## Schroders

# Sustainable Investing: Too important to ignore

Marketing material for professional investors and advisors only. Not for redistribution under any circumstances. Environmental, Social and Governance is referred to as ESG throughout the presentation.

November 2019



## A perfect storm

### Accelerating change

Average tenure in the S&P 500 has dropped from 50 years to under 15 years over the last five decades

### Regulatory scrutiny

Sustainable finance at the forefront of policymakers' agenda

## Global challenges

Require finance's involvement to solve

### Client pressure

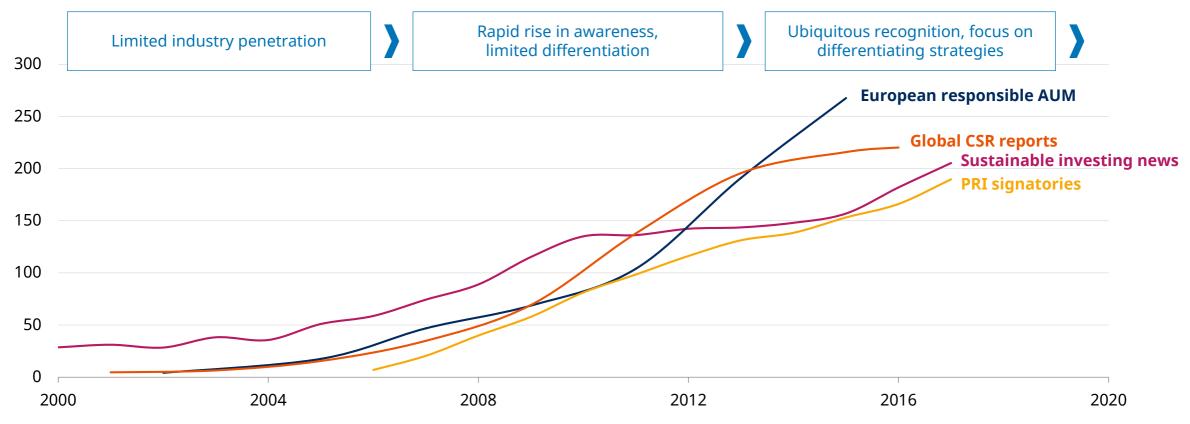
Savers are increasingly focused on sustainabilityrelated issues

Source: Schroders

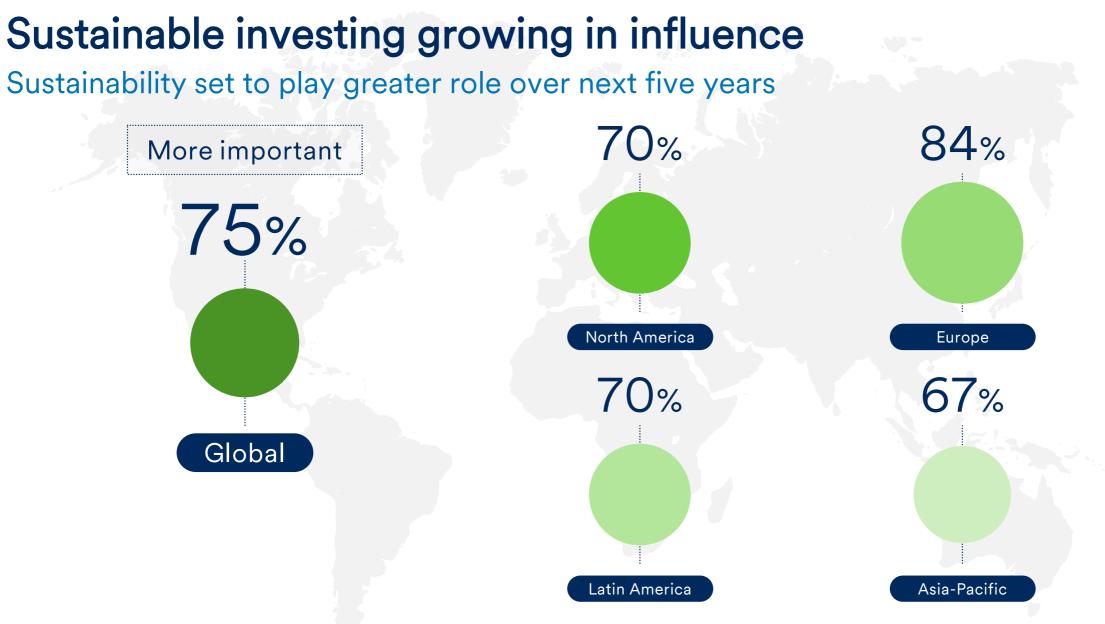
## Sustainable investing is no longer niche

Interest, demand and sophistication are on the rise

#### Indexed, 2007 to 2017 average = 100



Source: Hightail (news search for articles containing 'sustainable investing' relative to all articles referring to 'investing', Principles for responsible investment (number of signatories) and EuroSIF (combined AUM invested in different ESG strategies, adjusted for double-counting).

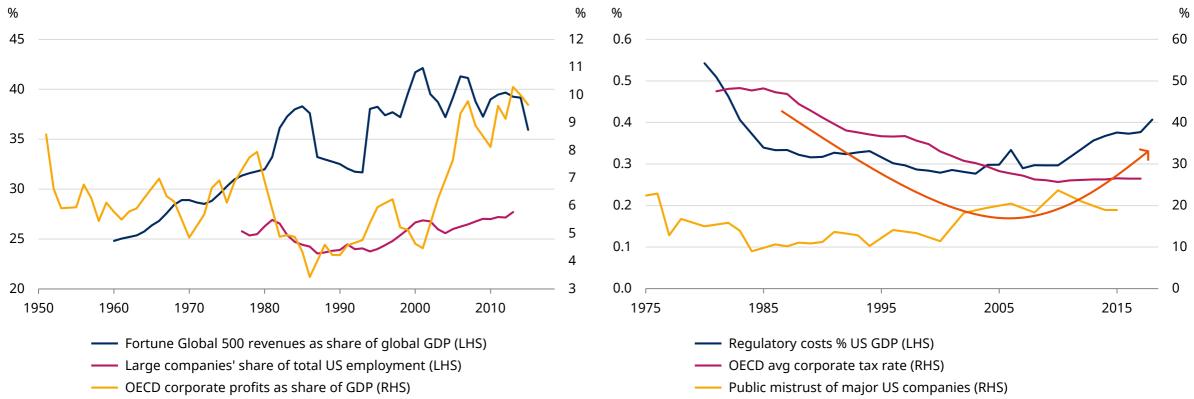


Source: Schroders Institutional Investor Study 2019. How do you expect the role of sustainable investments to change in the next five years?

## Social impacts are becoming financial costs

As their role has expanded, large businesses face growing pressures

Large companies have become 20–30% more important to economies and societies over last 20y



Growing pressures to contribute to societies; irresponsible behaviour is becoming a liability

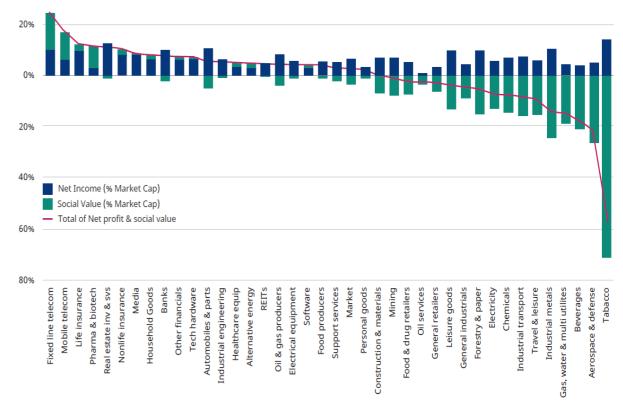
Source: Fortune, IMF, OECD, BEA, Gulling et al., OECD tax database, General Social Survey, American Action Forum, Heritage Foundation, Schroders calculations and estimates. Note: data from Fortune is not available prior to the 1990s; we have estimated the equivalent values, using data from Thomson Reuters.

## The risks are real

## Companies are facing significant headwinds

- Companies are facing growing social and regulatory headwinds
- The scale of the externalities companies impose has grown so large that in many industries, those costs exceed their total earnings.
- Earnings listed companies generate for shareholders currently total US\$4.1 trillion, which would fall by 55% to US\$1.9 trillion if those social impacts crystallized as financial costs.
- One third of companies would become loss-making. The risk to profit pools and competitive positions is clear.

### Social value & net profit, both as a % of MV





Variety of definitions

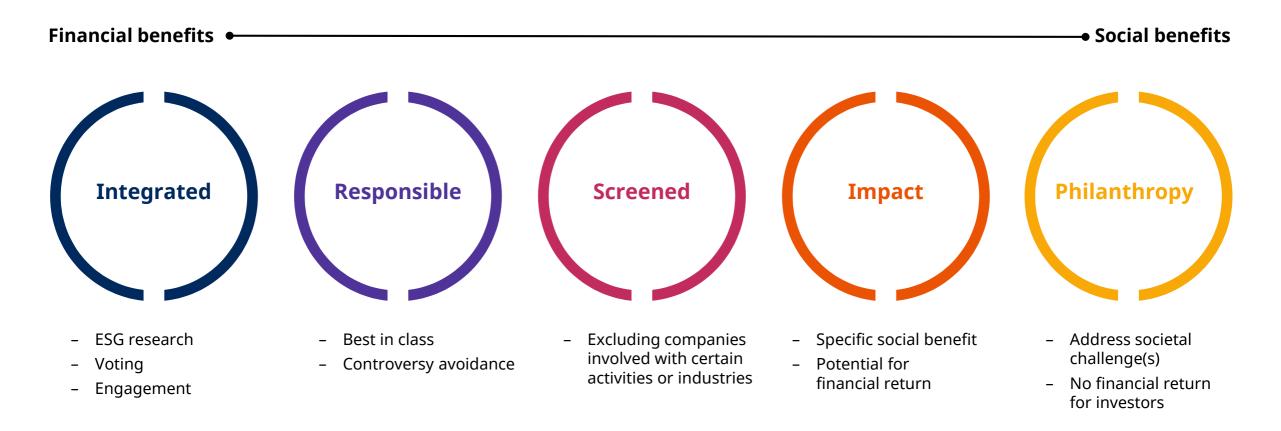
Off the shelf solutions have not added alpha Complex issues covered Low transparency Limited understanding of risk around issues like climate



Source: Schroders.

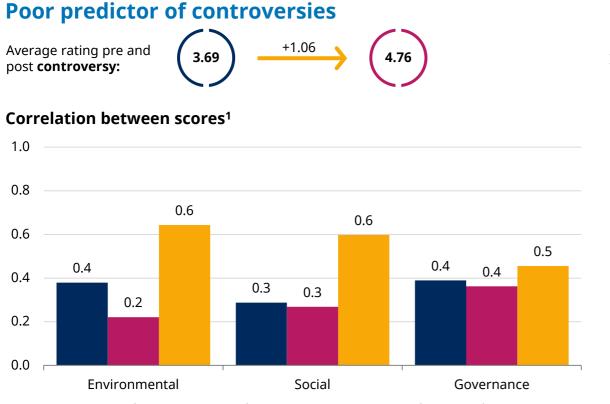
## The broad spectrum of sustainability and ESG

## Not all sustainability is the same



# ESG analysis: the need for a proprietary approach

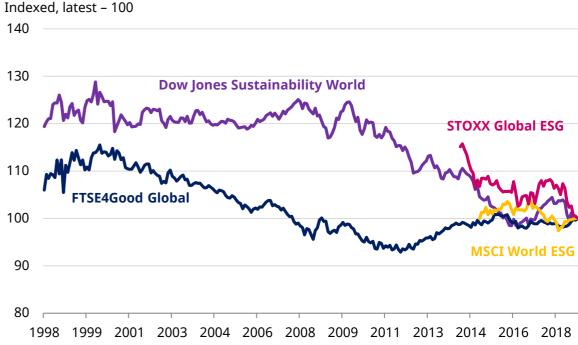
Third party ratings are backwards-looking, opaque and inconsistent



MSCI vs. Sustainalytics MSCI vs. Thomson Reuters Sustainalytics vs. Thomson Reuters

#### Passive ESG has a poor track record

Performance of common ESG indices relative to conventional equivalent<sup>2</sup>



### Ratings are opaque and inconsistent

Past performance is not a guide to future performance and may not be repeated. The value of investments and the income from them may go down as well as up and investors may not get back the amounts originally invested.

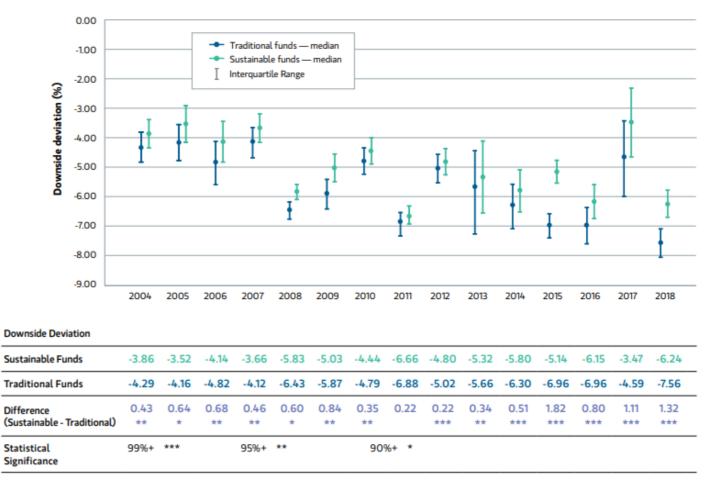
<sup>1</sup>Source: Thomson Reuters, Schroders calculations. <sup>2</sup>Source: Thomson Datastream, as at 1 November 2018.

## Key findings

- No consistent and statistically significant difference in total returns
- Sustainable funds experienced a 20% smaller downside deviation than traditional funds

## **The proof** Performance of 11,000 mutual funds 2004 - 2018

#### Median downside deviation of sustainable and traditional funds



Source: Morgan Stanley Institute for Sustainable Investing "Sustainable Reality: Analyzing Risk and Returns of Sustainable Funds", 2019.

## Reporting

## Portfolio level reporting with different sustainability lenses



## Sustainability at Schroders

## Our approach

#### **ESG integration**

30

We seek to integrate ESG factors into our research and investment decisions across asset classes

## 17

dedicated ESG specialists

With

>150 years<sup>1</sup>

combined investment experience

### **A+**

UN PRI Assessment<sup>2</sup>

#### Engagement

We actively engage with companies on material ESG issues to enhance our analysis or to seek improvements in performance

2,200+

Engagements

Across

50

countries globally

### Voting

We assess resolutions and apply our voting policy and guidelines as outlined in our ESG policy

5,227

company meetings voted

**99**%

valid resolutions voted

#### Tools

We develop proprietary tools to help translate structural trends into actionable investment implications

### 10

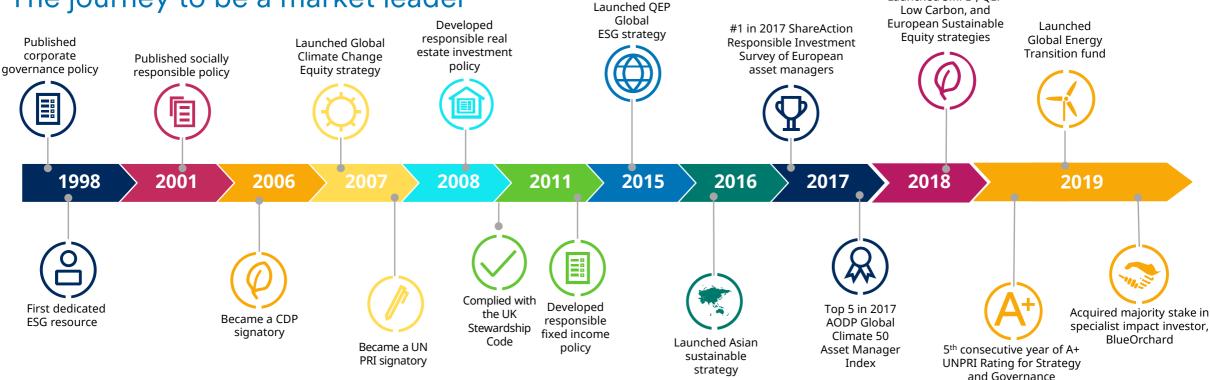
Internal dashboards for our analysts and portfolio managers

Source: Schroders, as at 30 June 2019 unless otherwise stated. <sup>1</sup>As at 4 March 2019. <sup>2</sup>PRI, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018 and 2019 Assessment Reports.



# Sustainability at Schroders

## The journey to be a market leader



'Issues such as climate change, resource scarcity, population growth and corporate failure have put responsible investment at the forefront of investors' minds. We believe that companies with a strong environmental, social and governance ethos tend to deliver better results for our clients.' Peter Harrison, Group Chief Executive, Schroders plc

Source: Schroders, as at 30 July 2019. A+ based on PRI Assessment. Not all strategies are available to US investors. <sup>1</sup>Sustainable Multi-Factor Equity

### **Schroders**

Launched SMFE<sup>1</sup>, QEP

## Climate change: a holistic approach

#### **Climate Progress Dashboard**



Analysis of future temperature changes given the current rate of progress across policy, finance, innovation and incumbent industry.

### Carbon VAR



Systematic analysis of transition risk assuming a \$100 carbon price.

Allows for better like for like comparisons given supply chain analysis.

### **Physical Risk**



Forecasts of medium term exposure to climate reacted weather events.

#### Engagement



Pressure on companies to raise transparency, adopt TCFD and have scenario planning. Member of the Climate Action 100, Powering Past Coal Alliance.

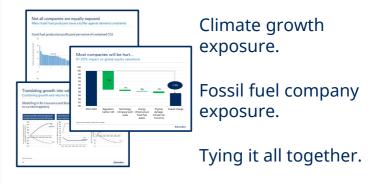
Non-executive director education.

#### **Reporting and Transparency**





#### **Future Areas of Research**



Source: Schroders

## The benefits of a sustainable approach

### **Investment insight**

A deeper understanding of how the world is changing that can evolve over time

### **Delivering alpha**

A forward looking approach to sustainability that reflects economic evidence

### **Better stewardship**

Active ownership to mitigate the risks that can not be eliminated

### **Investment focused**

Products that meet beneficiary expectations in performance and sustainability terms

The views and opinions contained herein are those of the Schroders Sustainable Investment team and are subject to change. No investment strategy or technique can guarantee future results.



## **Schroders**



## **Questions?**

## Important information

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Schroders Institutional Investor Study 2018 was conducted between 1 – 30 June 2018. This study was commissioned by Schroders and undertaken by an independent research agency, CoreData Research, to study institutional investors across North America, Europe, Latin America and Asia to analyze their attitudes towards sustainable investments, investment objectives and risk. Respondents represent a variety of institutions, including pension funds, foundations, endowments and sovereign wealth funds. The 650 institutional respondents were sourced from 15 different countries and were split as follows: 175 in North America, 250 in Europe, 175 in Asia and 50 in Latin America.

Schroders Global Investor Study was conducted between 20 March – 23 April 2018. Schroders commissioned Research Plus Ltd to conduct an independent online study of over 22,000 people in 30 countries around the world, including Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, France, Germany, India, Italy, Japan, the Netherlands, Spain, UAE, the UK and the US. This research defines 'people' as those who will be investing at least €10,000 (or the equivalent) in the next 12 months and who have made changes to their investments within the last 10 years.

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