

This report is intended to be used by investors to provide an overview of the GHG emissions and climate risk factors associated with their investment. The data available from companies with respect to their emissions and climate action plans is continuously developing, and this report may be subject to change. It should also be read in conjunction with all other reporting and offering documentation. All investment strategies are aligned with the Columbia Threadneedle Investments firm-level TCFD report, unless otherwise stated within this report.

Key facts

Umbrella fund: The Global Smaller Companies PLC
 Data as at: 31 December 2023
 Report currency: USD

Greenhouse gas emissions summary

Portfolio	
Carbon footprint	
Scope 1 & 2	61.78
Scope 3	553.75
Scope 1, 2 & 3	615.53
Weighted average carbon intensity	
Scope 1 & 2	136.68
Scope 3	545.93
Scope 1, 2 & 3	842.18
Total emissions	
Scope 1 & 2	55,106
Scope 3	486,909
Scope 1, 2 & 3	542,015
Data coverage	
Scope 1 & 2 (reported / estimated)	77.12% (54.31% / 22.81%)
Scope 3 (reported / estimated)	76.02% (9.41% / 66.61%)

All data in the table above is provided by our third party provider, MSCI ESG. Please see the glossary included within this report for definitions and calculation methodologies. Coverage includes all investments where data is available to MSCI either through actual company reported information, or an estimated calculation made under the MSCI defined methodology. Derivatives, cash, and sovereign bonds are excluded from all data in the table above, as will be companies or investment types with no data availability. Green bonds have been allocated emissions in line with the parent issuer, as security-level data may not be available on a consistent basis. Where there are green bonds in the portfolio this may therefore overstate the portfolio's overall carbon intensity. Data coverage represents the split between actual reported emissions and estimates used, when calculating emissions data, and is shown for the carbon footprint metric.

Data coverage

CO₂e data coverage depends on several factors. Scope 1 or 2 emissions data is widely available for developed market large cap companies, but more gaps exist in small cap, emerging markets, and private companies. Many companies do not yet report scope 3 information.

In the absence of self-reported data, scope 1, 2 and 3 emissions may be imputed (which is done by our data provider MSCI ESG). To generate an imputed value MSCI relies on assumptions regarding the company's specific geography and sector. To show this nuance, we distinguish between data that is reported/estimated within the total data coverage.

To ensure a minimum representation for climate metrics, TCFD product level reports are only issued for investment portfolios which demonstrate data coverage (estimated and reported) greater than, or equal to 40% of net asset value.

Columbia Threadneedle has an Active Ownership Policy, which includes a thematic focus on climate change for company engagement and shareholder voting. Through this approach, we seek to improve climate-related disclosures across investments made by Columbia Threadneedle. Please visit www.columbiathreadneedle.com for further details on our Active Ownership Policy.

Climate scenario analysis

Information provided is intended to provide an indication of the potential impact to a portfolio from climate risks, under a variety of climate scenarios. These include acute and chronic changes to the climate (“physical risk”), as well as “transition risks”, which can include policy changes, or changes in markets, technology, demand, etc. The scenarios are based on the Network for Greening the Financial System (NGFS) public scenarios and are modelled by MSCI ESG using the REMIND model.

Scenario analysis should always be thought of as an exercise in ‘stress testing’ rather than looking for absolute outcomes and should be considered as part of overall portfolio risk management and not in isolation. Columbia Threadneedle seeks to identify and manage climate risks and opportunities as part of our integration of ESG factors, as set out in our TCFD report.

Orderly transition	Orderly transition scenarios assume climate policies are introduced early and become gradually more stringent, reaching global net zero emissions around 2050. We assume a 1.5°C temperature rise in this scenario.	Portfolio companies in carbon-intensive sectors (such as Energy, Materials, Industrials and Utilities) are vulnerable to transition risks in this scenario, as regulation and policies are immediately set in place to allow for an orderly transition to net zero. Companies that can provide the solutions and services required in a low carbon economy (such as increased demand for renewable energy and emissions reduction technologies) will perform better in this scenario, as opportunities arise from the transition to net zero. Physical risks are lower in the orderly transition scenario, as global temperature rises are limited to about 1.5°C. However, companies should still expect some adverse impacts. Exposure to these impacts will be dependent on geography. Certain regions such as those prone to flooding, storms or heatwaves may be at a higher vulnerability to these impacts.
Disorderly transition	Disorderly transition scenarios assume climate policies are delayed or divergent, requiring sharper emissions reductions achieved at a higher cost and with increased physical risks in order to limit the global temperature rise. We assume a 2°C rise in this scenario.	Portfolio companies in carbon-intensive sectors (such as Materials, Industrials, Utilities and Energy) may be exposed to large transition risks in this scenario, as strong policies, manifested as high carbon prices, are needed to rapidly bring emissions down after initial delays. Carbon prices may increase rapidly from 2030 to 2050, putting companies unable to transition by then at particularly high risk. Transition risks present additional challenges due to regional divergence. In this scenario there could also be more economic volatility and an increase in societal and geopolitical tensions, as a disorderly and sharp impact on carbon-intensive sectors could lead to job layoffs and conflict situations, in particular affecting countries and regions that are dependent on fossil fuel revenues. In this scenario physical risks become more pronounced. Climate models show distinct and regionally diverse increases in physical risks under a 2°C temperature rise, including more heat extremes, heavy precipitation in several regions and the probability of drought and precipitation deficits in other regions. Risks can manifest in many ways, including asset losses or devaluations, increasing insurance premiums, or loss of operation time. Exposure to these impacts will be dependent on geography. Companies that are more resilient to these physical risks are likely to perform better.
Hothouse world	Hothouse world scenarios assume that some climate policies are implemented in some jurisdictions, but global efforts are insufficient to halt significant global warming. Critical temperature thresholds are exceeded, leading to severe physical risks and irreversible impacts. We assume a 3°C rise in this scenario.	In this scenario there is limited regulation and policy, as such risks may not correlate directly to carbon-intensive asset exposure. At 3°C, while regional diversities may remain, climate models predict global impacts will become more pronounced including increased frequency and severity of extreme weather events, such as more frequent and prolonged heatwaves and droughts. Companies in sectors with high exposure to physical risk (such as those with large real estate and infrastructure investment, as well as sectors directly exposed to changes in the climate like Energy, Agriculture, and Tourism) may be exposed to the largest risks. However, physical risks will likely be systemic in this scenario. It is expected that climate impacts will reverberate through global supply-chains. Climate change impacts may also exacerbate multiple other societal and environmental challenges, creating new and hard-to-predict sources of risks and vulnerability.

Appendix

Portfolio historical data

Greenhouse gas emissions summary

Scope	Carbon footprint			Weighted average carbon intensity			Total emissions			Data coverage (Reported / Estimated)	
	1 & 2	3	1, 2 & 3	1 & 2	3	1, 2 & 3	1 & 2	3	1, 2 & 3	1 & 2	3
31 Dec 2022	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

All data in the table above is provided by our third party provider, MSCI ESG. Please see the glossary included within this report for definitions and calculation methodologies. Coverage includes all investments where data is available to MSCI either through actual company reported information, or an estimated calculation made under the MSCI defined methodology. Derivatives, cash, and sovereign bonds are excluded from all data in the table above, as will be companies or investment types with no data availability. Green bonds have been allocated emissions in line with the parent issuer, as security-level data may not be available on a consistent basis. Where there are green bonds in the portfolio this may therefore overstate the portfolio's overall carbon intensity. Data coverage represents the split between actual reported emissions and estimates used, when calculating emissions data, and is shown for the carbon footprint metric.

Glossary

Carbon footprint

- Total carbon emissions for a portfolio normalized by the market value of the portfolio, expressed in tonnes CO₂/\$M invested.

Coverage

- Is the portfolio's percentage of market value consisting of holdings for each applicable metric. Cash, derivatives, sovereign bonds. Fund of funds and asset-backed-securities are excluded from coverage and all climate emission calculations, unless otherwise stated in the case of sovereign bonds.

Data inclusion

- This report contains data related to the Greenhouse Gas emissions (GHGs) and associated climate risks within the portfolio. Due to accessibility or relevance of data for certain investment types, it excludes derivatives to show emissions that have been financed directly by the portfolio only. Sovereign bonds are excluded from the 'Climate Scenario Analysis' section (for all portfolios excluding LDI and sovereign bond funds) to ensure reporting of the GHG emissions of the companies in which the portfolio invests, and to not double count with emissions associated with the country in which those companies operate. Fund of funds and asset backed securities are excluded due to availability of third-party data sources. Cash is also excluded.

Engagement

- Refers to the stewardship activities of our investment professionals in engaging fund-owned security issuers. This includes long-term active dialogue on key topics related to their climate impact.

Net zero

- References to Net Zero are focused on the efforts to reduce generation of CO₂ emissions for our held security issuers to net zero by 2050 with interim target reduction values determined by our Net Zero firmwide reduction policy.

NGFS Scenario

- The NGFS scenarios bring together a harmonised set of transition pathways, physical climate change impacts, and economic indicators that have global coverage and integrated risk assessments. These provide a common reference point for understanding climate risks.

REMIND model

- REMIND (Regional Model of Investment and Development) is a numerical model that represented the future evolution of the world economies. It was developed by the Postdam Institute for Climate Impact Research (PIK) to analyse the interactions between land-use, economy, energy, and climate systems.

Resilience

- We calculate the "resilience" of a portfolio as the range of outcomes for this portfolio between the different climate scenarios, compared to its benchmark (e.g. the changes from the 1.5°C orderly, 2°C disorderly and the 3°C hothouse world total value at risk). If a portfolio has a high range across the three scenarios, we interpret this as having a high level of sensitivity to different future climate outcomes. A "resilient" portfolio in this definition is one that shows low sensitivity to changes across the climate scenarios.

TCFD

- Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures.

Total CO₂e emissions

- Annual GHG emissions, measured in tonnes of CO₂ equivalent (tCO₂e). The measure used is $\Sigma(\text{company's scope 1 and 2 emissions} * \text{amount held}) / \text{Enterprise Value Including Cash (EVIC)}$. This is reported for Scope 1 & 2 together and Scope 3 separately. We give data for the overall portfolio and a comparison with similar data for the index. This measure is influenced not only by the size of issuers and their industries, but also the size of the portfolio. This is reported for Scope 1 & 2 together and Scope 3 separately.

Weighted average carbon intensity (WACI)

- This measures carbon emissions relative to the size of issuers, measured by revenues. The measure used is tonnes of CO₂e emitted (tCO₂e) per \$1M of revenues. We give data for the overall portfolio based on the weightings of the securities held and a comparison with similar data for the index. This is reported for Scope 1 & 2 together and Scope 3 separately.

Disclosures

Certain information ©2024 MSCI ESG Research LLC. Reproduced by permission; no further distribution.

This report contains certain information (the "Information") sourced from MSCI ESG Research LLC, or its affiliates or information providers (the "ESG Parties").

The Information may only be used for your internal use, may not be reproduced or re-disseminated in any form and may not be used as a basis for or a component of any financial instruments or products or indices.

Although they obtain information from sources they consider reliable, none of the ESG Parties warrants or guarantees the originality, accuracy and/or completeness, of any data herein and expressly disclaim all express or implied warranties, including those of merchantability and fitness for a particular purpose. None of the MSCI information is 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, nor should it be taken as an indication or guarantee of any future performance, analysis, forecast or prediction. None of the ESG Parties shall have any liability for any errors or omissions in connection with any data herein, or any liability for any direct, indirect, special, punitive, consequential or any other damages (including lost profits) even if notified of the possibility of such damages.

For your sole use as existing investor only.

The information in this document is, unless otherwise attributed, produced by the investment manager, and is provided to you for information purposes. This document must not be passed on to any third party.

Any commentary in this report represents the opinion of Columbia Threadneedle Investments only at the time of preparation and is subject to change without notice.

Important Information.

Information within this report is provided in accordance with the recommendations of the Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures (TCFD) and also contains supplementary information which may be of interest to investors. Please refer to the current Fund Prospectus, Key Features Document, or Investment Management Agreement for further details, as well as all risks applicable to investing. This material should not be considered as an offer, solicitation, advice, or an investment recommendation. This communication is valid at the date of publication and is subject to change without notice. The information provided in this document is provided for informational purposes and may not be reproduced in any form without the express written permission of Columbia Threadneedle Investments.