

Record Year of Growth for MSCI ESG Research

MSCI ESG Research Revenue Grew to \$54.8 Million in 2017

New York – March 29, 2018 – MSCI Inc. (NYSE: MSCI), a leading provider of research-based indexes and analytics, announced that MSCI ESG Research’s revenue grew by 21.8% to \$54.8 million in 2017, a record year of growth for the global environmental, social and governance (ESG) research provider. As of December 31, 2017, MSCI ESG Research run rate has grown 87.5% since 2014.

Eric Moen, head of ESG products, MSCI ESG Research, said, “We have seen a large shift in how the world’s leading investors are managing their assets. These investors now consider it imperative to incorporate ESG factors in their investment decision processes. As the demand for ESG Ratings and information continues to grow, we will continue to help our clients understand emerging ESG risks and opportunities, and invest in our ESG tools to continue to provide clients with better insight.”

In addition, over \$170 billion has been allocated to MSCI ESG Indexes, which utilize MSCI ESG Research ratings and data, in recent years¹. In 2017, the firm saw leading asset owners adopt MSCI ESG Indexes including Swiss Re and Japan’s Government Pension Investment Fund. Additionally, one of the first SRI indexes, the MSCI KLD 400 Social Index, surpassed \$1 billion in ETF assets benchmarked, making it the first ESG equity index to achieve that milestone.²

Deborah Yang, head of index EMEA, MSCI, said, “ESG took a step closer to the mainstream in 2017 with major institutional investors across the globe adopting ESG benchmarks and mandates. There is growing sentiment from asset owners that ESG integration may help them as they seek to reduce agency risk, mitigate short-term practices and manage the long-term risk and return drivers of their portfolios.”

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¹ Based on publically available information in press releases published from 2014 to date.

² Defined as each share class of an exchange traded fund, as identified by a separate Bloomberg ticker. Only primary listings, and not cross-listings, are counted, as of December 2017. Note that MSCI ESG Research is a data provider to the MSCI ESG Indexes only. MSCI ESG Research does NOT produce or provide indexes.

About MSCI

For more than 40 years, MSCI's research-based indexes and analytics have helped the world's leading investors build and manage better portfolios. Clients rely on our offerings for deeper insights into the drivers of performance and risk in their portfolios, broad asset class coverage and innovative research.

Our line of products and services includes indexes, analytical models, data, real estate benchmarks and ESG research.

MSCI serves 99 of the top 100 largest money managers, according to the most recent P&I ranking.

For more information, visit us at www.msci.com.

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