companies having a structured process when dealing with sustainability issues. To encourage, support and follow up on companies' sustainability efforts, Sustainable Value Creation organises seminars and roundtable discussions. Handelsbanken Fonder has participated in the project since 2009.
Sustainable Value Creation

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Sweden's Sustainable Investment Forum, (SWESIF) - E, S, G

Sweden's Sustainable Investment Forum, Swesif, is an independent, non-profit interest forum that aims to disseminate, drive and increase knowledge about investments for sustainable development. Handelsbanken Fonder has been a member of Swesif since 2010.
SWESIF

Tech companies and human rights - S

Since 2023, Handelsbanken Fonder has participated in an investor collaboration coordinated by the Council on Ethics of the AP Funds, with the aim of strengthening major tech companies' management of human rights. The initiative brings together more than 30 investors globally, with over EUR 7 trillion in assets under management. The engagement dialogues cover companies such as Alibaba, Alphabet, Amazon, Apple, Meta, Microsoft and Tencent, and are based on investor expectations derived from the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights. The focus is on how the companies' business models, governance and products affect society and individuals, including issues such as content responsibility, disinformation, impacts on children and other vulnerable groups, as well as access to grievance mechanisms and remedy. The objective is for the companies to take concrete measures to identify, prevent and address negative impacts, and to develop more transparent and comparable reporting in this area. Handelsbanken Fonder views this collaboration as an important tool for influencing systemic social risks linked to digitalisation.
Tech companies and human rights

Tobacco Free Portfolios - S

Tobacco Free Portfolios is an initiative that advocates for more investors to pursue tobacco-free asset management, as the tobacco industry counteracts several of Sustainable Development Goals. Tobacco production is closely linked to negative environmental impacts such as deforestation and use of pesticides and toxins, human rights violations, health problems and child labour. Handelsbanken Fonder has excluded tobacco from its funds for many years and joined this initiative to further strengthen our position on the tobacco industry. The fund management company joined Tobacco Free Portfolios in 2021.
Tobacco Free Portfolios

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