

# How SSGA Assesses the ESG Profile of Issuers

## Article 8 Funds



**Article 8 Funds or Light Green Funds** are defined as funds which promote environmental or social characteristics (although not exclusively) and which invest in companies that follow good governance practices.

The following funds:

<b>PRIME Funds</b>	<b>PRIME 3, PRIME 4, PRIME 5 &amp; PRIME Equities</b>
<b>Ethical Funds</b>	<b>Ethical Managed Fund &amp; Ethical Equity Fund</b>
<b>Regional Indexed Equity Funds</b>	<b>Eurozone Equity Indexed Fund &amp; North American Equity Indexed Fund</b>

are classified as Light Green or Article 8 Funds.

Pursuant to the EU Sustainable Finance Disclosure Regulation ("**SFDR**"), we set out overleaf information relating to these funds (**the "Portfolio"**). Please click on the fund names above to access the fund specific information specific.

The term "**Sustainability Risk**", as used herein, is defined in SFDR as an environmental, social or governance event or condition that, if it occurs, could cause an actual or potential material negative impact on the value of investments.

## Impact of Sustainability Risks on the Portfolio

The investment manager (State Street Global Advisors) takes into account Sustainability Risks by investing in collective investment schemes that incorporate Sustainability Risks as part of their construction (in addition to other collective investment schemes that do not), pursuant to the applicable Investment Guidelines and Restrictions under the Investment Management Agreement (IMA).

The universe of Sustainability Risks is very broad, and their relevance, materiality and impact on investments will depend on a number of factors such as the investment strategy pursued by the Portfolio, asset class, asset location and asset sector. Depending on the circumstances, examples of Sustainability Risks can include physical environmental risks, climate change transition risks, supply chain disruptions, improper labour practices, lack of board diversity and corruption.

Any deterioration in the financial profile of an underlying investment affected by a Sustainability Risk may have a corresponding negative impact on the net asset value and/or performance of the Portfolio. A Sustainability Risk event may materially affect the market price or liquidity of an underlying investment.

## Article 8, SFDR Disclosure

The Portfolio promotes environmental or social characteristics, or a combination of those characteristics and so is categorised as an “Article 8” product for the purposes of SFDR.

Please refer to the investment objective and investment restrictions for the Portfolio for details regarding the environmental and/or social characteristics of the Portfolio. The investment manager integrates a review of companies’ ESG ratings and other ESG data metrics into the investment manager’s investment process in respect of the Portfolio. The investment manager also employs negative and norms-based ESG screens and/or tilting as set out overleaf.

While the Portfolio promotes environmental and/or social characteristics within the meaning of Article 8 of the SFDR, it does not currently commit to investing in any “Sustainable Investment” within the meaning of the SFDR. The Portfolio does not consider the EU criteria for environmentally sustainable economic activities as set out in the Taxonomy Regulation in its investment process. Therefore, no minimum proportion of Taxonomy aligned investments is foreseen as any such investments would be coincidental. For this reason, the “do no significant harm” principle does not apply to any of the investments of the Portfolio.

For information on the methodologies used to achieve Article 8 status in the underlying funds held within the Portfolio and further information on the exclusion criteria and data sources, please use the links below:

[State Street World ESG Index Equity Fund](#)

[State Street Global Emerging Markets Screened Index Equity Fund](#)

[State Street Emerging Markets ESG Local Currency Government Bond Index Fund](#)

[SPDR Bloomberg SASB 0-3 Year Euro Corporate ESG UCITS ETF](#)

[State Street Euro Corporate Bond Screened Index Fund](#)

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[State Street Global Emerging Markets Screened Index Equity Fund](#)

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[State Street World ESG Index Equity Fund](#)

[State Street Global Emerging Markets Screened Index Equity Fund](#)

# Ethical Managed Fund

## Impact of Sustainability Risks on the Portfolio

Sustainability Risks are integrated into the Portfolio's investment decisions as the investment manager (SSGA) integrates a review of companies' ESG (environmental, social and governance) ratings and other ESG data metrics into the investment manager's investment process in respect of the Portfolio. The investment manager also employs a negative and norms-based ESG screen

In assessing potential investments, the investment manager assesses the good governance practices of issuers of the relevant securities.

Please see the fund flyer, [click here](#), relating to the Portfolios for further information.

The universe of sustainability events or conditions is very broad, and their relevance, materiality and impact on investments will depend on a number of factors such as the investment strategy pursued by the Portfolios, asset class, asset location and asset sector. Depending on the circumstances, examples of sustainability risks can include physical environmental risks, climate change transition risks, supply chain disruptions, improper labour practices, lack of board diversity and corruption.

The integration of Sustainability Risk does not assure the mitigation of any or all Sustainability Risk and the degree to which management of Sustainability Risk can or will be integrated into the management of the assets of any Portfolio will depend on the characteristics of the Portfolio.

Any deterioration in the financial profile of an underlying investment affected by a Sustainability Risk may have a corresponding negative impact on the net asset value and/or performance of the Portfolio. A Sustainability Risk event may materially affect the market price or liquidity of an underlying investment.

Investment decisions that integrate Sustainability Risks may include assumptions as to how such risks may materialise in the future. These assumptions may be incorrect or incomplete and the Sustainability Risk may not manifest at all or as anticipated.

The integration of Sustainability Risk considerations in the Portfolio's investment decisions may cause it to make different investments than portfolios that have a similar investment universe and/or investment style but do not incorporate such considerations in their investment strategy or processes. Where Sustainability Risk criteria are integrated in investment decision, the Portfolio may forgo higher yielding investments that it would invest in, absent the application of the Sustainability Risk criteria.

## Article 8, SFDR Disclosure

The Portfolio promotes environmental or social characteristics, or a combination of those characteristics and so is classified as an "Article 8" product for the purposes of SFDR. As described above, the investment manager integrates a review of companies' ESG ratings and other ESG data metrics into the investment manager's investment process in respect of the Portfolio. The investment manager also employs a negative and norms-based ESG screens.

In assessing potential investments, the investment manager assesses the good governance practices of issuers of the relevant securities.

The fund does not have a designated reference benchmark.

# Ethical Equity Fund

## Impact of Sustainability Risks on the Portfolio

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## Eurozone Equity Indexed Fund

### Description of environmental or social characteristics

The Eurozone Equity Indexed Fund invests in the State Street EMU ESG Screened Index Equity Fund. The State Street EMU ESG Screened Index Equity Fund is an index fund tracking the performance of the MSCI EMU ex UNGC and CW Index.

The index represents the performance of the broad market of developed markets countries in EMU while excluding companies that are associated with Controversial Weapons or fail to comply with United Nations Global Compact principles.

### Further Information

For information on the methodologies used in the construction of the Index and further information on the exclusion criteria and data sources, please refer to MSCI's index methodology description which can be found at the following link: [msci.com/index-methodology](https://www.msci.com/index-methodology) (index code 731087).

Please refer to the Prospectus and Relevant Supplement for more information.

## North American Equity Indexed Fund

### Description of environmental or social characteristics

The North American Equity Indexed Fund invests in the State Street US ESG Screened Index Equity Fund. The State Street US ESG Screened Index Equity Fund is an index fund tracking the performance of the MSCI USA ex UNGC and CW Index.

The index represents the performance of the broad market of the U.S. while excluding companies that are associated with Controversial Weapons or fail to comply with United Nations Global Compact principles.

### Further Information

For information on the methodologies used in the construction of the Index and further information on the exclusion criteria and data sources, please refer to MSCI's index methodology description which can be found at the following link: [msci.com/index-methodology](https://www.msci.com/index-methodology) (index code 731082).

Please refer to the Prospectus and Relevant Supplement for more information.



## Next steps

To find out more about these funds, talk to the Advisor in your Bank of Ireland branch:

[Fund Centre](#) 

[Sustainable Investing Hub](#) 

**Warning: The value of your investment may go down as well as up.**  
**Warning: These funds may be affected by changes in currency exchange rates.**  
**Warning: Past performance is not a reliable guide to future performance.**  
**Warning: If you invest in these funds you may lose some or all of the money you invest.**

The information set out is of a general nature, may have been condensed or be incomplete and should not be relied upon without seeking professional advice. We believe the information to be reliable but we cannot guarantee its accuracy. The information set out does not constitute an offer or recommendation to buy or sell any investments or to subscribe to any investment services.

Details are as at the date of this document unless otherwise stated and may change over time. For further details please refer to the fund brochure. Terms and conditions as set out in your policy conditions apply.

These funds have been developed solely by Bank of Ireland Life. While the underlying funds aim to track as closely as reasonably possible the performance of the stated indices, there is no trade connection between Bank of Ireland Life and these indices. Index providers do not sponsor, advise, recommend, endorse or promote these funds and has no liability whatsoever to any person arising out of their investment in these funds.

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Advice on Bank of Ireland Life products is provided by Bank of Ireland. Bank of Ireland trading as Bank of Ireland Insurance & Investments (Insurance & Investments) is regulated by the Central Bank of Ireland. Bank of Ireland is a tied agent of New Ireland Assurance Company plc for life assurance and pensions business. Member of Bank of Ireland Group.