

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 include a list of socially sustainable economic activities. Sustainable investments with an environmental objective might be aligned with the Taxonomy or not. 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

#### Product name:

abrdn SICAV I - Diversified Income Fund

#### Legal entity identifier

549300XT276EOJ765R93

### **Environmental and/or social characteristics**

Does this financial product have a sustainable investment objective?

| •• | Yes  | • X No  |
|----|--|---|
|    | It will make a minimum of<br>sustainable investments<br>with an environmental<br>objective:              | It promotes Environmental/Social<br>(E/S) characteristics and while it<br>does not have as its objective a<br>sustainable investment, it will have a<br>minimum proportion of 0 % of<br>sustainable investments |
|    | in economic activities that<br>qualify as environmentally<br>sustainable under the EU<br>Taxonomy        | with an environmental objective in<br>economic activities that qualify as<br>environmentally sustainable under the<br>EU Taxonomy   |
|    | in economic activities that do<br>not qualify as environmentally<br>sustainable under the EU<br>Taxonomy | with an environmental objective in<br>economic activities that do not qualify<br>as environmentally sustainable under<br>the EU Taxonomy  |
|    |  | with a social objective   |
|    | It will make a minimum of<br>sustainable investments<br>with a social objective<br>_%                    | It promotes E/S characteristics, but will not make any sustainable investments  |



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

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

The Fund promotes environmental and social characteristics by aiming to invest in issuers that:

- Avoid severe, lasting or irremediable harm; and
- Appropriately address adverse impacts on the environment and society; and
- Support a decent standard of living for their stakeholders.

The Fund aims to promote environmental and social characteristics holistically. In doing so, we do not consider all characteristics for all investments, but rather focus on the most relevant characteristics for each investment based on the nature of its activities, areas of operation, and products and services. However, using our proprietary research framework we aim to promote the below characteristics within this Fund, however a broader suite of characteristics may also be promoted on an investment by investment basis:

Environment - promoting sound energy management and reducing greenhouse gas

emissions, promoting good water, waste and raw materials management and addressing biodiversity/ecological impacts.

**Social** – promoting good labour practices and relations, maximising employee health and safety, supporting diversity in the workforce, and healthy relationships with communities.

No benchmark is used for portfolio construction or as a basis for setting risk constraints in the management of the Fund or for attaining the abovementioned characteristics promoted by the Fund.

#### What Sustainability Indicators are used to measure the attainment of each of the environmental or social characteristics promoted by this financial product?

Our approach positively identifies companies which promote the above E&S characteristics, seeking to ensure that 70% of the portfolio is aligned with the E&S characteristics identified. We do this by tracking the below sustainability indicators which allow us to measure the attainment of the E&S characteristics the Fund is promoting.

#### Sustainability indicator – screening criteria

Pre investment, abrdn applies a number of norms and activity-based screens to ensure that severe, lasting or irremediable harm is avoided. Binary exclusions are applied to exclude the particular areas of investment of concern. Our exclusions are informed by the Principal Adverse Impact Indicators, but not limited to them. The criteria includes investments related to the UN Global Compact (PAI 10), Controversial Weapons (PAI 14), Tobacco Manufacturing and Thermal Coal, further detail can be reviewed per the Fund Investment Approach at www.abrdn.com under "Fund Centre".

#### Sustainability indicator – ESG assessment

As this is a multi-asset investment strategy, we invest in a number of ways and assess ESG performance using different approaches that are appropriate for that particular investment, these different approaches are detailed below and deployed as appropriate on an investment-by-investment basis. Importantly, and as per the Fund Investment Approach (available at www.abrdn.com under "Fund Centre"), we look to use the best ESG datasets available and as such, they may be subject to change over time.

#### Listed alternative investment companies

For every listed investment company in our portfolio, we produce a structured ESG research note. This analysis contributes to our broader investment view on the company. It also acts as a basis for ongoing engagement.

Given the lack of external data in relation to listed alternatives there are no external scores, nor data from external third parties we have developed our own internal proprietary approach.

- Corporate Governance
- Corporate Behaviour
- Climate Change
- Environment
- Labour Management
- Human Rights Stakeholders

We assign each ESG factor a score from 1 to 5 (1 indicates best in class and 5 indicates laggard) and our overall ESG Score for the company reflects a balance of the factors. In itself, the ESG score does not drive our investment decision, but a low score makes it far less likely that we would invest in the company. The weakest scoring companies (rated 5) are excluded.

#### Credit

Our credit analysts apply an ESG Risk Rating of Low, Medium, High to each issuer (low is better). This is credit profile-specific and represents how impactful they believe ESG risks are likely to be to the credit quality of the issuer now and in the future. The key area of focus is the materiality of the inherent environmental and social risks of the sector of operation and how specific companies manage these risks, combined with the quality and sustainability of its corporate governance. This materiality assessment is

combined with a judgement on the timeframe over which these ESG risks may have an impact. Our analysts utilise an ESG Risk Rating Framework to support making these assessments. This is a proprietary tool designed to help focus the knowledge and expertise of credit analysts in a systematic way to substantiate the overall ESG Risk Rating assigned to debt issuers.

Additionally, the team use our proprietary ESG House Scores (scored 0 - 100 with higher being better). The score is calculated by combining a variety of data inputs within a proprietary framework in which different ESG factors are weighted according to how material they are for each sector. This allows us to see how companies rank in a global context.

The Fund Investment Approach specifies that High ESG Risk Rated issues are not purchased, however there may be situations where bonds are downgraded to a High ESG Risk Rating and the Credit team will look for good opportunities to sell these. The Fund Investment Approach also excludes the bottom 5% of companies with the lowest ESG House Scores.

#### **Emerging Market Debt (EMD)**

For EMD, the team employ a proprietary ESGP framework – where 'P' are the political factors. This will produce a relative quantitative score for each country from 0-100 (higher is better), which is calculated by combining a variety of data inputs related to Environmental, Social, Governance and Political pillars. Following standardisation of data points and adjusting for GDP per capita, the overall ESGP score for each country is calculated as an equally weighted average of each pillar.

ESGP analysis is an integral part of the investment process, and the Fund commits to exclude the bottom 10% of countries within the ESGP framework.

In addition, for each country in the ESGP universe, a Direction of Travel (DoT) indicator is assigned based on our internal assessment of whether a country is on an improving or deteriorating ESG trend, with each country being assigned a Positive, Negative or Neutral DoT indicator. Where a country sits in the bottom 10% of the ESGP universe but is assigned a Positive DoT indicator, it is re-included in the permissible investment universe.

#### **Developed Market Government Bonds**

Within this Fund the approach for Developed Market government bonds results in the exclusion of holdings relating to countries that in abrdn's view present more intense ESG risks. On an annual basis countries are ranked according to ESG factors which are aligned with the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The Fund Investment Approach excludes countries in the bottom 25% of that ranking from our DM government bond allocation.

#### **Global REITs**

ESG research is undertaken by the Global REITs portfolio management team and supplemented on certain investments (generally where they are held widely across the firm) by the wider firm's ESG research. ESG assessment criteria will include ESG Quality Rating and ESG House Score. The former is a qualitative score assigned by the team for all companies under coverage and the latter is a quantitative score developed by our central ESG team calculated by combining a variety of data inputs and ESG factors weighted according to how material they are for each sector.

The Fund Investment Approach excludes the bottom 20% of companies from the index based on ESG House Score. The bottom 20% of companies will be removed across each of the three regions: (1) UK & Europe, (2) APAC Including Japan, (3) US & Canada. Additionally, companies rated 5 by the ESG Quality Rating will be excluded.

#### Listed equity – passive

The core of our listed equity exposure is a passive ESG enhanced equity strategy. The strategy targets global equity index returns in line with those of the MSCI AC World Index, with positive ESG tilts. This includes a portfolio ESG score of at least 110% of the index, a carbon footprint of 50% of the index and green revenues of 150% of the index. This strategy is managed by our Quantitative Investment team and has been developed in conjunction with our Sustainability Group.

The Fund Investment Approach includes a portfolio ESG score at least 110% of

benchmark (abrdn and MSCI), carbon footprint (abrdn definition of Scope 1 + 2) of 50% of benchmark and green revenues of 150% of benchmark (FTSE Green Revenue). This is measured at the point of every quarterly rebalance.

#### Listed equity – active

Our proprietary ESG House Score, developed by our central ESG team in collaboration with the Quantitative Investment team, is used to identify companies with potentially high or poorly managed ESG risks. The score is calculated by combining a variety of data inputs within a proprietary framework in which different ESG factors are weighted according to how material they are for each sector. This allows us to see how companies rank in a global context.

The abrdn ESG House Score was designed so that it can be broken down into specific themes and categories. The ESG score comprises of two scores – the governance score and operational score. This allows a quick view of a company's relative positioning on its management of ESG issues at a granular level.

- The governance score assesses the corporate governance structure and the quality and behaviour of corporate leadership and executive management.
- The operational score assesses the ability of the company's leadership team to implement effective environmental and social risk reduction and mitigation strategies in its operations.

As per the Fund Investment Approach, we will exclude at least the bottom 5% of companies with the lowest ESG House Score in the benchmark. If investing in a company that is not in the benchmark, the company must have an ESG House Score that is equal to or higher than the minimum acceptable score within the benchmark.

We also use our proprietary research framework to analyse the foundations of a business to ensure proper context for our investments. This includes the durability of its business model, the attractiveness of its industry, the strength of its financials and the sustainability of its economic moat. We also consider the quality of its management team and analyse the ESG opportunities and risks impacting the business and appraise how well these are managed. We assign a proprietary ESG Quality Rating of 1-5 (1 indicates best in class and 5 indicates laggard) to articulate the quality attributes of each company.

As per the Fund Investment Approach, we will exclude companies rated 5 by the ESG Quality Rating.

No benchmark is used at the fund level for portfolio construction or as a basis for setting risk constraints in the management of the Fund or for attaining the abovementioned characteristics promoted by the Fund.

## 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 objective of the sustainable investment is to make a contribution to solving an environmental or social challenge, in addition to not causing significant harm, and being well governed. Each sustainable investment may make a contribution to Environmental or Social issues. In fact, many companies will make a positive contribution to both. abrdn use the six environmental objectives of the Taxonomy to inform Environmental contributions, including: (1) climate change mitigation, (2) climate change adaptation, (3) sustainable use and protection of water and marine resources, (4) transition to a circular economy, (5) pollution prevention and control, and (6) protection and restoration of biodiversity and ecosystems. In addition, abrdn use the 17 Sustainable Development Goals and their sub-goals to supplement the EU Taxonomy topics and provide a framework for considering Social objectives

An economic activity must have a positive economic contribution to qualify as a Sustainable investment, this includes consideration of Environmental or Socially aligned revenues, Capex, Opex or sustainable operations. abrdn seek to establish or estimate the share of the investee company's economic activities/contribution towards a sustainable objective and it is this element that is weighted and counted towards the Sub-fund's total aggregated proportion of Sustainable Investments.

abrdn uses a combination of the following approaches: i. a quantitative methodology based on a combination of publicly available data sources; and 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.

ii. using abrdn's own insight and engagement outcomes abrdn overlay the quantitative methodology with a qualitative assessment to calculate an overall percentage of economic contribution towards a sustainable objective for each holding in a Fund.

# 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?

As required by the SFDR Delegated Regulation, the investment does not cause Significant Harm ("Do No Significant Harm"/ "DNSH") to any of the sustainable investment objectives.

abrdn have created a 3-step process to ensure consideration of DNSH:

#### i. Sector Exclusions

abrdn have identified a number of sectors which automatically do not qualify for inclusion as a Sustainable Investment as they are considered to be causing significant harm. These include but are not limited to: (1) Defence, (2) Coal, (3) Oil & Gas Exploration, Production and associated activities, (4) tobacco, (5) gambling and (6) alcohol.

#### ii. DNSH Binary Test

The DNSH test, is a binary pass/fail test which signals if the company passes or fails criteria for the SFDR Article 2 (17) "do no significant harm".

Pass indicates under abrdn's methodology the company has no ties to controversial weapons, less than 1% of revenue from thermal coal, less than 5% of revenue from tobacco related activities, is not a tobacco producer, and has no red/severe ESG Controversies. If the company fails this test, it cannot be considered a Sustainable Investment. Abrdn's approach is aligned with the SFDR PAIs included within tables 1, 2 & 3 of the SFDR Delegated Regulation and is based on external data sources and abrdn internal insights.

#### iii. DNSH Materiality Flag

Using a number of additional screens and flags, abrdn consider the additional SFDR PAI's indicators as defined by the SFDR Delegated Regulation to identify areas for improvement or potential future concern. These indicators are not considered to cause significant harm and therefore a company with active DNSH materiality flags may still be considered to be a Sustainable Investment. abrdn aim to enhance the engagement activities to focus on these areas and seek to deliver better outcomes by resolving the issue.

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

The Fund considers Principal Adverse Impact Indicators defined by the SFDR Delegated Regulation.

**Pre investment**, abrdn applies a number of norms and activity-based screens related to PAIs, including but not limited to: UN Global Compact (UNGC), controversial weapons, and thermal coal extraction.

**UNGC**: The Fund uses norms-based screens and controversy filters to exclude companies that may be in breach of international norms described in the OECD guidelines for multinational enterprises and the UN guiding principles on business and human rights, as well as state owned entities in countries which violate norms.

**Controversial Weapons**: The Fund excludes companies with business activities related to controversial weapons (cluster munitions, anti-personnel landmines, nuclear weapons, chemical and biological weapons, white phosphorus, non-detectable fragments, incendiary devices, depleted uranium ammunition or blinding lasers).

**Thermal Coal Extraction**: The Fund excludes companies with exposure to the fossil fuels sector based on percentage of revenue from thermal coal extraction.

abrdn apply a fund specific set of company exclusions, more detail on these and the overall process is captured within the Investment Approach, which is published at **www.abrdn.com** under **"Fund Centre"**.

#### Post-investment the following PAI indicators are considered:

- abrdn monitors all mandatory and additional PAI indicators via our ESG integration investment process using a combination of our proprietary house score and 3rd party data feeds. PAI indicators that either fail a specific binary test or are considered above typical are flagged for review and may be selected for company engagement.
- Consideration of portfolio carbon intensity and GHG emissions via our Climate tools and risk analysis.
- Governance indicators via our proprietary governance scores and risk framework, including consideration of sound management structures, employee relations, remuneration of staff and tax compliance.
- On a regular basis the investment universe is scanned for companies that may be in breach of international norms described in the OECD guidelines for multinational enterprises and the UN guiding principles on business and human rights, as well as state owned entities in countries which violate norms.

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

The Fund uses norms-based screens and controversy filters to exclude companies that may be in breach of international norms described in the OECD guidelines for multinational enterprises and the UN guiding principles on business and human rights.

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, this Fund considers Principal Adverse Impacts (PAI) on sustainability factors.

Yes, the Fund commits to consider the following PAIs in its investment process, this means that there is pre- and post-trade monitoring is in place and that every investment for the Fund is assessed on these factors to determine its appropriateness for the Fund.

PAI 1: GHG emissions (scope 1 and 2)

PAI 10: Violations of the UN Global Compact principles and Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises

PAI 14: Exposure to controversial weapons (anti-personnel mines, cluster munitions, chemical weapons and biological weapons)

Adverse impacts monitoring

Pre investment, abrdn applies a number of norms and activity-based screens related to the above PAIs, including but not limited to:

UNGC: The Fund uses norms-based screens and controversy filters to exclude companies that may be in breach of international norms described in the OECD guidelines for multinational enterprises and the UN guiding principles on business and human rights, as well as state owned entities in countries which violate norms.

Controversial Weapons: The Fund excludes companies with business activities related to controversial weapons (cluster munitions, anti-personnel landmines, nuclear weapons, chemical and biological weapons, white phosphorus, non-detectable fragments, incendiary devices, depleted uranium ammunition or blinding lasers).

Thermal Coal Extraction: The Fund excludes companies with exposure to the fossil fuels sector based on percentage of revenue from thermal coal extraction.

abrdn apply a fund specific set of company exclusions, more detail on these and the overall process is captured within the Investment Approach, which is published at **www.abrdn.com** under "**Fund Centre**".

### Post-investment the above PAI indicators are monitored in the following way:

Company carbon intensity and GHG emissions is monitored via our Climate tools and risk analysis.

On a regular basis the investment universe is scanned for companies that may be in breach of international norms described in the OECD guidelines for multinational enterprises and the UN guiding principles on business and human rights.

### Post-investment we also undertake the following activities in relation to additional PAI's:

Dependent on data availability, quality and relevance to the investments the consideration of additional PAI indicators will be on a case-by- case basis. abrdn monitors PAI indicators via our ESG integration investment process using

a combination of our proprietary house score and 3rd party data feeds.

Governance indicators are monitored via our proprietary governance scores and risk framework, including consideration of sound management structures, and remuneration.

#### Adverse impact mitigation

PAI indicators that fail a defined pre-investment screen are excluded from the investment universe and can not be held by the Fund.

PAI indicators that are monitored post investment which fail a specific binary test or are considered above typical are flagged for review and may be selected for company engagement. These adverse indicators may be used as a tool for engagement, for example where there is no policy in place and this would be beneficial abrdn may engage with the issuer or company to develop one, or where carbon emissions are considered to be high, abrdn may engage to seek the creation of a long-term target and reduction plan.

No



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

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

As part of our investment process, we analyse the risks and opportunities, including those influenced by ESG factors. In the Diversified Assets team our focus is on providing genuine diversification. We do this by identifying and capturing the best long-term opportunities across a broad range of asset classes.

We believe a one-size-fits-all approach does not adequately capture all risks and opportunities. Our tailored approach considers ESG factors within asset classes as well as in the asset allocation process. It is supported by our centralised Sustainability Group.

On a top-down basis, we integrate ESG by incorporating climate scenario analysis within our strategic asset allocation when considering long term expected returns. On a bottom-up basis we tailor for different areas within our portfolio. These areas can broadly be broken down into our allocations to listed alternatives, internal capabilities, and external funds.

For every listed investment company in our portfolio, we produce a structured ESG research note. This analysis contributes to our broader investment view on the company. It also acts as a basis for ongoing engagement.

For the other parts of our portfolio, we take advantage of internal ESG capabilities across different investment teams. This way there is a tailored approach for the different areas and asset classes of our portfolio.

Our ESG process for external funds is centred around understanding, for each manager, their ESG policies and procedures. Assessing whether they are appropriate and aligned with our expectations.

#### 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 strategy include:

- 1. A commitment to hold a minimum of 70% of the assets aligned with E/S characteristics and within these assets, the Fund commits to hold a minimum of 10% of those assets that meet abrdn's methodology for determining Sustainable Investments.
- 2. A commitment to apply binary exclusions to exclude the particular areas of investment related to the UN Global Compact, Controversial Weapons, Tobacco Manufacturing and Thermal Coal.
- 3. A commitment to exclude the exclude the ESG laggards as identified via the relevant ESG assessment criteria deployed for that investment.

These elements apply in a binding manner and on an ongoing basis. If the Fund falls behind in these commitments it will normally be corrected within a month, but up to 3 months is permitted to allow for market movements.

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

Whilst the Fund does not commit to a minimum reduction in universe, it applies a set of company exclusions, which are related to the UN Global Compact, Controversial Weapons, Nuclear Weapons, Tobacco Production and Thermal Coal. These screening criteria apply in a binding manner and on an ongoing basis. If the Fund falls behind in these commitments it will normally be corrected within a month, but up to 3 months is permitted to allow for market movements.

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

For this Fund, the investee company needs to follow good governance practices in particular with respect to sound management structures, employee relations, remuneration of staff and tax compliance. This can be demonstrated by the monitoring of

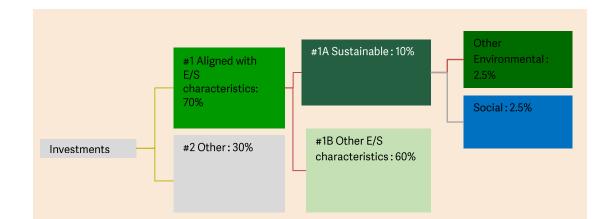
**Good governance** practices include sound management structures, employee relations, remuneration of staff and tax compliance. certain PAI indicators, for example controversies and diversity. In addition, by using abrdn's proprietary ESG scores within the investment process abrdn screen out any investments with low governance scores. Our governance scores assess a company's corporate governance and management structure (including remuneration of staff policies) and the quality and behaviour of its leadership and management. A low score will typically by given where there are concerns in relation to financially materially controversies, poor tax compliance or governance concerns, or poor treatment of employees or minority shareholders.

The investment must further be aligned with OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises and the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human rights. Breaches and violations of these international norms are flagged by an event-driven controversy and are captured in the investment process.

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

A minimum of 70% of the Fund's assets are aligned with E/S characteristics. Environmental and social safeguards are met by applying the binding ESG commitments to these underlying assets. Within these assets, the Fund commits to a minimum of 10% in Sustainable Investments.

The Fund invests a maximum of 30% of assets in the "Other" category, which can include cash, money market instruments and derivatives.



**#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 investments 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.

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

The Fund will not use derivatives to attain any environmental or social characteristics.



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

The Fund has not set a minimum proportion of investments in Taxonomy aligned economic activities. This graph represents 100% of the total investment.



Asset allocation describes the share of investments in specific assets.

Taxonomy-aligned activities are expressed as a share of: - **turnover** reflecting the share of revenue from green activities of investee companies

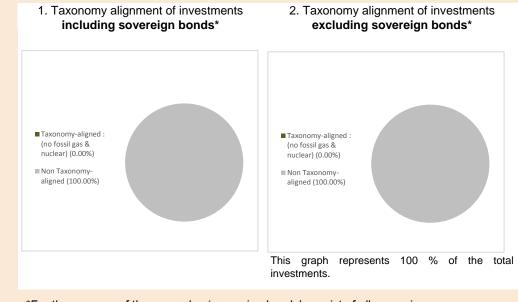
#### - capital expenditure

(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. Does the financial product invest in fossil gas and/or nuclear energy related activities that comply with the EU Taxonomy ?<sup>1</sup>



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<sup>\*</sup>, 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.



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

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> 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 objectives - 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.

Enabling activities directly enable other activities to make a substantial contribution to an environmental objective. Transitional activities are activities for which lowcarbon alternatives are not yet available and among others have greenhouse gas emission levels corresponding to the best performance.



#### are sustainable investments with an environmental objective that **do not take into account the criteria** for environmentally sustainable economic activities under the EU Taxonomy.



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

Not applicable.

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

The Fund commits to a minimum of 70% in securities with environment and social characteristics and a minimum of 10% to sustainable investments which are inclusive of both environmental and social objectives that aren't explicitly taxonomy aligned. The minimum share of sustainable investments with an environmental objective that are not aligned with the EU Taxonomy is 2.5%.

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

The Fund commits to a minimum of 70% in securities with environment and social characteristics and a minimum of 10% to sustainable investments which are inclusive of both environmental and social objectives that aren't explicitly taxonomy aligned. The minimum share of sustainable investments with a social objective is 2.5%.



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

The investments under "other" can include cash, money market instruments & derivatives. The purpose of these assets are to meet liquidity, target return or manage risk and may not contribute to the environmental or social aspects of the Fund.

Additionally, for assets where no definitive breach of compliance with our exclusionary screens is known/identified nor considered likely, but where it is not possible with a high degree of certainty to discern compliance then those assets will not be considered as contributing to E&S characteristics.

Full transparency on private equity is not always possible. E.g. A private equity vehicle with a large portfolio, where the top 600 holdings amount to 80% of the portfolio and there is a very long tail which they don't have full visibility on. However, to the extent data is available, exclusionary attestations would be sought both upon initial investment and on an on-going basis.

Exposure to sectors can sometimes be difficult to calculate for certain types of asset backed securities. Calculating exposure in collateralised loan obligations can sometimes mean relying on issuers completing voluntary ESG questionnaires. Whilst we endeavour to collate as much information as possible, not all issuers elect to complete these voluntary questionnaires and of those completed, not all questions are necessarily answered.

By tailoring our ESG processes for different allocation types and asset classes we aim to capture ESG risks and opportunities as comprehensively as possible.



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

- 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 :

Fund specific documentation, including Sustainability Related Disclosures, are published at **www.abrdn.com** under **Fund Centre**.