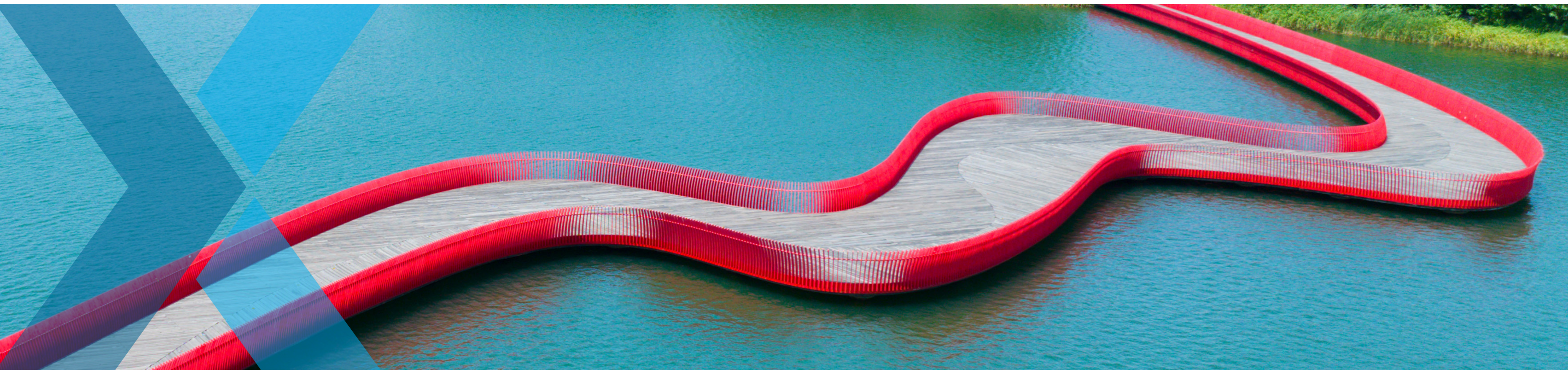
IMPAX Asset Management

Connection

Fall 2025 | A Newsletter for Sustainable Investors



2025 Stewardship and Advocacy Summary

At Impax, we believe that the material sustainability-related risks impacting our investments can be achieved through focused, well-structured stewardship and advocacy activities.

Our levers for accelerating change and addressing risks within the real economy range from company-specific engagements to policy advocacy initiatives aimed at addressing systemic risks.

Leveraging expertise to navigate the transition to a more sustainable economy

Stewardship and advocacy are twin levers that we can pull, as investors, to help companies and issuers navigate the risks and opportunities arising from the transition to a more sustainable economy. We draw on a broad stewardship and advocacy toolkit developed over more than two decades from individual company outreach to shaping regulatory frameworks – and tailor our approach to the issue at hand and the outcomes being targeted.

We can escalate our activity and, where obstacles prove hard to overcome, different levers can be pulled.

The combination of company engagement and policy advocacy, which we refer to as systematic stewardship, can help accelerate progress in areas that have proven historically challenging and which pose systemic risks. Our activities typically span over several years, reflecting the long-term nature of the challenges we are focused on.

Our commitment to engaging on material risks

Stewardship activities are firmly integrated within Impax investment processes. The vast majority of engagement dialogues undertaken with companies in 2024 were conducted together by members of the investment team and the Sustainability Centre, our in-house team of experts that provides knowledge, tools and analysis on sustainability related issues.

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General Fund Information:

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Shareholder Account Information:

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Priority themes for stewardship and advocacy

Each year we assess and outline the priorities of our activities for the next 12 months. These priorities are based on market developments and emerging sustainability-related issues that are relevant and material to our companies and issuers.

Engagement dialogues by theme in 2024

Climate **25%**

- Net-zero transition planning
- Increasing resilience to physical climate risks

Nature **12%**

- Nature-related dependencies and impacts
- Tackling deforestation risks

People **33%**

- Corporate culture
- Human rights

Governance **30%**

- Board structure and independence
- Executive compensation
- Oversight of sustainability-related risks

It is important to note that many individual engagement dialogues with investee companies in 2024 covered more than one theme.

Engagement is fully integrated in our investment process, for both listed equities and fixed income, to mitigate risk and to enhance value and investment opportunities

How we engage

Bottom-up company- and issuer-specific, as part of monitoring and managing risks.

Top-down based on market developments and sustainability issues material to our companies and issuers.

Proxy voting both before and after companies' annual meetings.

Systematic engagement combining policy advocacy with company-specific engagement.

Policy advocacy on priority themes bilaterally and via industry groups.

Why we engage

Engagement can help us to:

- **Manage risks** by proactively identifying and mitigating issues.
- **Gain insight** on a company or issuer's character, quality and resilience.
- **Enhance value** over time by improving quality, processes, transparency and resilience.

In recent years, we have broadened our use of systematic stewardship, where we combine company engagement, working with clients and peers, and policy advocacy in order to address challenging systemic risks by driving systems-level change.

Outreach activities and engagement dialogues

For our bottom-up, company specific engagements, the objective is typically to solve or improve an issue that has been identified as part of our Corporate Resilience[1] analysis and when that objective has been achieved, move to the next objective or pause the engagement.

Proxy voting is a key component in the ongoing dialogue with investee companies

Our voting decisions – which are coordinated, researched and executed by the Impax Sustainability Centre – follow our publicly disclosed Proxy Voting Guidelines, which are informed by global governance best practices and are updated annually.[2] Our approach to shareholder proposals has been consistently recognised.[3]

Outreach

Targeted contact with a company on a specific sustainability issue. Outreach can be an effective means of raising awareness of Impax's perspective or expectations concerning a particular issue with a group of companies (a one-way communication). Outreach may also be used as a first step in establishing a dialogue with a company.

188 **companies with whom we initiated outreach in 2024**

Dialogues

Discussion with, or response from, a company either by email or by meeting/call on a specific or range of sustainability-related issues.

147 **engagement dialogues undertaken in 2024 (with 120 companies[5])**

46% **progress against objectives**

7% **objectives achieved**

Proxy voting summary for 2024

We are committed to ensuring the consistent and transparent exercise of voting rights associated with shares we hold, where proxy voting has been delegated to Impax.

771[4] **meetings where Impax voted (99.7% of possible total)**

8.4% **management resolutions which Impax voted against**

62.5% **shareholder resolutions which Impax supported**

1 Corporate Resilience analysis is our proprietary approach to considering governance structures, the management of material environmental and social risks, climate risks (physical and transition), human capital management, and controversies, as part of the investment process.
2 Impax Asset Management, 2025: Proxy Voting Guidelines. https://impaxam.com/assets/pdfs/proxy-voting/proxy_voting_guidelines.pdf
3 Impax was ranked second in ShareAction's Voting Matters Report in 2023 for consistently voting in key environmental and social shareholder proposals, following top rankings in 2022, 2021 and 2020. Impax was not included for consideration in ShareAction's most recent (2024) report following changes to its methodology for selecting asset managers based on their size and geography.
4 Impax identified an issue with our proxy voting workflow on our proxy voting service platform in Q2 2024 that resulted in two unvoted meetings. This issue has been resolved and enhanced controls were implemented by the proxy voting service provider.
5 In 24% of engagements undertaken with companies, the primary objective focused on communicating our view or ask, such as sharing our proxy voting guidelines, or where companies reached out directly to us for our feedback on sustainability disclosures, governance structures (particularly in advance of annual meetings) or materiality assessments. While we acknowledge that these types of engagements can be more introductory in nature, they are key for relationship building and longer-term engagement and may inform the development of further objectives.

Shareholder Corner: Keep your account active and prevent asset transfer

Escheatment and unclaimed property laws allow your state to act as a custodian for lost or abandoned assets until the rightful owner—or their heirs—claims them. These laws require mutual funds to turn over uncashed checks or account shares if the account holder cannot be located or hasn't made contact within a period defined by each state—typically between two and five years.

Before any assets are transferred, mutual funds must make reasonable efforts to contact account holders. Once assets are turned over to the state, the owner must work directly with the state to reclaim them.

How to Keep Your Account Active

Preventing escheatment is simple. You can keep your account active by:

- **Checking your balance**
- **Updating your contact information**
- **Placing a trade**

These actions can be done online or by calling Investor Services.

If your account becomes inactive and is at risk of escheatment, Impax Funds will send you a letter with step-by-step instructions on how to maintain your account and prevent the transfer of your assets.

Stay Connected

To ensure you receive important notifications—including escheatment alerts—please log in to your account at **impaxam.com/account** or call Investor Services at **800.372.7827** to review and update your:

- **Mailing address**
- **Email address**
- **Phone number**

Learn More

For more details on how escheatment works and how to reclaim assets that may have been turned over to your state, visit the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) website at **sec.gov/answers/escheat.htm**.

Nothing presented herein is intended to constitute investment advice and no investment decision should be made solely based on this information. Information presented herein reflects Impax Asset Management's views at a particular time. Such views are subject to change at any point. Any forward-looking statements or forecasts are based on assumptions and actual results are expected to vary. While Impax Asset Management has used reasonable efforts to obtain information from reliable sources, we make no representations or warranties as to the accuracy, reliability or completeness of third-party information presented herein. No guarantee of investment performance is being provided and no inference to the contrary should be made.

You should always consider Impax Funds' investment objectives, risks, and charges and expenses carefully before investing. For this and other important information, please obtain a Fund prospectus by calling 800.767.1729 or visiting www.impaxam.com. Please read the prospectus carefully before investing.

An investment in Impax Funds involves risk, including loss of principal. Past performance does not guarantee future results.

Management Risk – The investment techniques and decisions of the investment adviser and the Fund's portfolio manager(s), including the investment adviser's assessment of a company's ESG (Environmental, Social and Governance) profile when selecting investments for the Fund, may not produce the desired results and may adversely impact the Fund's performance, including relative to other Funds that do not consider ESG factors or come to different conclusions regarding such factors.

ESG criteria are a set of standards for a company's operations that sustainable investors use to screen potential investments. Environmental criteria consider how a company performs as a steward of nature. Social criteria examine how it manages relationships with employees, suppliers, customers, and the communities where it operates. Governance deals with a company's leadership, executive pay, audits, internal controls, and shareholder rights.

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