

ROBECO

Summary document

Robeco Circular Economy

Sustainability Objective

The Fund has the following sustainable investment objective: to finance solutions that support the transition from traditional production and consumption patterns toward a circular economy. The sustainable investment objective is attained by mainly investing in companies that advance the following United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): Zero Hunger (SDG 2), Good health and well-being (SDG 3), Decent work and economic growth (SDG 8), Industry, innovation and infrastructure (SDG 9), Sustainable cities and communities (SDG 11) and Responsible consumption and production (SDG 12). The Fund does not have a carbon-reduction objective and the reference benchmark has not been designated for the purpose of attaining the sustainable investment objective.

Investment Strategy

Robeco Circular Economy is an actively managed Fund that invests globally in companies aligned with circular economy principles. The selection of these stocks is based on Fundamental analysis. The strategy integrates sustainability indicators on a continuous basis as part of the stock selection process. Amongst others, the Fund applies norms-based and activity-based exclusions, Robeco's good governance policy and considers Principal Adverse Impacts in the investment process.

Benchmark

There is no reference benchmark designated for the purpose of attaining the sustainable investment objective of the Fund.

Proportion of investments

The fund plans to make a minimum of 90% sustainable investments, with the remainder of the investments made mostly in cash and cash equivalents.

Monitoring and due diligence

Robeco has incorporated the sustainability aspects of the investment strategies into adequate investment due diligence processes and procedures for the selection and monitoring of investments, amongst others taking into account Robeco's risk appetite and sustainability risk management policies. Portfolio managers and analysts are primarily responsible for conducting investment due diligence on their strategies on a daily basis. They are supported by independent monitoring, performed by the Financial Risk Management and Investment Restrictions departments.

Data sources, methodologies and limitations

The fund uses several sources for gathering sustainability data. Robeco scrutinises the data quality of each provider during due diligence assessments, that includes reviewing the data model, performing statistical checks and evaluating coverage. Data processing takes places in different forms, the preference is always to have data acquisition as automated as possible to avoid any operational risks or unnecessary human intervention.

Robeco maintains comprehensive methodology documents of our proprietary analytical frameworks on our website. In addition, for some social and environmental characteristics, Robeco relies on externally sourced content for which we aim to select the best of breed vendor for each of our target characteristics. The primary limitation to the methodology or data source is the lack of corporate disclosure. Like many other financial market participants, we struggle to find adequate information on the principal adverse indicators. To overcome this issue, Robeco has resorted to using multiple data providers, since each has its own respective strengths and weaknesses.

Engagement strategy

The holdings of the fund are subject to the selection process of Robeco's value engagement program, that consists of a constructive dialogue between investors and investee companies to discuss how they manage ESG risks and opportunities, as well as stakeholder impact. Although this type of engagement is not directly related to the sustainable investment objective of the fund, it can be that adverse sustainability impacts are addressed via the value engagement program.