

Dynamic Asset Allocation Responsible Investment



Multi-Asset London

30 September 2020



CONTENTS

Why we believe in responsible investing in multi-asset				
How ESG fits into our process				
ESG in top-down asset allocation				
ESG indicators	5			
Carbon FootprintESG ControversiesCorporate Governance	8			
ESG Scores for Equity Baskets	10			
ESG within our gold holdings:	13			
ESG in fund selection within multi-asset:	13			
Responsible Investment In Action	14			
Qualitative ESG Scores: Pictet Funds, External Funds, and Investment Trusts within DAA	16			
ESG at Pictet Asset Management	19			
Pictet Group: A Responsible Mindset Proprietary Tool– Governance Explorer				
Research Spotlight: climate in focus at the US presidential election	22			



WHY WE BELIEVE IN RESPONSIBLE INVESTING IN MULTI-ASSET

- > Consistent with our fiduciary duty to act in the best interest of clients to enhance returns and/or mitigate risks
- > Helps us identify winners & losers from secular trends
- > Tools to avoid corporate governance failures
- We stay ahead of regulatory shifts
- > Helps us navigate complexity when investing globally
- Gives us a framework to take a macro view of stability and risks in the financial and economic system

HOW ESG FITS INTO OUR PROCESS

> Secular Outlook themes include energy transition, and ESG investing

> ESG factors are increasingly influential when determining top-down asset allocation

ASSET ALLOCATION

PAM (internal) funds

- Internal funds carry out ESG integration in accordance with internal principles
- Due diligence and ESG scoring process for internal funds from 1-5 based on qualitative metrics
- Ongoing monitoring and discussion with teams we invest in, with concrete examples

External funds/trusts

- Due diligence of external funds and investment trusts via DDQs, annual reports, prospectuses etc
- ESG scores assigned from 1-5. Score comprises part of overall fund or trust score.
- > GRESB rating used for property funds

Direct holdings

- ESG ratings considered for equity baskets
- Proxy voting on investment trusts and direct equity holdings
- Considered when releving nt, e.g., when buying an EM bond
- Investment trusts evaluated similar to external funds and assigned an additional corporate governance score

RISK MANAGEMENT AND MONITORING

- Portfolio analytics to flag changes and inputs into quality reviews
- > ESG tab in tableau with ESG scores on a look-through basis alongside other risk metrics
 - > ESG metrics and qualitative comments to be included in standard reports

Note: Italics show measures in development



ESG IN TOP-DOWN ASSET ALLOCATION

Once a year the Pictet Asset Management Strategy Unit (PSU) develops and publishes its Secular Outlook, which includes our return forecasts for major asset classes. In reaching its views, the PSU considers trends in macroeconomic data, by region and by country, supported by extensive proprietary data analysis. We derive our return estimates from slow moving economic factors, such as demographics, productivity growth and trend inflation rates.

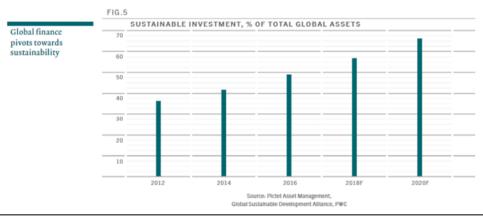
Below are snapshots of previous Secular Outlooks emphasising the growing importance of ESG factors.

For the most recent and historical publications of the Secular Outlook, please visit our website at assetmanagement.pictet

ESG – investment's default setting

Financial data such as profit margins and revenue targets will always be a vital guide to future business success. But as investor attitudes towards the environment and social welfare change, and the flow of corporate information becomes ever harder to manage, such measures of company performance will have less influence on how capital is allocated in future.

More attention will be paid to how a company addresses wider environmental, governance and social (ESG) concerns. In fact, a



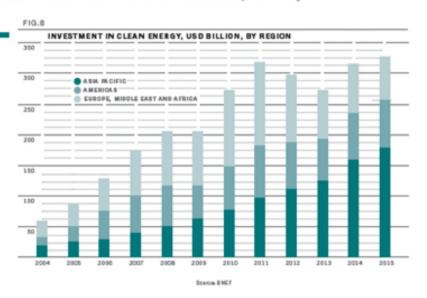


The clean energy revolution

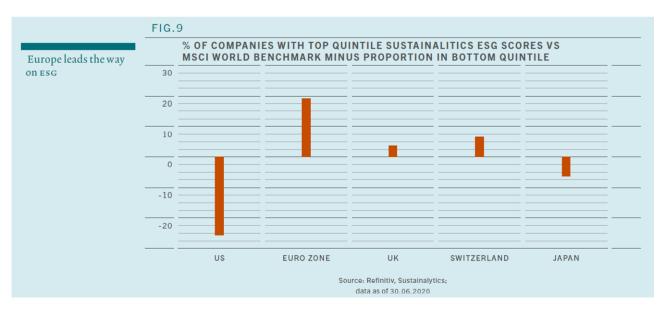
It might have gone unnoticed but 2014 was the year when the fight against climate change reached a turning point. For that was the first time in more than 40 years that the world managed to expand its economic output without increasing its emissions of greenhouse gases.

Data from the International Energy Agency (IEA) show that while the global economy grew by 3.4 per cent, emissions of carbon dioxide remained static at 32.3 billion tonnes. Recent preliminary





Source: Pictet Asset Management





ESG INDICATORS

The Dynamic Asset Allocation team currently can provide the following ESG indicators regard to the portfolio:

- Carbon Footprint
- ESG Controversies
- Corporate Governance

These indicators cover our equity and corporate credit holdings only and exclude ETFs as well as external funds. As of 30 September 2020, they covered 31% of our total portfolio and 55% of our equity and credit holdings.

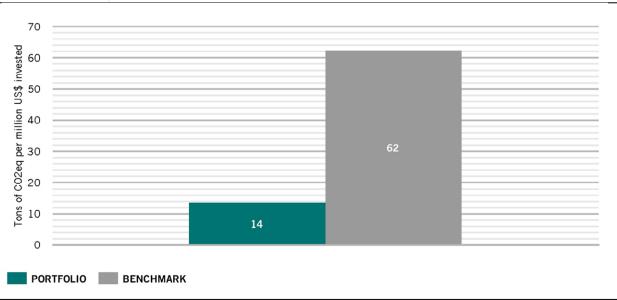
Carbon Footprint

- 1. Direct GHG emissions from companies
- 2. Potential emissions from fossil fuel reserves

Direct GHG emissions from companies

This indicator measures direct greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from companies in tons CO2eq per million US\$ heldin the DAA portfolio versus the benchmark. Direct GHG emissions (also referred as "Scope 1") arise from activities such as heat & power generation, transportation and production processes that are owned or controlled by companies. GHG emissions from individual constituents are proportional to the percentage of Enterprise Value held in the portfolio or benchmark. Data coverage is based on the weight of securities and single line derivatives for which emissions data is available. Index derivatives, cash, sovereign and quasi sovereign are excluded from coverage calculation.

Direct Emissions: Dynamic Asset Allocation



Note that these indicators cover our equity and corporate credit holdings only and exclude ETFs as well as external funds.

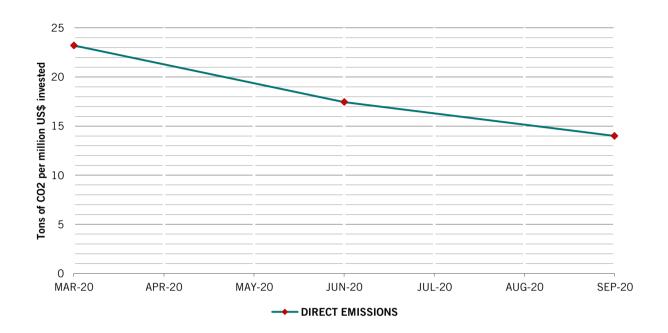
Portfolio: PS II Dynamic Asset Allocation Fund, Benchmark: MSCI AC World. Data coverage for the portfolio and benchmark is respectively 90% and 91%.

Source: S&P, Trucost, Pictet Asset Management as of 30 September 2020



We have tracked direct emissions from GHGs since Q1 2020, with the trajectory below:

Direct Emissions: Dynamic Asset Allocation



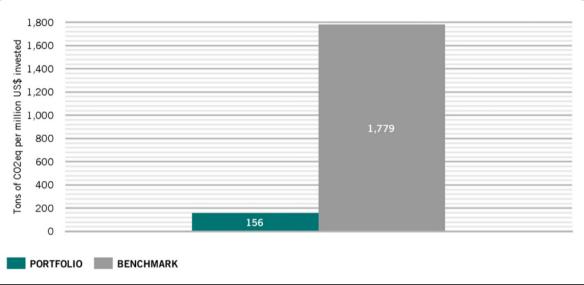
Note that these indicators cover our equity and corporate credit holdings only and exclude ETFs as well as external funds. It covered 40% of our total portfolio and 60% of our equity and credit holdings; Data coverage for the portfolio and benchmark is respectively 90% and 91%. Source: S&P, Trucost, Pictet Asset Management as of 30 September 2020



Potential emissions from fossil fuel reserves

This indicator measures potential greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from fossil fuel reserves in tons CO2eq per million US\$ held in the DAA portfolio versus the benchmark. Potential emissions represent the total amount of GHG that are expected to be released once proven and probable "2P" reserves of fossil fuels (coal, oil, gas) are used. GHG emissions from individual constituents are proportional to the percentage of Enterprise Value held in the portfolio or benchmark. Data coverage is based on the weight of securities and single line derivatives for which emissions data is available. Index derivatives, cash, sovereign and quasi sovereign are excluded from coverage calculation.

Potential emission from fossil fuel reserves: Dynamic Asset Allocation



Note that these indicators cover our equity and corporate credit holdings only and exclude ETFs as well as external funds.

Portfolio: PS II Dynamic Asset Allocation Fund, Benchmark: MSCI AC World. Data coverage for the portfolio and benchmark is respectively 90% and 91%.

Source: S&P, Trucost, Pictet Asset Management as of 30 September 2020

Both metrics are updated on a quarterly basis and expressed in tons of CO2eq per million US\$ invested in order to compare portfolios of different sizes v. their respective benchmarks. The carbon data is provided by S&P Trucost.

Carbon Footprint Calculation Formula

$$CFP = \sum_{C=0}^{n} GHG_{c} \times \frac{VOH_{C}}{EV_{C}}$$

Definition:

CFP = carbon footprint of the portfolio or benchmark

c = company held in the portfolio or included in the benchmark

n = number of companies held in the portfolio or included in the benchmark

VOHc = value of holding in company c per million US\$ invested in the portfolio or benchmark (at time of calculation) EVc = enterprise value of company c (at time of calculation)

GHGc = direct greenhouse gas emissions of company c (chart 1) OR potential greenhouse gas emissions of proven and probable fossil fuel reserves held by company c (chart 2) (latest financial year available at time of calculation)



ESG Controversies

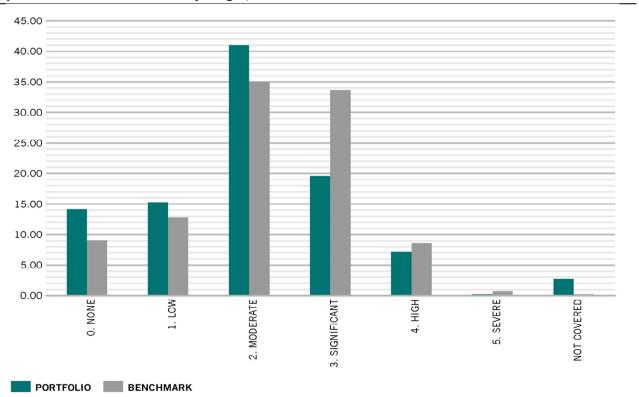
ESG Controversies analysis of underlying companies is based on incidents and events that may pose a business or reputational risk due to the potential impact on stakeholders, the environment, or the company's operations. Event categories include pollution incidents, employees' accidents, violations of human rights, product-related issues and breaches of business ethics. Controversies are rated based on their seriousness and recurrence, sector and company response and are rated on a 0 to 5 scale.

(0) No involvement in any relevant controversies; (1) Controversy has a low impact on the environment and society, posing negligible risks to the company; (2) Controversy has a moderate impact on the environment and society, posing minimal risks to the company; (3) Controversy has a significant impact on the environment and society, posing moderate risks to the company; (4) Controversy has a high impact on the environment and society, posing significant risks to the company; (5) Controversy has a severe impact on the environment and society, posing serious risks to the company.

Portfolio Exposure

We currently have 0.16% of the portfolio, and 0.05% of the securities evaluated in this analysis, in companies with severe controversy levels. This compares to just under 1% in the MSCI ACWI. Out of the 0.05%, 0.04% stems from exposure to Chinese companies held within the China local currency bond fund which we hold. The residual 0.01% is derived from three stocks as a result of passive exposure.

Exposure to ESG Controversies (by weight, in %)



Portfolio: PS II Dynamic Asset Allocation Fund, Benchmark: MSCI AC World Data source: Sustainalytics as of 30 September 2020

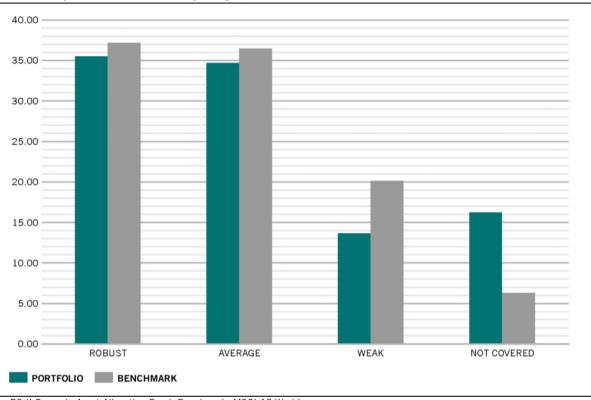
Corporate Governance

Corporate Governance analysis of underlying companies is based on four pillars: board structure, executive remuneration, shareholder rights, audit practices. Evaluation criteria reflect regional best practices.



Decile scores indicate relative rank by country or region and are grouped in three categories: "Robust" (decile scores 1 to 3), Average (decile score 4 to 7) and Weak (decile scores 8 to 10). "Not covered" corresponds to securities / issues for which no scores are available. Derivatives, cash, sovereign and quasi sovereign bond issuers are not included.

Exposure to Corporate Governance (by weight, in %)



Portfolio: PS II Dynamic Asset Allocation Fund, Benchmark: MSCI AC World Data source: Sustainalytics as of 30 September 2020



ESG SCORES FOR EQUITY BASKETS

Of the three ESG indicators discussed above, there are three areas where a equity basket held in the DAA portfolio has a higher score than that of the MSCI AC World Index and the overall DAA portfolio.

1. US Homebuilders basket

It has a weighted average ISS Corporate Governance Score of 5.5 vs. 4.7 for MSCI ACWI and 4.3 for the DAA portfolio. Long average tenure and weak gender diversity are the most common issues for these companies. Board independence is arguably weaker, and they might not always act in the best interest of minority shareholders. However, the lack of controversies in their recent history brings some comfort and we believe valuation incorporates these concerns.

2. Payments basket

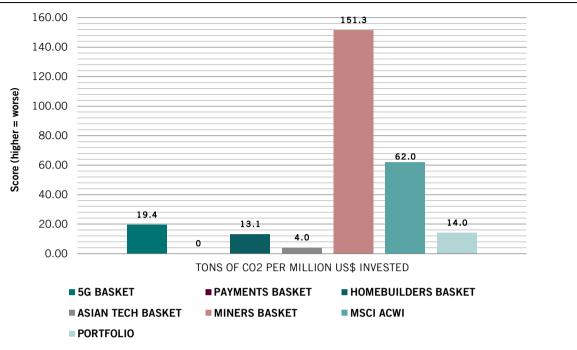
It has a high weighted average ESG controversies score of 3 vs. 2.2 for the MSCI ACWI and 1.8 for the DAA portfolio. Concerns relate to anti-competitive practices as well as those relating to pricing weigh on two stocks within this basket. In both cases there is management focus on addressing these challenges and we will monitor ESG reports for signs of progress or slippage, and consider these alongside other fundamental factors.

3. Miners basket

It has a high weighted average controversy score of 3.7 vs. 2.2 for the MSCI ACWI and 1.8 for the DAA portfolio. It also has a high carbon footprint of 151.3 tons of CO2 per million US\$ invested, vs. 62 for the MSCI ACWI and 14 for the DAA portfolio. The controversy score is systematically higher than the broader market index, given the operational and health & safety risks inherent to mining business models. Controversy scores received by these companies are rarely lower than 3. However, having best practices in place (i.e. independent ISO certifications and voluntary disclosures) can prevent it from worsening and motivates Sustainalytics to assign a positive outlook. Meanwhile, their high carbon intensity has a lot to do with their thermal coal exposures. Their divestures remain as the low hanging fruits for carbon intensity reduction. On the other hand, their corporate governance scores are robust at 2.0. This is not true of the sector, and indeed on both corporate governance and carbon footprint measures, these companies significantly outperform sector peers.

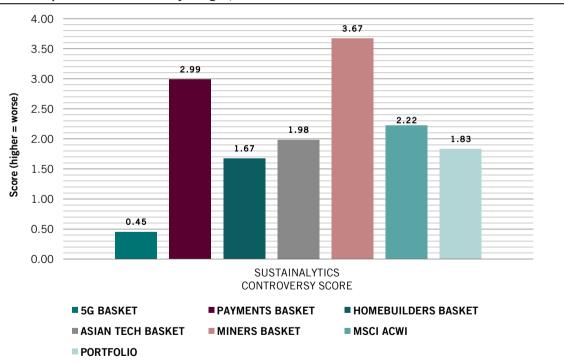


Direct Emission Breakdown (by weight, in %)



Portfolio: PS II Dynamic Asset Allocation Fund, Benchmark: MSCI AC World Data source: Sustainalytics as of 30 September 2020

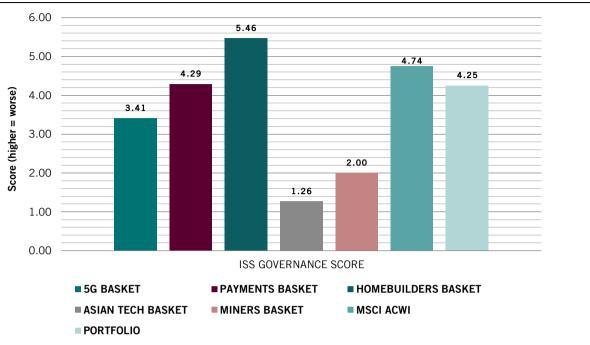
Controversies Exposure breakdown (by weight, in %)



Portfolio: PS II Dynamic Asset Allocation Fund, Benchmark: MSCI AC World Data source: Sustainalytics as of 30 September 2020



Corporate Governance breakdown (by weight, in %)



Portfolio: PS II Dynamic Asset Allocation Fund, Benchmark: MSCI AC World Data source: Sustainalytics as of 30 September 2020



ESG WITHIN OUR GOLD HOLDINGS:

The Invesco Physical Gold ETF (SGLD) held within the Dynamic Asset Allocation fund fully complies with the LBMA Responsible Sourcing Guidance. Please see below:

- Invesco has instructed J.P. Morgan Chase Bank since early 2019 to minimise exposure to gold mined prior to 2012, the date after which they can be certain Gold has been sourced in compliance with the LBMA's Responsible Gold Guidance. Their ETC has now 100% exposure to gold mined post 2012 and is fully compliant with LBMA's Responsible Gold Guidance (representing the highest standards for sourcing gold and intended to combat money laundering, terrorist financing, and human rights abuses, including child labour).
- In the LBMA Responsible Gold guidance, there is a lack of coverage with regards to the environmental risks that Invesco is trying to capture at a firm level through engagement with participants in the gold supply chain to ensure they adhere to environmental best practice.

We also hold the iShares Gold Producers ETF (IAUP) which we review below:

- The Fund ESG Rating measures the resiliency of portfolios to long term risks and opportunities arising from environmental, social, and governance factors. The iShares Gold Producers UCITS ETF (GBP) receives an MSCI ESG Rating of A (on a CCC-AAA scale), based on an ESG Quality Score of 5.9 out of 10. The fund has 16.0% exposure to holdings with a positive ESG rating trend, 0.0% exposure to holdings with negative ESG rating trend and 11.1% exposure to ESG laggards. It ranks in the 63rd percentile within the Equity Sector Gold & Precious Metals peer group and in the 51st percentile within the global universe of all funds in coverage.
- 33 companies out of 55 have ESG ratings of BBB and above and represent 80% of the market cap of the ETF.
- 11 companies within the iShares Gold Producers ETF are rated as ESG laggards (CCC and B ESG ratings). These account for approximately 11% of the market cap of the ETF with B rated holdings making up the majority at 9% market cap combined weight.
- There are only 3 companies rated CCC, whilst from the BB rated companies AngloGold Ashanti
 and Sibanye-Stillwater which account for 5.7% total market cap contribute the most to the ESG
 laggards rating profile of the ETF

ESG IN FUND SELECTION WITHIN MULTI-ASSET:

ESG scores for internal and external funds and Investment trusts are assessed on a qualitative basis during the due diligence phase of the selection process with a qualitative ESG Score assigned to funds upon appointment in the portfolio and re-considered regularly. The ESG Score is calculated as an equally weighted average metric of the assessment of four areas, with the score for each area ranging from 1 to 5 (weakest to strongest)

For Investment trust companies, the ESG Score includes an assessment of Governance which evaluates the company's board structure, its ownership structure and shareholder rights, the compensation and related transactions at the board level, audit and financial reporting oversight and the company's stakeholder communication policies. The Governance Score ranges from 1 to 5 with 5 indicating that the company Scores high in terms of Governance and 1 poorly. The Governance Score forms part of the total ESG Score and is assigned a 25% weight.

The four areas assessed on a company and fund level are:

- ESG policy framework at a Firm level
- ESG Integration / framework at the Strategy level



- > Active Ownership which includes engagement and proxy voting activity (where applicable)
- > Monitoring and reporting

The ESG Score of External funds is integrated in the overall Qualitative Fund Score which consists of 7 factors (parent, people, philosophy and process, performance, price, risk and liquidity and ESG) with this factor assigned an equal weight. Changes in the ESG score can impact the assessment of individual managers through their contribution to the final Score. These scores are subject to regular review, and we use it as a basis to engage with managers.

Example of External Fund selection

XYZ Fund	Total Score	3.3
Policy and resources	(Firm level):	
ESG Policy Dedicated Resources	XYZ's policy incorporates environmental, social and governance (ESG) factors into all stages of their investment and portfolio management processes, as they consider this as an essential component to being a responsible investment manager. Their responsible investment Policy Statement is available to read and download from their website. XYZ has a strong commitment to resources with ESG research being sourced by the XYZ IM Research team and the Head of ESG, who ensure current and future ESG market trends – such as Health and Wellbeing or Climate Resilience - are explored and integrated into fund strategies as appropriate. Third party consultants are also mandated to keep fund teams updated of upcoming regulatory requirements. They use GRESB to benchmark the ESG performance of funds, and the PRI to ensure that they are aligned to best-practice ESG measures	4.0
SG Integration (Stra	ategy level):	
ESG Strategy	Through the Transaction Advisory Committee(TAC) and Portfolio Advisory Committee(PAC) assessment process XYZ employs norms-based screening to ensure tenants and services providers comply with international standards and norms, and the fund employs negative screening by not investing in products which may expose investors to hidden risks, including reputational risk and risks around sensitivity to companies whose primary business is the production or sale of tobacco, arms, pornography or companies involved in animal testing. To ensure their ESG strategy remains sensitive to the requirements of their investors and staff, XYZ undertakes a multi-faceted programme of stakeholder engagement, incorporating staff, clients, tenants and the wider market. In 2018 they published their inaugural ESG report, appeared on a number of GRESB panel discussions across Europe and the Head of ESG became a member of the AREF Impact Investing Working Group, and a member of the working group for the EU H2020 Carbon Risk Real Estate Monitor (CRREM) project to improve energy efficiency and to decarbonize the building sector by 2050. They use GRESB to benchmark the ESG performance of funds, and the PRI to ensure they are aligned to best-practice ESG measures. The fund has a GRESB score of 1, whilst it scores 47 which is below the Peer group average of 62. This is driven by low Environmental score whilst S and G scores are higher. The fund is mainly lacking on Perrformance indicators and Monitoring and Management areas, due to the limited data availability on the underlying properties of the portfolio. Conclusion: XYZ has a well established ESG framework on a policy and strategy level. However its low GRESB score indicates that there are areas where the fund could potentially improve on, mostly on performance indicators where the challenge is data availability, which is mainly driven by the fact that the fund is dominated by single let properties the tenants of which do not provide regular reporting	2.5
Active Ownership		
Engangement Proxy Voting	Engagement: The company's engagement happens at an employee, client, tenant and market level. XYZ annually surveys staff to understand ESG priorities and materiality, and measure changes to engagement on ESG topics across their business. In 2018, Savills obtained the opinion of top clients regarding which ESG considerations are most material to them. In 2018 the fund launched its tenant engagement programme by surveying tenants to assess their engagement with ESG, emphasise the importance of ESG issues to XYZ as the manager and encourage the sharing of energy, waste and water consumption data at assets where the tenant has control. XYZ engages with stakeholders in the broader market to share knowledge and research on ESG topics. In 2018 they published their inaugural ESG report, appeared on a number of GRESB panel discussions across Europe and the Head of ESG became a member of the AREF Impact Investing Working Group, and a member of the working group for the EU H2020 Carbon Risk Real Estate Monitor (CRREM) project to improve energy efficiency and to decarbonize the building sector by 2050 Proxy Voting: This is not applicable as the manager doesn't invest in Equities	3.5
Monitoring and Repo		
	Access to the XYZ PRI report is available via the portal; https://reporting.unpri.org/surveys/PRI-reporting-framework-2018/5F77ADOC-A6B3-4294-981D-8465B6B9DEA4/79894dbc337a40828d895f9402aa63de/html/2/?lang=en&a=1. Investors are updated on ESG matters during the AGM, when any votes would take place. Information on engagement activities is included in quarterly investor reports. The XYZ UK Income and Growth Fund includes updates on its ESG activities and performance in quarterly investor reports, the annual audited report and accounts, via the annually completed GRESB survey and in face to face presentations with investors at the Annual General Meeting (AGM). Examples of ESG reporting are also found in the quarterly investor report	3.3

Source: Pictet Asset Management, as of 30 September 2020, for illustration purposes only

RESPONSIBLE INVESTMENT IN ACTION

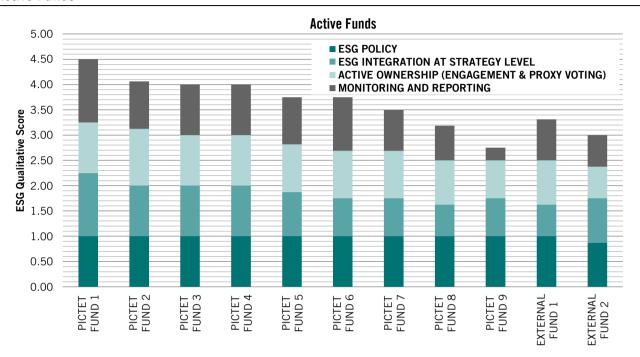
Qualitative ESG Scores: Pictet Funds, External Funds, and Investment Trusts within DAA

Both the lowest-rated Pictet funds operate in Chinese asset markets. We rate all funds on the same objective scale but recognise that emerging markets – and China in particular – have specific challenges on this front which naturally tend to lower their ESG scores. These include government ownership and the sector makeup of indices which have high weightings in commodities and mining. Chinese companies also lack wide ESG score coverage as quantitative data is quite limited – lack of disclosure by companies is another challenge.

The two lowest rated investment trusts operate in the secured lending sphere. Here, our concerns primarily relate to the lack of a formal ESG framework and policy, as well as a reporting process being in place.

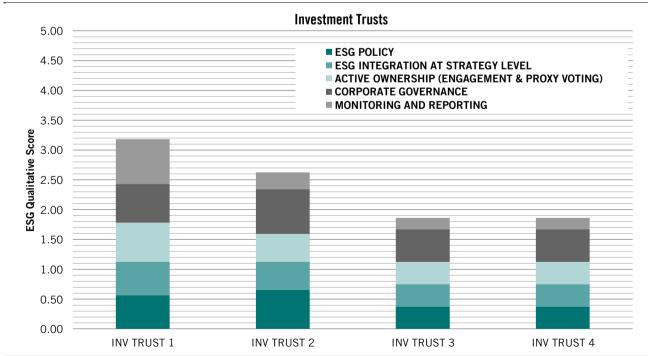


Active Funds



Source: Pictet Asset Management; 30 September 2020 Underlying Managers, Bloomberg. Note scores are from 1-5, 5 being highest.

Investment Trust



Source: Pictet Asset Management; 30 September 2020 Underlying Managers, Bloomberg. Note scores are from 1-5, 5 being highest.



Pictet Funds

We assess the internal Pictet funds we hold in the DAA portfolio using qualitative scores, but also hold the investment teams to account on ESG integration in their investment decision making

Some examples below:

- 1) Pictet Global Environmental Opportunities Fund: **Ecolab** (specialty chemicals company)
 - > Action: Decision to invest on *environmental* considerations.
 - The fund decided to invest in this company from inception in 2014. Fits into the fund's approach of investing in companies with low environmental impact, driving & benefitting from the development of environmental solutions
 - Company scores very highly on environmental impact in the freshwater use metric specifically as their products allow industrial customers to reduce water usage. They also produce innovation in the water space for instance through research undertaken at their "water university"
- 2) Pictet Health Fund: Bausch Health Companies (pharma company)
 - Action: Decision not to invest.
 - The fund did not invest in this company due to ESG considerations in 2019. The company was originally called Valeant but acquired Bausch & Lomb and changed its name. The company was interesting from an investment point of view due to its large ophthal-mology business
 - They refrained due to the Valeant component whose business model has focused on buying old drugs for rare conditions and then inflating the price. Valeant has also been involved in controversies with regards to its relationships with specialty pharmacies to boost sales of its products.
- 3) Pictet Japanese Equity Selection Fund: **Kyocera** (electronics company)
 - Action: Decision to stay invested on governance considerations:
 - The fund decided to **stay invested** in this company while targeting a number of governance improvements. They made these recommendations at management discussions and are satisfied with the improvements undertaken
 - Kyocera took a number of actions off the back of investor discussions. They raised the dividend payout ratio and added RoE as a new management metric. On the board governance side, measures included improving the process of Director nomination and compensation such as introducing long-term incentives to better align with shareholders, and enhancing the Board's independence and gender diversity



Fixed Income

Sovereign Bonds Engagement in Emerging Markets

- Our EM Debt funds utilise ESG ratings and engage in sovereign stewardship. This is based on the underlying view that the longer-term trajectory for EM economies will benefit from improving ESG factors
- For their stewardship efforts, they use meetings with country delegations, NGOs and other organisations to engage on ESG issues
- We partner with EMpower the emerging markets foundation, to create social impact through investment in youth throughout the emerging markets.

We also refer to these ESG ratings and outlook for EM sovereigns when we invest directly and consult with our EM colleagues when we do so.

Sovereign ESG Indictors

CATEGORY	SELECTED INDICATOR
	Air Quality
	Transition to Low Carbon Economy
Environmental	Climate change exposure
	Management of Natural Resources
	Water quality and stress
	Education
	Healthcare Capacity
S ocial	Innovation & Research
	Working-age population trends
	Civil unrest
	Corruption
	Efficacy of the Regulatory System
Governance	Electoral process
	Judicial Effectiveness & Independence
	Right to privacy



Sovereign Engagement Case Studies

ESG AREA	SELECTED TOPIC	FORUM
Chile – Minister of Finance	Environmental	Carbon policy and climate laws given commodity dependence and heavy reliance on imported oil. Government is currently studying introducing a new climate change law, and a bill could potentially be drafted in 2019/2020. 100% owned government company imports and distributes oil, thus there is a fiscal impact as well.
Dominican Republic – Investor Roadshow	Environmental	Climate change and hurricane risks. Asked question about what measure Dominican Republic could take in the face of significant risk as Hurricane Maria just missed making landfall in September.
Argentina – Sectary of Finance	Social	Fiscal spending reductions impact on vulnerable segments. One of our largest concerns from an ESG perspective is how Argentina will balance its need to reduce government spending without overly hitting these sections of the population. In previous crises in Latin America, IMF bailouts have been widely blamed for an inordinate negative impact on these segments.
Mexico – Finance Minister	Social	Crime and Safety. Drug related violence, which used to be focused in the border areas of Northern Mexico, has now spread everywhere. The lack of progress in reducing crime helps candidates from nonOestablisehd political parties and increases the risk of populist policies.
Poland – Finance Ministry	Governance	Judiciary System and Press Freedom. EU has cautioned on the independence of Polish courts being below acceptable levels which could result in disciplinary measures being taken. There is evidence that press freedom is also coming under pressure.
South Africa – Government Delegation	Governance	Property rights and land expropriation. Ramaphosa is seeking to change the constitution to allow for land expropriation without compensation. Asked about framework and timing. The land expropriation issue is one which can be quite disruptive. It could present a clear deterioration in property rights and as such have a material impact on asset prices.

Source: Pictet Asset Management 30 September 2020



ESG AT PICTET ASSET MANAGEMENT

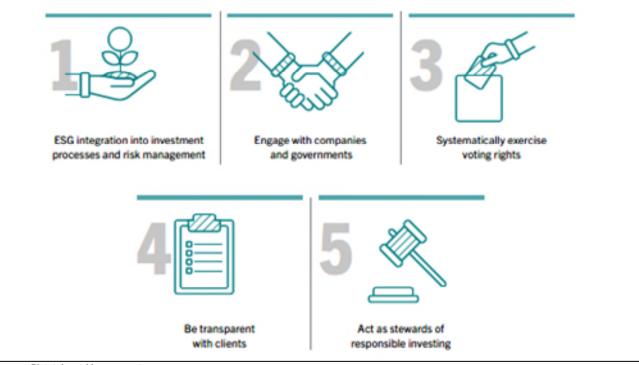
We are convinced that Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) considerations can help us make better long-term investment decisions for our clients.

Pictet Asset Management believes in responsible capitalism and takes an enlarged view of the economy and its interactions with civil society and the natural environment.

Consistent with our fiduciary duty to act in the best interests of our clients and our adherence to the UN Principles for Responsible Investment (UN PRI), we are committed to integrating material ESG criteria in our investment processes and ownership practices with a view to enhance returns and/or mitigate risks. We also aim include ESG aspects in our risk management and reporting tools in order to maintain high standards of transparency and accountability.

Our commitment to responsible investment is driven by five main pillars, which help us ensure sustainable development is taken into account in our long-term strategy.

Five main pillars





Pictet Group: A Responsible Mindset

For decades, responsibility has been central to our way of thinking. Since the Pictet Group was founded in 1805, we have aimed to ensure the prosperity of our clients and of future generations



Our people

We believe that the well-being of our staff is critical in promoting a sense of responsibility towards clients and the broader world.



Environmental stewardship

We are committed to reducing our environmental impact and managing operations in line with the best practices.







Philanthropic tradition

Since our inception, our Partners have made contributions in the fields of medical research, culture, social and humanitarian causes.



Investments

Responsible investment has been a part of our product range well before it became fashionable. Today, Pictet AM is a world leader in thematic environmental strategies.

Pictet Asset Management has been a signatory of the UNPRI since 2007 and has been awarded an A+rating under the PRI's Reporting and Assessment Framework in the most recent Assessment Report (of 2019).

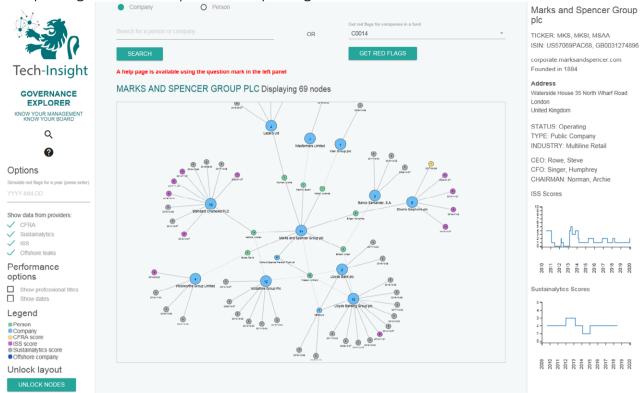
Furthermore, Pictet Asset Management has been a signatory to the UK Stewardship Code since 2010.



Proprietary Tool- Governance Explorer

Among various ESG tools available to the investment team, Pictet has also developed a proprietary tool for investigating current and previous connections of Board members and Executives with problematic companies

We use the Governance Explorer to evaluate board members and executives of investment trusts we hold, incorporating this into their qualitative corporate governance scores.



Source: Pictet Asset Management; for illustration purposes only



RESEARCH SPOTLIGHT: CLIMATE IN FOCUS AT THE US PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION

- We take no view on the outcome of the US Presidential election. We would also add that no matter who gets elected, the global energy transition appears unstoppable with the cost of producing renewable electricity falling sharply.
- However, it is worth focusing on some aspects of the Democratic party's agenda on climate as this would mark a clear shift in climate policies in the US and globally.
- It aims to achieve a net zero carbon economy by 2050, committing USD2 trillion over four years.
- Proposals include completely decarbonising electricity generation by 2035 and doubling the rate of solar panel rollout, or installing 500 million panels, in the next five years.
- The agenda also aims to overtake China as the world leader in the electric vehicle (EV) industry by increasing federal procurement by USD400 billion for key components such as batteries.
- On the green buildings front, the proposals call for upgrading 4 million buildings and 2 million homes over four years
- Biden's climate program puts the US in line with European and UK targets, and a carbon-neutrality pledge would sit alongside China, which has recently announced its own goal to become carbon neutral by 2060. China and the US are the world's largest two emitters of greenhouse gases, responsible for 25% and 13% of global emissions respectively. Indeed, a Democrat victory could place the US back in a leadership role within global efforts to limit global warming, especially in the context of the COP26 conference in 2021
- Europe has its own new climate blueprint, with the EU proposing to cut greenhouse gas emissions by 55 percent relative to 1990 levels, over the next ten years (compared to a previous target of 40 percent).
- Globally, "build back better" fiscal agendas aiming to revitalise economies damaged by the pandemic, will emphasize green spending

Portfolio Implications:

- Private companies stand to gain from investment opportunities within renewables, storage technology, green buildings and e-mobility among other areas
- Since the beginning of the year we have been building exposure to companies aiming to benefit from or providing solutions to enable the low-carbon transition, which we believe to be a theme which outlasts the impact of political transitions such as the US election
- Within our main funds, we have very low exposure to the global energy sector, which we believe to be a "value trap". In January 2020, we allocated an initial 5% of our portfolio to stocks actively looking to solve environmental challenges either with respect to resource efficiency or environmental quality through our internal Global Environmental Opportunities fund, supplemented by a position in a Clean Energy ETF in August 2020.

Sources: Joe Biden for President Official Campaign, Institute for International Finance, Pictet Asset Management internal estimates. As of September 30 2020



Disclaimer

This marketing material is issued by Pictet Asset Management (Europe) S.A.. It is neither directed to, nor intended for distribution or use by, any person or entity who is a citizen or resident of, or domiciled or located in, any locality, state, country or jurisdiction where such distribution, publication, availability or use would be contrary to law or regulation. Only the latest version of the fund's prospectus, KIID (Key Investor Information Document), regulations, annual and semi-annual reports may be relied upon as the basis for investment decisions. These documents are available on assetmanagement.pictet or at Pictet Asset Management (Europe) S.A., 15, avenue J. F. Kennedy, L-1855 Luxembourg.

The information and data presented in this document are not to be considered as an offer or solicitation to buy, sell or subscribe to any securities or financial instruments or services.

Information, opinions and estimates contained in this document reflect a judgment at the original date of publication and are subject to change without notice. Pictet Asset Management (Europe) S.A. has not taken any steps to ensure that the securities referred to in this document are suitable for any particular investor and this document is not to be relied upon in substitution for the exercise of independent judgment. Tax treatment depends on the individual circumstances of each investor and may be subject to change in the future. Before making any investment decision, investors are recommended to ascertain if this investment is suitable for them in light of their financial knowledge and experience, investment goals and financial situation, or to obtain specific advice from an industry professional.

The value and income of any of the securities or financial instruments mentioned in this document may fall as well as rise and, as a consequence, investors may receive back less than originally invested.

Past performance is not a guarantee or a reliable indicator of future performance. Performance data does not include the commissions and fees charged at the time of subscribing for or redeeming shares. This marketing material is not intended to be a substitute for the fund's full documentation or any information which investors should obtain from their financial intermediaries acting in relation to their investment in the fund or funds mentioned in this document.

Any index data referenced herein remains the property of the Data Vendor. Data Vendor Disclaimers are available on assetmanagement.pictet in the "Resources" section of the footer.

This document is a marketing communication issued by Pictet Asset Management and is not in scope for any MiFID II/MiFIR requirements specifically related to investment research. This material does not contain sufficient information to support an investment decision and it should not be relied upon by you in evaluating the merits of investing in any products or services offered or distributed by Pictet Asset Management.

Information for Swiss investors: The legal representative of the fund is Pictet Asset Management S.A. route des Acacias 60, CH 1211 Genève 73 and the Paying Agent is Banque Pictet & Cie S.A., route des Acacias 60, CH 1211 Genève 73