

Robeco Foundation: Policy plan 2018-2021

Introduction

Robeco is one of the signatories of the Dutch SDG Investing Agenda and is committed to contributing to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) formulated by the United Nations (UN).

Robeco has a longstanding tradition of supporting sustainable growth via our activities in the field of investment, engagement and active ownership. To match this business focus by also contributing to the SDG's with its social commitment activities, Robeco has established the Robeco Foundation. The Robeco Foundation actively invests in local educational programs aimed at supporting financially disadvantaged children.

This policy plan describes our mission, activities, governance and finances and applies from 2018 to 2021.

Vision, mission, strategy

According to the UN, the 17 Sustainable Development Goals aim to 'make the world a better place in 2030'. We believe that the SDGs are drivers for positive change around the globe.

The Robeco Foundation wants to make a contribution to the SDGs, in particular:

SDG #1 – An end to poverty

SDG #4 – Quality education

SDG #10 – Reduced inequalities

Vision

The Foundation sees a world developing with quality education, reduced inequalities and an end to poverty

Mission

The mission of the Robeco Foundation is to create equal opportunities for children who start out life at a disadvantage by investing in talent development through education.

Strategy

The Robeco Foundation will contribute to projects at primary and secondary schools that aim to help develop children to reach their full potential. Efforts will focus on cities where Robeco has a presence in order to really make an impact on the local community, starting with a program in Rotterdam. The Robeco foundation has the ambition to expand to other cities in 2019.

The Robeco Foundation wants to achieve its mission through both financial contributions and efforts of Robeco employees.

Activities

Rotterdam Digital Skills Program

The foundation's first initiative will be the *Rotterdam digital skills program*, which prepares children

for a society based on online knowledge-sharing and networking. All activities and projects aimed at promoting equal opportunities for underprivileged children and linked to the digitization theme may be eligible for funding. The initiatives funded by the Robeco Foundation will support the regular school curriculum.

We run this program in consultation with the municipality of Rotterdam to ensure that this focus of our attention would meet a real need and to benefit from their expertise.

Digital skills are essential to fully participate in society today. To develop these skills, young children are dependent on their parents' willingness and financial capacity to support them. On top of this, schools often do not have the proper resources to help kids reach their full potential in this area. This is where the Robeco Foundation's first program, the Rotterdam digital skills program that is about to be launched, originated.

The program will offer support to primary and secondary schools in Rotterdam for activities aimed at improving the digital skills of financially disadvantaged children. Support from the Robeco Foundation may take the form of providing hardware (e.g., iPads) or software (e.g., online courses) or the financial means to enable the schools to purchase the tools for this purpose. We will also engage our own employees to give guest lectures or conduct school visits to our company's head office. Different schools have different needs, so we aim to offer solutions that are tailored to the specific needs of schools applying for project support.

Schools can submit a request for a donation to the Robeco Foundation. The request needs to include a description of how this contributes to the mission of the foundation. A donation will be granted if the majority of the board members approves. The board will annual report on the donations granted.

Other Programs

The Robeco Foundation has the ambition to expand her activities to other cities where Robeco has a presence in 2019. We will set up international programs, in cooperation with local Robeco colleagues, which will be tailored to local needs that are in line with the mission and strategy of the Robeco Foundation.

Organization

Name	Robeco Foundation
Address	Weena 850, 3014 DA Rotterdam, The Netherlands
Email	robecofoundation@robeco.nl
Chamber of Commerce (KvK) number	71779663
Tax identification number	858846032

The Robeco Foundation is a non-profit organization.

Governance

Chair:	Victor Verberk
Treasurer:	Jochem Gottmers
Secretary:	Michiel Prinsze

The members of the Board are Robeco representatives. Their mandate is part of the articles of association of the Robeco Foundation. The members of the Board are unpaid and can't individually dispose of the foundation's assets.

Employees

The Robeco Foundation does not employ any staff. The Foundation aims to work with Robeco staff as much as possible.

Finances

The Robeco Foundation will be primarily funded by Robeco. We will explore opportunities for Robeco staff and clients to make donations as well. All donations made to the foundation will be held on Robeco Foundation account with a reputable bank. The board does not expect to keep substantial funds as equity and the foundation will not hold more funds than necessary for the continuity of the activities of the Robeco Foundation.

Ongoing and one-off expenses by the Robeco Foundation will be covered by Robeco.

The Robeco Foundation will provide an annual report on its website.