

Data in this report relates to the period 1 January 2023 – 31 December 2023

# Impax Global Environmental Markets Fund

2024 Sustainability Report: Beyond Financial Returns - Q3 2024



# Introduction

This is the third year Impax has provided portfolio specific sustainability reporting for our clients. While we will continue to enhance disclosure and introduce new metrics, our primary goal remains to offer clients a comprehensive overview of the sustainability profile of their investments.

We have found through the years that clients want to understand not just their portfolio's impact on the environment and society, but also Impax's impact on their portfolio, the environment and society. This report has been developed to provide our investors with a view into how we think about sustainability at Impax – holistically across both risks and opportunities and using the levers we have as investors. This includes how we identify the investment universe of our strategies, how we conduct research on and select securities, how we construct portfolios and engage with companies and policy makers – each step has intentionality and outcomes which we hope to bring to life in our reporting.

In addition to portfolio level reporting provided within, we report on Climate, Stewardship & Advocacy and Impact each year at the firm level. These reports dive deeper on each topic and showcase our commitment to transparency and to continually raising the bar on disclosure to our investors and the industry.

# Alignment with the transition to a more sustainable economy

The investment strategies at Impax are designed with the objective of generating strong risk-adjusted investment returns by allocating capital towards those companies that are well-positioned as the global economy transitions to a more sustainable model. Through proprietary tools and taxonomies, Impax seeks to identify and invest in higher quality companies with strong business models that demonstrate sound management of risk.

The table below displays the portfolio's alignment to the transition to a more sustainable economy, defined as its revenue exposure to the themes or areas of the market which we believe are well positioned to benefit from this transition.

| Impax Global Environmental Markets Fund  | Minimum | Actual<br>(as of 12/31/2023) |
|--|---------|------------------------------|
| Thematic revenue exposure (weighted average)   | Min 20% | 52.44%                       |
| Impax's <b>environmental markets taxonomy<sup>1</sup></b> , established in 1998,<br>is used to identify companies that we believe benefit from the<br>long-term trends of rising global populations and wealth, changing<br>demographics, urbanization and increasing consumption. This<br>proprietary taxonomy continues to underpin Impax's Thematic<br>Equities strategies. |         |                              |

# **Climate transition risks and opportunities**

Climate-related risk assessment is integrated into the investment process for all of Impax's assets under management, across all asset classes, using proprietary tools and analysis. The table below reflects both absolute and intensity-based metrics for the financed greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions of the portfolio.

### **Financed GHG emissions**

| 2023 metrics (as of 12/31/2023)  | Per US\$1.0mn<br>invested | Total Portfolio<br>(US\$2.4bn) |
|--|---------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Scope 1 & 2 GHG emissions (tCO <sub>2</sub> e)                                   | 86                        | 211,760                        |
| Scope 3 GHG emissions (tCO <sub>2</sub> e)                                       | 191                       | 467,570                        |
| Total GHG Emissions (Scope 1. 2 & 3. (tCO <sub>2</sub> e))                       | 277                       | 679,330                        |
| Portfolio Weighted Average Carbon Intensity (WACI) <sup>1</sup> (Scope 1, 2 & 3) | 605                       | -                              |
| Benchmark Weighted Average Carbon Intensity $^2$ (WACI) (Scope 1, 2 & 3)         | 786                       | -                              |

### Avoided GHG emissions and climate solutions exposure

Measuring the avoided GHG emissions associated with the products and services of companies held within the portfolio helps demonstrate their contribution to the transition to a lower-carbon economy.

Additionally, as a specialist investor in the transition to a more sustainable economy, managing climate-related risks and identifying climate-related opportunities is at the core of what we do. Many of our strategies have exposure to companies whose products and services address the drivers of climate change and help increase resilience to the impacts that arise from a warming climate.

| 2023 metrics (as of 12/31/2023)                                     | Per US\$1.0mn<br>invested | Total portfolio<br>(US\$2.4bn) |
|---|---------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Avoided GHG Emissions (tCO2e)                                       | 169                       | 414,100                        |
| Weighted average revenue exposure to climate solutions <sup>3</sup> | -                         | 45.50%                         |

### Net Zero Alignment<sup>4</sup>

As a signatory of the Net Zero Asset Managers ("NZAM") initiative, Impax supports the goal of net-zero GHG emissions by 2050 or sooner, in line with global efforts to limit warming to 1.5 °C. As part of that initiative, Impax has adopted a target that 100% of its assets covered by the NZAM commitment – being all actively managed listed equities and private markets investments – will be "transition aligned" or "transition aligning" by 2030. We project that at least 50% of committed AUM will be classified as aligned by 2030. Impax's group-level net-zero targets cascade to, and are monitored at, the portfolio level.

Impax also commits to reporting annually on the percentage of our investments in climate solutions and the avoided GHG emissions associated with those investments at the firm level.



There can be no assurance that impact results in the future will be comparable to the results presented herein. Source: Impax Asset Management. Based on most recently reported annual environmental data for holdings and assets under management as of 12/31/2023. Impax's impact methodology is based on equity value. Refer to the Methodology section at the back of the report for further details on methodology and summarized data that was available and estimated for companies in the portfolio. <sup>1</sup>For more information on how he WACI is calculated, see methodology page towards the end of this document. <sup>2</sup>Benchmark used is MSCI ACWI. <sup>3</sup>Climate solutions exposure: To be classified as 'climate solutions' under Impax's proprietary Climate Opportunities taxonomy, companies must have a demonstrable exposure to products and services enabling mitigation of climate change or adaptation to its consequences. More details on the Impax Climate Taxonomy can be found in the appendix. <sup>4</sup>Please see here for more details on Impax's net zero commitment: https://www.netzeroassetmanagers.org/signatories/impax-assetmanagement/. Figures may not add to 100% due to cash. Our net zero methodology is based on the PAII Net-Zero Investment Framework ("NZIF") Net Zero Investment Framework – Paris Aligned Asset Owners. Data as of 12/31/2023.

# **Environmental benefits**

### This Impax portfolio invests globally in companies that are developing innovative solutions to environmental challenges

The world's environmental challenges extend beyond the dangers posed by climate change. Pressure is mounting to also tackle other systemic issues including water pollution and waste created by unsustainable economic processes. Impax's thematic strategies invest in companies that deliver environmental solutions beyond avoiding GHG emissions. The products and services of the portfolio companies are designed to deliver positive water and materials recovery impacts that we quantify - metrics we have been reporting on since 2015. We report on the water treated, saved or provided, and the materials recovered and waste treated through portfolio companies' activities for Impax's environmental thematic strategies.

Water impact is typically delivered by holdings in water utilities and water technology companies. Recycling and waste management companies are typically major contributors to portfolios' materials recovered and waste treated impact figures. We also report the total renewable electricity generated by each strategy's portfolio companies as an indicator of their contribution to the clean energy transition. By generating renewable electricity, demand for fossil fuel-fired generating capacity can be reduced, thereby lowering GHG emissions in markets where companies operate and delivering progress towards national net-zero targets.

To provide real-world context, we include equivalencies for each of these four environmental impact metrics.

|     |                                      | Per US\$1.0mn invested           | Equivalent to  | Total Portfolio<br>(US\$2.4bn)       | Equivalent to  |
|-----|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|--|
|     | Avoided GHG<br>Emissions             | <b>169</b><br>tC0 <sub>2</sub> e | <b>37</b><br>cars off the road <sup>1</sup>                        | <b>414,100</b><br>tCO <sub>2</sub> e | <b>90,020</b><br>cars off the road <sup>1</sup>                        |
|     | Water provided/<br>saved/treated     | <b>15</b><br>million gallons     | <b>140</b><br>households' water<br>consumption <sup>2</sup>        | <b>37,400</b> million gallons        | <b>341,400</b><br>households' water<br>consumption <sup>2</sup>        |
| H H | Renewable energy<br>generated        | <b>24</b><br>MWh                 | <b>2</b><br>households'<br>electricity<br>consumption <sup>3</sup> | <b>58,880</b><br><sup>MWh</sup>      | <b>5,460</b><br>households'<br>electricity<br>consumption <sup>3</sup> |
|     | Material recovered/<br>waste treated | <b>122</b><br>US tonnes          | 54<br>households' waste<br>consumption <sup>4</sup>                | <b>299,300</b><br>US tonnes          | <b>133,100</b><br>households' waste<br>consumption <sup>4</sup>        |

<sup>3</sup>Average annual US household electricity usage of 10.8 MWh. Source: US Energy Information Agency, 2022. Average annual household waste generation (kg): 2.2226 kg. National Overview: Facts and Figures on Materials, Wastes and Recycling | US EPA. <sup>4</sup>The total generation of municipal solid waste (MSW) in 2018 was 292.4 million tons (U.S. short tons, unless specified) or 4.9 pounds per person

per day. - last updated November 2023. Please refer to Impact methodology page for more details on our impact reporting.

There can be no assurance that results in the future will be comparable to the results presented herein. Source: Impax Asset Management. Impact of US\$1mn invested in the strategy, and the entire portfolio for one year. Based on most recently reported annual environmental data for holdings in the strategy as of 12/31/2023. Impax's impact methodology is based on equity value. <sup>1</sup>Figures based on average annual emissions of a car (tCO<sub>2</sub>e): 4.6 tCO<sub>2</sub> (2018 remains the most current figure from EPA - still the case in May

<sup>2024)</sup> 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Average annual US household water usage of 414,502 litres. Source: Impax calculations, based on water usage data from the US Environmental Protection Agency (2023), the US Geological Survey (2023) and The World Counts (2023).

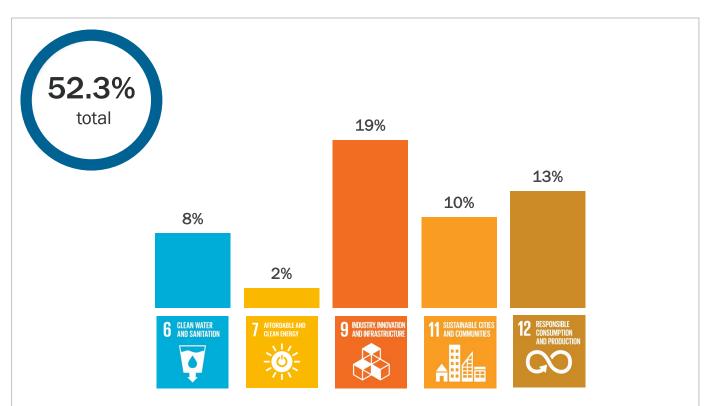
# **UN Sustainable Development Goals alignment**

The UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) encompass 17 sets of targets to be met by the world's economies by 2030. The SDGs have been increasingly adopted by investors as a framework for evaluating funds' alignment to critical and often unmet activities necessary for a sustainable economy.

The nature of Impax's investment philosophy results in meaningful exposure to the SDGs as a consequence of the investment process, which is focused on investments enabling and benefiting from the transition to a more sustainable economy. The chart below summarizes portfolio company exposure to the UN SDGs for the portfolio, as at the end of 2023.

Impax's investment process does not analyze alignment with SDGs as an investment objective or component of portfolio construction. Instead, we use the SDG framework to understand which portfolio companies are involved in activities that contribute towards addressing these critical global challenges, as a mapping and reporting exercise. We evaluate alignment with this framework by identifying the proportion of portfolio companies' activities, measured in revenue percentages, that contribute to the achievement of the SDGs.

We focus on those SDGs where the underlying targets are relevant to private sector investment opportunities, rather than government-driven activities, such as public funding or policy or regulatory action. For example, we ascertain that our portfolio companies – even those held within the Climate strategy – have very little exposure to SDG 13, climate action. While this may seem counterintuitive given our focus on the transition to a more sustainable economy, this is because we consider most of the Goal's sub-targets to be aimed at, and implemented by, governments. Similarly, we do not have exposure to e.g. SDG17, Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions, responsibilities of governments. On the other hand, the sub-targets of e.g. SDG9, Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure, are implemented by private sector actors.



Source: Data as of 12/31/2023. The UN SDGs encompass 17 goals. For further information, please visit

http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/sustainable-development-goals. Figures above are based on Impax internal data. Mapping to representative account in the composite that we believe most closely reflects the current portfolio management style. Performance is not a consideration in the selection of the representative account. Total revenue exposure may not equal the aggregate of individual SDG amounts due to rounding. The characteristics of the representative account shown may differ from those of other accounts in the strategy. Impax's investment process does not identify alignment with SDGs as a specific objective. Instead, the nature of Impax's investment philosophy results in some meaningful revenue exposure within the Environmental Markets strategies and Sustainability Lens strategies, based on investee companies' eligible activities. Refer to the Methodology section at the back of the report for further details on methodology and summarized data that was available and estimated for companies in the portfolio.



# **Stewardship and advocacy**

As an investor focused on the transition to a more sustainable economy, stewardship and advocacy are the twin levers that we can pull to help our investee companies navigate risks and opportunities and to influence change in the real economy.

2023 marked an important milestone in the coordination of our stewardship and advocacy activities as our expanding Sustainability & Stewardship and Policy Advocacy teams combined to form the Impax Sustainability Centre. This center of excellence enables us to be more effective stewards of our clients' investments and to better shape the market for an accelerated transition to a more sustainable economy. It also positions us to navigate the rapidly expanding range and depth of sustainability-related issues, and to meet the growing expectations of clients, regulators and other stakeholders.

Our stewardship and advocacy activities are focused on four overarching themes – Climate, Nature, People and Governance – around which we structure this part of this report.

### Engagement

The Impax investment process is focused on a comprehensive understanding of the character and quality of our investee companies and issuers. Engagement is used both to mitigate risk and to enhance value and investment opportunities. Engagement can help us to:

- Manage risks by proactively identifying, monitoring and mitigating issues
- Enhance company analysis how companies respond to engagement is informative of their character
- Strengthen investee companies over time; improving quality, processes, transparency and resilience

### Impax Global Environmental Markets Fund engagement metrics

### Outreach

Targeted contact with a company on a specific sustainability issue. Outreach can be an effective means of sharing our perspective or expectations concerning a particular issue 26

Companies with whom we initiated outreach in 2023

# DialoguesA discussion with, or response from, a company either<br/>by email or by meeting/call on a specific or range of<br/>sustainability-related issues300 Individual<br/>companies<br/>engagedImage: Climate<br/>2196<br/>Climate<br/>2196<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Climate<br/>Cl

Source: Impax Asset Management. Data as of 12/31/2023. The data in the table will not add to 100%. The breakdown of engagement dialogue themes is calculated as a percentage of the total number of dialogues.

# **Proxy voting**

Proxy voting is a key component in the ongoing dialogue with companies we invest in. Through voting on management and shareholder proposals, we aim to enhance the long-term value of our shareholdings, foster clear corporate governance best practices and promote greater accountability and transparency in our investee companies. 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. Our voting decisions follow our publicly disclosed Proxy Voting Guidelines, which are informed by global governance best practices and are updated annually.<sup>1</sup>



### Impax Global Environmental Markets Fund proxy voting

Proxy voting summary for 2023 51

meetings where Impax voted (100% of possible total) 5%

management resolutions which Impax voted against



shareholder resolutions which Impax supported

<sup>1</sup>Impax Asset Management, January 2024: Proxy Voting Guidelines. <sup>2</sup>At the meeting level, we voted 100% of meetings in 2023. However, proxy votes representing the Impax Ireland Funds plc UCITS fund range were not executed at any shareholder meetings between August 2023 and January 2024 due to an issue with the submission and receipt of ballots between Impax, the Impax Ireland Funds plc UCITS funds' custodian and our proxy voting service provider. This issue has been resolved and an enhanced control framework is being implemented.



# Systematic engagement

We believe that significant, positive real-world impact can be achieved through focused, well-structured stewardship and advocacy efforts. As an active shareholder with a long-term investment horizon, we believe it is in the interests of our clients that we proactively engage with a wide spectrum of stakeholders – including investee companies and regulators – in an effort to minimize risks, and to protect and enhance value for shareholders.

### Physical climate risks and adaptation

A growing body of research demonstrates the financial materiality of climate risks.<sup>1</sup>Yet few companies disclose the geo-locations of strategic physical assets that might face climate risks, nor those in their supply chains. This means that physical climate risks cannot be reliably anticipated by investors and financial markets. Also, few companies disclose their own estimates of their value at risk or plans for creating resilience to physical risks. Over the past four years, we have engaged with regulators, investors and companies, often in partnership with other shareholders, to address these risks.

### Engaging regulators and companies

We first petitioned the US Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) in June 2020 to require that companies report the specific locations of assets whose loss or damage could be a material event. This petition was published in the Harvard Law School Forum on Corporate Governance to promote our activities.<sup>2</sup> In August 2020, we joined forces with the New York State Common Retirement Fund, one of the US' largest public pension plans. Together, we asked all constituents of the S&P 500 Index of large capitalization US companies to report on the precise location of relevant physical assets whose loss or impairment would have a material financial impact. Just over 13% of the S&P 500 responded to our initial letter.<sup>3</sup> Of these, one-quarter reported that they already disclose locations of key assets. In some cases, however, reporting is at too distant a timeframe to be useful in physical risk assessment. Of all the companies we spoke to or heard from, we found just three that had seriously considered their liabilities due to physical risk and had plans for adapting to or mitigating those risks.

### Contributing to public discourse

We have published a series of thought leadership pieces on the theme of physical climate risks and their management. In our September 2020 report, Designing a resilient response to the inevitable impact of climate change, we explored the material and immediate physical climate risks facing companies and investors globally.<sup>4</sup> We noted that investors' tools for understanding physical climate risks were limited and imperfect, and recommended steps that investors should consider.

### Contributing to the SEC climate rule

Early 2022 marked an important step forward in our engagement with US regulators on this issue. Ahead of the SEC's publication of a proposed rule to enhance and standardize climate-related disclosures in March 2022, we met with the Chair and staff of the SEC to advocate for an ambitious and effective outcome.

In May 2022, we submitted a detailed response to the SEC's well-conceived proposals that included amendments we believed would strengthen the rule's implementation. This included a focus on reporting on physical climate risk and geo-location data. When the SEC adopted its final climate risk disclosure rule, in March 2024, Impax was cited 24 times. Although there were some disappointments – Scope 3 emissions disclosure by US companies is missing completely – the rule mandates that US companies must disclose physical climate risks that have any material impact on companies' strategies, business models and outlooks. Overall, we believe it will help provide decision-useful information on physical risks.

# **Case study: American Water Works**



**Company description:** Based in New Jersey, American Water Works provides water and water-related services to about 14 million people across 47 states in the US, as well as in Ontario, Canada. The company contributes to the availability and distribution of fresh water to millions of residential, commercial, and industrial customers.



### Impact

American Water discloses water service volumes in its corporate filings<sup>1</sup> – excluding fire and public services, in 2022 (most recent data available at the time of data collection) the utility **provided 277 billion gallons**, or **1,048,548 megaliters of potable water**. The company also notes that its residential customers **saved 3.4 billion gallons (15,456.71 megaliters) of water annually** through water saving measures, as encouraged by American Water Works' customer education and information-sharing engagements.<sup>2</sup> For water utilities, detecting and repairing leaks is a main component for water conservation. Deteriorating infrastructure, fluctuating water temperatures, soil movement, vibrations and water pressure changes are just some of the factors contributing to water leakage. Finding and stopping leaks quickly reduces repair costs, chemical use, energy consumption, and associated greenhouse gas emissions. With enhanced metering systems, American Water is well positioned to educate customers about taking steps to conserve. Building upon pioneering work with acoustic leak detection systems and improved metering techniques, American Water has intensified efforts to find leaks in systems more rapidly and reduce water lost due to leaks (non-revenue water).



### Engagement

### Nature

### Objectives

- Understand American Water's process for assessing nature-related dependencies and impacts (partially achieved, 2023)
- Disclose assessment of its nature-related dependencies and impacts, in line with the Taskforce on Nature-Related Financial Disclosures (TNFD) framework (in progress)

### Activities

We have engaged with American Water in recent years on its sustainability disclosures and its management of Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (ED&I) and human capital. In 2023, we broadened our engagement to focus specifically on understanding the company's assessment of its nature-related dependencies and impacts. We engaged on this issue in collaboration with an Impax client that is an American Water shareholder.

### **Outcomes**

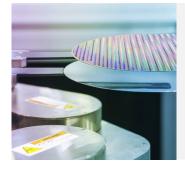
American Water explained that biodiversity considerations are integrated into company operations and span capital planning, water use and efficiency, wastewater treatment and environmental grants. The company acknowledged that it could improve its public reporting on biodiversity, and in its 2023 Sustainability Report, it included a section on biodiversity for the first time, specifically citing feedback from shareholders. The company is currently evaluating the TNFD for potential disclosure in the future.

### **Next Steps**

We continue to engage the company on this topic and encourage alignment with the TNFD framework to assess its nature-related dependencies, impacts, risk and opportunities.

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# **Case study: Applied Materials**



**Company description:** Applied Materials, Inc. develops, manufactures, and services equipment and spare parts for use by the worldwide semiconductor industry. The company directly contributes to semiconductor efficiency and enhanced digital productivity, which are key for the transition to a more digital and sustainable world, by providing solutions which help users mitigate the negative environmental aspects of semiconductor manufacturing.



### Impact

Semiconductors lie at the heart of every modern electrical device and are essential for the decarbonization of the global economy. Chip manufacturing is a complex process with notable emissions, particularly when including Scope 3. Applied Materials is disclosing Scope 3 emission data – showing that the largest contribution is from use of sold products, purchased goods & services, and upstream transportation & distribution.

Yet an important part of the picture is that Applied Materials manufactures products and services while aiming to reduce greenhouse gas emissions for semiconductor manufacturing through improved energy efficiency, such as emissions measurement systems, pollution abatement equipment, and energy efficiency consulting services. Quantifying avoided emissions is still a newer field for the company, however Applied disclosed via CDP<sup>1</sup> in 2023 that even just one single Applied Materials product alone – the iSystem controller – **avoided an estimated 84,600 tCO<sub>2</sub>e in GHG emissions** in one year, compared to baseline scenarios – and note, this data is currently only available for this one product, with the positive impact of the rest of the company's product and service offering still to be quantified. Built in partnership with Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Company, the controller is tasked with controlling and achieving energy efficiency for sub-fab components while also monitoring tool operation and collecting valuable resource consumption data. The "sub fab" area is a critical level of a semiconductor factory – containing tens of thousands of pumps, transformers, power cabinets, scrubbers, treatment systems and more – all to support the thousands of chipmaking tools needed. Normally sub-fab components to match the energy needed for operation to help precisely manage energy usage and operation, while also gaining real time data and signals.

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# **Case study: Applied Materials (continued)**



### Engagement

## People

### Objectives

- Understand the outcomes of the company's human rights saliency assessment, supplier due diligence process, and resulting actions (in progress)
- Understand progress against Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (ED&I) goals and process for managing pay equity (achieved, 2023)
- Disclose results of pay equity analysis (achieved, 2024)

### Activities

In 2023, Impax had multiple dialogues with the company on topics related to physical climate risk, sustainability reporting, human capital, and human rights risk due diligence. During these discussions, Impax raised the topic of pay equity, noting it was absent in otherwise comprehensive reporting from the company on E,D&I. Applied Materials explained its approach, noting that it conducts an annual pay equity review, and we encouraged the company to disclose this in future reporting.

We also conducted a collaborative engagement with another shareholder as part of the Investor Alliance for Human Rights (IAHR) initiative after Applied Materials was identified for human rights-related engagement given its low score in the World Benchmarking Alliance's corporate human rights benchmark.

### Outcomes

Positive and constructive dialogues with Applied Materials across multiple topics. The company disclosed adjusted pay gap (pay equity) figures for its U.S. workforce following receipt of a pay gap reporting shareholder proposal. It also committed to annual disclosure on this topic beginning in its 2024 Sustainability Report, and to expand the analysis to include women globally. The company is also looking to improve its risk management processes and disclosures regarding human rights. Importantly, the company has implemented a revised human rights governance structure, including a newly formed working group that provides regular inputs to the board, and has broad representation across different business functions. The company confirmed that it has recently updated its human rights-related policies.

### **Next Steps**

Impax shared human rights best practices from peer companies, which the company agreed to review. Impax will review the company's next sustainability report and human rights-related disclosures before following up on engagement.

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# **Memberships**

# Impax works collaboratively with industry organizations and our peers to shape the markets needed for the transition to a more sustainable economy to accelerate.

Here is a selection of our current memberships by theme:

### Climate



Carbon Disclosure Project (CDP)

Ceres Investor Network

Climate Financial Risk Forum (CFRF)

Confederation of British Industry (CBI)

Energy Transitions Commission (ETC)

Farm Animal Investment Risk and Return Initiative (FAIRRI)

Financing a Just Transition Alliance (FJTA)

Glasgow Financial Alliance for Net-Zero (GFANZ)

Global Impact Investment Network (GIIN)

Institutional Investors Group on Climate Change (IIGCC)

Investment Association (IA)

Net Zero Asset Managers initiative (NZAM)

Principles for Responsible Investment (PRI)

ShareAction investor Decarbonization Initiative

Sustainable Investments Institute

Sustainable Markets Initiative

Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures (TCFD)

Transition Plan Taskforce (TPT)

### Nature

Finance Sector Deforestation Action (FSDA)

Investor Environmental Health Network (IEHN)

Investor Policy Dialogue for Deforestation (IPDD)

Natural Capital Investment Alliance (NCIA)

Nature Action 100 (NA100)

Principles for Responsible Investment (PRI) Spring

Taskforce on Nature-related Financial Disclosures (TNFD)



Investors Against Slavery and Trafficking, Asia Pacific (IAST APAC) Initiative

Northeast Investors Diversity Initiative (NIDI)

Race at Work

People

ShareAction: Long-term Investors in People's Health Initiative (LIPH)

**Thirty Percent Coalition** 

Women's Empowerment Principles

Women in Finance



Asian Corporate Governance Association (ACGA)

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Council of Institutional Investors (CII)

Confederation of British Industry (CBI)

Global ESG Benchmark for Real Assets (GRESB)

Interfaith Center on Corporate Responsibility (ICCR)

UK Sustainable Investment and Finance Association (UKSIF)

International Corporate Governance Network (ICGN)

Principles for Responsible Investment (PRI)

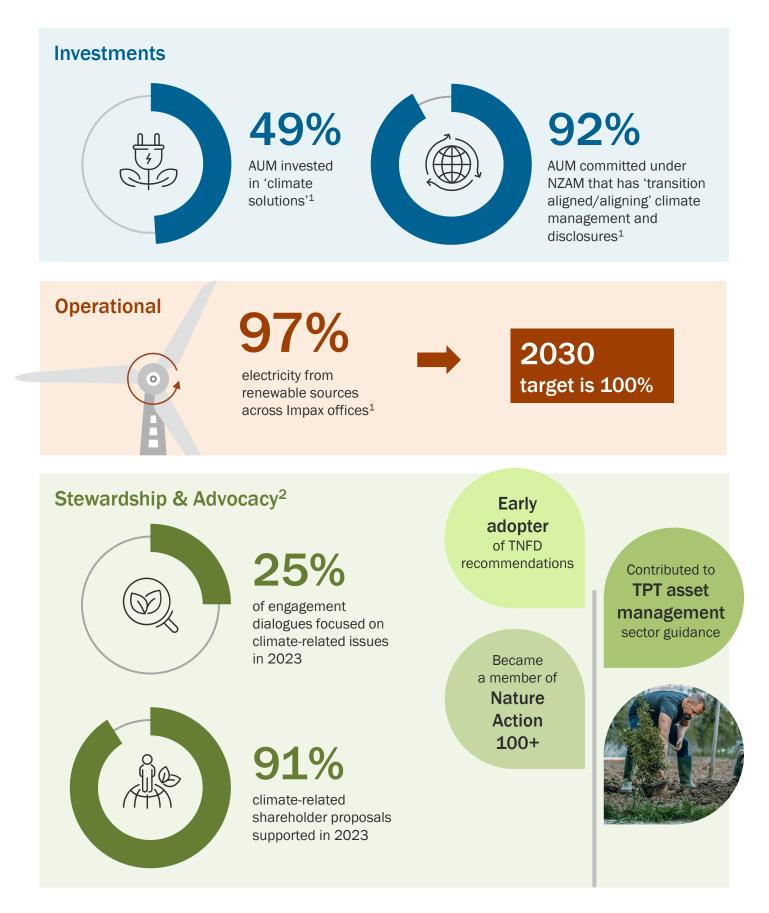
Shareholder Rights Group

The Investing and Saving Alliance (TISA)

UK Stewardship Code (UKSC)

The US Forum for Sustainable and Responsible Investment (USSIF)

# Impax Asset Management Sustainability highlights 2023



# Impax Asset Management Equity, Diversity & Inclusion 2023

# We believe that the transition to a more sustainable economy is closely linked to the transition to a more equitable society.

Equity, diversity & inclusion are critical:



Ethnicity overview 2023<sup>1</sup>

### Gender overview 20231

| Board57%43%09Executive<br>Committee33%67%09Senior staff36%62%29Investment team33%66%19 |                 | Female | Male | Prefer<br>not to<br>disclose |
|--|-----------------|--------|------|------------------------------|
| Executive<br>Committee33%67%09Senior staff36%62%29Investment team33%66%19              | Total company   | 47%    | 52%  | 2%                           |
| CommitteeSenior staff36%62%29Investment team33%66%19                                   | Board           | 57%    | 43%  | 0%                           |
| Investment team 33% 66% 19   |                 | 33%    | 67%  | 0%                           |
|  | Senior staff    | 36%    | 62%  | 2%                           |
| Promotions 54% 46% 0%  | Investment team | 33%    | 66%  | 1%                           |
|  | Promotions      | 54%    | 46%  | 0%                           |
| Hires 49% 51% 0%   | Hires           | 49%    | 51%  | 0%                           |

|                        | Asian | Black | Addi-<br>tional<br>ethnic<br>groups | White | Prefer<br>not to<br>disclose |
|------------------------|-------|-------|-------------------------------------|-------|------------------------------|
| Total company          | 15%   | 4%    | 6%                                  | 74%   | 2%                           |
| Board                  | 0%    | 0%    | 0%                                  | 100%  | 0%                           |
| Executive<br>Committee | 0%    | 8%    | 0%                                  | 92%   | 0%                           |
| Senior staff           | 10%   | 1%    | 2%                                  | 85%   | 2%                           |
| Investment team        | 22%   | 1%    | 8%                                  | 67%   | 1%                           |
| Promotions             | 16%   | 2%    | 5%                                  | 77%   | 1%                           |
| Hires                  | 14%   | 2%    | 9%                                  | 75%   | 0%                           |

Self-reported, anonymous data collected in August and September 2023. Conducted by Impax, with an 86% response rate.

Self-reported, anonymous data collected in August and September 2023. Conducted by Impax, with an 86% response rate.

### Goals and objectives

Previously, Impax had articulated two specific E,D&I goals for December 2025:

- That Impax's overall workforce gender mix should be circa 50% (48–52%) women
- The representation of women and racial/ethnic minorities in senior management, portfolio management, and client-facing roles should meaningfully exceed relevant industry averages in Impax's primary locations (UK and US)

Following good progress against these goals, we undertook a benchmarking exercise, analyzing our current profile, the markets in which we operate, and comparing ourselves with our peers. This has informed our refined and updated E,D&I goals, which we believe are more transparent and measurable.

For December 2027, we aim that:

- Impax's overall workforce should be 48%-52% women
- Impax's overall workforce should be 28%-32% minority ethnic
- Impax's senior staff<sup>2</sup> should be 38%-42% women
- Impax's senior staff should be 14%-18% minority ethnic

<sup>1</sup>Due to Impax's size and our focus on protecting employees' privacy and individually identifiable data, Impax's race and ethnicity categories with relatively few respondents have been aggregated for the purposes of external data reporting. As such, 'Additional ethnic groups' represents Hispanic or Latinx, American Indian or Alaska Native, Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, Two or More Races or Mixed Heritage, and other identifies that staff have self-identified. <sup>2</sup>Impax's corporate level of "Director" and above

# Impax Asset Management In the Community 2023

Impax's Value of "Building a common future" recognizes that we have a responsibility to promote prosperity while protecting the planet. We are committed to sustainable development, and to stewarding our environmental and societal impact for the benefit of current and future generations.

Impax supports a small number of strategic community partners which align to our mission as specialists in the transition to a more sustainable economy. These partners support issues related to the environment and social inclusion, with a particular focus on education and green skills.



We aim to donate 0.5% - 1% of our pre-tax profit to support our community partners and charitable activity. In our financial year 2023 we donated £504,933 to charitable causes (up from £287,382 in 2022).<sup>1</sup>

Impax's charitable partners include:

- Ashden is a London-based charity that champions applied, local energy solutions to reduce greenhouse gas
  emissions, protect the environment, combat poverty, and improve lives. Impax and Ashden have worked in
  partnership for a decade, with Impax sponsoring the Ashden Award for Climate Innovation in the UK. A team
  of Impax colleagues take part in the awards process each year, to help evaluate and judge award
  submissions, and provide ongoing mentoring and support to previous winners.
- Ceres is the leading US NGO addressing the world's greatest sustainability challenges through collaborations with leaders in business, government, and finance. Impax has partnered with Ceres for nearly a decade, providing programmatic support, grants, and in-kind assistance. This supports the team at Ceres in their research and analysis, and in ensuring their findings are heard by investment leaders and the public.
- Impax's support for ClientEarth is in its eighth year. As a non-profit environmental law organization, ClientEarth's team of lawyers fight the systems which restrict the planet's freedom, using the power of the law to create lasting impact and drive systematic change to protect the earth. They advise decision-makers on policy, train legal and judicial professionals and launch legal interventions.
- Groundwork is a federation of charities mobilizing practical community action on poverty and the
  environment across the UK. Our partnership supports 10 disadvantaged young people into jobs in the green
  economy in Yorkshire through the Green Jobs Pathfinder, aiming to create accessible pathways into entrylevel green roles, increase the diversity of people pursuing green careers, and help 'left-behind' places to
  thrive through a green economy.
- Country Trust is one of the UK leading educational charities. The Impax Food Discovery Programme helps give 460 children in 10 schools the opportunity to get hands on with the living world, to learn practical skills, and to begin to discover where our food comes from, and how food, and food production is connected to health and sustainability.
- The Pax Scholarship Program honors our Pax World Funds heritage by awarding annual scholarships to three New Hampshire-based educational and non-profit institutions promoting sustainable finance, advancing women and girls, and fostering global peace. The programme aims to serve young leaders from around the world.

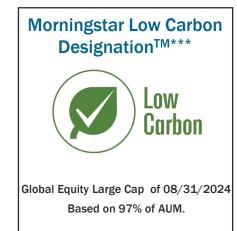
# **Sustainability characteristics**

Here is how the Fund compares to a traditional benchmark and peers regarding a wider range of sustainability characteristics.





Category: 2. Sustainability Score:16.63. Global Category:Global Equity Large Cap. Based on 97% of AUM out of a universe of 8,301 funds. Sustainability Score as of 08/31/2024. Sustainability Rating as of 08/31/2024.





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Appendix

# Impax proprietary tool definitions

The Impax Environmental Markets taxonomy is a classification system that supports the identification of investment opportunities in companies delivering solutions to environmental and resource efficiency challenges. This equity market classification is defined as companies whose businesses and technologies focus on environmental markets, including alternative energy and energy management & efficiency; transportation solutions; water infrastructure & technologies; environmental services & resources; resource efficiency & waste management; digital infrastructure; and sustainable food & agriculture. As determined by Impax, equity securities of companies that derive significant revenues (i.e., at least 20% of revenues) by sales of products or services in these areas are classified as environmental markets.

The Impax Sustainable Infrastructure taxonomy is a classification system that supports the identification of investment opportunities in companies that provide the infrastructure essential for the transition to a more sustainable economy. This equity market classification defines sustainable infrastructure in two broad categories: 1. Resource Infrastructure, which includes New Energy, Water, Waste & Resource Efficiency, and Food and Agriculture sub sectors. 2. Social and Economic Infrastructure which includes Communications & Data, Buildings & Facilities, Transportation, Healthcare, Education, and Finance sub sectors. Companies must generate a minimum of 20% of their revenues from infrastructure-related activities as defined by this taxonomy.

The Impax Social Leaders taxonomy is a classification system that supports the identification of investment opportunities in companies that provide products or services that address societal challenges. This equity market classification is defined as companies who 1. derive at minimum 20% of revenues from "social markets," meaning meeting basic needs, such as food, water, and shelter, or essential services, such as transportation and utilities; broadening economic participation by enabling access to education, jobs, financial services and/or digital services; or improving quality of life through accessible and affordable health care and wellness; and 2. also demonstrate positive behaviours through policies and programs that foster diverse, inclusive and equitable workplace cultures.

The Impax Climate taxonomy contains companies identified as typically having 50% or more of revenues in Mitigation and Primary Adaptation solutions, plus a limited amount of Secondary Adaptation solutions according to Impax's Climate Opportunities Taxonomy. The stock-level revenue content is determined by the analyst responsible for the respective stock and confirmed and documented by a member of the Listed Investments Team with the specific universe management role.

The Impax Sustainability Lens ("Lens") is a proprietary investment tool that is used to assess economic opportunities and risks associated with the transition to a more sustainable economy, in order to help our portfolio managers weight their portfolios toward sub-industries that we believe offer higher opportunity and lower risk.

# Weighted average carbon intensity (WACI) methodology

Weighted Average Carbon Intensity (Tons CO2/\$M Sales) is calculated using MSCI ESG Research company level research and measures exposure to carbon intensive companies. This figure represents the estimated greenhouse gas emissions per \$1 million in sales across the proposed strategy's holdings. This allows for comparisons between portfolios of different sizes. A portfolio's weighted average carbon intensity is achieved by calculating the carbon intensity (Scope 1 + 2 Emissions / \$M Sales) for each portfolio company and calculating the weighted average by portfolio weight.

At the company level, the carbon intensity (Scope 1 +2 Emissions/\$M Sales) represents the company's most recently reported or estimated Scope 1 + Scope 2 greenhouse gas emissions normalized by sales in USD. MSCI ESG Research collects company-specific direct (Scope 1) and indirect (Scope 2) greenhouse gas emissions data from company public documents and the Carbon Disclosure Project (CDP). If a company does not report GHG emissions, then MSCI ESG Research uses a proprietary methodology to estimate Scope 1 and Scope 2 GHG emissions. The data is updated on an annual basis. Scope 1 emissions are those from sources owned or controlled by the company, typically direct combustion of fuel as in a furnace or vehicle. Scope 2 emissions are those caused by the generation of electricity purchased by the company. For more information, visit https://www.msci.com/index-carbon-footprint-metrics

Carbon Intensity scores are determined by taking the market value of each security and company-level data to calculate the weighted average score at the portfolio level. The Fund and Index weighted average carbon intensity numbers are calculated by and sourced from FactSet, using MSCI ESG Research company-level data. As of 09/30/2024, the Fund weighted average carbon intensity was 242.57 vs. 111.72 for the benchmark. Data availability for the Fund is 86.67% by weight, and 49.80% of the benchmark by weight. Data availability for the Fund and benchmark may not add up to 100% due to the limited data availability within emerging markets.

| Stock                        | Weight (%) |
|------------------------------|------------|
| MICROSOFT CORP               | 4.36       |
| LINDE PLC                    | 4.2        |
| AGILENT TECHNOLOGIES INC     | 4.09       |
| WASTE MANAGEMENT INC         | 3.92       |
| AIR LIQUIDE SA               | 3.49       |
| SCHNEIDER ELECTRIC SE        | 3.35       |
| TEXAS INSTRUMENTS INC        | 2.88       |
| WATERS CORP                  | 2.6        |
| METTLER-TOLEDO INTERNATIONAL | 2.54       |
| PENTAIR PLC                  | 2.51       |

Data source: Bloomberg. As of 09/30/2024, top ten holdings of Impax Global Environmental Markets Fund. Holdings subject to change.

# SDG mapping methodology

The UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) comprise a series of 17 sets of targets across a range of issues including poverty, inequality, climate change, clean water, gender inequality and other global challenges, to be met by the world's economies by 2030. Please refer to the SDGs for additional information. Impax Asset Management (Impax) uses the SDG framework to understand which current and potential portfolio companies are involved in activities that contribute towards addressing these critical global challenges.

Impax's methodology is based on identifying the portion of companies' revenues that relate to the targets and indicators within each Goal. Impax has mapped 51 categories (for a complete listing of the 51 revenue categories, please see p. 8 of the Impact @ Impax 2022 publication) of business activities linked to 11 of the 17 SDGs and their underlying targets and indicators. Impax focuses on those SDGs where the underlying targets of the Goal are relevant to private sector investment opportunities, rather than public funding or policy action.

Mapping of company revenues to the SDGs occurs annually at the end of each calendar year and is quantified based on portfolio company disclosures. The mapping is done on a global basis and does not differentiate between regions except in the case of financial services and telecom companies and their business activities relevant to SDG 8 (decent work and economic growth) and SDG 9 (industry, innovation and infrastructure) where Impax only focuses on company revenue generated in the least developed countries (LDCs). For business activities relevant to other SDGs the focus described by the SDG framework is predominantly 'global'. As such, Impax's methodology for measuring SDG-related revenue does not differentiate between geographic regions as the natural environment is regarded as a "global common."

Impax's investment process does not analyze alignment with SDGs as an investment objective or component of portfolio construction. Impax simply maps SDG-related revenue exposure for portfolio companies, which is instead a byproduct rather than a feature of the investment process.

# Environmental impact and climate transition methodology

### Impax Global Environmental Markets Fund

The relevant environmental metrics for all portfolio companies were measured where data was available or could be estimated. The analysis included all companies in which the strategies were invested as of 12/31/2023. At the time of preparation, Impax aimed to obtain the most recently available and commonly collected environmental data from investee companies. For approximately 80% of companies this was from 2023 reported information, and for the remainder of companies this was from previously reported information. The percentage owned in each underlying company (calculated based on the proportion of shares owned) as of 12/31/2023 was applied to measure the environmental benefit attributable to the strategies. These included:

Greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, Scope 1, 2 and 3 (tons of CO2e)

Greenhouse gas (GHG) avoidance (tons of CO2e)

Renewable electricity generated (MWh)

Water treated, saved or provided (megaliters/gallons)

Materials recovered/waste treated (tons/tons)

The relevance of each metric was also assessed for each company based on its business activities.

Impax collected relevant data from company disclosures, including sources such as annual reports, CDP and sustainability reports. Where information was not available, Impax contacted companies to request additional disclosure, which in some cases produced additional relevant data.

However, some companies could not/did not provide information on several metrics. Impax therefore created estimates where robust data was obtained for these metrics:

- For missing Scope 1 and 2 GHG emissions data, Impax uses third party estimates for missing Scope 1 and 2 GHG emissions. Impax does not use estimates for Scope 3 GHG emissions.
- For missing environmental impact data, industry or academic data was sought in order to set robust assumptions. In cases where robust data could not be found, zero impact was reported for a company.

Impax strives to be conservative with estimates in an effort to ensure that positive impact is not overstated, or in the case of GHG emissions, avoided emissions are not overstated.

The below table summarizes the data that was available and estimated for companies in the strategy. The total number of companies in the strategy as of December 31, 2023 was 46.

The environmental impact of investments will always depend on the mix of underlying holdings and are thus subject to change. The information contained in this report is therefore specific to the date listed herein.

|                                 | Number of companies                    |  |  |   |                                   |
|---------------------------------|--|--|--|---|-----------------------------------|
| Metric estimated/<br>disclosed  | for which<br>the metric is<br>relevant | for which the<br>metric was<br>available | for which the<br>metric was<br>estimated | For which metric relevant but not available | For which metric was not relevant |
| Avoided GHG emissions           | 42                                     | 19                                       | 6  | 17  | 4                                 |
| GHG emissions                   | 46                                     | 46                                       | 0  | 0   | 0                                 |
| Materials recovered treated     | 4                                      | 4  | 0  | 0   | 42                                |
| Renewable electricity generated | 13                                     | 13                                       | 0  | 0   | 33                                |
| Water provided saved treated    | 14                                     | 7  | 3  | 4   | 32                                |

# **Disclosures and definitions**

\*The MSCI ESG Fund Rating is designed to assess the resilience of a fund's aggregate holdings to long term ESG risks. MSCI uses a rules-based methodology to identify industry leaders and laggards according to their exposure to ESG risks and how well they manage those risks relative to peers. Highly rated funds consist of issuers with leading or improving management of key ESG risks. The Fund ESG Rating is calculated as a direct mapping of "Fund ESG Quality Score" to letter rating categories. The MSCI ESG Quality Score assesses the resilience of a fund's aggregate holdings to long-term ESG risks. Highly rated funds consist of issuers with leading or improving management of key ESG risks, based on a granular breakdown of each issuer's business: its core product or business segments, the locations of its assets or revenues, and other relevant measures such as outsourced production. The MSCI ESG Quality Score is provided on a 0-10 scale, with 0 and 10 being the respective lowest and highest possible fund scores.

The MSCI ESG Quality Score is assessed using the underlying holding's Overall ESG Scores, Overall ESG Ratings, and Overall ESG Rating Trends. It is calculated in a series of 3 steps. Step 1: Calculate the Fund Weighted Average ESG Score of the underlying holding's Overall ESG Scores. The Overall ESG Scores represent either the ESG Ratings Final Industry-Adjusted Score or Government Adjusted ESG Score of the issuer. Methodology for the issuer level scores are available in the MSCI ESG Ratings Methodology document. Step 2: Calculate adjustment % based on fund exposure to Fund ESG Laggards (%), Fund ESG Trend Negative (%), and Fund ESG Trend Positive (%). Step 3: Multiply the Fund Weighted Average ESG Score by (1 + Adjustment %).

The MSCI ESG Ratings range from Leader, Average to Laggard. AAA, AA: Leader (Fund ESG Quality Scores: 8.6-10: AAA, 7.1-8.6: AA) - The companies that the fund invests in tend to show strong and/or improving management of financially relevant environmental, social and governance issues. These companies may be more resilient to disruptions arising from ESG events. A, BBB, BB: Average (Fund ESG Quality Scores: 5.7-7.1: A, 4.3-5.7: BBB, 2.9-4.3: BB) - The fund invests in companies that tend to show average management of ESG issues, or in a mix of companies with both above-average and below-average ESG risk management. B, CCC: Laggard (Fund ESG Quality Scores: 1.4-2.9: B, 1.4 and below: CCC) - The fund is exposed to companies that do not demonstrate adequate management of the ESG risks that they face or show worsening management of these issues. These companies may be more vulnerable to disruptions arising from ESG events. For more information, please visit www.msci.com/esg-fund-ratings.

\*\*The Morningstar Sustainability Rating™ is intended to measure how well the issuing companies of the securities within a fund's portfolio holdings are managing their financially material environmental, social and governance, or ESG, risks relative to the fund's Morningstar Global Category peers. The Morningstar Sustainability Rating calculation is a five -step process. First, each fund with at least 67% of assets covered by a company-level ESG Risk Score from Sustainalytics receives a Morningstar Portfolio Sustainability Score. The Morningstar Portfolio Sustainability Score is an asset-weighted average of company-level ESG Risk Scores. The Portfolio Sustainability Score ranges between 0 to 100, with a higher score indicating that a fund has, on average, more of its assets invested in companies with high ESG Risk. Second, the Historical Sustainability Score is an exponential weighted moving average of the Portfolio Sustainability Scores over the past 12 months. The process rescales the current Portfolio Sustainability Score to reflect the consistency of the scores. The Historical Sustainability Score ranges between 0 to 100, with a higher score indicating that a fund has, on average, more of its assets invested in companies with high ESG Risk, on a consistent historical basis. Third, the Morningstar Sustainability Rating is then assigned to all scored funds within Morningstar Global Categories in which at least thirty (30) funds receive a Historical Sustainability Score and is determined by each fund's Morningstar Sustainability Rating Score rank within the following distribution: High (highest 10%), Above Average (next 22.5%), Average (next 35%), Below Average (next 22.5%), and Low (lowest 10%). Fourth, then Morningstar applies a 1% rating buffer from the previous month to increase rating stability. This means a fund must move 1% beyond the rating breakpoint to change ratings. Fifth, they adjust downward positive Sustainability Ratings to funds with high ESG Risk scores. The logic is as follows: If Portfolio Sustainability score is above 40, then the fund receives a Low Sustainability Rating. If Portfolio Sustainability score is above 35 and preliminary rating is Average or better, then the fund is downgraded to Below Average. If the Portfolio Sustainability score is above 30 and preliminary rating is Above Average, then the fund is downgraded to Average. If the Portfolio Sustainability score is below 30, then no adjustment is made. The Morningstar Sustainability Rating is depicted by globe icons where High equals to 5 globes and Low equals 1 globe. Since a Sustainability Rating is assigned to all funds that meet the above criteria, the rating it is not limited to funds with explicit sustainable or responsible investment mandates. Morningstar updates its Sustainability Ratings monthly. The Portfolio Sustainability Score is calculated when Morningstar receives a new portfolio. Then, the Historical Sustainability Score and the Sustainability Rating is calculated one month and six business days after the reported as-of date of the most recent portfolio. As part of the evaluation process, Morningstar

Continued on next page

# **Disclosures and definitions: continued**

### \*\*The Morningstar Sustainability Rating™, continued

uses Sustainalytics' ESG scores from the same month as the portfolio as-of date. Please visit morningstar.com/content/dam/marketing/shared/research/methodology/SustainabilityRatingMethodology\_2021.pdf for more detailed information about the Morningstar Sustainability Rating methodology and calculation frequency. Sustainalytics is an independent ESG and corporate governance research, ratings, and analysis firm. Morningstar, Inc. holds a non-controlling ownership interest in Sustainalytics.

\*\*\*The Morningstar Low Carbon Designation is given to portfolios with low Carbon Risk Score and low levels of fossil fuel exposure. Morningstar calculates the Carbon Risk Score based on company-level carbon-risk assessments from Sustainalytics, a leading independent provider of ESG and corporate governance ratings and research. Morningstar calculates carbon metrics on a quarterly basis for any fund that has at least 67 percent of its portfolio assets covered by Sustainalytics' company-level carbon-risk research. The Carbon Risk Score is the asset-weighted sum of the carbon risk scores of its holdings, averaged over the trailing 12 months and displayed as a score and a category: 0 corresponds to the Negligible risk category; 0.10-9.99 = Low risk; 10-29.99 = Medium risk; 30-49.99 = High risk; and 50 or higher up to 100 = Severe risk. The Morningstar® Portfolio Fossil Fuel Involvement™ percentage is a portfolio's asset-weighted percentage exposure to fossil fuels, averaged over the trailing 12 months. The Low Carbon Designation is based on a fund's Carbon Risk Score and its Fossil Fuel Involvement percentage.

The Morningstar Low Carbon Designation is intended to allow investors to easily identify low-carbon funds across the global universe. The designation is an indicator that the companies held in a portfolio are in general alignment with the transition to a low-carbon economy. The Morningstar Portfolio Fossil Fuel Involvement percentage assesses the degree to which a portfolio is exposed to thermal coal extraction and power generation as well as oil and gas production, power generation, and products & services. To receive the designation, a portfolio must meet two criteria: a. A 12-month trailing average Morningstar Portfolio Carbon Risk Score below 10 and b. A 12-month trailing average exposure to fossil fuels less than 7% of assets, which is approximately a 33% underweighting to the global equity universe. Please visit morningstar.com/content/dam/marketing/shared/research/methodology/SustainabilityRatingMethodology\_2021.pdf for more detail information about the Morningstar Low Carbon Designation and its calculation.

Low Carbon Designation as of 08/31/2024. Portfolio as of 09/30/2024. Category: Global Equity Large Cap. Based on 97% of AUM. Data is based on long positions only.

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# **Important information**

### Risk:

Equity investments are subject to market fluctuations, the fund's share price can fall because of weakness in the broad market, a particular industry, or specific holdings. Emerging market and international investments involve risk of capital loss from unfavorable fluctuations in currency values, differences in generally accepted accounting principles, economic or political instability in other nations or increased volatility and lower trading volume. The Fund is actively managed. 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.

This material must be preceded or accompanied by a prospectus. Please read it carefully before investing. Investment return and principal value will fluctuate so that you may have a gain or a loss when you sell your shares.

# You should consider a fund's investment objectives, risks and charges and expenses carefully before investing. Past performance is no guarantee of future results.

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Impax Asset Management makes its investment and related decisions pursuant to its independently determined policies and practices that seek to serve the risk management objectives and interests of its investors. Any and all engagement by Impax Asset Management with issuers and other market participants on sustainability issues are pursuant to, and consistent with, those independently determined policies and practices.

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