

PRESS RELEASE
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NIKKO ASSET MANAGEMENT CO., LTD.

Nikko AM Hosts Internship for Syrian Refugees

Nikko Asset Management Co., Ltd. (Nikko AM) has hosted its first internship for Syrian graduate school students, welcoming three participants and providing them with experience and skills for working in a professional environment in Japan. The interns are members of the programme [Japanese Initiative for the future of Syrian Refugees \(JISR\)](#), which is implemented by the [Japan International Cooperation Agency \(JICA\)](#). The programme was introduced to Nikko AM through its relationship with UNHCR.

Two of the participants had a three-week internship in the Corporate Sustainability Department, while another joined a two-week programme in the IT Department. The interns made a presentation in front of the Tokyo Office employees, introducing Syria, their lives before arriving in Japan, along with first-hand details on the situation they faced. The presentation was also livestreamed to the Firm's offices in Singapore, Australia and New Zealand.

One of the participants who interned at the Corporate Sustainability Department, commented, "It was a privilege and an amazing opportunity to learn more about investment, marketing and Japan's business environment. My fellow interns and I had imagined working in Japan might be difficult, but I found the experience very fruitful. The time we spent with Nikko AM's working groups for supporting women, LGBT, people with disabilities, and the environment, will all be invaluable for us to take back to Syria."

"Many young Syrians have been forced to leave their home country, and the JISR programme supports them to enrol in Japanese university for their Master's courses and internships. This program intends to foster them to lead Syria's reconstruction in the future, while enhancing their understanding of Japanese people, society and systems and thereby strengthens the mutual friendship between Syria and Japan," said Mr. Kunihiko Kabe from [Japan Association for Refugees \(JAR\)](#), a non-profit organization and a contractor for JICA in charge of the JISR programme. "We are grateful to Nikko AM for giving the three interns this opportunity."

Nikko AM Senior Corporate Managing Director and Head of Corporate Sustainability Stefanie Drews explained, "Our company is a proud advocate for addressing the UN's SDG [#4 quality education](#) especially cultural diversity, as well as goal [#10 reduced inequalities](#). We began supporting the UNHCR in 2017, and were eager to sit down face to face with the interns and help equip them with the tools they need to enter the workforce and to rebuild their country. We also learned from them, and I am truly thankful for the interns opening up and telling us their personal stories. We will continue to improve our programme and look forward to welcoming many more interns in the future."

For more details on Nikko AM's sustainability activities, please visit the sustainability microsite at the link below.
<https://sustainability.nikkoam.com/>

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About Nikko Asset Management

With US\$224 billion* under management, Nikko Asset Management is one of Asia's largest asset managers, providing high-conviction, active fund management across a range of Equity, Fixed Income, Multi-Asset and Alternative strategies. In addition, its complementary range of passive strategies covers more than 20 indices and includes some of Asia's largest exchange-traded funds (ETFs).

Headquartered in Asia since 1959, the firm represents nearly 200** investment professionals and over 30 nationalities across 11 countries. More than 300 banks, brokers, financial advisors and life insurance companies around the world distribute the company's products.

The investment teams benefit from a unique global perspective complemented by the firm's historic Asian DNA, striving to deliver consistent excellence in performance. The firm also prides itself on its progressive solution-driven approach, which has led to many innovative funds launched for its clients.

For more information about Nikko Asset Management and to access its investment insights, please visit the firm's [homepage](#).

* Consolidated assets under management and sub-advisory of Nikko Asset Management and its subsidiaries as of 30 June 2019.

** As of 30 June 2019, including employees of Nikko Asset Management and its subsidiaries.

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