

## **S&P Dow Jones Indices and RobecoSAM the First to Launch Indices Using ESG as a Smart Beta Factor**

**LONDON, NEW YORK, ZURICH, APRIL 19, 2016:** S&P Dow Jones Indices (S&P DJI), one of the world's largest providers of financial market indices, and RobecoSAM, the investment specialist focused exclusively on Sustainability Investing, today announced the launch of the [S&P ESG Index Series](#), which is designed to measure the performance of companies in its respective underlying index with a weighting scheme based on an ESG Factor Score, derived from RobecoSAM's annual Corporate Sustainability Assessment (CSA). It is the first index family to treat ESG as a standalone performance factor, using the RobecoSAM Smart ESG methodology, and the first global ESG index family that serves the growing market of smart beta indices.

The S&P ESG Index series is based on S&P DJI's regional indices. The series consists of the **S&P Global 1200 ESG**, **S&P 500® ESG**, **S&P Europe 350 ESG** and **S&P/TOPIX 150 ESG**.

The constituents' sustainability profiles are evaluated using RobecoSAM's groundbreaking **Smart ESG methodology**, an advanced scoring system that focuses on financial materiality by pinpointing ESG indicators that are considered the most financially relevant for different industries. The methodology eliminates known biases such as market cap and industry, and avoids undesired factor exposures in the scores.

**Alka Banerjee, Managing Director, Head of Product Management, S&P Dow Jones Indices:** "Sustainability issues can be sources of substantial risks but equally, substantial opportunities. We are proud to combine our experience and extensive know-how in developing smart beta indices with RobecoSAM's world-class ESG credentials to create the S&P ESG Index Series, a unique offering for investors who want to use ESG as a smart beta factor."

**Guido Giese, PhD, Head of Indices, RobecoSAM:** "Now, ESG integration is accessible to each and every investor. Our new S&P ESG index family makes it easy for investors to track the performance of companies that have sustainable long-term operations without changing their standard benchmark. RobecoSAM's Smart ESG approach represents the latest step in sustainability investing moving to the mainstream. We are pleased to partner with the leading index provider, S&P Dow Jones Indices, to bring this unique proposition to the market."

For additional information on the S&P ESG Index family, please visit:

<http://www.spindices.com/index-family/sustainability/esg>

Want to learn more about RobecoSAM's groundbreaking Smart ESG methodology? Then visit:

<http://www.robecosam.com/en/sustainability-insights/focus-themes/smart-esg/index.jsp>

### **About S&P Dow Jones Indices**

S&P Dow Jones Indices LLC, a part of McGraw Hill Financial, is the world's largest, global resource for index-based concepts, data and research. Home to iconic financial market indicators, such as the S&P 500® and the Dow Jones Industrial Average®, S&P Dow Jones Indices LLC has over 115 years of experience constructing innovative and transparent solutions that fulfill the needs of investors. More assets are invested in products based upon our indices than any other provider in the world. With over 1,000,000 indices covering a wide range of asset classes across the globe, S&P Dow Jones Indices LLC defines the way investors measure and trade the markets. To learn more about our company, please visit [www.spdji.com](http://www.spdji.com).

### **About RobecoSAM**

Founded in 1995, RobecoSAM is an investment specialist focused exclusively on Sustainability Investing. It offers asset management, indices, engagement, voting, impact analysis and investing, sustainability assessments, and benchmarking services. Asset management capabilities cater to institutional asset owners and financial intermediaries and cover a range

of ESG-integrated investments (in public and private equity), featuring a strong track record in resource efficiency theme strategies. Together with S&P Dow Jones Indices, RobecoSAM publishes the globally recognized Dow Jones Sustainability Indices (DJSI). Based on its Corporate Sustainability Assessment (CSA), an annual ESG analysis of over 3,800 listed companies, RobecoSAM has compiled one of the world's most comprehensive databases of financially material sustainability information. The data of the CSA is also included in USD 84.6 billion of assets under management by Robeco.

RobecoSAM is a member of the global pure-play asset manager Robeco, which was established in 1929 and is the center of expertise for asset management within the ORIX Corporation. As a reflection of its own commitment to advocating sustainable investment practices, RobecoSAM is a signatory of the UNPRI and a member of Eurosif, ASrIA and Ceres. Approximately 130 professionals work for RobecoSAM, which is headquartered in Zurich. As of December 31, 2015, RobecoSAM had assets under management, advice and/or license in listed and private equity\* of approximately USD 10.7 billion. Additionally, RobecoSAM's Governance & Active Ownership team\*\* had USD 238 billion of assets under engagement and USD 49 billion of assets under voting.

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