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HSBC launches two Lower Carbon funds in Greece

HSBC offers to retail investors in Greece two lower carbon investment funds developed by HSBC Global Asset Management.

HSBC Greece announces the launch of the **HSBC GIF Global Lower Carbon Equity Fund** and the **HSBC GIF Global Lower Carbon Bond Fund** for retail investors who seek to increase the resilience of their investment portfolios against global climate change.

As momentum around environmental investments continues to build and companies are impacted by climate change directly or as a result of regulatory changes, more investors realise the importance of embedding sustainable investment principles into their portfolios.

Hence, the new funds aim to address climate-related investment risk using robust composite carbon data to achieve a lower carbon portfolio than their respective reference benchmark.

Sandra Carlisle, Director, Senior Responsible Investment Specialist HSBC Global Asset Management, commented: *“Climate change is not just an environmental matter but a real investment issue; creating risks and opportunities for corporations. To put it simple companies that conduct their business in a responsible and sustainable way are more likely to deliver value over time. These two funds enable customers to invest in companies that have been screened not only on metrics for growth but also their carbon footprint. Our carbon-conscious and climate-aware approach to investing is designed to build more climate-resilient portfolios for our clients and to contribute towards financing the transition to a lower-carbon economy.”*

The new funds follow HSBC Global Asset Management's tried and tested investment approach. They are designed to limit exposure to high-carbon companies, to significantly reduce climate-related financial risk in a portfolio and position it for the future, as we move to a low-carbon economy.

Stelios Piprinias, Head of Retail Banking & Wealth Management and Marketing, HSBC Greece said: *“Greek retail investors are realising the investment risks that are linked to climate change and are becoming increasingly interested in corporate environmental, social and governance standards. We listen to our clients and we understand that they realise how those corporate standards can impact their investments. To address this growing need we are the first to offer in Greece those two funds developed by HSBC Asset Management.”*

The **HSBC GIF Global Lower Carbon Equity Fund** will primarily invest in developed markets equities. To lower the exposure to carbon intensive businesses, every portfolio holding will have its carbon footprint assessed pre-purchase and on an ongoing basis so that the total carbon footprint of the portfolio can be managed and reduced.

The **HSBC GIF Global Lower Carbon Bond Fund** will primarily invest in investment grade corporate bonds denominated in USD, Euro and GBP, with opportunistic exposure to certified green bonds and high yield bonds. The fund adopts a dynamic investment approach using composite carbon intensity data to understand the impact of individual issuers and sectors on total greenhouse gas emissions within the portfolio.

UCITS DO NOT HAVE A GUARANTEED RETURN AND PREVIOUS PERFORMANCE DOES NOT GUARANTEE FUTURE PERFORMANCE.

Note to editors:

HSBC Global Asset Management

HSBC Global Asset Management should be referred to in full at all times to avoid confusion with any other financial services firms.

HSBC Global Asset Management, the investment management business of the HSBC Group, invests on behalf of HSBC's worldwide customer base of retail and private clients, intermediaries, corporates and institutions through both segregated accounts and pooled funds. HSBC Global Asset Management connects HSBC's clients with investment opportunities around the world through an international network of offices in around 26 countries, delivering global capabilities with local market insight. As at 30 June 2018, HSBC Global Asset Management managed assets totalling US\$463bn on behalf of its clients. For more information see www.global.assetmanagement.hsbc.com

HSBC Global Asset Management is the marketing name for the asset management businesses of HSBC Holdings plc.

The HSBC Group

HSBC Holdings plc, the parent company of the HSBC Group, is headquartered in London. The Group serves customers worldwide from around 3,800 offices in 66 countries and territories in Europe, Asia, North and Latin America, and the Middle East

and North Africa. With assets of US\$2,607bn at 30 June 2018, HSBC is one of the world's largest banking and financial services organisations.

In Greece, HSBC operates since 1981 with presence in Athens and Thessaloniki. HSBC offers banking services to individuals as well as to corporate and institutional clients.

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