



# Pre-Contractual Sustainability Disclosures for Consensus Markets Fund 2022

Helping people build  
better futures

## Introduction

At Irish Life, we believe in doing right by your money by helping build a better future for all.

Through Irish Life Investment Managers (“ILIM”) we invest your money in a responsible way that benefits you and the planet.

**Product Name:** Consensus Markets Fund

**Legal Entity Identifier:** TWBJZDB2TYBXZPLM625

### Status under the EU Sustainable Finance Disclosure Regulation (SFDR)

There are new rules which require any fund which promotes environmental and/or social characteristics to provide detailed sustainability related disclosures to prospective customers.

As this Fund has been categorised as meeting the provisions set out in Article 8 of the EU Sustainable Finance Disclosure Regulation (SFDR), this report provides further detail on what the sustainability related goals of the Fund are and how the sustainability related goals of the Fund are met.

### Investment Objective

The Protected Consensus Markets Fund gives you the opportunity for higher potential returns that come with investing in global markets while aiming to protect a large part of your investment. The aim of the Fund is to provide growth when markets are performing well and deliver some protection when markets are falling. The Protected Consensus Markets Fund invests in two funds, the Consensus Markets Fund and the Protected Fund. The amount invested in each depends on market conditions at the time and is based on a formula.

The Fund also aims to promote Environmental, Social and Governance characteristics including enhanced exposure to companies with better ESG characteristics and a better alignment to the low carbon transition economy.



## Environmental and/or social characteristics

### Does this financial product have a sustainable investment objective?

Yes

It will make a minimum of **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 will make a minimum of **sustainable investments with a social objective**: \_\_%

No

It promotes **Environmental/Social (E/S) characteristics** and while it does not have as its objective a sustainable investment, it will have a minimum proportion of \_\_% 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 promotes E/S characteristics, but **will not make any sustainable investments**

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 lay down a list of socially sustainable economic activities. Sustainable investments with an environmental objective might be aligned with the Taxonomy or not.



## What environmental and/or social characteristics are promoted by this financial product?

This Fund specifically aims to:



**Reduce the impact of the Fund on Climate Change**  
(relative to the appropriate broad market benchmark)



**Increase the Fund's exposure to companies with improved sustainability and lower ESG risk scores**  
(relative to the appropriate broad market benchmark)

## What sustainability indicators are used to measure the attainment of each of the environmental or social characteristics promoted by this financial product?

The indicators used to measure the outcomes of this approach are:



**Reduce the impact of the Fund on Climate Change**  
(relative to the appropriate broad market benchmark)

- > Reduction in carbon intensity of the portfolio versus the appropriate broad market benchmark.
- > Reduction in fossil fuel involvement of the portfolio versus the appropriate broad market benchmark.



**Increase the Fund's exposure to companies with improved sustainability and lower ESG risk scores**  
(relative to the appropriate broad market benchmark)

- > Reduction in the Environment, Social, Governance and overall ESG risk scores versus the appropriate broad market benchmark.

## What are the objectives of the sustainable investments that the financial product partially intends to make and how does the sustainable investment contribute to such objectives?

N/A - This Fund does not commit to making sustainable investments or investments aligned with the EU Taxonomy.

While this Fund is designed to consider and contribute to the sustainability of our environment and society within the provisions of Article 8 of the SFDR, it is not specifically designed to make “sustainable investments” as defined under SFDR or to make investments which qualify as “environmentally sustainable” under the EU Taxonomy.

## How do the sustainable investments that the financial product partially intends to make, not cause significant harm to any environmental or social sustainable investment objective?

N/A - This Fund does not commit to making sustainable investments or investments aligned with the EU Taxonomy.

## How have the indicators for adverse impacts on sustainability factors been taken into account?

N/A - The Fund does not commit to making sustainable investments.

## How are the sustainable investments aligned with the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises and the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights? Details:

N/A - The Fund does not commit to making sustainable investments.

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.

Sustainability indicators measure how the environmental or social characteristics promoted by the financial product are attained.



## Does this financial product consider principal adverse impacts on sustainability factors? Yes No

The Fund aims to reduce negative impacts to the environment and society. These negative impacts are also called adverse impacts, whereby the most significant adverse impacts are referred to as principal adverse impacts (PAI).

Where possible and feasible and in line with the nature of the investments, a number of adverse impacts are structurally and systematically considered as part of this Fund's investment decision making. This consideration occurs before making investment decisions and thereafter as part of our ongoing monitoring and management of that investment, where an investment is made.

We consider the following key PAIs in our decision making:



### Impact on climate change:

- > Greenhouse gas emissions
- > Carbon footprint
- > Exposure to companies active in the fossil fuel sector



### Impact on society:

- > Violations of UN Global Compact principles and Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises
- > Exposure to controversial weapons (anti-personnel mines, nuclear weapons, cluster weapons, biological and chemical weapons, depleted uranium, and white phosphorus munitions)

Investment decisions result in more capital allocation to companies with improved PAI indicators as a result of the ESG data integration.

Further details on the principle adverse impacts can be found at <https://www.ilim.com/media/1696/principal-adverse-impacts-policy.pdf>



## What investment strategy does this financial product follow?

The Fund may invest in a diversified mix of assets such as cash, bonds and equities to deliver a return over the medium to long-term commensurate with the Fund's risk profile.

This is a high risk fund, with risk appropriate allocations to higher risk assets such as equities. The Fund manager monitors and rebalances the Fund regularly and may change the asset mix. The Fund promotes environmental and social characteristics alongside other factors (Article 8 of the SFDR).

As part of its active ownership program the Investment Manager, ILIM, will selectively engage (either directly or collaboratively with other like-minded investors) with companies in which it invests to support and encourage the adoption of positive sustainable behaviours within these companies. ILIM exercises its voting rights, voting the shares of companies in this product, with the exception being where voting is logistically difficult or where the costs of voting are disproportionate relative to the size of the holding.

### What are the binding elements of the investment strategy used to select the investments to attain each of the environmental or social characteristics promoted by this financial product?

ILIM implements its Responsible Investment Framework across of the majority of the Fund's assets which can qualify as Article 8. The actions that ILIM takes to ensure that the Fund attains the environmental or social characteristics promoted by the Fund differ by asset class. For the majority of the listed equity and investment grade corporate bonds, we apply the following approach which are detailed in our Responsible Investment Framework and are as follows:

1. ILIM exclude the securities of companies which exhibit poor behaviour (UN Global Compact Violators) and those involved in activities such as the manufacturing of Controversial Weapons and Tobacco.
2. ILIM integrate security level ESG risk ratings and principal adverse impact (PAI) indicators within our equity and corporate bond investments to ensure a material improvement in these aggregate characteristics compared to broad market benchmarks. These enhancements are achieved by overweighting securities that rank favourably across these metrics and underweighting laggards. While the desire to maintain high levels of diversification within the Fund means that laggards are not eliminated entirely, ILIM engages with companies to encourage them to embrace sustainable practices.

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, anti-corruption and anti-bribery matters.

The investment strategy guides investment decisions based on factors such as investment objectives and risk tolerance.

**What is the committed minimum rate to reduce the scope of the investments considered prior to the application of that investment strategy?**

N/A - There is no committed minimum rate to reduce the scope of investments.

**What is the policy to assess good governance practices of the investee companies?**

ILIM utilise independent third party data providers to make assessments on governance practices in the companies which we invest. ILIM assess good governance practices in investee companies through a number of measures which include:

- > ESG risk scores
- > Alignment with the UN Global Compact
- > Involvement in severe controversies

Good governance practices include sound management structures, employee relations, remuneration of staff and tax compliance.



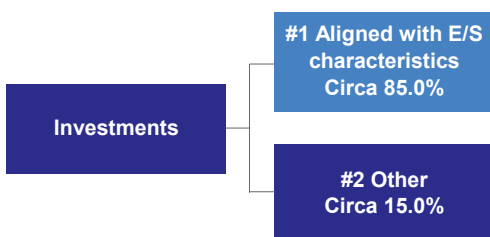
**What is the asset allocation planned for this financial product?**

The Fund invests in a mix of assets such as cash, government bonds and corporate bonds and equities.

The promotion of environmental or social characteristics were applied across the majority of below assets classes and the majority of the Funds associated with the below listed asset classes are classified as Article 8 under SFDR regulation:

- i. Equity
- ii. Corporate Fixed Income

Asset allocation describes the share of investments in specific assets.



**#1 Aligned with E/S characteristics** includes the investments of the financial product used to attain the environmental or social characteristics promoted by the financial product.

**#2 Other** includes the remaining investments of the financial product which are neither aligned with the environmental or social characteristics, nor are qualified as sustainable investments.

**How does the use of derivatives attain the environmental or social characteristics promoted by the financial product?**

Although derivatives can be used in the investment strategy, derivatives are not used to attain the environmental or social characteristics promoted by the financial product.

Taxonomy-aligned activities are expressed as a share of:

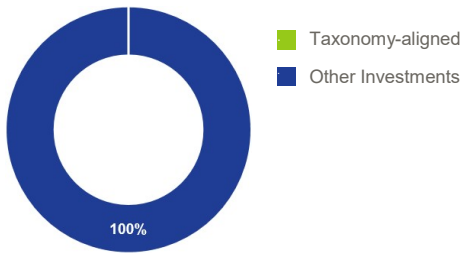
- > Turnover reflects the “greenness” of investee companies today
- > Capital expenditure (CapEx) shows the green investments made by investee companies, relevant for a transition to a green economy
- > Operational expenditure (OpEx) reflects the green operational activities of investee companies



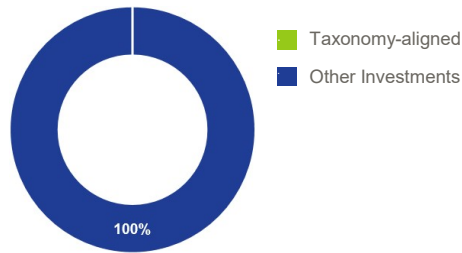
### To what minimum extent are sustainable investments with an environmental objective aligned with the EU Taxonomy?

Although the Fund promotes environmental and social characteristics (Article 8 under the Sustainable Finance Disclosure Regulation) the Fund does not align with the EU Taxonomy criteria.

1. Taxonomy-alignment of investments including sovereign bonds\*



2. Taxonomy-alignment of investments excluding sovereign bonds\*



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

### What is the minimum share of investments in transitional and enabling activities?

0.0%



### What is the minimum share of investments with an environmental objective that are not aligned with the EU Taxonomy?

N/A - The Fund does not align with the EU Taxonomy.



### What is the minimum share of socially sustainable investments?

N/A - The Fund does not intend to make any investments in sustainable investments with a social objective.



### What investments are included under “#2 Other”, what is their purpose and are there any minimum environmental or social safeguards?

This product may invest in assets such as bonds and equities. Investments classified as "Other" include:

- > Cash
- > Developed Sovereign Fixed Income

The investments classified as "Other" form part of the multi-asset portfolio strategy and are vital parts of the risk/return framework of the strategy as well as meeting the liquidity needs of the product, i.e. to service inflows (outflows) to (from) the product.

There are no specific environmental or social safeguards applied to this part of products assets. However, for cash, we apply our exclusion policy which sets the baseline for investments, below which companies are deemed ineligible for the investment due to the company's products, or behaviours causing harm.

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.



are sustainable investments with an environmental objective that do not take into account the criteria for environmentally sustainable economic activities under Regulation (EU) 2020/852.



### **Is a specific index designated as a reference benchmark to determine whether this financial product is aligned with the environmental and/or social characteristics that it promotes?**

N/A - The Fund follows a multi-asset strategy and does not have a reference benchmark.

### **How is the reference benchmark continuously aligned with each of the environmental or social characteristics promoted by the financial product?**

N/A - The Fund follows a multi-asset strategy and does not have a reference benchmark.

### **How is the alignment of the investment strategy with the methodology of the index ensured on a continuous basis?**

N/A - The Fund follows a multi-asset strategy and does not have a reference benchmark or a designated index.

### **How does the designated index differ from a relevant broad market index?**

N/A - The Fund does not have a broad market benchmark.

The Fund is a multi-asset strategy consisting of allocations to a number of investment funds in specified asset classes. These investment funds which are classified as Article 8 have individual benchmarks and the individual funds show improvements in E/S characteristics versus their individual benchmarks.

### **Where can the methodology used for the calculation of the designated index be found?**

N/A - The Fund follows a multi-asset strategy and does not have a reference benchmark or a designated index.

## **Where can I find more product specific information online?**

More product-specific information can be found on the website

<https://www.ilim.com/responsible-investing/policies/>

Reference benchmarks are indexes to measure whether the financial product attains the environmental or social characteristics that they promote.



This document is intended as a general review of investment market conditions. It does not constitute investment advice and has not been prepared based on the financial needs or objectives of any particular person, and does not take account of the specific needs or circumstances of any person.

The author cannot make a personal recommendation for any person and you should seek personal investment advice as to the suitability of any investment decision or strategy to your own needs and circumstances. Any comments on specific stocks are intended as an objective, independent view in relation to that stock generally, and not in relation to its suitability to any specific person.

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