

State Street IUT Global Ethical Value Equity Fund Website disclosure for an Article 8 fund



A. Summary

The investment objective of the State Street IUT Global Ethical Value Equity Fund (“**Fund**”) is to seek to outperform the performance of the MSCI World Index (“**Index**”) over the long term. The Fund is managed in line with certain socially responsible standards as defined in the SSGA Ireland Ethical Policy Guidelines.

The Fund promotes environmental or social characteristics, but does not have as its objective a sustainable investment.

For the purposes of attaining the environmental and social characteristics promoted by the Fund, the Fund is managed in line with certain socially responsible standards. As such, a negative and norms-based screen is applied to screen out securities in a number of sectors which include the defence industry, human rights, contraceptives and abortifacients, stem cell research, environment, tobacco, pornography, animal testing for cosmetics and fossil fuels.

The Investment Manager, on behalf of the Fund, will invest actively using a proprietary fundamental research process to identify companies where it believes are undervalued and will manage the Fund in line with certain socially responsible standards described above.

The Investment Manager employs a binding ESG methodology which aims to build a portfolio where at least 90% of the Fund’s assets are invested in securities which are aligned with environmental and social characteristics promoted by the Fund. The remaining portion (<10%) of the portfolio, consisting of cash as well as cash equivalents, including financial derivative instruments employed for efficient portfolio management or hedging purposes, in place held at the Investment Manager’s discretion, will not be aligned with the promoted environmental and social characteristics. To the extent that the Fund may use financial derivative instruments, these will not be used to attain the environmental or social characteristics promoted by the Fund.

The Fund does not commit to making sustainable investments within the meaning of the SFDR or the Taxonomy Regulation.

The attainment of the environmental and social characteristics is measured through the % of the portfolio invested in securities that are included in the negative and norms based screen.

The investment objective of the Fund is to seek to outperform the performance of the Index over the long term. The Fund is managed in line with certain socially responsible standards as defined in the SSGA Ireland Ethical Policy Guidelines including the following areas for exclusion:

- The Defence Industry;
- Human Rights;

- Contraceptives and Abortifacients;
- Stem Cell Research;
- Environment;
- Tobacco;
- Pornography;
- Animal Testing for Cosmetics; and
- Fossil fuels.

Vigeo Eiris software is used to derive the exclusion criteria applied to the Fund.

ESG data may be based on certain assumptions, forecasts, projections, views and opinions which may be based on current market trends or anticipated future events. Given the developing and innovative nature of data models, methodologies and assumptions and the inherent uncertainty in predicting forward-looking events, it cannot be guaranteed that the ESG data is always accurate or correct or that the ESG data will satisfy the aims or requirements of any specific client or investor. Furthermore, there may be data that cannot be sourced due to the lack of availability of data sources.

SSGA's engagement policies are not directly embedded into the Fund's investment strategy. However, SSGA's Asset Stewardship programme consolidates all voting and engagement activities across asset classes, irrespective of investment strategy or geographic region, including for the Fund.

For further information and details please refer to the relevant sections below, the Prospectus and Relevant Supplement.



B. No sustainable investment objective

The Fund promotes environmental or social characteristics, but does not have as its objective a sustainable investment.



C. Environmental or social characteristics of the financial product

For the purposes of attaining the environmental and social characteristics promoted by the Fund, the Fund is managed in line with certain socially responsible standards. As such, a negative and norms-based screen is applied to screen out securities in a number of sectors which include the defence industry, human rights, contraceptives and abortifacients, stem cell research, environment, tobacco, pornography, animal testing for cosmetics and fossil fuels.

For further details of the exclusions applied by the Investment Manager at any time please refer to Section G below.



D. Investment Strategy

The Investment Manager, on behalf of the Fund, will invest actively using a proprietary fundamental research process to identify companies where it believes are undervalued and will manage the Fund in line with certain socially responsible standards described above.

In implementing this strategy, the Investment Manager applies the negative and norms-based screen prior to the construction of the portfolio of the Fund and on an ongoing basis. This results in the exclusion of securities from the portfolio from a number of sectors which include the defence industry, human rights, contraceptives and abortifacients, stem cell research, environment, tobacco, pornography, animal testing for cosmetics and fossil fuels.

The assessment of good governance practices is considered by the Investment Manager as part of the assessment of potential investments when implementing the Investment Objective and Policy of the Fund. The Investment Manager deploys a proprietary governance assessment framework that includes a governance scorecard and a qualitative assessment. The framework considers factors such as board independence, diversity and experience as well as the configuration of executive compensation and accounting and tax compliance. The Investment Manager will only invest in companies that they deem to follow good governance practices.



E. Proportion of investments

The Investment Manager employs a binding ESG methodology which aims to build a portfolio where at least 90% of the Fund's assets are invested in securities which are aligned with environmental and social characteristics promoted by the Fund. The remaining portion (<10%) of the portfolio, consisting of cash as well as cash equivalents, including financial derivative instruments employed for efficient portfolio management or hedging purposes, in place held at the Investment Manager's discretion, will not be aligned with the promoted environmental and social characteristics.

To the extent that the Fund may use financial derivative instruments, these will not be used to attain the environmental or social characteristics promoted by the Fund.

The Fund does not commit to making sustainable investments within the meaning of the SFDR or the Taxonomy Regulation.



F. Monitoring of environmental or social characteristics

The attainment of the environmental and social characteristics is measured through the % of the portfolio invested in securities that are included in the negative and norms based screen.

The environmental and social characteristics are embedded in the investment policy of the Fund and the associated sustainability indicators are monitored by the Investment Manager through its investment oversight program including pre and post-trade compliance monitoring for ESG screens and regular reviews by a sub-committee of the Investment Manager.



G. Methodologies

The investment objective of the Fund is to seek to outperform the performance of the Index over the long term.

The Fund is managed in line with certain socially responsible standards as defined in the SSGA Ireland Ethical Policy Guidelines including the following areas for exclusion:

- 1 The Defence Industry;
- 2 Human Rights;
- 3 Contraceptives and Abortifacients;
- 4 Stem Cell Research;
- 5 Environment;
- 6 Tobacco;
- 7 Pornography;
- 8 Animal Testing for Cosmetics; and
- 9 Fossil fuels.

SSGA Ireland Ethical Policy Guidelines

1. The Defence Industry

- Exclude all companies that derive more than 5% of turnover from military sales.
- Exclude companies involved with the development, production, maintenance, use, distribution, storage, transportation or trade in controversial weapons or key components

2. Human Rights

- Exclude all companies that have made limited or no response to allegations of breaches of universally recognised labour standards on child labour or forced labour in their company or operations in their supply chain.
- Exclude all companies that have made limited or no response to allegations of breaches of universally recognised standards on discrimination in their company or operations in their supply chain.
- Exclude all companies that have made limited or no response to allegations of breaches of universally recognised standards on working hours in their company or operations in their supply chain.

- Exclude all companies that have made limited or no response to allegations of breaches of universally recognised standards on health & safety in their company or operations in their supply chain.

For the above criteria, allegations must meet the Vigeo Eiris definition of high risk

3. Contraceptives and Abortifacients

- Exclude all companies that produce abortifacients or contraceptives.

4. Stem Cell Research

- Exclude all companies that engage in embryonic or foetal stem cell research.
- Exclude all companies that are providing technologies or services that enable research on human stem cells.

5. Environment

- Exclude all companies that have made limited or no response to allegations of breaches of universally recognised standards in the area of biodiversity.

6. Tobacco

- Exclude all companies that derive more than 5% of turnover from the production of tobacco

7. Pornography

- Exclude all companies that derive more than 3% of turnover from pornography or adult entertainment.

8. Animal Testing for Cosmetics

- Exclude all companies that derive more than 10% of turnover from the production of cosmetic products tested on animals.

9. Fossil Fuels

- Exclude all companies that hold fossil fuel reserves.



H. Data sources and processing

Vigeo Eiris software is used to derive the exclusion criteria applied to the Fund and the Investment Manager reviews securities against the SSGA Ireland Ethical Policy Guidelines applied in the Vigeo-Eiris software.

The quality controls and data integrity of the ESG data provider is assessed as part of SSGA's due diligence on the provider.



I. Limitations to methodologies and data

ESG data may be based on certain assumptions, forecasts, projections, views and opinions which may be based on current market trends or anticipated future events. To assess company involvement in different activities and to estimate revenue shares as accurately as possible, data providers strive to obtain information directly from companies and issuers. Sources of data include annual reports, regulatory filings, sustainability reports, press releases, investor presentations, company websites, and other company disclosures. Given the developing and innovative nature of data models, methodologies and assumptions and the inherent uncertainty in predicting forward-looking events, it cannot be guaranteed that the ESG data is always accurate or correct or that the ESG data will satisfy the aims or requirements of any specific client or investor. Furthermore, there may be data that cannot be sourced due to the lack of availability of data sources.



J. Due diligence

The Investment Manager, on behalf of the Fund, will invest actively using a proprietary fundamental research process to identify companies where it believes are undervalued and will manage the Fund in line with certain socially responsible standards described in Section G.

The Fund will typically invest in equities of companies in the Index, but may invest any portion of its assets in other companies. Because the Fund is actively managed and seeks to outperform the Index, its holdings will differ from the Index, and it is not a traditional “indexed” investment. The Fund’s return will typically differ from, and may under-perform, the return of the Index.



K. Engagement policies

Is engagement part of the environmental or social investment strategy?

Yes

No

While SSGA engagement policies are not directly embedded into the Fund’s investment strategy, for SSGA the informed exercise of voting rights coupled with targeted and value-driven engagement is the most effective mechanism of creating value and managing Sustainability Risk for the investors. SSGA’s Asset Stewardship programme consolidates all voting and engagement activities across asset classes, irrespective of investment strategy or geographic region. The engagement strategy is built on SSGA’s ability to prioritise and allocate resources to companies and issues that have the greatest potential impact. SSGA’s Asset Stewardship programme is underpinned by 3 separate pillars, that is, (i) providing information and guidance to investee companies on the development of

ESG practices across key issues, (ii) engaging with portfolio companies to encourage transparent, accountable, high performing boards and companies, and (iii) by exercising voting rights in a manner that reflects long term investment objectives for the purpose of influencing the activity or behaviour of the issuers. To support this process, SSGA has developed proprietary in-house tools to help identify companies for active engagement based on various financial and ESG indicators.



L. Reference benchmark

Has a reference benchmark been designated for the purpose of attaining these characteristics promoted by the Fund?

- Yes
- No

The MSCI World Index is a trademark of MSCI Inc.