Great News!

October 2018 | Real Estate & Private Markets (REPM)

UBS Asset Management’s Real Estate & Private Markets business’s sustainability efforts continue to be recognized by the industry worldwide with one of our infrastructure assets being named ‘Asset Sector Leader’. Saubermacher, a leading European waste manager ranks number one amongst 280 infrastructure assets ranked by GRESB worldwide. This is the second year running we’ve secured the Asset Sector Leader award for outstanding leadership in sustainability. Last year, Colgar Wind Farm, a 111-turbine generator farm in Western Australia achieved the same GRESB recognition. This particular achievement was part of our overall excellent GRESB results this year which saw 100% of REPM’s submitted real estate, real estate debt and infrastructure funds¹ receiving a Green Star award against a more competitive peer group environment.

Globally, seven of our real estate funds and our two infrastructure funds achieved 5-star status², the highest recognition available.

Notable in this year’s GRESB benchmark assessments is the increased asset-level reporting on ESG data by more real estate companies, infrastructure assets and funds than ever before. Close to 50,000 real estate assets were reported at the asset level, more than doubling the 2017 number and giving an unrivaled set of detailed ESG data and insights for the real estate investment market. Participation on the infrastructure side increased by 75% with 280 assets, worth over USD 500 billion, being assessed.

Commenting on the success, Thomas Wels, Head of Real Estate & Private Markets at UBS Asset Management said: “Being recognized as the Sector Leader in sustainability is very important as we strive to have a positive impact on the environment and communities within which we work. We will continue to work diligently to ensure we are leading the way in implementing best practices that meet investor expectations.”

Also commenting on the success, Tommaso Albanese, Head of Infrastructure at Real Estate & Private Markets said: “Advancing ESG initiatives across our business and our different investment vehicles remains a top priority. We are honored that our ongoing efforts to increase levels of sustainability performance and disclosure have once again been recognized by GRESB.”

About Saubermacher
Saubermacher provides collection, treatment, recycling and disposal of municipal, commercial, industrial and hazardous waste. The company pursues the concept of Zero Waste; recycling to reduce total waste material to zero. Saubermacher reduces approximately 400,000 tons of CO₂ emission each year and invests heavily in R&D to produce new innovations in hazardous waste treatment, and the recycling and reuse of lithium batteries.

What is the GRESB Sector Leader Program?
The GRESB Sector Leader Program recognizes real estate and infrastructure companies, funds and assets that have demonstrated outstanding leadership in sustainability. The program recognizes companies and funds taking measurable steps to incorporate sustainability into their operations and communicate their performance to their investors and stakeholders.

¹ Of assets under management for all funds eligible to participate in the GRESB Assessments. Scores based on 2018 GRESB Assessment and UBS Asset Management, Real Estate & Private Markets.

² The 2018 GRESB Infrastructure Assessment does not have 5-stars. The upper quintile performance of REPM’s funds reflects the equivalent of 5-stars.