Website disclosure summary – Global Emerging Markets Equity

No significant harm to the environmental or social characteristics of the financial product

The sustainable investments in the sub-fund will be assessed against the principle of DNSH to ensure that the investments do not significantly harm any environmental or social objectives. The DNSH principle applies only to the underlying sustainable investments of the sub-fund. This principle is incorporated into the investment decision-making process, which includes assessment of principal adverse impacts ("PAIs"). The mandatory PAIs as defined in Table 1 of Annex 1 of the regulatory technical standards for Regulation 2019/2088 are used to assess whether the sustainable investments of the sub-fund are significantly harming the environmental or social objective. To support the DNSH assessment, quantitative criteria have been established across the PAIs.

Environmental or social characteristics of the financial product

The environmental and/or social characteristics ("E/S characteristics") promoted by this sub-fund are:

1. A minimum proportion of the sub-fund's investments shall meet minimum ESG standards, i.e. the companies that the sub-fund invests in are required to meet minimum ESG and E, and S and G score levels.
2. The identification and analysis of a company's environmental and social factors, including corporate governance practices which form an integral part of the investment decision making process.
3. Consideration of lower carbon intensity investments.
4. Consideration of responsible business practices in accordance with United Nations Global Compact ("UNGC") and OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises ("OECD") principles. Where instances of potential violations of UNGC principles are identified, companies will be subject to HSBC's proprietary ESG due diligence checks to determine their suitability for inclusion in the sub-fund's portfolio and, if deemed unsuitable, excluded.
5. Excluding activities covered by HSBC Asset Management's Responsible Investment Policies, the ("Excluded Activities").

Investment strategy

The sub-fund aims to provide long term total return by investing in a portfolio of Emerging Market equities.

The sub-fund invests in normal market conditions a minimum of 90% of its net assets in equities and equity equivalent securities of companies which are domiciled in, based in, or carry out the larger part of their business activities in Emerging Markets.

The sub-fund aims to have a higher ESG score, calculated as a weighted average of the ESG scores given to the companies in which the sub-fund has invested, than the weighted average of the constituents of the Reference Benchmark.

The sub-fund aims to have a lower carbon intensity relative to the Reference Benchmark.

Proportion of Investments

The sub-fund invests in normal market conditions a minimum of 90% of its net assets in equities and equity equivalent securities of companies which are domiciled in, based in, or carry out the larger part of their business activities in Emerging Markets.

The sub-fund promotes 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. The sub-fund will have a minimum proportion of 51% of investments that are aligned with the E/S characteristics it promotes. Other investments 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.

Monitoring of environmental or social characteristics

All our sub-funds aim to demonstrate strong and/or improving ESG characteristics at the company and overall portfolio level using quantitative or qualitative criteria which are monitored on an on-going basis. Funds are monitored via an ESG dashboard to ensure portfolios align to the internally established thresholds.

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

Methodologies

A minimum proportion of the sub-fund's investments shall meet certain ESG standards, which are measured via a minimum ESG total score as well as minimum E, S and G scores for each separate sub-component. These scores represent the management of ESG risks or opportunities that are relevant to the sector in which the company operates. The companies that have very low scores are deemed to have poor management of ESG risks and opportunities and are therefore excluded from contributing to the promotion of environmental and social characteristics of the sub-fund.

Data Sources and Processing

HSBC Asset Management uses data from a number of external third parties such as Sustainalytics, ISS, MSCI and Trucost to ensure it attains the environmental characteristics promoted. HSBC Asset Management also use a number of ESG rating agencies for norms-based screening against the UN Global Compact principles.

The data is verified by HSBC Asset management's extensive research department and processed via HSBC Asset Management's propriety research methodology. HSBC Asset Management is reliant on third party data and while we verify the data, we cannot comment on limitation to the methodologies of such third-party companies. No data is estimated by HSBC Asset Management.

Limitations to Methodologies and Data

HSBC Asset Management is not aware of any limitation in meeting the environmental or social characteristics of the sub-fund.

Due Diligence

Investments in the sub-fund are assessed for minimum good governance practices through consideration of UNGC principles, additionally good governance practice of companies is viewed through ESG and G pillar scores. Investments considered to be Sustainable Investments must pass an additional good governance screen before they can be designated as such. Governance is assessed against criteria specified in the investment process which includes, among other things, business ethics, culture and values, corporate governance and bribery and corruption. UNGC violations are assessed through ESG due diligence as well as screening which are used to identify companies that are considered to have poor governance. Companies which meet the criteria of sustainable investment are assessed through minimum governance scores to ensure higher standards of governance and no association with severe controversy. Where relevant those companies will then be subjected to further review, action and/or engagement.

Engagement Policies

HSBC's Stewardship team meets with issuers and companies regularly to improve HSBC's 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 issuers and companies are managed in line with the long-term interests of their investors.

Designated Reference Benchmark

Some of the environmental and social characteristics are measured against the MSCI Emerging Markets as the "Reference Benchmark" for the sub-fund. However, this benchmark has not been designated for the purpose of achieving the environmental and social characteristics promoted by the sub-fund.

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