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).

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

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

### Environmental and/or social characteristics





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

- 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. Minimum environmental standards through exclusion of business activities that are deemed harmful to the environment.
- 4. Identification and analysis of a company's environmental and social characteristics including, but not limited to, physical risks of climate change and human capital
- 5. Active consideration of environmental and social issues through engagement and proxy
- 6. Exclusion of share of investment involved in controversial weapons.

The MSCI World Index (the "Reference Benchmark"), 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:

- Green house gas intensity of investee companies (Scope 1 & Scope 2)
- Violation of UNGC principles and OECD Guidelines For Multinational Entreprises
- Share of investment involved in controversial weapons

The sub-fund also excludes investment in companies carrying out business activities that are deemed harmful to the environment. This means that the sub-fund will not invest in equities and equity equivalent securities of companies with specified involvement in specific excluded activities ("Excluded Activities"), that are listed below.

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.

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?

Do no significant harm analysis is completed as part of HSBC Asset Management's (HSBC) standard investment process for sustainable assets, which will include the 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. 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.

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.

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 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/policies

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

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.

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.



### 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.

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

- Green house gas intensity of investee companies (Scope 1 & Scope 2)
- Violation of UNGC principles and OECD Guidelines For Multinational Entreprises
- 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 sub-fund's year-end report and accounts.

☐ No



### What investment strategy does this financial product follow?

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 rating, 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 rating calculated respectively as a weighted average of the carbon intensities and ESG ratings of the sub-fund's investments, than the weighted average of the constituents of the Reference Benchmark.

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.

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

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 are:

- The sub-fund aims for an improvement in the weighted average carbon intensity reduction versus the reference benchmark.
- The sub-fund aims for an improvement in the weighted average ESG score versus the reference benchmark.
- The sub-fund will not invest in equities and equity equivalent securities of companies that are considered non-compliant with the United Nations Global Compact (UNGC) Principles.

The sub-fund excludes investment in companies carrying out business activities that are deemed harmful to the environment. This means it will not invest in equities issued by companies with specified involvement in specific excluded activities. Excluded Activities and specified involvement are proprietary to HSBC and include, but are not limited to:

- Companies 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. This exclusion is in addition to HSBC's banned weapons policy which is available at: www.assetmanagement.hsbc.com/about-us/responsible-investing/policies
- Companies involved in the production of tobacco.
- Companies with more than 10% revenue generated from thermal coal extraction and

do not have a clearly defined, credible plan to reduce exposure to below 10%.

• Companies with more than 10% revenue generated from coal-fired power generation and do not have a clearly defined, credible plan to reduce exposure to below 10%.

The Investment Adviser may rely on expertise, research and information provided by well-established financial data providers to identify companies exposed to these Excluded Activities.

- Consideration will also be made on the products sustainability indicators a continuous basis.
- 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, however 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 rating, 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 maximizes the exposure to the higher ranked stocks and which aims for a lower carbon intensity and higher ESG rating calculated respectively as a weighted average of the carbon intensities and ESG ratings of the sub-fund's investments, than the weighted average of the constituents of the Reference Benchmark (the "Lower Carbon Strategy").

The sub-fund will not invest in equities and equity equivalent securities of companies that are considered non-compliant with the United Nations Global Compact (UNGC) Principles or have material exposure, exceeding a revenue exposure threshold, to specific excluded activities, which are proprietary to HSBC and may include, but are not limited to, companies involved in the production of controversial weapons or their key components, companies involved in the production of tobacco, thermal coal fired power generation, thermal coal extraction and may change over time, as previously mentioned.

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.

**Good governance** 

management

practices include sound

staff and tax compliance

structures, employee relations, remuneration of

### What is the asset allocation planned for this financial product?

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 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 rating, all holdings in the portfolio are assessed for their individual carbon intensity and ESG scores.

The sub-fund may invest up to 10% of its net assets in units or shares of UCITS and/or other Eligible UCIs (including other sub-funds of HSBC Global Investment Funds).

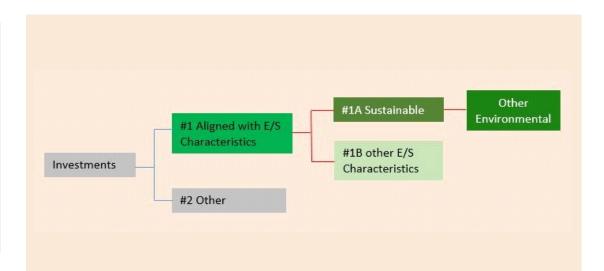
The sub-fund may use financial derivative instruments for hedging and cash flow management (for example, Equitisation). The sub-fund may also use, but not extensively, financial derivative instruments for investment purposes. The financial derivative instruments the sub-fund is permitted to use include, but are not limited to, futures and foreign exchange forwards (including non-deliverable forwards). Financial derivative instruments may also be embedded in other instruments in which the subfund may invest. Financial derivative instruments may also be used for efficient portfolio management purposes.

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.

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.



#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.

#2Other 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 environmentally and socially sustainable investments.
- The sub-category #1B Other E/S characteristics covers investments aligned with the environmental or social characteristics that do not qualify as sustainable investments.
- How does the use of derivatives attain the environmental or social characteristics promoted by the financial product?

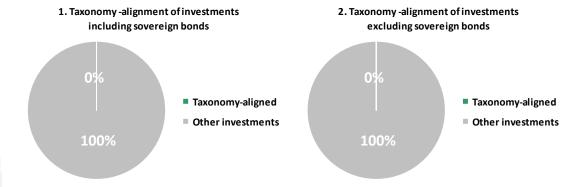
The sub-fund will not use derivatives to attain the environmental or social characteristics of the sub-fund.

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



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

The sustainable investments within the sub-fund are not intending to be aligned with the EU Taxonomy, this is therefore assessed to be 0%. However, from time to time, the sub-fund may hold taxonomy aligned investments.



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.

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

This is not applicable as the sub-fund does not have a specific minimum share of transitioning and enabling activities.

are sustainable investments with an environmental objective that do not take into account the criteria for environmentally sustainable economic



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

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. While the sub-fund does commit a minimum proportion of Sustainable Investments, it makes no commitment to EU Taxonomy alignment. Notwithstanding that investments are not taxonomy aligned, this does not mean that the investments held by the sub-fund are harmful to the environment or unsustainable.



#### What is the minimum share of socially sustainable investments?

The sub-fund does not commit to having a minimum share of socially sustainable investments, however, the Investment Adviser will look to improve the overall S score of the portfolio versus the benchmark, which includes social characteristics, human and workforce rights, management behaviour and corporate social responsibility when assessing an issuer.



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

The sub-fund may hold cash and cash equivalents and financial derivative instruments may also be used as set out above including for the purposes of efficient portfolio management. The sub-fund may also hold investments that are not aligned for other reasons such as corporate actions and non-availability of data.



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?

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?
 N/A

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

N/A

- How does the designated index differ from a relevant broad market index?
   N/A
- Where can the methodology used for the calculation of the designated index be found?

N/A



Where can I find more product specific information online? More product-specific information can be found on the website:

www.assetmanagement.hsbc.com