

# **MSCI Climate Change Indexes Methodology**

**May 2021**

**Contents**

- 1 Introduction ..... 4
- 2 MSCI ESG Research ..... 5
  - 2.1 MSCI Climate Change Metrics..... 5
  - 2.2 MSCI ESG Business Involvement Screening Research ..... 5
- 3 Index Construction Methodology ..... 6
  - 3.1 Applicable Universe ..... 6
  - 3.2 Minimum Requirements ..... 6
  - 3.3 Eligible Universe..... 7
  - 3.4 Determination of Combined Score ..... 8
    - 3.4.1 Category Tilt Score ..... 8
    - 3.4.2 Relative Tilt Score ..... 8
    - 3.4.3 Combined Score ..... 8
  - 3.5 Weighting Scheme..... 9
    - 3.5.1 Intermediate Universe ..... 9
      - 3.5.1.1 High Climate Impact Intermediate Universe..... 9
      - 3.5.1.2 Low Climate Impact Intermediate Universe..... 9
    - 3.5.2 Final Universe..... 9
    - 3.5.3 Capping of security weight in Final Universe..... 10
    - 3.5.4 EU CTB Check ..... 10
- 4 Maintaining the MSCI Climate Change Indexes ..... 11
  - 4.1 Semi-Annual Index Reviews ..... 11
  - 4.2 Ongoing Event Related Changes ..... 11
- Appendix I: Companies Involved in Controversial Weapons Business ..... 13
- Appendix II: MSCI Low Carbon Transition Risk Assessment ... 15

Appendix III: Calculation of Target Metrics ..... 17  
Appendix IV: Iterative Process ..... 22  
Appendix V: Minimum Requirements of EU CTB ..... 25

## 1 Introduction

The MSCI Climate Change Indexes (the ‘Indexes’) aim to represent the performance of an investment strategy that re-weights securities based upon the opportunities and risks associated with the transition to a lower carbon economy. The Index also excludes companies meeting the below exclusion criteria –

- Companies involved in manufacturing of Controversial Weapons
- Companies involved in very severe ESG Controversies
- Companies involved in severe Environmental Controversies
- Companies involved in the Tobacco-related businesses
- Companies involved in Thermal Coal extraction and mining

The methodology uses the MSCI Low Carbon Transition<sup>1</sup> (LCT) score and category to reweight constituents of a parent index to increase its exposure to companies participating in opportunities associated with transition and decrease its exposure to companies exposed to risks associated with transition. As a final step, the MSCI Climate Change Indexes are designed to exceed the minimum standards of the EU Climate Transition Benchmark (CTB)<sup>2</sup>. The index applies an *heuristics-based* approach in order to meet the following objectives –

- Reduce the weighted average greenhouse gas intensity by 30% (compared to the underlying investment universe).
- Reduce the weighted average greenhouse gas (GHG) intensity by 7% on an annualized basis
- Reduce the weighted average potential emissions intensity by 30% (compared to the underlying investment universe).
- Have at least equivalent ratio of weighted average “Green Revenues” to weighted average “Fossil fuels-based Revenues” as that of the underlying investment universe.

---

<sup>1</sup> Please refer to Appendix II: 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

<sup>2</sup> In case there are changes in the EU delegated acts ([Regulation \(EU\) 2016/1011 as amended by Regulation \(EU\) 2019/2089](#)) and an update to the Index methodology is required, MSCI will issue an announcement prior to implementing the changes in the methodology. MSCI will not conduct a formal consultation for such an update.

## **2 MSCI ESG Research**

MSCI ESG Research provides in-depth research, ratings and analysis of the environmental, social and governance-related business practices of thousands of companies worldwide. It consists of an integrated suite of tools and products to efficiently manage research, analysis and compliance tasks across the spectrum of ESG factors.

The Index uses company ratings and research provided by MSCI ESG Research. In particular, this index uses the following MSCI ESG Research products: MSCI Climate Change Metrics and MSCI ESG Business Involvement Screening Research.

For details on MSCI ESG Research’s full suite of ESG products, please refer to: <https://www.msci.com/esg-integration>

### **2.1 MSCI CLIMATE CHANGE METRICS**

MSCI Climate Change Metrics is designed to support investors seeking to achieve a range of objectives, including measuring and reporting on climate risk exposure, implementing low carbon and fossil fuel-free strategies, and factoring climate change research into their risk management processes. It provides Carbon Emissions, Fossil Fuel exposure, environmental impact (i.e., clean technology) data and screens, as well as climate-related risk exposure and management assessment on companies.

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

### **2.2 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.

For more details on MSCI ESG Business Involvement Screening Research, please refer to [http://www.msci.com/resources/factsheets/MSCI\\_ESG\\_BISR.pdf](http://www.msci.com/resources/factsheets/MSCI_ESG_BISR.pdf)

### 3 Index Construction Methodology

#### 3.1 APPLICABLE UNIVERSE

The applicable universe includes all the existing constituents of the parent index (“Parent Index”). This approach aims to provide an opportunity set with sufficient liquidity and capacity.

#### 3.2 MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

The requirements<sup>3</sup> MSCI imposes for the MSCI Climate Change Indexes are detailed in Table 1.

Table 1: Requirements imposed for the MSCI Climate Change Indexes

Requirements	MSCI Climate Change Indexes
<b>Minimum reduction in Weighted Average Scope 1+2+3 Carbon Emissions Intensity (WACI) relative to Parent Index</b>	30%
<b>Minimum reduction in Weighted Average Potential Emissions Intensity relative to Parent Index</b>	30%
<b>Baseline Exclusions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Controversial Weapons</li> <li>• ESG Controversy Score<sup>4</sup> of 0</li> <li>• Tobacco Involvement</li> <li>• Orange Flag Environmental Controversies</li> <li>• Thermal coal mining</li> </ul>
<b>Minimum average reduction (per annum) in WACI relative to WACI in the Base Date</b>	7%
<b>Minimum ratio of Green Revenue/ Fossil fuels-based Revenue relative to Parent Index</b>	At least equivalent

<sup>3</sup> the minimum requirements for EU Climate Transition Benchmarks in the EU Delegated Acts are detailed in Appendix V

<sup>4</sup> 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](http://www.msci.com/documents/esg-controversies)

<b>Active weight in High Climate Impact Sector relative to Parent Index as defined in Appendix III</b>	<p>0%</p>
<b>Corporate Target Setting</b>	<p>Aims to achieve higher allocation to companies that set carbon reduction targets.</p>

### 3.3 ELIGIBLE UNIVERSE

The eligible universe is constructed by excluding securities based on the following criteria:

- **Controversial Weapons:** 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. For more details on the controversial weapons exclusion, please refer to Appendix I.
- **Tobacco:** All companies with involvement in Tobacco as defined by the methodology of the MSCI Global ex Tobacco Involvement Indexes.
- **Environmental Harm:** All companies having faced very severe and severe controversies pertaining to Environmental issues – Defined as companies with an Environment Controversy Score of 0 or 1.
- **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)
- **Missing LCT Category/Score:** Companies not rated by MSCI ESG Research for Low Carbon Transition Assessment.

Additionally, companies are required to have a minimum ESG Controversy Score of 1 to be eligible in the index.

### 3.4 DETERMINATION OF COMBINED SCORE

Each company in the eligible universe is assigned a Combined Score, which is calculated using a company’s LCT Category and its Low Carbon Transition Score as outlined below.

#### 3.4.1 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

#### 3.4.2 RELATIVE TILT SCORE

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<sup>5</sup> 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

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

#### 3.4.3 COMBINED SCORE

The Combined Score is calculated for each company as follows:

Combined Score = Category Tilt Score \* Relative Tilt Score.

<sup>5</sup> To account for potential outliers within each LCT Category, the category maximum LCT Score is calculated after winsorizing the security level LCT Score at 90<sup>th</sup> percentile of the LCT Category.

### 3.5 WEIGHTING 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.

$$\text{Security Weight} = \text{Combined Score} * \text{Weight in Parent Index}$$

The above weights are then normalized to 100%.

#### 3.5.1 INTERMEDIATE UNIVERSE

Each security in the Applicable Universe is classified into one of two climate impact sectors<sup>6</sup> 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:

##### 3.5.1.1 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.

##### 3.5.1.2 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.

#### 3.5.2 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 weights in the Parent Index.

---

<sup>6</sup> For details regarding the Climate Impact Sectors, please refer to Appendix III: Calculation of Target Metrics

The security weight within the High Impact and Low Impact sectors are in proportion of the security’s LCT Category<sup>7</sup>, LCT Score and Carbon Emissions Intensity. Compared to the Parent Index, the Final Universe typically has

- Lower Carbon Footprint
- Higher Green Revenue to Fossil fuels-based Revenue ratio
- Higher weight in companies which set emission reduction targets<sup>8</sup>
- Equal weight in High Impact and Low Impact Sector

### 3.5.3 CAPPING OF SECURITY WEIGHT IN FINAL UNIVERSE

The weight of securities in the Final Universe is capped at 5%<sup>9</sup>, 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.

### 3.5.4 EU CTB CHECK

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.

---

<sup>7</sup> For details regarding the LCT Category and LCT Score, please refer to Appendix II: MSCI Low Carbon Transition Risk Assessment

<sup>8</sup> The assessment of Low Carbon Transition Risk Management 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. Thus, emission reduction targets are considered in the MSCI Low Carbon Transition Assessment, which is used in the reweighting of constituents in the MSCI Climate Change Indexes methodology.

<sup>9</sup> Securities in the Index based on narrow Parent Indexes are capped at the maximum weight in the Parent Index. Narrow Parent Indexes are defined as those indexes for which the maximum market capitalization weight in the Parent Index is more than 10%.

## 4 Maintaining the MSCI Climate Change Indexes

### 4.1 SEMI-ANNUAL INDEX REVIEWS

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

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

### 4.2 ONGOING EVENT RELATED CHANGES

The general treatment of corporate events in the MSCI Climate Change Indexes 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 MSCI Climate Change Index, the changes made to the Parent Index during intermediate Index Reviews will be neutralized in the MSCI Climate Change Index.

The following section briefly describes the treatment of common corporate events within the MSCI Climate Change Indexes.

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.

If an existing Index constituent is acquired by a non-Index constituent, the existing constituent will be deleted from the Index and the acquiring non-constituent 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>

## Appendix I: Companies Involved in Controversial Weapons Business

Companies which meet the following Controversial Weapons criteria are excluded from the Index

- **Cluster Bombs**

MSCI ESG Research’s cluster bomb research identifies public companies that are involved in the production of cluster bombs and munitions, or the essential components of these products.
- **Landmines**

MSCI ESG Research’s landmines research identifies public companies that are involved in the production of anti - personnel landmines, anti - vehicle landmines, or the essential components of these products.
- **Depleted Uranium Weapons**

MSCI ESG Research’s depleted uranium weapons research identifies public companies involved in the production of depleted uranium weapons and armor.
- **Chemical and Biological Weapons**

MSCI ESG Research’s chemical and biological weapons research identifies public companies that are involved in the production of chemical and biological weapons, or the essential components of these products.
- **Blinding Laser Weapons**

MSCI ESG Research’s blinding laser weapons research identifies public companies that are involved in the production of weapons utilizing laser technology to cause permanent blindness.
- **Non-Detectable Fragments**

MSCI ESG Research’s non-detectable fragments research identifies public companies that are involved in the production of weapons that use non-detectable fragments to inflict injury.
- **Incendiary Weapons (White Phosphorus)**

MSCI ESG Research’s incendiary weapons research identifies companies that are involved in the production of weapons using white phosphorus.

Involvement criteria:

- Producers of the weapons
- Producers of key components of the weapons (only applies to cluster bombs, landmines, depleted uranium weapons as well as chemical and biological weapons)
- Ownership of 20% or more of a weapons or components producer
- The minimum limit is raised to 50% for financial companies having an ownership in a company that manufactures controversial weapons or key components of controversial weapons
- Owned 50% or more by a company involved in weapons or components production

Revenue limits:

Any identifiable revenues, i.e., zero tolerance

The exclusion criteria above are reflective of the MSCI Global ex Controversial Weapons Index Methodology as of June 2019<sup>10</sup>. For details please refer to MSCI Global ex Controversial Weapons Indexes Methodology at <https://www.msci.com/index-methodology>.

---

<sup>10</sup>

[https://www.msci.com/eqb/methodology/meth\\_docs/MSCI\\_Global\\_ex\\_Controversial\\_Weapons\\_Indexes\\_Methodology\\_May2018.pdf](https://www.msci.com/eqb/methodology/meth_docs/MSCI_Global_ex_Controversial_Weapons_Indexes_Methodology_May2018.pdf)

## Appendix II: MSCI Low Carbon Transition Risk Assessment

MSCI ESG Research’s Low Carbon Transition Risk assessment<sup>11</sup> is designed to identify potential leaders and laggards by holistically measuring companies’ exposure to and management of risks and opportunities related to the low carbon transition.

The final output of this assessment is two company-level factors as described below:

- (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 predominant and secondary risks a company faces. It is industry agnostic and represents an absolute assessment of a company’s position vis-à-vis the transition.

LOW CARBON TRANSITION SCORE	LOW CARBON TRANSITION CATEGORY		LOW CARBON TRANSITION RISK / OPPORTUNITY	
 <p>Score = 0</p> <p>Score = 10</p>	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; Oil sands exploration/production
	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.	Oil & gas exploration & production; Petrol/diesel based automobile manufacturers, thermal power plant turbine manufacturers etc.
		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.	Fossil fuel based power generation, cement, steel etc.
	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, etc.
	SOLUTIONS		Potential to benefit through the growth of low-carbon products and services.	Renewable electricity, electric vehicles, solar cell manufacturers etc.

Exhibit 1: Low Carbon Transition Categories and Scores

<sup>11</sup> For more details on MSCI Climate Change Metrics, please refer to <https://www.msci.com/climate-change-solutions>

### **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.

#### **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 Carbon Intensity profile – which is informed by its Product Carbon Intensity, Operational Carbon Intensity and Total Carbon Intensity. In the next step, we compute Low Carbon Transition Risk Exposure Category and Score based on Total Carbon Intensity.

#### **Step 2: Assess Low Carbon Transition Risk Management**

In the second step, we assess 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 are 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 III: 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 =

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

Enterprise Value Inflation Adjustment Factor (EVIAF)<sup>12</sup> =

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

Weighted Average Carbon Emissions Intensity of Parent Index =

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

Weighted Average Carbon Emissions Intensity of Derived Index =

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

### 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 =

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

Weighted Average Potential Emissions Intensity of Parent Index =

---

<sup>12</sup> Average Enterprise Value + Cash is calculated for securities in the Eligible Universe

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

Weighted Average Potential Emissions Intensity of Derived Index =

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

### Calculation of Average Decarbonization

On average, the Indexes follow a 7% decarbonization trajectory since the Base Date. 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 ( $W_t$ ) 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 the Base Date.

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

### Climate Impact Sectors

NACE<sup>13</sup> is the European Union's classification of economic activities. As per the draft DA, 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. The GICS<sup>14</sup> Sub-Industry code for each security is mapped to the corresponding "Climate Impact Sector" using a mapping. This mapping is constructed in the following steps:

1. MSCI has published a mapping<sup>15</sup> between the NACE classes and GICS Sub-Industry.

<sup>13</sup> For further details regarding NACE, please refer to [https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statistics-explained/index.php?title=NACE\\_background](https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statistics-explained/index.php?title=NACE_background)

<sup>14</sup> For further information regarding GICS, please refer to <https://www.msci.com/gics>

<sup>15</sup> This mapping is available in the [Handbook of Climate Transition Benchmarks, Paris-Aligned Benchmark and Benchmarks' ESG Disclosures](#)

2. For each GICS Sub-Industry, the number of NACE classes which fall under the High Climate Impact Sector (say the number of classes is  $N_H$ ) and Low Climate Impact Sector (say the number of classes is  $N_L$ ) is identified
3. If all the NACE classes for a given GICS Sub-Industry are identified in the High Climate Impact Sector ( $N_L = 0$ ), then the GICS Sub-Industry is mapped to the High Climate Impact Sector. Conversely, if all the NACE classes for a given GICS Sub-Industry are identified in the Low Climate Impact Sector ( $N_H = 0$ ) then the GICS Sub-Industry is mapped to the Low Climate Impact Sector
4. In case a GICS Sub-Industry is mapped to some NACE classes in the High Climate Impact Sector and the others in the Low Climate Impact Sector, the GICS Industry is mapped to the Climate Impact Sector in the following manner:
  - a.  **$N_H \geq N_L$** : If the number of NACE classes in the High Climate Impact Sector is at least equivalent to the number of NACE classes in the Low Climate Impact Sector, the GICS Sub-Industry is mapped to the High Climate Impact Sector
  - b.  **$N_H < N_L$** : If the number of NACE classes in the High Climate Impact Sector is less than the number of NACE classes in the Low Climate Impact Sector, the GICS Sub-Industry is mapped to the Low Climate Impact Sector
5. Using the GICS Sub-Industry to Climate Impact Sector mapping created in Step 4, and the security-level GICS Sub-Industry, each security in the Parent Index is classified in either the High Climate Impact Sector or the Low Climate Impact Sector.

### 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 green-certified 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:

$$= \sum (\textit{Weight in Index} * \textit{Fossil fuels based Revenue}\%)$$

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 IV: Iterative Process

The iterative down weighting process is applied on the securities of the Final Universe with the objective of meeting all the minimum requirements<sup>16</sup> 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 Indexes. 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 met, the lowest ranked "Bottom Half" stock in ascending order of Scope 1+2+3 Carbon Emissions Intensity is selected for downweighting<sup>17</sup> 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 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 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

<sup>16</sup> In the steps detailed for the iterative process, "targets" refers to all the minimum requirements as detailed in Table 1.

<sup>17</sup> Stocks with an LCT Category of Solutions are not eligible for downweighting.

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 5%<sup>18</sup>, 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.

---

<sup>18</sup> Securities in the Index based on narrow Parent Indexes are capped at the maximum weight in the Parent Index. Narrow Parent Indexes are defined as those indexes for which the maximum market capitalization weight in the Parent Index is more than 10%.

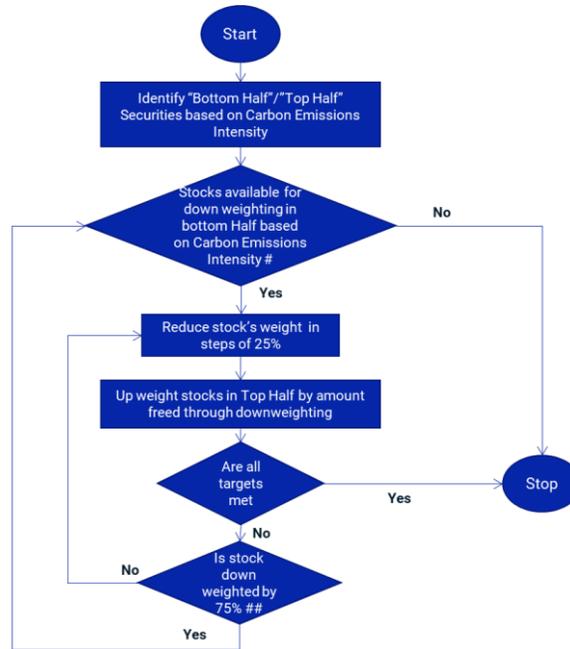


Exhibit 2: Schematic Representation of the Iterative Downweighting Process

# If the target based on Minimum reduction in WACI relative to Parent Index and the Minimum average reduction in WACI (per annum) is met but the target on Weighted Average Potential Emissions Intensity relative to Parent Index is not 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 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: Minimum Requirements of EU CTB

The below details the minimum requirements of EU CTBs as per the EU Delegated Acts:

### Exclusions (Applicable from 2023)

- **Controversial Weapons:** companies involved in any activities related to controversial weapons;
- **Tobacco:** companies involved in the cultivation and production of tobacco
- **Environmental Harm:** companies significantly harm one or more of environmental objectives
- **Controversies:** companies in violation of the United Nations Global Compact (UNGC) principles or the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises;

### Objectives

- **Relative Reduction:** 30% minimum reduction in Weighted Average Scope 1+2+3 Carbon Emissions Intensity (WACI) relative to Parent Index
- **Self-Decarbonization:** 7% minimum average reduction (per annum) in WACI relative to WACI in the Base Date
- **Exposure Constraint:** At least equivalent exposure to the High Climate Impact Sector relative to Parent Index

**The following sections have been modified since May 2021-**

- Introduction – Updated to reflect the additional exclusions and objectives of the index
- Section 3.2 – Added section detailing the minimum requirements imposed on the MSCI Climate Change Indexes
- Section 3.3 – Updated to reflect additional exclusions (ESG Controversies, Environmental Controversies, Tobacco, Thermal Coal Mining)
- Sections 3.5 – Updated to reflect additional steps to meet the minimum requirements of EU CTBs
- Appendix III – Added with calculation details of some of the target objectives.
- Appendix IV – Added with details regarding iterative process
- Appendix V – Added with details regarding minimum requirements of EU Climate Transition Benchmarks

## Contact us

clientservice@msci.com

### AMERICAS

Americas	1 888 588 4567 *
Atlanta	+ 1 404 551 3212
Boston	+ 1 617 532 0920
Chicago	+ 1 312 675 0545
Monterrey	+ 52 81 1253 4020
New York	+ 1 212 804 3901
San Francisco	+ 1 415 836 8800
São Paulo	+ 55 11 3706 1360
Toronto	+ 1 416 628 1007

### EUROPE, MIDDLE EAST & AFRICA

Cape Town	+ 27 21 673 0100
Frankfurt	+ 49 69 133 859 00
Geneva	+ 41 22 817 9777
London	+ 44 20 7618 2222
Milan	+ 39 02 5849 0415
Paris	0800 91 59 17 *

### ASIA PACIFIC

China North	10800 852 1032 *
China South	10800 152 1032 *
Hong Kong	+ 852 2844 9333
Mumbai	+ 91 22 6784 9160
Seoul	00798 8521 3392 *
Singapore	800 852 3749 *
Sydney	+ 61 2 9033 9333
Taipei	008 0112 7513 *
Thailand	0018 0015 6207 7181 *
Tokyo	+ 81 3 5290 1555

\* = toll free

## ABOUT MSCI

MSCI is a leader provider of critical decision support tools and services for the global investment community. With over 50 years of expertise in research, data and technology, we power better investment decisions by enabling clients to understand and analyze key drivers of risk and return and confidently build more effective portfolios. We create industry-leading research-enhanced solutions that clients use to gain insight into and improve transparency across the investment process.

The process for submitting a formal index complaint can be found on the index regulation page of MSCI's website at: [www.msci.com/index-regulation](http://www.msci.com/index-regulation).

To learn more, please visit [www.msci.com](http://www.msci.com).

## Notice and disclaimer

- This document and all of the information contained in it, including without limitation all text, data, graphs, charts (collectively, the "Information") is the property of MSCI Inc. or its subsidiaries (collectively, "MSCI"), or MSCI's licensors, direct or indirect suppliers or any third party involved in making or compiling any Information (collectively, with MSCI, the "Information Providers") and is provided for informational purposes only. The Information may not be modified, reverse-engineered, reproduced or disseminated in whole or in part without prior written permission from MSCI. All rights in the Information are reserved by MSCI and/or its Information Providers.
- The Information may not be used to create derivative works or to verify or correct other data or information. For example (but without limitation), the Information may not be used to create indexes, databases, risk models, analytics, software, or in connection with the issuing, offering, sponsoring, managing or marketing of any securities, portfolios, financial products or other investment vehicles utilizing or based on, linked to, tracking or otherwise derived from the Information or any other MSCI data, information, products or services.
- The user of the Information assumes the entire risk of any use it may make or permit to be made of the Information. NONE OF THE INFORMATION PROVIDERS MAKES ANY EXPRESS OR IMPLIED WARRANTIES OR REPRESENTATIONS WITH RESPECT TO THE INFORMATION (OR THE RESULTS TO BE OBTAINED BY THE USE THEREOF), AND TO THE MAXIMUM EXTENT PERMITTED BY APPLICABLE LAW, EACH INFORMATION PROVIDER EXPRESSLY DISCLAIMS ALL IMPLIED WARRANTIES (INCLUDING, WITHOUT LIMITATION, ANY IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF ORIGINALITY, ACCURACY, TIMELINESS, NON-INFRINGEMENT, COMPLETENESS, MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE) WITH RESPECT TO ANY OF THE INFORMATION.
- Without limiting any of the foregoing and to the maximum extent permitted by applicable law, in no event shall any Information Provider have any liability regarding any of the Information for any direct, indirect, special, punitive, consequential (including lost profits) or any other damages even if notified of the possibility of such damages. The foregoing shall not exclude or limit any liability that may not by applicable law be excluded or limited, including without limitation (as applicable), any liability for death or personal injury to the extent that such injury results from the negligence or willful default of itself, its servants, agents or sub-contractors.
- Information containing any historical information, data or analysis should not be taken as an indication or guarantee of any future performance, analysis, forecast or prediction. Past performance does not guarantee future results.
- The Information should not be relied on and is not a substitute for the skill, judgment and experience of the user, its management, employees, advisors and/or clients when making investment and other business decisions. All Information is impersonal and not tailored to the needs of any person, entity or group of persons.
- None of the Information constitutes an offer to sell (or a solicitation of an offer to buy), any security, financial product or other investment vehicle or any trading strategy.
- It is not possible to invest directly in an index. Exposure to an asset class or trading strategy or other category represented by an index is only available through third party investable instruments (if any) based on that index. MSCI does not issue, sponsor, endorse, market, offer, review or otherwise express any opinion regarding any fund, ETF, derivative or other security, investment, financial product or trading strategy that is based on, linked to or seeks to provide an investment return related to the performance of any MSCI index (collectively, "Index Linked Investments"). MSCI makes no assurance that any Index Linked Investments will accurately track index performance or provide positive investment returns. MSCI Inc. is not an investment adviser or fiduciary and MSCI makes no representation regarding the advisability of investing in any Index Linked Investments.
- Index returns do not represent the results of actual trading of investible assets/securities. MSCI maintains and calculates indexes, but does not manage actual assets. Index returns do not reflect payment of any sales charges or fees an investor may pay to purchase the securities underlying the index or Index Linked Investments. The imposition of these fees and charges would cause the performance of an Index Linked Investment to be different than the MSCI index performance.
- The Information may contain back tested data. Back-tested performance is not actual performance, but is hypothetical. There are frequently material differences between back tested performance results and actual results subsequently achieved by any investment strategy.
- Constituents of MSCI equity indexes are listed companies, which are included in or excluded from the indexes according to the application of the relevant index methodologies. Accordingly, constituents in MSCI equity indexes may include MSCI Inc., clients of MSCI or suppliers to MSCI. Inclusion of a security within an MSCI index is not a recommendation by MSCI to buy, sell, or hold such security, nor is it considered to be investment advice.
- Data and information produced by various affiliates of MSCI Inc., including MSCI ESG Research LLC and Barra LLC, may be used in calculating certain MSCI indexes. More information can be found in the relevant index methodologies on [www.msci.com](http://www.msci.com).
- MSCI receives compensation in connection with licensing its indexes to third parties. MSCI Inc.'s revenue includes fees based on assets in Index Linked Investments. Information can be found in MSCI Inc.'s company filings on the Investor Relations section of [www.msci.com](http://www.msci.com).
- MSCI ESG Research LLC is a Registered Investment Adviser under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940 and a subsidiary of MSCI Inc. Except with respect to any applicable products or services from MSCI ESG Research, neither MSCI nor any of its products or services recommends, endorses, approves or otherwise expresses any opinion regarding any issuer, securities, financial products or instruments or trading strategies and MSCI's products or services are not intended to constitute investment advice or a recommendation to make (or refrain from making) any kind of investment decision and may not be relied on as such. Issuers mentioned or included in any MSCI ESG Research materials may include MSCI Inc., clients of MSCI or suppliers to MSCI, and may also purchase research or other products or services from MSCI ESG Research. MSCI ESG Research materials, including materials utilized in any MSCI ESG Indexes or other products, have not been submitted to, nor received approval from, the United States Securities and Exchange Commission or any other regulatory body.
- Any use of or access to products, services or information of MSCI requires a license from MSCI. MSCI, Barra, RiskMetrics, IPD and other MSCI brands and product names are the trademarks, service marks, or registered trademarks of MSCI or its subsidiaries in the United States and other jurisdictions. The Global Industry Classification Standard (GICS) was developed by and is the exclusive property of MSCI and Standard & Poor's. "Global Industry Classification Standard (GICS)" is a service mark of MSCI and Standard & Poor's.
- MIFID2/MIFIR notice: MSCI ESG Research LLC does not distribute or act as an intermediary for financial instruments or structured deposits, nor does it deal on its own account, provide execution services for others or manage client accounts. No MSCI ESG Research product or service supports, promotes or is intended to support or promote any such activity. MSCI ESG Research is an independent provider of ESG data, reports and ratings based on published methodologies and available to clients on a subscription basis. We do not provide custom or one-off ratings or recommendations of securities or other financial instruments upon request.

Privacy notice: For information about how MSCI collects and uses personal data, please refer to our Privacy Notice at <https://www.msci.com/privacy-pledge>.

