

UBS (Lux) Equity Fund - Global Sustainable Improvers (USD)

No sustainable investment objective

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

The Portfolio Manager applies exclusions to the investment universe of the financial product. The link to the Sustainability Exclusion Policy can be found in the main body of the Sales Prospectus.

The exclusions include thermal coal mining and thermal coal-based energy production & oil sands. UBS Asset Management does not invest in companies involved in controversial weapons i.e. cluster munitions, anti-personnel mines, chemical and biological weapons, or companies in breach of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons.

Investments are positively screened according to the environmental and/or social characteristics promoted by the financial product.

The Portfolio Manager employs a proprietary ESG Risk Dashboard, the Dashboard allows equity and credit analysts to quickly identify companies with significant ESG risks via the "UBS ESG Risk Signal". This clear, actionable signal serves as starting point for more in-depth analysis of the underlying sources of these risks and the links to their investment cases.

Companies violating the United Nations Global Compact (UNGC) principles, who do not demonstrate credible corrective action will be excluded from the investment universe.

Environmental or social characteristics of the financial product

The following characteristic(s) is/are promoted by the financial product:

The fund aims to identify companies that improve their ESG Score and/or their score in one or more of the individual pillars in the environment (E), social (S) or governance (G) areas.

The benchmark is a broad market index which does not assess or include constituents according to environmental and/or social characteristics and therefore is not intended to be consistent with the characteristics promoted by the financial product. No ESG reference benchmark has been designated for the purpose of attaining the characteristics promoted by the financial product.

The characteristic(s) is/are measured using the following indicator(s) respectively:

To measure sustainable improvement, the Portfolio Manager considers the trend of the ESG rating and/or ESG score and track changes over a predefined assessment period. The Portfolio Manager assesses the number of ESG rating and/or ESG scores that are downgraded, unchanged, or upgraded, leveraging both external and internal data sources and aims to achieve a net positive balance of the ESG rating and/or ESG score changes over the assessment period.

Investment strategy

The following binding element(s) of the investment strategy are used to select the investments to attain the characteristic(s) promoted by this financial product:

The majority of the portfolio demonstrates a positive ESG rating trend over a full market cycle.

The binding element(s) are calculated at quarter end using the average of all business days' values in the quarter.

Good corporate governance is a key driver of sustainable performance and is therefore embedded in the Portfolio Manager's investment strategy. The Portfolio Manager employs a proprietary ESG Risk Dashboard that combines multiple ESG data sources from internal and recognized external providers in order to identify companies with material ESG risks. An actionable risk signal highlights ESG risks to the Portfolio Manager for incorporation in their investment decision making process. The assessment of good governance includes consideration of board structure and independence, remuneration alignment, transparency of ownership and control, and financial reporting.

Proportion of investments

The minimum proportion of the investments used to meet the environmental and/or social characteristics promoted by the financial product is 67%. The minimum proportion of sustainable investments of the financial product is 20%.

Monitoring of environmental or social characteristics

The portfolio manager has data indicators and a systemic pre-trade guideline control in place to monitor the stated environmental or social characteristics promoted by the financial product, specifically the binding targets stated in the investment strategy, there is a monitoring oversight control. There are also independent controls & audit by our delegated fund administrators.

Methodologies

The performance of the indicators used to measure the environmental or social characteristics promoted by the financial product are measured daily, assessed quarterly and reported annually.

Data sources and processing

The data sources used to attain the stated environmental or social characteristics are as follows:

The classification as green, social, sustainability linked bonds is supplied by leading data vendors

Data is consumed from leading providers, processed in accordance with defined guidelines and supplemented with analyst recommendation.

Limitations to methodologies and data

We apply a minimum coverage threshold for the data sources used to attain the stated environmental or social characteristics of the financial product, these thresholds ensure that the binding targets can be monitored and measured. Accuracy of data is dependent on 3rd party providers, coverage of data sources can be < 100% due to uncovered asset types, incomplete or inconsistent data and gaps in the coverage of these 3rd party providers.

Due diligence

UBS Group and UBS AM invest significant resources in ESG data. Within UBS AM, the data selection and onboarding process is jointly handled by our Sustainable Investment team and QED (data science). This ensures that datasets provide meaningful insights and that they are robust from a data quality point of view. Also, the data selection and onboarding is just one part, extracting insights and actually using it in investment decisions is what really matters.

Engagement policies

Through our research process we will also seek to identify companies where material ESG and sustainability factors may present a future negative risk. We will prioritize such companies for engagement and additionally utilize proxy voting as part of our stewardship activities to minimize adverse impacts where appropriate. Where UBS-AM has direct ownership of a physical asset, it aligns its partners to prescribed standards and KPIs which are monitored so that remedy actions can be taken if performance and standards fall short.

Designated reference benchmark

Not applicable.