



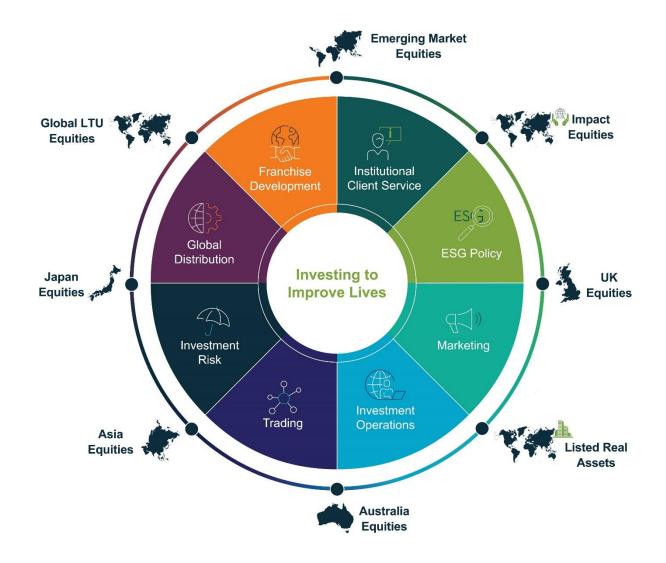
# IMPROVING SOCIETY STRATEGY: MAXIMISING RETURN THROUGH SOCIAL IMPACT

January 2024

## OUR BUSINESS MODEL SUPPORTS AND EMPOWERS INVESTORS



- Culture that empowers investors
- Supportive infrastructure and environment
- Autonomous equity teams



## INTEGRATING STEWARDSHIP AND SUSTAINABILITY SINCE 2008







## WHY IMPROVING SOCIETY STRATEGY?

## IMPACT EQUITIES TEAM











**Direct Experience in** managing Sustainable **Mandates** 

Significant Experience in Global/International Investing

Different backgrounds for diverse insights



Lauran Halpin Portfolio Manager, Head of Impact Equities Climate Change, EAFE, Healthcare 17 years' experience

Templeton Global Climate Change Strategy Glenfinlas Global

Healthcare Strategy

FT Global Equity Group **Edinburgh Partners** Baillie Gifford

Martin Currie

Biology and Ecological **Economics** 



**John Gilmore** Portfolio Manager, Impact Equities Global, Sustainable 19 years' experience

**BNYM Sustainable US Equity Strategy** 

Martin Currie Newton Investment Management Aegon Asset Management International Relations



**Eoghan McGrath Investment Analyst** 2 years' experience

Martin Currie

Alliance Trust

**Actuarial Studies** 

## INNOVATIVE PORTFOLIO FOCUSED ON GROWTH AND IMPACT



Intentional and measurable social impact to address fairness and inequity Growth potential and positive societal impact Targeting seven socially focused Concentrated, original, high active Sustainable Development Goals share portfolio

## THREE IMPACT PILLARS DRIVE OUR APPROACH



Impact Pillar	Improving Wellbeing				Improving Inclusion			Supporting a Just Transition		
	7	Ea			35					4
Impact Focus		Preventative Medicine	Medical Treatment & Advances	Basic Human Needs	Education	Financial Equality	Access to Resources	Circular Economy	Reskilling	Safer and Cleaner Communites

## CONTRIBUTING TO SEVEN FOCUSED SDGS\*



Providing clients with exposure to SDGs identified as contributing to Improving Society



Company research organised through seven focused SDGs and not traditional sectors

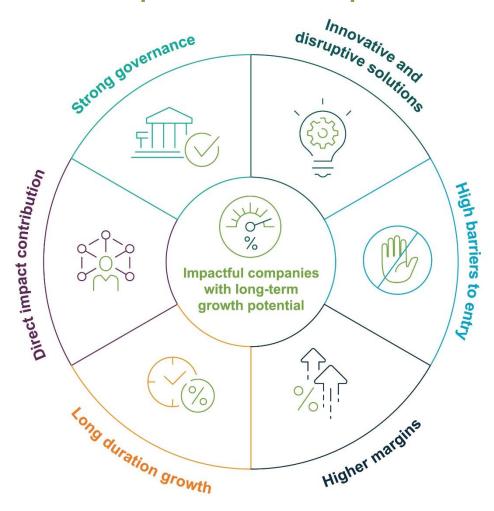
Source: Martin Currie.

\*Sustainable Development Goals.

## INVESTING IN INNOVATION AND LONG-TERM GROWTH

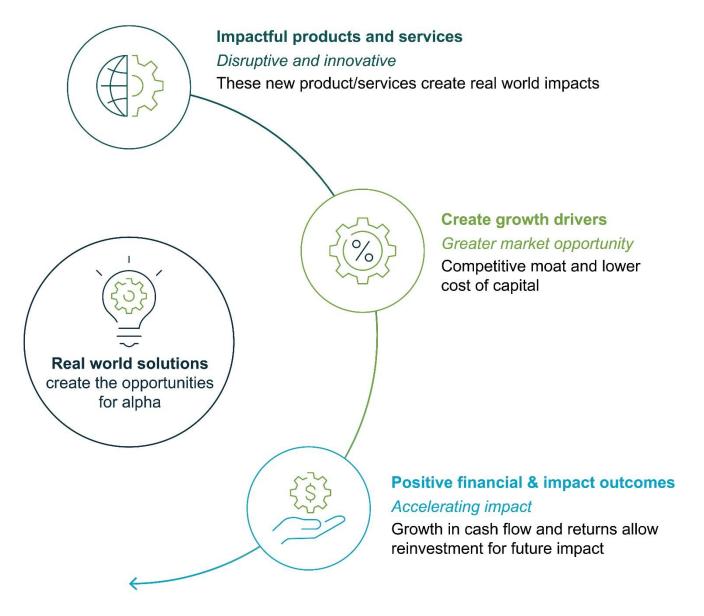


### Our core belief is that impact and financial performance are interrelated



## INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY AND SOCIAL IMPACT





### REAL WORLD SOLUTIONS

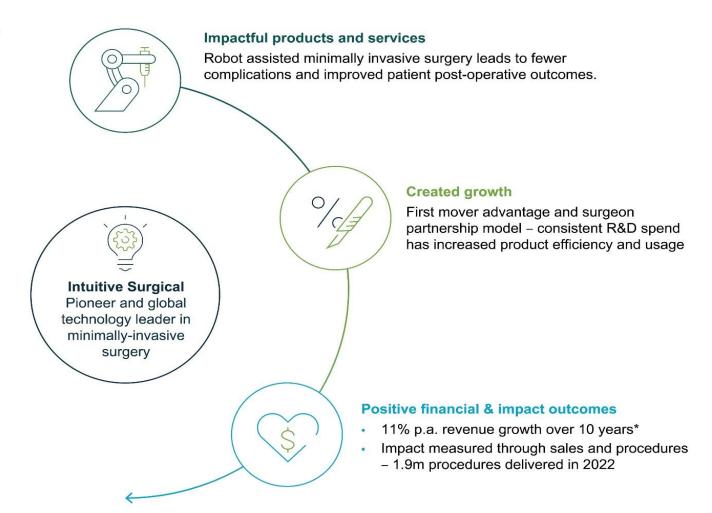
### Case study: Intuitive surgical





#### Social Impact

Make surgery **more effective and less invasive**: easier on surgeons, patients and their families



The information provided should not be considered a recommendation to purchase or sell any particular security. It should not be assumed that any of the securities discussed here were, or will prove to be, profitable. It is not known whether the stocks mentioned will feature in any future portfolios managed by Martin Currie. Any stock examples will represent a small part of a portfolio and are used purely to demonstrate our investment style. The analysis of Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) factors forms an important part of the investment process and helps inform investment decisions.

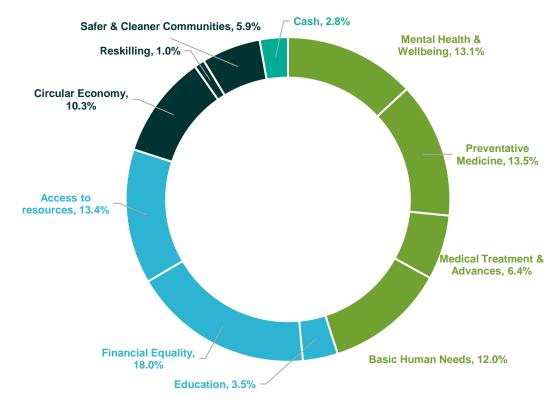
Source: Martin Currie and Intuitive Surgical Inc, January 2023. \*10 years to 30 September 2023.

## OUR PORTFOLIO REFLECTS THE THREE IMPACT PILLARS



#### Portfolio will seek to identify companies creating positive on human equity in three main areas:

Impact Pillar	Number of companies with exposure to theme
Improving Wellbeing	11
Improving Inclusion	10
Supporting Just Transition	7

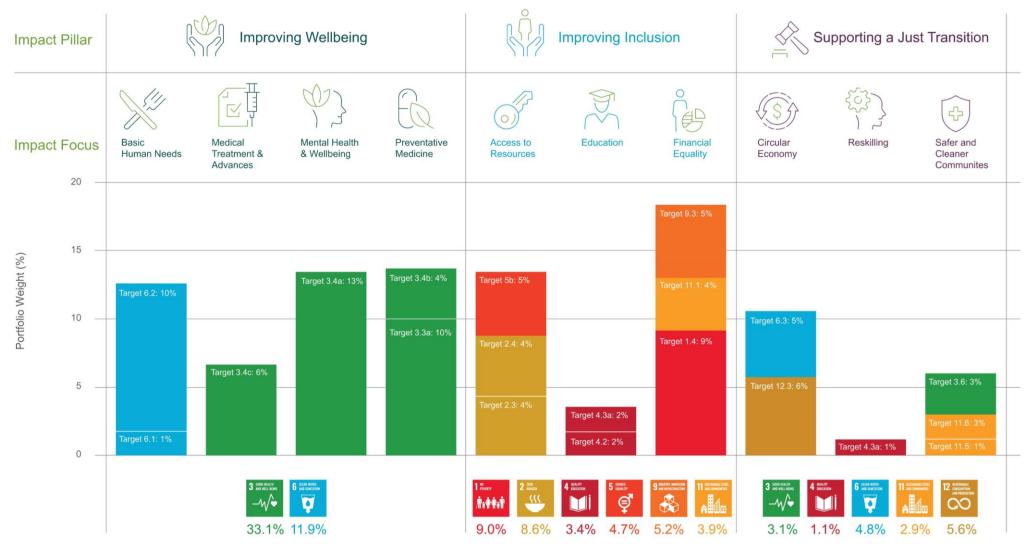


#### No pillar will ever represent greater than 50% of portfolio weight

Source: Martin Currie, as of 31 December 2023. Data presented is for the representative Martin Currie Improving Society account. Human Equity is the acknowledgement of the various hindrances and advantages people have and taking steps to ensure there is fair treatment, access, opportunity, and advancement for all people.

## DELIVERS BROAD BASED SOCIAL IMPACT





Source: Proprietary, as of 31 December 2023.

<sup>\*</sup>Sustainable Development Goals

## PORTFOLIO BUILT FOR AND FOCUSING ON SOCIAL IMPACT



Stock	Impact Focus	Impact Pillar	Weight (%)
Intuitive Surgical	Medical Treatment & Advances	Improve Wellbeing	6.4%
Xylem	Basic Human Needs	Improve Wellbeing	6.2%
HDFC Bank	Financial Equality	Improving Inclusion	6.0%
Novozymes	Circular Economy	Just Transition	5.5%
Revvity*	Preventative Medicine	Improve Wellbeing	5.3%
Mercadolibre	Financial Equality	Improving Inclusion	5.1%
Veolia Environnement	Circular Economy	Just Transition	4.7%
Airtel Africa	Access to resources	Improving Inclusion	4.7%
Croda International	Preventative Medicine	Improve Wellbeing	4.5%
Valmont Industries	Access to resources	Improving Inclusion	4.5%

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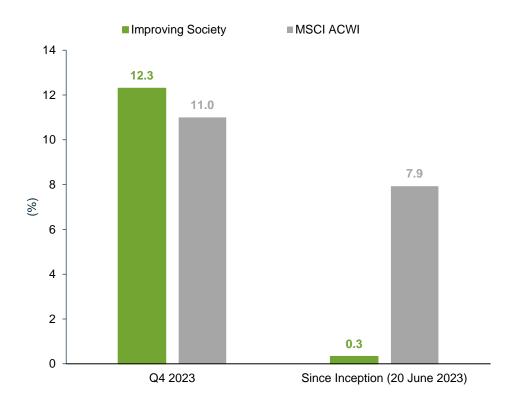
It is not known whether the stocks mentioned will feature in any future portfolios managed by Martin Currie. Any stock examples will represent a small part of a portfolio and are used purely to demonstrate our investment style.

Source: Martin Currie, as of 31 December 2023. Data presented is for the representative Martin Currie Improving Society account. \*Formerly PerkinElmer.

## PORTFOLIO PERFORMANCE



#### Performance since inception, (US\$)



#### Contribution since inception, (US\$)

#### **Top five contributors**

Stock	Sector	Country	Relative Contribution (%)
Mercadolibre	Consumer Disc.	United States	1.0
Vistry	Consumer Disc.	United Kingdom	0.5
Coursera	Consumer Disc.	United States	0.5
Stride	Consumer Disc.	United States	0.5
Novozymes	Materials	Denmark	0.4

#### **Bottom five contributors**

Stock	Sector	Country	Relative Contribution (%)
Illumina	Health Care	United States	(1.9)
Masimo	Health Care	United States	(1.5)
Valmont	Industrials	United States	(1.3)
Energy Recovery	Industrials	United States	(0.7)
Croda	Materials	United Kingdom	(0.7)

#### Past performance is not a guide to future returns. The return may increase or decrease as a result of currency fluctuations.

Source: Martin Currie, as of 31 December 2023. Data presented is for a representative account. Gross data is presented without deducting investment advisory fees, broker commissions, or other expenses that reduce the return to investors. Net data is presented net of investment advisory fees, broker commissions, and all other expenses borne by investors. Since inception date is 20 June 2023. Please note that this strategy is unconstrained by any benchmark. We show it against the MSCI ACWI for illustrative purposes only.



## PHILOSOPHY & PROCESS

## IMPROVING SOCIETY STRATEGY



#### **Martin Currie Improving Society**

Objective Social impact and long-term capital appreciation

Asset Class Listed equities

Style Impact

Investable Universe Global

Benchmark N/A

Performance Goal\*

Outperform the MSCI All Country World Index

Market Capitalisation All-cap

Sector/Country Allocations As a result of stock selection, managed within factor risk analysis. Maximum sector allocation of 30%

Security Limit

Maximum 10% absolute stock weight

Impact Pillar Limit

Maximum allocation of 50% in any one impact pillar

Number of Stocks 20-35

Portfolio Turnover

Low – expected turnover

Exclusions\*\*

Fossil fuel producers / Controversial weapons\*\*\* / Tobacco / Conventional weapon producers / Nuclear power\*\*\*\* /

Adult entertainment / Gambling / Alcohol

Inception 20 June 2023

Available Vehicles Segregated Account or Pooled Fund

Source: Martin Currie as of 31 December 2023.

Data shown based on indicative portfolio, for the Martin Currie Improving Society strategy, shown for illustrative purposes only.

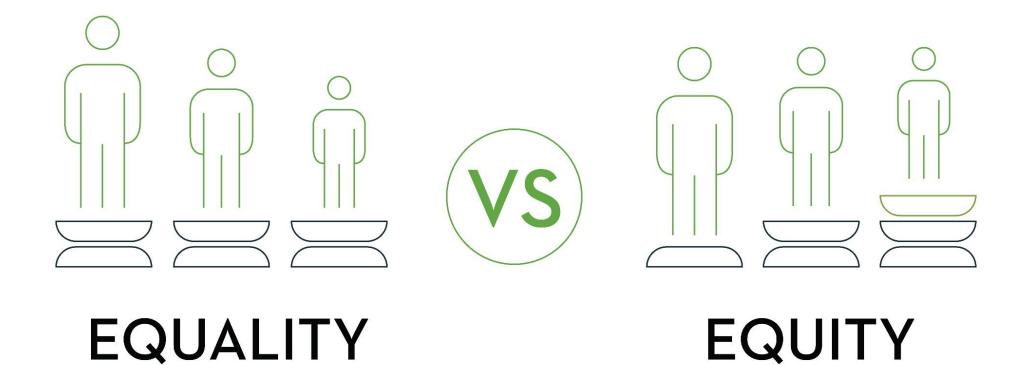
Investment vehicles only available in certain jurisdictions. The characteristics shown are guidelines only and not hard risk limits.

<sup>\*</sup>Performance is measured against the MSCI ACWI. For the avoidance of doubt, the Investment Manager considers that this Index is not used for the purpose of determining or constraining the composition of the portfolio. This Index is not used as a reference index to attain the sustainable investment objective as the portfolio does not align its sustainable investment objective with that of the Index.

<sup>\*\*</sup>Exclusions apply to all listed categories where revenue is greater than 5%, unless otherwise noted. \*\*\*Full exclusion. \*\*\*\*Where revenue is greater than 10%.

## WHAT IS SOCIAL EQUITY?





18

## INVESTING TO ADVANCE SOCIAL OPPORTUNITY AND FAIRNESS



#### **Problem**

Inequalities of income and opportunity have broadened since the 2008 Global Financial Crisis



Government indebtedness and lack of policy interventions.



Private debt and project finance are yet to deliver impact at scale

### Solution

**Public equities** 

create impact at scale



...and shareholder engagement

can accelerate the delivery

### **Martin Currie Improving Society**



Addresses inequity by investing in publicly listed companies



Engages to improve fair treatment, access, opportu

fair treatment, access, opportunity, and advancement for all



**Invests with intentionality** 

to create impact at scale, and engage to accelerate delivery of these ambitions

## DIVERSE PORTFOLIO INVESTING IN THREE IMPACT PILLARS





Improving Wellbeing

Intuitive Surgical Robotic surgical systems

Xylem
Water treatment and technology

Revvity\*

Diagnostic testing kits



Improving Inclusion

HDFC Banking and finance

Mercado Libre Access to lending

Airtel Africa
Communications & digital
finance



**Supporting Just Transition** 

Novozymes
Food & agricultural
BioSolutions

Veolia Environmental
Water and waste
solutions

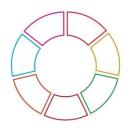
Emirates Central Cooling
Systems Corporation
District Cooling Systems

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Source: Martin Currie, as of 31 December 2023. Data presented is for the representative Martin Currie Improving Society account. Three largest holdings per impact pillar. \*Formerly PerkinElmer.

### ANALYTICAL RESPONSIBILITY BY SDGS\*





#### Seven key areas of focus

Analytical responsibility is split between team members by Sustainable Development Goals (SDG's), key to our objective of positive social impact.



Lauran Halpin









**John Gilmore** 







**Eoghan McGrath** 





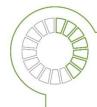
Allows development of deep familiarity with the required theory of change to achieve the SDG's and how individual company impact facilitates this.

Source: Martin Currie and United Nations. December 2023.

The United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are a collection of 17 interlinked global goals designed to be a shared blueprint for peace and prosperity for people and the planet, now and into the future. Each goal has been allocated a number by United Nations, as detailed on this slide. \*Sustainable Development Goals

## IMPACT INVESTING – THE CORE OF OUR APPROACH





### **Universe Management**

Positive screening for SDG alignment and impact pillar creates the watchlist



### **Impact Analysis**

Detailed impact assessment delivers impact conviction, KPIs and engagement topics



#### **Business Analysis**

Building conviction through Proprietary Governance and Sustainability research, combined with Financial analysis

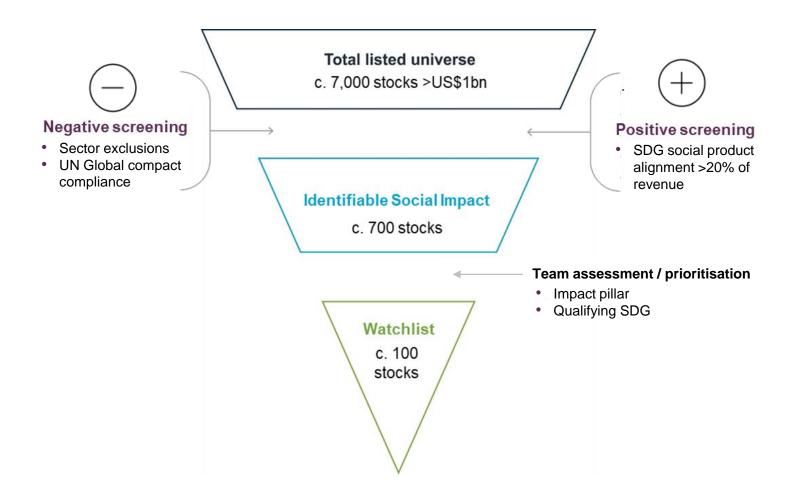


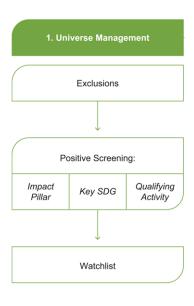
#### **Portfolio Construction**

Portfolio weighted by team impact and investment conviction ratings

## UNIVERSE MANAGEMENT



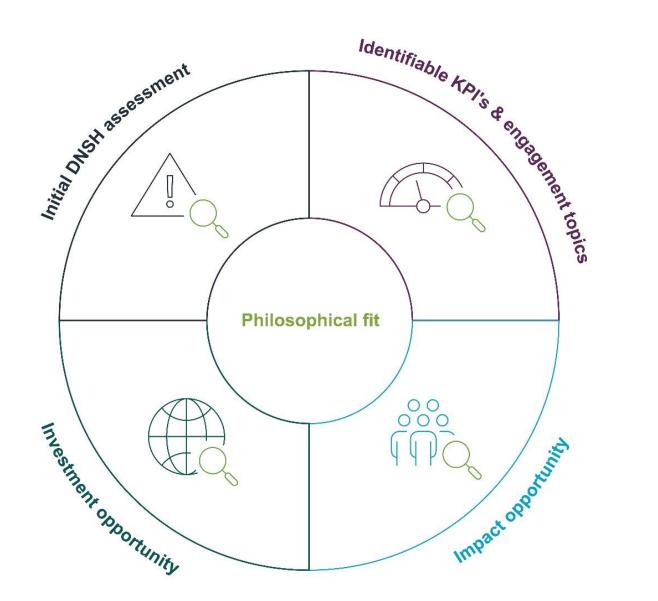


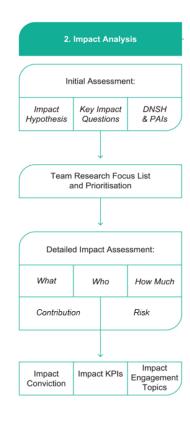


Source: Martin Currie. Improving Society universe was the MSCI ACWI IMI with the following restrictions: Market Cap >\$1bn, SDG Product Alignment of Aligned or Strongly Aligned according to MSCI OR Impact revenue >= 20% of total revenues.

## IMPACT ANALYSIS: INITIAL ASSESSMENT







## IMPACT ANALYSIS: IMPACT FRAMEWORK



We measure the impact a company is creating using the Impact Frontiers' 'Five Dimensions of Impact', which focusses on five key areas:



What is the mechanism for creating impact?



Who is impacted?



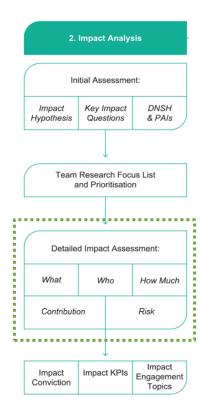
**How Much** impact is created?



**Contribution**: Is the impact additional? What would have happened if the impact weren't generated?

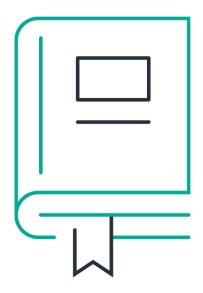


**Risk**: What are the risks associated with the generation of impact?



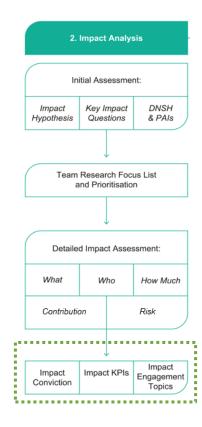
## **IMPACT ANALYSIS: KPI'S**





Think of the portfolio as an 'anthology of short stories' on impact:

- Company specific Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) drive measurement and reporting
- Success is defined as improvement over time
- Annual Impact Report illustrates portfolio performance relative to KPIs



### CASE STUDY: IMPACT KPI'S



### Revvity (formerly PerkinElmer) – United States

NYSE Ticker: RVTY

Market Cap: USD14.9 billion

Impact Pillar: Improving Wellbeing

#### Company **Profile**

- · Global manufacturer of diagnostic testing kits and supplies (60% of revenues)
- Leading positions in neonatal, allergy, and infectious disease testing
- Company has a direct, material impact on human wellbeing by allowing quick and accurate diagnosis of an increasing array of diseases and conditions which then allow more efficient and effective treatment

#### Impact KPIs

- Revenue growth in the diagnostic testing segment: is the volume of tests sold growing year on year?
- R&D as a % of sales: is the company continuing to invest in new products to drive impact growth?
- Return on Incremental Capital: is the company's M&A activity additive to its impact over the longer term?



### **Good Health and Wellbeing**

- · improving reproductive, maternal and child health
- ending epidemics of major contagious diseases
- · reducing non-contagious diseases



























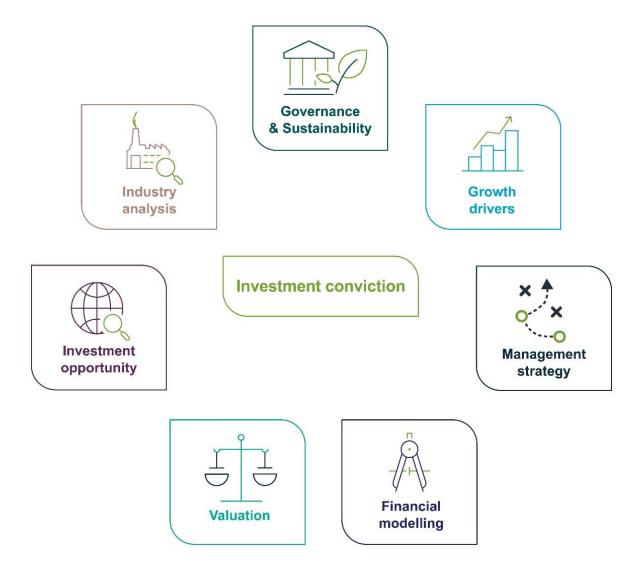


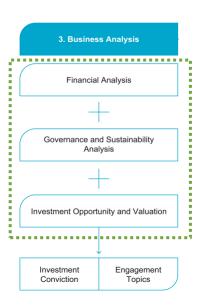


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## BUSINESS ANALYSIS: A COLLABORATIVE AND RIGOROUS APPROACH

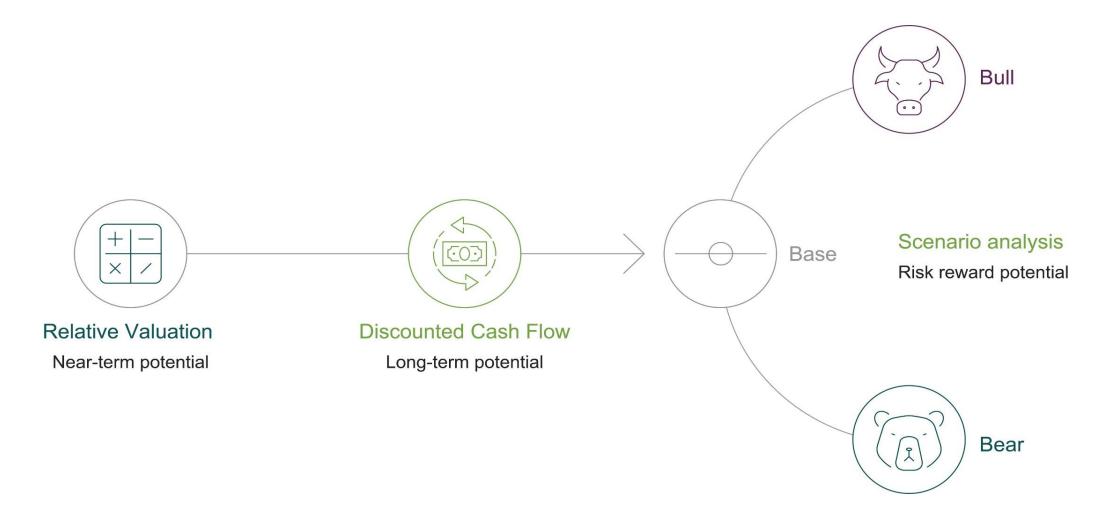






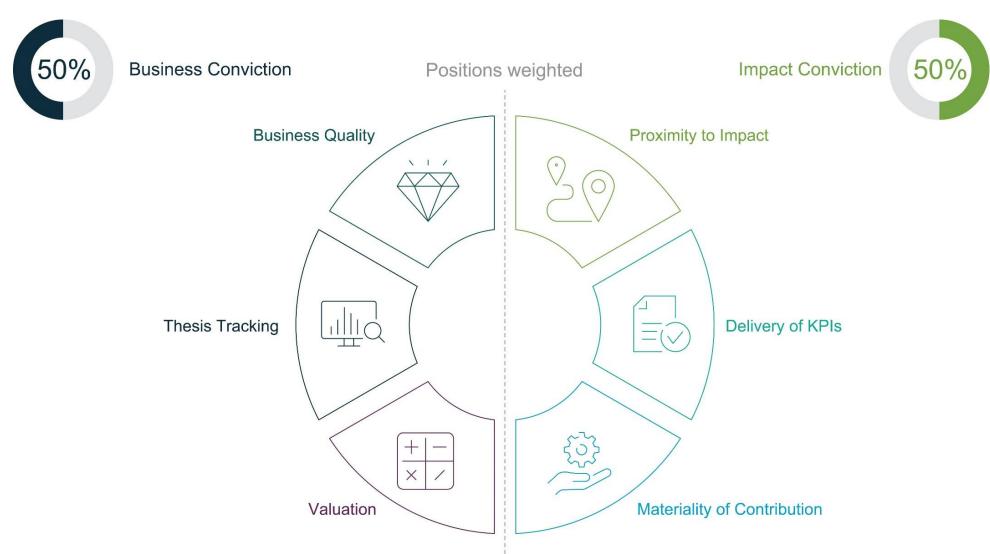
## VALUATION MAPPED BY COMPANY OPPORTUNITY SET





## BUSINESS AND IMPACT CONVICTION DETERMINE POSITION SIZE



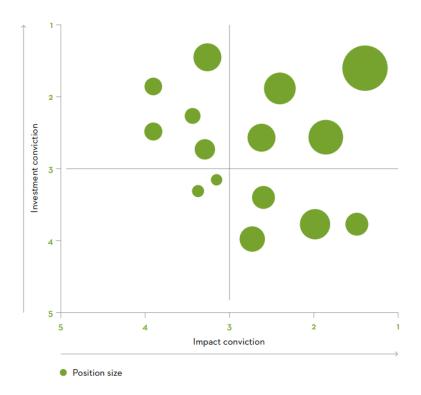


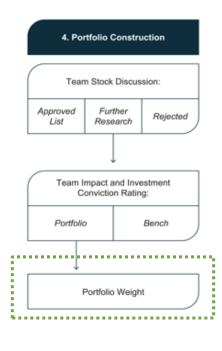
## PORTFOLIO CONSTRUCTION: POSITION SIZING



#### **Portfolio positions\* reflect our conviction on two dimensions:**

- The likely impact the company will have
- The investment case and risk adjusted return opportunity





We allocate capital to those companies where potential impact and potential risk adjusted return are highest.

<sup>\*</sup>Indicative view of position sizes and not based on the current portfolio.

### ENGAGEMENT IS KEY TO ACCELERATE IMPACT





- Every portfolio holding will be subjected to a structured engagement plan focussed on two key areas:
  - 1. Accelerating the positive impact a company is having
  - Improving sustainability-related corporate behaviour
- Engagement plans will have a clearly defined objective and will be monitored through to completion
- We will track the proportion of the fund at each engagement stage of completion which will be assessed on a scale from 1-5
- Engagement will also help inform portfolio construction by feeding into conviction levels

Source: Franklin Templeton. Performance details are in the representative account base currency, include the reinvested dividends net of basic rate UK tax and are net of management fees. Sales charges and other commissions, other taxes and relevant costs to be paid by an investor are not included in the calculations. Performance may also be affected by currency fluctuations. Up to date performance figures can be found on our local website.

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## PORTFOLIO CONSTRUCTION: SELL DISCIPLINE



### **Conviction ratings**



Ensures focus on the highest conviction names



Conviction low

Lower conviction names are focus of urgent engagement and research work

#### Stock sell decision based on four reasons:

#### Impact performance below expectations

• If, following engagement, our conviction in a company's ability to generate impact remains low or weakens, the stock will be sold.

#### Investment thesis indicators weaken

• Stop and review; stock goes on priority work for urgent reassessment. If risk/reward becomes unappealing and conviction cannot be rebuilt, we sell.

#### **Higher conviction stocks identified**

 Switch into stock on approved list that offers more impact potential and/or greater investment upside.

#### Stock is no longer a sustainable investment

 We have identified significant harm associated with a company's activities and sell the stock.

## INNOVATIVE PORTFOLIO FOCUSED ON GROWTH AND IMPACT





Intentional and measurable social impact to address fairness and inequity



Targeting seven socially focused Sustainable Development Goals



Concentrated, original, high active share portfolio

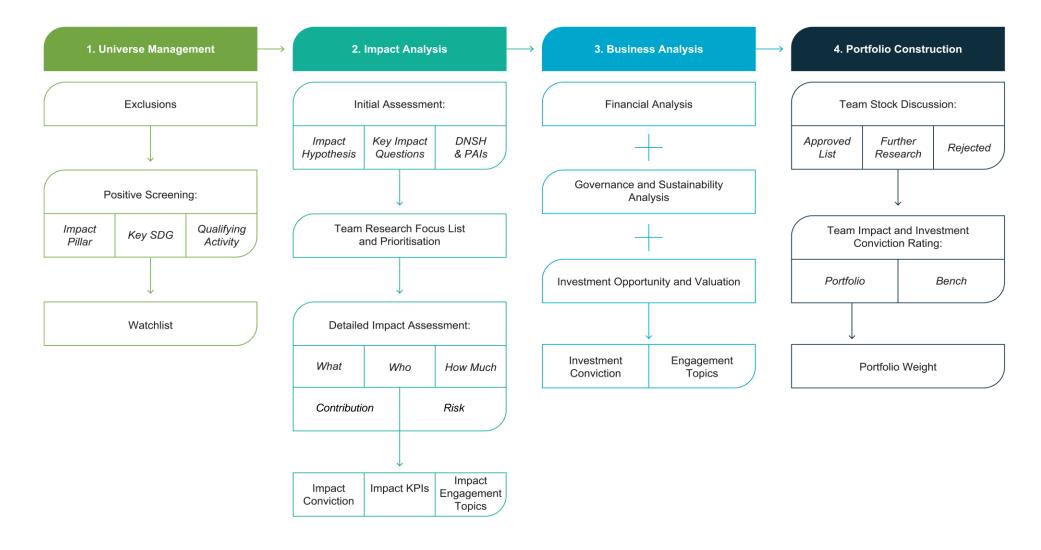
**Growth potential and positive societal impact** 



## **APPENDICES**

## IMPACT INVESTING - THE CORE OF OUR APPROACH

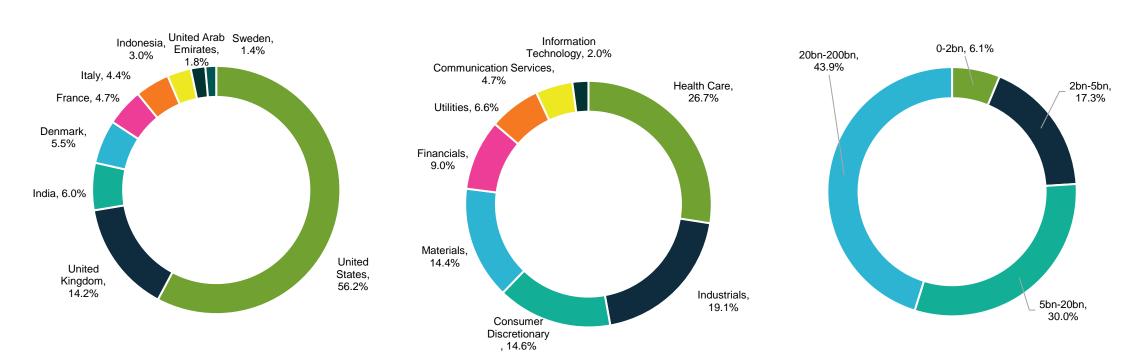




## OUR PORTFOLIO: SECTOR, GEOGRAPHY & MARKET CAP







Source: Martin Currie, as of 31 December 2023. Data presented is for the representative Martin Currie Improving Society account. Human Equity is the acknowledgement of the various hindrances and advantages people have and taking steps to ensure there is fair treatment, access, opportunity, and advancement for all people.

## STYLE POSITIONING



#### **Risk metrics**

Tracking Error (%)	8.1
Portfolio Beta	1.00
Portfolio Volatility (%)	20.2
Benchmark Volatility (%)	18.5

Value	Portfolio	Index
Price/Book	3.7	3.0
Price/Sales	2.3	2.0
Price/Earnings	19.2	16.3
Price/Cash Flow	14.1	12.0
Yield		
Dividend Yield (%)	1.4	2.0
Dividend Payout Ratio	24.7	33.2
Dividend Growth Rate (1 year consensus) (%)	10.7	8.5
Growth		
Earnings growth (Average annual growth rate over last 3 years)	21.5	18.3
Earnings growth (Long term consensus) (%)	24.1	13.1
Quality		
Return on Invested Capital	8.8	15.5
Size		
Market Cap (USD million)	39,369	442,492

Past performance is not a guide to future returns.

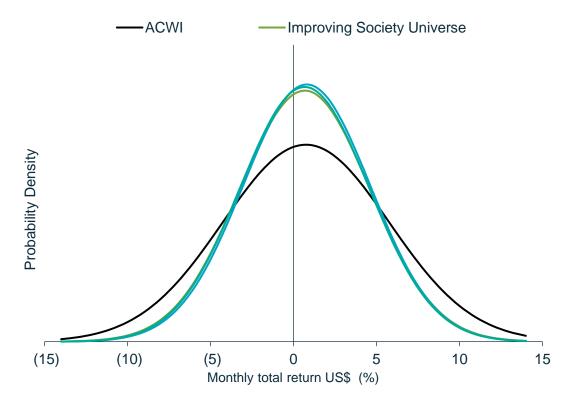
Source: Martin Currie and Style Analytics as of 31 December 2023. Data presented is for the representative Martin Currie Improving Society account. MSCI ACWI index used as benchmark. Any differences in relatives are due to rounding.

## POTENTIAL FOR STRONGER RISK ADJUSTED RETURNS



Having modelled the Improving Society investment universe historically, it was observed to have **significantly lower volatility** than, and **comparable returns** to, the MSCI All Country World Index

### Improving Society universe versus MSCI ACWI



#### Past performance is not a guide to future returns. The return may increase or decrease as a result of currency fluctuations.

Source: Martin Currie as of 30 June 2023. Relative frequency versus investment returns. Data based on five years to end June 2023, average and standard deviation of monthly returns. Improving Society universe was the MSCI ACWI IMI with the following restrictions: Market Cap >\$1bn, SDG Product Alignment of Aligned according to MSCI OR Impact revenue >= 20% of total revenues.

## IMPACT EQUITY PORTFOLIO MANAGER BIOGRAPHIES





**Lauran Halpin** 

#### **Head of Impact Equities**

Lauran has long been passionate, both in her role as an investor and in private life, in sustainability, social issues, and making an impact in her community. Lauran joined Martin Currie in 2022 as Head of Impact Equities, leading a newly established investment capability for the business bringing together all her experience and passion for sustainability and impact. Before joining Martin Currie, Lauran was a member of the portfolio construction group managing ESG-related products at Franklin Templeton Global Equity Group including the Templeton Global Climate Change Fund.

Lauran has nearly 20 years of investment experience beginning her career in 2007 at Baillie Gifford where she was Global Healthcare Analyst and managed the Glenfinlas Global Healthcare Strategy. Lauran continued her research of the Global Healthcare sector when she joined Edinburgh Partners as an Investment Manager in 2013 and also co-managed a number of EAFE accounts. With an M.Sc. in Ecological Economics from University of Edinburgh (2005) and a B.S.in Biology from Davidson College (2003), Lauran spends her spare time enjoying outdoor life in the Highlands with her two dogs.



**John Gilmore** 

#### Portfolio Manager, Impact Equities / Stewardship, Sustainability & Impact Specialist

A lover of the great outdoors, John has a passion for ski touring and marathon running. He is passionate about and an advocate for the role of public equity markets in driving societal change through a focus on investing in scalable solutions providers combined with active ownership and engagement to help drive positive change.

John is an Impact Equities Portfolio Manager and Stewardship, Sustainability & Impact specialist. He joined Martin Currie in 2019 as a Portfolio Manager/Analyst and since 2020, his role has had an emphasis in supporting Martin Currie's capability and leadership position in Stewardship & Sustainability of which the launch of the Improving Society strategy is the latest chapter. John has almost two decades of investment experience, beginning his career as an Investment Analyst at Alliance Trust in 2004 before moving as a Portfolio Manager to Aegon Asset Management where he managed US and Global equity mandates. He later moved to Newton Investment Management as an investment analyst and portfolio manager in its Global Equity team, which included helping develop and implement its sustainable investment and enhanced ESG integration process for a new suite of sustainable funds. John graduated with an MA (Hons) in International Relations from St Andrews University, having also spent a year at Queens University Ontario. He is a CFA charterholder and has also completed the CFA certificate in ESG investing and SASB Fundamentals of Sustainability Accounting (FSA). John lives in Edinburgh with his wife and three daughters.

## ROBUST GOVERNANCE AND SUSTAINABILITY FRAMEWORK





**David Sheasby** Head of Stewardship, Sustainability & Impact



#### IMPORTANT INFORMATION



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