

PRESS RELEASE

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NIKKO ASSET MANAGEMENT CO., LTD.

Nikko AM Wins Five Awards from The Asset

ESG Fund Manager of the Year – Japan

Equity Fund Manager of the Year – Asia

Best ETF Provider – Asia, Best ETF Provider – Japan, Best ETF Provider – Singapore

Nikko Asset Management Co., Ltd. (Nikko AM) was chosen as the winner in five categories of The Asset Triple A Sustainable Investing Awards for Institutional Investor, ETF, and Asset Servicing Providers 2024, including ESG Fund Manager of the Year – Japan, Equity Fund Manager of the Year – Asia, as well as Best ETF Provider – Asia, Best ETF Provider – Japan and Best ETF Provider – 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 2023 across all Asia-Pacific markets, including the Middle East.

This was the first time The Asset chose Nikko AM as ESG Fund Manager of the Year – Japan. The award went to Masayuki Teraguchi, Head of Investment Technology Fund Management Department and his team for Japanese Equity Human Capital Empowerment Strategy^{1,2}. 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.”

Teraguchi commented, “The strategy supports companies that sustainably increase shareholder value through effective and proactive investment in people, supporting economic growth cycles. In addition, we aim to contribute to investors through superior performance while elucidating the link between sustainability and shareholder value. We are delighted that these points are becoming more deeply understood.”

For Equity Fund Manager of the Year – Asia, The Asset chose Nikko AM Asia ex-Japan Equity Senior Portfolio Manager Grace Yan for her excellent and consistent performance in managing Nikko AM Asian Small Mid Equity Fund¹. When making its decision for this category, The Asset chose fund managers who have consistently generated outperformance not only during the award period but over the past five years.

Yan remarked, “I am honoured to receive this award from The Asset. In Asia ex-Japan, there is a plethora of undervalued small and mid-cap companies, with limited sell-side coverage. This presents an opportunity for active managers, like us, who dedicate time to uncovering these hidden gems.”

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

¹ The strategy is not available as a UCITS fund.

² The fund is not authorised by the Securities and Futures Commission and is not available to retail investors in Hong Kong.

other new initiatives. Nikko AM was chosen as Best ETF Provider in three categories: Japan, Singapore and Asia, demonstrating the firm's definitive regional prominence and consistent quality across multiple markets in Asia.

Nikko AM won Best ETF Provider - Japan for a fifth consecutive year, managing 36 ETFs and holding a 19.62% share of all ETFs on the Tokyo Stock Exchange (TSE) as of 31 December 2023. During the award period, the Japan ETF Team listed three new ETFs, including the first^{1,2} in its new series called "Listed Tracers", which "trace" or follow rules-based investing with a low-cost, non-active approach. The team also listed two ETFs^{1,2} tracking the S&P500 index: one ETF leveraged two times, and the other is inverse. With the changes to Japan's NISA (individual investing tax savings scheme), the team arranged so that 31 of the ETFs are eligible for Japan's NISA Growth Investment Quota, and four are eligible for the Tsumitate (Instalment) Allocation Quota.

Nikko AM was awarded Best ETF Provider - Singapore for the third year in a row, managing eight ETFs and growing its ETF assets under management to reach the #1 position on the SGX (based on ETF market capitalisation) as of August 2023. The firm's Singapore flagship ETF surpassed the SGD1 billion milestone.

This was the first time Nikko AM was named Best ETF Provider – Asia. During the award period, the firm carried out cross-border collaborations, developed innovative products and contributed to growing Nikko AM's ETF business and boosting awareness of ETFs in general.

Senior Corporate Officer and Global Head of Products & Solutions Hiroshi Yokoyama added, "I would like to congratulate all of our ETF colleagues for their international teamwork, such as support of brokers and promoting our ETFs at conferences in Tokyo, Singapore, Hong Kong and even Thailand. These achievements reflect our identity as a global asset manager built on Asian DNA".

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.

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About Nikko Asset Management

With US\$228.6 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 11 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.

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 2023.

** Including employees of Nikko Asset Management and its subsidiaries as of 31 December 2023.

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