

COMMENT

UKSIF welcomes NEST sign-up to UN-backed Principles for Responsible Investment

London, 31 October 2011 – UKSIF, the sustainable investment and finance association, has welcomed the announcement by the National Employment Savings Trust (NEST) that it has become a signatory to the UN-backed Principles for Responsible Investment (PRI).

Penny Shepherd MBE, UKSIF Chief Executive, said:

“UKSIF is delighted that NEST has become a signatory to the Principles for Responsible Investment. This demonstrates NEST’s commitment to implementing the robust approach to responsible investment that it announced last March. Employers and pension fund trustees should regard NEST’s approach as a minimum standard for good practice in responsible investment for defined contribution workplace pensions. We hope that all major UK pension funds will join NEST in becoming PRI signatories.”

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About UKSIF

UKSIF, the sustainable investment and finance association, promotes responsible investment and other forms of finance that support sustainable economic development, enhance quality of life and safeguard the environment.

Founded in 1991, UKSIF has over 260 members including pension funds, asset managers, investment consultants, financial advisers, research providers, banks and non-governmental organisations. For more information, visit www.uksif.org.

UKSIF past comment on NEST includes:

- NEST Investment Approach marks a Significant Milestone for Responsible Investment in the UK, says UKSIF
(http://www.uksif.org/cmsfiles/press/5388742/UKSIF_COMMENT_on_NEST_Investment_Approach_25Mar11.pdf)
- Use NEST as DC responsible investment benchmark, says UKSIF
(http://www.uksif.org/cmsfiles/press/5388742/UKSIF_PRESS_RELEASE_-_UKSIF_responds_to_DC_discussion_paper_from_The_Pensions_Regulator.pdf)

About the NEST announcement

NEST’s press release is at

<http://www.nestpensions.org.uk/schemeweb/NestWeb/includes/public/news/NEST-signs-United-Nations-backed-Principles-for-Responsible-Investment.html>

Currently over 25 UK pension funds and other asset owners are signatories to the Principles for Responsible Investment (PRI). UK signatories are listed at:

<http://www.unpri.org/signatories/index.php?country=UK>