



CLIMATE TRANSPARENCY REPORT 2020

Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church / Epworth Investment

Management

About the Climate-related Disclosure Indicators

Climate has been identified as a top priority for PRI signatories, with over 70% of asset owners reporting this as the most important long-term trend they are acting on.

The FSB Task Force's guidance on climate-related financial disclosure aim to create a single framework for disclosure on assessment and management of climate-related risk. The recommendations, supported by investors representing US\$22 trillion, identify four main disclosures, Governance, Strategy, Risk Management, Metrics and Targets, and include specific guidance for asset owners and managers.

As a result, the PRI introduced climate-related disclosure indicators that can be used to align with the TCFD recommendations in the 2020 PRI Reporting Framework.

About this report

This report is an export of only the climate-related indicators from the 2020 Reporting Framework response. The full Public Transparency Report is available here (<https://reporting.unpri.org/surveys/PRI-reporting-framework-2020/-A0C24A5C-5082-4649-AC3F-B055A223C6C1/79894dbc337a40828d895f9402aa63de/html/2/?lang=en&a=1>). It shows the responses to all the completed climate indicators, even those you chose to keep private. It is designed for your internal review or – if you wish - to share with your stakeholders.

The PRI will not publish this report on its website if you have designated your 2020 climate reporting as “private”. Otherwise, you will be able to access the Climate Transparency Report of your organisation and that of other signatories on the [PRI website](#) and on the [Data Portal](#).

To easily locate information, there is a **Recommendation index** which summarises the indicators that signatories complete and disclose. The report presents information exactly as it was reported as per signatory preference. Where an indicator offers a response option that is multiple-choice, all options that were available to the signatory are presented in this report.

TCFD Recommendations Index

Strategy and Governance - CC			TCFD Recommendation			
Indicator	Reported	Disclosure	Governance	Strategy	Risk Management	Metrics & Targets
SG 01.6 CC	✓	Public				
SG 01.7 CC	✓	Public				
SG 01.8 CC	✓	Public				
SG 01.9 CC	✓	Public				
SG 01.10 CC	✓	Public				
SG 07.5 CC	✓	Public				
SG 07.6 CC	✓	Public				
SG 07.7 CC	✓	Public				
SG 07.8 CC	✓	Public				
SG 13.1	✓	Public				
SG 13.2	✓	Public				
SG 13.4 CC	✓	Public				
SG 13.5 CC	✓	Public				
SG 13.6 CC	✓	Public				
SG 13.7 CC	✓	Public				
SG 13.8 CC	✓	Public				
SG 14.1	✓	Private				
SG 14.2	✓	Private				
SG 14.3	✓	Private				
SG 14.6 CC	✓	Public				
SG 14.7 CC	-	Public				
SG 14.8 CC	✓	Public				
SG 14.9 CC	✓	Public				
SG 15.1	✓	Public				
SG 15.2	✓	Public				
SG 15.3	✓	Public				

Symbol	Status
✓	The signatory has completed this sub-indicator
-	The signatory did not complete this sub-indicator.
	This indicator is relevant to the named TCFD recommendation
Within the first column "Indicator", indicators marked in blue are mandatory to complete. Indicators marked in grey are voluntary to complete.	

ORGANISATIONAL OVERVIEW

This section provides an overview of your organisation. These characteristics are used to define your peer groups.

MAIN CHARACTERISTICS	
Name	Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church / Epworth Investment Management
Signatory Category	Fund Management - Majority
Signatory Type	Investment Manager
Size	US\$ 1 - 4.99 billion AUM
Main Asset Class	Multi-Asset
Signed PRI Initiative	2007
Region	Europe
Country	United Kingdom
Disclosure of Voluntary Indicators	32% from 38 Voluntary indicators

Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church / Epworth Investment Management

Reported Information

Public version

Strategy and Governance

PRI disclaimer

This document presents information reported directly by signatories. This information has not been audited by the PRI Secretariat or any other party acting on their behalf. While this information is believed to be reliable, no representations or warranties are made as to the accuracy of the information presented, and no responsibility or liability can be accepted for any error or omission.

Investment policy

SG 01	Mandatory	Public	Core Assessed	General
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New selection options have been added to this indicator. Please review your prefilled responses carefully.

SG 01.1 Indicate if you have an investment policy that covers your responsible investment approach.

SG 01 CC	Mandatory to Report Voluntary to Disclose	Public	Descriptive	General
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SG 01.6 CC Indicate whether your organisation has identified transition and physical climate-related risks and opportunities and factored this into the investment strategies and products, within the organisation's investment time horizon.

Yes

Describe the identified transition and physical climate-related risks and opportunities and how they have been factored into the investment strategies/products.

CFB/Epworth has identified specific sectors which may be more impacted by the transition to a low carbon economy, and has written internal reports on the topic. This has led to engagement with companies to better understand the transition and physical climate related risks they face, in order to make an investment decision.

No

SG 01.7 CC Indicate whether the organisation has assessed the likelihood and impact of these climate risks?

Yes

Describe the associated timescales linked to these risks and opportunities.

CFB/Epworth sees a staggered approach to the impact of climate related risks and opportunities as they relate to different sectors and companies.

No

SG 01.8 CC Indicate whether the organisation publicly supports the TCFD?

Yes

No

SG 01.9 CC Indicate whether there is an organisation-wide strategy in place to identify and manage material climate-related risks and opportunities.

Yes

	Describe
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We consider climate related risks and opportunities within research reports, in the monthly ethics meeting and in the quarterly meetings of the Joint Advisory Committee on the Impact of Ethics. This enables and ensures discussion around climate change, and identifies the variety of risks it presents, as well as the numerous opportunities.

No

SG 1.10 CC	Indicate the documents and/or communications the organisation uses to publish TCFD disclosures.
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- Public PRI Climate Transparency Report
- Annual financial filings
- Regular client reporting
- Member communications
- Other
- We currently do not publish TCFD disclosures

Governance and human resources

SG 07 CC	Mandatory to Report Voluntary to Disclose	Public	Descriptive	General
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SG 07.5 CC	Indicate the roles in the organisation that have oversight, accountability and/or management responsibilities for climate-related issues.
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	Board members or trustees
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- Oversight/accountability for climate-related issues
- Assessment and management of climate-related issues
- No responsibility for climate-related issues

	Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Chief Investment Officer (CIO), Chief Risk Officer (CRO), Investment Committee
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- Oversight/accountability for climate-related issues
- Assessment and management of climate-related issues
- No responsibility for climate-related issues

	Other Chief-level staff or heads of departments
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- Oversight/accountability for climate-related issues
- Assessment and management of climate-related issues
- No responsibility for climate-related issues

Portfolio managers

- Oversight/accountability for climate-related issues
- Assessment and management of climate-related issues
- No responsibility for climate-related issues

Investment analysts

- Oversight/accountability for climate-related issues
- Assessment and management of climate-related issues
- No responsibility for climate-related issues

Dedicated responsible investment staff

- Oversight/accountability for climate-related issues
- Assessment and management of climate-related issues
- No responsibility for climate-related issues

External managers or service providers

- Oversight/accountability for climate-related issues
- Assessment and management of climate-related issues
- No responsibility for climate-related issues

SG 07.6 CC

For board-level roles that have climate-related issue oversight/accountability or implementation responsibilities, indicate how these responsibilities are executed.

The CFB Council reviews the ethical work undertaken by the CFB, including the implementation of its various climate change policies.

The Joint Advisory Committee on the Ethics of Investment (JACEI), which reports to Methodist Conference, has close oversight of CFB climate-related investment activities and policies. JACEI meets quarterly and discusses climate change on each occasion in considerable depth. It commissions new work on climate change and advises on exclusions and engagement. It also is responsible for implementing any Methodist Conference decisions climate change into an ethical investment approach. Five appointees of the CFB Council, along with appointees from elsewhere, sit on the Joint Advisory Committee on the Ethics of Investment (JACEI).

SG 07.7 CC

For management-level roles that assess and manage climate-related issues, provide further information on the structure and processes involved.

The CEO, CIO and Head of Research attend the monthly internal ethics meeting, chaired by the CIO, alongside all other members of the investment team. They also oversee and participate in the climate-related engagement activities of the organisation.

**SG 07.8
CC**

Indicate how your organisation engages external investment managers and/or service providers on the TCFD recommendations and their implementation.

- Request that external managers and/or service providers incorporate TCFD into mainstream financial filings (annual financial reports, other regulatory reporting or similar)
- Request incorporation of TCFD into regular client reporting
- Request that external managers complete PRI climate indicator reporting
- Request responses to TCFD Fund Manager questions in the PRI Asset Owner Guide
- Other
- We do not engage with external managers and/or service providers on the TCFD recommendations and their implementation

ESG issues in asset allocation

SG 13**Mandatory****Public****Descriptive****PRI 1****SG 13.1**

Indicate whether the organisation carries out scenario analysis and/or modelling, and if it does, provide a description of the scenario analysis (by asset class, sector, strategic asset allocation, etc.).

- Yes, in order to assess future ESG factors
- Yes, in order to assess future climate-related risks and opportunities

Describe

We have undertaken extensive scenario analysis in relation to the oil and gas industry to assess which companies are most aligned with the temperature goals of the Paris agreement.

- No, our organisation does not currently carry out scenario analysis and/or modelling

SG 13.2

Indicate if your organisation considers ESG issues in strategic asset allocation and/or allocation of assets between sectors or geographic markets.

We do the following

- Allocation between asset classes
- Determining fixed income duration
- Allocation of assets between geographic markets
- Sector weightings
- Other, specify
- We do not consider ESG issues in strategic asset allocation

SG 13.3

Additional information. [OPTIONAL]

We exclude stocks on ethical grounds, and compensate for their absence from the benchmark by investing in ethically acceptable stocks that share similar economic characteristics

SG 13 CC**Mandatory to Report Voluntary to Disclose****Public****Descriptive****General**

**SG 13.4
CC**

Describe how your organisation is using scenario analysis to manage climate-related risks and opportunities, including how the analysis has been interpreted, its results, and any future plans.

- Initial assessment

Describe

The CFB and Epworth assess the physical and transition risks of climate change over various sectors including the oil and gas sector, mining, building and construction materials, and agriculture. This has led to tailored reports on each topic, building on assessment of scenarios from the IEA/IRENA.

- Incorporation into investment analysis

Describe

Based on the sector specific reports, companies are assessed in the light of the risks and opportunities presented. This may lead to engagement with companies and possible exclusion if the company does not respond, or is deemed too polluting.

- Inform active ownership

Describe

We have previously excluded companies on the basis of their performance relative to carbon intensity measures and transition risks and opportunities.

- Other

**SG 13.5
CC**

Indicate who uses this analysis.

- Board members, trustees, C-level roles, Investment Committee
- Portfolio managers
- Dedicated responsible investment staff
- External managers
- Investment consultants/actuaries
- Other

**SG 13.6
CC**

Indicate whether your organisation has evaluated the potential impact of climate-related risks, beyond the investment time horizon, on its investment strategy.

- Yes

Describe

The CFB has evaluated the impacts of climate-related risks out to 2050 and beyond through the use of scenarios in relation to fossil fuel companies in particular, as well as looking at other sector risks. This forms part of the investment analysis undertaken on companies particularly within the UK portfolio.

- No

SG 13.7
CC

Indicate whether a range of climate scenarios is used.

- Analysis based on a 2°C or lower scenario
- Analysis based on an abrupt transition, consistent with the Inevitable Policy Response
- Analysis based on a 4°C or higher scenario
- No, a range is not used

SG 13.8
CC

Indicate the climate scenarios your organisation uses.

Provider	Scenario used	
IEA	<input type="checkbox"/> Beyond 2 Degrees Scenario (B2DS)	
IEA	<input type="checkbox"/> Energy Technology Perspectives (ETP) 2 Degrees scenario	
IEA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sustainable Development Scenario (SDS)	
IEA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New Policy Scenario (NPS)	
IEA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Current Policy Scenario (CPS)	
IRENA	<input type="checkbox"/> RE Map	
Greenpeace	<input type="checkbox"/> Advanced Energy [R]evolution	
Institute for Sustainable Development	<input type="checkbox"/> Deep Decarbonisation Pathway Project (DDPP)	
Bloomberg	<input type="checkbox"/> BNEF reference scenario	
IPCC	<input type="checkbox"/> Representative Concentration Pathway (RCP) 8.5	
IPCC	<input type="checkbox"/> RPC 6	
IPCC	<input type="checkbox"/> RPC 4.5	
IPCC	<input type="checkbox"/> RPC 2.6	
Other	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (1)	<div style="background-color: #0070C0; color: white; padding: 2px;">Other (1) please specify:</div> IEA/IRENA 66% 2 degrees
Other	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (2)	
Other	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (3)	

SG 14 CC	Voluntary	Public	General
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SG 14.6 CC	Provide further details on the key metric(s) used to assess climate-related risks and opportunities.
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Metric Type	Coverage	Purpose	Metric Unit	Metric Methodology
Portfolio carbon footprint	<input type="checkbox"/> All assets <input type="checkbox"/> Majority of assets <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minority of assets	To ensure that the portfolio has a low and measurably declining carbon footprint.	kg per unit	We use a carbon footprint provider.

SG 14.8 CC Indicate whether climate-related risks are integrated into overall risk management and explain the risk management processes used for identifying, assessing and managing climate-related risks.

- Processes for climate-related risks are integrated into overall risk management

Please describe

As part of research reports, potential risks are highlighted. ESG considerations, including climate change, are integrated into these reports and discussed within the investment team.

- Processes for climate-related risks are not integrated into overall risk management

SG 14.9 CC Indicate whether your organisation, and/or external investment manager or service providers acting on your behalf, undertake active ownership activities to encourage TCFD adoption.

- Yes

Please describe

Last year, after analysis of some global banks, we undertook a round of engagement, encouraging the banks to support the TCFD recommendations and asking about their lending policies in relations to the transition to a low carbon economy.

- No, we do not undertake active ownership activities.
- No, we do not undertake active ownership activities to encourage TCFD adoption.

SG 15	Mandatory to Report Voluntary to Disclose	Public	Descriptive	PRI 1
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SG 15.1 Indicate if your organisation allocates assets to, or manages, funds based on specific environmental and social themed areas.

- Yes

SG 15.2 Indicate the percentage of your total AUM invested in environmental and social themed areas.

%

1

SG 15.3

Specify which thematic area(s) you invest in, indicate the percentage of your AUM in the particular asset class and provide a brief description.

Area

- Energy efficiency / Clean technology

Asset class invested

- Listed equity

Percentage of AUM (+/-5%) per asset class invested in the area

1

- Fixed income - SSA
- Fixed income - Corporate (financial)
- Fixed income - Corporate (non-financial)
- Fixed income - Securitised
- Property
- Cash

Brief description and measures of investment

We actively seek to invest in and engage with companies that are pursuing clean technology. In keeping with our climate change policy, we engage with companies that are advancing towards a low carbon economy.

- Renewable energy
- Green buildings

Asset class invested

- Listed equity

Percentage of AUM (+/-5%) per asset class invested in the area

1

- Fixed income - SSA
- Fixed income - Corporate (financial)
- Fixed income - Corporate (non-financial)
- Fixed income - Securitised
- Property
- Cash

Brief description and measures of investment

Investment is made through external fund managers

- Sustainable forestry
- Sustainable agriculture
- Microfinance
- SME financing
- Social enterprise / community investing

Asset class invested

- Listed equity

Percentage of AUM (+/-5%) per asset class invested in the area

1

- Fixed income - SSA
- Fixed income - Corporate (financial)
- Fixed income - Corporate (non-financial)
- Fixed income - Securitised
- Property
- Cash

Brief description and measures of investment

We invest in companies that seek to regenerate communities through investment in housing, including schooling and community spaces.

- Affordable housing

Asset class invested

- Listed equity

Percentage of AUM (+/-5%) per asset class invested in the area

1

- Fixed income - SSA
- Fixed income - Corporate (financial)
- Fixed income - Corporate (non-financial)
- Fixed income - Securitised
- Property
- Cash

We invest in MJ Gleeson, which is a UK housebuilder that builds affordable homes and in The PRS REIT, which owns and rents out affordable family homes.

- Education
 - Global health
 - Water
 - Other area, specify
- No