

## The sub-fund will promote the following environmental and social characteristics:

In replicating the performance of the FTSE USA ESG Low Carbon Select Index (the "Index"), the Fund promotes the following environmental and/or social characteristics:

- a reduction in carbon emissions and fossil fuel reserves exposure compared to the FTSE USA Index (the "Parent Index"); and

- an improvement of the FTSE Russell ESG rating against that of the Parent Index.

The Fund seeks to achieve the promotion of these characteristics by replicating the performance of the Index which removes companies based on sustainability exclusionary criteria and United Nations Global Compact exclusionary criteria and which weights companies in order to reduce the exposure to companies with higher carbon emissions and fossil fuel reserves and to improve the exposure to companies with favourable ESG ratings.

The Index has been designated as a reference benchmark for the purpose of attaining the environmental and/or social characteristics promoted by the Fund.

The Index achieves this in the following ways:

 on an annual basis in September, removing stocks based on sustainability exclusionary criteria.
on an annual basis in September, adjusting the weights of the remaining companies within the Parent Index according to carbon emissions, fossil fuel reserves exposure and FTSE Russell ESG ratings based criteria.

3. on a quarterly basis, removing companies considered to be non-compliant with one or more of the UNGC principles .

Do no significant harm analysis is completed by the Index provider as part of the Index construction.

## Investment Strategy and Proportion of Investments:

The Fund is passively managed and will aim to replicate the net total return performance of the Index.

In seeking to achieve its investment objective, the Fund will aim to invest in the constituents of the Index in generally the same proportions in which they are included in the Index. Cash and other instruments may be used for liquidity, hedging and efficient portfolio management.

The Fund promotes environmental and/or social characteristics and while it does not have as its objective a sustainable investment, it will have a minimum proportion of 25% of sustainable investments.

## Methodologies:

HSBC Asset Management's ESG data team leverages its proprietary data to run internal ESG reports to ensure sustainable objectives and targets, and the indicators used to measure these, as

embedded in the product's methodology, are met. Using this data HSBC Asset Management conducts regular reviews with the relevant index partner to ensure accuracy of the data being provided.

Good corporate governance has long been incorporated in HSBC Asset Management's proprietary fundamental company research. HSBC Asset Management's Stewardship team meets with companies regularly to improve our understanding of their business and strategy, signal support or concerns we have with management actions and promote best practice. HSBC Asset Management believes that good corporate governance ensures that companies are managed in line with the long-term interests of their investors.

For our full Stewardship Policy, please go to <u>www.assetmanagement.hsbc.com/about-us/responsible-investing/policies</u>.

More information is available on request.