

T. ROWE PRICE FUNDS SICAV

Global Investment Grade Corporate Bond Fund – ESG Report

Providing transparency on Environment, Social and Governance aspects of the Fund

As at 31 December 2023

ESG INTEGRATION APPROACH

- The Global Investment Grade Corporate Bond Fund uses ESG integration as part of its investment process. This means incorporating environmental, social, and governance factors to enhance investment decisions. Our philosophy is that ESG factors are a component of the investment decision—meaning that they are not the sole driver of an investment decision, nor are they considered separately from more traditional analysis.
- The process of ESG integration takes place on two levels: first, with our research analysts as they incorporate environmental, social and governance factors into issuer valuations and ratings; and, second, with the portfolio manager as he balances these ESG factor exposures at the portfolio level. Both the analysts and portfolio manager are able to leverage dedicated, in-house resources to assist them in analyzing ESG criteria.
- Our ESG specialist teams provide investment research on ESG issues at the company level and on thematic topics. Additionally, they have built tools to help proactively and systematically analyze the environmental, social, and governance factors that could impact our investments. The foundation of the analysis is a proprietary flagging tool called the Responsible Investing Indicator Model (RIIM). It covers over 15,000 companies and pulls from data sets that are not in the wheelhouse of traditional financial analysis. These data sets include:
 - ESG performance data (e.g., number of accidents, carbon emissions, strength of whistle-blower programs, etc.);
 - ESG targets (e.g., plans to reduce carbon emissions, increase diversity, etc.)
 - ESG incidents and controversies (e.g., environmental fines paid, local community controversies/protests against a company, etc.)
- The fund is constructed on the basis of identifying the best risk/reward opportunities from the global fixed income universe. Key to this is proprietary bottom-up research that includes the assessment of ESG factors by our analysts who work in collaboration with the dedicated ESG specialist team. We complement this approach with regular screening of the portfolio using T. Rowe Price's proprietary RIIM analysis. This helps us understand the ESG characteristics of the portfolio and makes us aware of any elevated exposures to specific ESG factors from a risk management perspective.
- The fund is classified as Article 8 according to the Sustainable Finance Disclosure Regulation. Although the fund does not have sustainable investment as an objective, the promotion of environmental and social characteristics is achieved through the fund's commitment to maintain at least 10% of the value of its portfolio invested in Sustainable Investments. The fund avoids issuers whose activities we may consider harmful to the environment and/or society through the application of our proprietary screen, the T. Rowe Price Responsible Exclusion List.

INVESTMENT OBJECTIVE: To maximise the value of its shares through both growth in the value of, and income from, its investments.

INVESTMENT PROCESS: The fund is actively managed and invests mainly in a diversified portfolio of investment-grade corporate bonds from issuers around the world, including emerging markets. Although the fund does not have sustainable investment as an objective, the promotion of environmental and/or social characteristics is achieved through the fund's commitment to maintain at least 10% of the value of its portfolio invested in sustainable investments, as defined by the SFDR. In addition to the E/S characteristics promoted, the fund also applies the investment manager's proprietary responsible screen (the T. Rowe Price Responsible Exclusion List). The fund may use derivatives for hedging, efficient portfolio management and investment purposes. The fund may also use derivatives to create synthetic short positions in debt securities and credit indices. For full investment objective and policy details refer to the prospectus. The manager is not constrained by the fund's benchmark, which is used for performance comparison purposes only.

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RECENT COMPANY ENGAGEMENTS

We maintain a regular dialogue with the management teams of companies represented across the portfolio. Our investment-driven engagement program frequently identifies targets through our proprietary RIIM analysis, governance screening and analysts' fundamental research. While we engage with companies in a variety of different contexts, ESG engagement focuses on learning about, encouraging or exchanging perspectives on the environmental practices, corporate governance or social issues affecting their business.

While most of the meetings we hold with company managements will include some discussion of ESG topics, we differentiate meetings held with a heavy focus on ESG, meaning ESG issues were the sole items on the agenda or made up a meaningful part of the meeting. Agenda items are classified as "meaningful" when they take up a significant portion of the meeting or are a significant factor in the investment case.

The following are selected examples of recent engagements with companies held in or considered for the portfolio. The examples are not meant to be representative of every engagement held, but to illustrate the types of ESG engagements we are having with the managements of our investment companies.

UnitedHealth (4th Quarter 2023 Engagement)

Focus	Social
Company Description	UnitedHealth is a leading U.S. health insurer.
Engagement Objective	We engaged with UnitedHealth on impact and ESG disclosures.
Participants	<p>From UnitedHealth: Chief Financial Officer, Sustainability Representative, Investor Relations Representative, Senior Deputy Legal Counsel</p> <p>From T. Rowe Price: Investment Analyst, Impact Analyst, Responsible Investing Analyst</p>
Engagement Outcome	<p>We engaged with UnitedHealth to discuss how it could build on its existing disclosures to further evidence its impact in future reporting and improve ESG disclosures on a range of other topics.</p> <p>UnitedHealth leads the managed care industry in impact measurement, with the broadest range of impact key performance indicators (KPIs) of any of its peers. Additionally, the company has set four impact targets: (a) 85% of its members will receive preventive care services annually by 2030; (b) 55%+ of its outpatient surgeries and radiology services will be delivered at high-quality, cost-efficient sites of care by 2030; (c) the company will close 600 million gaps in care by the end of FY25; and (d) invest USD 100 million in new partnerships that advance a diverse health workforce by 2033.</p> <p>The company has added additional disclosure on the rationale and progress toward each of these commitments in this year's disclosure, further strengthening its impact reporting.</p> <p>We revisited our discussion from one year ago, focused on the company's "care gaps closed" objective. We again expressed our interest in additional disclosure on the types of care gap closed, split either by disease type or focused on the demographic mix of patients for whom care gaps have been closed. UnitedHealth highlighted health equity as an area the company itself has been seeking to better examine and seemed receptive to including additional disclosure on the type of care gaps closed split by socioeconomic characteristics. We also highlighted detailed KPIs disclosed by rival health insurer Humana, related to value-based care outcomes, which we suggested may also be beneficial for UnitedHealth to disclose in the future.</p> <p>UnitedHealth has included additional reporting on human capital management in this year's sustainability report. The company has further strengthened its offer to employees (e.g., increasing parental leave, improving health benefits, investing in employee well-being) and, combined with wider labor market conditions, this has contributed to voluntary turnover declining by around 4 percentage points from 18% in 2022.</p> <p>We highlighted additional transparency on the company's approach to business ethics and employee compliance (e.g., quantitative KPIs on code of conduct violations, substantiated allegations) and data privacy (e.g., information on ISO 27001 certification, or standards to manage information security) as two topics where existing disclosure could be further strengthened.</p> <p>The engagement allowed us to share our view of best practices on impact and request additional transparency from the company on its care gaps closed target. We also imparted our view on where the company could further improve ESG disclosures, namely in relation to business ethics and data privacy.</p>

The specific securities identified and described do not represent all of the securities purchased, sold, or recommended for the SICAV sub-fund, and no assumption should be made that the securities identified and discussed were or will be profitable.

Banco de Sabadell (4th Quarter 2023 Engagement)

Focus	Environment, Social
Company Description	Banco de Sabadell (Sabadell) is a multinational banking group headquartered in Spain.
Engagement Objective	We engaged with the bank on climate strategy, financial inclusion, and its sustainable bond framework.
Participants	From Banco de Sabadell: Head of ESG Communications; Investor Relations Representative From T. Rowe Price: Responsible Investing Analyst
Engagement Outcome	<p>We provided recommendations on how Sabadell can improve its climate strategy and reporting of financial inclusion metrics.</p> <p>Financed emission targets: The bank's climate strategy is in line with European averages, with a 2050 net zero target and 2030 interim targets on the high-emitting coal, electricity, oil and gas, and cement sectors. However, its peers continue to set financed emission reduction targets on additional sectors and the investor expectation is for European banks to now have targets on six to seven sectors, with targets across the nine most greenhouse gas-intensive sectors by April 2024. We recommended the bank set additional financed emission reduction targets to bring it in line with peers, and Sabadell intends to release further targets ahead of its next ESG report.</p> <p>Client engagement: Sabadell falls behind peers, with no evidence of a framework in place to evaluate the credibility of clients' transition plans. The bank explained it requires customers to complete an ESG know-your-client (KYC) questionnaire. The output of this questionnaire may impact the bank's pricing and risk weights tied to the loan, as well as its eventual willingness to bank with the customer. We recommended the bank provide detail about this framework in its upcoming ESG report and pointed to examples of peers demonstrating best practice.</p> <p>Sustainable finance: The bank is on course to meet its 2025 EUR 65 billion sustainable financing target, with EUR 45 billion financed as of the third quarter of 2023. Sabadell is also aiming for 60% of new lending by 2025 to be in a sustainable format. It believes it has a competitive advantage in providing green solutions to small and medium-sized enterprises where it has a 20% market share (versus 10% market share across traditional loans).</p> <p>Financial inclusion: Sabadell has a 2025 goal to provide EUR 15 billion in social financing to micro-enterprises. We recommended the bank measure the "impact" of this financing, such as the number of jobs supported/created or gross domestic product contribution from the recipients. The bank also walked through its wider financial inclusion initiatives, including educating students and vulnerable individuals on banking solutions, as well as providing basic banking accounts to individuals.</p> <p>Sustainable bond framework: The bank is currently updating its sustainable bond framework (last updated in 2020) to align with evolving market standards, and we provided several recommendations on what investors deem best practice. We also discussed the viability of the banking sector issuing transition-labeled bonds to help facilitate capital to finance the transition.</p> <p>The engagement allowed us to provide several recommendations relating to Sabadell's climate strategy, client engagement, financial inclusion, and ESG bonds efforts, in order to align the bank more closely with regional best practice.</p>

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ESG RIIM PROFILE

The T. Rowe Price Responsible Investing Indicator Model (RIIM) rates companies, governments and securitized assets in a traffic light system measuring their environmental, social, and governance profile and flagging issuers with elevated risks. For certain types of investments, including, but not limited to, cash, currency positions, and particular types of derivatives, an ESG analysis may not be relevant or possible due to a lack of data. Where ESG considerations are integrated into the investment research process, we may conclude that other attributes of an investment outweigh ESG considerations when making investment decisions.

	Portfolio		Benchmark	
	No. of securities	% weight	No. of securities	% weight
● Green	160	79.7	12,417	79.5
● Orange	43	16.3	2,765	17.0
● Red	0	0.0	189	1.3
● Not in scope	9	0.8	493	2.0
● Not covered	1	0.8	45	0.2
● Cash	1	2.5	0	0.0
Total	214	100.0	15,909	100.0

● No/few Flags ● Medium Flags ▲ High Flags

The comparator benchmark of the Fund is the Bloomberg Global Aggregate Corporate Bond Index Hedged to USD. The manager is not constrained by the fund's benchmark, which is used for performance comparison purposes only.

SUSTAINABILITY INDICATOR

The fund is classified as Article 8 according to the Sustainable Finance Disclosure Regulations (SFDR).

The sustainability indicator used by the fund is a minimum of 10% of the value of the fund's portfolio held in securities that the investment manager identifies as sustainable investments.

The percentage exposure of the fund to sustainable investments is:

	Target Minimum Exposure %	Fund Exposure %
Sustainable Investments	10.0%	33.6%
Environmental Objectives	0.5%	8.9%
Social Objectives	0.5%	24.7%

RISKS - The following risks are materially relevant to the fund (refer to prospectus for further details): ABS and MBS - Asset-Backed Securities (ABS) and Mortgage-Backed Securities (MBS) may be subject to greater liquidity, credit, default and interest rate risk compared to other bonds. They are often exposed to extension and prepayment risk. China Interbank Bond Market - The China Interbank Bond Market may subject the fund to additional liquidity, volatility, regulatory, settlement procedure and counterparty risks. The fund may incur significant trading and realisation costs. Contingent convertible bond - Contingent Convertible Bonds may be subject to additional risks linked to: capital structure inversion, trigger levels, coupon cancellations, call extensions, yield/valuation, conversions, write downs, industry concentration and liquidity, among others. Country (China) - Chinese investments may be subject to higher levels of risks such as liquidity, currency, regulatory and legal risks due to the structure of the local market. Credit - Credit risk arises when an issuer's financial health deteriorates and/or it fails to fulfill its financial obligations to the fund. Currency - Currency exchange rate movements could reduce investment gains or increase investment losses. Default - Default risk may occur if the issuers of certain bonds become unable or unwilling to make payments on their bonds. Derivative - Derivatives may be used to create leverage which could expose the fund to higher volatility and/or losses that are significantly greater than the cost of the derivative. Emerging markets - Emerging markets are less established than developed markets and therefore involve higher risks. High yield bond - High yield debt securities are generally subject to greater risk of issuer debt restructuring or default, higher liquidity risk and greater sensitivity to market conditions. Interest rate - Interest rate risk is the potential for losses in fixed-income investments as a result of unexpected changes in interest rates. Liquidity - Liquidity risk may result in securities becoming hard to value or trade within a desired timeframe at a fair price. Sector concentration - Sector concentration risk may result in performance being more strongly affected by any business, industry, economic, financial or market conditions affecting a particular sector in which the fund's assets are concentrated. Total Return Swap - Total return swap contracts may expose the fund to additional risks, including market, counterparty and operational risks as well as risks linked to the use of collateral arrangements.

General fund risks - to be read in conjunction with the fund specific risks above. Counterparty - Counterparty risk may materialise if an entity with which the fund does business becomes unwilling or unable to meet its obligations to the fund. ESG and sustainability - ESG and Sustainability risk may result in a material negative impact on the value of an investment and performance of the fund. Geographic concentration - Geographic concentration risk may result in performance being more strongly affected by any social, political, economic, environmental or market conditions affecting those countries or regions in which the fund's assets are concentrated. Hedging - Hedging measures involve costs and may work imperfectly, may not be feasible at times, or may fail completely. Investment fund - Investing in funds involves certain risks an investor would not face if investing in markets directly. Management - Management risk may result in potential conflicts of interest relating to the obligations of the investment manager. Market - Market risk may subject the fund to experience losses caused by unexpected changes in a wide variety of factors. Operational - Operational risk may cause losses as a result of incidents caused by people, systems, and/or processes.

ADDITIONAL DISCLOSURES

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