

Schroder International Selection Fund – QEP Global ESG ex Fossil Fuels

Summary

The Fund maintains a higher overall sustainability score than the MSCI AC World ex Energy (Net TR) index, based on the Investment Manager's rating system. This benchmark (which is a broad market index) does not take into account the environmental and social characteristics promoted by the Fund. No reference benchmark has been designated for the purpose of meeting the environmental or social characteristics promoted by the financial product. The sustainability score of the Fund is measured by SustainEx™, Schroders' proprietary tool that provides an estimate of the potential social and environmental costs and benefits that an issuer may create.

The Fund is actively managed and invests at least two-thirds of its assets in a diversified portfolio of equity and equity related securities of companies worldwide, excluding companies that derive any revenues from fossil fuels (including but not limited to fossil fuel production, refining and transportation and power generation) and companies with fossil fuel reserves.

The Fund may also apply certain exclusions. Further information on all of the Fund's exclusions is to be found further below under the "Monitoring of environmental or social characteristics" section which includes companies that generate any revenue from fossil fuel. The exclusion of certain activities, industries or groups of issuers listed below, as well as the investment limits applicable to the Fund, will be measured within the Investment Manager's portfolio compliance framework.

Governance is a key dimension within the proprietary sustainability framework applied within the Fund's quantitative investment process. Our governance assessment is applied universally, across our entire investment universe, rewarding highly rated companies whilst penalising those with poorer standards and actively avoiding the worst.

This financial product promotes environmental or social characteristics, but does not have as its objective sustainable investment.

The minimum proportion of the Fund's assets used to attain the environmental or social characteristics is equal to 70%. The Fund will invest at least 40% of its assets in sustainable investments. Each sustainable investment demonstrates a net positive effect across a range of environmental or social objectives, as scored by Schroders' proprietary tool. The Fund includes investments that are treated as neutral for sustainability purposes. It may also include investments that are not scored by Schroders' proprietary sustainability tool and so do not contribute towards the Fund's sustainability score.

The Fund's investment and asset selection process has been reviewed and approved by the investment manager's Product Development Committee that includes representatives from the Legal, Compliance, Product and Sustainable Investment functions. Ongoing compliance with the agreed sustainability characteristics is monitored by the Portfolio Compliance Team. There are no external controls on that due diligence.

The Investment Manager draws information on investee companies from publicly available corporate information and company meetings, from broker reports, industry bodies, and research organisations, think tanks, legislators, consultants, Non-Governmental Organisations and academics.

Third party research may be used, however our internal analysts form a proprietary view on each of the companies we analyse.

The Investment Manager subscribes to external ESG research providers including; MSCI ESG research, Bloomberg, Refinitiv, Sustainalytics and Morningstar, which is subject to periodic review and change.

Whilst the third parties that deliver the vast majority of the data used have been chosen carefully, data errors may occur. To address this, a dedicated ESG Data Governance team pro-actively monitors for errors and resolves data queries. This involves close collaboration with the third-party data providers, and managing and tracking data corrections.

Limitations to the Investment Manager's methodology and data mainly arise from data errors, data availability, specifically the lack of company reported data in some cases and data estimation as detailed in the section titled "Data sources and processing".

Where data is not available, Schrodgers will engage with companies to encourage them to disclose the missing data points.

Some of our proprietary tools infer missing values where applicable. Our models typically employ a range of techniques to estimate missing values where appropriate and reasonably robust.

Where data for a metric is not sufficiently available to form robust conclusions, we do not include that metric in our tools.

The Investment Manager ensures that at least 90% of the portion of the Fund's Net Asset Value composed of investments in companies is rated against the sustainability criteria.

The coding and monitoring of investment risk restrictions is the responsibility of the Investment Manager's Portfolio Compliance team within the independent Investment Risk function.

The data in the portfolio compliance framework forms the basis for monitoring of risk limits and indicators, and the latest information on portfolio structure (such as asset allocation, sector and country positions) and risk metrics is available. Users are able to build customised reports to focus on specific aspects of the portfolio.

We consider active ownership to be the influence we can apply to management teams to ensure sustainable practices in the assets in which we invest. We aim to drive change that will protect and enhance the value of our investments and we are committed to leveraging the weight of our firm to change how a company is operating for the better.

Further details on our approach to active ownership policy is publicly available:

<https://mybrand.schrodgers.com/m/3222ea4ed44a1f2c/original/schrodgers-engagement-blueprint.pdf>.

No sustainable investment objective

This financial product promotes environmental or social characteristics, but does not have as its objective sustainable investment.

The Investment Manager's approach to investing in issuers that do not cause significant harm to any environmental or social sustainable investment objective includes the following:

- Firm-wide investment exclusions apply to Schrodgers funds. These relate to international conventions on cluster munitions, anti-personnel mines, and chemical and biological weapons and a list of those companies that are excluded is available at <https://www.schrodgers.com/en/sustainability/active-ownership/group-exclusions/>. Firm-wide exclusions also apply to companies generating more than 20% of their revenue from thermal coal mining.

Source: Schrodgers, as at Nov 2024. Screening data is provided by a third party unless otherwise specified.

Maximum percentage of revenue refers to highest acceptable revenue figure for that business activity.

Value chain refers to the related business activities that are considered these include suppliers, distributors, retailers and producers.

Any tie includes companies with an industry tie to the excluded activity.

- The Fund excludes companies that derive revenues above certain thresholds from activities related to tobacco and thermal coal.
- The Fund excludes companies that are assessed by Schroders to have breached one or more 'global norms' thereby causing significant environmental or social harm; these companies comprise Schroders' 'global norms' breach list. Schroders' determination of whether a company has been involved in such a breach considers relevant principles such as those contained in the UN Global Compact (UNGC) principles, the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises and the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights. The 'global norms' breach list may be informed by assessments performed by third party providers and by proprietary research, where relevant to a particular situation.
- The Fund may also apply certain other exclusions in addition to those summarised above.

Further information on all of the Fund's investment exclusions is to be found further below under "Monitoring of environmental or social characteristics" section.

Environmental or social characteristics of the financial product

The Fund maintains a higher overall sustainability score than the MSCI AC World ex Energy (Net TR) index, based on the Investment Manager's rating system. This benchmark (which is a broad market index) does not take into account the environmental and social characteristics promoted by the Fund.

The Fund invests at least 40% of its assets in sustainable investments, which are investments that the Investment Manager expects to contribute towards the advancement of one or more environmental and/or social objective(s).

For more information on how the sustainability score is measured please refer to the "Methodologies for environmental or social characteristics" section.

Investment strategy

The sustainable investment strategy used by the Investment Manager is as follows:

The Fund is actively managed and invests at least two-thirds of its assets in a diversified portfolio of equity and equity related securities of companies worldwide, excluding companies that derive any revenues from fossil fuels (including but not limited to fossil fuel production, refining and transportation and power generation) and companies with fossil fuel reserves.

The Fund focuses on companies that have certain "Value" and/or "Quality" characteristics. Value is assessed by looking at indicators such as cash flows, dividends and earnings to identify securities which the Investment Manager believes have been undervalued by the market. Quality is assessed by looking at indicators such as a company's profitability, stability, financial strength, structural growth and governance.

The Fund maintains a higher overall sustainability score than MSCI AC World ex Energy (Net TR) index, based on the Investment Manager's rating system.

The Fund may invest directly in China B-Shares and China H-Shares and may invest less than 10% of its assets (on a net basis) directly or indirectly (for example via participatory notes) in China A-Shares through Shanghai-Hong Kong Stock Connect and Shenzhen-Hong Kong Stock Connect and shares listed on the STAR Board and the ChiNext.

The Fund may also invest up to one-third of its assets directly or indirectly in other securities (including other asset classes), countries, regions, industries or currencies, investment funds, warrants and money market investments, and hold cash.

The Fund may use derivatives with the aim of reducing risk or managing the Fund more efficiently.

The Fund does not directly invest in certain activities, industries or groups of issuers above the limits listed under the "Monitoring of environmental or social characteristics" section.

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Any tie includes companies with an industry tie to the excluded activity.

Governance is a key dimension within the proprietary sustainability framework applied within the Fund's quantitative investment process. Our governance assessment is applied universally, across our entire investment universe, rewarding highly rated companies whilst penalising those with poorer standards and actively avoiding the worst. We include a breadth of underlying terms within our governance assessment, capturing material areas such as management structure (including board independence) alongside accounting quality, the treatment of shareholders by assessing ownership structures & dividend policy as well as measuring shareholder dissent. The full range of inputs included within our governance framework is included beneath.

Dividend Policy: Reward sustainable and increasing pay outs, asymmetric penalty for cuts

Accounting Risk: Over 20 key red flags including working capital stress, expense & revenue recognition and asset & liability valuation

Risks to Shareholders: Penalise higher risk ownership structures and elevated exchange related risks

Business Oversight: Reward independence and efficient structure of the board & key committees, asymmetric penalty for lower independence

Innovation: Reward firms with positive R&D relative to revenue generation

QEP Country Risk Monitor: Penalise poor country level governance standards. Political & Governance risk used as a conditional criteria

Social risks are inherently driven by the nature of the underlying business as well as management decisions. We consider seven inputs within our social framework. It is recognised that the extent to which these arise depends upon the industry the company operates in. For example, product quality is a key measure for manufacturing and consumer businesses which is why we focus on product recalls, particularly for high impact industries such as pharmaceuticals. By way of another example, data privacy is material for an increasing number of companies but is especially important for IT services and financials. However, where areas of concern are universal to companies we will apply penalties to companies globally, including for areas such as excessive employee turnover and tax avoidance.

The Fund invests in companies that have good governance practices, as determined by the Investment Manager's rating criteria.

The primary sources of information include fundamental accounting data, Schroders' proprietary sustainability tools and third-party ESG data.

The Investment Manager may also engage with companies held by the Fund to challenge identified areas of weakness on sustainability issues. More details on the Investment Manager's approach to sustainability and its engagement with companies are available on the webpage:

<https://www.schroders.com/en-lu/lu/individual/what-we-do/sustainable-investing/our-sustainable-investment-policies-disclosures-voting-reports/disclosures-and-statements/>

The Investment Manager applies sustainability criteria when selecting investments for the Fund.

Companies in the investment universe are assessed on their governance, environmental and social profile, across a wide range of underlying measures. The Investment Manager will then decide whether a company is eligible for inclusion in the Fund, based on its sustainability profile. The sustainability characteristics of a company can also impact the sizing of positions in the Fund.

Within governance, criteria assessed include risk to shareholders, business oversight, accounting risk and dividend policy. Environmental considerations include climate change related risks alongside broader environmental impact and opportunities. Social criteria reflects areas such as business involvement, safety, employee welfare, supply chain management and data privacy.

The Investment Manager ensures that at least 90% of the portion of the Fund's Net Asset Value composed of investments in companies is rated against the sustainability criteria. As a result of the application of

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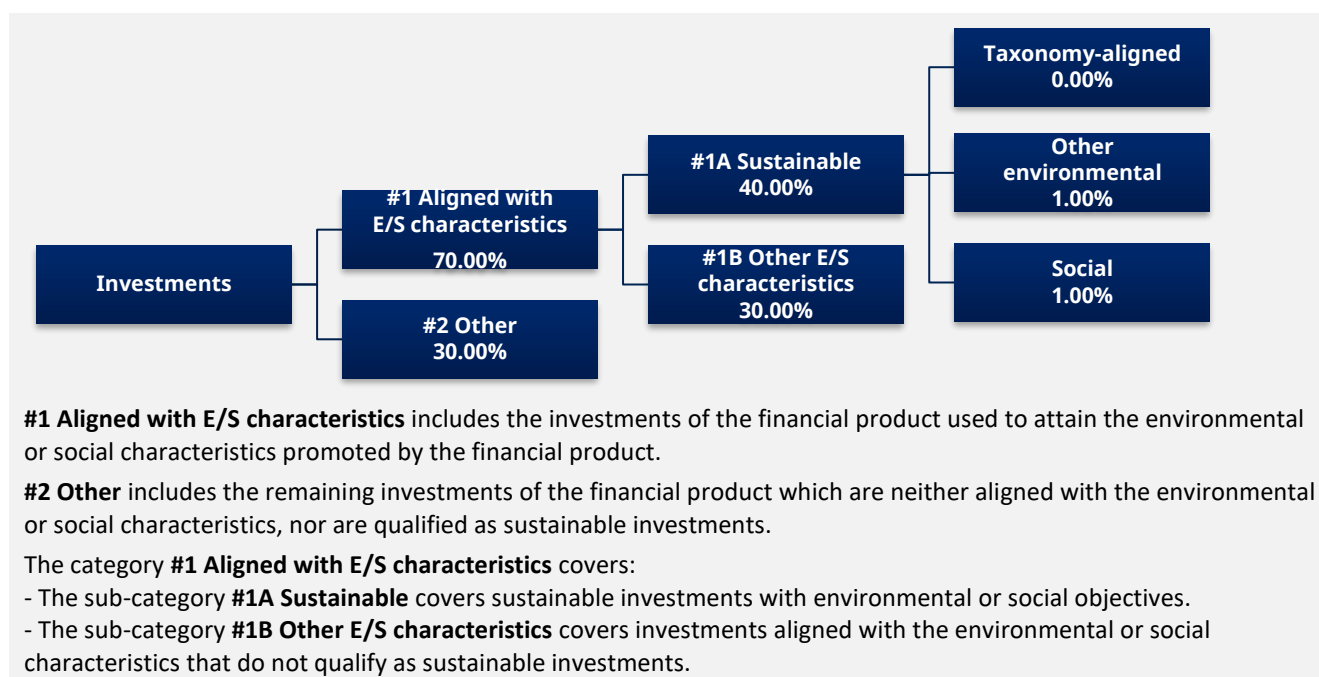
sustainability criteria, the portfolio exhibits a higher overall sustainability score than its investment universe after the bottom rated 20% of stocks within the investment universe are excluded.

For the purposes of this test, the potential investment universe is the core universe of issuers that the Investment Manager may select for the Fund prior to the application of sustainability criteria, in accordance with the other limitations of the Investment Objective and Policy. This universe is comprised of equity and equity-related securities of companies worldwide.

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

Proportion of investments

The planned composition of the Fund's investments that are used to meet its environmental or social characteristics are summarised below.



#1 Aligned with E/S characteristics includes the minimum proportion of the Fund's assets used to attain the environmental or social characteristics, which is equal to 70%. The Fund commits to maintain a higher overall sustainability score than the MSCI AC World ex Energy (Net TR) index, and so the Fund's investments that are scored by Schroders' proprietary sustainability tool are included within the minimum proportion stated in #1 on the basis that they will contribute to the Fund's sustainability score (whether such individual investment has a positive or a negative score). Also included within #1 is the minimum proportion of assets that are invested in sustainable investments, as indicated in #1A. The minimum proportions stated apply in normal market conditions. The actual proportion stated in #1 is expected to be higher.

For more information on how the sustainability score is measured please refer to the "Methodologies for environmental or social characteristics" section.

#2 Other includes cash which is treated as neutral for sustainability purposes. #2 also includes investments that are not scored by Schroders' proprietary sustainability tool and so do not contribute towards the Fund's sustainability score. As #1 states a minimum proportion that is in practice expected to be higher, the proportion stated in #2 is expected to be lower.

Minimum safeguards are applied where relevant to Money Market Investments and other investments by restricting (as appropriate) investments in counterparties where there are ownership links or exposure to

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higher risk countries (for the purpose of money laundering, terrorist financing, bribery, corruption, tax evasion and sanctions risks). A firm-wide risk assessment considers the risk rating of each jurisdiction; which includes reference to a number of public statements, indices and world governance indicators issued by the UN, the European Union, the UK Government, the Financial Action Task Force and several Non-Government Organisations (NGOs), such as Transparency International and the Basel Committee.

In addition, new counterparties are reviewed by Schroders' credit risk team and approval of a new counterparty is based on a holistic review of the various sources of information available, including, but not limited to, quality of management, ownership structure, location, regulatory and social environment to which each counterparty is subject, and the degree of development of the local banking system and its regulatory framework. Ongoing monitoring is performed through a Schroders' proprietary tool, which supports the analysis of a counterparty's management of environmental, social and governance trends and challenges. Any significant deterioration in the profile of the counterparty in Schroders' proprietary tool would lead to further analysis and potential exclusion by Schroders' credit risk team.

Monitoring of environmental or social characteristics

The sustainability score of the Fund is measured by SustainEx™, Schroders' proprietary tool that provides an estimate of the societal or environmental impact that an issuer may create.

The exclusion of certain activities, industries or groups of issuers listed below, as well as the investment limits applicable to the Fund, are measured within the Investment Manager's portfolio compliance framework. Exclusions and limits are coded into this framework to seek to ensure that pre-trade compliance correctly flags the securities that should not enter the portfolio. Securities excluded based on revenue thresholds are evaluated quarterly by the Sustainable Investment team using MSCI's revenue data.

The coding and monitoring of investment risk restrictions is the responsibility of the Investment Manager's Portfolio Compliance team within the independent Investment Risk function.

The data in the portfolio compliance framework forms the basis for monitoring of risk limits and indicators, and the latest information on portfolio structure (such as asset allocation, sector and country positions) and risk metrics is available to our investment risk, portfolio compliance and investment teams.

Exclusion Criteria

Environmental exclusions

Excluded Activity	Criteria
Thermal Coal Mining Maximum Percentage of Revenue	0%
Metallurgic Coal Mining Maximum Percentage of Revenue	0%
Oil and Gas Value Chain - Maximum Percentage of Revenue	0%
Fossil Fuel Power Generation Maximum Percentage of Revenue	0%
Evidence of Fossil Fuel Reserves	True
Palm Oil Maximum Percentage of Revenue	5%

Social exclusions

Excluded Activity	Criteria
Tobacco Value Chain Maximum Percentage of Revenue	5%
Alcohol Value Chain Maximum Percentage of Revenue	5%
Gambling Maximum Percentage of Revenue	5%

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Adult Entertainment Maximum Percentage of Revenue	5%
Civilian Firearms Maximum Percentage of Revenue	5%
Weapons Maximum Percentage of Revenue	5%
Nuclear Weapons Maximum Percentage of Revenue	0%
Predatory Lending Maximum Percentage of Revenue	5%

Bespoke Schroders exclusions

Excluded Activity	Criteria
Schroders Controversial Weapons Curated List ¹	All
Schroders' 'Global Norms' Breach List	All

Methodologies for environmental or social characteristics

The Fund promotes the following characteristic: it maintains a higher overall sustainability score than the MSCI AC World ex Energy (Net TR) index, based on the Investment Manager's rating system. As stated above, the sustainability score is measured by SustainEx™, Schroders' proprietary tool that provides an estimate of the potential social and environmental costs and benefits that an issuer may create. It does this by using certain metrics with respect to that issuer, and quantifying the positive (for example by paying 'fair wages') and negative (for example the carbon an issuer emits) impacts of each of those metrics to produce an aggregate measure expressed as a notional percentage of sales of the relevant underlying issuer. The overall sustainability score aggregates the effect of sustainability indicators including but not limited to greenhouse gas emissions, water usage, and salaries compared to the living wage. An issuer may be a company or a sovereign.

As part of the Fund's investment processes, the SustainEx™ score, and the drivers of that score, are reviewed at the overall fund level. Schroders proprietary tools, including SustainEx™, may not cover all of the Fund's holdings from time to time, in which case the Investment Manager may use alternative methods to assess relevant holdings in the Fund. In addition, certain types of assets (such as cash) are treated as neutral and are therefore not considered by our proprietary tools.

The Fund also invests at least 40% of its assets in sustainable investments, which are investments that the Investment Manager expects to contribute towards the advancement of one or more environmental and/or social objective(s). Each sustainable investment either (i) demonstrates a net positive effect across a range of environmental or social objectives, as scored by Schroders' proprietary tool and/or (ii) is classified as a green, social and/ or sustainable bond using a third-party data source. With the exception of any green or social bonds, which will be classified as having an environmental or social objective respectively, a sustainable investment is classified as having an environmental or social objective depending on whether the relevant issuer has a higher score in Schroders' proprietary tool relative to its applicable peer group for its environmental indicators or its social indicators. In each case, indicators are comprised of both "costs" and "benefits".

¹Schroders controversial weapons screening covers cluster munitions, anti-personnel mines, and chemical and biological weapons. Full details of the criteria and company names are available via the following link: <https://www.schroders.com/en/sustainability/active-ownership/group-exclusions/>

Source: Schroders, as at Nov 2024. Screening data is provided by a third party unless otherwise specified. Maximum percentage of revenue refers to highest acceptable revenue figure for that business activity. Value chain refers to the related business activities that are considered these include suppliers, distributors, retailers and producers. Any tie includes companies with an industry tie to the excluded activity.

Data sources and processing

In order to assess and understand the potential impact of sustainability risks and opportunities, Schroders has developed a range of proprietary tools. These tools rely on data that is available at the level of the underlying investment holdings.

The Investment Manager draws information on investee companies from publicly available corporate information and company meetings, from broker reports, industry bodies, and research organisations, think tanks, legislators, consultants, Non-Governmental Organisations and academics.

Third party research may be used, however our internal analysts form a proprietary view on each of the companies we analyse. Financial analysts may also use third-party research to support their assessment of ESG issues when analysing companies, in addition to consulting with our in-house ESG specialists. Through this process, we aim to evaluate the relevance and materiality of a range of ESG factors on the sustainability of future earnings growth and as potential risk factors for a company.

The Investment Manager subscribes to external ESG research providers including; MSCI ESG research, Bloomberg, Refinitiv, Sustainalytics and Morningstar, which is subject to periodic review and change.

Whilst the third parties that deliver the vast majority of the data used have been chosen carefully, data errors may occur. To address this, a dedicated ESG Data Governance team pro-actively monitors for errors and resolves data queries. This involves close collaboration with the third-party data providers, and managing and tracking data corrections.

Where data is not available, Schroders will engage with companies to encourage them to disclose the missing data points. This additional information will be used alongside data from conventional and unconventional data sources that feed into our proprietary tools.

Some of our proprietary tools infer missing values where applicable. Our models typically employ a range of techniques to estimate missing values where appropriate and reasonably robust. For example, in one tool, where reported values are missing for companies, we fill using metric-specific rules such as filling with the industry peer group 60th percentile where higher values are considered negative and the peer group 40th percentile where higher values are considered beneficial (which is a conservative approach).

Where data for a metric is not sufficiently available to form robust conclusions, we do not include that metric in our tools.

Whilst there may be some data estimation, it tends to be a marginal amount at the portfolio level with regard to our assessment of the sustainability characteristics of each company. The proportion of estimated data may vary over time.

Limitations to methodologies and data

Limitations to the Investment Manager's methodology and data mainly arise from data errors, data availability, specifically the lack of company reported data in some cases and data estimation as detailed in the section titled "Data sources and processing". Due to the range of data sources and due to combining both qualitative and quantitative elements involving a degree of subjectivity and judgement from the investment manager, we believe that these data limitations do not in aggregate materially impact our attainment of the environmental or social characteristics of the Fund.

Due diligence

The Fund's investment and asset selection process has been reviewed and approved by the investment manager's Product Development Committee that includes representatives from the Legal, Compliance, Product and Sustainable Investment functions. Ongoing compliance with the agreed sustainability characteristics is monitored by the Portfolio Compliance Team. There are no external controls on that due diligence.

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Any tie includes companies with an industry tie to the excluded activity.

Engagement policies

We consider active ownership to be the influence we can apply to management teams to ensure sustainable practices in the assets in which we invest. We aim to drive change that will protect and enhance the value of our investments and we are committed to leveraging the weight of our firm to change how a company is operating for the better.

Our active ownership priorities reflect the combined perspectives of our fund managers, investment analysts and sustainability specialists across the firm, supported centrally by the Sustainable Investment team. As a result, we are able to take a common approach across investment desks.

We focus on sustainability issues which we determine to be material to the long-term value of our investee holdings. When material and relevant, we believe that companies that address these factors, where lacking, will drive improved financial performance for our clients. These issues reflect expectations and trends across a range of stakeholders including employees, customers, and communities, to the environment, suppliers and regulators. By strengthening relationships with that range of stakeholders, business models become more sustainable. The governance structure and management quality that oversee these stakeholder relationships are also a focus for our engagement discussions. In addition, we seek to reflect the priorities of our clients. Based on this process, we identify six broad themes for our engagement: climate, natural capital & biodiversity, human rights, human capital management, diversity & inclusion and governance.

Our themes are underpinned by additional cross-cutting thematic priorities. We also increasingly recognise the interconnectedness of ESG themes, such as the “just transition”, which recognises the social dimension of the transition to a resilient and low-carbon economy. We seek to reflect this interconnectedness in our engagements with companies.

How we engage

We identify three key methods for practicing active ownership:

1. Dialogue: We speak with companies to understand if and how they are preparing for the long-term sustainability challenges they face.
2. Engagement: We work with companies to help them to recognise the potential impact of these challenges and to help them take action in the areas where change may be required.
3. Voting (where applicable): We use our voice and rights as shareholders to make sure these changes are effected.

These forms of active ownership can take place directly with companies, led by our fund managers, investment analysts and Sustainable Investment team; they can also take place in collaboration with other groups. Engagement is therefore a component of the portfolio’s investment strategy, both from an environmental and social perspectives.

We recognise that effective engagement requires continuous monitoring and ongoing dialogue. Where we have engaged repeatedly and seen no meaningful progress, we will escalate our concerns. Decisions on whether and how to escalate are based on the materiality of each issue, its urgency, the extent of our concern and whether the company has demonstrated progress through previous engagements. We identify a number of methods to escalate our engagements, such as meeting or otherwise communicating with non-executive directors or the chair of the Board, publicly stating our concerns, withholding support or voting against management and directors (where applicable) up to divesting partially or fully.

Our approach to active ownership focusses on achieving real-world outcomes and achieving change. When determining when to engage and setting an objective for the engagement, we consider:

1. Materiality: We seek to focus our engagement on the most material sustainability threats and opportunities to the company.
2. Regional context: The materiality of issues and the expectations we have of companies vary by country and region; for example, differing socio-cultural factors, regulatory maturity and resource constraints. Where

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possible we reference country or regional initiatives, regulations and leading practice from peers in our dialogue with companies.

3. Realistic outcomes: We consider both leading practice and what could realistically be achieved by the company in the next few years, including considering the size of the company.
4. Ability to monitor progress: We use objective, measurable metrics or indicators that can be used to assess company performance on an issue.
5. Length of engagement: We aim to set short- to mid-term objectives – that can often be achieved over a 12- to 24-month period depending on the intensity of the engagement – but with a longer-term vision in mind.

We aim to set pre-defined SMART (specific, measurable, achievable, realistic and time-bound) engagement objectives. We regularly monitor progress against the engagement objectives, at least annually, and at a frequency that is appropriate for the priority of the engagement and materiality of the issue or holding. That said, we recognise that the length of time to achieve an objective will vary depending upon its nature, and that key strategic changes will take time to implement into a company's business processes. A measurable outcome from our engagement upon completion of an objective could take a range of forms, including additional disclosure by a company, influencing the company strategy on a particular issue, or a change to the governance of an issue.

Further details on our approach to active ownership policy is publicly available:

<https://mybrand.schroders.com/m/3222ea4ed44a1f2c/original/schroders-engagement-blueprint.pdf>.

Designated reference benchmark

No reference benchmark has been designated for the purpose of meeting the environmental or social characteristics promoted by the financial product.

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