

CCLA retains EIRIS for UK ethical screening services and extends contract to FTSE350 engagement support

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CCLA, the specialist charity mutual, is retaining UK screening services from EIRIS, a leading global provider of research into the environmental, social, governance and ethical performance of companies. Research provided by EIRIS, now available via the recently launched [EIRIS Global Platform](#), continues to underpin CCLA's ethical screening of UK equities for its charity clients.

EIRIS will additionally be providing FTSE350 engagement support to CCLA. CCLA provides the secretariat to the £13bn ecumenical Church Investors Group and undertakes FTSE350 laggard engagement programmes for them. EIRIS' engagement support will free up resources for CCLA to explore global church investor collaboration focusing on laggards amongst the largest 100 listed companies in the world.

"We are delighted that CCLA sees EIRIS as central to their work in meeting the diverse needs of their growing UK charity client base. We also welcome the opportunity to use our engagement experience to help them in taking forward their innovative approach to engagement on behalf of church and charity investors generally," said Peter Webster, Chief Executive Officer at EIRIS.

Helen Wildsmith, Head of Ethical & Responsible Investment at CCLA, commented, "EIRIS' deep understanding of FTSE350 companies will help us continue to meet the needs of our UK charity clients as we extend our academically assessed collaborative engagement work to the largest companies in the world".

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Notes to editors

1. EIRIS www.eiris.org is a leading global provider of independent research into the environmental, social, governance (ESG) and ethical performance of companies. Wholly owned by the EIRIS Foundation, EIRIS is a social enterprise, working to help our clients develop the market in ways that benefit investors, asset managers and the wider world. Our mission is to empower responsible investors with independent assessments of companies and advice on integrating them with investment decisions. EIRIS now provides responsible investment services to over 200 clients including asset owners, asset managers, banks, stock brokers, charities and governments around the world - as well as major index providers. We have 30 years' experience of promoting responsible investment and helping consumers, charities and advisers invest responsibly. EIRIS has offices in London, Paris, Boston and Washington, D.C., as well as a representative based in Gothenburg. In addition to overseas offices, EIRIS has a global network of partners in Australia, Germany, Israel, Mexico, South Africa, South Korea and Spain to further extend our research coverage and keep us abreast of responsible investment issues at the local level.
2. The [EIRIS Global Platform](#) (EGP) is EIRIS' new, innovative and intuitive research platform for sustainability data. EGP gives investors access to EIRIS' analysis of the ESG strengths and weaknesses of over 3,000 companies, including EIRIS' emerging markets coverage. It offers a simple way into EIRIS' rating and screening tools, research reports, UN Global Compact compliance and PRI toolkits and, uniquely, allows clients to customise it to suit their specific investment approach.

3. EIRIS is solely owned by the EIRIS Foundation, a leading England and Wales charity working in the area of responsible investment. (Registered company number 2460330). The EIRIS Foundation is responsible for the maintenance and update of the www.charitysri.org website, developed by the EIRIS/UKSIF Charity Project. The Charity Project encourages and assists charities and their trustees in the development of an ethical and socially responsible approach to their investments through education, research and the provision of resources. The website provides information and resources on Responsible Investment - what it is, reasons for doing it and how to go about it.
4. The [EIRIS Global Engagement Service](#) offers packages of engagement to drive improvements in corporate performance across a broad range of environmental, social and governance areas. The EIRIS Global Engagement Service offers investors the choice of two distinct engagement approaches: EIRIS *theme-based* engagement encourages companies to address the systemic risks they face which result from ESG themes such as climate change, bribery, etc.; EIRIS' *controversy-led* engagement encourages companies to fully address high-profile allegations of alleged corporate breaches of international norms and conventions, and to implement better policies and management systems to prevent future breaches.
5. CCLA is one of the UK's largest charity fund managers, with half a century's experience in providing competitive and attractive investment management services that help their clients achieve their aims. CCLA's products and services have a strong long-term performance record, are fairly priced, managed responsibly and in a manner consistent with their clients' ethics. Their people understand charities and public sector organisations, their particular needs and challenges. Client ownership ensures stability and independence. CCLA is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority. For more information visit www.ccla.co.uk
6. An updated case study about one of the academically assessed FTSE350 engagement programmes CCLA undertakes for the £13bn ecumenical Church Investors Group will appear on the CDP website shortly. See <https://www.cdp.net/en-US/WhatWeDo/Pages/case-study-church-investors-group.aspx> once the 2014 CDP information request has been sent to companies in early February.