

Active ownership in the food and beverage sector is gaining momentum, shows a new Access to Nutrition Initiative report

75 institutional investors representing USD\$16.6 trillion in assets under management are committed to address global nutrition challenges and support global nutrition targets

Utrecht, The Netherlands; November 30, 2021 – The Access to Nutrition Initiative (ATNI) has published its first report about the investment community. The report showcases action on nutrition by members of the USD\$ 16.6 trillion [ATNI Investor Signatories group](#). More specifically, the report includes eight case studies which outline how eight different asset managers and investor coalitions adopt ESG integration, negative/exclusionary screening, corporate engagement and shareholder action, best-in-class/positive screening and sustainability themed/thematic investing to contribute to the realization of SDG2 ‘Zero Hunger’ and SDG3 ‘Health and Wellbeing’. The investment firms are all part of the ATNI Investor Signatories Group and are thus supporters of the [Investor Expectations on Nutrition, Diets and Health](#) – a framework developed by ATNI in 2020 to spur greater investor engagement with companies to address global nutrition challenges and deliver the Sustainable Development Goals.

The report is to be officially launched during a [Tokyo Nutrition for Growth \(N4G\) Summit 2021](#) official side event and is available here: <https://bit.ly/3rmRv6G>.

The N4G Summit, taking place virtually on December 7-8, 2021 and hosted by the Government of Japan, is a quadrennial multi-stakeholder commitment-making Summit which represents a unique opportunity to shape private sector and policy action for better nutrition.

The ‘*Business and Investment Case for Nutrition*’ official side event, taking place today, November 30 (10am CET / 9am GMT / 6pm JST) is hosted by ATNI and features speakers from Chatham House, Dutch asset manager Achmea Investment Management, Japanese asset manager Nomura Investment Management, and British asset managers Legal and General Investment Management (LGIM) and Rathbone Greenbank Investments.

Inge Kauer, Executive Director at the Access to Nutrition Initiative, said:

“Institutional investors have been a key stakeholder group to ATNI since the Initiative’s inception. As providers of finance to the private sector, they can play a significant role in shaping food and beverage companies’ nutrition performance. The ATNI Investor Signatories have supported and amplified ATNI’s impact on the food and beverage sector – the aim of this report is to showcase that.”

Frank Wagemans, Senior Engagement Specialist at Achmea Investment Management; Board Member of the Access to Nutrition Foundation (ATNF) and Co-Chair of the ATNI Investor Signatories Group, said:

“Achmea IM sees access to healthy nutrition as a cornerstone for enabling healthy lives worldwide. We therefore encourage our investee companies to play an active role on this topic. As investors we truly hope the N4G summit will be a driving force for catalyzing action on healthy nutrition and are keen to contribute to the next steps.”

Cathy Rowan, Director – Socially Responsible Investments at Trinity Health and Co-Chair of the ATNI Investor Signatories Group, said:

“For the past five years, faith-based investor Trinity Health, has participated in ATNI’s collaborative engagement initiative. The knowledge we gain from ATNI’s research and analysis and from working with other ATNI investor signatories helps us to engage food and beverage companies on global nutrition challenges. It strengthens our advocacy work on comprehensive nutrition policies, improved nutritional

profiles of product portfolios, responsible marketing, increased access to healthy choices, clear communications of the nutritional content of food and beverages, and commitments to not lobby against public policies that would enhance public health.”

Alex Rowe, Executive Director, Sustainable Equities Portfolio Manager and Analyst at Nomura Asset Management, said:

“Through collaboration with ATNI, NAM aims to bolster its ongoing efforts to mitigate the obesity epidemic, a key goal of NAM’s public equity impact strategies. By making use of the analysis and data ATNI provides on food and beverage companies, and through collaborative engagement with such companies, NAM seeks to strengthen its firm-wide ESG initiatives and build on its efforts to deliver better social outcomes.”

Maria Ortino, Global ESG Manager at Legal and General Investment Management (LGIM), said:

“LGIM considers the Nutrition for Growth Summit to provide an excellent platform to raise awareness amongst the investor community of the overlooked global issues of undernutrition, obesity and diet-related chronic diseases. It is an important moment for us all to step-up our engagement efforts within the food and beverages industry to tackle these areas. By working with ATNI, and collaboratively with our peers, we are driving positive change in nutrition across our investee holdings.”

Sophie Lawrence, Senior Ethical, Sustainable and Impact Researcher at Rathbone Greenbank Investments, said:

“Health and nutrition is a theme that is embedded throughout Greenbank’s research and investment process – it is one of our eight sustainable development themes that guide how we invest for the long-term, it is integrated into our company screening process and it is a priority engagement area for us. We recognize the multitude of risks and opportunities facing the food industry, from rising levels of obesity to the urgent need to transition to a sustainable, resilient, and healthy food system. The Summit provides a critical opportunity for different stakeholders to convene and agree how to advance progress on health and nutrition globally.”

Notes to Editors

The *Institutional investors’ approaches to addressing nutrition, diets and health* report published by ATNI is available here: <https://bit.ly/3rmRv6G>. ATNI does not provide investment advice. The information in this report does not constitute financial or investment advice

The Investor Expectations on Nutrition, Diets and Health, supported by 75 institutional investors representing USD\$16.6 trillion in AUM, are available [here](#) (English) and [here](#) (Japanese).

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About the Access to Nutrition Initiative

ATNI is a not-for-profit organization established in 2013. It publishes independent, comprehensive analysis and commentary on companies’ efforts to improve consumers’ access to nutritious foods and beverages, both globally and within specific markets. Assessing producers of breast-milk substitutes and complementary foods is an integral part of ATNI’s work. ATNI collaborates with a wide range of stakeholders, including the investment community, to ensure that its Indexes and reports are a useful tool as they engage with and invest in companies. ATNI is funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs (DGIS), the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF), the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO), Irish Aid, the Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition (GAIN), and the Guy’s and St. Thomas’s Foundation.