

Allspring Climate Transition Fixed Income Strategies

MARKETING COMMUNICATION



FOR PROFESSIONAL/QUALIFIED INVESTORS ONLY





Harness Allspring's proven investment process and track record

Allspring's global fixed income platform is anchored by our commitment to active management, deep fundamental research and stringent risk management. We are purposely structured to give our teams the freedom to make independent decisions for each portfolio whilst encouraging the seamless exchange of ideas and practices. We target attractive income and risk-adjusted returns by employing a disciplined methodology that features rigorous analysis, high-impact security selection and consistent alpha generation.

US\$503 billion

AUM globally¹

US\$422 billion

Fixed income AUM globally¹

US\$41 billion

AUM in investment-grade credit globally

62

Fixed income portfolio managers globally

US \$23 billion

AUM in US buy & maintain credit

50

Global fixed income research analysts covering > 2,250 credits globally

US\$15 billion

AUM in sustainable credit globally²

20

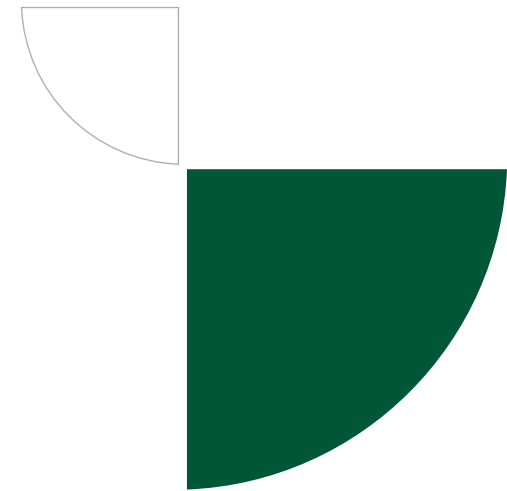
Members of our Climate Change Working Group across the company

US\$4.6 billion

AUM in high yield credit globally

US\$4.4 billion

AUM in climate transition credit strategies



Source: Allspring and affiliates. All data as of 31-Mar-24 unless otherwise stated. ¹Figure represents the Stable Value assets under management of Galliard Capital Management, an affiliate advisor that is not part of the Allspring GIPS firm (\$65B Stable Value; the remaining \$18B of Galliard's assets under management are represented within Global Aggregate/Investment Grade). Total fixed income assets US\$168B. Allspring Money Market AUM US\$190B. ² Defined as fixed income mandates with ESG exclusions, objectives, SFDR Article 8, or other requirements.



As the world transitions towards net-zero emissions, new potential opportunities and risks are opening up across markets. We believe investors need to consider repositioning their portfolios to seek to capture new opportunities and manage attendant risks. As pioneers in this specialist area, Allspring developed our proprietary Climate Transition Framework over three years ago, which we married with our deep fixed income expertise through a suite of climate transition credit strategies.

Our global climate transition strategies seek to:

- 01 Decarbonise the real economy**
- 02 Decarbonise the portfolio**
- 03 Prioritise engagement over exclusions**

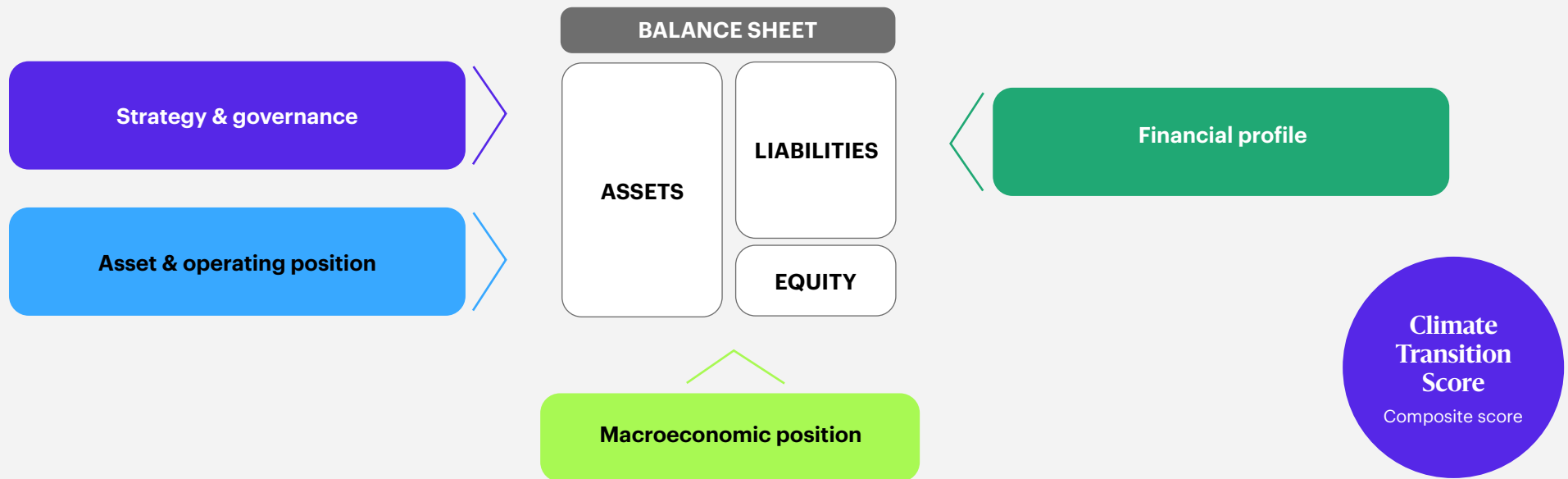


01 Decarbonise the real economy

With 50 global fixed income research analysts, we use fundamental analysis and security selection as the primary drivers of alpha generation. Consistent with this approach, we've developed the Climate Transition Framework to evaluate two forward-looking questions for each company we analyse: (1) to what extent does the company contribute to decarbonisation, and (2) how will decarbonisation affect the entity's fundamental strength?

Using proprietary data and systems, our analysts fully integrate four primary categories of climate risk and opportunity—based on dozens of climate risk metrics—into their holistic, forward-looking view of the company. Companies that stand to make the most meaningful contributions to decarbonisation whilst benefitting fundamentally are prioritised in security selection. Companies that fare poorly in our climate transition assessment do not typically form part of the portfolios.

FIGURE 1: CLIMATE CHANGE CAN AFFECT COMPANY FUNDAMENTALS



02 Decarbonise the portfolio

Our clients increasingly want to decarbonise their assets, and our climate transition strategies enable this. Our strategies align with a transparent, consensus-based trajectory that is part of European Union climate benchmark policies. Key features include targeting an overall carbon intensity for the portfolio that has an initial reduction of at least 30% below the benchmark and thereafter aims to fully decarbonise by 2050.

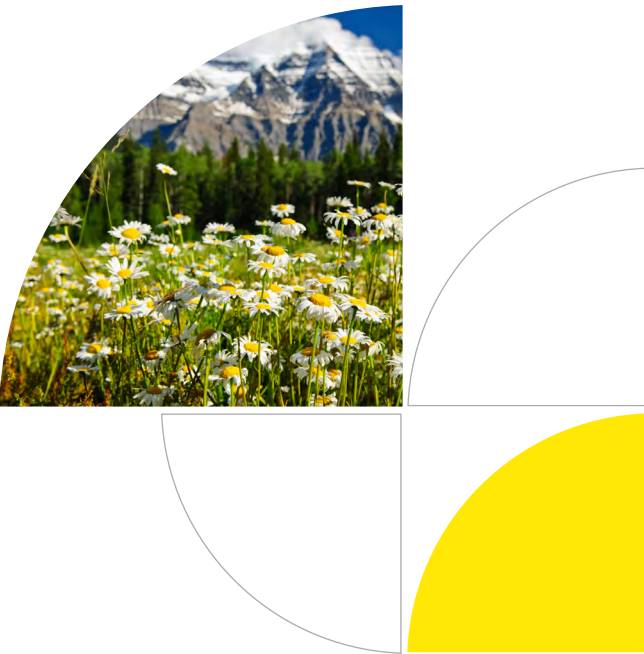
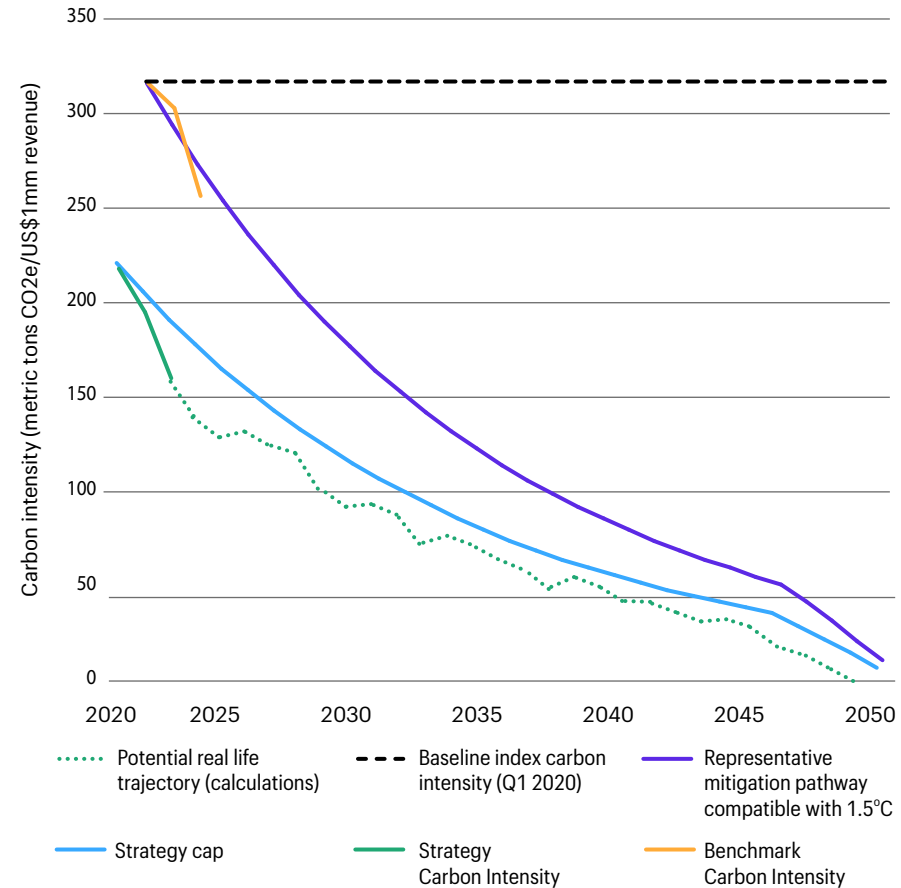


FIGURE 2: WE AIM TO DECARBONISE PORTFOLIOS ALONG A PRESET TRAJECTORY



For illustrative purposes only. Portfolio represented is the Allspring Climate Transition Global Investment Grade Credit strategy. Sources: Allspring, Trucost, Bloomberg Company Materials and Bloomberg Indexes, as of 31-Mar-23



03 Prioritise engagement over exclusions to optimise performance

Targeted exclusions to optimise security selection

Broad industrywide exclusions often miss opportunities to invest in the most quickly decarbonising companies that are outperforming financially in the process. Our Exclusion Working Group meets on a regular basis to ensure our core environmental, social and governance (ESG) exclusions criteria remain fit for purpose and aligned with evolving expectations. These criteria have been defined to ensure alignment with market expectations of business activities fundamentally incompatible with ESG-focused investment products that target adherence to a minimum set of core exclusion criteria.

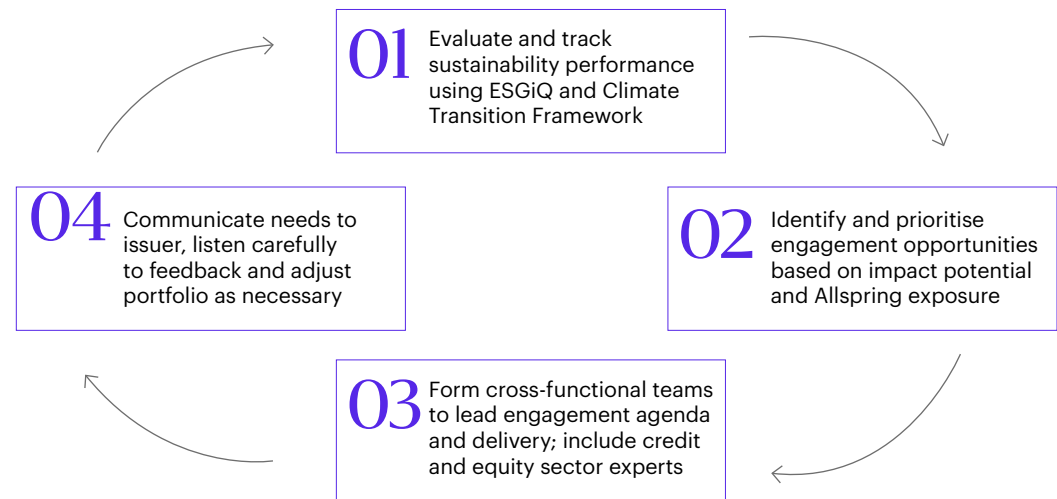
ESGiQ: Allspring's ESG Risk Assessment Framework

ESGiQ is a proprietary rating system we created to assess ESG risk. Our methodology enhances data from third-party providers with our analysts' in-depth sector knowledge and expertise. The rating frame leverages high-quality ESG data and analyses from leading external data providers, enabling broader coverage than what is available from a single provider. Assessment by our fundamental investment analysts complements the vended data to ensure timeliness as well as capturing trends. We use a simple 1-through-5 scale, with 5 being the best, to articulate our assessment.

Collaborative and independent engagement

We use corporate engagement as an essential active management tool to maximise the long-term value of our clients' capital whilst influencing corporate behaviour around net-zero and other initiatives. These engagement efforts deepen our understanding of companies' operations and priorities. They also provide a platform to influence companies on material issues such as climate and disclosure. We prioritise corporate engagement by potential to influence, taking into account strategy-level exposure, our Allspring overall exposure, as well as the systemic importance of the company itself to climate change.

ENGAGE TO OPTIMISE RISK-ADJUSTED PERFORMANCE





Applying climate transition strategies to meet investors' specific needs

Investors can use our climate transition credit strategies for global or regional exposure and across various investment approaches. Our Climate Transition Global Investment Grade Credit, Climate Transition Short Duration Global Investment Grade Credit, Climate Transition Global Buy & Maintain and Climate Transition Global High Yield strategies share similar climate goals but have a range of financial goals that vary by asset class and investment style.

ALLSPRING'S CLIMATE TRANSITION STRATEGIES

| | CLIMATE TRANSITION GLOBAL SHORT DURATION INVESTMENT GRADE CREDIT | CLIMATE TRANSITION GLOBAL INVESTMENT GRADE CREDIT | CLIMATE TRANSITION GLOBAL BUY & MAINTAIN | CLIMATE TRANSITION GLOBAL HIGH YIELD |
|-----------------------|--|--|---|---|
| Strategy descriptions | Provide performance and risk metrics similar to a typical short duration investment-grade credit strategy | Provide performance and risk metrics similar to a typical investment-grade credit strategy | Provide cash flow and risk characteristics similar to a typical investment-grade buy and maintain portfolio | Provide performance and risk metrics similar to a typical high yield credit strategy |
| Investment objectives | Seeks total return, maximising investment income whilst preserving capital; promotes environmental and social characteristics but does not have a sustainable investment objective | Seeks total return, maximising investment income whilst preserving capital; promotes environmental and social characteristics but does not have a sustainable investment objective | Seeks total return, minimising turnover whilst preserving capital; promotes environmental and social characteristics but does not have a sustainable investment objective | Seeks total return, consisting of a high level of income and capital appreciation; promotes environmental and social characteristics but does not have a sustainable investment objective |
| Time horizon goals | Consistent outperformance over multi-year horizons | Consistent outperformance over multi-year horizons | Consistent returns over time with limited credit migration | Consistent outperformance over multi-year horizons |
| Investment focus | A benchmark-aware approach provides flexibility to focus on less-efficient sectors of the market to generate alpha | A benchmark-aware approach provides flexibility to focus on less-efficient sectors of the market to generate alpha | A benchmark-aware approach tailored to client risk-adjusted return with low portfolio turnover | A benchmark-aware approach provides flexibility to focus on less-efficient sectors of the market to generate alpha |
| Diversification | The strategy will be broadly diversified from a credit quality, country, sector and security point of view | The strategy will be broadly diversified from a credit quality, country, sector and security point of view | The strategy will be broadly diversified from a credit quality, country, sector and security point of view | The strategy will be broadly diversified from a credit quality, country, sector and security point of view |
| Strategy benchmarks | Bloomberg Global Aggregate Corporate 1-5 Year Index | Bloomberg Global Aggregate Corporate Index (USD hedged) | ICE BofA Sterling Corporate Index | ICE BofA Developed Markets High Yield Constrained Index (USD hedged) |
| Vehicle availability | Mandate | Mandate Lux Fund* | Mandate Lux Fund* | Mandate Lux Fund* |
| Strategy inception | 01-Jan-21 | 01-Jan-21 | 01-Sep-23 | 01-Jul-23 |

Note: *Fund, share class and currency availability vary by jurisdiction. Please contact your Allspring representative for more information.





Allspring's climate transition credit suite of strategies are designed to:

- 01** Balance both financial and climate goals for each portfolio.
- 02** Start with fundamental analysis at the heart of each strategy, which is guided by the Allspring Climate Transition framework.
- 03** Aim to decarbonise in spirit with the EU Climate Transition Benchmark (CTB) pathway to reach net-zero carbon emissions by 2050 with an initial reduction in intensity of at least 30% below the reference benchmark.
- 04** Focus on engagement and apply limited, targeted exclusions.
- 05** Offer distinct solution vehicles for a variety of clients looking to partner on achieving climate transition investing goals.

For further information



We're committed to thoughtful investing, purposeful planning, and the desire to deliver outcomes that expand above and beyond financial gains. Visit our website at www.allspringglobal.com.

Contact details

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To reach our EMEA- and APAC-based investment professionals, contact us at **AllspringInternational@allspringglobal.com**.

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- To reach our intermediary sales professionals, contact your dedicated regional director, or call us at **+1-866-701-2575**.
- To reach our institutional investment professionals, contact your existing client relations director, or email us at **AllspringInstitutional@allspringglobal.com**.
- To reach our retirement professionals, contact your dedicated defined contribution investment only specialist, or call us at **+1-800-368-1370**.

FOR SUSTAINABLE INVESTING

To discuss sustainable investing solutions, contact **Henrietta Pacquement**, head of Sustainability, and **Jamie Newton**, deputy head of Sustainability, at **henrietta.pacquement@allspringglobal.com** and **jamie.newton@allspringglobal.com**.

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