

ANNEX IV

Template periodic disclosure for the financial products referred to in Article 8, paragraphs 1, 2 and 2a, of Regulation (EU) 2019/2088 and Article 6, first paragraph, of Regulation (EU) 2020/852

Product name: Federated Hermes Global Emerging Markets Equity Fund

Legal entity identifier: 549300A5XPYJ4HEZ5K02

Environmental and/or social characteristics

Did this financial product have a sustainable investment objective?

☒ ☒ ☐ Yes

☐ It made **sustainable investments with an environmental objective**: ____%

- ☐ in economic activities that qualify as environmentally sustainable under the EU Taxonomy
- ☐ in economic activities that do not qualify as environmentally sustainable under the EU Taxonomy

☐ It made **sustainable investments with a social objective**: ____%

☒ ☐ ☒ No

☒ It **promoted Environmental/Social (E/S) characteristics** and while it did not have as its objective a sustainable investment, it had a proportion of 22.95% of sustainable investments

- ☒ with an environmental objective in economic activities that qualify as environmentally sustainable under the EU Taxonomy
- ☒ with an environmental objective in economic activities that do not qualify as environmentally sustainable under the EU Taxonomy
- ☒ with a social objective

☐ It promoted E/S characteristics, but **did not make any sustainable investments**



To what extent were the environmental and/or social characteristics promoted by this financial product met?

The Fund promoted investment in companies exhibiting the following characteristics:

- reduced ESG risks;
- a willingness to engage on any material ESG issues; and
- limited to no revenue generated from excluded sectors.

No specific index has been designated as a reference benchmark for the purpose of attaining the above characteristics

The objective of the sustainable investments was either to: (i) further the attainment of at least one or more of the 17 United Nations Sustainable Development Goals; or (ii) contribute to reducing the environmental

Sustainable investment means an investment in an economic activity that contributes to an environmental or social objective, provided that the investment does not significantly harm any environmental or social objective and that the investee companies follow good governance practices.

The **EU Taxonomy** is a classification system laid down in Regulation (EU) 2020/852, establishing a list of **environmentally sustainable economic activities**. That Regulation does not include a list of socially sustainable economic activities. Sustainable investments with an environmental objective might be aligned with the Taxonomy or not.

Sustainability indicators measure how the environmental or social characteristics promoted by the financial product are attained.

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and social impacts of the products/services that the company provides through processes which mitigated impacts to the environment or to stakeholders including employees, communities, supply chain employees or customers.

The investments underlying this Fund did not take into account the EU criteria for environmentally sustainable economic activities, as defined under the Taxonomy Regulation (EU) 2020/852. However, while there was no commitment to make EU Taxonomy-aligned investments, the Fund had exposure to the Climate Change mitigation objective outlined in the EU Taxonomy. Data for the other objectives was unavailable at the time of reporting.

Derivatives were used in the period as an investment to gain access to a single investments and did contribute to the attainment of the Fund’s environmental or social characteristics.

● How did the sustainability indicators perform?

Please see below:

Environmental Indicators	Fund	Benchmark
GHG Emissions (Total Scope 1 + 2+3 (tCO ₂ eq))	161,233.94	1,599,351.45
Carbon Footprint (Scope 1 & 2+3 : tCO ₂ eq)	77.89	743.36
Fossil Fuels (% involved)	1.12	8.89
Non-Renewable Energy Consumption (%)	86.21	87.28
Water intensity (m ³ /\$mn revenue)	869.20	22,642.80
Waste intensity (tonnes/\$mn revenue)	3.9	26.1

Social Indicators	Fund	Benchmark
UNGC Principles/OECD Guidelines Violations (% involved)	5.041	8.64
Board Gender Diversity (% female)	17.1	14.91
Employee Turnover	No data available ²	N/A

Engagement Activity and % investment in excluded sectors

Engagement Activity as a % of AUM	77%
Engagement progress	54%

Source: Sustainalytics. Water and waste data from Trucost.

● ...and compared to previous periods?

¹ This relates to our holding in Tencent which was flagged by Sustainalytics as being in breach of UNGC Principles relating to human rights and freedom of expression specifically. We do not agree with this assessment given the specific context (requirement for Tencent to comply with the Chinese Government’s censorship policies) and the fact that Tencent makes its data sharing and content moderation activities known to users. Users therefore have a choice whether to use Tencent’s services in the knowledge that their data will be shared.

² Data used at a company level.

Not applicable

● **What were the objectives of the sustainable investments that the financial product partially made and how did the sustainable investment contribute to such objectives?**

As mentioned in the previous response, the objective of the sustainable investments was either to: (i) further the attainment of at least one or more of the 17 United Nations Sustainable Development Goals; or (ii) contribute to reducing the environmental and social impacts of the products/services that the company provides through processes which mitigated impacts to the environment or to stakeholders including employees, communities, supply chain employees or customers.

Sustainable investments contributed via:

- *Providing products or services that have a goal of solving environmental or social challenges we face as a society;*

AND/OR

- *Investing in reducing their environmental and social impacts and/or re-positioning their business to a more sustainable model. E.g. Investing in clean technology, divesting from fossil fuels to invest more in renewables, improving corporate practices.*

As noted above, while there was no commitment to make EU Taxonomy-aligned investments, the Fund did have exposure to climate change mitigation.

● **How did the sustainable investments that the financial product partially made not cause significant harm to any environmental or social sustainable investment objective?**

The assessment of sustainable investments where companies may have caused significant harm through the products and services that they offered, and through their entire value chain, included:

- (i) *taking into account all adverse impact indicators and other relevant ESG indicators through the Investment Manager's proprietary ESG Scoring Model (as detailed below) to identify if a company had any sustainability risks;*
- (ii) *screening for contraventions of the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises and the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, as detailed below; and*
- (iii) *identification, through the use of third party data, of any severe controversies and that, at the time of investment, the company was taking remedial action to prevent the event occurring in the future.*

The Investment Manager also carried out a more detailed assessment of any company which operated in an industry or sector that could be considered more harmful with a view to ensuring that either the practices the company had in place limited the amount of harm or that the company was being engaged on that topic.

Where a company was deemed to do significant harm to any sustainable objective, the investment in the company was not considered a sustainable investment.

— **How were the indicators for adverse impacts on sustainability factors taken into account?**

All mandatory principal adverse impact indicators and those indicators which were deemed relevant to the Fund were taken into account in the Investment Manager's ESG assessment (see further detail below), in order to determine current and potential adverse

Principal adverse impacts are the most significant negative impacts of investment decisions on sustainability factors relating to environmental, social and employee matters, respect for human rights, anti-corruption and anti-bribery matters.

impacts on sustainability factors and to avoid investment in companies deemed to do significant harm.

Were sustainable investments aligned with the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises and the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights? Details:

Yes. Using a mix of qualitative and quantitative assessments based on available data, the Investment Manager identified any companies which are in contravention of the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises and the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human

The EU Taxonomy sets out a “do not significant harm” principle by which Taxonomy-aligned investments should not significantly harm EU Taxonomy objectives and is accompanied by specific Union criteria.

The “do no significant harm” principle applies only to those investments underlying the financial product that take into account the Union criteria for environmentally sustainable economic activities. The investments underlying the remaining portion of this financial product do not take into account the Union criteria for environmentally sustainable economic activities.

Any other sustainable investments must also not significantly harm any environmental or social objectives.

the ILO Declaration Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work, the eight Fundamental conventions of the ILO and the International Bill of Human Rights). This enabled the Investment Manager to avoid investment in these companies.



How did this financial product consider principal adverse impacts on sustainability factors?

As part of the investment strategy, the Investment Manager considered whether companies exhibited any principal adverse impacts on sustainability factors. The consideration of the principal adverse impacts of sustainability factors was identified both through the quantitative inputs to the ESG assessment by the Investment Manager and through the Investment Manager’s qualitative review of the investee companies, to ensure that all relevant information was accurately captured and that the portfolio was not exposed to any sustainability risks not otherwise identified by the assessment.

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The list includes the investments constituting the **greatest proportion of investments** of the financial product during the reference period which is: 31 December 2022

The Investment Manager used a range of sources to consider the principal adverse impacts on sustainability factors including proprietary analysis from EOS at Federated Hermes (“EOS”) and third party providers such as ISS, CDP, MSCI, Sustainalytics and Trucost amongst others.

Where sustainability risks were identified, the Investment Manager either elected not to continue with the investment, or identified the company as a candidate for engagement, with the aim of reducing underperformance which may arise from poor ESG behaviours whilst also encouraging companies to act responsibly and improve sustainability.

The relevant principal adverse impact indicators on sustainability factors are disclosed within the sustainability indicators detailed earlier.



What were the top investments of this financial product?

Asset allocation describes the share of investments in specific assets.

Largest investments	Sector	% Assets	Country of listing
Taiwan Semiconductor	Information Technology	7.69	Taiwan
Samsung Electronics	Information Technology	6.02	Korea
Tencent	Communication Services	5.02	China
Alibaba	Consumer Discretionary	4.31	China
JD.Com	Consumer Discretionary	4.07	China
AIA Group	Financials	3.03	China
Meituan	Consumer Discretionary	2.61	China
KB Financial Group	Financials	2.58	Korea
China Merchants Bank	Financials	2.30	China
LG Chemical	Materials	2.28	Korea
Abu Dhabi Commercial Bank	Financials	2.13	United Arab Emirates
Press Metal Aluminium	Materials	2.02	Malaysia
Bank Rakyat Indonesia	Financials	2.01	Indonesia
Delta Electronics	Information Technology	2.01	Taiwan
Prosus	Consumer Discretionary	1.91	South Africa
Qatar National Bank	Financials	1.89	Qatar
SBI Life Insurance	Financials	1.77	India
Banco de Chile	Financials	1.72	Chile

Source: Federated Hermes as at 31 December 2022

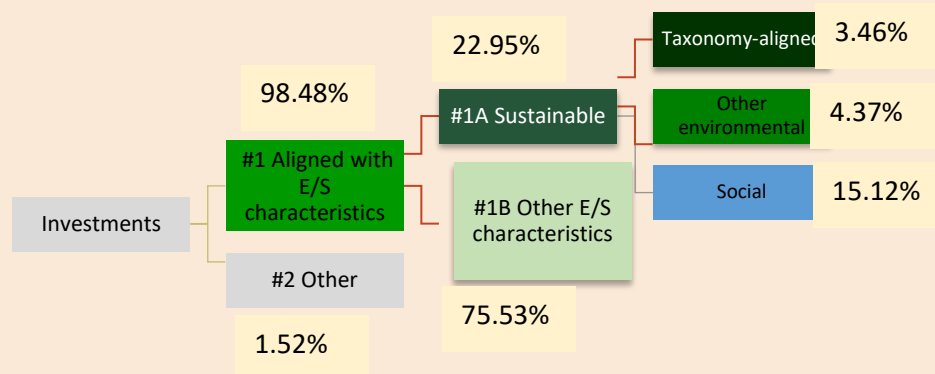


What was the proportion of sustainability-related investments?

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What was the asset allocation?



#1 Aligned with E/S characteristics includes the investments of the Fund used to attain the environmental or social characteristics promoted by the Fund.

#2 Other includes the remaining investments of the Fund which were neither aligned with the environmental or social characteristics nor qualified as sustainable investments.

The category **#1 Aligned with E/S characteristics** covers:

- The sub-category **#1A Sustainable** covers environmentally and socially sustainable investments.
- The sub-category **#1B Other E/S characteristics** covers investments aligned with the environmental or social characteristics that did not qualify as sustainable investments.

In which economic sectors were the investments made?

Sector	Weight
Financials	25.53
Information Technology	24.18
Consumer Discretionary	18.32
Industrials	9.07
Materials	7.15
Communication Services	5.02
Consumer Staples	4.13
Health Care	3.41
Energy	1.66
Utilities	0.00

To comply with the EU Taxonomy, the criteria for **fossil gas** include limitations on emissions and switching to fully renewable power or low-carbon fuels by the end of 2035. For **nuclear energy**, the criteria include comprehensive safety and waste management rules.

Enabling activities directly enable other activities to make a substantial contribution to an environmental objective.

Transitional activities are activities for which low-carbon alternatives are not yet available and among others have greenhouse gas emission levels corresponding to the best performance.

Taxonomy-aligned activities are expressed as a share of:

- **turnover** reflecting the share of revenue from green activities of investee companies.
- **capital expenditure** (CapEx) showing the green investments made by investee companies, e.g. for a transition to a green economy.
- **operational expenditure** (OpEx) reflecting green operational activities of investee companies.

Real Estate 0.00

Source: Federated Hermes as at 31 December 2022



To what extent were the sustainable investments with an environmental objective aligned with the EU Taxonomy?

While the Fund did not commit to a minimum amount of sustainable investments with an environmental objective aligned with the EU Taxonomy, 3.46% of the Fund was EU Taxonomy-aligned during the reference period.

These investments’ compliance with the requirements laid down under the EU Taxonomy have not been subject to an assurance or review provided by an auditor or third party. Alignment has been obtained through a combination of third-party data and investment research.

An explanation of the reasons for investing in sustainable investments other than those with an environmental objective aligned with the EU Taxonomy is detailed in a separate section below.

Did the financial product invest in fossil gas and/or nuclear energy related activities complying with the EU Taxonomy³?

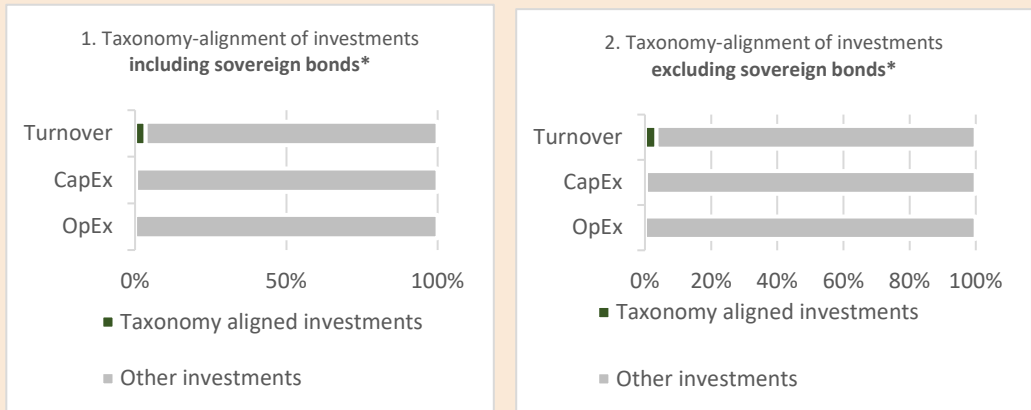
☐ Yes:

☐ In fossil gas ☐ In nuclear energy

☒ No

³ Fossil gas and/or nuclear related activities will only comply with the EU Taxonomy where they contribute to limiting climate change (“climate change mitigation”) and do not significantly harm any EU Taxonomy objective - see explanatory note in the left hand margin. The full criteria for fossil gas and nuclear energy economic activities that comply with the EU Taxonomy are laid down in Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2022/1214.

The graphs below show in green the percentage of investments that were aligned with the EU Taxonomy. As there is no appropriate methodology to determine the taxonomy-alignment of sovereign bonds*, the first graph shows the Taxonomy alignment in relation to all the investments of the financial product including sovereign bonds, while the second graph shows the Taxonomy alignment only in relation to the investments of the financial product other than sovereign bonds.



*For the purpose of these graphs, ‘sovereign bonds’ consist of all sovereign exposures

● **What was the share of investments made in transitional and enabling activities?**

While the Fund did not commit to a minimum amount of sustainable investments in transitional or enabling activities, 3.32% (based on turnover) of the Fund was invested in such activities during the reference period.

● **How did the percentage of investments that were aligned with the EU Taxonomy compare with previous reference periods?**

Not applicable.



What was the share of sustainable investments with an environmental objective not aligned with the EU Taxonomy?

The Fund invested 4.37% in sustainable investments with an environmental objective not aligned with the EU Taxonomy. This was based on the investment team’s investment strategy as described above



What was the share of socially sustainable investments?

15.12%



What investments were included under “other”, what was their purpose and were there any minimum environmental or social safeguards?

The portfolio held 1.52% in cash at the end of the period. Derivatives were used in the period as an investment to gain access to single investments. However, none of these are classified under “other”.



are sustainable investments with an environmental objective that **do not take into account the criteria** for environmentally sustainable economic activities under Regulation (EU) 2020/852.



What actions have been taken to meet the environmental and/or social characteristics during the reference period?

The Investment Manager invested in high quality and efficient companies trading at attractive valuations, in global emerging markets, where conditions were supportive of growth. In selecting investments for the Fund, the Investment Manager incorporated ESG factors aimed at the promotion of the environmental and social characteristics through the following processes:

ESG Integration: *The Investment Manager incorporated analysis that assessed the ESG characteristics of a company into its investment process. To achieve this the Investment Manager conducted an assessment of a company’s ESG characteristics based on a both quantified ESG metrics and through a qualitative review of ESG issues, leveraging its knowledge of and direct contact and engagement with companies. The ESG factors included, but were not limited to, specific environmental characteristics (such as a company’s carbon intensity (tonnes of scope 1 and 2 GHGe per \$m sales)) and social characteristics (such as Board gender diversity and employee turnover). The ESG assessment favoured companies with reduced ESG risks and which complied with the Investment Manager’s policy on good governance practices. The Investment Manager was able to invest in companies with poor ESG factors where the company had shown a desire to improve their ESG behaviours.*

Engagement: *The Investment Manager leveraged quantitative and qualitative engagement insights generated by the Investment Manager and EOS through its range of active ownership services. Where sustainability risks were identified, the Investment Manager was able to undertake direct engagement with the company or work with EOS to engage with companies to address those risks. Engagement occurred through meetings with company boards and management and through the exercise of voting rights. Engagement sought to identify measurable objectives to deliver positive change within set time periods. Where there was engagement with a company, a four-step milestone approach was implemented to: (i) raise the issue at the appropriate level within the company; (ii) confirm that the company accepts that the issue must be addressed; (iii) develop a plan to address the issue; and (iv) implement the plan satisfactorily. Where a company was not receptive to engagement on sustainability risks, or made insufficient progress in addressing them over time, it could have resulted in divestment from that company.*

Exclusions: *The Investment Manager did not invest in companies involved in specified activities where those activities contributed to company revenues above prescribed revenue thresholds. Excluded activities included Controversial Weapons, conventional weapons, tobacco, unconventional fossil fuels and companies evaluated to be in contravention of the principles of the UN Global Compact.*



How did this financial product perform compared to the reference benchmark?

Not applicable

- **How does the reference benchmark differ from a broad market index?**

Not applicable

- **How did this financial product perform with regard to the sustainability indicators to determine the alignment of the reference benchmark with the environmental or social characteristics promoted?**

Not applicable

- **How did this financial product perform compared with the reference benchmark?**

Not applicable

Reference benchmarks are indexes to measure whether the financial product attains the environmental or social characteristics that they promote.

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● ***How did this financial product perform compared with the broad market index?***

Not applicable