

Product name:
Global Sustainability Short Fixed Income Fund

Legal entity identifier:
549300IK6GE6PKDVFY419

Environmental and/or social characteristics

Did this financial product have a sustainable investment objective?

Yes

No

It made **sustainable investments with an environmental objective**: ___%

in economic activities that qualify as environmentally sustainable under the EU Taxonomy

in economic activities that do not qualify as environmentally sustainable under the EU Taxonomy

It made **sustainable investments with a social objective**: ___%

It **promoted Environmental/Social (E/S) characteristics** and while it did not have as its objective a sustainable investment, it had a proportion of **0.17%** of sustainable investments

with an environmental objective in economic activities that qualify as environmentally sustainable under the EU Taxonomy

with an environmental objective in economic activities that do not qualify as environmentally sustainable under the EU Taxonomy

with a social objective

It promoted E/S characteristics, but **did not make any sustainable investments**

To what extent were the environmental and/or social characteristics promoted by this financial product met?

The fund attained the following E/S characteristics:

1. Lower exposure to companies and agency/supranational issuers with high **greenhouse gas emissions**: The fund reduced its weighted average **carbon intensity** exposures to companies relative to the corporate bond market and to agency/supranational issuers relative to the agency/supranational bond market by at least 50%
2. Lower exposure to companies and agency/supranational issuers owning **coal, oil and gas reserves**: The fund reduced its weighted average **potential emissions from reserves** exposures to companies relative to the corporate bond market and to agency/supranational issuers relative to the agency/supranational bond market by at least 75%
3. Exclusion of companies with **adverse environmental impacts** through material involvement in business activities related to palm oil, factory farming or coal
4. Exclusion of companies with **adverse social impacts** through material involvement in business activities related to adult entertainment, alcohol, gambling, tobacco, civilian firearms, controversial weapons (e.g. cluster munitions, anti-personnel mines, chemical and biological weapons or depleted uranium ammunition and armour), nuclear weapons or private prisons
5. Exclusion of companies identified as operating in a manner inconsistent with **responsible business conduct standards**, such as those defined by the UN Global Compact Principles and the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises, because of material involvement in severe controversies related to the environment (e.g. land use and biodiversity, toxic spills and releases, operational waste or water management), society (e.g. child labour or human rights) or corporate governance (e.g. corruption or fraud)



Sustainable investment means an investment in an economic activity that contributes to an environmental or social objective, provided that the investment does not significantly harm any environmental or social objective and that the investee companies follow good governance practices.

The **EU Taxonomy** is a classification system laid down in Regulation (EU) 2020/852, establishing a list of **environmentally sustainable economic activities**. That Regulation does not include a list of socially sustainable economic activities. Sustainable investments with an environmental objective might be aligned with the Taxonomy or not.

Additionally, the fund held a low proportion of sustainable investments with an environmental objective that qualify as environmentally sustainable under the EU Taxonomy (climate change mitigation) due to its broad diversification across companies and sectors.¹

Details on the promoted E/S characteristics and further sustainability-related disclosures are available at www.dimensional.com/SFDR.

● **How did the sustainability indicators perform?**

The sustainability indicators are monitored on a regular basis to ensure that the E/S characteristics are maintained throughout the fund's lifecycle. As at 30 November 2023, the indicators were as follows:

| Sustainability indicator | | Asset class | Fund ² | Market ³ | Relative |
|---|--|--------------------------|-------------------|---------------------|----------|
| Carbon intensity (weighted average, in tons CO ₂ e / \$m sales) | | Corporate | 14 | 135 | -90% |
| | | Agencies / Supranational | 3 | 66 | -96% |
| Potential emissions from reserves (weighted average, in megatons CO ₂) | | Corporate | – | 82 | -100% |
| | | Agencies / Supranational | – | 100 | -100% |
| Exclusions (weight) | Environmentally adverse activity involvement | Corporate | – | 1.3% | |
| | Socially adverse activity involvement | Corporate | – | 2.6% | |
| | Business conduct controversy involvement | Corporate | – | 1.0% | |

Corporate issuers where carbon intensity data is not available are assigned a sector average. Agency / supranational issuers where carbon intensity data is not available are not considered in the calculation as no reliable estimate can be assigned (data for agencies and supranationals was available for **84% / 82%** of the positions in the fund / market). Issuers where potential emissions from reserves data is not available are assigned zero emissions. More information about the methodologies and limitations of the sustainability indicators are included in the fund's website disclosure available at www.dimensional.com/SFDR.

● **...and compared to previous periods?**

| Sustainability indicator | | Asset class | 2023 | 2022 |
|---|---------------------|--------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| Carbon intensity (weighted average, fund ² relative to market ³) | | Corporate | -90% | -89% |
| | | Agencies / Supranational | -96% | -86% |
| Potential emissions from reserves (weighted average, fund ² relative to market ³) | | Corporate | -100% | -100% |
| | | Agencies / Supranational | -100% | -100% |
| Exclusions (weight) | Fund ² | Corporate | – | – |
| | Market ³ | Corporate | 4.4% | 3.8% |
| <i>Proportion of investments aligned with E/S characteristics</i> | | | 83.9% | 84.7% |

Weights of exclusions are aggregated and adjusted to account for companies with multiple involvements. The indicators are not subject to an assurance provided by an auditor or reviewed by a third party.

● **What were the objectives of the sustainable investments that the financial product partially made and how did the sustainable investment contribute to such objectives?**

The Investment Manager considered the proportion of a portfolio company's disclosed EU taxonomy-aligned economic activities as a sustainable investment. As such, all sustainable investments were aligned with the EU taxonomy and therefore contributed to an environmental objective as stated above.

1. Proportions of taxonomy alignment that amount to 0 basis points when rounded were disregarded in this periodic report.
 2. Generally reflects the *financial assets at fair value through profit or loss* (the *total investments*) of the fund within the specified asset class. Other remaining assets, such as cash and cash equivalents, are not considered in the table and are further outlined below. Holdings data is derived from the Investment Manager's Investment Book of Record.
 3. Represents the positions of the Bloomberg Global Aggregate Bond Index 1-5 Years within the specified asset class. Bloomberg data provided by Bloomberg.

- **How did the sustainable investments that the financial product partially made not cause significant harm to any environmental or social sustainable investment objective?**
- **How were the indicators for adverse impacts on sustainability factors taken into account?**
The Investment Manager only considered EU taxonomy-aligned investments as sustainable investments. A company must take into account adverse impacts on sustainability factors when disclosing EU taxonomy-aligned economic activities.
- **Were sustainable investments aligned with the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises and the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights? Details:**
Yes. A company must be aligned with the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises and the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights when disclosing EU taxonomy-aligned economic activities.

The EU Taxonomy sets out a “do no significant harm” principle by which Taxonomy-aligned investments should not significantly harm EU Taxonomy objectives and is accompanied by specific EU criteria.

The “do no significant harm” principle applies only to those investments underlying the financial product that take into account the EU criteria for environmentally sustainable economic activities. The investments underlying the remaining portion of this financial product do not take into account the EU criteria for environmentally sustainable economic activities.

Any other sustainable investments must also not significantly harm any environmental or social objectives.



How did this financial product consider principal adverse impacts on sustainability factors?

As at 30 November 2023, the fund considered the following principal adverse impacts on sustainability factors (PAIs) as outlined in the Sustainable Finance Disclosure Regulation (SFDR):

| PAI category | PAI | Actions taken |
|--------------------------------|---|--|
| Greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) | GHG emissions ¹ | Reduced carbon intensity and potential emissions from reserves exposure as outlined above. |
| | Carbon footprint ¹ | |
| | GHG (emissions) intensity of investee companies ¹ | |
| | Exposure to companies active in the fossil fuel sector ² | |
| Biodiversity, water, waste | Activities negatively affecting biodiversity-sensitive areas | Exclusion of companies identified as operating in a manner inconsistent with responsible business conduct standards as outlined above. |
| | Emissions to water | |
| | Hazardous and radioactive waste | |
| Social and employee matters | Violations of United Nations Global Compact (UNGC) Principles and Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises | Additionally, if a company’s business conduct is identified to be inconsistent with the responsible business conduct standards, but not to the extent that the concern merits an exclusion, then the Investment Manager may halt additional investment in the company and seek further review within its Investment Stewardship Group. |
| | Exposure to controversial weapons | Exclusion of companies with adverse social impacts as outlined above. |

1. Scope 1 & 2 emissions.
 2. See page 5 for details.
 Indicators applicable to investments in portfolio companies.

Principal adverse impacts are the most significant negative impacts of investment decisions on sustainability factors relating to environmental, social and employee matters, respect for human rights, anticorruption and antibribery matters.



What were the top investments of this financial product?

| Largest investments | Sector | % Assets | Country |
|--|------------------------|----------|----------------|
| ONTARIO (PROVINCE OF) 0.500% 12/15/2023 | Local Authority | 1.3 | Canada |
| SWEDISH EXPORT CREDIT 1.375% 12/15/2023 | Agency | 1.2 | Sweden |
| US TREASURY N/B 0.250% 09/30/2023 | Treasury | 1.2 | United States |
| PROVINCE OF ALBERTA 0.625% 01/16/2026 | Local Authority | 1.0 | Canada |
| NATIONAL AUSTRALIA BANK 2.900% 02/25/2027 | Financial Institutions | 1.0 | Australia |
| KOMMUNALBANKEN AS 0.250% 12/08/2023 | Agency | 1.0 | Norway |
| SWEDBANK AB 0.250% 11/02/2026 | Financial Institutions | 0.9 | Sweden |
| UNITED KINGDOM GILT 0.125% 01/31/2024 | Treasury | 0.9 | United Kingdom |
| EUROPEAN INVESTMENT BANK 1.750% 11/12/2026 | Supranational | 0.8 | Luxembourg |
| CDP FINANCIAL INC 1.125% 04/06/2027 | Agency | 0.8 | Canada |
| PROVINCE OF ALBERTA 2.650% 09/01/2023 | Local Authority | 0.8 | Canada |
| DEXIA 0.625% 01/17/2026 | Agency | 0.8 | Belgium |
| KINGDOM OF DENMARK 1.500% 11/15/2023 | Treasury | 0.7 | Denmark |
| CANADIAN GOVERNMENT 3.000% 10/01/2025 | Treasury | 0.7 | Canada |
| CANADIAN GOVERNMENT 1.500% 06/01/2023 | Treasury | 0.7 | Canada |

Top 15 investments based on fund weights at the end of February, May, August and November 2023, ranked by an investment’s average weight over these dates. The table generally reflects the *financial assets at fair value through profit or loss* (the *total investments*) of the fund. Other remaining assets, such as cash and cash equivalents, are not considered in the table and are further outlined below. Holdings data is derived from the Investment Manager’s Investment Book of Record.

The list includes the investments constituting the **greatest proportion of investments** of the financial product during the reference period which is: **01 December 2022 – 30 November 2023**



What was the proportion of sustainability-related investments?

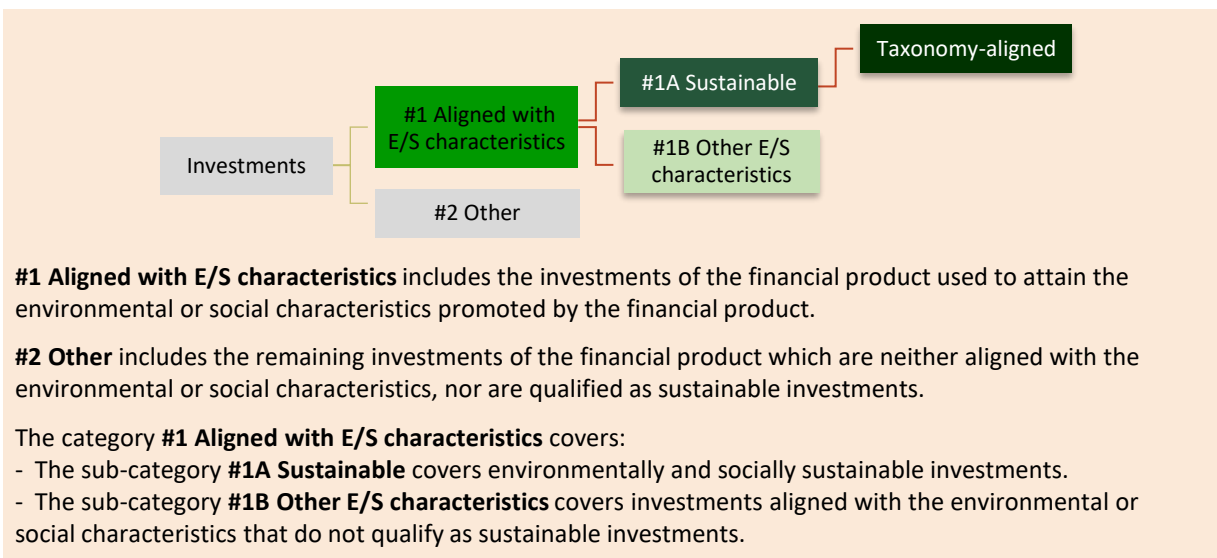
● What was the asset allocation?

As at 30 November 2023, the fund invested in direct holdings and **83.88% of its investments were corporate, agency and supranational bonds aligned with the E/S characteristics (#1)** promoted by the fund. Remaining positions were included under Other (#2) and are further outlined below.

While the fund did not seek to obtain a minimum proportion of sustainable investments or EU taxonomy-aligned investments, a proportion of **0.17%** of the fund’s investments were EU taxonomy-aligned. Of these investments, **0.16%** contributed to the environmental objective of climate change mitigation. The environmental objectives under the EU Taxonomy to which the remaining **0.01%** contributed could not be determined due to insufficient data.

The actual asset allocation is monitored on a regular basis to ensure that the planned asset allocation, as outlined in the Prospectus, is maintained throughout the lifecycle of the fund.

Asset allocation describes the share of investments in specific assets.



● **In which economic sectors were the investments made?**

As at 30 November 2023, the fund was broadly diversified across a range of sectors and its exposure to companies active in the fossil fuel sector was low. This exposure can include companies with a small proportion of revenues from fossil fuel activities, such as large food retailers operating petrol stations. More details can be found in the following table:

| Sector | | All positions | Companies active in the fossil fuel sector ¹ | |
|--------------------|-------------------|---------------|---|--|
| | | % Assets | % Assets | Largest sub-sector |
| Treasury | | 7.8 | – | |
| Government-Related | Agencies | 9.8 | – | |
| | Local Authorities | 6.8 | – | |
| | Sovereign | – | – | |
| | Supranational | 4.0 | – | |
| Corporate | Industrial | 33.3 | 0.5 | Consumer Cyclical |
| | Utility | 0.2 | – | |
| | Fin. Institutions | 37.9 | 1.4 | Brokerage Assetmanagers Exchanges |
| Securitized | | – | – | |
| Other | | – | – | |
| Total | | 100.0 | 1.9 | Brokerage Assetmanagers Exchanges |

1. Companies with revenues from exploration, mining, extraction, production, processing, storage, refining or distribution, including transportation, storage and trade, of fossil fuels. Data was available for 93% of the positions in the fund. The table generally reflects the *financial assets at fair value through profit or loss* (the *total investments*) of the fund. Other remaining assets, such as cash and cash equivalents, are not considered in the table and are further outlined below. Holdings data is derived from the Investment Manager's Investment Book of Record. Numbers may not total 100% due to rounding.



To what extent were the sustainable investments with an environmental objective aligned with the EU Taxonomy?

All sustainable investments were aligned with the EU taxonomy. The compliance of those investments with the requirements laid down in Article 3 of Regulation (EU) 2020/852 were not subject to an assurance provided by an auditor or reviewed by a third party.

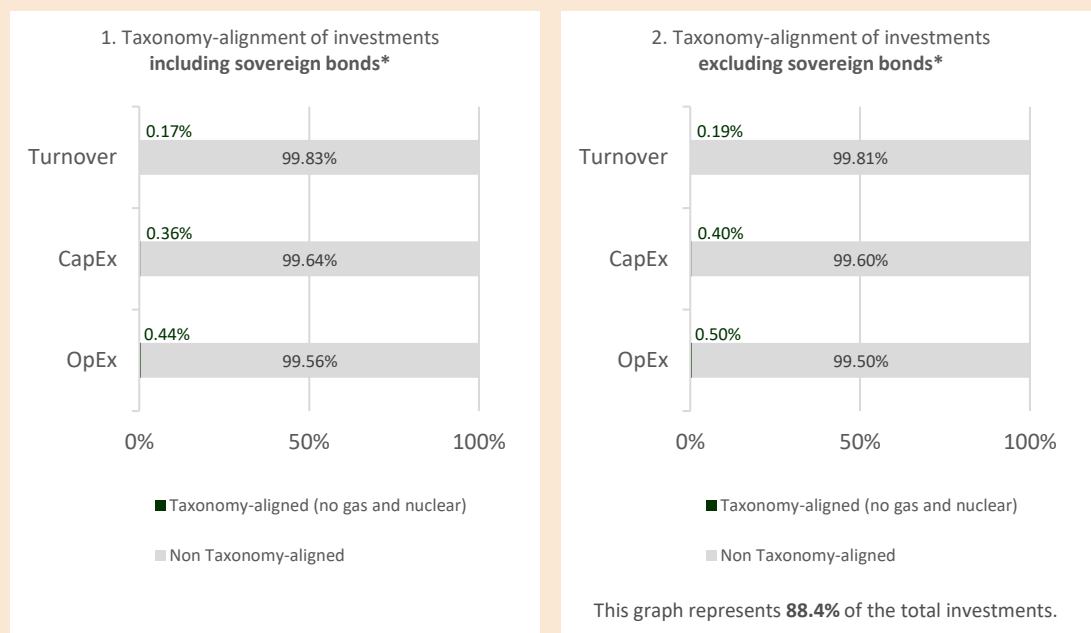
Information about the degree to which the investments were EU taxonomy-aligned were not readily available from public disclosures by most portfolio companies. The Investment Manager did not obtain equivalent information directly from portfolio companies or from third party providers.

As there is no appropriate methodology to determine the EU taxonomy alignment of sovereign bonds, the Investment Manager could not assess the extent to which sovereign exposures (sectors *Treasury*, *Sovereign* and *Supranational*) contributed to environmentally sustainable economic activities. Sovereign exposures accounted for 11.6% of the fund's investments.

● **Did the financial product invest in fossil gas and/or nuclear energy related activities complying with the EU Taxonomy¹?**

- Yes:
 - In fossil gas
 - In nuclear energy
- No

The graphs below show in green the percentage of investments that were aligned with the EU Taxonomy. As there is no appropriate methodology to determine the taxonomy-alignment of sovereign bonds, the first graph shows the Taxonomy alignment in relation to all the investments of the financial product including sovereign bonds, while the second graph shows the Taxonomy alignment only in relation to the investments of the financial product other than sovereign bonds.*



* For the purpose of these graphs, 'sovereign bonds' consist of all sovereign exposures.

● **What was the share of investments made in transitional and enabling activities?**

The fund made investments in enabling activities (0.15%).

● **How did the percentage of investments that were aligned with the EU Taxonomy compare with previous reference periods?**

| EU taxonomy-aligned investments | 2023 | 2022 |
|---------------------------------|-------|------|
| Environmental objectives | 0.17% | – |

¹ Fossil gas and/or nuclear related activities will only comply with the EU Taxonomy where they contribute to limiting climate change (“climate change mitigation”) and do not significantly harm any EU Taxonomy objective - see explanatory note in the left hand margin. The full criteria for fossil gas and nuclear energy economic activities that comply with the EU Taxonomy are laid down in Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2022/1214.

To comply with the EU Taxonomy, the criteria for **fossil gas** include limitations on emissions and switching to renewable power or low-carbon fuels by the end of 2035. For **nuclear energy**, the criteria include comprehensive safety and waste management rules.

Taxonomy-aligned activities are expressed as a share of:

- **turnover** reflecting the share of revenue from green activities of investee companies
- **capital expenditure (CapEx)** showing the green investments made by investee companies, e.g. for a transition to a green economy.
- **operational expenditure (OpEx)** reflecting green operational activities of investee companies.

Enabling activities directly enable other activities to make a substantial contribution to an environmental objective.

Transitional activities are activities for which low-carbon alternatives are not yet available and among others have greenhouse gas emission levels corresponding to the best performance.



What investments were included under “other”, what was their purpose and were there any minimum environmental or social safeguards?

As at 30 November 2023, Other (#2) mainly comprised investments in treasury, sovereign and local authority bonds (**14.34%**). Remaining assets included *cash and cash equivalents* held for ancillary liquidity (**1.19%**) and derivatives used for currency hedging¹ (**0.59%**). No specific environmental or social safeguards were applied to Other (#2).

The remaining assets reflect assets that were under the discretion of the Investment Manager but that were not included in the *financial assets at fair value through profit or loss* (the *total investments*) of the fund.

1. Calculated by deducting the *unrealised loss on forward contracts* from the *unrealised gain on forward contracts*, but without going below zero.



What actions have been taken to meet the environmental and/or social characteristics during the reference period?

The investment strategy used to meet the E/S characteristics is reflected in the fund’s portfolio design and is implemented on a continuous basis by the Investment Manager’s Portfolio Management and Trading Group. Additionally, the Compliance Department of the Investment Manager employs controls to verify that the E/S characteristics promoted by the fund are attained on an ongoing basis.

The Investment Manager has implemented a policy to evaluate the governance practices of portfolio companies. If a company fails the good governance test, the Investment Manager will cease further investments in the company and will assess whether divestment is merited.

What drives governance improvements and sets up leverage with which investors can hold boards and management accountable if they fail to respond to engagement is primarily the important mechanism of proxy voting at shareholder meetings. In general, debt holders do not have such a mechanism to influence a company’s governance. This said, the Investment Manager’s investment stewardship on behalf of shareholders promotes best governance practices in areas such as board effectiveness, executive compensation and corporate integrity, where interests between equity and debt holders are closely aligned. For instance, this may include engagements with companies to encourage the adoption of robust policies and procedures for managing risk (including environmental and social risk) and effective board oversight.¹

1. The Investment Manager discusses governance matters with portfolio companies to represent client interests; however, the Investment Manager on behalf of its clients, regardless of such conversations, acquires securities solely for the purpose of investment and not with the purpose or intended effect of changing or influencing the control of any portfolio company.