

# MSCI WORLD IMICLIMATE ADAPTATION SELECT 30 INDEX METHODOLOGY

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#### 1 Introduction

The MSCI World IMI Climate Adaptation Select 30 Index aims to represent the performance of 30 stocks that have relatively high Low Carbon Transition scores, as well as exhibit low historical realised volatility and high dividend yield. The index aims to achieve diversification with country and sector constraints.



#### 2 MSCI ESG RESEARCH

The MSCI World IMI Climate Adaptation Select 30 Index uses company ratings and research provided by MSCI ESG Research. The index uses the following MSCI ESG Research products: MSCI ESG Ratings, MSCI ESG Controversies, MSCI Business Involvement Screening Research, and MSCI Climate Change Metrics.

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

#### 2.1 MSCI ESG RATINGS

MSCI ESG Ratings provides research, analysis and ratings of how well companies manage environmental, social and governance risks and opportunities.

MSCI ESG Ratings provides an overall company ESG rating - a seven-point scale from 'AAA' to 'CCC'. In addition, the product provides scores and percentiles indicating how well a company manages each key issue relative to industry peers.

For more details on MSCI ESG Ratings, please refer to: <a href="https://www.msci.com/esg-ratings">https://www.msci.com/esg-ratings</a>

#### 2.2 MSCI ESG CONTROVERSIES

MSCI ESG Controversies (formerly known as MSCI Impact Monitor) provides assessments of controversies concerning the negative environmental, social, and/or governance impact of company operations, products and services. 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. MSCI ESG Controversies Score falls on a 0-10 scale, with "0" being the most severe controversy.

For more details on MSCI ESG Controversies, please refer to : https://www.msci.com/documents/10199/acbe7c8a-a4e4-49de-9cf8-5e957245b86b



#### 2.3 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 <a href="http://www.msci.com/resources/factsheets/MSCI\_ESG\_BISR.pdf">http://www.msci.com/resources/factsheets/MSCI\_ESG\_BISR.pdf</a>



#### 3 Index Construction

The MSCI World IMI Climate Adaptation Select 30 Index is constructed from the MSCI World IMI Index (the "Parent Index").

#### 3.1 ESG ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

#### 3.1.1 VALUES AND CLIMATE CHANGE-BASED EXCLUSIONS

The MSCI World IMI Climate Adaptation Select 30 Index uses MSCI ESG Business Involvement Screening Research and MSCI Climate Change Metrics to identify companies that are involved in the following business activities. Companies that meet the below values- and climate change-based criteria are excluded from the Index. Please refer to Appendix 1 for details on these criteria.

- Compliance with all the UN Global Compact Principles
- Adult Entertainment
- Gambling
- Tobacco
- Controversial Weapons
- Nuclear Weapons
- Conventional Weapons & Civilian Firearms
- Thermal Coal Mining
- Unconventional Oil & Gas Extraction
- Conventional Oil & Gas Extraction
- Thermal Coal-based Power Generation
- Oil & Gas-based Power Generation
- Nuclear Power-based Power Generation

#### 3.1.2 LCT RATINGS ELIGIBILITY

The MSCI World IMI Climate Adaptation Select 30 Index uses the MSCI Low Carbon Category (LCT) to select only constituents from the Parent Index that present opportunities associated with the climate transition.

Companies are required to have an LCT Category of Solutions or Neutral to be eligible for inclusion.



#### 3.2 ADDITIONAL SCREENS

#### 3.2.1 LIQUIDITY SCREEN

The remaining securities from above are subsequently screened for 3-month ADTV to be greater than USD 15 Million.

ADTV is defined as Average Daily Traded Volume and is calculated as:

$$ADTV_{3M} = \frac{ATV_{3M}^1}{252}$$

#### 3.3 SECURITY SELECTION

The securities from the eligible universe are subsequently filtered to include a single security per issuer. For issuers having multiple securities which are part of the eligible universe, the security with the highest 3-month ADTV is selected. From the securities remaining post screenings, the selection is done using the optimization process, as defined below, wherein we target to select 30 securities.

#### 3.4 WEIGHTING SCHEME

The weights of the securities are an outcome of the optimization process. The optimization process relies on factor exposures for all the securities in the remaining universe and the factor covariance matrix of the relevant Barra Equity Model<sup>2</sup>. The optimization is performed in local currency.

The Optimization objective is to maximize the Utility Function with various other optimization constraints as specified in 3.5:

$$U = \alpha - Total Risk$$

Where

Total Risk = ex-ante risk of the portfolio calculated using relevant Barra Equity Model and is a combination of common factor risk and stock specific risk.

https://www.msci.com/index-methodology

MSCI Global Investable Market Indexes Methodology at

https://www.msci.com/index-methodology

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> MSCI Index Calculation Methodology at

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Please Refer to Appendix II



#### **CALCULATION OF THE ALPHA SCORE**

 $\alpha(i) = 0.75 * DYF(i) + 0.25 * LVF(i)$ 

Where,

 $\alpha(i)$  = Combined alpha score for each security i

DYF(i) = Factor exposure of each security i to the target Dividend Yield  $^3$ factor

LVF(i) = Factor exposure of each security i to the target Low Volatility 4factor

#### 3.5 OPTIMIZATION CONSTRAINTS

The MSCI World IMI Climate Adaptation Select 30 Index is constructed using the Barra Open Optimizer in combination with the relevant Barra Equity Model. The optimization uses the above selected securities as the universe of eligible securities and the specified optimization objective and constraints to determine the Index.

The Barra Open Optimizer determines the optimal solution, to achieve relatively high exposure to dividend yield and low volatility factors by maximizing the exposure to these factors less a penalty for the common factor and stock-specific risk characteristics of each potential constituent.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Please refer to appendix IV

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Please refer to appendix IV



At each quarterly rebalance, the following optimization constraints are applied which aim to ensure investability while achieving high dividend yield and low volatility:

No.	Parameter	Constraint
1	Number of Constituents	30
2	Maximum weight of a single security	5%
3	Security Weight as a Multiple of its weight in the Parent Index	10000
4	Maximum Weight to a GICS sector	Benchmark + 10%
5	Minimum Weight to a GICS Sector	Benchmark – 10%
6	Maximum Weight to a Country	Benchmark + 10%
7	Minimum Weight to a Country	Benchmark – 10%
8	One Way Turnover	100%
9	The portfolio risk currency	Local
10	Stock Specific Risk Aversion	0.0015
11	Common Factor Risk Aversion	0.015
12	Active Exposure to Growth, Liquidity, Momentum and Size <sup>5</sup> Barra style factors	(-0.5%, 0.5%)

 $<sup>^{\</sup>rm 5}$  Please refer to Appendix IV



#### 4 Maintenance of the Index

#### 4.1 QUARTERLY INDEX REVIEWS

The Index is reviewed on a quarterly basis, coinciding with the May and November Semi-Annual Index Reviews and the February and August Quarterly Index Reviews of the Parent Index. The pro forma Index is announced nine business days before the effective date.

#### 4.2 ONGOING EVENT RELATED CHANGES

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. For cases where additions are noted below, securities will be added to the Index only if added to the Parent Index. 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: <a href="https://www.msci.com/index-methodology">https://www.msci.com/index-methodology</a>



### **Appendix I: Values and Climate Change-Based Exclusion Criteria**

The is constructed with an aim to reflect the performance of companies that are consistent with specific values- and climate change-based criteria.

#### **Compliance with all the UN Global Compact Principles**

- All companies that fail to comply with the United Nations Global Compact principles. In this filter, activities are not classified under any specific tolerance level

#### **Values-based Exclusions Criteria**

#### Tobacco

- All companies deriving 5% or more revenue from the manufacture of tobacco related products
- All companies deriving 5% or more aggregate revenue from the production, distribution, retail and supply of tobacco-related products. The threshold will be updated to all companies deriving 0% or more aggregate revenue from the production, distribution, retail and supply of tobacco-related products from Semi Annual Rebalance for November 2024

#### Controversial Weapons

 All companies with any tie to Controversial Weapons (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 Global Ex-Controversial Weapons Indexes available at

https://www.msci.com/eqb/methodology/meth\_docs/MSCI\_Global\_ex\_Controversi al Weapons Indexes Methodology Nov2019.pdf

#### Nuclear Weapons

- 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
- 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
- All companies deriving 5% or more revenue from the production of nuclear weapons.
- All companies that manufacture components for dual-use delivery platforms.

#### Weapons

- All companies deriving 10% or more aggregate revenue from weapons systems, components, and support systems and services
- All companies deriving a combined 5% or more revenue from the production of conventional weapons and from the manufacture and retail of civilian firearms and ammunition.

#### **Climate Change-based Exclusions Criteria**

#### • Thermal Coal Mining

All companies deriving 5% 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. The threshold will be updated to all companies deriving 0% 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 from semi annual rebalance for November 2024.

#### • Unconventional Oil & Gas Extraction



All companies deriving more than 0% revenue (either reported or estimated) from unconventional oil and gas production. It includes revenue from the production of oil sands, oil shale (kerogen-rich deposits), shale gas, shale oil, coal seam gas, and coal bed methane, as well as revenue from onshore or offshore oil and gas production in the Arctic region. It excludes revenue from conventional oil and gas production including deepwater, shallow water, and other onshore/offshore oil and gas.

#### Conventional Oil & Gas Extraction

All companies deriving more than 0% revenue (either reported or estimated) from conventional oil and gas production and are deriving less than 40% revenue from products, services, or infrastructure projects supporting the development or delivery of renewable energy and alternative fuels.

The Conventional Oil & Gas Extraction revenue includes revenue from the production of deep water, shallow water, and other onshore/offshore oil and gas. It excludes revenue from unconventional oil and gas production (oil sands, shale oil, shale gas) and onshore/offshore oil and gas production in the Arctic region.

#### • Thermal Coal-based Power Generation

- All companies generating 10% or more of their total electricity from thermal coal in a given year
- All companies that have 10% or more of installed capacity attributed to thermal coal in a given year
- All companies deriving 10% or more revenue (either reported or estimated) from thermal coal-based power generation
- The above thresholds will be updated to 0% from Semi Annual Rebalance for November 2024

#### Oil & Gas-based Power Generation

- All companies generating 30% or more of their total electricity from liquid fuel and natural gas in a given year
- All companies that have 30% or more of installed capacity attributed to liquid fuel and natural gas in a given year
- All companies deriving 30% or more revenue (either reported or estimated)
   from liquid fuel- and natural gas-based power generation



#### Nuclear Power-based Power Generation

- All companies generating 30% or more of their total electricity from nuclear power in a given year
- All companies that have 30% or more of installed capacity attributed to nuclear sources in a given fiscal year
- All companies deriving 30% or more revenue (either reported or estimated)
   from ownership or operation of nuclear power plants
- All companies deriving 5% or more aggregate revenue from nuclear power activities

#### Gambling

 All companies deriving 5% or more aggregate revenue from gambling-related business activities

#### **Adult Entertainment**

 All companies deriving 5% or more aggregate revenue from the production, distribution and retail of adult entertainment materials



# Appendix II: New Release of BARRA® EQUITY MODEL or BARRA® OPTIMIZER

The methodology presently uses MSCI Barra Global Equity Model for Long-Term Investors ("GEMLTL") for the optimization. A new release of the relevant Barra Equity Model or Barra Optimizer may replace the former version within a suitable timeframe.



# APPENDIX III: HANDLING INFEASIBLE OPTIMIZATIONS

During the quarterly Index review, in the event that there is no optimal solution that satisfies all the optimization constraints, the Index will not be rebalanced for that Index review.



# Appendix IV: Definitions of Dividend Yield, Size, Momentum, Low Volatility and Liquidity Factor in Barra Global Total Market Equity Model for Long Term Investors

The Dividend Yield, Size, Momentum, Low Volatility and Liquidity factors are described using MSCI's Barra Global Equity Model for Long-Term Investors (GEMLTL). The precise choice of component factors used to represent each broad factor group is governed by the current model used for the optimization, which may change with a new release of the Barra Equity Model.<sup>6</sup>

#### **Dividend Yield**

Definition = 0.5\*DTOP + 0.5\*DTOPF

Where

DTOP = <u>Dividend Yield</u>

Computed by dividing the trailing 12-month dividend per share by the price at the last month end.

#### DTOPF = Analyst-Predicted Dividend-to-Price

Computed by dividing the 12-month forward-looking dividend per share (DPS) by the current price. Forward-looking DPS are defined as a weighted average between the average analyst-predicted DPS for the current and next fiscal years.

#### Momentum

Differentiates stocks based on their performance over the trailing 12 months. When computing Momentum exposure, we exclude the most recent returns in order to avoid the effects of short-term reversal.

Momentum = 0.5\*RSTR + 0.5\*HALPHA

Where

RSTR = Relative Strength

The non-lagged Relative Strength is first computed from the returns from the trailing 252 days:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Please refer to Appendix II



$$RS(t) = \sum_{\tau=0}^{251} w_{\tau} [\ln(1 + r_{t-\tau}) - \ln(1 + r_{m,t-\tau})]$$

where,  $r_t$  is the stock excess return, and  $r_{m,t}$  is the capitalization-weighted market excess return on day t, and  $w_{\tau}$  is the exponential weight with a 126-day half-life. The final RSTR descriptor is then computed as the equal-weighted average of the RS from an 11-day window lagged by 11 days.

#### HALPHA = Historical Alpha

First, non-lagged values of historical alpha are computed by the time-series regression of HBETA. Historical alpha is then computed as the equal-weighted average of non-lagged values over the previous 11 to 21 trading days. This treatment introduces a lag while avoiding undue jumps in historical alpha exposures when large returns enter the estimation window.

#### Size

Represents strong source of equity return covariance, and captures return differences between large-cap stocks and small-cap stocks. We measure Size by the log of market capitalization.

#### Liquidity

Definition = 0.25\*STOM + 0.25\*STOQ + 0.25\*STOA + 0.25\*ATVR

Where

STOM = Monthly Share Turnover

Computed as log of share turnover over the previous month:

$$STOM = \ln(\frac{V}{S})$$

where, V is the trading volume for the month and S is the number of outstanding shares.

#### STOQ = Quarterly Share Turnover

Let STOMt be the share turnover for month t. The quarterly share turnover is given by:



$$STOQ_t = \ln\left[\frac{1}{T}\sum_{t=1}^{T} \exp(STOM_t)\right]$$

Where, T = 3 months

#### STOA = Annual Share Turnover

Let *STOMt* be the share turnover for month t. The annual share turnover is given by:

$$STOA_t = \ln\left[\frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^{T} \exp(STOM_t)\right]$$

Where, T = 12 months

#### ATVR = Annualized Traded Value Ratio

First, the daily traded value ratio (DTVR) is the volume divided by the number of shares. Then, the monthly traded value ratio (MTVR) is the median DTVR on traded days times the number of traded days in last 21 weekdays. The annual traded value ratio (ATVR) is the exponential weighted average of the MTVR in the last 252 days with a half-life of 63 days. The descriptor uses natural logarithm of the computed value.

#### **Low Volatility**

**Definition =** 0.3\*BETA + 0.7\*RESVOL

BETA = Historical Beta

Computed as the slope coefficient from a time-series regression of stock excess returns against the cap-weighted excess returns of the estimation universe over a trailing window of 504 trading days, with a 252-day half-life.

The returns are aggregated over four-day windows to reduce the effect of non-synchronicity and auto-correlation.

RESVOL = Residual Volatility = 0.4\*HSIGMA + 0.4\*DASTD + 0.2\*CMRA

HSIGMA = Historical Sigma

Computed as the volatility of the residual returns from the HBETA regression.

DASTD = Daily Standard Deviation

Computed as the volatility of daily excess returns over the past 252 trading days with a 42-day half-life.



#### CMRA = Cumulative Range

The cumulative excess log return over the past T months, with each month defined as the previous 21 trading days, is first computed as:

$$Z(t) = \sum_{\tau=0}^{T-1} \ln(1 + r_{t-\tau})$$

Where,  $r_t$  is the stock excess return for the month t. The CMRA description is then given by:

$$CMRA(t) = Z_{max} - Z_{min}$$

Where,  $Z_{max} = max\{Z(T)\}$ ,  $Z_{min} = min\{Z(T)\}$  for T = 1...12.



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