

## Introduction



Welcome to WHEB's annual Impact Report covering 2022. We are confident that this, our ninth report, represents another step forward in terms of quality and insight. We hope that readers will find it useful and, as always, we remain very open to feedback.

2022 was a challenging year for financial markets, and particularly for those, like WHEB's, focused on delivering positive impact through global equities. The war in Ukraine has been particularly shocking and has created understandable anxiety in markets across the world. This conflict, along with supply-chain shocks, inflation and the lingering effects of the COVID pandemic served to divert attention away from the critical challenges of sustainable development.

Last year I wrote that a key focus for WHEB in 2022 would be on building a strong culture to underpin our activities and development. I am pleased to report that the team has made substantial progress in this respect. Notable achievements were a clear set of values that support our mission and a deferred equity plan for team members.

Through the year the Impact Investment Team has focused its time on identifying critical new trends in the sustainability agenda and in investing in the companies helping to solve these challenges. This report provides a high-level summary of this work – and the resulting impact. But more detailed commentary on everything from heat pumps to haematology is regularly published on our website ( whebgroup.com/our-thoughts).

During the year we have also redoubled our investment in WHEB's team. We have extended the range of resources available to the Impact Investment Team ranging from behavioural analytics tools and expert networks to new colleagues supporting our impact research and stewardship activities. We have also scaled up our Human Resources function across the organisation.

This investment is all in service of providing our clients with higher-quality and more impactful investment solutions. The quality and ambition of WHEB's offering is reflected once more in the awards and labels that we received in 2022. Our ambition is also evident in our commitment to maintaining Article 9 status for our funds sold into Europe, and for the equivalent designation in the UK market once this is finalised.

Whether it is in responding to the UK's regulatory proposals for Sustainability Disclosure Requirements (SDR) or developments in the EU Taxonomy, WHEB is also focused on helping to build the foundations for the wider market. For a small business, we exert considerable resources engaging with regulators and policymakers as well as standard setters and other market participants. A case in point is our work with the Global Impact Investing Network (GIIN) to help shape guidance for impact investing in listed equities.<sup>1</sup>

As we finish the first quarter of 2023, it is clear that we can expect plenty more turbulence in financial markets. WHEB, however, remains on course in our ambition to build the highest-quality, mission-driven investment organisation.

With best wishes,

Aontele

Jayne Sutcliffe
Non-Executive Chair,
WHEB Asset Management

# WHEB as part of a broader movement

WHEB Asset Management is an investment business that serves a wide variety of clients, ranging from large pension funds and institutional investors to small retail investors. We serve these clients through our mission, which is to advance sustainability and create prosperity through positive impact investments. This mission is our 'lodestar', and together with our values, it guides our development as a business.

We are, however, part of a much broader movement encompassing our investors and peers as well as other businesses, NGOs, communities and individuals. Together we seek to fully integrate sustainability into economic systems that deliver positive social and environmental impacts at scale across the global economy.

Figure 1: WHEB's core values

## Passionate about impact

Our intention is to have a positive impact on people and planet in all that we do.

### Integrity

Strong ethical principles guide all areas of our work. We are honest in our approach and treat all stakeholders fairly.



#### **Teamwork**

We build relationships based on trust and mutual respect.
We promote an environment that enables our team to thrive and drives client success.

#### Leadership

We are creating a movement for positive change, within our company and beyond.

### Continuous improvement

We foster a sense of purpose and a passion for progress, and we share what we learn along the way.

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https://thegiin.org/research/publication/listed-equitiesworking-group/

# One core investment process focused on delivering positive impact

We are positive impact investors, focused on the fundamental connection between long-term positive change and long-term growth. Our investment strategy is to invest in companies that enable – and thereby benefit

from - the transition to a net zero carbon (NZC) economy and that protect and enhance quality of life. This core strategy underpins all WHEB's investment funds.

### Figure 2: WHEB's core fund range

	FP WHEB Sustainability Fund	WHEB Sustainable Impact Fund	WHEB Environmental Impact Fund	Pengana WHEB Sustainable Impact Fund	iMGP Sustainable Europe Fund
Domicile	UK	EU	EU	AUS/NZ	EU
Sustainability classification	N/A	Article 9	Article 9	N/A	Article 9
Industry ratings and certifications <sup>2</sup>	CDP Climetrics Five leaves ratings / 1st quartile RSMR SRI rated fund	ISR JONES OF THE PROPERTY OF T		ERIG 1st Quartile Lonsec recommended Zenith recommended	ISR JAMES AND WARDEN TO WARD T
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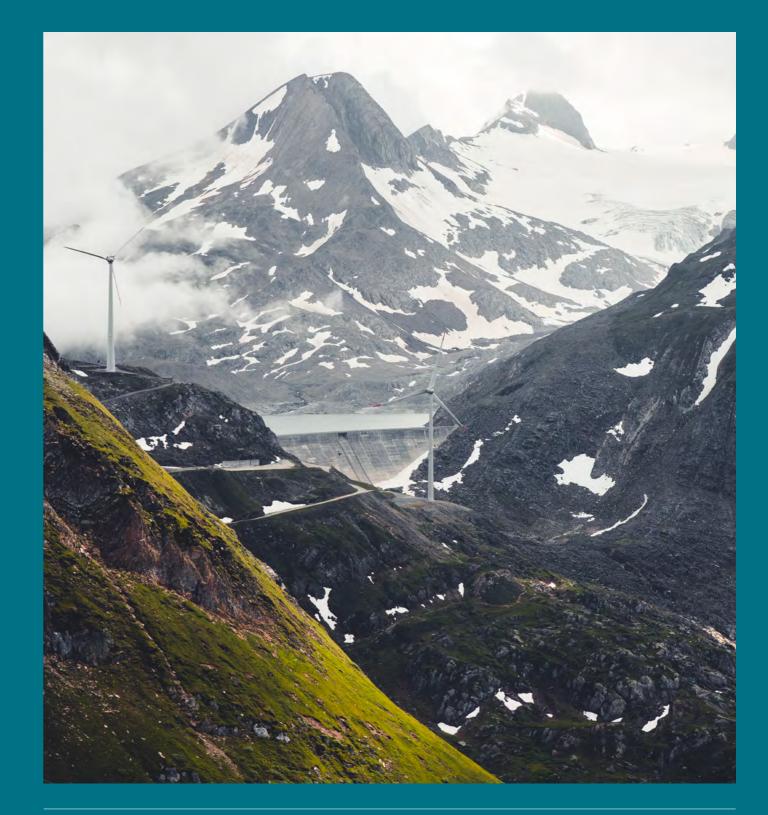
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Ratings listed here are limited to public ratings and do not include proprietary ratings issued by investment consultants.

# Governance and a policy of 'radical transparency'

WHEB is intensely aware of the scrutiny that is rightly applied to products and services that claim to deliver an environmental or social benefit. It is for this reason that we have formulated a detailed set of policies to govern our investment approach and our activities as a business. We combine this with independent 

Transparency is intended both to ensure alignment and oversight and a policy of 'radical transparency': sharing unprecedented levels of detail about our investments, our approach and our wider business activities.

Our goal is for our clients and other stakeholders to be excited by our approach to investment and the companies that we hold in our portfolios, and to help shape a broader movement by showing leadership in our approach. strengthen this relationship with key stakeholders.



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Figure 3: WHEB's governance and policies

### Senior Management Team

(Non-exec Chair, Managing Partner, Head of Investments, Head of Research, Director of Operations)

#### Investment and Risk Committee

(Non-exec chair, Managing Partner, Risk & Performance Manager)

#### **Impact Investment Team**

(Investment Team and Impact Research Team)

#### Independent Investment Advisory Committee

(independent external sustainable investment experts)

#### **Policies**

#### Mission and values:

underpinning our culture and direction 

whebgroup.
com/about

Net zero carbon policy
(operations): sets out our
policy for becoming a net zero
carbon business 
whebgroup.
com/investing-for-impact/
sustainability-policies

#### Diversity and inclusion:

reinforces our commitment to providing equality and fairness to all in our employment 
whebgroup.com/investing-forimpact/sustainability-policies

#### Responsible Investment policy:

covers our investment philosophy and approach 
whebgroup.
com/investing-for-impact/
sustainability-policies

Engagement policy: details our approach to engaging with portfolio companies and other stakeholders 

whebgroup.com/investing-for-

Voting policy: sets out policies for voting at company general meetings 

whebgroup.com/investing-for-impact/sustainability-policies

impact/sustainability-policies

## Net zero carbon policy (portfolio):

sets out our policy for achieving net zero carbon emissions from our investment portfolios

 whebgroup.com/investing-forimpact/sustainability-policies

## Investment Process document:

describes WHEB's investment process and approach. Key features of the investment process document are available at #whebgroup.com/investing-for-impact/how-we-invest

# Investment Committee Terms of Reference

### Transparency

- Annual impact report
- Quarterly investor reports
- Annual stewardship report
- Annual net zero carbon report
- Quarterly full portfolio holding information sheets
- Eurosif Transparency Code

#### Triannual summary minutes

## **Disclaimer**

This is an advertising document.

A prospectus and a Key Investor Information Document for the FP WHEB Sustainability Fund, WHEB Sustainable Impact Fund and WHEB Environmental Impact Fund are available from <a href="https://www.whebgroup.com">www.whebgroup.com</a> and investors should consult those documents before investing.

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Past performance does not predict future returns. The value of investments and the income from them may fall as well as rise and may be affected by factors including adverse markets and foreign exchange rate movements and you may not get back the amount of your original investment.

Your capital is at risk.

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#### FP WHEB Sustainability Fund

FundRock Partners Limited is the Authorised Corporate Director of the FP WHEB Sustainability Fund and is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority with Firm Reference Number 469278 and has its registered office at Hamilton Centre, Rodney Way, Chelmsford, England CM1 3BY. The state of the origin of the Fund is England and Wales. The Representative in Switzerland is ACOLIN Fund Services AG, Leutschenbachstrasse 50, CH-8050 Zurich, whilst the Paying Agent is NPB Neue Privat Bank AG, Limmatquai 1/am Bellevue, P.O. Box, 8024 Zurich . The relevant documents such as the prospectus, the key investor information document (KIIDs), the Articles of Association as well as the annual and semi-annual reports may be obtained free of charge from the Representative in Switzerland.

#### WHEB Sustainable Impact Fund

The Manager of the Fund is FundRock Management Company S.A., authorised and regulated by the Luxembourg regulator to act as UCITS management company and has its registered office at 33, rue de Gasperich, L-5826 Hesperange, Grand-Duchy of Luxembourg. The Representative in Switzerland is ACOLIN Fund Services AG, Leutschenbachstrasse 50, CH-8050 Zurich, whilst the Paying Agent is NPB Neue Privat Bank AG, Limmatquai 1/am Bellevue, P.O. Box, 8024 Zurich. The relevant documents such as the prospectus, the key investor information document (KIIDs), the Articles of Association as well as the annual and semi-annual reports may beobtained free of charge from the representative in Switzerland. The state of the origin of the Fund is Ireland. The Fund is registered for distribution to professional investors in Austria, France, Germany, Italy, Luxembourg, Norway, Singapore, Spain, Sweden and the United Kingdom, and is registered for offering to retail investors in Switzerland, Denmark, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom. The Fund is also available for professional investors in Belgium and Hong Kong. It is not available to investors domiciled in the United States. A summary of investor rights is available at: https://www.whebgroup.com/impact-investment-funds/ sustainable-impact-fund-icav/additional-documents-wheb-sustainableimpact-fund-icav

This is a marketing communication. Please refer to the prospectus and KIID before making any final investment decisions. The decision to invest in the Fund should take into account all the characteristics or objectives of the Fund as described in its prospectus.

#### WHEB Environmental Impact Fund

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