## **QUESTIONS & ANSWERS**

### **Important Changes**

On 24 March 2025, we are making changes to our description of the investment objectives and policies of the following funds in our UK OEIC fund range, and these funds will adopt a sustainability investment label that reflects their sustainability objectives:

- CT Sustainable Opportunities Global Equity Fund
- CT Sustainable Global Equity Income Fund
- CT Responsible Global Equity Fund
- CT Sustainable Universal MAP Defensive Fund
- CT Sustainable Universal MAP Cautious Fund
- CT Sustainable Universal MAP Balanced Fund
- CT Sustainable Universal MAP Growth Fund
- CT Sustainable Universal MAP Adventurous Fund

(Each a "Fund", together the "Funds")

#### 1. What is changing?

On 24 March 2025, the Funds' investment objectives and policies will be updated, the details of which are shown in the shareholder letter available from our Significant Fund Changes page on our website.

The Funds already invest mainly in sustainable investments. However, we have updated each Fund's investment objective to include a specific sustainability goal alongside the financial objective. The Funds aim to address sustainability challenges faced by people and the environment by investing in companies (or in the case of the Sustainable Universal MAP range, both issuers of shares and bonds), whose products, services or investments provide solutions which are aligned with the Funds' sustainability themes. We also provide more detail in the investment policy on how the Investment Manager assesses and selects assets that meet this objective using our standard of sustainability.

Each Fund will be adopting a "Sustainability Focus" label as they invest mainly in assets which are sustainable for people or the planet. In the future, you can expect to see the new label (shown on the right) in some of the Funds' literature.



We will also be making the following additional change:

The financial objective of the **CT Sustainable Opportunities Global Equity Fund** and **CT Responsible Global Equity Fund** will be amended to include the aim to outperform the MSCI World index (target benchmark), over rolling 5-year periods.

Importantly, we do not expect these updates to result in any significant change to the way in which the Funds are currently managed or to their risk profile.

2. When are the changes being made?

The changes to the Funds will be effective from 24 March 2025 (the "Effective Date").

3. Why are the changes being made?

#### • Sustainability-related changes:

The Financial Conduct Authority<sup>1</sup> (FCA) has introduced four sustainability investment labels to help investors find and compare products that have a specific sustainability goal. You can find more information on the sustainability investment labels, which have been introduced as part of the FCA's Sustainability Disclosure Requirements (**SDR**) and labelling regime, on the FCA's consumer webpage: <u>https://www.fca.org.uk/consumers/identifying-sustainable-investments</u>.

As part of the SDR labelling regime, the FCA requires that all labelled products provide clear and detailed information on what that sustainability goal of the product is and the approach to achieving it, and to report annually on how the product is performing against this objective using key performance indicators.

In addition to the sustainability objective, we have included information on how the Funds avoid investing in assets that conflict with this objective and details of our approach to engagement with issuers on sustainability related issues.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The FCA regulates the financial services industry in the UK. Its role includes protecting consumers, keeping the industry stable, and promoting healthy competition between financial service providers: <u>https://www.fca.org.uk/</u>

This information is provided to investors in an SDR Consumer Facing Disclosure document and the Fund's prospectus (both available from the Document Library on our website at <u>columbiathreadneedle.com</u>).

## • Benchmark changes; applicable to CT Sustainable Opportunities Global Equity Fund and CT Responsible Global Equity Fund:

We are introducing the MSCI World Index as the target benchmark of these Funds, in order to clearly reflect what the Funds are trying to achieve financially, and to provide an additional measure to assess and demonstrate the Funds' financial performance over time (including through our Value Assessment Report, which is published each year on our website).

The MSCI World Index was previously referenced as the Funds' comparator benchmark, and was deemed an appropriate comparison given the investment policy of the Funds and the approach taken by the investment managers when investing the Funds' portfolio. This change now introduces the MSCI World Index as the formal target benchmark of the Funds.

#### • Additional information: Net Zero alignment

The Funds are managed in line with the Net Zero Investment Framework methodology, and this approach primarily means that we actively engage with certain companies to influence change and to help achieve improved net zero alignment status. Our current aim is for the Funds to hold at least 70% of their portfolio emissions in net zero aligned or engaged companies, but this is not a binding target. We have taken this opportunity to include additional disclosures in the Prospectus of the CT Sustainable Opportunities Global Equity Fund, CT Responsible Global Equity Fund, and the CT Sustainable Universal MAP fund range in relation to their net zero alignment.

*Further detail on the methodology used can be found on the Columbia Threadneedle website* <u>www.columbiathreadneedle.com</u>.

#### 4. How will you ensure that the Funds continue to meet the Sustainability Focus label criteria?

The SDR requires a fund adopting a Sustainability Focus label to invest at least 70% of its assets in accordance with its sustainability objective, selected by reference to a 'robust, evidence-based standard' and this commitment will be monitored by our Compliance team.

We have developed a standard of sustainability, including clear governance, oversight and escalation channels to ensure the Funds do not fail to meet the criteria of the label. Escalation routes include the Investment Team leadership, our Responsible Investment (RI) team, and Investment Risk and Compliance Teams.

#### 5. How regularly will you be reviewing the label to ensure it remains appropriate for each Fund?

We will review the sustainability label applied to each Fund at least every 12 months, and prior to any proposed future product changes to ensure that the Funds' activities and investments remain aligned with the criteria for the label. Any proposed change to the Funds' label (or if we cease to use the label) would be notified to investors in writing.

#### 6. What additional information is available to investors about these "labelled" Funds.

The FCA has introduced a set of new disclosure requirements related to the SDR which aim to provide more transparent and standardised sustainablity-related information to investors, and include the following product-level disclosures for the Funds:

- Pre-Contractual Disclosures additional disclosures in the prospectus will provide detailed information for investors about the sustainability characteristics of the Funds. A copy of the updated prospectus for these Funds is available on our website from 24 March 2025.
- Consumer Facing Disclosure Documents (CFDs) these new documents will provide information for investors on the sustainability characteristics of the Funds in a way that is concise, easily understandable, and in a user-friendly format. A copy of the CFD for each of the Funds will be available on our website from 24 March 2025.
- Product-level sustainability report We will publish detailed information on the Funds' sustainability performance against relevant key performance indicators, on an annual basis. This report will be available on our website 12 months from the Effective Date and annually thereafter, and is intended to provide investors with consistent, comparable information that helps to make informed decisions.

## 7. Unlike the CT Responsible Global Equity Fund, why are other UK-domiciled Responsible Funds unlabelled?

Sustainable investment labels are restricted to products that have specific sustainablity goals. The following funds from our UK-domiciled Responsible range (which employ a primarily exclusion-based framework) don't qualify for a label at this time:

- CT Responsible Sterling Corporate Bond Fund
- CT Responsible UK Equity Fund
- CT Responsible UK Income Fund

In addition, the changes required to the investment objective and policy of the CT Responsible UK Equity Fund and CT Responsible UK Income Fund to meet the labelling criteria would significantly narrow the investment universe of the funds, making the financial objective harder to achieve. It was therefore determined that seeking an SDR label for these funds would not provide the best investment outcome for clients.

The CT Responsible Global Equity Fund already pursues a strategy to invest predominantly in sustainable investments, in addition to its exclusion (negative screening) strategy. It has therefore been determined that this Fund qualifies for a label. Furthermore, given this Fund's global opportunity set, the investment universe remains suitably broad to support both the financial objective of the Fund and the labelling criteria.

#### 8. Will there be an impact on the fees I pay?

There will be no changes to the fees you pay. Columbia Threadneedle Investments will cover all administrative costs related to these changes.

#### 9. Which classes and ISINs are impacted by the changes?

Fund Name:	Share Class Name:	ISIN:
	CT Sustainable Opportunities Global Equity 1 Acc	GB0008464207
CT Sustainable Opportunities	CT Sustainable Opportunities Global Equity L Acc	GB00BMY8DR17
Global Equity Fund	CT Sustainable Opportunities Global Equity 3 Acc	GB00BPBRBX43
	CT Sustainable Opportunities Global Equity C Acc	GB00BYZ62V52

Fund Name:	Share Class Name:	ISIN:
CT Sustainable Global Equity Income Fund	CT Sustainable Global Equity Income Fund C Institutional Inc GBP	GB00BPCS4P91
	CT Sustainable Global Equity Income Fund 4 Institutional Acc GBP	GB00BPCS5C38
	CT Sustainable Global Equity Income Fund 3 Institutional Inc GBP	GB00BPCS4R16
	CT Sustainable Global Equity Income Fund 2 Retail Acc GBP	GB00BPCS4T30
	CT Sustainable Global Equity Income Fund C Institutional Acc GBP	GB00BPCS4S23
	CT Sustainable Global Equity Income Fund 2 Retail Inc GBP	GB00BPCS4Q09
	CT Sustainable Global Equity Income Fund 3 Institutional Acc GBP	GB00BPCS5B21

Fund Name:	Share Class Name:	ISIN:
CT Responsible Global Equity Fund	CT Responsible Global Equity B Acc	GB00BF2VKK50
	CT Responsible Global Equity 2 Inc	GB00B828PQ84
	CT Responsible Global Equity 4 Inc	GB0031873978
	CT Responsible Global Equity 1 Inc	GB0030833767
	CT Responsible Global Equity 1 Acc	GB0030833650
	CT Responsible Global Equity 4 Acc	GB00BD3GLX57
	CT Responsible Global Equity 2 Acc	GB0033145045

Fund Name:	Share Class Name:	ISIN:
CT Sustainable Universal	CT Sustainable Universal MAP Defensive 3 Acc	GB00BMW8RD78
MAP Defensive Fund	CT Sustainable Universal MAP Defensive C Acc	GB00BMW8RF92

Fund Name:	Share Class Name:	ISIN:
CT Sustainable Universal	CT Sustainable Universal MAP Cautious C Acc	GB00BKV44647
MAP Cautious Fund	CT Sustainable Universal MAP Cautious 3 Acc	GB00BKV44530

Fund Name:	Share Class Name:	ISIN:
CT Sustainable Universal	CT Sustainable Universal MAP Balanced C Acc	GB00BKV44860
MAP Balanced Fund	CT Sustainable Universal MAP Balanced 3 Acc	GB00BKV44753

Fund Name:	Share Class Name:	ISIN:
CT Sustainable Universal	CT Sustainable Universal MAP Growth 3 Acc	GB00BKV44977
MAP Growth Fund	CT Sustainable Universal MAP Growth C Acc	GB00BKV44B91

Fund Name:	Share Class Name:	ISIN:
CT Sustainable Universal	CT Sustainable Universal MAP Adventurous C Acc	GB00BMW8RH17
MAP Adventurous Fund	CT Sustainable Universal MAP Adventurous 3 Acc	GB00BMW8RG00

#### 10. What action do I need to take?

You do not need to take any action as a result of these changes.

#### 11. What can I do if I disagree with the changes?

You have a number of options. Should you disagree with the changes you can choose to redeem your shares, or you can switch your investment, free of charge, into another fund(s) in our UK range<sup>3</sup>. Should you decide to redeem or switch your shares, it may trigger a taxable event. We are unable to provide tax advice and we therefore suggest you seek advice from your tax adviser about any potential tax implications before you take any action.

#### 12. Who should I contact if I want to find out more?

If you have any questions regarding this letter or would like more information regarding any of your investments with us, please contact your financial intermediary or telephone us on 0330 123 3798 or on +44 1268 44 3902 if you are calling from outside the UK (calls may be recorded). We are here to help from 9:00am to 5:00pm, Monday to Friday (UK time). Alternatively, you can email us at account.enquiries@columbiathreadneedle.com.

If you are unsure about your investment you should speak to a financial adviser. If you are based in the UK, you can find one in your area by visiting www.unbiased.co.uk – please note we do not endorse individual advisers on the site.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Only funds managed by Columbia Threadneedle Funds Management Limited, are currently available for this purpose. A fund's prospectus or Key Investor Information Document (KIID) (available on our website) will provide this information, please contact us on 0330 123 3798 if you require help establishing the alternative funds available to you.

# For further information visit COLUMBIATHREADNEEDLE.COM/CHANGES

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