

Dow Jones Sustainability Indexes Key Facts

The Dow Jones Sustainability Indexes (DJSI) track the financial performance of the world's leading companies in terms of corporate sustainability performance. The DJSI family currently comprises a set of global benchmarks which include the best-in-class companies on a global scale, as well as a set of European, North American, and Asia Pacific indexes that include sustainability leaders on a regional scale.

The DJSI are based on SAM's internationally recognized leading corporate sustainability assessment methodology. In early 2009, an independent expert study commissioned by UNEP FI and presented at the World Economic Forum in Davos, highlighted the SAM assessment as “the most rigorous in terms of the number of questions and depth of information requested”. The methodology is refined on an annual basis and the assessment process is verified externally by Deloitte. Details from the assessment results last year are available at www.sam-group.com/yearbook. SAM is leveraging its research resources with the support of Evalueserve (EVS) in the areas of data gathering and validation, thus allowing SAM analysts to focus on methodological developments and data interpretation.

The DJSI use a “Best-in-Class” approach designed to identify best-practices across the economic, social and environmental dimensions of corporate sustainability. For each industry, specific questions have been created to reflect unique industry sustainability challenges.

The DJSI assessment creates value for companies. The DJSI provides a benchmarking tool for companies to measure their progress against sustainability best-practices. Each company participating in the assessment receives a detailed SAM feedback report with benchmarking information on all criteria assessed. Companies that are included in the DJSI also receive the DJSI membership logo.

Corporate Sustainability creates value for shareholders. SAM defines corporate sustainability as a business approach to create long term shareholder value by embracing opportunities and managing risks deriving from economic, environmental and social developments. In its latest research, SAM undertook an in-depth empirical analysis of the link between corporate sustainability performance and corporate financial performance.

Transparency is a key principle for the Dow Jones Sustainability Indexes. The DJSI website at www.sustainability-indexes.com and the SAM assessment website at <https://assessments.sam-group.com/> contain the following information:

- **Process** – Key facts about the methodology and criteria as well as guidance for using the web-based questionnaire are available on the SAM assessment website. More details on the DJSI methodology and the construction process are available in the DJSI Guidebook on the DJSI website.
- **Results** – A list of all DJSI members and biographies on each of the 18 global super sector leaders are downloadable from the DJSI website.
- **Trust** – No “naming and shaming” of laggards.
- **Confidentiality** – Stringent “Use of Information Policy” guaranteeing confidentiality of information. The policy is available on the SAM assessment website.
- **Additional information** – Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) are available on the SAM assessment website as well as the DJSI website. For direct assistance, please contact SAM by email (index@sam-group.com) or by calling our helpline (Tel. +41 44 653 10 30).