**Index Overview** 

# **FTSE ESG Index Series**

Integrate ESG considerations into a broad market benchmark

## **Overview**

Market participants globally are developing investment strategies that integrate environmental, social and governance (ESG) considerations into core benchmarks.

The FTSE ESG Index Series is designed to help investors align investment and ESG objectives into a broad benchmark, whilst maintaining industry neutrality.

Company weights within each index are "tilted" using FTSE Russell's ESG Ratings. Subsequently, industry neutral re-weighting is applied so that the industry weights in each index match the underlying index universe.

As a result, the FTSE ESG Indexes have risk/return characteristics similar to the underlying universe with the added benefit of improved ESG metrics.

The FTSE ESG Index Series consists of the following indexes:

FTSE ESG Index Series
FTSE Developed ESG Index
FTSE Emerging ESG Index
FTSE All-Share® ESG Index
Russell 1000 <sup>®</sup> ESG Index

### Features

• Consists of eligible securities in the relevant underlying FTSE Global Equity Index Series, the Russell 1000<sup>®</sup> Index and the FTSE All-Share<sup>®</sup> Index

FTSE Russell

- ESG adjustments are applied based on FTSE Russell's ESG Ratings – a comprehensive measure of how well a company manages relevant ESG risks and impacts
- Enhanced exposure to companies that demonstrate strong ESG practices whilst decreased exposure to companies that do not
- Industry neutral re-weighting removes industry bias and delivers risk/return characteristics similar to the underlying benchmark index universe

## About FTSE Russell's ESG Ratings

The FTSE ESG Index Series uses the overall rating from FTSE Russell's ESG Ratings and data model to adjust the market capitalization weight of its constituents. The ESG Ratings include over 4,000 securities in 47 Developed and Emerging markets.

The ESG Ratings are comprised of an overall Rating, which is used to adjust stock weights in the FTSE ESG Index Series. The overall Rating breaks down into underlying Pillar and Thematic Exposures and Scores. The Pillars and Themes are built on over 300 individual indicator assessments that are applied to each company's unique ESG risk exposures.



## The ESG index construction process

#### **Starting universe**

Start with market capitalization weighted index:

- FTSE Developed Index
- FTSE Emerging Index
- FTSE All-Share Index
- Russell 1000 Index

Step 1

#### **Calculate ESG scores**

- Obtain the ESG Rating for each company in the underlying index via FTSE Russell's ESG Ratings and data model
- Remove outliers and normalize results (Z Score)<sup>1</sup>

Step 1 Step 2

#### Translate ESG scores into index weights

- Combine ESG scores with weights in the underlying market capitalization index to form a broad ESG index
- The resulting ESG index can be understood as an 'ESG Tilt' on the underlying index, by tilting the underlying weights according to the ESG score
- Companies with high ratings have their weights increased and companies with low ratings have their weights decreased

Step 1 > Step 2 > Step 3

#### Apply industry neutral adjustment

• The ESG index industry weights are rescaled to match the industry index weights of the underlying universe

Step 1 > Step 2 > Step 3 > Step 4

#### Narrow index and constrain final weights

Remove stocks which do not contribute to the overall factor objective, whilst ensuring that diversification constraints are not breached.

The following constraints are applied during this process:

- Country and Industry weight constraints
- Maximum stock level capacity ratio
- Minimum stock weight

Step 1 > Step 2 > Step 3 > Step 4 > Step 5

#### **Publish and review index**

• Indexes derived from the FTSE Developed and FTSE Emerging Indexes are reviewed annually in March

• Indexes derived from the FTSE All-Share and the Russell 1000 Indexes are reviewed annually in June

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> A 'Z-Score' is a statistical measurement of a score's relationship to the mean in a group of scores. A Z-Score of 0 means the score is the same as the mean. A Z-Score can be positive or negative, indicating whether it is above or below the mean.

#### For more information about our indexes, please visit ftserussell.com.

© 2018 London Stock Exchange Group plc and its applicable group undertakings (the "LSE Group"). The LSE Group includes (1) FTSE International Limited ("FTSE"), (2) Frank Russell Company ("Russell"), (3) FTSE Global Debt Capital Markets Inc. and FTSE Global Debt Capital Markets Limited (together, "FTSE GDCM"), (4) MTSNext Limited ("MTSNext"), (5) Mergent, Inc. ("Mergent"), (6) FTSE Fixed Income LLC ("FTSE FI") and (7) The Yield Book Inc ("YB"). All rights reserved.

FTSE Russell<sup>®</sup> is a trading name of FTSE, Russell, FTSE GDCM, MTS Next Limited, Mergent, FTSE FI and YB. "FTSE<sup>®</sup>", "Russell<sup>®</sup>", "FTSE Russell<sup>®</sup>", "MTS<sup>®</sup>", "FTSE4Good<sup>®</sup>", "ICB<sup>®</sup>", "Mergent<sup>®</sup>", "WorldBIG<sup>®</sup>", "USBIG<sup>®</sup>", "EuroBIG<sup>®</sup>", "AusBIG<sup>®</sup>", "The Yield Book<sup>®</sup>", and all other trademarks and service marks used herein (whether registered or unregistered) are trademarks and/or service marks owned or licensed by the applicable member of the LSE Group or their respective licensors and are owned, or used under licence, by FTSE, Russell, MTSNext, FTSE GDCM, Mergent, FTSE FI or YB. "TMX<sup>®</sup>" is a registered trademark of TSX Inc. FTSE International Limited is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority as a benchmark administrator.

All information is provided for information purposes only. All information and data contained in this publication is obtained by the LSE Group, from sources believed by it to be accurate and reliable. Because of the possibility of human and mechanical error as well as other factors, however, such information and data is provided "as is" without warranty of any kind. No member of the LSE Group nor their respective directors, officers, employees, partners or licensors make any claim, prediction, warranty or representation whatsoever, expressly or impliedly, either as to the accuracy, timeliness, completeness, merchantability of any information or of results to be obtained from the use of the FTSE Russell Products or the fitness or suitability of the FTSE Russell Products for any particular purpose to which they might be put. Any representation of historical data accessible through FTSE Russell Products is provided for information purposes only and is not a reliable indicator of future performance.

No responsibility or liability can be accepted by any member of the LSE Group nor their respective directors, officers, employees, partners or licensors for (a) any loss or damage in whole or in part caused by, resulting from, or relating to any error (negligent or otherwise) or other circumstance involved in procuring, collecting, compiling, interpreting, analysing, editing, transcribing, transmitting, communicating or delivering any such information or data or from use of this document or links to this document or (b) any direct, indirect, special, consequential or incidental damages whatsoever, even if any member of the LSE Group is advised in advance of the possibility of such damages, resulting from the use of, or inability to use, such information.

No member of the LSE Group nor their respective directors, officers, employees, partners or licensors provide investment advice and nothing contained in this document or accessible through FTSE Russell Products, including statistical data and industry reports, should be taken as constituting financial or investment advice or a financial promotion.

Past performance is no guarantee of future results. Charts and graphs are provided for illustrative purposes only. Index returns shown may not represent the results of the actual trading of investable assets. Certain returns shown may reflect back-tested performance. All performance presented prior to the index inception date is back-tested performance. Back-tested performance is not actual performance, but is hypothetical. The back-test calculations are based on the same methodology that was in effect when the index was officially launched. However, back- tested data may reflect the application of the index methodology with the benefit of hindsight, and the historic calculations of an index may change from month to month based on revisions to the underlying economic data used in the calculation of the index.

This publication may contain forward-looking assessments. These are based upon a number of assumptions concerning future conditions that ultimately may prove to be inaccurate. Such forward-looking assessments are subject to risks and uncertainties and may be affected by various factors that may cause actual results to differ materially. No member of the LSE Group nor their licensors assume any duty to and do not undertake to update forward-looking assessments.

No part of this information may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise, without prior written permission of the applicable member of the LSE Group. Use and distribution of the LSE Group data requires a licence from FTSE, Russell, FTSE GDCM, MTSNext, Mergent, FTSE FI, YB and/or their respective licensors.

To learn more, visit <u>ftserussell.com</u>; email <u>info@ftserussell.com</u>; or call your regional Client Service Team office:

+44 (0) 20 7866 1810

North America +1 877 503 6437 Asia-Pacific Hong Kong +852 2164 3333 Tokyo +81 3 4563 6346 Sydney +61 (0) 2 8823 3521

**EMEA**