

MSCI World Climate Change Paris-Aligned Low Carbon Select Indexes Methodology

May 2025



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1. Introduction

The MSCI Climate Change Paris-Aligned Low Carbon Select Index¹ (the 'Index') is designed to support investors seeking to reduce their exposure to transition and physical climate risks and who wish to pursue opportunities arising from the transition to a lower-carbon economy. The Index aims to exclude companies that meet the following exclusion criteria, as well as additional cirteria. Please refer to section 2.3 for the compelte list of exclusions.

- Companies involved in manufacturing of Controversial Weapons and Nuclear Weapons.
- Companies involved in ESG Controversies, Environmental Controversies, Labor Controversies or assessed as misaligned with the United Nations Guiding Principles for Business and Human Rights and Labour Controversies.
- Companies involved in Tobacco-related businesses and Nuclear Power.
- Companies involved in Genetic Engineering and Stem Cell Research.
- Companies involved in Fossil Fuel Extraction and Power Generation
- Companies classified in non-OECD countries² as per the MSCI Country of Classification framework.

The Index is constructed from the MSCI World Index (the 'Parent Index') and uses the MSCI Low Carbon Transition³ (LCT) score and category to reweight constituents of the Parent Index to increase exposure to companies participating in opportunities associated with transition and decrease exposure to companies exposed to risks associated with transition. As a final step, the Index is designed to meet the minimum standards of the EU Paris Aligned Benchmark (PAB)⁴. The Index applies a *heuristics-based* approach in order to meet the following objectives –

- Reduce the weighted average greenhouse gas intensity by 50% compared to the Parent Index.
- Reduce the weighted average greenhouse gas (GHG) intensity by 7% on an annualized basis
- Reduce the weighted average potential emissions intensity by 50% relative to the Parent Index.

¹ The Index is governed by a set of methodology and policy documents ("Methodology Set"), including the present index methodology document. Please refer to Appendix VI for more details

² As of June 07, 2021, Hong Kong and Singapore are not members of the OECD. The list of countries which are members of OECD are available at https://www.oecd.org/about/members-and-partners/#d.en.533032

³ Please refer to Appendix I: MSCI Low Carbon Transition Risk Assessment and https://www.msci.com/climate-change-solutions for further details regarding the MSCI Low Carbon Transition score and category.

⁴ The corresponding minimum requirements are defined in Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/1818, available under https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg_del/2020/1818/oj. MSCI's approach to meeting these requirements is described in the MSCI EU CTB/PAB Index Framework, available under https://www.msci.com/index/methodology/latest/EUCTBPABIndexFramework. In case changes to the Index methodology are required to maintain compliance with the regulatory CTB/PAB labels, MSCI will issue an announcement prior to implementing the changes in the methodology. MSCI will not conduct a formal consultation for such an update.



• Have at least equivalent ratio of weighted average "Green Revenues" to weighted average "Fossil fuels-based Revenues" as that of the Parent Index.

To avoid concentration, the Index is capped as per the MSCI 10/40 Indexes methodology⁵

⁵ For more details on the MSCI 10/40 Indexes Methodology, please refer to the methodology book on <u>www.msci.com/index-methology</u>.



2. Constructing the Index

The Index uses company ratings and research provided by MSCI ESG Research⁶ for Index construction.

2.1 Applicable Universe

The Applicable Universe includes all the existing constituents of the Parent Index. This approach aims to provide an opportunity set with sufficient liquidity and capacity.

2.2 Minimum Requirements

The requirements imposed for the Index are detailed in Table 1.

Table 1: Requirements imposed for the Index

Minimum Requirements	Values	
Minimum reduction in Weighted Average Scope 1+2+3 Carbon Emissions Intensity (WACI) relative to Parent Index	50%	
Minimum reduction in Weighted Average Potential Emissions Intensity relative to Parent Index	50%	
Baseline Exclusions	 Controversial Weapons ESG Controversy Score⁷ of 0 Orange Flag Environmental Controversies Tobacco Manufacturers 	
Activity Exclusions	 Thermal Coal Oil & Gas Coal, Oil & Gas based power generation⁸ 	
Minimum average reduction (per annum) in WACI relative to WACI at Base Date	7%	

⁶ Please refer to section 4 for further information regarding ESG and climate data used in the Index that MSCI Limited sources from MSCI ESG Research LLC, a separate subsidiary of MSCI Inc. MSCI ESG Research is solely responsible for the creation, determination and management of such data. MSCI Limited and MSCI Deutschland GmbH are the benchmark administrator for the MSCI indexes.

⁷ The evaluation framework used in MSCI ESG Controversies is designed to be consistent with international norms represented by the UN Declaration of Human Rights, the ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work, and the UN Global Compact. For more details on MSCI ESG Controversies, please refer to www.msci.com/documents/esg-controversies

⁸ As per https://www.ipcc.ch/site/assets/uploads/2018/02/ipcc_wg3_ar5_chapter7.pdf, thermal coal based power generation, liquid fuel based power generation and natural gas based power generation have median lifecycle emissions exceeding 100qCO₂/kWh.



Minimum ratio of Green Revenue/ Fossil fuels-based Revenue relative to the Parent Index	At least a Factor of 4	
Active weight in High Climate Impact Secto ⁹ relative to the Parent Index as defined in Section 2.5	0%	
Corporate Target Setting	Aims to achieve higher allocation to companies (in the High & Low Climate Intermediate Universe) that set targets, publish emissions and have reduced their Carbon Intensity by 7% over each of the last 3 years. 10	

2.3 Eligible Universe

The Eligible Universe is constructed from the constituents from the Parent Index by excluding securities based on the exclusion criteria listed below:

- All companies classified in non-OECD countries¹¹ as per the MSCI Country of Classification framework.
- All companies that fail to comply with the United Nations Guiding Principles for Business and Human Rights
- All companies that fail to comply with the International Labor Organization's broader set of labor standards.
- All companies with an MSCI Low Carbon Transition Category (LCT) of Operational Transition, Product Transition and Asset Stranding.

Additionally, exclusions are applied due to the following controversial business activities:

- <u>Controversial Weapons</u>: Companies involved in Controversial Weapons (i.e. cluster munitions, landmines, depleted uranium weapons, biological/chemical weapons, blinding lasers, non-detectable fragments and incendiary weapons), as defined by the methodology of the MSCI Ex-Controversial Weapons Indexes.
- <u>ESG Controversies</u>: All companies assessed as having involvement in ESG controversies
 that are classified as Red Flags (MSCI ESG Controversy Score of 0). A Red Flag indicates an
 ongoing, Very Severe ESG controversy implicating a company directly through its actions,
 products, or operations.

⁹ For further details on how MSCI assigns companies to either the high or low climate impact sectors, please refer to the MSCI EU CTB/PAB Index Framework available on https://www.msci.com/index/methodology/latest/EUCTBPABIndexFramework.

¹⁰ Prior to the May 2021 Semi-Annual Index Review, this requirement has not been enforced and an increased allocation to companies which set evidence-based targets achieved by using the MSCI Climate Change Index Methodology.

¹¹ From June 07,2021, Hong Kong and Singapore are not members of the OECD. The list of countries which are members of OECD are available at http://www.oecd.org/about/members-andpartners/#d.en.533032



- Environmental Harm: All companies assessed as having involvement in environmental controversies that are classified as Red (MSCI Environmental Controversy Score of 0) or Orange Flags (score of 1).
 - A Red Flag indicates an ongoing, Very Severe ESG controversy implicating a company directly through its actions, products, or operations.
 - An Orange Flag indicates an ongoing Severe ESG controversy implicating a company directly, or a Very Severe ESG controversy that is either partially resolved or indirectly attributed to the company's actions, products, or operations.

Tobacco:

- All companies that are Tobacco Producers or derive 5% or higher revenue from tobacco related businesses.
- All companies deriving 5% or more revenue (or, where not disclosed, maximum estimated revenue) from the distribution of tobacco products in their most recently completed fiscal year. Tobacco products include nicotine-containing products, including traditional and alternative tobacco smoking products.

• Thermal Coal:

- Thermal Coal Mining: All companies deriving 1% or more revenue (either reported or estimated) from the mining of thermal coal (including lignite, bituminous, anthracite and steam coal) and its sale to external parties. It excludes: revenue from metallurgical coal; coal mined for internal power generation (e.g. in the case of vertically integrated power producers); intra-company sales of mined thermal coal; and revenue from coal trading (either reported or estimated)
- Thermal Coal Distribution: All companies with evidence of thermal coal distribution or transport involvement. This includes transport of thermal coal by road, rail, shipping or air, and physical trading of thermal coal. It does not include involvement in storage of thermal coal, or involvement in metallurgical coal-related activities.
- Oil & Gas: All companies deriving 5% or more revenue from oil and gas related activities, including distribution / retail, equipment and services, extraction and production, pipelines and transportation and refining but excluding biofuel production and sales and trading activities.

Additionally, companies based on the following values-based exclusion criteria are also excluded:

Fossil Fuel Exploration, Extraction and Refining

- Conventional Oil & Gas Extraction All companies deriving more than 5% revenue (either reported or estimated) from the production of deep water, shallow water, and other onshore/offshore oil and gas. It does not cover revenue from unconventional oil and gas production (oil sands, shale oil, shale gas) and onshore/offshore oil and gas production in the Arctic region.
- Unconventional Oil & Gas Extraction All companies deriving 5% or more revenues from oil sands, oil shale (kerogen-rich deposits), shale gas, shale oil, coal-seam gas, coal-bed methane as well as Arctic onshore/offshore reserves.



Arctic Oil & Gas

- o All companies deriving 5% or more revenue from Arctic Oil
- All companies deriving 5% or more revenue from Arctic Gas
- All companies with evidence of producing Arctic oil. This factor does not capture revenue from non-extraction activities (e.g. exploration, surveying, processing, refining); ownership of Arctic oil reserves with no associated extraction revenues; revenue from intra-company sales
- All companies with evidence of producing Arctic gas. This factor does not capture revenue from non-extraction activities (e.g. exploration, surveying, processing, refining); ownership of Arctic gas reserves with no associated extraction revenues; revenue from intracompany sales
- Oil & Gas Refining All companies deriving 5% or more revenues from refining oil and gas.

Power Generation

- Thermal Coal Power Generation All companies deriving more than 1% revenues from thermal coal based power generation.
- **Oil Power Generation** All companies deriving 5% or more revenue (either reported or estimated) from liquid fuel-based power generation.
- **Natural Gas Power Generation** All companies deriving 5% or more revenue (either reported or estimated) from the natural gas based power generation.
- Fossil Fuel Power Generation All companies deriving 5% or more revenue (either reported or estimated) from the fossil fuel (thermal coal, liquid fuel and natural gas) based power generation.

Thermal Coal Power – All companies generating 50% or more power¹² from thermal coal.

Thermal Coal Reserves – All companies that own thermal coal reserves.

Values Based Exclusions

• Nuclear Weapons – Please refer to Appendix V for details on Nuclear Weapons criteria

Nuclear Power

- o All companies deriving 1% or more revenue from nuclear power activities.
- All companies deriving 1% or more revenue (or, where not disclosed, maximum estimated revenue) from nuclear power generation in their most recently completed fiscal year.

¹² As per https://www.ipcc.ch/site/assets/uploads/2018/02/ipcc_wg3_ar5_chapter7.pdf, thermal coal based power generation has median lifecycle emissions exceeding 100gCO₂/kWh.



- All companies deriving 1% or more revenue (or, where not disclosed, maximum estimated revenue) from the ownership or operation of active uranium mines in their most recently completed fiscal year.
- All companies deriving 5% or more revenue (or, where not disclosed, maximum estimated revenue) from nuclear power reactor design and engineering, uranium enrichment and processing, and from the ownership or operation of active uranium mines in their most recently completed fiscal year.
- Aggregate Weapons All companies deriving 1% or more revenue from the production
 of conventional weapons, components for such products or support systems and
 services for such products; production of biological or chemical weapons, components
 for such products; production of nuclear weapons, exclusive and dual-use delivery
 platform capable to deliver such products, intended and dual-use components of such
 products, services provided for such products; and the production of blinding laser,
 incendiary or non-detectable fragments weapons in their most recently completed fiscal
 year.
- **Genetic Engineering** All companies deriving 1% or more revenue from activities like genetically modifying plants, such as seeds and crops, and other organisms intended for agricultural use or human consumption.
- **Stem Cell** All companies that conduct stem cell research with cells derived from human embryos.

2.4 Determination of a Combined Score

Each company in the Eligible Universe is assigned a Combined Score, which is calculated using a company's LCT Category and its LCT Score as outlined below.

2.4.1 Category Tilt Score

The 'Category Tilt Score' is used to express relative tilt towards or away from a stock based on the LCT Category. Based on the LCT Category of a company, a Category Tilt Score is assigned based on the table below:

LCT Category	Category Tilt Score
Solutions	3
Neutral	1
Operational Transition	0.667
Product Transition	0.333
Asset Stranding	0.167

2.4.2 Relative Tilt Scores

The Relative Tilt Score' differentiates companies within an LCT Category. Companies with higher LCT Score are determined by MSCI ESG Research to be relatively better at managing their climate related risk compared to their peers with worse LCT Score.



The Relative Tilt Score is calculated by normalizing security level LCT score relative to the maximum LCT Score of the LCT Category within the Parent Index. The 'Relative Tilt Score' is floored at 0.5 to balance its effect on the final weight of index constituents.

$$Relative\ Tilt\ Score = \frac{\textit{LCT\ Score}}{\textit{Maximum}^2\ \textit{LCT\ Score\ in\ LCT\ Category}}$$

2.4.3 Combined ESG Scores

The Combined Score is calculated for each company as follows:

Combined Score = Category Tilt Score * Relative Tilt Score.

2.5 Weighted Scheme

At each rebalancing, all the securities from the Eligible Universe are weighted by the product of their weight in the Parent Index and the Combined Score.

Security Weight = Combined Score * Weight in Parent Index

The above weights are then normalized to 100%.

2.6 Intermediate Universe

Each security in the Parent Index is then classified into one of two climate impact sectors¹³ based on its NACE section code. A stock can be assigned to either a 'High Climate Impact' or 'Low Climate Impact' sector. The Eligible Universe is broken into two smaller universes as described below:

2.6.1 High Climate Impact Intermediate Universe

High Climate Impact Intermediate Universe is constructed in following two steps -

- Select all securities in the High Climate Impact Sector from the Applicable Universe.
- Renormalize the weights of securities so that the aggregate weight of securities is equal to the weight of High Climate Impact Sector in the Parent Index.

2.6.1.1 Increased Allocation to Companies Setting Targets

Within the High Climate Impact Intermediate Universe, securities ("securities with targets") that meet each of the below criteria are identified:

- Securities of companies that have published emissions reduction targets
- Securities of companies that publish their emissions
- Securities of companies that have reduced their emissions intensity by 7% over each of the last 3 years

¹³ NACE is the European Union's classification of economic activities. Stocks in the NACE Section codes A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, L are classified as "High Climate Impact" sector and other stocks are classified 'Low Climate Impact' sector. For further details regarding.

NACE, please refer to https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statistics-explained/index.php?title=NACE_background. The GICS Sub Industry code for each security is mapped to the corresponding "Climate Impact Sector" using a mapping. For further information regarding GICS, please refer to https://www.msci.com/gics



The Index aims to increase the aggregate weight to securities with targets in the following steps:

- 1. Calculate the aggregate weight in the Parent Index of all securities with targets in High Climate Impact Sector as W_p
- 2. Securities in the Applicable Universe are sorted in increasing order of their Scope 1+2+3 Carbon Emissions Intensity and securities in the top half of the sorted list are identified as "Top Half" securities.
- 3. Calculate the aggregate weight in the High Climate Impact Intermediate Universe of all "Top Half" securities with targets as W_o
- 4. If W_0 is less than 1.2 times of W_p , then the weights of all "Top Half" securities with targets in the High Climate Impact Intermediate Universe are scaled up proportionately so that their aggregate weight in the High Climate Impact Intermediate Universe is equal to 1.2 times of W_p
- 5. The weight of the remaining securities in the High Climate Impact Sector will be reduced proportionately in order to retain the aggregate weight of the High Climate Impact Intermediate Universe.

2.6.2 Low Climate Impact Intermediate Universe

Low Climate Impact Intermediate Universe is constructed in following two steps -

- Select all securities in the Low Climate Impact Sector from the Applicable Universe.
- Renormalize the weights of securities so that the aggregate weight of securities is equal to the weight of Low Climate Impact Sector in the Parent Index.

2.6.2.1 Increased Allocation to Companies Setting Targets

Within the Low Climate Impact Intermediate Universe, securities ("securities with targets") that meet each of the below criteria are identified:

- Securities of companies that have published emissions reduction targets
- Securities of companies that publish their emissions
- Securities of companies that have reduced their emissions intensity by 7% over each of the last 3 years

The Index aims to increase the aggregate weight to securities with targets in the following steps:

- 1. Calculate the aggregate weight in the Parent Index of all securities with targets in Low Climate Impact Sector as W_p
- 2. Securities in the Applicable Universe are sorted in increasing order of their Scope 1+2+3 Carbon Emissions Intensity and securities in the top half of the sorted list are identified as "Top Half" securities.
- 3. Calculate the aggregate weight in the Low Climate Impact Intermediate Universe of all "Top Half" securities with targets as Wo
- 4. If W_0 is less than 1.2 times of W_p , then the weights of all "Top Half" securities with targets in the Low Climate Impact Intermediate Universe are scaled up proportionately so that their



aggregate weight in the Low Climate Impact Intermediate Universe is equal to 1.2 times of $W_{\text{\tiny D}}$

5. The weight of the remaining securities in the Low Climate Impact Sector will be reduced proportionately in order to retain the aggregate weight of the Low Climate Impact Intermediate Universe.

2.7 Final Universe

The Final Universe is constructed by combining the High Impact Intermediate Universe and the Low Impact Intermediate Universe. The High Impact Sector and Low Impact Sector weights are equal to their respective weight in the Parent Index.

The security weight within the High Impact and Low Impact sectors are in proportion of the security's LCT Category¹⁴, LCT Score and Carbon Emissions Intensity. Compared to the Parent Index, the Final Universe typically has

- Low Carbon Footprint
- Higher Green Revenue to Fossil fuels-based Revenue ratio
- Higher weight in companies which set emission targets
- Equal weight in High Impact and Low Impact Sector

2.7.1 Capping of Security Weight in Final Universe

The weight of securities in the Final Universe is capped at 4%, with the excess weight being distributed among the remaining securities in the same Climate Impact sector as the security being capped so that the overall weight in the High Impact Sector and Low Impact Sector is unchanged.

2.7.2 Iterative Downweighting

The Final Universe is assessed against the minimum requirements detailed in Table 1. In case the Final Universe is found deficient on any of the minimum requirements, then the weights of the securities in the Final Universe are determined through an iterative process as described in Appendix IV.

2.7.3 Applying the MSCI 10/40 Indexes Methodology

The MSCI 10/40 Indexes methodology¹⁵ is then applied on the remaining securities, such that the weight of any single group entity¹⁶ is capped at 10% and the sum of the weights of all group entities with a weight of more than 5% is capped at a maximum of 40%.

¹⁴ For details regarding the LCT Category and LCT Score, please refer to Appendix I: MSCI Low Carbon Transition Risk Assessment.

¹⁵ For details, refer to the MSCI 10/40 Indexes Methodology at www.msci.com/index-methodology

¹⁶ For a definition and a description of the maintenance of Group Entities, please refer to the MSCI 10/40 Indexes methodology at www.msci.com/index-methodology.



2.8 Treatment of Unrated Companies

Companies not assessed by MSCI ESG Research on data for any of the following MSCI ESG Research products are not eligible for inclusion in the Index:

- MSCI ESG Controversies
- MSCI Business Involvement Screening Research (BISR)
- MSCI Climate Change Metrics

For the treatment of unrated companies in the calculation of target metrics for the optimization process, please refer to Appendix II.



3. Maintaining the Index

3.1 Index Reviews

The Index is reviewed on a semi-annual basis, as of the close of the last business day of May and November, coinciding with the May and November Index Reviews of the MSCI Global Investable Market Indexes. The pro forma Index is in general announced nine business days before the effective date.

In general, MSCI uses MSCI ESG Research data¹⁷ (including MSCI ESG Controversies, MSCI ESG Business Involvement Screening Research, MSCI Climate Change Metrics and MSCI Impact Solutions) as of the end of the month preceding the Index Reviews for the rebalancing of the Index.

3.2 Ongoing Event-Related Changes

The general treatment of corporate events in the Index aims to minimize turnover outside of Index Reviews. The methodology aims to appropriately represent an investor's participation in an event based on relevant deal terms and pre-event weighting of the index constituents that are involved. Further, changes in index market capitalization that occur as a result of corporate event implementation will be offset by a corresponding change in the Variable Weighting Factor (VWF) of the constituent.

Additionally, if the frequency of Index Reviews in the Parent Index is greater than the frequency of Index Reviews in the Index, the changes made to the Parent Index during intermediate Index Reviews will be neutralized in the Index.

The following section briefly describes the treatment of common corporate events within the Index.

No new securities will be added (except where noted below) to the Index between Index Reviews. Parent Index deletions will be reflected simultaneously.

EVENT TYPE	EVENT DETAILS
New additions to the Parent Index	A new security added to the parent index (such as IPO and other early inclusions) will not be added to the index.
Spin-Offs	All securities created as a result of the spin-off of an existing Index constituent will be added to the Index at the time of event implementation. Reevaluation for continued inclusion in the Index will occur at the subsequent Index Review.
Merger/Acquisition	For Mergers and Acquisitions, the acquirer's post event weight will account for the proportionate amount of shares involved in deal consideration, while cash proceeds will be invested across the Index.

¹⁷ See section 4 for details of data sourced from MSCI ESG Research used in the Indexes.



If an existing Index constituent is acquired by a non-Index constituent, the existing constituent will be deleted from the Index and the acquiring nonconstituent will not be added to the Index.

Changes in Security Characteristics

A security will continue to be an Index constituent if there are changes in characteristics (country, sector, size segment, etc.) Reevaluation for continued inclusion in the Index will occur at the subsequent Index Review.

Further detail and illustration regarding specific treatment of corporate events relevant to this Index can be found in the MSCI Corporate Events Methodology book under the sections detailing the treatment of events in Capped Weighted and Non-Market Capitalization Weighted indexes.

The MSCI Corporate Events methodology book is available at: https://www.msci.com/index-methodology



4. MSCI ESG Research

The Index is a product of MSCI Inc. that utilizes information such as company ratings and research produced and provided by MSCI ESG Research LLC (MSCI ESG Research), a subsidiary of MSCI Inc. In particular, the Index uses the following MSCI ESG Research products: MSCI ESG Controversies, MSCI ESG Business Involvement Screening Research, MSCI Climate Change Metrics and MSCI Impact Solutions. MSCI Indexes are administered by MSCI Limited and MSCI Deutschland GmbH.

4.1 MSCI ESG Controversies

The Index is a product of MSCI Inc. that utilizes information such as company ratings and research produced and provided by MSCI ESG Research LLC (MSCI ESG Research), a subsidiary of MSCI Inc. In particular, the Index uses the following MSCI ESG Research products: MSCI ESG Ratings, MSCI ESG Controversies, MSCI ESG Business Involvement Screening Research, MSCI Climate Change Metrics, MSCI Impact Solutions, MSCI ESG Ratings, and MSCI ESG Governance Metrics. MSCI Indexes are administered by MSCI Limited and MSCI Deutschland GmbH

4.2 MSCI ESG Business Involvement Screening Research

MSCI ESG Business Involvement Screening Research (BISR) aims to enable institutional investors to manage environmental, social and governance (ESG) standards and restrictions reliably and efficiently.

The MSCI Business Involvement Screening Research methodology can be found at: https://www.msci.com/legal/disclosures/esg-disclosures

4.3 MSCI Climate Change Metrics

MSCI Climate Change Metrics provides climate data & tools to support institutional investors seeking to integrate climate risk & opportunities into their investment strategy and processes. This includes investors seeking to achieve a range of objectives, including measuring and reporting on climate risk exposure, implementing low carbon and fossil fuel-free strategies, alignment with temperature pathways and factoring climate change research into their risk management processes, in particular through climate scenario analysis for both transition and physical risks.

The dataset spans across the four dimensions of a climate strategy: transition risks, green opportunities, physical risks and 1.5° alignment.

For more details on MSCI Climate Change Metrics, please refer to https://www.msci.com/legal/disclosures/climate-disclosures

4.3.1 Fossil Fuels and Power Generation Metrics

MSCI ESG Research identifies companies involved in fossil fuel-related assets and activities including fossil fuel reserves, resource extraction, power generation and generation capacity, revenue from such assets and activities and capital investments in such assets and activities. The metrics are based on disclosed activities, disclosed revenue and estimates of revenue that are extrapolated from company disclosures and eligible third-party sources (such as NGOs). **4.3.2**

Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions



4.3.2 Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions

MSCI ESG Research collects reported emissions and uses proprietary estimation methodologies that follows the GHG Protocol in including carbon dioxide (CO2) and the five other principal GHGs: hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), methane (CH4), nitrous oxide (N2O), perfluorocarbons (PFCs), and sulfur hexafluoride (SF6). Emissions of these other gases are accounted for in terms of the quantity of CO2 that has an equivalent global warming potential.

4.3.3 Low-Carbon Transition (LCT) Risk Assessment

MSCI ESG Research's LCT data assesses companies' exposure to risks and opportunities related to the low-carbon transition (the transition) based on the carbon-intensive nature of their business lines. In particular, in the event that the transition takes place, demand for carbon-intensive products would decline in favor of low- and zero-carbon products, which would put carbon-intensive companies and industries (for example, coal-based power generation and coal mining) at risk of having stranded assets over the long term (5+ years). MSCI ESG Research considers a company exposed to low-carbon transition risks and opportunities through two main transmission channels: (1) exposure through involvement in carbon-intensive operations, and (2) exposure through involvement in or solutions for carbon-intensive products.L

4.4 MSCI Impact Solutions: Sustainable Impact Metrics

MSCI Impact Solutions' Sustainable Impact Metrics is designed to identify companies that derive revenue from products or services with positive impact on society and the environment. The Sustainable Impact Metrics are comprised of six Environmental Impact categories and seven Social Impact categories arranged by theme.

MSCI Sustainable Impact Taxonomy

Pillar	Themes	Categories
Environmental Impact	Climate Change	 Alternative energy Energy efficiency Green building
	Natural capital	4. Sustainable water5. Pollution prevention6. Sustainable agriculture
Social Impact	Basic needs	7. Nutrition8. Major Disease Treatment9. Sanitation10. Affordable Real Estate
	Empowerment	11. SME Finance 12. Education 13. Connectivity – Digital divide



Under each of the actionable environmental and social impact themes, MSCI ESG Research has identified specific categories of products and services that it has determined companies can offer as potential solutions to environmental and social challenges.

For more details on MSCI Sustainable Impact Metrics, please refer to https://www.msci.com/legal/disclosures/esg-disclosures



Appendix I: MSCI Low Carbon Transition Risk Assessment

MSCI ESG Research's Low Carbon Transition Risk assessment¹⁸ is designed to identify potential leaders and laggards by measuring companies' exposure to and management of risks and opportunities related to the low carbon transition. The assessment is derived from company disclosures and estimated.

The final output of this assessment are two company-level factors:

- (1) **Low Carbon Transition Category**: This factor groups companies in five categories that highlight the predominant risks and opportunities they are most likely to face in the transition (Exhibit 1).
- (2) **Low Carbon Transition Score:** This score is based on a multi-dimensional risks and opportunities assessment and considers both primary and secondary risks a company faces. It is an industry agnostic assessment of a company's position vis-à-vis the transition.

LOW CARBON TRANSITION SCORE	RANSITION CATEGORY		LOW CARBON TRANSITION RISK / OPPORTUNITY	INDUSTRY EXAMPLES	
SCORE = 0	ASSET STRANDING		Potential to experience "stranding" of physical / natural assets due to regulatory, market, or technological forces arising from low carbon transition.	Coal mining & coal-based power generation; industries in the Oil & Gas value chain	
	TRANSITION	PRODUCT	Reduced demand for carbon-intensive products and services. Leaders and laggards are defined by the ability to shift product portfolio to low-carbon products.	Petrol/diesel-based automobile manufacturers	
		OPERATIONAL	Increased operational and/or capital cost due to carbon taxes and/or investment in carbon emission mitigation measures leading to lower profitability of the companies.	Cement, Steel	
	NEUTRAL		Limited exposure to low carbon transition carbon risk. Though companies in this category could have exposure to physical risk and/or indirect exposure to low carbon transition risk via lending, investment etc.	Consumer Staples, Healthcare	
SCORE = 10	SOLUTIONS		Potential to benefit through the growth of low-carbon products and services.	Renewable electricity, Electric vehicles, Solar cell manufacturers	

Exhibit 1: Low Carbon Transition Categories and Scores

Calculation methodology

The Low Carbon Transition Categories and Scores are determined by a combination of each company's current risk exposure and its efforts to manage the risks and opportunities presented by the low carbon transition. The 3-step process followed by MSCI ESG Research is explained below.

¹⁸ For more details on MSCI Climate Change Metrics, please refer to https://www.msci.com/climate-change-solutions



Step 1: Measure Low Carbon Transition Risk Exposure

The first step towards measuring the Low Carbon Transition Risk Exposure for a company is the computation of its estimated total net carbon intensity – which considers operational and product carbon emissions. In the next step, we compute Low Carbon Transition Risk Exposure Category and Score based on total net carbon intensity.

Step 2: Assess Low Carbon Transition Risk Management

In the second step, MSCI ESG Research assesses a company's management of risks and opportunities presented by the low carbon transition. This assessment is based on policies and commitments to mitigate transition risk, governance structures, risk management programs and initiatives, targets and performance, and involvement in any controversies.

Step 3: Calculate Low Carbon Transition Category and Score

In the final step, the Low Carbon Transition Risk Exposure Category and Score that was calculated in Step 1 adjusted for the strength of management efforts. Following this adjustment, Low Carbon Transition Risk Exposure Score of companies with top or second quartile risk management improves and some top and second quartile companies may move up one category.



Appendix II: Calculation of Target Metrics

Calculation of Weighted Average Carbon Emissions Intensity

For Parent Index constituents where the Scope 1+2+3 Emissions Intensity is not available, the average Scope 1+2+3 Emissions Intensity of all the constituents of the MSCI ACWI in the same GICS Industry Group in which the constituent belongs is used.

Security Level Carbon Emissions Intensity =

$$\frac{Scope\ 1 + 2 + 3\ Carbon\ Emissions*\ (1 + EVIAF)}{Enterprise\ Value + Cash(in\ M\$)}$$

Enterprise Value Inflation Adjustment Factor (EVIAF) =

$$EVIAF = \left(\frac{Average(Enterprise\,Value + Cash)}{Previous\,(Average(Enterprise\,Value + Cash))}\right) - 1$$

Weighted Average Carbon Emissions Intensity of Parent Index =

$$\sum (Weight\ in\ Parent\ Index*\ Security\ Level\ Carbon\ Emissions\ Intensity)$$

Weighted Average Carbon Emissions Intensity of Derived Index =

$$\sum$$
 (Weight in Derived Index * Security Level Carbon Emissions Intensity)

Calculation of Potential Carbon Emissions Intensity

For newly added companies to the index where data is not available yet, MSCI uses zero fossil fuel reserves.

Security Level Potential Carbon Emissions Intensity =

$$\frac{Absolute\ Potential\ Emissions*\ (1+EVIAF)}{Enterprise\ Value+Cash(in\ M\$)}$$

Weighted Average Potential Emissions Intensity of Parent Index =

$$\sum$$
 (Weight in Parent Index * Security Level Potential Carbon Emissions Intensity)

Weighted Average Potential Emissions Intensity of Derived Index =

$$\sum$$
 (Weight in Derived Index * Security Level Potential Carbon Emissions Intensity)

Calculation of Average Decarbonization

On average, the Index follows a 7% decarbonization trajectory since Inception. The Weighted Average Carbon Intensity at Inception (W_1) is used to compute the target Weighted Average Carbon Intensity at any given SemiAnnual Index Review (W_t) as per the below formula.



$$W_t = W_1 * 0.93^{\frac{(t-1)}{2}}$$

Where 't' is the number of Semi-Annual Index Reviews since Inception.

Thus, for the 3rd Semi-Annual Index Review since Inception (t=3), the target Weighted Average Carbon Intensity will be $W_1*0.93$.

Calculation of Green Revenue to Fossil Fuels based Revenue Multiple

Green Revenue

For each constituent in the Parent Index, the Green Revenue% is calculated as the cumulative revenue (%) from the six CleanTech themes which are as follows:

- Alternative Energy products and services that support the transmission, distribution and generation of renewable energy and alternative fuels to reduce carbon and pollutant emissions in supporting affordable and clean energy to combat climate change.
- Energy Efficiency products, and services that support the maximization of productivity in labor, transportation, power and domestic applications with minimal energy consumption to ensure universal access to affordable, reliable and modern energy services.
- Sustainable Water products, services, infrastructure projects and technologies that resolve
 water scarcity and water quality issues, through minimizing and monitoring current water
 demand, improving the quality and availability of water supply to improve resource
 management in both domestic and industrial use.
- Green Building design, construction, redevelopment, retrofitting, or acquisition of greencertified properties to promote mechanisms for raising capacity for effective climate change mitigation and adaptation.
- Pollution Prevention products, services, infrastructure projects and technologies that
 reduces volume of waste materials through recycling, minimizes introduction of toxic
 substances, and offers remediation of existing contaminants such as heavy metals and
 organic pollutants in various environmental media to significantly address pollution in all
 levels and its negative effects
- Sustainable Agriculture revenues from forest and agricultural products that meet environmental and organic certification requirements to address significantly biodiversity loss, pollution, land disturbance, and water overuse

The Weighted Average Green Revenue% is calculated as:

$$= \sum (Weight in Index * Green Revenue\%)$$

Fossil fuels-based Revenue

For each constituent in the Parent Index, the Fossil fuels-based Revenue% is calculated as the cumulative revenue (%) from the following sources:

 Revenue% (either reported or estimated) from the mining of thermal coal (including lignite, bituminous, anthracite and steam coal) and its sale to external parties. It excludes: revenue from metallurgical coal; coal mined for internal power generation (e.g. in the case of



vertically integrated power producers); intra-company sales of mined thermal coal; and revenue from coal trading (either reported or estimated)

- Revenue% from the extraction, production and refining of Conventional and Unconventional
 Oil & Gas. Conventional Oil and Gas includes Arctic onshore/offshore, deepwater, shallow
 water and other onshore/offshore. Unconventional Oil and Gas includes oil sands, oil shale
 (kerogen-rich deposits), shale gas, shale oil, coal seam gas, and coal bed methane.
- Revenue% from thermal coal based power generation, liquid fuel based power generation and natural gas based power generation.

The Weighted Average Fossil fuels-based Revenue% is calculated as:

$$= \sum (Weight in Index * Fossil Fuels based Revenue\%)$$

The Green Revenues to Fossil fuels-based Revenues multiple for either the Parent Index or the Index is calculated as a ratio of the Weighted Average Green Revenue to the Weighted Average Fossil fuels-based Revenue as per the formula below:

 $= \frac{\textit{Weighted Average Green Revenue\%}}{\textit{Weighted Average Fossil Fuels based Revenue\%}}$



Appendix III: Decarbonization Trajectory

The Weighted Average Carbon Intensity at the Base Date (W_1) is used to compute the target Weighted Average Carbon Intensity at any given Semi-Annual Index Review (W_1) as per the below formula.

$$W_t = W_1 * 0.93^{\frac{(t-1)}{2}}$$

Where 't' is the number of Semi-Annual Index Reviews since Inception. The table below shows the Weighted Average Carbon Intensity at Inception (W_1) for each of the regions where the Index is constructed:

Index	Parent Index	Base Date	W ₁ (tCO2/M\$ Enterprise Value + Cash)
MSCI World Climate Change Paris-	MSCI	June 01,	218.86
Aligned Low Carbon Select Index	World	2020	

The calculation of the targeted decarbonization trajectory is specified in section 4 of the MSCI EU CTB/PAB Index Framework¹⁹.



Appendix IV: Iterative Down Weighting Process

The iterative down weighting process is applied on the securities of the Final Universe with the objective of meeting all the minimum requirements detailed in Table 1.

Iterative Downweighting

Starting with the Final Universe, an iterative down weighting process is applied in order to meet with the minimum requirements for the Index. The iterative down weighting stops when all the requirements defined in above are met. The steps followed in the iterative downweighting (Exhibit 2) are outlined below:

- Step 1. Check whether all targets for the Index are met. If all targets are met, then no downweighting is required.
- Step 2. Securities in the Applicable Universe are sorted in increasing order of their Scope 1+2+3 Carbon Emissions Intensity and securities in the top half of the sorted list are identified as "Top Half" securities. Securities in the bottom half of the sorted list are identified as "Bottom Half" securities.
- Step 3. If the target based on Minimum reduction in WACI relative to Parent Index and the Minimum average reduction in WACI (per annum) is not being met, the lowest ranked "Bottom Half" stock in ascending order of Scope 1+2+3 Carbon Emissions Intensity is selected for downweighting and the weight is reduced by 25% of its weight in the Final Universe. If this target is met, but
 - a. If the target based on Weighted Average Potential Emissions Intensity relative to Parent Index is not being met, the "Bottom Half" stock with highest Potential Carbon Emissions Intensity is downweighted.
 - b. Otherwise if the target based on Minimum ratio of Green Revenue/ Fossil fuels-based Revenue relative to Parent Index is not being met, the "Bottom Half" stock with largest difference between its Fossil fuels-based Revenue% and its Green Revenue% is downweighted
- Step 4. If the targets are still not met, the stock is downweighted in steps of 25% of its weight in the Final Universe till a maximum downweighting of 75%.
- Step 5. Stocks of the Final Universe in the "Top Half", belonging to the same "Climate Impact Sector" as the stock being downweighted are proportionally upweighted to ensure that the overall allocation to the High Climate Impact Sector is the same as that in the Parent Index and the sum of the weights of all constituents is 1.
- Step 6. While upweighting stocks, the security weights of the stocks being upweighted is capped at 4%, with the excess weight being distributed among the remaining securities that are being upweighted.
- Step 7. If the targets are still not met, the iterative process continues and Steps 3-6 are repeated.
- Step 8. If the targets are not met and all "Bottom Half" stocks of the Final Universe are downweighted by 75% of the weight in the Final Universe, Steps 3-7 are repeated, with a maximum downweighting of 90% in a single downweighting step of 15 percentage points of the weight in the Final Universe.



- Step 9. If the targets are not met after the maximum downweighting of 90% of all "Bottom Half" stocks, then stocks are iteratively excluded in the same order as outlined in Step 3.
- Step 10. If the targets are not met after excluding all the "Bottom Half" stocks, then the index will rebalance using the constituents and weighting of stocks as after Step 9.

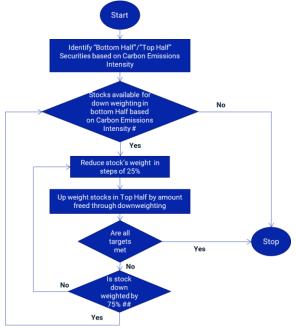


Exhibit 2: Schematic Representation of the Iterative Downweighting Process

If the target based on Minimum reduction in WACI relative to Parent Index and the Minimum average reduction in WACI (per annum) is being met but the target on Weighted Average Potential Emissions Intensity relative to Parent Index is not being met, the "Bottom Half" security with the highest Potential Carbon Emissions Intensity is selected for downweighting. If the target on Weighted Average Potential Emissions Intensity relative to Parent Index is also met but the target on Minimum ratio of Green Revenue/ Fossil fuels-based Revenue relative to Parent Index is not being met, the "Bottom Half" security with the highest difference in its Fossil fuels-based Revenue% and Green Revenue% is selected for downweighting.

If the targets are not met and all "Bottom Half" stocks of the Final Universe are downweighted by 75% of the weight in the Final Universe, maximum downweighting is relaxed to 90% in a single downweighting step of 15 percentage points of the weight in the Final Universe.

If the targets are not met after the maximum downweighting of 90% of all "Bottom Half" stocks, then stocks are iteratively excluded in the same order.

If the targets are not met after excluding all the "Bottom Half" stocks then the index will rebalance using the constituents and weighting of stocks at the final step.



Appendix V: Nuclear Weapons

Nuclear Weapons

- All companies deriving 0% or more revenue from the production of Nuclear Weapons and components
- o All companies that manufacture nuclear warheads and/or whole nuclear missiles
- All companies that manufacture components that were developed or are significantly modified for exclusive use in nuclear weapons (warheads and missiles)
- All companies that manufacture or assemble delivery platforms that were developed or significantly modified for the exclusive delivery of nuclear weapons
- o All companies that provide auxiliary services related to nuclear weapons
- All companies that manufacture components that were not developed or not significantly modified for exclusive use in nuclear weapons (warheads and missiles) but can be used in nuclear weapons
- All companies that manufacture or assemble delivery platforms that were not developed or not significantly modified for the exclusive delivery of nuclear weapons but have the capability to deliver nuclear weapons
- All companies that manufacture components for nuclear-exclusive delivery platforms



Appendix VI: Methodology Set

The Index is governed by a set of methodology and policy documents ("Methodology Set"), including the present index methodology document as mentioned below:

- Description of methodology set https://www.msci.com/index/methodology/latest/ReadMe
- MSCI Corporate Events Methodology https://www.msci.com/index/methodology/latest/CE
- MSCI Fundamental Data Methodology https://www.msci.com/index/methodology/latest/FundData
- MSCI Index Calculation Methodology https://www.msci.com/index/methodology/latest/IndexCalc
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- MSCI Global Investable Market Indexes Methodology https://www.msci.com/index/methodology/latest/GIMI
- MSCI Climate Change Indexes Methodology https://www.msci.com/index/methodology/latest/ClimateChange
- MSCI Global ex Controversial Weapons Indexes Methodology https://www.msci.com/index/methodology/latest/XCW
- MSCI 1040 Indexes Methodology https://www.msci.com/index/methodology/latest/1040
- MSCI EU CTB/PAB Index Framework –
 https://www.msci.com/index/methodology/latest/EUCTBPABIndexFramework
- ESG Factors In Methodology*

The Methodology Set for the Index can also be accessed from MSCI's webpage https://www.msci.com/index-methodology in the section 'Search Methodology by Index Name or Index Code'.

* 'ESG Factors in Methodology' contains the list of environmental, social, and governance factors considered, and how they are applied in the methodology (e.g., selection, weighting or exclusion). It can be accessed in the Methodology Set as described above



Appendix VII: Changes to this Document

The following sections have been modified effective 18 September 08, 2021-

- Section 3.4
 - The revenue threshold for Thermal Coal based Power Generation exclusion lowered from 10% to 1%.
 - The revenue threshold for Oil and Gas related activities exclusion lowered from 10% to 5%.
- Appendix V
 - The revenue threshold for Nuclear Weapons exclusion lowered from 5% to 0%
 - The revenue threshold for Nuclear Power exclusion lowered from 5% to 1%
 - The revenue threshold for Weapons exclusion lowered from 5% to 1%
 - The revenue threshold for Genetic Engineering exclusion lowered from 5% to 1%

The following sections have been modified effective 19 March 01, 2022-

 Section 3.4 – Updated to add exclusions based on thermal coal power and thermal coal reserves

The following sections have been modified effective June 01, 2022:

Appendix V: Business Exclusion Criteria

Updated to add new exclusion criteria for 'Nuclear Weapons', and 'Arctic Oil & Gas'

The following sections have been modified effective July 2023:

Methodology book was updated to reflect the transition of the MSCI Global Investable Market Indexes (GIMI) to Quarterly Comprehensive Index Reviews.

All references to "Semi-Annual Index Reviews" and "Quarterly Index Reviews" of the MSCI GIMI were replaced with "Index Reviews".

Section 2.4: Eligible Universe

Clarified the exclusion criteria for companies involved in ESG Controversies

Section 4: MSCI ESG Research

- Moved section after the Section 3
- Updated the descriptions of MSCI ESG Research products.

The following sections have been modified effective May 2024

Section 2.4 Eligible Universe

- Decoupled screening criteria from the MSCI Climate Paris Aligned Indexes Methodology
- Moved details from Appendix V to this section
- Updated the exclusion criteria for the Thermal Coal Power Generation screen



Section 2.4 Determination of a Combined Score

New Section was added

Section 4 MSCI ESG Research

· Language a new links were updated

Appendix I: MSCI Low Carbon Transition Risk Assessment

Added new section

Appendix II: Calculation of Target Metrics

Climate Impact Sectors was added

Appendix VI: Methodology Set

• Added details on the Methodology Set for the Index

The following sections have been modified effective November 2024

Section 2.3 Eligible Universe

- Added new exclusion criteria for Tobacco Distributor, Fossil Fuel Power Generation and Nuclear Power.
- "Fossil Fuel Extraction and Refining" was modified to "Fossil Fuel Exploration, Extraction and Refining"

The following sections have been modified effective May 2025

Section 1: Introduction

Updated footnote with reference to the MSCI EU CTB/PAB Index Framework.

Section 2.2: Minimum Requirements

 Added references to the MSCI EU CTB/PAB Index Framework for the definition of climate impact sectors

Section 2.3: Eligible Universe

Updated exclusion criteria of Thermal Coal to add thermal coal distribution screen.

Section 4.3: MSCI Climate Change Metrics

 Added sub-sections under Climate Change Metrics to provide additional details on Fossil Fuels related activities, Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Low Carbon Transition Risk Assessment.

Appendix II: Calculation of Target Metrics

- Added references to the MSCI EU CTB/PAB Index Framework for the definition of climate impact sectors.
- Removed the definition of climate impact sectors.

Appendix III: Decarbonization Trajectory of Indexes



• Added reference to the MSCI EU CTB/PAB Index Framework for the calculation of the decarbonization trajectory.

Appendix VI: Methodology Set

• Added reference to MSCI EU CTB/PAB Index Framework.



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