

## COMGEST APPOINTS NEW HEAD OF RESPONSIBLE DEVELOPMENT AND ADDITIONAL ESG SPECIALIST

Comgest, the global long-term quality-growth equities manager has further strengthened its ESG team with the appointments of Jane Russell as Head of Responsible Development and Yemareshet Gameda as an ESG Specialist, both based in Paris. The firm now has 10 dedicated ESG professionals.

Working alongside Comgest's Head of Responsible Investment Sebastien Thévoux-Chabuel, as Head of Responsible Development Jane will focus on collaborative engagements, industry initiatives, evolving RI policies and oversight of all ESG communications. She is already a member of the firm's Sustainability Committee and DE&I Working Group.

With over 23 years of industry experience working in Australia, Ireland and France, Jane joins the ESG team after working for the past 10 years as Comgest's Head of Global Consultant Relations and UK Investor Relations. In this role, Jane was instrumental in building Comgest's UK client base as well as establishing the firm's local presences in the US and the UK. She has worked closely with the ESG team over the past decade, developing tailored solutions and bespoke ESG reporting for clients as well as contributing to the development of the firm's 'Plus' strategies, which apply the same Comgest quality-growth philosophy with additional exclusions and ESG selection criteria to align with leading European SRI labels.

Prior to joining Comgest, Jane spent over 10 years in investor relations, business development and finance roles at firms including Antin Infrastructure Partners, PIM Gestion France, Warakirri Asset Management and PricewaterhouseCoopers. She graduated from the University of Melbourne and is a Chartered Accountant.

Yemareshet joins as an ESG specialist to focus on RI regulations as well as biodiversity strategy, engagement and policy development. She has over 13 years' experience in the asset management industry and has been working at Comgest since 2017 as a Compliance Advisor. In this prior role, she worked on regulatory project management and processes, conducting internal training on the evolving ESG regulatory landscape. Yemareshet was instrumental to the firm's implementation of key disclosures concerning SFDR and Article 29 as well as evolving RI policies, SRI labels and investor communications. Over the past 5 years, she has been advising and collaborating with the ESG team to design and implement policies, guidelines and procedures related to ESG matters.

Prior to joining Comgest, Yemareshet worked as a Compliance Officer at State Street Global Advisors and as an Internal Auditor and Legal Counsel at BNP Paribas Asset Management. Yemareshet moved to France in 2004 where she gained a Master's in International Business Law as well as in International, European & Comparative Law.

Comgest embeds ESG analysis at the core of its singular long-term quality growth investment strategy and applies ESG criteria throughout the investment process. It pursues a responsible ownership strategy, using active voting and targeted engagement as well as employing collaborative and industry initiatives. 97% of Comgest's total public funds' AUM is in SFDR Article 8 funds\*. The firm is a signatory to the UK Stewardship Code\*\* and to the Net Zero Asset Managers initiative\*\*\*.

Jane Russell, Head of Responsible Development at Comgest, said: "After the past decade working closely with Comgest's ESG professionals to deliver bespoke client solutions, I'm delighted to join this dedicated team to continue driving our active ESG strategy. With our broad employee ownership structure enabling a real commitment to long-term investing, a key competitive edge at Comgest is time-horizon arbitrage. This edge is the very ingredient necessary for delivering an authentic ESG strategy with tangible results."

Yemareshet Gemedu, ESG Specialist at Comgest, said: "Having worked on many Responsible Investment initiatives at Comgest from a regulatory and compliance perspective, I am now looking forward to a broader remit and continuing our ongoing commitment to stewardship from within the ESG team."

For further information on Comgest's approach to ESG please visit: [ESG at Comgest](#)

\* The Sustainable Finance Disclosure Regulation (SFDR) is a European regulation introduced to improve transparency in the market for sustainable investment products, to prevent greenwashing and to increase transparency around sustainability claims made by financial market participants.

\*\* [UK Stewardship Code](#)

\*\*\* <http://www.netzeroassetmanagers.org/>

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## About Comgest:

Comgest is an independent, global asset management group with headquarters in Paris and offices in Amsterdam, Boston, Dublin, Düsseldorf, Hong Kong, Singapore, Sydney, Tokyo, two branch offices in Milan and Brussels and a representative office in London. Since inception in 1985, Comgest has pursued a long-term 'Quality Growth' and responsible investment style with the objective of selecting quality companies with solid prospects for sustainable growth. With more than 200 employees of 30 different nationalities, Comgest serves a diverse global client base and manages assets of over £24.5 / €27.6 billion (unaudited data as of 31 December 2022).

## Important information:

*Data as of 31 December 2022.*

***Before making any investment decision, investors are advised to check the investment horizon and category of the Fund in relation to any objectives or constraints they may have. Investors must read the latest Fund prospectus and to the PRIIPs KID UK investors should refer to the UCITS KIID available at our offices and on our website: [comgest.com](https://comgest.com).***

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