

Marketing Communication

## SFDR Article 8 Website Disclosure

# MS INV F Short Maturity Euro Corporate Bond Fund

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OCTOBER 2023

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## SFDR Article 8 Website Disclosure

**Product name:** *Short Maturity Euro Corporate Bond Fund (the "Fund")*

**A fund of Morgan Stanley Investment Funds**

**Legal entity identifier:** 549300TGXT6HICNUSW15

### Summary

#### No Sustainable investment objective

This financial product promotes environmental and social characteristics, but does not have as its objective sustainable investment.

The Fund will have a minimum proportion of 40% sustainable investments.

The "do no significant harm" methodology applied by the Investment Adviser seeks to ensure that the Fund's sustainable investments do not cause significant harm to any of the mandatory principal adverse impact ("PAI") indicators in the EU SFDR rules that are relevant to the investment and comply with certain minimum social safeguards.

#### Environmental or social characteristics of the financial product

The Fund promotes the environmental characteristic of climate change mitigation by excluding investments in certain types of fossil fuels. In addition, the Fund promotes the social characteristic of avoiding investments in certain activities which can cause harm to human health and wellbeing.

In addition, a minimum of 40% of the Fund's investments will be sustainable investments in: (a) corporate issuers whose business practices, products or solutions make a net positive contribution towards United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals ("SDGs"); or (b) Green, Social or Sustainability Bonds ("**Sustainable Bonds**") that make a positive environmental or social contribution through their use of proceeds.

#### Investment Strategy

The Fund's objective is to generate income through investments in high quality issues Euro denominated fixed income securities with maturity dates or call dates (whichever is earlier) having a maximum unexpired term of three (3) years.

The Fund meets its environmental and social characteristics through exclusions of companies which: (a) generate any revenue from controversial weapons manufacturing or retail, civilian firearms manufacturing or retail or tobacco manufacturing; or

(b) derive 5% or more of their revenue from thermal coal mining and extraction.

In addition, the Fund aims to invest a proportion of its assets in sustainable investments (as described above).

As part of its bottom-up, fundamental research process, the Investment Adviser systematically incorporates the assessment of an issuer's corporate governance and business practices to ensure that every investee company follows good governance practices.

#### Proportion of Investments

<b>Aligned with E/S characteristics</b>	<b>90%</b>
<i>Sustainable investments</i>	40%
<i>Taxonomy aligned</i>	-
<i>Other environmental</i>	1%
<i>Social</i>	1%
<i>Other E/S characteristics</i>	50%
<b>Other investments</b>	<b>10%</b>

The Fund expects to allocate a minimum of 40% of its assets to sustainable investments.

90% of investments are aligned with environmental or social characteristics. This comprises entirely of investments which offer direct exposure to investee entities.

These percentages are measured according to the value of the investments.

#### Monitoring of environmental or social characteristics

The environmental and social characteristics are monitored using a combination of tools / screens, portfolio surveillance tools and manual desk reviews and analyses.

The Investment Adviser's Compliance, Risk and Portfolio Surveillance teams collaborate with the investment team to conduct regular portfolio/performance reviews and systemic checks to ensure compliance with portfolio investment objectives and environmental and social characteristics.

#### Methodologies for environmental and social characteristics

Compliance with the exclusionary screens is measured based on the percentage of the Fund's investments which breach the exclusionary screens.

The sustainable investments made by the Fund are assessed as described above in relation to

'environmental or social characteristics of the financial product'.

### **Data sources and processing**

The Investment Adviser leverages ESG data from various external vendors. This data is collected and stored in Morgan Stanley's centralized ESG data repository, to allow any Morgan Stanley business unit, including Morgan Stanley Investment Management investment teams, to access the information for research, portfolio analysis and construction, and client and regulatory reporting.

Due to gaps in data coverage, a small proportion of the data which is used to assess alignment with E/S characteristics is estimated data.

### **Limitations to methodologies and data**

The Fund may use reasonable proxy data for PAI indicators where the Investment Adviser considers that the data is not widely or reliably available. For further details of data limitations, please see the full website disclosure.

The Investment Adviser takes reasonable steps to ensure that the Fund is able to meet its environmental and social characteristics despite these limitations, including reviewing and assessing proxies to ensure they are appropriate substitutes for the ESG themes promoted by the relevant PAI indicator.

In addition, where third-party screening data in relation to the Fund's exclusions is not available for an issuer, the Investment Adviser will apply its best efforts to verify, through in-house research, that the issuer does not violate the Fund's binding criteria.

### **Due diligence**

The Investment Adviser relies on internal research to derive its own independent assessment of an issuer's value and credit worthiness, using third-party agency and sell side research as an input.

The Investment Adviser conducts in-depth bottom-up analysis to identify bond issuers that meet its investment criteria in terms of competitive position, franchise value and management quality. These factors all help the Investment Adviser understand the quality and stability of the issuer's cash flows.

The Investment Adviser also builds forward-looking proprietary cash flow models to understand the issuer's likely future financial profile.

As part of this process, the Investment Adviser also conducts bottom-up due diligence on the Fund's investments to identify any sustainability risks that could impact the value of the assets, which is considered by the Investment Adviser when making investment decisions on a non-binding basis. The due diligence process is based on in-house research and third-party data.

In addition, the Investment Adviser's Risk team conducts top-down sustainability investment risk analysis on the Fund. This information is monitored on an ongoing basis and monthly reports are provided to the Investment Adviser's senior management, and are taken into account as a non-binding element of the Fund's investment decision making processes.

### **Engagement policies**

The Investment Adviser may engage with selected bond issuers on their corporate governance practices, as well as on other material sustainability issues related to the SDGs, including sustainability-related controversies or breaches of international norms and principles. Such engagement activities support, on a qualitative and non-binding basis, the Fund's PAI and good governance assessment.

### **Designated reference benchmark**

The Fund has not designated a reference benchmark for the purpose of attaining its environmental or social characteristics.

## SFDR Article 8 Website Disclosure

**Product name:** *Short Maturity Euro Corporate Bond Fund (the “Fund”)*

**A fund of Morgan Stanley Investment Funds**

**Legal entity identifier:** 549300TGXT6HICNUSW15

## No Sustainable investment objective

This financial product promotes environmental or social characteristics, but does not have as its objective sustainable investment.

The Fund aims to invest a minimum proportion of 40% of its assets in sustainable investments.

The Fund seeks to ensure that the sustainable investments of the Fund do not cause significant harm to relevant environmental or social sustainable investment objectives by:

- testing whether the investment meets the thresholds set by the Investment Adviser for each of the PAI indicators which are mandatory for the Investment Adviser to consider under the EU SFDR rules and which are relevant to the investment; and
- ensuring that the sustainable investments of the Fund are aligned with the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises and the UN Principles on Business and Human Rights.

## Environmental or social characteristics of the financial product

The Fund promotes the environmental characteristic of climate change mitigation by excluding investments in certain types of fossil fuels. In addition, the Fund promotes the social characteristic of avoiding investments in certain activities which can cause harm to human health and wellbeing.

Further detail on the nature of these exclusions is set out below (in response to the section below titled, “*Investment Strategy*”).

The Fund also supports the above environmental and social characteristics by aiming to make a minimum of 40% sustainable investments in:

- Corporate issuers whose business practices, products or solutions, make a net positive contribution towards United Nations’ Sustainable Development Goals (“**SDGs**”); or
- Sustainable Bonds which make a positive environmental or social contribution through their use of proceeds, as explained in response to the section below titled, “*Methodologies*”.

## Investment Strategy

The Fund’s investment objective is to provide an attractive rate of relative return, measured in Euro. The Fund will invest, in order to reduce volatility, primarily in Euro denominated Fixed Income Securities, issued by corporations with maturity dates or call dates (whichever is earlier) having a maximum unexpired term of three (3) years, while reducing exposure to sustainability risks through exclusionary screening of selected fossil fuels and of activities which can cause dangers to human health and wellbeing.

### Investment strategy used to meet the environmental and social characteristics promoted by the Fund

The binding elements of the investment strategy are described in the table below.

The criteria are implemented and monitored by the Investment Adviser using a combination of third-party data and in-house research.

<b>Binding criteria</b>	
<b>The Fund will not invest in corporate issuers which:</b>	<p><b><u>Derive any revenue from any of the following activities:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Controversial weapons manufacturing or retail (anti-personnel landmines, cluster munitions, biological or chemical weapons, and nuclear weapons);</li> <li>• Civilian firearms manufacturing or retail;</li> <li>• Tobacco manufacturing; or</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Derive more than 5% revenue from any of the following activities:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Thermal coal mining and extraction. The Fund may, as an exception, invest in labelled Sustainable Bonds issued by fossil fuel companies, which are intended to raise proceeds specifically for projects that promote positive environmental contributions mitigating the adverse sustainability impact of coal, such as renewable energy or energy efficiency, based on information available in the bond issuance documentation.</li> </ul>
<b>Sustainable investments</b>	The Fund will maintain a minimum of 40% of sustainable investments, which meet the criteria as set out in response to the section below titled, " <i>Methodologies</i> "

The Investment Adviser may apply additional ESG-related investment restrictions over time that it believes are consistent with the Fund’s investment objectives and its environmental and social characteristics. Such additional investment restrictions will be disclosed as they are implemented on [www.morganstanleyinvestmentfunds.com](http://www.morganstanleyinvestmentfunds.com) and on [www.morganstanley.com/im](http://www.morganstanley.com/im).

In addition to the binding ESG considerations, the Fund integrates ESG considerations in the investment decision-making process to support its environmental and social characteristics on a non-binding basis, based on the Investment Adviser’s in-house research and methodologies and on third-party data.

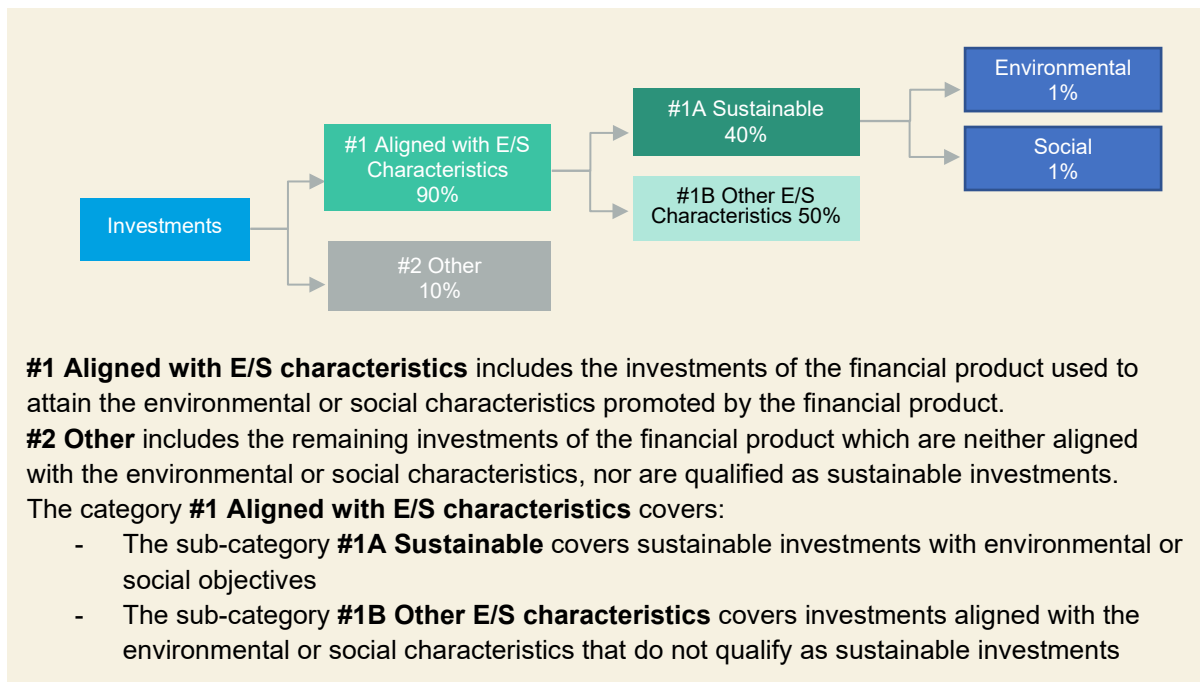
**Governance practices of investee companies**

As part of its bottom-up, fundamental research process, the Investment Adviser systematically incorporates the assessment of an issuer’s corporate governance and business practices, including but not limited to evidence of sound management structures and employee relations, fair remuneration of staff, and tax compliance, in order to ensure that every investee company follows good governance practices.

This is done through the monitoring of data on governance-related, as well as on other environmental and/or social factors and controversies, sourced from third party providers, through in-house research, and through engagement with the management of selected issuers on corporate governance and disclosure issues.

In addition, the Fund’s sustainable investments exclude any company that is involved in very severe governance-related controversies.

## Proportion of investments



The exclusions (as described above) will be applied to at least 90% of the portfolio, of which the Fund also expects to allocate a minimum of 40% of its assets to sustainable investments. Among these sustainable investments, the Fund commits to make a minimum of 1% of sustainable investments with an environmental objective and 1% of sustainable investments with a social objective which can both vary independently at any time.

Of the 90% of investments which are aligned with environmental or social characteristics, this comprises entirely of investments which offer direct exposure to investee entities.

These percentages are measured according to the value of the investments.

### “#2 Other” investments

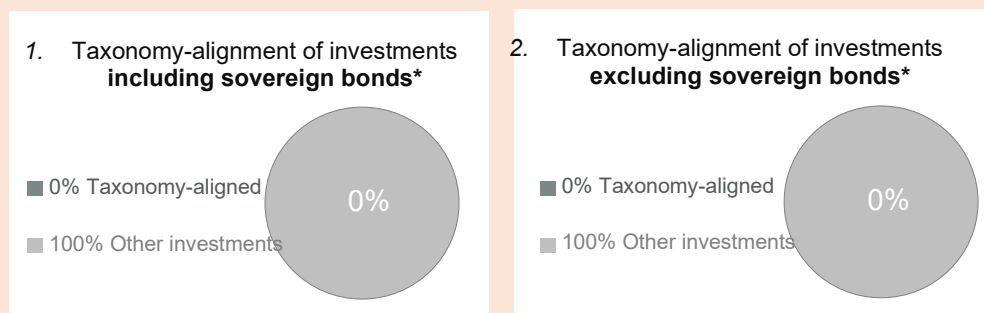
It is anticipated that up to 10% of the Fund’s assets may be invested in hedging instruments for efficient portfolio management and in cash held as ancillary liquidity. These instruments are included in the “#2 Other” category and are not subject to any environmental or social screening or any minimum environmental or social safeguards.

### Taxonomy disclosures

The Fund’s sustainable investments do not take into account the EU criteria for environmentally sustainable economic activities within the meaning of the Taxonomy Regulation. Further information can be found in the environmental and social characteristics section.

Although some of these sustainable investments may be Taxonomy aligned, due to lack of available data regarding the Taxonomy alignment of the underlying securities, the Investment Adviser has not been able to confirm whether these investments are in fact Taxonomy aligned and accordingly will not consider them as such in calculations until this data is reported on or otherwise becomes more reliable. As such, the Investment Adviser uses its own methodology to determine whether certain investments are sustainable in accordance with the SFDR sustainable investment test, and then invests in such assets for the Fund.

**The two graphs below show in green the minimum percentage of investments that are aligned with the EU Taxonomy. As there is no appropriate methodology to determine the Taxonomy-alignment of sovereign bonds\*, the first graph shows the Taxonomy-alignment in relation to all the investments of the financial product including sovereign bonds, while the second graph shows the Taxonomy-alignment only in relation to the investments of the financial product other than sovereign bonds.**



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

## Monitoring of environmental or social characteristics

The sustainability indicators of the Fund will be measured and evaluated on an ongoing basis, using a combination of tools / screens, portfolio surveillance tools and manual desk reviews and analyses.

The investment process is subject to regular review, as part of a control and monitoring framework implemented by the Investment Adviser. The Investment Adviser's Compliance, Risk and Portfolio Surveillance teams collaborate with the investment team to conduct regular portfolio/performance reviews and systemic checks to ensure compliance with portfolio investment objectives and environmental and social characteristics, taking into account changing market conditions, information and strategy developments.

Investments that are held by the Fund but become restricted because they breach the exclusion criteria set out above after they are acquired for the Fund will be sold. Such sales will take place over a time period to be determined by the Investment Adviser, considering the best interests of the shareholders of the Fund.

If the Investment Adviser considers that the portfolio or an investment no longer meets the Fund's other binding environmental or social criteria, the Investment Adviser will take such remedial action as it determines to be appropriate. Any such remedial action will be taken over a time period to be determined by the Investment Adviser, considering the relevant circumstances and best interests of the shareholders of the Fund.

## Methodologies

The sustainability indicator used to measure the attainment of the Fund's environmental and social characteristics is the Fund's exposure, in percentage market value, to issuers that violate any of the exclusion criteria, as described in the section above titled, "*Investment Strategy*".

### Sustainable investments

The Fund's sustainable investments will fall within one of the following categories:

- Green, Social or Sustainability Bonds (“**Sustainable Bonds**”), as labelled in the securities’ documentation, where the issuer commits to allocate the proceeds to projects making a positive environmental or social contribution. This includes, but is not limited to, bonds that align with the International Capital Market Association (ICMA)’s Green Bond Principles, Social Bond Principles, and Sustainability Bond Guidelines, and bonds which have been assessed through the Investment Adviser’s proprietary Sustainable Bond evaluation framework. Sustainable Bonds mobilise financing directly towards a variety of environmental and social projects whose focus spans across a number of sustainability objectives. Examples include, but are not limited to, financing for renewable energy, energy efficiency, clean transportation, affordable housing, and financial inclusion projects. The specific objectives to which the Sustainable Bonds contribute depend on the eligible environmental and social project categories of each security.
- Bonds from corporate issuers whose business practices, products or solutions, make a net positive contribution towards the SDGs. The SDGs were adopted by the United Nations in 2015 as a universal call to action to end poverty, protect the planet and ensure that by 2030 all people enjoy peace and prosperity. They include environmental (e.g. Climate Action or Life on Land) and social (e.g. Good Health and Well-Being) objectives. The Investment Adviser defines positive contribution to the SDGs as a net positive aggregate alignment score across all the SDGs (i.e., scores measuring positive contribution to individual SDGs have to, in total, be greater than the total of any negative contribution scores), based on third-party data. The Investment Adviser will also only include issuers which have sufficient positive SDG alignment (in the Investment Adviser’s view) with at least one individual SDG, and which do not have any material mis-alignments (in the Investment Adviser’s view) on any of the SDGs.

### **PAI indicators**

The “do no significant harm” methodology applied by the Investment Adviser on sustainable investments seeks to exclude investments that cause harm to any of the PAI indicators which are mandatory for the Investment Adviser to consider under the EU SFDR rules, and which are relevant to the investment.

The Investment Adviser has determined specific metrics and quantitative thresholds for what constitutes significant harm to screen PAI indicators that are relevant to the investment, using third-party data. The thresholds are set: (i) on an absolute value basis; (ii) on a relative basis in the context of the investment universe; or (iii) using pass/fail scores. Different metrics or thresholds may apply to issuers located in developed markets and in emerging markets, respectively. This is intended to reflect the different extent to which the Investment Adviser deems that meeting minimum sustainability standards in these markets is currently achievable. In addition, different relative thresholds may apply to similar indicators: for example, the Investment Adviser currently applies a lower threshold to determine significant adverse impact with respect to scope 3 emissions intensity as compared to scope 1 and 2 emissions intensity. This is because: (i) companies have less control over their indirect emissions; and (ii) data estimates for scope 3 emissions, which currently prevail over reported data compared to scope 1 and 2 emissions, may result in a less accurate PAI assessment.

The Investment Adviser may use reasonable proxy indicators sourced from third parties to address the current lack of data for certain PAI indicators. The Investment Adviser’s use of proxy indicators will be kept under review and will be replaced by PAI data from third-party data providers, when the Investment Adviser determines that sufficiently reliable data has become available.

The Investment Adviser generally conducts the PAI assessment at the issuer level. However, where appropriate the assessment may be done at the security level in whole or in part. For instance, in the case of Sustainable Bonds, as defined above, the PAI indicators that are directly related to the sustainability factors targeted by the bond’s use of proceeds will be assessed at the security level, through the Investment Adviser’s proprietary Sustainable Bond Evaluation Framework. As an example, the Fund may invest in a



Green Bond issued by a utility company that has a negative assessment of the PAI indicators related to GHG emissions and/or GHG intensity, as long as the Investment Adviser evaluates that the issuer has a credible strategy to reduce its GHG emissions, and that the Green Bond specifically contributes towards such goal. Other PAI indicators that are unrelated to the Sustainable Bond's use of proceeds are still assessed at the issuer level.

The Fund's PAI assessment is supported, on a qualitative basis, by the Investment Adviser's engagement with selected issuers on their corporate governance practices, as well as on other material sustainability issues related to the SDGs, in line with the Investment Adviser's Fixed Income Engagement Strategy, available on [www.morganstanley.com/im](http://www.morganstanley.com/im).

### **Alignment with OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises and the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights**

The Fund's sustainable investments exclude issuers which have experienced very severe controversies that are deemed to violate the UN Global Compact, the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, or the ILO Fundamental Principles, and issuers with very severe controversies related to violations of the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises. This screening is done using third-party data.]

## **Data sources and processing**

The Investment Adviser leverages ESG data from various external vendors. This data is collected and stored in Morgan Stanley's centralized ESG data repository, to allow any Morgan Stanley business unit, including Morgan Stanley Investment Management investment teams, to access the information for research, portfolio analysis and construction, and client and regulatory reporting.

MSIM assesses data quality by liaising with the different data providers to obtain updates to the datasets as the regulation evolves. They also ensure that ESG data adheres to the Firm's data governance and quality standards through procedures to assess the appropriateness and delivery of data feeds. MSIM also conducts as appropriate, due diligence on the external data providers in order to assess whether their methodologies are appropriate for the intended use case.

Due to gaps in data coverage, a small proportion of the data which is used to assess alignment with E/S characteristics is estimated data. The Investment Adviser will keep data gaps under review and replace the estimated data with third-party data sources or data obtained by other means (e.g., directly from investee companies) when available.

## **Limitations to methodologies and data**

The Investment Adviser uses data to assess the PAI indicators from third-party providers. The Fund may use reasonable proxy data for PAI indicators where the Investment Adviser considers that the data is not widely or reliably available. Any use of proxies will be kept under review and will be replaced by data from third-party data providers, when the Investment Adviser determines that sufficiently reliable data has become available. This limitation does not affect how the environmental and social characteristics promoted by the Fund are met because any proxies used are reviewed and assessed by the Investment Adviser to ensure they are appropriate substitutes for the relevant PAI indicator.

Additionally, the below outlines some of the key themes and commonalities which contribute to limitations in the methodologies and/or data and/or poor data quality of the Fund:

- methodology differences between data providers

- discrepancies in reported vs. estimated carbon emissions data such as Scope 3 emissions
- data lags i.e., reporting timelines for data may not align with SFDR reporting timelines
- coverage gaps across asset classes, geographies, and market capitalisations

Despite these limitations, which impact all consumers of ESG data and are not particular to MSIM, the Investment Adviser takes reasonable steps to mitigate the risk of these limitations hindering the Fund's ability to meet its environmental and social characteristics – these include (as appropriate), assessing vendor data quality and methodologies, comparing ESG data points between vendors or against its own internal analyses and using appropriate estimations to manage data gaps.

## Due diligence

The Investment Adviser relies on internal research to derive its own independent assessment of an issuer's value and credit worthiness, using third-party agency and sell side research as an input.

The Investment Adviser conducts in-depth bottom-up analysis to identify bond issuers that meet its investment criteria in terms of competitive position, franchise value and management quality. These factors all help the Investment Adviser understand the quality and stability of the issuer's cash flows.

The Investment Adviser also builds forward-looking proprietary cash flow models to understand the issuer's likely future financial profile.

As part of this process, the Investment Adviser also conducts bottom-up due diligence on the Fund's investments to identify any sustainability risks that could impact the value of the assets, which is considered by the Investment Adviser when making investment decisions on a non-binding basis. The due diligence process is based on in-house research and third-party data.

In addition, the Investment Adviser's Risk team conducts top-down sustainability investment risk analysis on the Fund. This information is monitored on an ongoing basis and monthly reports are provided to the Investment Adviser's senior management, and are taken into account as a non-binding element of the Fund's investment decision making processes.

## Engagement policies

The Investment Adviser may engage with selected bond issuers on their corporate governance practices, as well as on other material sustainability issues related to the SDGs, including sustainability-related controversies or breaches of international norms and principles. Such engagement activities support, on a qualitative and non-binding basis, the Fund's PAI and good governance assessment.

A non-exhaustive list of examples of the Investment Adviser's engagement priorities are:

- Climate Change – promote policies to hasten energy transition to clean and renewable sources of energy and to address the physical risks of climate change;
- Diversity – advance women and minorities at board and management levels, and promote diversity and inclusion at all levels of the workforce;
- Labour and Human Rights – strengthen performance in company operations and supply chains; and
- Disclosure – improve disclosure of material ESG matters.

The Investment Adviser has developed a Fixed Income Engagement Strategy, available on [www.morganstanley.com/im](http://www.morganstanley.com/im), to structure and conduct engagement meetings with bond issuers.

## Designated reference benchmark

The Fund has not designated a reference benchmark for the purpose of attaining its environmental or social characteristics.

Applications for shares in the Fund should not be made without first consulting the current Prospectus and the Key Investor Information Document (“KIID”), which are available in English and in the official language of your local jurisdiction at [morganstanleyinvestmentfunds.com](http://morganstanleyinvestmentfunds.com) or free of charge from the Registered Office of Morgan Stanley Investment Funds, European Bank and Business Centre, 6B route de Trèves, L-2633 Senningerberg, R.C.S. Luxemburg B 29 192. A summary of investor rights is available in English at the same website.

Information in relation to sustainability aspects of the Fund and the summary of investor rights is available at the aforementioned website.

If the management company of the relevant Fund decides to terminate its arrangement for marketing that Fund in any EEA country where it is registered for sale, it will do so in accordance with the relevant UCITS rules.

## DEFINITIONS

“ESG” investment: Environmental Social and Governance based investment is an investment approach which takes explicit account of the environmental, social and corporate governance aspects of all proposed investments.

## ESG RISKS

ESG strategies that incorporate impact investing and/or environmental, social and governance (ESG) factors could result in relative investment performance deviating from other strategies or broad market benchmarks, depending on whether such sectors or investments are in or out of favor in the market. As a result, there is no assurance ESG strategies could result in more favorable investment performance.

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Applications for shares in the Fund should not be made without first consulting the current Prospectus, Key Investor Information Document (“KIID”), Annual Report and Semi-Annual Report (“Offering Documents”), or other documents available in your local jurisdiction which is available free of charge from the Registered Office: European Bank and Business Centre, 6B route de Trèves, L-2633 Senningerberg, R.C.S. Luxemburg B 29 192. In addition, all Italian investors should refer to the ‘Extended Application Form’, and all Hong Kong investors should refer to the ‘Additional Information for Hong Kong Investors’ section, outlined within the Prospectus. Copies of the Prospectus, KIID, the Articles of Incorporation and the annual and semiannual reports, in German, and further information can be obtained free of charge from the representative in Switzerland. The representative in Switzerland is Carnegie Fund Services S.A., 11, rue du Général-Dufour, 1204 Geneva. The paying agent in Switzerland is Banque Cantonale de Genève, 17, quai de l’île, 1204 Geneva. The document has been prepared solely for informational purposes and does not constitute an offer or a recommendation to buy or sell any particular security or to adopt any specific investment strategy. Any index referred to herein is the intellectual property (including registered trademarks) of the applicable licensor. Any product based on an index is in no way sponsored, endorsed, sold or promoted by the applicable licensor and it shall not have any liability with respect thereto.

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