NEF Ethical Global Trends SDF wins Wealth for Good award for Best Investment Methodology

LONDON, 27th June 2024: Niche AM is pleased to announce that NEF Ethical Global Trends SDG fund has won Europe's Wealth for Good award for Best Investment Methodology. Please see here.

Wealth for Good awards are assigned by Wealth Briefing, the news & analysis service of ClearView Financial Media, which for 20 years has been one of the world's leading providers of business intelligence for the private banking and wealth management space. The awards are given to global asset managers which can demonstrate best-in-class sustainable investing.

NEF Ethical Global Trends SDG belongs to the award-winning NEF family of Luxembourg UCITS funds. This is a group of funds run by a set of asset managers rigorously selected and supervised by NEAM - part of the Italian cooperative banking group Cassa Centrale Banca. Niche AM has had the privilege of managing this fund since its inception in 2019.

"This award is a testament to the hard work and dedication of our entire team, as well as a validation of our unique approach to sustainable investing" - said Massimo Baggiani, founder and CIO of Niche AM.

NEF Ethical Global Trends SDG is the only equity fund in the asset management industry that is simultaneously sustainable, deep value and truly global.

It is an Article 9 SFDR fund, which invests in 27 thematic and ESG portfolios which are functional to the achievement of the UN's SDG.

The weight of each of the 27 portfolios is a function of each theme's opportunities (i.e.: valuation) and liquidity. In addition to excluding investments in sectors such as weapons, fossils, tobacco, gambling and pornography, the fund does not invest in autocracies (such as China, Vietnam and Turkey), nor in FATF's grey-list jurisdictions (such as South Africa).

The fund currently trades at less than 10x earnings, and it is highly diversified, be it in terms of number of holdings (approximately 275 stocks with an average weight of about 0.4%), geographic exposure (no single country weighs more than 20%) and market cap (around 15% of the fund is invested in small caps, around 20% in mid caps).

A key feature of the fund it is that it does not simply "screen-off" companies based on sustainability scores by rating agencies. The approach integrates third-party ratings with detailed bottom-up analyses and selective hands-on engagement with the management of companies in the portfolio.

The fund's low turnover (about 20%) facilitates the engagement process and therefore the effectiveness of its sustainability approach (for more details about our sustainable investing methodology see here).

NEF Ethical Global Trends SDG has approximately €750 million in AuM. Since inception in 2019 the institutional class has returned about 49%, vs the circa 41% of benchmark MSCI ACWI Value net € (with which the fund has an overlap in terms of holdings of less than 10%).

See here for further details on our NEF Ethical Global Trends SDG.

About Niche AM

Niche AM is an investment boutique set up in London in 2018 with a dual mission:

- 1) to offer to equity investors ESG and Thematic portfolios managed with an exclusively deep value approach (Niche AM funds)
- 2) to give investors exposure to market niches i.e.: themes or assets not covered by any other Fund or ETF (NicheJungle "Projects")

Through its range of Funds and Projects Niche AM provides investors with a set of neglected and uncorrelated investment opportunities, allowing greater portfolio diversification and risk mitigation.

Niche AM is an ESG-responsible investor: all products are Art. 8, 8+ or 9 funds as per the EU's Sustainable Finance Disclosure Regulation.

The 20-strong international company, with partners and boots on the ground in London, Milan, Lugano, Seoul and Jakarta, has been set up by Massimo Baggiani, Andrea Andreis, Marco Malvicini and the late Angelo Abbondio (the iconic and visionary investor who pioneered Italy's mutual fund industry).

Follow us on LinkedIn: www.linkedin.com/company/niche-am.

This is a marketing communication intended exclusively for institutional investors. Refer to Fund Prospectuses & KIDs before making any investment decision.