Pre-contractual disclosure for the financial products referred to in Article 8, paragraphs 1, 2 and 2a, of Regulation (EU) 2019/2088 and Article 6, first paragraph, of Regulation (EU) 2020/852

HSBC GLOBAL INVESTMENT FUNDS - GLOBAL LOWER CARBON EQUITY **Legal entity identifier: 213800ENBN1SRILVHQ60**

Environmental and/or social characteristics

Sustainable investment means an investment in an economic activity that contributes to an environmental or social objective, provided that the investment does not significantly harm any environmental or social objective and that the investee companies follow good governance practices.

The **EU Taxonomy** is a classification system laid down in Regulation (EU) 2020/852, establishing a list of **environmentally sustainable economic activities**. That Regulation does not lay down a list of socially sustainable economic activities. Sustainable investments with an environmental objective might be aligned with the Taxonomy or not.

Does this financial product have a sustainable investment objective?

☐ **Yes**

☐ It will make a minimum of **sustainable investments with an environmental objective:** ___%

- ☐ in economic activities that qualify as environmentally sustainable under the EU Taxonomy
- ☐ in economic activities that do not qualify as environmentally sustainable under the EU Taxonomy

☐ It will make a minimum of **sustainable investments with a social objective:** ___%

☑ **No**

☑ It **promotes Environmental/Social (E/S) characteristics** and while it does not have as its objective a sustainable investment, it will have a minimum proportion of 10% of sustainable investments

- ☐ with an environmental objective in economic activities that qualify as environmentally sustainable under the EU Taxonomy
- ☑ with an environmental objective in economic activities that do not qualify as environmentally sustainable under the EU Taxonomy
- ☐ with a social objective

☐ It promotes E/S characteristics, but **will not make any sustainable investments**

What environmental and/or social characteristics are promoted by this financial product?

The environmental and/or social characteristics promoted by this sub-fund are:

1. Active consideration of low carbon intensity investments and higher ESG scores compared to the index.
2. Responsible business practices in accordance with UN Global Compact.
3. Identification and analysis of a company's environmental and social characteristics including, but not limited to, physical risks of climate change and human capital management.
4. Active consideration of environmental and social issues through engagement and proxy voting.
5. Excluding activites covered by HSBC Asset Management's Responsible Investment Policies, (the "**Excluded Activities**") as listed below.

The MSCI World Index is the "Reference Benchmark" for the sub-fund and will be used to measure the sub-fund's carbon intensity and ESG scores, but has not been designated for the purpose of attaining the environmental or social characteristics of the sub-fund.

Sustainability indicators measure how the environmental or social characteristics promoted by the financial product are attained.

- ***What sustainability indicators are used to measure the attainment of each of the environmental or social characteristics promoted by this financial product?***

Sustainability indicators are a key consideration in our investment decision making process.

The primary sustainability indicators are ESG scores and carbon intensity data sourced from well-established financial data providers. They are used to measure the attainment of the environmental and social characteristics promoted by the sub-fund which includes:

- Carbon Intensity Score, relative to the benchmark or its sector
- E, S and G Pillar Scores, relative to the benchmark or its sector
- ESG Score, relative to the benchmark or its sector

The sub-fund also considers the Principal Adverse Impacts that are listed below:

- Greenhouse gas intensity of investee companies (Scope 1 & Scope 2)
- Violation of UNGC and OECD principles
- Share of investment involved in controversial weapons

- ***What are the objectives of the sustainable investments that the financial product partially intends to make and how does the sustainable investment contribute to such objectives?***

The sustainable investments made by this sub-fund are aligned to its environmental characteristics.

The sub-fund aims for lower exposure to carbon intensive businesses through portfolio construction and to make an improvement of the overall ESG score, than the benchmark.

Principal adverse impacts are the most significant negative impacts of investment decisions on sustainability factors relating to environmental, social and employee matters, respect for human rights, anti-corruption and anti-bribery matters.

- ***How do the sustainable investments that the financial product partially intends to make, not cause significant harm to any environmental or social sustainable investment objective?***

The principle of ‘do no significant harm’ to environmental or social objectives applies only to the underlying sustainable investments of the sub-fund. This principle is incorporated into the investment decision-making process, which includes consideration of principal adverse impacts.

How have the indicators for adverse impacts on sustainability factors been taken into account?

The Investment Adviser will review all SFDR mandatory Principal Adverse Impacts to assess the relevance to the sub-fund. HSBC's Responsible Investment Policy sets out the approach taken to identify and respond to principal adverse sustainability impacts and how HSBC considers ESG sustainability risks as these can adversely impact the securities the sub-funds invest in. HSBC uses third party screening providers to identify companies and governments with a poor track record in managing ESG risks and, where potential material risks are identified, HSBC also carry out further ESG due diligence. Sustainability impacts, including the relevant Principal Adverse Impacts, identified by screening are a key consideration in the investment decision making process and, in turn, this also supports the advice given to clients.

The approach taken, as set out above, means that among other things the following points are scrutinised:
- companies' commitment to lower carbon transition, adoption of sound human rights principles and employees' fair treatment, implementation of rigorous supply chain management practices aiming, among other things, at alleviating child and forced labour. HSBC also pay a great attention to the robustness of corporate governance and political structures which include the level of board independence, respect of shareholders' rights, existence and implementation of rigorous anti-corruption and bribery policies as well as audit trails; and
- governments' commitment to availability and management of resources (including population trends, human capital, education and health), emerging technologies, government regulations and policies (including climate change, anti-corruption and bribery), political stability and governance.

This sub-fund will pay particular attention to:

- Greenhouse Gas emissions: the Investment Adviser aims to reduce the overall portfolio carbon intensity compared to its benchmark. In addition, companies which generate more than 10% revenues from thermal coal extraction and coal-fired power generation will be excluded, if they do not have a clearly defined credible plan to reduce exposure to below 10% and finally the Investment Adviser also improves on the MSCI E score of the fund versus the benchmark
- Social and employee matter: exclusion of stocks that are in breach of the UNGC principles, improvement of MSCI S score versus the benchmark and overall ESG score versus the benchmark, exclusion of controversial weapons from the portfolio
- Anti-corruption and anti-bribery: improvement of MSCI G score versus the benchmark

The specific Principal Adverse Impacts for this sub-fund are as set out above.

HSBC's Responsible Investment Policy is available on the website at: www.assetmanagement/hsbc/about-us/responsible-investing

How are the sustainable investments aligned with the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises and the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights? Details:

HSBC is committed to the application and promotion of global standards. Key areas of focus for HSBC's Responsible Investment Policy are the ten principles of the United Nations Global Compact (UNGC). These principles include non-financial risks such as human rights, labour, environment and anti-corruption. HSBC is also a signatory of the UN Principles of Responsible Investment. This provides the framework used in HSBC's approach to investment by identifying and managing sustainability risks.

Companies in which the sub-fund invests will be expected to comply with the UNGC and related standards. Companies having clearly violated one of the ten principles of the UNGC are systematically excluded, unless they have gone through an ESG due diligence assessment. Companies are also evaluated in accordance with international standards like the OECD Guidelines.

The EU Taxonomy sets out a "do not significant harm" principle by which Taxonomy-aligned investments should not significantly harm EU Taxonomy objectives and is accompanied by specific EU criteria.

The "do no significant harm" principle applies only to those investments underlying the financial product that take into account the EU criteria for environmentally sustainable economic activities. The investments underlying the remaining portion of this financial product do not take into account the EU criteria for environmentally sustainable economic activities.

Any other sustainable investments must also not significantly harm any environmental or social objectives.

Does this financial product consider principal adverse impacts on sustainability factors?

☑ Yes, the approach taken to consider Principal Adverse Impacts means that, among other things, HSBC will scrutinise companies' commitment to lower-carbon transition, adoption of sound human rights principles and employees' fair treatment, and implementation of rigorous supply chain management practices such as those aiming to alleviate child and forced labour. HSBC also pays attention to the robustness of corporate governance and political structures which include the level of board independence, respect of shareholders' rights, existence and implementation of rigorous anti-corruption and bribery policies, as well as audit trails. Investment in companies carrying out business in Excluded Activities are also excluded. The sub-fund also considers the Principal Adverse Impacts that are listed below:

- Greenhouse gas intensity of investee companies (Scope 1 & Scope 2)
- Violation of UNGC and OECD principles; and
- Share of investment involved in controversial weapons

Full details of how Principal Adverse Impacts have been considered in respect of the sub-fund will be included in the Company's year-end report and accounts.

☐ No

What investment strategy does this financial product follow?

The investment strategy guides investment decisions based on factors such as investment objectives and risk tolerance.

The sub-fund invests in normal market conditions a minimum of 90% of its net assets in accordance with the Lower Carbon Strategy as described below, in equities and equity-equivalent securities of companies which are domiciled in, based in, carry out the larger part of their business activities in, or are listed on a Regulated Market in developed markets.

The sub-fund aims for lower exposure to carbon intensive businesses through portfolio construction.

The sub-fund uses a multi-factor investment process, based on five factors (value, quality, momentum, low risk and size), to identify and rank stocks in its investment universe with the aim of maximising the portfolio's risk-adjusted return. Although the investment process currently uses these five factors, it is subject to ongoing research regarding the current and potential additional factors. In order to lower exposure to carbon intensive businesses and raise the sub-fund's ESG score, all holdings in the portfolio are assessed for their individual carbon intensity and ESG scores.

A HSBC proprietary systematic investment process is then used to create a portfolio which:
- maximises exposure to higher ranked stocks, and
- aims for a lower carbon intensity and higher ESG score calculated respectively as a weighted average of the carbon intensities and ESG scores of the sub-fund's investments, than the weighted average of the constituents of the Reference Benchmark.

Lower Carbon Strategy, Excluded Activities and the need for ESG due diligence may be identified and analysed by using, but not exclusively, HSBC's proprietary ESG Materiality Framework and scores, fundamental qualitative research and corporate engagement. When assessing companies' ESG score and/or rating or their involvement in Excluded Activities, the Investment Adviser may rely on expertise, research and information provided by financial and non-financial data providers.

The sub-fund is actively managed and the investment strategy is implemented on a continuous basis through compliance and monitoring of the binding elements as listed below.

- ***What are the binding elements of the investment strategy used to select the investments to attain each of the environmental or social characteristics promoted by this financial product?***

The binding elements of the investment strategy used to select the investments to attain each of the environmental or social characteristics are:

- The sub-fund aims for a reduction in the weighted average carbon intensity versus the Reference Benchmark.
- The sub-fund aims for an improvement in the weighted average ESG score versus the Reference Benchmark.

Companies considered for inclusion within the sub-fund's portfolio will be subject to Excluded Activities including, but are not limited to:

- **Banned Weapons** - the sub-fund will not invest in companies HSBC considers to be involved in the development, production, use, maintenance, offering for sale, distribution, import or export, storage or transportation of Banned Weapons.
- **Controversial Weapons** - the sub-fund will not invest in companies HSBC considers to be involved in the production of controversial weapons or their key components. Controversial weapons include but are not limited to anti-personnel mines, depleted uranium weapons and white phosphorous when used for military purposes.
- **Thermal Coal (Expanders)** - the sub-fund will not participation in initial public offerings ("IPOs") or primary fixed income financing by companies HSBC considers to be engaged in the expansion of thermal coal production.
- **Thermal Coal (Revenue threshold)** - the sub-fund will not invest in companies HSBC considers to have more than 10% revenue generated from thermal coal power generation or extraction and which, in the opinion of HSBC, do not have a credible transition plan.

- **Tobacco** - the sub-fund will not invest in companies HSBC considers to be directly involved in the production of tobacco.
- **UNGC** - the sub-fund will not invest in companies that HSBC considers to be non-compliant with United Nations Global Compact (UNGC) Principles. Where instances of potential violations of UNGC principles are identified, companies may be subject to proprietary ESG due diligence checks to determine their suitability for inclusion in a sub-fund's portfolio.

- Consideration will also be made on the products sustainability indicators a continuous basis.

- Further details of HSBC's Responsible Investment Policies can be found at: www.assetmanagement.hsbc.com/about-us/responsible-investing

What is the committed minimum rate to reduce the scope of the investments considered prior to the application of that investment strategy?

The sub-fund does not have a committed minimum rate to reduce the scope of investments.

Good governance practice include sound managemer structures, employee relations, remuneration of staff and tax compliance.

- ***What is the policy to assess good governance practices of the investee companies?***

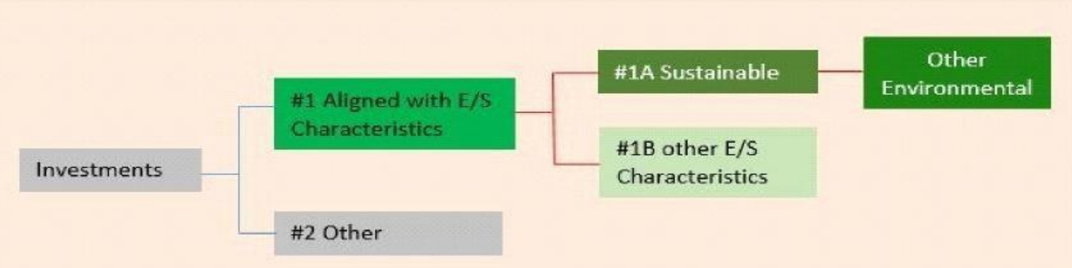
Governance is a key pillar (the "G-pillar") of the ESG process and we aim to improve the G pillar versus the benchmark.

HSBC's Stewardship team meets with companies regularly to improve our understanding of their business and strategy, signal support or concerns we have with management actions and promote best practice. HSBC believes that good corporate governance ensures that companies are managed in line with the long-term interests of their investors.

Asset allocation describes the share of investments in specific assets.

What is the asset allocation planned for this financial product?

The sub-fund promotes Environmental/Social (E/S) characteristics and while it does not have as its objective a sustainable investment, it will have a minimum proportion of 10% of sustainable investments (#1A Sustainable). The sub-fund will have a minimum proportion of 70% of investments that are aligned with the environmental or social characteristics promoted by the financial product (#1 Aligned with E/S Characteristics). (#2 Other) includes liquid assets (ancillary liquid assets, bank deposits, money market instruments and money market funds) and financial derivatives instruments which may be used for efficient portfolio management.



#1 Aligned with E/S characteristics includes the investments of the financial product used to attain the environmental or social characteristics promoted by the financial product.

#2 Other includes the remaining investments of the financial product which are neither aligned with the environmental or social characteristics, nor are qualified as sustainable investments.

The category #1 Aligned with E/S characteristics covers:
- The sub-category #1A Sustainable covers sustainable investment with environmental or social objectives.
- The sub-category #1B Other E/S characteristics covers investments aligned with the environmental or social characteristics that do not qualify as sustainable investments.

Taxonomy-aligned activities are expressed as a share of:
- **turnover** reflecting the share of revenue from green activities of investee companies
- **capital expenditure** (CapEx) showing the green investments made by investee companies, e.g. for a transition to a green economy.
- **operational expenditure** (OpEx) reflecting green operational activities of investee companies.

- ***How does the use of derivatives attain the environmental or social characteristics promoted by the financial product?***

The sub-fund will not use derivatives to attain the environmental or social characteristics of the sub-fund.

To what minimum extent are sustainable investments with an environmental objective aligned with the EU Taxonomy?

The sub-fund does not currently intend to invest in sustainable investments that are aligned with the EU Taxonomy and the minimum share of taxonomy-aligned investments (including transitional and enabling activities) is therefore assessed to be 0%.

- **Does the financial product invest in fossil gas and/or nuclear energy related activities that comply with the EU Taxonomy[1]?**

☐ Yes:

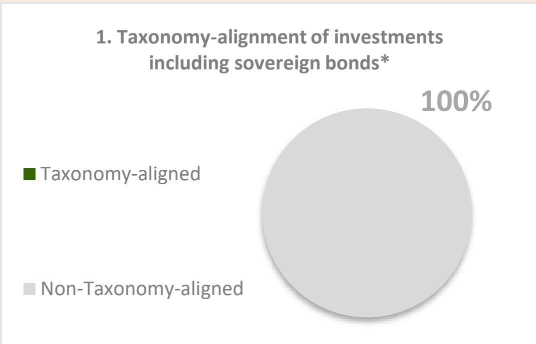
☐ In fossil gas ☐ In nuclear energy

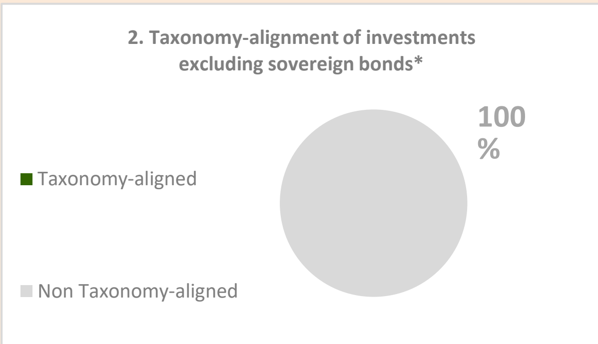
☑ No

Enabling activities directly enable other activities to make a substantial contribution to an environmental objective.

Transitional activities are activities for which low-carbon alternatives are not yet available and among others have greenhouse gas emission levels corresponding to the best performance.

The two graphs below show in green the minimum percentage of investments that are aligned with the EU Taxonomy. As there is no appropriate methodology to determine the Taxonomy-alignment of sovereign bonds, the first graph shows the Taxonomy alignment in relation to all the investments of the financial product including sovereign bonds, while the second graph shows the Taxonomy alignment only in relation to the investments of the financial product other than sovereign bonds.*





This graph represents 100% of the total investments

* *For the purpose of these graphs, 'sovereign bonds' consist of all sovereign exposures.*

- ***What is the minimum share of investments in transitional and enabling activities?***

Not applicable for this sub-fund.

are sustainable investments with an environmental objective that **do not take into**

What is the minimum share of sustainable investments with an environmental objective that are not aligned with the EU Taxonomy?

The sub-fund invests at least 10% in sustainable investments, with an environmental

[1] Fossil gas and/or nuclear related activities will only comply with the EU Taxonomy where they contribute to limiting climate change ("climate change mitigation") and do not significantly harm any EU Taxonomy objective - see explanatory note in the left hand margin. The full criteria for fossil gas and nuclear energy economic activities that comply with the EU Taxonomy are laid down in Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2022/1214.

account the criteria for environmentally sustainable economic activities under the EU Taxonomy.

objective that are not aligned with the EU Taxonomy.

What is the minimum share of socially sustainable investments?

Not applicable for this sub-fund.

What investments are included under "#2 Other", what is their purpose and are there any minimum environmental or social safeguards?

The sub-fund may invest in money market funds for liquidity management purposes, hold liquid assets (ancillary liquid assets, bank deposits, money market instruments and money market funds), financial derivative instruments may also be used for efficient portfolio management. This may also include investments that are not aligned for other reasons such as corporate actions and non-availability of data.

Liquid assets (ancillary liquid assets, bank deposits, money market instruments and money market funds) and financial derivatives instruments do not have minimum environmental or social safeguards applied, due to the nature of these instruments.

Is a specific index designated as a reference benchmark to determine whether this financial product is aligned with the environmental and/or social characteristics that it promotes?

No

Reference benchmarks are indexes to measure whether the financial product attains the environmental or social characteristics that they promote.

- ***How is the reference benchmark continuously aligned with each of the environmental or social characteristics promoted by the financial product?***

  Not applicable.

- ***How is the alignment of the investment strategy with the methodology of the index ensured on a continuous basis?***

  Not applicable.

- ***How does the designated index differ from a relevant broad market index?***

  Not applicable.

- ***Where can the methodology used for the calculation of the designated index be found?***

  Not applicable.

Where can I find more product specific information online?

More product-specific information can be found on the website:
www.assetmanagement.hsbc.com