



The Massey University Foundation's position statement on responsible investment
December 2022

Rather than adopt any form of blanket ban, the Board of the Massey University Foundation has asked its fund managers to comply with the Environmental, Social & Governance (ESG) principles as set out by the [United Nations' Principles of Responsible Investing](#). These Principles are outlined below:



Investing using ESG principles isn't about avoiding stocks in a certain industry, instead it's about incorporating such principles into investment decisions with the goal of improving the long-term interest of markets, economies and ultimately society.

For example, instead of banning investment in alcohol companies, an ESG approach may ensure a company does not have a record of marketing to minors.

Similarly, rather than excluding fossil fuels, an ESG approach might recognise those companies which place greater emphasis on minimising pollution, engaging with communities and sharing profits.

In the case of social media, looking at the specific steps a provider has taken to limit harassment, stop the posting of disturbing material and ensure user security and safety.

Investing using ESG principles is increasing rapidly and according to the latest Responsible Investment Benchmark Report (published August 2017) the total amount of investment in NZ that is responsibly investment has reached \$131 billion in 2017, up from \$78 billion in 2015.

The Foundation employs three fund managers that manage a range of assets on its behalf. Its managers are currently; Milford Asset Management, Nikko Asset Management and Continuity Capital. All three managers are signatories to the United Nations Principles for Responsible Investment. The Foundation meets regularly with its fund managers and questions them on their management of funds in relation to ESG principles.

-ends-