

#### EQ Future Leaders Portfolios

# One year anniversary







## Your speakers





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# Agenda



1	EQ Future Leaders: an overview
2	Performance and drivers
3	Current positioning
4	Sustainability credentials and improvements
5	New themes: decarbonisation and clean water
6	Q&A



#### 1. EQ Future Leaders: an overview

#### **EQ** Investors



- Staff-owned discretionary fund manager
- £1.3 billion AUM (Jan 21)
- Founding UK B Corporation
- Focusing on sustainable and impact investing since 2008



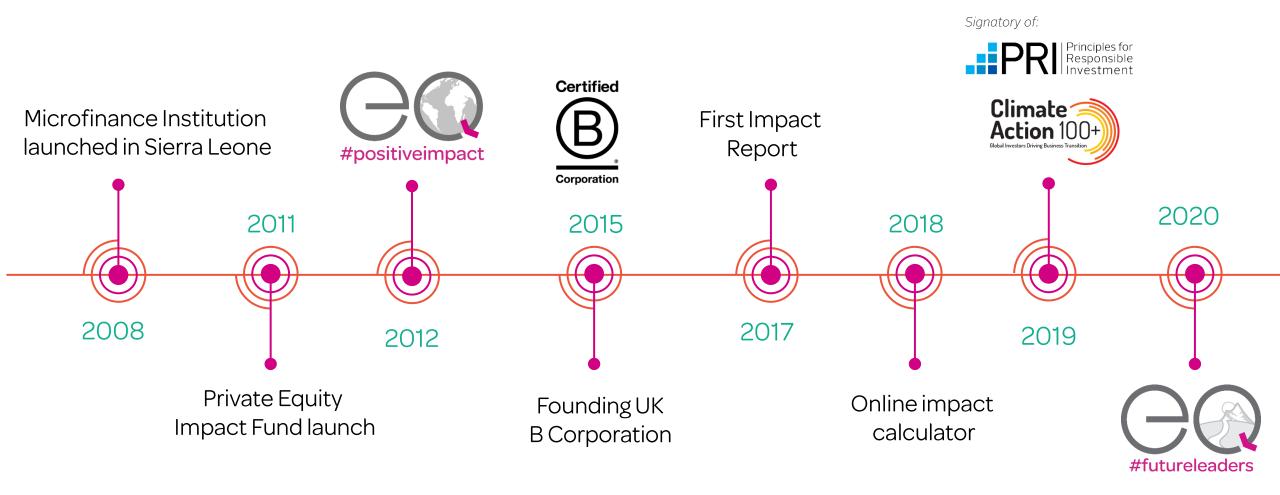
Abundance Investment, Adam Smith International, Allbirds, Allplants, Artfinder, Bates Wells, Bulb, C-Level, Carbon Analytics, ClimateCare, DAME, Davines, Delphis Eco, Do Nation, Don't Cry Wolf, Dopper, Dr. Bronner's, Easthall Farm, Ella's Kitchen, EQ Investors, Flooglebinder, Form Nutrition, Forster Communications, Freestar Drinks, Futerra, Gong Communications, Green Element, Humankind Research, innocent drinks, Intrepid Travel, Invivo Healthcare, L&Co



LEAP, Living Alive, Mindful Chef, Montanaro Asset Management, On Purpose, One Stone Advisors, Patagonia, Pelorus Consulting, PROPER Snacks, Provenance, Pukka Herbs, TISC Report, Shoremount, Society, SunFresh Produce, Systemiq, The Body Shop, The Cheeky Panda, The Guardian, The TYF Group, Toast Ale, Tricordant, Verco Advisory Services, Volans, Waterbomb, Wessanen, WHEB Asset Management, Wholegrain Digital, Wildwood Ecology

## This is a journey, our story so far





Our evolution is a result of learning through doing.

#### UN Sustainable Development Goals





- Big picture framework for thinking about sustainability
- \$5-7 trillion needed per year to achieve the goals (Source: UNDP, 2017)

#### EQ Future Leaders Portfolios





## Screening process



#### 1. Exclusions

ESG Laggards

&

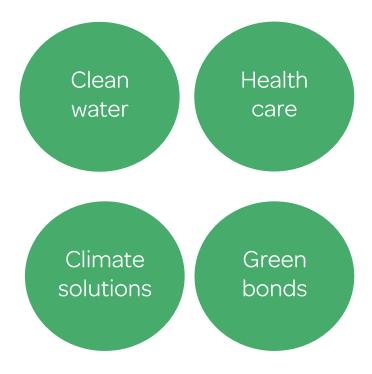
controversies

Armaments
Alcohol
Fossil fuel
extraction
Tobacco
Gambling
GMOs\*
Pornography

#### 2. Portfolio core



#### 3. Satellite themes





#### 2. Performance and drivers

#### Portfolios Performance



#### Portfolios performed well:

Cumulative performance*	1 Year 1 Mar 20 to 28 Feb 21	2 Year 1 Mar 19 to 28 Feb 21	3 Year 1 Mar 18 to 28 Feb 21
EQ Future Leaders Cautious	6.8%	+16.7%	+19.8%
EQ Future Leaders Balanced	11.0%	+20.8%	+24.5%
EQ Future Leaders Adventurous	16.4%	+25.9%	+29.6%
FTSE 100 – UK equities	+1.4%	-1.35%	+0.8%
MSCI AC World – Global equities	+19.0%	+28.8%	+32.2%

Performance includes fund charges and EQ DFM fee. Data as of 28/02/2021. Source: Morningstar, FE

## Performance vs. Vanguard



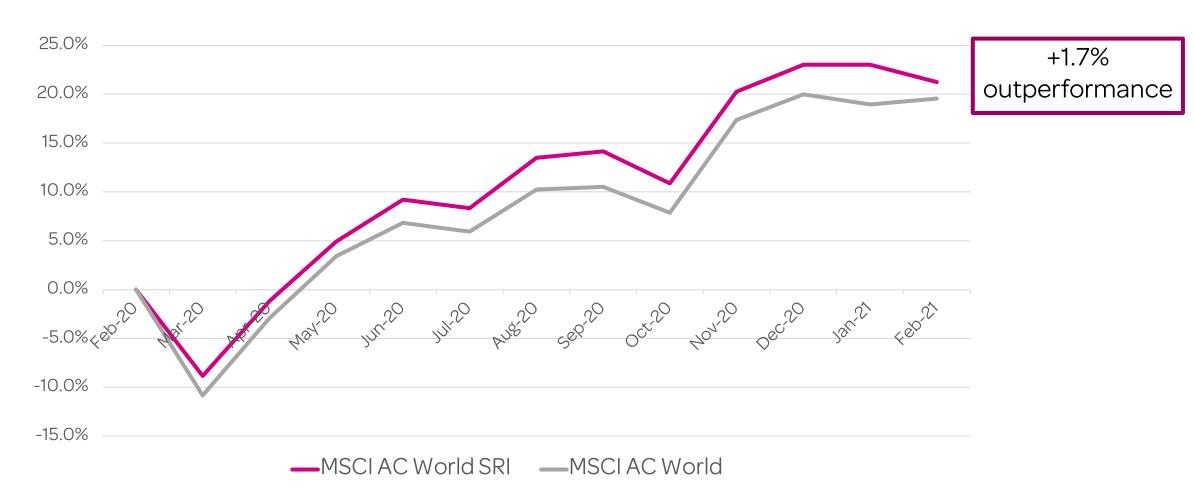
Cumulative Performance*	1Y	2Y	3Y
EQ Future Leaders Cautious	6.8%	+16.7%	+19.8%
Vanguard LifeStrategy 40%	5.9%	+14.9%	+17.3%
EQ Future Leaders Balanced	11.0%	+20.8%	+24.5%
Vanguard LifeStrategy 60%	9.3%	+17.7%	+20.4%
EQ Future Leaders Adventurous	16.4%	+25.9%	+29.6%
Vanguard LifeStrategy 80%	12.6%	+20.1%	+23.0%

Performance includes fund charges and EQ DFM fee. Data as of 28/02/2021. Source: Morningstar, FE

Past performance is not a guide to the future. The value of investment and the income derived from it can go down as well as up and clients can get back less than they originally invested. \*All performance presented prior to the portfolio inception date (29 Feb 2020) is simulated performance. Simulated data is made with the benefit of hindsight and is provided for informational purposes only. The idea is to indicate historical performance for the portfolio where there is insufficient live data to display. Simulated performance is not actual performance, but is hypothetical.

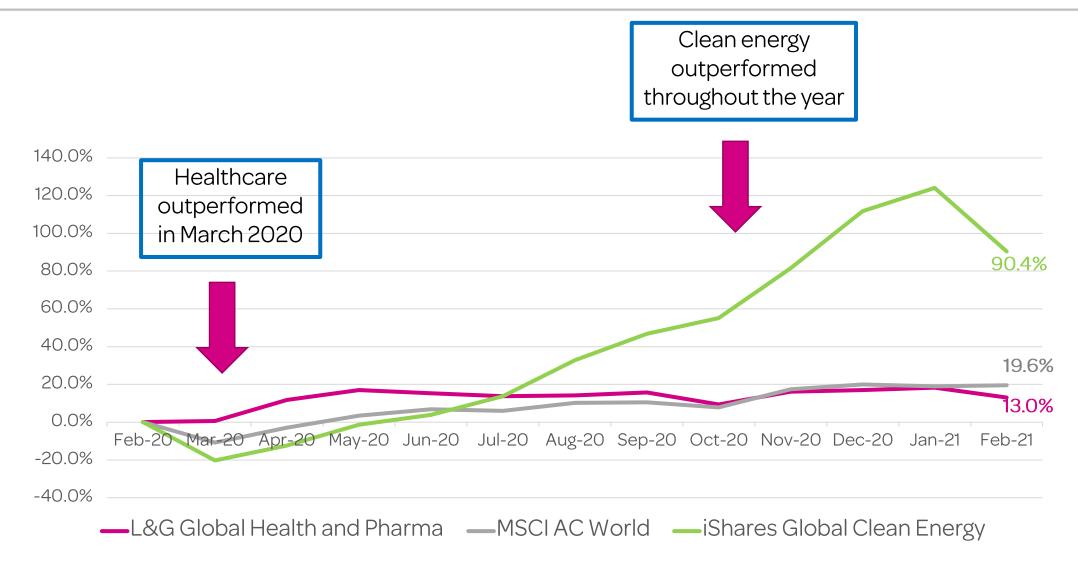
### Outperformance of ESG leaders





#### Contribution of sustainable themes





### Global equities outperform the UK







# 3. Current positioning

#### Overview: March rebalance



- All SRI\* equity trackers are now funds
  - Reduced trading costs
  - Reduced ongoing charges (OCF)
- Adjusted positioning to a new economic environment

Increased exposure to sustainable themes

\*SRI = Socially Responsible Investment

## Equity allocation



Slight increase in equity exposure favouring UK

 Reduced exposure to defensive sectors (healthcare) in favour of more cyclical sectors (industrials)

Increased exposure to mid and small caps

# Thematic equities



#### **EQ Future Leaders Balanced**

Equity exposure	Feb-20	Mar-21	Difference
SRI Trackers	49.5%	49.5%	0.0%
Thematic Trackers	10.5%	12.3%	1.8%
Healthcare	7.5%	3.8%	-3.8%
Clean energy	3%		-3.0%
Decarbonisation		3.5%	3.5%
Clean water		5.0%	5.0%
Total	60.0%	61.8%	1.8%

#### Fixed income allocation



Reduced sensitivity to long term interest rates

Increased exposure to inflation linked bonds

• Introduced a new thematic sustainable bond investment



# 4. Sustainability credentials and improvements

#### Innovation 1: No fossil fuel exposure



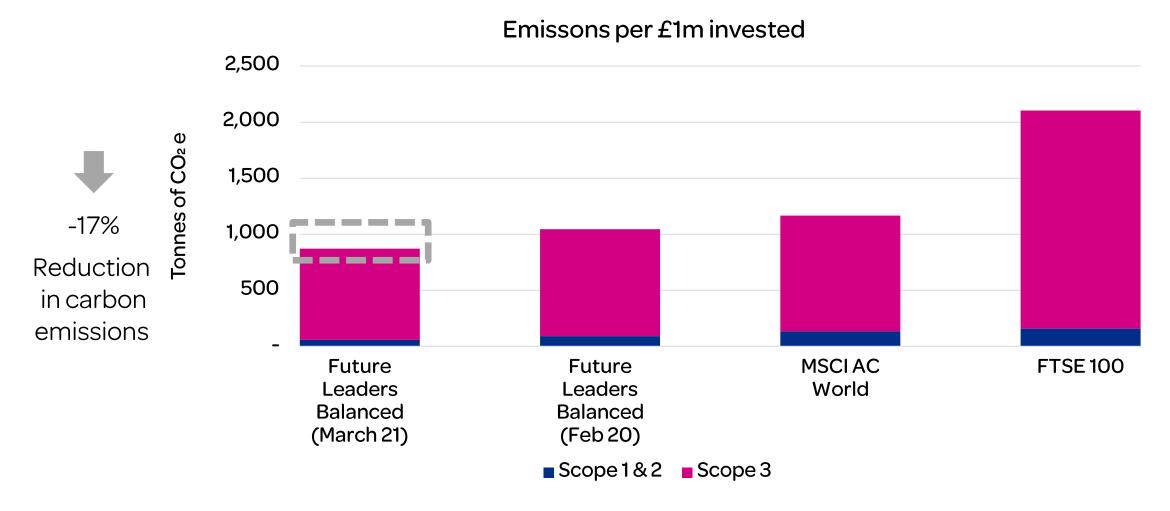
 Strong engagement with index providers throughout the year around remaining fossil fuel exposure

 Amundi and UBS agreed on the addition of a dedicated negative screen as at 1<sup>st</sup> December 2020

 Implemented within the equity portion: zero fossil fuel extraction exposure

#### Reduced carbon footprint





### Innovation 2: Impact Bonds



 Unscreened government bonds don't hold the strongest sustainability credentials

 Supranational development bank bonds provide funding to sustainable development projects

• Implemented a switch from *Invesco UK gilt 0-5 year UCITS* to *UBS Sustainable Development Bank Bonds ETF* 

### Innovation 3: UN Goal Alignment



 We launched the portfolios with two main UN Goal overweights to healthcare (SDG 3) and clean energy (SDG 7)

 Additional UN Goal-aligned satellite themes can improve the diversity of UN Goals targeted by the portfolio

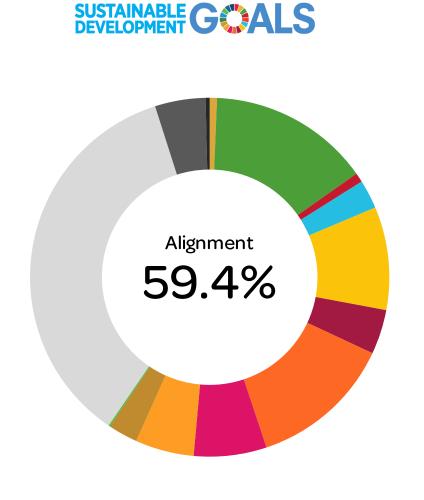
 Implemented this through new funds in clean water, decarbonisation, development bank bonds.

# Current UN Goal Alignment



#### EQ Future Leaders Balanced model portfolio

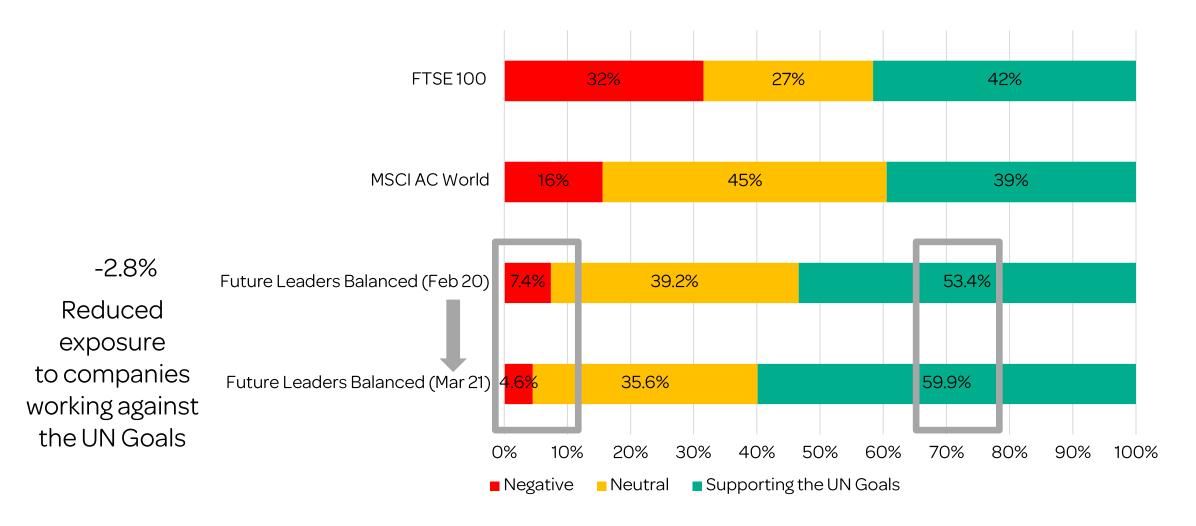
1	NO POVERTY	
2	ZERO HUNGER	0.7%
3	GOOD HEALTH & WELL-BEING	14.6%
4	QUALITY EDUCATION	0.8%
5	GENDER EQUALITY	
6	CLEAN WATER &SANITATION	2.6%
7	AFFORDABLE & CLEAN ENERGY	9.3%
8	DECENT WORK &ECONOMIC GROWTH	4.0%
9	INDUSTRY, INNOVATION & INFRASTRUCTURE	12.9%
10	REDUCED INEQUALITIES	6.5%



11	SUSTAINABLE CITIES & COMMUNITIES	5.3%
12	RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION & PRODUCTION	2.7%
13	CLIMATE ACTION*	
14	LIFE BELOW WATER	
15	LIFE ON LAND	
16	PEACE, JUSTICE & STRONG INSTITUTIONS	
17	PARTNERSHIP FOR THE GOALS	
А	VOIDS HARM	35.6%
С	AUSES HARM	4.6%

# Improved UN Goal Alignment





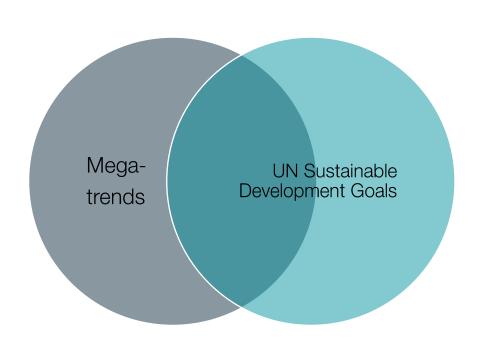


# 5. New Themes: Decarbonisation & Clean Water

# Global megatrends



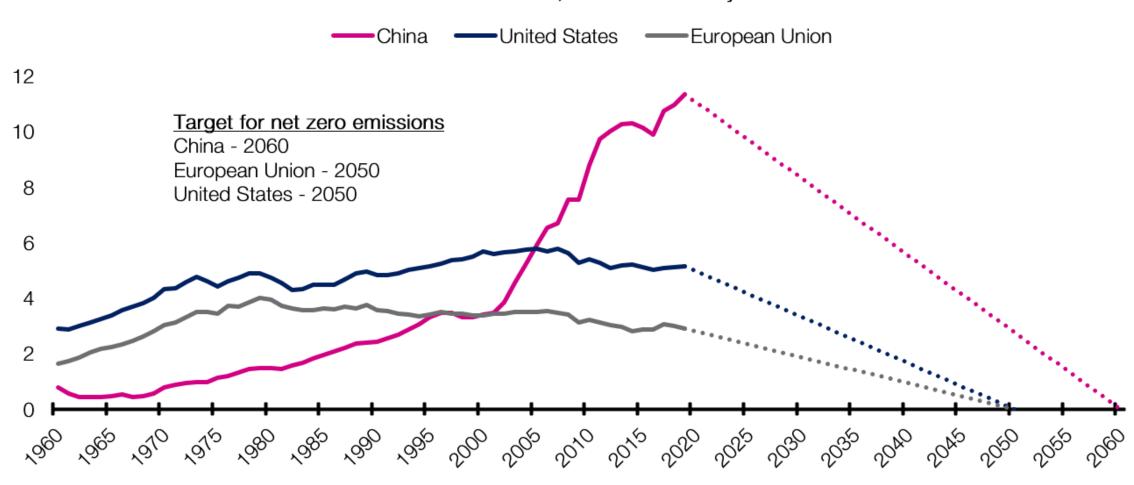




## Scale of the challenge

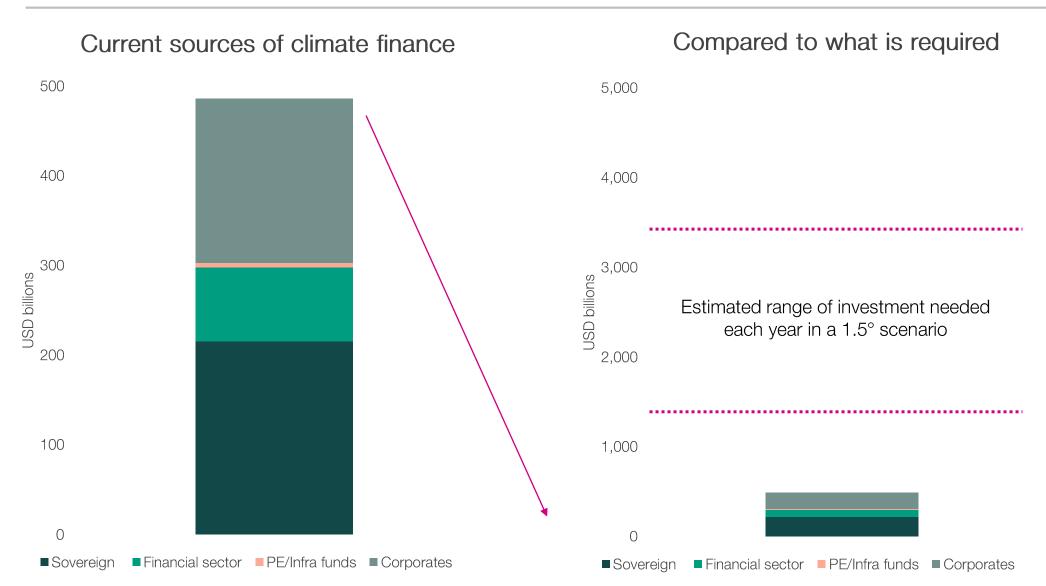






# Funding gap

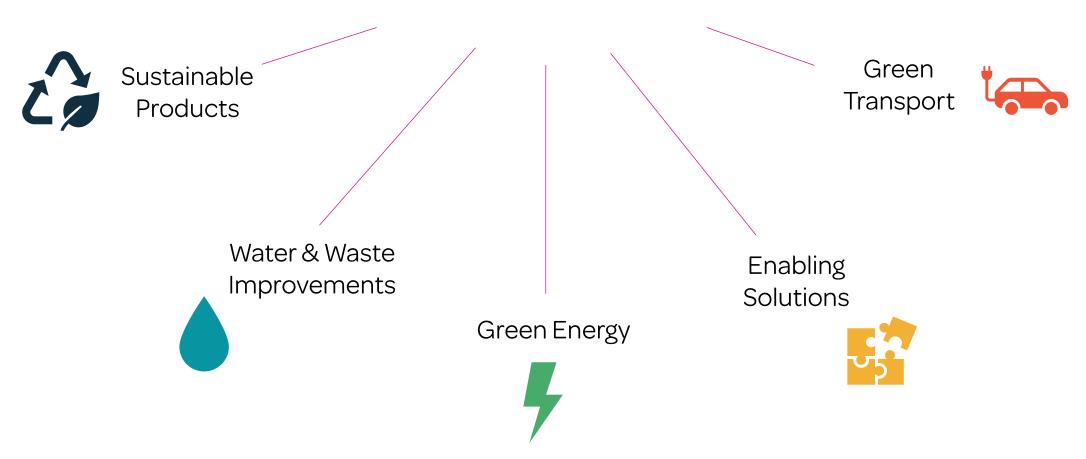




## More than clean energy



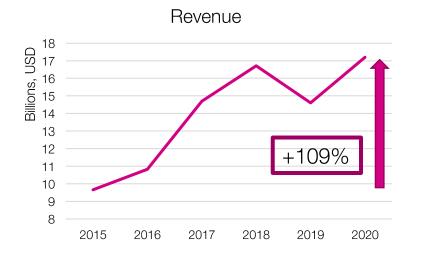
#### Decarbonisation

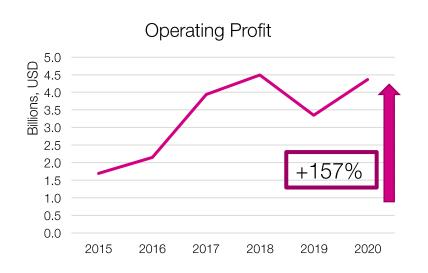


# Company example: Applied Materials



- Leader in materials engineering
- Solutions used in virtually every new chip and advanced display in the world
- Crucial to enabling future innovation and technologies
- Strong growth characteristics







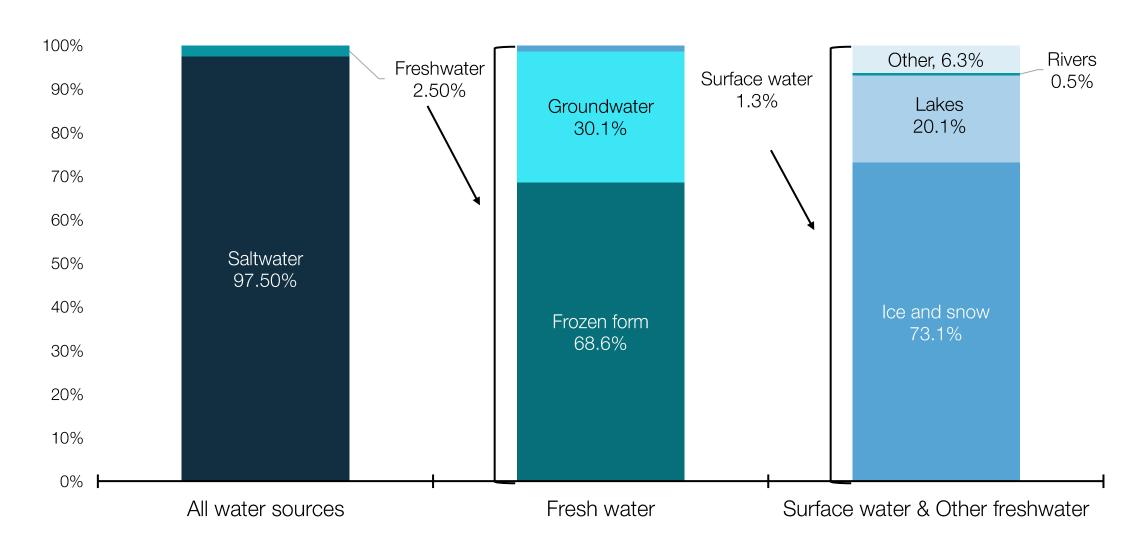




33 Source: Company accounts

## Clean water availability

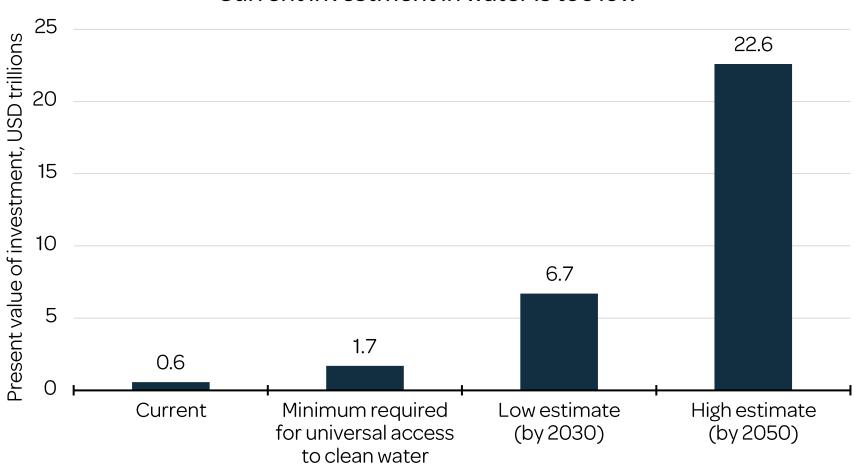




### Investment in water is lacking



#### Current investment in water is too low



### 5 reasons why...

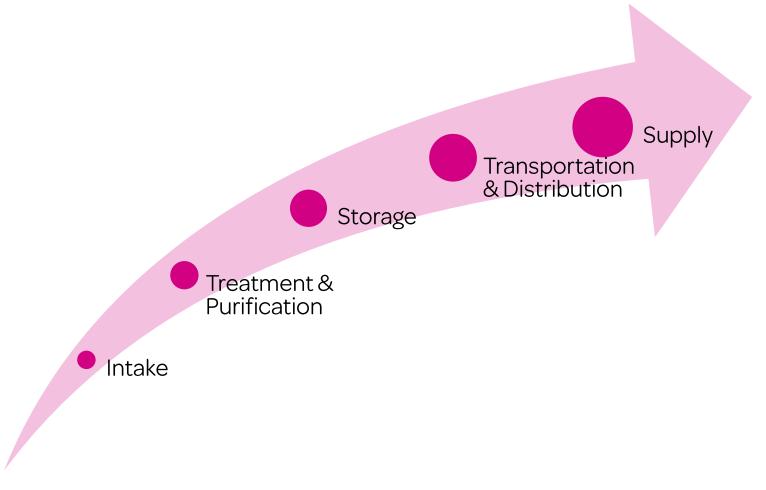


- 1. No substitute for clean water
- 2. Not just overly-indebted utilities
- 3. Emerging markets only add to demand
- 4. Infrastructure investment tailwinds are global
- 5. Regulation and health standards

#### New fund: L&G Clean Water ETF



Investing across the Water value chain...



## Company example: Itron



- Provides leak detection technology that combines smart devices and advanced data analytics
- The Department of Water and Sewage in Sao Paulo, Brazil, has deployed Itron Solutions to reduce water loss and improve visibility into its water system.
- Strong revenue and profit growth expected











#### Q&A

# Please use the webinar Q&A tool to submit questions

#### For further information



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