

As a long-term investor, trusted to manage the retirement savings of people around the world, BlackRock puts a high priority on sustainability — both in the way we manage our own business and in the way we invest. Put simply, a focus on sustainability is a focus on the future.

Part of our mission is to develop innovative investment products and services to meet our clients' objectives. For a growing portion of clients, this means having investment options that explicitly integrate environmental, social and governance (ESG) considerations; screen out certain business activities; or target specific environmental or social outcomes. In 2015, we established the BlackRock Impact platform — currently representing \$200 million in sustainable assets under management — in order to help our clients achieve their social and environmental objectives alongside their financial goals.

As an advocate on behalf of our investors, BlackRock is also committed to helping foster a more long-term culture in business and finance. Through our extensive engagement with companies, we have found that the ones who place a priority on sustainability are better prepared to meet challenges and navigate difficult times — and they are better informed about how to address the broader sustainability issues facing the world.

Understanding how companies are addressing ESG issues helps to create a fuller picture for investors, and that's why we have begun integrating ESG research into Aladdin, our investment and risk management platform. For some years, we have assessed companies on sustainability issues, but by leveraging technology, we can vastly improve the effectiveness, accuracy and scope of our measurements. Not only will this help us make better investment decisions on behalf of our clients, but it also, we hope, will ultimately drive improvements in the quality, availability and relevance of ESG data in the market.

Better data, in turn, will help increase corporate focus on sustainability issues. And that will create a healthier ecosystem for companies, for investors and for society as a whole.



Larry Fink

Chief Executive Officer

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