
Responsible Investment Statement

Effective as of November 2021

Introduction

Dimensional¹ has been providing value-added investment solutions for its clients since 1981. While our investment strategies, clients, and assets have grown significantly since our founding, there have been several principles that we have followed throughout our firm's history. We refer to these as our guiding principles:

1. Act in the best interests of clients.
2. Act in a way that is ethical and legal.
3. Compete aggressively to succeed.
4. Base our investment strategies on scientific methodology.
5. Emphasize financial sustainability.
6. Create opportunities for our people to contribute both to our success and to their own.

Adherence to these principles has served us well, and we believe they have been the key to creating long-term client satisfaction and, consequently, to our success as a firm. We apply these principles to our approach to responsible investment—from the investment strategies we provide to our clients as well as to how we conduct business as a firm.

Investment Strategies

Team-based Approach

Consistent with our team-based approach to all investment processes, we also apply a team-based approach when implementing responsible investment for our investment strategies. Responsible investment activities comprise a significant amount of effort at Dimensional and are performed by members of our Strategy Investment Research, Investment Analytics & Data, Investment Stewardship, and Portfolio Management teams. Our Head of Responsible Investment coordinates ESG activities globally across these various groups and reports to our Global Head of Portfolio Management. Our Head of Responsible Investment, North America works closely with the Head of Responsible Investment to coordinate ESG initiatives specific to the US and Canada.

1. "Dimensional" refers to the Dimensional separate but affiliated entities generally, rather than to one particular entity. These entities are Dimensional Fund Advisors LP, Dimensional Fund Advisors Ltd., Dimensional Ireland Limited, DFA Australia Limited, Dimensional Fund Advisors Canada ULC, Dimensional Fund Advisors Pte. Ltd., and Dimensional Japan Ltd.

Investment Philosophy and Principles

Dimensional's investment philosophy is based on the belief that in liquid capital markets, prices reflect all publicly available information. This includes, but is not limited to, information about a portfolio company's strategy, financial and non-financial performance, risk, capital structure, social and environmental impact, and corporate governance. As such, we believe that prices of securities reflect the aggregate risk and return expectations of investors and that competition among market participants drives prices toward fair value.

Even though we believe that market prices reflect a company's ESG practices, we also believe that ESG criteria can still be used to manage risk and/or improve investment returns for our clients. In particular, we believe that:

- Portfolios should integrate ESG considerations to manage risks. In addition, where clients desire investment solutions that also target measurable ESG outcomes, investment managers should carefully integrate ESG so that the loss of diversification due to ESG considerations does not materially impact expected returns.
- Stewardship activities may improve realized returns through higher future cash flows to shareholders or a lower discount rate applied by the market.
- ESG encompasses a broad range of issues. We seek to understand the research and available data on these issues to assess which ones are relevant to consider in our investment strategies.
- ESG risks and their potential impact on the future cash flows of companies are reflected in current market prices. We know of no compelling evidence that suggests companies with better ESG profiles offer higher expected returns than companies with worse ESG profiles, after controlling for known drivers of return. This does not, however, preclude us from using ESG data to add value for our clients.

ESG Investment Processes and Strategies

We reflect the above beliefs about ESG by broadly integrating ESG considerations across our investment strategies, as well as by offering dedicated equity and fixed income strategies that seek to accomplish specific ESG-related outcomes.

ESG INTEGRATION

Our investment processes integrate ESG considerations for risk management purposes. We start by designing our portfolios using the following investment principles:

- target drivers of return supported by robust research;
- diversify across issuers, sectors, and countries, where applicable;
- consider information in prices every day; and
- systematically implement portfolios by thoughtfully balancing expected returns, costs, and risks.

While this approach uses diversification to reduce idiosyncratic risks, including ESG-related risks, we also apply an additional layer of ESG-specific risk management. For instance, we may exclude closely held companies from our universe of eligible securities, since companies with large strategic shareholders may not represent the interests of a broad set of shareholders. We may also choose not to purchase companies when, based on public information, we believe there is a heightened concern of fraudulent or other behavior or situations that may make company financial statements no longer reliable. We also conduct daily news checks to identify portfolio companies involved in controversies, including those with respect to environmental or social issues, which may have a significant impact on company financials. These companies may be placed on a temporary halt from further purchases and/or referred to our Stewardship team for engagement. We believe these additional processes provide another element of risk management that incorporates ESG considerations.

ACTIVE OWNERSHIP

Our role as investment advisors for clients does not end once we invest in a security. Rather, our Investment Stewardship team advocates for best-in-class governance practices, including oversight of material ESG-related risks, as we believe that improved governance practices may result in higher realized returns through higher future cash flows to shareholders or a lower discount rate applied by the market. Our stewardship efforts include engagement,² proxy voting, and participation in industry events and organizations. See our Investment Stewardship Statement and Annual Stewardship Report for more information on our active ownership activities.

TARGETED ESG STRATEGIES

We offer targeted sustainability and social strategies that use ESG integration and add a greater level of focus on ESG criteria by pursuing specific ESG outcomes. These strategies use innovative processes to incorporate ESG considerations into broadly diversified, value-added systematic investment solutions.³ This is demonstrated by our track record managing sustainable and socially screened strategies, now covering over a decade since the launch of our first socially screened strategy in a commingled account in 2006.

Our sustainability strategies seek to lower exposure to companies that may have a detrimental impact on the environment while continuing to seek higher expected returns by focusing on known drivers of expected returns. We learn from leading climate researchers which issues are most relevant to environmental impact or impose significant external costs to be borne by future generations. Currently, most of these issues are related to greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, which is why our sustainability strategies focus heavily on reducing exposure to companies with high GHG emissions or reserves that enable future GHG emissions. Using data collected by Dimensional and research from independent third-party vendors on company business practices, we systematically evaluate companies with regard to sustainability. Investment in those companies is emphasized, reduced, or excluded based on how

2. Dimensional acquires securities on behalf of its clients solely for the purpose of investment and not with the purpose or intended effect of changing or influencing the control of any portfolio company.

3. The implementation of certain of Dimensional's sustainability strategies is protected by U.S. Patent Nos. 7,596,525 B1, 7,599,874 B1 and 8,438,092 B2.

they fare on key sustainability metrics, including the primary sustainability impact considerations of high greenhouse gas emissions or reserves that may produce those emissions. Dimensional's approach to sustainability can offer investors the ability to pursue their sustainability and investment goals simultaneously.

Our social strategies seek to incorporate specific social considerations by identifying and screening companies that reflect the values of clients who invest in those strategies. Dimensional may use research from independent third-party vendors, depending on the requirements of each portfolio, to systematically exclude restricted securities.

We regularly evaluate the potential launch of additional sustainability or social strategies that may help meet client needs. In 2020, we launched three new sustainability portfolios. Please see the offering documents for our sustainability and social strategies for more details on their ESG-related goals.

Contribution to the Industry

In conjunction with our investment work on behalf of clients, we also seek to improve how the investment industry functions. These efforts include, but are not limited to, working with regulators to improve market mechanisms, supporting transparency, and protecting the interests of our clients throughout the investment process. We have provided input to regulators on many occasions in an effort to help improve market mechanisms. For instance, we provided feedback to the US Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission") on a pilot program for wider bid-ask spreads for small cap issuers, strongly advocating against the proposed practice. After the pilot program, the Commission discontinued the proposed changes, recognizing that lower bid-ask spreads were ultimately beneficial to investors. More recently, we advocated strongly against proposed changes that would have delayed reporting of certain larger bond trades through TRACE⁴ as we believe these changes would hurt investors by decreasing market transparency. We participated in calls with the Investment Company Institute (ICI) as well as in a meeting with the Commission to voice our opposition. While the issue is not officially settled, it now appears that the proposal will not be moving forward. We believe we were able to make a difference by representing the interests of bond investors on this matter. We also wrote the Commission to oppose proposed regulations that would undermine the delivery of accurate, transparent, and independent proxy voting advice without undue delay or cost to market participants. The Commission ultimately carved back from its original proposals, which we believe would otherwise have had a negative effect on the ability of investors to receive independent and timely information from proxy research.

4. FINRA's Trade Reporting and Compliance Engine (TRACE) provides information to investors and other market participants about secondary market trades in corporate bonds and other debt securities.

We have also dedicated significant time and resources to participating in the efforts of the ICI, the largest global organization representing investment companies. Senior officers at Dimensional have served on the Board of Governors of the ICI as well as participated in the ICI's ESG working groups to help improve regulation on ESG disclosure, both in the US and abroad.

In addition, we have regularly increased transparency through our own stewardship activities. We provide regular reporting on our proxy voting activities and began producing an Annual Stewardship Report in 2019. We also monitor portfolio companies and, where appropriate, support efforts to increase their disclosure on how they oversee material risks, including those related to environmental or social issues.

Dimensional also conducts research into ESG-related topics. In 2020, we published research on the economics of climate change⁵ as well as the results of our study on the relation between company-level GHG emissions and company financials and the expected returns of a company's stocks and bonds.⁶ We also host a number of ESG conferences and events globally to help educate employees, financial advisors, wealth managers, and consultants on topics related to sustainability investing.

Corporate Social Responsibility

We also take corporate social responsibility into account for our own activities as a business. This applies to stakeholders such as our clients, employees, facilities, operations, and the local communities and overall industry that we operate in.

Clients

Dimensional's success is predicated on providing excellent services and investment solutions to our clients. We invest significantly in our clients' experience and have regularly been recognized for providing outstanding client service. There is a reason this is our first guiding principle, and we believe it has been the key to our success as a firm.

Employees

Another guiding principle of Dimensional is to create opportunities for our people to contribute both to the firm's success and to their own. Dimensional continues to invest heavily in its employees, from recruiting to training, as well as development and retention.

In particular, we are committed to creating and fostering an environment that attracts, develops, and retains the most talented, qualified employees from different backgrounds—from both inside and outside the financial services industry. We work hard to continually expand the depth and breadth of our professional talent pool. For example, for both 2019 and 2020 combined, approximately 38% of our campus outreach events targeted diverse audiences.

5. Joseph Chi, Mathieu Pellerin, and Jacobo Rodriguez, "The Economics of Climate Change" (white paper, Dimensional Fund Advisors, October 20, 2020). Available at SSRN: <https://ssrn.com/abstract=3715848> or <http://dx.doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.3715848>.

6. Wei Dai and Philipp Meyer-Brauns, "Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Expected Returns" (white paper, Dimensional Fund Advisors, October 19, 2020). Available at SSRN: <https://ssrn.com/abstract=3714874> or <http://dx.doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.3714874>.

In addition to targeted outreach, Dimensional also aims to provide an inclusive experience for candidates who seek out the firm themselves. We use gender-neutral language and focus on specific qualifications in job descriptions to help ensure applicants from diverse backgrounds are not dissuaded from applying. In 2019, Dimensional began using software to analyze job descriptions to ensure neutral and inclusive language. Online training for interviewers and hiring managers also includes anti-bias training and interview best practices for consistent and equitable evaluation across all candidates. We conduct ongoing reviews of new technologies and platforms that help reach diverse audiences, such as focusing on women returning to the workforce or other underrepresented populations.

Additionally, we remain focused on fostering a meritocratic, inclusive environment that further helps us attract and ultimately retain top talent from all backgrounds. In September 2019, Dimensional created a Diversity and Inclusion Executive Council under the sponsorship of our Co-CEOs. The Council is composed of senior-level executives across Dimensional's global organization and is chaired by our Deputy Head of Global Human Resources. The Council is charged with assessing the firm's needs, examining best practices, and helping form a strategy that aims to identify means of increasing awareness and ensuring an inclusive work environment. Our gender statistics (as of December 31, 2020):

- 42% of global hires for both calendar years 2019 and 2020, combined, were women.
- In 2020, 31% of our executives, 35% of all employees, and 39% of employees with less than five years of tenure were women.

Another initiative we have undertaken to invest in our employees is establishing "Dimensional University," a formal curriculum to further the education of our employees and prepare them for continued success within our organization. The curriculum includes courses in investments, sales, management and leadership, and firm culture and history, and includes almost 100 hours of education provided by senior leaders and external consultants.

Facilities and Operations

We seek to understand the impact of our business operations on the environment and develop offices, plans, and processes that minimize those impacts. A majority of Dimensional's employees are based in our corporate headquarters in Austin and our office in Charlotte. These two offices are the only sites owned by Dimensional and have each received awards for sustainability excellence. Dimensional's Austin headquarters received a three-star rating from Austin Energy Green Building, and our Charlotte office was certified LEED Gold.

As part of our continuing efforts to improve our sustainability practices, we have been reviewing our own carbon footprint and exploring ways to reduce it. We also became public supporters of the Task Force on Climate-Related Financial Disclosures (TCFD) in March 2020.

In 2021, Dimensional received Climate Neutral certification from South Pole, a leading climate solutions provider, with respect to Dimensional’s worldwide operations.⁷ This certification recognized that Dimensional has offset its Scope 1, 2, and 3 operational GHG emissions⁸ for 2020 by purchasing carbon offsets through South Pole. Dimensional also intends to continue exploring how to further reduce its carbon footprint.

Local Community and Industry Involvement

As part of our commitment to the communities that we serve and in which we operate, we seek opportunities to make a positive difference by working with local as well as industry-wide organizations.

In 2019, our employees participated in numerous local community events with such organizations as the Salvation Army, food banks (including Second Harvest and Central Texas), Junior Achievement, and the Red Cross. In total, Dimensional employees volunteered over 1,400 hours to these events, helping to improve their local communities.

In 2020, we launched a global community engagement program, Dimensional Driven, which aims to strengthen our ties to local organizations that strategically align with our broader purpose as a firm. This includes supporting and working with organizations that promote financial education, strive to make a positive impact, and promote the advancement of the arts and sciences.

Outside of local organizations, we also continued to expand our support for, and participation in, several industry programs that focus on underrepresented talent. This may be through specific universities, such as Cornell’s Women in Investing Conference or Chicago Booth Women in Investment Management. Since 2013, Dimensional has also worked with the Robert S. Toigo Foundation, which focuses on career advancement and increased leadership of underrepresented talent in the financial services industry. In addition to annually participating in Toigo’s spring Catapult event, Dimensional hosted Toigo’s Fall Apex, its marquee annual leadership conference, in 2014, 2016, and 2019 and is in discussions about hosting again.

Dimensional also established a Women in Wealth Community in 2015, which continues to grow in membership, reach, and impact. The Community’s purpose is to help financial advisors better address the needs of women clients and incorporates women-centered workshops, key industry events, customized strategy, and communication sessions and educational collateral. The Community had approximately 700 participants across the US as of December 31, 2020, and in calendar year 2020, the Community hosted over 80 workshops, webinars, strategy sessions, discussion groups, and other industry events.

7. The South Pole Climate Neutral Operations certification relates only to Dimensional’s internal operations and its contributions to offset the impacts of its operational greenhouse gas emissions and not to any professional investment advisory services or investment management activity.

8. Scope 1, 2, and 3 emissions are defined by the Greenhouse Gas Protocol Corporate Accounting and Reporting Standard. The South Pole Climate Neutral Operations certification fully accounts for Scope 1, 2, and 3 emissions, other than Scope 3, Category 15: Investments, which are emissions from holdings in investments solutions managed by the firm.

The information in this document is provided in good faith without any warranty and is intended for the recipient's background information only. It does not constitute investment advice, recommendation, or an offer of any services or products for sale and is not intended to provide a sufficient basis on which to make an investment decision. It is the responsibility of any persons wishing to make a purchase to inform themselves of and observe all applicable laws and regulations. Unauthorized copying, reproducing, duplicating, or transmitting of this document are strictly prohibited. Dimensional accepts no responsibility for loss arising from the use of the information contained herein.

UNITED STATES: Dimensional Fund Advisors LP is an investment advisor registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

CANADA: This document is not intended for Quebec residents.

These materials have been prepared by Dimensional Fund Advisors Canada ULC. Commissions, trailing commissions, management fees, and expenses all may be associated with mutual fund investments. Please read the prospectus before investing. Mutual funds are not guaranteed, their values change frequently, and past performance may not be repeated.

AUSTRALIA and NEW ZEALAND: This material is issued by DFA Australia Limited (AFS Licence No. 238093, ABN 46 065 937 671). This material is provided for information only. No account has been taken of the objectives, financial situation or needs of any particular person. Accordingly, to the extent this material constitutes general financial product advice, investors should, before acting on the advice, consider the appropriateness of the advice, having regard to the investor's objectives, financial situation and needs. Any opinions expressed in this material reflect our judgement at the date of publication and are subject to change.

WHERE ISSUED BY DIMENSIONAL IRELAND LIMITED OR DIMENSIONAL FUND ADVISORS LTD.

Neither Dimensional Ireland Limited (DIL) nor Dimensional Fund Advisors Ltd. (DFAL), as applicable (each an "Issuing Entity," as the context requires), give financial advice. You are responsible for deciding whether an investment is suitable for your personal circumstances, and we recommend that a financial adviser helps you with that decision.

WHERE ISSUED BY DIMENSIONAL IRELAND LIMITED

Issued by Dimensional Ireland Limited (DIL), with registered office 10 Earlsfort Terrace, Dublin 2, D02 T380, Ireland. DIL is regulated by the Central Bank of Ireland (Registration No. C185067). Information and opinions presented in this material have been obtained or derived from sources believed by DIL to be reliable, and DIL has reasonable grounds to believe that all factual information herein is true as at the date of this document.

DIL issues information and materials in English and may also issue information and materials in certain other languages. The recipient's continued acceptance of information and materials from DIL will constitute the recipient's consent to be provided with such information and materials, where relevant, in more than one language.

WHERE ISSUED BY DIMENSIONAL FUND ADVISORS LTD.

Issued by Dimensional Fund Advisors Ltd. (DFAL), 20 Triton Street, Regent's Place, London, NW1 3BF. DFAL is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA). Information and opinions presented in this material have been obtained or derived from sources believed by DFAL to be reliable, and DFAL has reasonable grounds to believe that all factual information herein is true as at the date of this document.

DFAL issues information and materials in English and may also issue information and materials in certain other languages. The recipient's continued acceptance of information and materials from DFAL will constitute the recipient's consent to be provided with such information and materials, where relevant, in more than one language.

NOTICE TO INVESTORS IN SWITZERLAND: This is advertising material.

RISKS

Investments involve risks. The investment return and principal value of an investment may fluctuate so that an investor's shares, when redeemed, may be worth more or less than their original value. Past performance is not a guarantee of future results. There is no guarantee strategies will be successful.