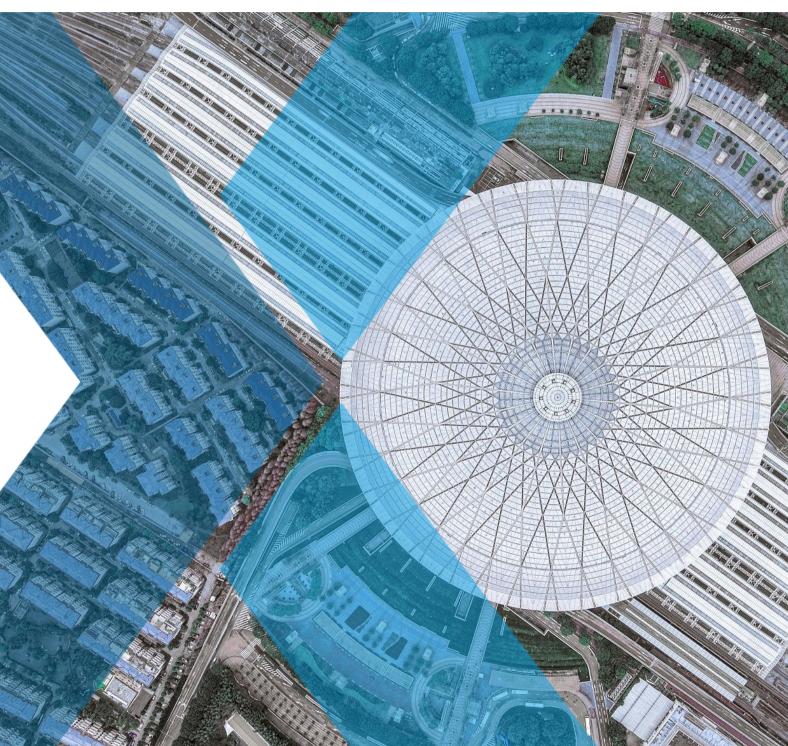


# **Sustainable Infrastructure (Active) strategy**

### **Beyond Financial Returns Report 2023**

Data in this report relates to the period 1 January 2022 – 31 December 2022

FOR INSTITUTIONAL AND PROFESSIONAL INVESTOR USE.





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#### Introduction

At Impax, every strategy is designed to intentionally allocate clients' capital towards those companies which are expected to benefit as the global economy transitions to a more sustainable model. This Beyond Financial Returns Report provides post-investment evidence of this intentionality.

Reporting this year includes data and information related to stewardship outcomes, our policy advocacy focus, as well as impact metrics such as the carbon profile and UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDG)<sup>1</sup> mapping of each strategy. Impax has been measuring environmental impact for its thematic strategies since 2015 and continues to evolve and refine impact reporting in an effort to align with emerging best practice and standardization where possible.

Impax's engagement and voting activity is included to provide a more comprehensive view on sustainability and stewardship outcomes for the portfolio. The objective of engagement with investee companies is monitoring, risk management and encouraging improved processes and disclosures, through company-specific, thematic and proxy-voting-related engagements, all important elements of the investment process. For 2022 reporting we have provided a breakdown of Impax's priority engagement themes including climate, people and governance. In addition, Impax has formally distinguished between "outreach activities" and "engagement dialogues" in our tracking of engagements during the year. Impax has not included outreach numbers in this report, but we plan to include these statistics for 2023 reporting. We hope this will provide our investors with further insight on emerging themes.

Impax's policy advocacy work is focused on shaping the markets and supporting the development and creation of public policy which will accelerate the transition to a more sustainable economy. We plan to combine company engagement and policy advocacy wherever possible to accelerate positive outcomes in the real economy, so-called systematic engagement, as described in our recent <a href="Stewardship & Advocacy Report">Stewardship & Advocacy Report</a>.

Impax's actively managed listed investment strategies employ universe or taxonomy formation to focus portfolios on companies that are set to benefit from the transition to a more sustainable economy. The impact metrics reported for Impax's strategies relate to the benefits that the products and services of investee companies are enabling. Investing in listed companies that deliver positive impact does not increase that impact but demonstrates the investment is strongly aligned to companies benefiting from, and enabling, the transition to a more sustainable economy.

Over the past year, Impax has reviewed its approach to reporting carbon emissions to improve transparency and reflect the latest industry guidance. We will continue to provide detailed information by strategy on the greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions of the companies in which we invest, broken down by Scope 1 & 2, and Scope 3 emissions, as well as the avoided GHG emissions arising from the portfolio companies' products and services. Historically, we have also reported a net GHG emissions and avoidance metric for each strategy but have decided to discontinue reporting this figure and favor gross GHG metrics. This approach aligns with WBCSD Guidance<sup>2</sup> on Avoided Emissions, published in March 2023, which states that Scope 1, 2 and 3 GHG emissions should be separated from avoided emissions in external reporting. Impax is part of several industry initiatives seeking to establish standardization to the measurement and reporting of avoided emissions, a critical metric for environmental and climate solutions.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>The UN SDGs encompass 17 goals. For further information, please visit <a href="http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/sustainabledevelopment/sustainabledevelopment-goals">http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/sustainabled

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>World Business Council for Sustainable Development



### Stewardship summary - 2022

#### **Engagement activity**

Stewardship is an important part of Impax's investment process. Engagement is used to mitigate risk, and to enhance value and investment opportunities. We remain dedicated to helping companies navigate the transition to a more sustainable economy – engagement can strengthen investee companies over time, making them more resilient. This process takes time and often transpires over longer horizons, with topics for engagement maturing and evolving.

#### How we report on engagements

For 2022, we have moved away from reporting the total number of engagements and are reporting the number of investee companies we engaged with in the strategy, along with a percentage split and count of the themes we engaged with them on. It is important to highlight that multiple themes may be discussed during one engagement, and we believe that reporting engagements in this way provides more transparency and value to clients.

We have also formally distinguished between "outreach activities", where we make a request of a company without response, and "engagement dialogues", where we have two-way communication with decision-makers. Therefore, our engagement statistics only include engagement dialogues. Impax has not included outreach numbers this year but plans to include these statistics for 2023 engagement reporting so they can accompany the engagement dialogue statistics.

We recognize that the engagement process is a journey. As such, to supplement the statistics, we have included engagement case studies which provide valuable insight into the evolving nature of the engagement process and how we track progress over time against clearly defined objectives.

#### Engagement themes for 2022

Every year we assess and outline the thematic engagement priorities for the next 12 months. These priorities are based on market developments and emerging environmental, social and governance (ESG) and sustainability issues that are relevant and material for our companies. Within these major themes, there are more detailed and specific topics, such as physical climate risks and employee health & wellness. The below table provides a breakdown of engagement dialogues for the strategy across these themes.

The Impax Sustainable Infrastructure (Active) strategy launched in October 2022, therefore **statistics shown cover the following period: 21st October 2022**<sup>1</sup> – **31st December 2022**.

#### **Engagement theme**

7	Climate	People	Governance	Other ESG issues
Individual companies engaged	25%	50%	25%	0%

Source: Impax. Data as of 12/31/2022. Data based on representative portfolio. Mapping to the representative account in the composite that we believe most closely reflects the current portfolio management style for the strategy. Performance is not a consideration in the selection of the representative account. The characteristics of the representative account shown may differ from those of other accounts in the strategy. Data in the table may not sum precisely to 100% due to rounding. ¹Account launch date October 2022.



# Stewardship summary - 2022

#### Engagement dialogue by investee company

The below table provides a breakdown of themes discussed with investee companies held in the representative portfolio. The strategy launched in October 2022, therefore **statistics shown cover the following period: 21st October 2022¹ – 31st December 2022.** 

It is important to note that multiple themes may be covered during one engagement with an investee company.

Investee company holding	Climate	People	Governance	Other ESG issues
CVS Health Corp	-	1	-	-
Microsoft Corp	-	1	-	-
MTR Corp Ltd	1	1	1	-
Prologis Inc	1	1	-	-
Spirax-Sarco Engineering PLC	-	-	1	-
Welltower Inc	-	1	-	-
Xinyi Solar Holdings Ltd	1	1	1	-

Source: Source: Impax Asset Management. Data as of 12/31/2022. References to specific securities are included as an illustration of the investment managements strategy and should not be considered as a recommendation to buy or sell. The representative portfolio is an account in the strategy we believe most closely reflects current portfolio management style for the strategy. Performance is not a consideration in the selection of the representative portfolio. The characteristics of the representative portfolio shown may differ from those of other accounts in the strategy. Data in the table may not sum precisely to 100% due to rounding. Please refer to the end of the document for the weights of holdings as of 06/30/2023. Holdings subject to change.



### **Engagement example**

#### Governance

#### Xinyi Solar Holdings, Energy Equipment & Technologies, Hong Kong

Xinyi Solar Holdings is the largest solar glass producer globally, specializing in research and development, manufacturing, sales, and after-sales service of solar photovoltaic glass.

**Topic:** Board Independence and Diversity

**Start of engagement: 2019** 

#### **Engagement objectives**

- 1. Raise awareness of the benefits of improved board diversity to long-term value creation (achieved)
- 2. Communicate voting guidelines in relation to no female representation on the board (achieved)
- 3. Improve board diversity (improving, first female director appointed in 2022)

Impax has been engaging with this company since 2019, with the main objective of improving its governance practices, including board independence and diversity.

While the company acknowledged our initial concerns around the absence of gender diversity on the board, we voted against Nominating Committee members in 2020 and followed up with further engagement. Initially, the company expressed no plans to improve board composition or independence, reiterating its view that female representation within their wider industry was low, and it remained challenging to recruit qualified female employees or directors. Impax again voted against the Nominating Committee members at the 2021 annual meeting in order to re-emphasize our view that diverse representation is critical for long-term value creation.

#### **Progress and outcomes**

The company nominated its first female independent director to the board at its 2022 annual meeting, following multiple years of engagement and votes against directors. Board independence remains low, however, and we continue to engage with the company on this issue.



### **Proxy voting summary - 2022**

Proxy voting is an important catalyst for dialogue on corporate governance best practice, both before and after companies' annual general meetings. It is an important lever which we leverage to express our views on board structure and independence, executive compensation, shareholder rights, diversity, sustainability management and reporting, and climate. As shareholder proposals grow more sophisticated and plentiful every year, general investor interest in proxy voting has increased significantly, a trend we believe will continue.

Impax's approach to shareholder proposals continues to be recognized. We ranked first in ShareAction's "Voting Matters Report" for consistently voting in favor of key environmental and social shareholder proposals in 2020, 2021 and 2022¹.

Our voting decisions follow the Impax Proxy Voting Guidelines, bringing consistency and transparency to our approach. Further details can be found <a href="here">here</a>.

The strategy launched in October 2022, therefore statistics shown cover the following period: 21st October 2022<sup>2</sup> – 31st December 2022.

1

meeting where Impax voted 12

management resolutions on which Impax voted

0

shareholder resolutions on which Impax voted

**100**%

meetings in which Impax voted (as a percentage)

8%

management resolutions in which IAM voted "against and/or abstained and/or withheld" 0%

shareholder resolutions in which IAM voted "For" i.e. Against Management

Source: Impax Asset Management. Data as of 12/31/2022. Data based on representative portfolio. Mapping to the representative portfolio in the strategy that we believe most closely reflects the current portfolio management style for the strategy. Performance is not a consideration in the selection of the representative portfolio. The characteristics of the representative portfolio shown may differ from those of other accounts in the strategy. Data in the table may not sum precisely to 100% due to rounding. <sup>2</sup>Account launch date October 2022.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>ShareAction, Ranking asset managers' voting performance. Voting Matters, Feb. 2023 for the 2022 period. With an overall score of 100%, Impax ranked 1st out of 68 asset managers. Voting Matters, Dec. 2021 for the 2021 period. With an overall score of 99%, Impax ranked 1st out of 66 asset managers. Voting Matters, Dec. 2020 for the 2020 period (9/19-8/20). With an overall score of 100%, Impax ranked 1st out of 60 asset managers. Full details and voting criteria can be found at: https://shareaction.org/reports/voting-matters-2022



# Policy advocacy priorities for 2023 and beyond

Impax's Global Policy Group brings together expertise from across the company to support policy makers in Europe, North America, and Asia in accelerating the transition to a more sustainable economy. This work reflects Impax's commitment to policy advocacy and utilizes a rolling three-year plan to focus on a number of important longer-term priorities.

Advancing the pursuit of net-zero emissions will continue to be a focus. Impax believes its influence can be amplified by acting in concert with like-minded members of the financial community and therefore looks to play a leading role within groups including the Institutional Investors Group on Climate Change (IIGCC) and Glasgow Financial Alliance for Net Zero (GFANZ). Impax is a firm advocate that investors and lenders must not only focus on decarbonizing their portfolios, but also finance solutions that reduce GHG emissions if the world is to achieve net-zero goals. Financing the energy transition and clean electrification, as well as getting hard-to-abate sectors — such as aviation, shipping, steel and cement — on the path to net zero are key areas of opportunity.

**Greening the financial system** remains key to the transition to a more sustainable economy. Impax therefore is prioritizing work on sustainability-related disclosures, engaging with regulators including the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) and the UK's Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) to advocate for more rigorous reporting requirements. In addition, Impax will engage with new initiatives seeking to develop guidance on corporate transition plans to drive the net-zero transition in the real economy, in particular through GFANZ, the Climate Financial Risk Forum and the UK's new Transition Plan Taskforce.

**Biodiversity loss** and growing awareness of **economic dependence on natural capital** has put this topic in the spotlight. The financial sector can play a critical role in addressing environmental degradation by both influencing companies to stop depleting natural resources and by deploying capital into nature-based solutions. Impax believes it can contribute through participation in initiatives like the Finance Sector Deforestation Action, Natural Capital Investment Alliance, and the Taskforce on Nature-Related Financial Disclosures, as well as through collaboration with policymakers. Impax is also partnering with Imperial College to advance understanding of nature-positive investment opportunities.

**Physical impacts of climate change** have been inescapable around the world, highlighting an urgent need to increase action to manage and adapt to this risk. Impax will continue to engage with policymakers and investors on **climate resilience and adaptation**. Collaborative efforts have included IIGCC's Adaptation & Resilience Working Group and development of investment frameworks, as well as the Coalition for Climate Resilient Investment's advances on physical climate risk models. Impax is also working jointly with Oxford University on developing a consistent methodology for translating climate change into quantitative inputs.

Lastly, on the topic of **Human Capital Development and E,D&I**, Impax explores opportunities to use investor influence to push for positive social change, including ensuring that social issues are taken into consideration in the design of net-zero policies adopted by governments and corporates. Impax's advocacy here will continue to include collaborative work, such as in the Financing a Just Transition Alliance, as well as activities to promote diversity for example in Asia, through work with the Asian Corporation Governance Association. Impax has been engaging with US companies on their provision of employee wellness programs, including reproductive health care, since the Supreme Court's Dobbs decision. Impax is also anticipating the SEC's proposed rule on human capital disclosure and has developed several points to contribute for comment on that regulation.

As reported in our recent "Stewardship and Advocacy Report", we plan to increasingly combine company engagement and policy advocacy to accelerate positive outcomes in the real economy, through so-called systematic engagement, with a case study included in this report.



# Case study: Combining company engagement and policy advocacy – Systematic Engagement

Physical Climate Risk - mandated disclosure of material physical asset risk

Physical climate risks are systematic risks that many companies are exposed to, but that most companies are not adequately prepared for today. Impax has combined physical climate risk engagements with companies and advocacy with regulators, systematic engagements, to accelerate progress on companies' physical climate risk management and for more detailed disclosures on companies' geo-location data of their strategic plants and facilities, enabling investors to analyse companies' risk exposures.

#### **Objective:**

Prompt companies to report the locations of their physical assets whose loss or damage would be a material event.

#### **Key steps:**

**June 2020:** Impax submitted to the SEC a petition that companies be required to report on the geolocations of their key assets. This petition was later turned into a publication in the Harvard Law School Forum on Corporate Governance.

**August 2020:** The New York State Common Retirement Fund joined Impax's efforts. This enabled asking all companies in the S&P 500 to report on the location of assets whose loss or damage would be a material event.

**September 2020:** Impax published a paper on Physical Climate Risks – what are they, how can they be recognized, and to whom do they apply?

**September 2021:** Impax published <u>Seeking Coordinates</u>, a synthesis of what was learned from this engagement with the constituents of the S&P 500. Result: only *three* companies had given serious consideration to their exposure to physical risks, further proving the importance of this disclosure objective.

**Summer 2022:** Additional investors, including California State Teachers Retirement System (CalSTRS) and PIMCO, joined these advocacy efforts.

**Fall 2022:** Impax further developed the request – asking companies not only to report on their assets, but to report also on their assessment of physical risks from climate change, and to detail their efforts to manage and adapt to those risks.

#### **Outcome:**

**Summer 2022:** After meetings with the Chair and staff of the SEC to advocate for Impax's objective, the SEC proposed its new Climate Rule, which included attention to physical risk. This rule is likely to be released in the fall of 2023.

**Winter 2022 – Spring 2023:** Impax engaged with semiconductor manufacturers regarding their exposure to and management of climate-related physical risks, focusing on flooding and drought.



# Carbon profile

Based on \$10m invested, in 2022 the companies in the strategy contributed to:

				Total
النا النا النا النا النا النا النا النا	Scope 1 & 2 G	GHG emissions (	(tCO <sub>2</sub> e)	1,110
الداد جيئي	Scope 3 GHG	emissions (tCO <sub>2</sub>	<sub>2</sub> e)	1,790
CO <sub>2</sub>	Avoided GHG	emissions (tCO <sub>2</sub>	<sub>e</sub> e)	2,200
Avoided GHG e (tCO <sub>2</sub> e) were ed			Equivalent number of cars off the road	480

In 2022, the companies in the strategy contributed to:

		Total
النان المالية	Scope 1 & 2 GHG emissions (tCO <sub>2</sub> e)	310
	Scope 3 GHG emissions (tCO <sub>2</sub> e)	510
CO <sub>2</sub>	Avoided GHG emissions (tCO <sub>2</sub> e)	620
Avoided GHG e (tCO <sub>2</sub> e) were e	5—7 Equivalent number of	130
	5—5 Equivalent number of	130

There can be no assurance that net 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 12/31/2022. 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.



### **Carbon analysis**

Typically, we gather Scope 1, 2, and 3 GHG emission data directly from company disclosures and/or via the Climate Disclosure Project (CDP). Where sufficient information is not available, we may contact companies to request additional information, which in some cases produces enhanced data. Impax uses third party estimates for missing Scope 1 and 2 GHG emissions. Impax does not use estimates for Scope 3 GHG emissions.

Avoided GHG emissions arise from the portfolio companies' products and services. This data is sourced from the company directly or is calculated at the relevant individual company product level using a number of inputs to produce a conservative avoidance of GHG emissions figure. Such inputs may include volumes of products sold, product-level efficiency indicators vs regional baselines and regional grid efficiency factors.

Investee companies contributing to avoided GHG emissions included: renewable energy companies such as Orsted (Renewable Energy Developers & IPPs, Denmark), Northland Power (Renewable Energy Developers & IPPs, Canada), Iberdrola (Renewable Energy Developers & IPPs, Spain), as well as those making components for renewable energy generation including SolarEdge Technologies (Solar Inverters, US) and Xinvi Solar (Renewable Energy Developers & IPPs, China).

Other portfolio holdings aiding in the transition to a lower carbon economy included Waste Management (General Waste Management, US), Spirax-Sarco Engineering (Industrial Energy Efficiency, UK), and Sika (Buildings Energy Efficiency, Germany).

# Weighted Average Carbon Intensity (WACI)

Investors are keen to understand the Weighted Average Carbon Intensity (WACI) of portfolios, and increasingly also seek an ability to reference results against those for the broader market. For Impaxmanaged portfolios, we use the above-described process to gather stock-level GHG emission data (Scope 1 & 2) and calculate companies' GHG emissions per US\$1 million of sales (WACI). To calculate WACI for broader equity benchmarks, we use Impax stock-level data where available and third-party data for the remaining constituents of the benchmark. Measurement of GHG emissions is still an evolving discipline, and data can vary significantly between third-party providers – this is due to differences in data gathering methodologies including aspects such as varying percentages of stock coverage and differing estimation methodologies and models.

		Total
الداد المالية	Sustainable Infrastructure (Active) strategy	187.8¹
الالالالالالالالالالالالالالالالالالال	MSCI All Country World Index	127.6

<sup>1</sup>Total scope 1 & 2 using Impax impact data, tCO₂e per US\$1 million sales

There can be no assurance that net impact results in the future will be comparable to the results presented herein. Source: Impax Asset Management. Third party data is from Bloomberg. Based on most recently reported annual environmental data for holdings and assets under management as of 12/31/2022. The specific securities identified and described are for informational purposes only and do not represent recommendations. 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. Indexes are unmanaged, and it is not possible to invest directly in an index. ^Please refer to the end of the document for the weights of holdings as of 06/30/2023. Holdings subject to change.



# Carbon profile - company example

#### SolarEdge Technologies, Solar Energy Generation Equipment, US

SolarEdge is a leading clean energy solutions company that aims to help drive the global energy transition. Established in 2006, the company focuses on improving solar energy production, consumption, and management across various applications and industries. The company's vision is to create a world powered by clean and sustainable energy, and SolarEdge strives to develop innovative technologies that optimize power generation, storage, and usage.

With a wide range of smart energy solutions, including power optimizers, photovoltaic monitoring solutions, all-in-one inverters, and power harvesting accessories to the residential and commercial market, SolarEdge is working on advancing the adoption of clean energy technologies. Operating in over 140 countries, SolarEdge has equipped about 3 million homes with a SolarEdge photovoltaic (PV) system and manages PV systems for 50% of Fortune 100 companies. The company has managed to produce over 30,000 GWh in 2022. With significant impact on greenhouse gas emission avoidance, the company is dedicated to making a positive contribution to combating climate change.

One interesting innovative solution by SolarEdge is the "Floatovoltaic" solution at the Wu-Shan-Tou Reservoir in Taiwan. Limited by available land in the densely populated region, working with the government SolarEdge created a 17 million kWh floating energy system on the local water reservoir. The solution also offers other benefits to the ecosystem by reducing direct sunlight as well as helping limit evaporation and the likelihood of algae blooms. In return, the water helps increase production efficiency by creating a cooler atmosphere. Along with other such case studies across the globe, SolarEdge is helping "power the future of energy".

Data as of 06/30/2023, SolarEdge Technologies was 0.84% of the portfolio. Source: Impax Asset Management. Based on most recently reported annual environmental data for holdings and assets under management as of 12/31/2022. The specific securities identified and described are for informational purposes only and do not represent recommendations. This example was selected based on its carbon avoidance. Other examples may not result in similar outcomes. 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.



### **Environmental benefits**

Based on \$10m invested, in 2022 the companies in the strategy contributed to:

	Total	Equivalent to
Water provided/saved/treated	<b>280m</b> gallons	2,560 Households' water consumption
Renewable energy generated	<b>1,610</b> MWh	<b>150</b> Households' electricity consumption
Material recovered/waste treated	<b>1,301</b> tons	<b>580</b> Households' waste output

#### In 2022, the companies in the strategy contributed to:

Water provided/saved/treated	<b>79m</b> gallons	<b>720</b> Households' water consumption
Renewable energy generated	<b>460</b> MWh	<b>40</b> Households' electricity consumption
Material recovered/waste treated	<b>364</b> tons	<b>160</b> Households' waste output

There can be no assurance that net 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 12/31/2022. The specific securities identified and described are for informational purposes only and do not represent recommendations. This example was selected based on its carbon avoidance. Other examples may not result in similar outcomes. 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. '1Average annual US household water usage of 414,500 litres. Source: Impax calculations, based on water usage data from the US Environmental Protection Agency (2022), the US Geological Survey (2022) and The World Counts (2022). '2Average annual US household electricity usage of 10.7 MWh. Source: US Energy Information Agency, 2022. '3Average annual US household waste of 2,116kg. Source: Impax calculations based on data from the US Environmental Protection Agency (2019) and average household size data from the US Census Bureau (2021). Please refer to Impact methodology page for more details on our impact reporting.



### **Environmental analysis**

The portfolio invests globally in sustainable infrastructure solutions. Investments are made in companies which have >20% of their underlying revenue generated by providing access to vital resources or advancing societal well-being.

The portfolio's weighted average revenue exposure to these markets at year end was approximately 70%.

SolarEdge Technologies, a US company which manufactures inverters and optimizers for residential rooftop solar, was the largest contributor to renewable electricity in the portfolio. Other renewable players in the portfolio with measurable metrics for clean power generated included Northland Power (Renewable Energy Developers & IPPs, Canada), Iberdrola (Renewable Energy Developers & IPPs, Spain), and Xinyi Solar (Renewable Energy Developers & IPPs, China). In addition, waste company Veolia (Water Utilities, France) generated renewable energy through its extensive use of biomass and biogas.

Investee companies also helped in the provision, saving and treatment of water. This was facilitated by activities from global water utilities, water infrastructure companies, companies providing critical supplies for water treatment, or those specializing in industrial water and energy efficiency. Valmont Industries (Water Distribution & Infrastructure, US) and Veolia (Water Utilities, France) were key contributors.

Lastly, two waste companies Veolia and Waste Management (General Waste Management, US) were notable contributors in facilitating the treatment of materials recovered/waste treated.



References to specific securities are included as an illustration of the investment managements strategy and should not be considered as a recommendation to buy or sell. Please refer to the end of the document for the weights of holdings as of 06/30/2023. Holdings subject to change.



# **Environmental** impact – company example

#### Veolia Environment, Water Utilities, France

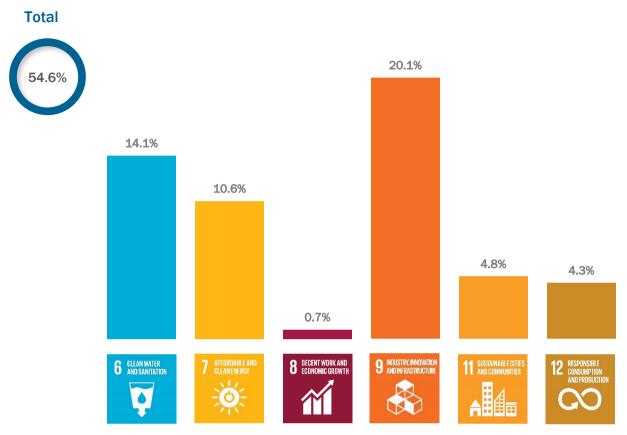
Veolia is a French utility supplying drinking water and waste management services globally. Operating on five continents, the company is an important player in the global water and waste markets and the delivery of more efficient use of resources. In 2022 alone, Veolia provided 111 million people with drinking water, 97 million people with wastewater services, recovered and treated 58 million metric tonnes of waste and produced almost 14 terawatt hours of renewable energy.

Population growth and climate changes are turning water into a scarcer resource, elevating water efficiency and water treatment solutions to paramount importance. Whether pertaining to the water cycle in cities, commercial buildings, or industries – for all users, resilience, cost control, service continuity and increased water efficiency lie at the heart of water management. Veolia has reached an efficiency of 76.3% (water consumed/water produced) within its drinking water networks globally, compared to a global water loss number that is typically much higher, between 35% to 40%. The company deploys no less than 350 different proprietary water treatment technology solutions. Examples of innovation at Veolia include: a new facility designed in Suzhou, China, which optimizes treatment and recycling of the local plant's wastewater, reducing water use and lowering the carbon footprint; and a new wastewater treatment plant installed in Dubai which recycles water from a nearby artificial lake. Through its three business units – water, energy and waste – the company focuses on resource optimization and aims to "be the world champion in ecological transformation".

Data as of 06/30/2023, was 3.78% of the portfolio. Source: Impax Asset Management. Based on most recently reported annual environmental data for holdings and assets under management as of 12/31/2022. The specific securities identified and described are for informational purposes only and do not represent recommendations. This example was selected based on its waste / water impact. Other examples may not result in similar outcomes. 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.



# **UN Sustainable Development Goals alignment**



No.	UN Sustainable Development Goals	Revenue Exposure
6	Clean Water and Sanitation	14.1%
7	Affordable and Clean Energy	10.6%
8	Decent Work and Economic Growth	0.7%
9	Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure	20.1%
11	Sustainable Cities and Communities	4.8%
12	Responsible Consumption and Production	4.3%
Total		54.6%

Impax has mapped the representative portfolio to show how companies' eligible activities align with the goals based on environmental market revenue exposure.

- Goal 6, Clean Water and Sanitation, which relates to holdings in Water Utilities, Water Treatment, and Water Distribution & Infrastructure.
- Goal 7, Affordable and Clean Energy, which relates to holdings in Renewable Energy Developers & Power Producers, and Energy Equipment & Technologies.
- Goal 9, Industry Innovation and Infrastructure, which relates to holdings in Smart & Efficient Grids, Railways, and Power Storage & UPS.

Source: Data as of 12/31/2022. The UN SDGs encompass 17 goals. For further information, please visit <a href="http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/sustainable-development-goals">http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/sustainable-development-goals</a>. 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. Data based on representative portfolio. Mapping to the representative portfolio in the strategy that we believe most closely reflects the current portfolio management style for the strategy. Performance is not a consideration in the selection of the representative portfolio. The characteristics of the representative portfolio shown may differ from those of other accounts in the strategy. Data in the table may not sum precisely to 100% due to rounding.



# Impax's current memberships

Impax works collaboratively with peers to support the expansion of sustainable finance. Here is a selection of our current memberships.

A Just Transition: Looking at challenges faced when moving to a more sustainable economy and why investors need to integrate a social dimension into their climate strategies.

Asian Corporate Governance Association (ACGA): Focuses on collaborative engagement with companies and policymakers to improve governance structures and practices in Asia.

**Carbon Disclosure Project (CDP):** An independent organization holding the largest database of corporate climate change information in the world.

Climate Action 100+: An investor-led initiative aimed at encouraging the world's largest corporate greenhouse gas emitters to improve governance on climate change, emissions and climate-related financial disclosures.

Council of Institutional Investors (CII): Promoting strong governance and shareholder rights standards at public companies.

**Defined Contribution Institutional Investment Association:** A non-profit association dedicated to enhancing the retirement security of America's workers.

**Energy Transitions Commission:** A global coalition of leaders from across the energy landscape committed to achieving net-zero emissions by midcentury.

**FAIRR**: A collaborative investor network that raises awareness of the environmental, social and governance risks and opportunities brought about by industrialized livestock production.

Financing a Just Transition Alliance: Identifies the role finance can play in connecting action on climate change with inclusive development pathways.

Finance Sector Deforestation Action: Collaborative to unite organizations around a shared engagement approach to tackling deforestation and other climate and nature-related initiatives.

Global Impact Investing Network (GIIN): The largest global community of impact investors (asset owners and asset managers) and service providers engaged in impact investing.

Global ESG Benchmark for Real Assets (GRESB): Industry-led organization that provides environmental, social and governance data to financial markets.

Institutional Investors Group on Climate Change (IIGCC): A forum for collaboration on climate change for European investors.

Interfaith Center on Corporate Responsibility: Coalition of institutional investors aiming to integrate social values into corporate and investor actions.

Investor Network on Climate Risk (INCR): Partners with investors worldwide to advance investment opportunities and reduce material risks posed by sustainability challenges such as global climate change and water scarcity.

Long-term Investors in People's Health Initiative (LIPH): Giving investors the tools to improve health outcomes by sharing best practices and creating opportunities to collaborate on corporate engagement.

Natural Capital Investment Alliance: Mobilizing investment in Nature-based economic opportunities.

**Net Zero Asset Managers Initiative:** An international group of asset managers committed to supporting the goal of net zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050 or sooner.

Plastic Solutions Investor Alliance (As You Sow): International coalition of investors that engages publicly traded consumer goods companies on the threat posted by plastic waste and pollution.



# Impax's current memberships continued:

Powering Past Coalition Alliance: Coalition of governments, businesses and organizations working to advance the transition from unabated coal power generation to clean energy.

**Principles for Responsible Investment (PRI)**: Aims to help investors integrate ESG considerations into investment decision making and supports sharing best practice in active ownership.

PRI Sustainable Stock Exchanges Working Group: A peer-to-peer learning platform for investors, regulators, and companies. Looking at enhancing corporate transparency, and ultimately performance, on ESG risks and encouraging sustainable investment.

Race at Work: Part of BITC Business in the Community, The Prince's Responsible Business Network, this initiative seeks to accelerate change through five calls to action for organizations committed to improving equality of opportunity in the workplace.

ShareAction Investor Decarbonization Initiative: Aims to bring together investors to accelerate corporate action on climate change.

Shareholder Rights Group: Association of investors that defends share owners' rights to engage with public companies on governance and long-term value creation.

Sustainable Investment Institute: A non-profit organisation conducting research and publishing reports on organized efforts to influence corporate behavior on social and environmental issues.

Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures (TCFD): Develops voluntary, consistent climate-related financial risk disclosures for companies providing information to investors, lenders, insurers and other stakeholders.

Taskforce on Nature-related Financial Disclosures: Member of TNFD Forum to help develop and deliver a risk management and disclosure framework reporting and acting on nature-related risks. The Investing and Saving Alliance (TISA): A not-forprofit membership organisation with a mission to improve the financial wellbeing of UK consumers and help shape the future of the UK financial services industry.

Thirty Percent Coalition: A unique and groundbreaking U.S. organization committed to having women, including women of color, hold 30 percent of board seats across public companies.

**Tobacco Free Portfolios:** A group of financial institutions that have implemented tobacco-free finance policies and encourage others to follow suit.

**UK Stewardship Code:** Aims to enhance the quality of engagement between institutional investors and companies to help improve long-term returns to shareholders and the efficient exercise of governance responsibilities.

**UK Sustainable Investment and Finance Association (UKSIF):** Provides services and opportunities to align investment profitability with social and environmental responsibility.

**USSIF**: A US-based membership association promoting sustainable, responsible and impact investment.

Women's Empowerment Principles: The UN Women's Empowerment Principles are a set of practical guidelines that businesses can use to promote gender equality in the workplace and the community.

Women in Finance: Commitment by the UK's HM Treasury to build a more balanced and fair industry, working to see gender balance at all levels across finance services firms.



### Methodology

#### Impact methodology

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 at 31 December 2022. 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 2022 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 12/31/2022 was applied to measure the environmental benefit attributable to the strategies. These included:

- Greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, Scope 1, 2 and 3 (tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>e)
- Greenhouse gas (GHG) avoidance (tonnes of CO2e)
- Renewable electricity generated (MWh)
- Water treated, saved or provided (megalitres/gallons)
- Materials recovered/waste treated (tonnes/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 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 following table summarizes the data that was available and estimated for companies in the strategy. The total number of companies in the strategy as of 12/31/2022 was 36.

Metric estimated/disclosed	Companies for which the metric is relevant	Companies for which the metric was available	Companies for which the metric was estimated	Metric was not available and could not be estimated
CO <sub>2</sub> emitted	36	35	1	0
CO <sub>2</sub> avoided	30	19	7	10
Renewable electricity generated	17	16	1	17
Water treated, saved or provided	13	10	2	21
Materials recovered/ waste treated	11	10	0	22

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.



### Methodology

#### **SDG** mapping

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. For further details, please refer to the latest <a href="mailto:lmpax">lmpax</a> report. 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.

#### The Weighted Average Carbon Intensity (WACI)

The WACI is calculated using MSCI ESG Research company level research and measures a strategy's exposure to carbon intensive companies. This figure represents the estimated greenhouse gas emissions per 1 million in sales across the strategy's holdings. This allows for comparisons between strategies 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 <a href="https://www.msci.com/index-carbon-footprint-metrics">https://www.msci.com/index-carbon-footprint-metrics</a>.

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 strategy and index weighted average carbon intensity numbers are calculated by and sourced from FactSet, using MSCI ESG Research company-level data.

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As of 06/30/2023, CVS Health Corp was 1.90% of the portfolio, Microsoft Corp was 3.62% of the portfolio, MTR Corp was 2.54% of the portfolio, Prologis Inc was 2.02% of the portfolio, Spirax-Sarco Engineering PLC was 1.39% of the portfolio, Welltower Inc as 1.43% of the portfolio, and Xinyi Solar Holdings Ltd was 0.93% of the portfolio.

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As of 06/30/2023, Orsted was 2.53% of the portfolio, Northland Power was 2.91% of the portfolio, and Iberdrola SA was 1.77% of the portfolio,



# **Important information**

Investments involve risk, including potential loss of capital. The investment techniques and decisions of the investment adviser and portfolio manager(s), including the investment adviser's assessment of a company's ESG (Environmental, Social and Governance) profile when selecting investments for the strategy, may not produce the desired results and may adversely impact the strategy's performance, including relative to other strategies that do not consider ESG factors or come to different conclusions regarding such factors. Please refer to Form ADV Part 2A Brochure on impaxam.com or adviserinfo.sec.gov for more information about Impax and the investment risks of this strategy.

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