

The Briefing Report

ESG's impact on the fund industry

ESG Impact Special

Managers' business practices

The ESG craze has been great for fund managers' revenues. In a difficult year for investor inflows ESG has been a real saviour for many asset managers' businesses.

But to continue to prosper from this craze they will need to adopt the same standards that they demand of corporates who they are looking to make allocations to from their ESG funds. Not a lot of managers do that at present.

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Fund domiciliation

Might ESG affect fund domiciliation patterns? The likelihood is that it will but not necessarily in the way that many might expect.

Fund domiciles that are able to offer the managers of ESG funds with expertise along with experience and knowledge of environmental and social investing matters could do very well out of this still relatively new investing trend. It is clear that a lot of people need help and guidance with ESG. Standard setting, reporting matters and host of other issues will need to be developed over the coming years and fund jurisdictions that have experts on these topics should be in demand.

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Fund governance

The asset management business is behind other comparable industries in diversity standards. What is the likelihood that this will change in the foreseeable future?

The chances of change in foreseeable future must be pretty good. This is in part because there has been a degree of rebalancing of ESG this year in the wake of the pandemic and the changing political climate.

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