

UKSIF AND PARTNERS CHEER SUCCESS OF FIRST EVER NATIONAL ETHICAL INVESTMENT WEEK

London, 24 May 2008— Range of support shows that the market for green and ethical investment is strong and set to grow.

At the close of the first ever National Ethical Investment Week (NEIW) today, the UK Social Investment Forum (UKSIF) and the inaugural sponsors have pronounced it an overwhelming success.

“The first National Ethical Investment Week has marked a watershed in the recognition of green and ethical investment as a significant and credible investment approach. Enthusiasm for the Week has exceeded our wildest dreams. The level of interest and maturity of debate has been heartening and impressive.” said Penny Shepherd MBE, Chief Executive of UKSIF, the organisers of the Week.

Highlights of the Week have included:

- A **parliamentary reception** held at the House of Commons to celebrate the inaugural Week.

Speaking at the reception, Pensions Minister Mike O’Brien QC MP, welcomed the Week and said “It is a bold initiative with an impressive array of events and linking up many diverse organisations from Church groups to investment boutiques. It marks the beginning of a serious national conversation on how investors can use their money to make our

18th - 24th May 2008

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society better. And it proves to people that they have the choice to make a difference to the lives of millions around the globe.”

Roger Yates, Chief Executive, Henderson Global Investors and Peter Michaelis, Head of Sustainable and Responsible Investment, Norwich Union spoke of the Gold Sponsors’ involvement in green and ethical investing and their support for the Week.

- **Adviser seminars** in London (organised by AIFA/UKSIF hosted by Henderson, by Standards International hosted by Rathbone Greenbank Investments and by F&C), Edinburgh (organised by EIRIS) and online (a five day series of webinars hosted by Skandia).
- **Consumer events** including Bristol’s Green Money Tour (organised by Triodos Bank) and ‘Ethical Investment: What’s behind it?’ (organised by JustShare hosted by CCLA) and ‘The Future of Ethical Investment’ (organised by Barchester Green Investment).
- **Leading charities** WWF-UK, Oxfam and the RSPB highlighting their support for the Week on their web sites.

Policies, tools and research launched during the Week included:

- First **Green Policy** of the Association of Independent Financial Advisers (AIFA)
- First **Logo** for the European SRI transparency guidelines
- UKSIF research report **‘My Generation: Social Spending Power’** showing the potential impact of a more socially-conscious younger generation of 15 to 19-year-olds.

In addition, financial institutions and non-governmental organisations have used the Week for internal staff briefings on green and ethical investment.

“National Ethical Investment Week has dramatically increased the numbers searching for information on our web site this week. It was certainly worthwhile getting involved.” said IFA John Ditchfield of Barchester Green Investment.

“Henderson is proud to have sponsored the first National Ethical Investment Week. Through the course of this week we have seen how interest and support for ethical investments is growing from IFAs who recognise that these funds can be a competitive investment proposition.” said George Latham, Head of SRI Investment at Henderson Global Investors (Gold Sponsor of National Ethical Investment Week).

“Norwich Union has been delighted to sponsor National Ethical Investment Week. It was great to see so many people involved in activity around the week, and I am sure it has put green and ethical investing further up the agenda with both investors and advisers.” said James Dalby, Fund Development Manager, Norwich Union (Gold Sponsor of National Ethical Investment Week).

“As UK ethical investment moves into its 25th year, Friends Provident has been proud to sponsor the inaugural National Ethical Investment Week. It is great that the NEIW web site will continue to give advisers access to UKSIF’s comprehensive online training course and a range of other free tools and quality impartial information. This will help them to respond to the needs of an increasingly interested public and to prepare for next year.” said Julia Dreblow, SRI Marketing Manager, Friends Provident (Silver Sponsor of National Ethical Investment Week).

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Editors Notes

About the inaugural National Ethical Investment Week (NEIW)

The first ever National Ethical Investment Week ran from Sunday 18 May to Saturday 24 May, organised by the UK Social Investment Forum (UKSIF) and backed by leading product providers and non-governmental organisations. Its aim was to raise awareness of green and ethical investments. Its Gold Sponsors were Henderson Global Investors and Norwich Union. Friends Provident was a Silver Sponsor. National Ethical Investment Week's community outreach programme was supported by WWF-UK. For more information on NEIW, visit www.neiw.org/media-centre.

The dates for **National Ethical Investment Week 2009** will be announced over the summer.

About the UK Social Investment Forum (UKSIF)

The UK Social Investment Forum (UKSIF) is the membership network for sustainable and responsible financial services. UKSIF promotes responsible investment and other forms of finance that support sustainable economic development, enhance quality of life and safeguard the environment. It also seeks to ensure that individual and institutional investors can reflect their values in their investments.

For comments from the National Ethical Investment Week sponsors and further details on the Gold Sponsor speeches, please contact the following:

Henderson Global Investors: Laura Cook, Media Relations Manager, 020 7818 4704, laura.cook@henderson.com
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About events held during National Ethical Investment Week 2008:

See www.neiw.org/whats-going-on.

The **Skandia** webinars are available at www.informerlive.com/knowledgelive.

For more on **Bristol's Green Money Tour** organised by Triodos Bank, visit www.triodos.co.uk/uk/whats_new/latest_news/press_releases/593901

About support from leading charities for National Ethical Investment Week:

WWF-UK

For support from WWF-UK, see “Ethical investment week: make your money green” (19 May) at www.wwf.org.uk/news/n_0000005093.asp.

For background on WWF-UK, the major conservation and sustainable development charity, see www.wwf.org.uk/core/about/howweare.asp.

Oxfam

See “Oxfam announces support for National Ethical Investment Week” (16 May) at www.oxfam.org.uk/applications/blogs/pressoffice/2008/05/oxfam_announces_support_for_na.html

For background on Oxfam, see www.oxfam.org.uk/oxfam_in_action/what_we_do/index.html

RSPB

See “As a supporter of green and ethical investment, the RSPB is supporting National Ethical Investment Week 2008” (8 May) at www.rspb.org.uk/news/details.asp?id=tcm:9-188978.

For background on the RSPB, Europe’s largest conservation charity with over a million members, see www.rspb.org.uk/about/.

About policies, tools and research launched during National Ethical Investment Week:

For details of **AIFA’s green policy**, visit www.aifa.net

For details of the **new logo** for the European SRI transparency guidelines, visit www.eurosif.org

For details of the **UKSIF research report ‘My Generation: Social Spending Power’**, visit www.neiw.org/media-centre.