

Peace

Responsible Investing that advocates the idea of integrity, social equality and ethics

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Investing towards a sustainable planet earth

NFO Period: 15th Oct – 30th Oct 2020

quant **ESG EQUITY FUND**

An open ended equity scheme investing in companies identified based on the Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) theme

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quant MF Schemes (Equity Oriented)	Scheme Return March 24 - Oct 06, 2020) in Rs	quant MF Schemes outperformance Relative to respective benchmarks	Portfolio Beta
quant Active Fund (Multi Cap)	81.81%	29.91%	0.97
quant Small Cap Fund	116.94%	44.67%	0.76
quant Tax Plan	87.83%	37.56%	1.00
quant Mid Cap Fund	64.21%	7.61%	0.76
quant Large & Mid Cap Fund	48.05%	-4.44%	0.73
quant Focused Fund (Large Cap)	56.11%	6.32%	0.88
quant Multi Asset Fund	64.65%	39.40%	0.28
quant Absolute Fund (Balanced)	57.87%	23.05%	1.16
quant Infrastructure Fund	77.71%	30.88%	1.04
quant Consumption Fund	85.56%	48.24%	0.93

The date March 24, 2020 marks the bottom of the indices after the panic of the pandemic. Above is the performance of the schemes relative to their respective benchmarks since the bottom. With a maximum outperformance of 450bps and a relatively low beta, this is a glimpse of quant's Equity based schemes performance.

Strong ESG Practices Reduce Business Risks

ESG Factors and the
impact on risk

Environmental Impact

Firms that conserve energy, save water and manage emissions efficiently will be prone to lesser future risk

Social Responsibility

Firms that manage their workforce, diversity, safety and work for the benefit of all stakeholders will have a lower risk

Corporate Governance

Firms that structure themselves in the interest of the shareholders, maintain independence, compensate appropriately will have a lower risk



The concept of ESG investing is about generating sustainable returns via responsible investing. This encapsulates sustainable investing, impact investing, clean investing and responsible investing.

We invest in companies by assessing them based on parameters that we quantify by quant's VLRT+Q² Framework. Valuation analytics, Liquidity analytics, Risk appetite analytics, Timing coupled with qualitative and quantitative modifications for ESG Integration.



Environmental Impact is gauged on the basis of the following factors. They comprise of:*

- Emissions
- Energy Consumption
- Water Utilization
- Waste Management



Responsibility to all Stakeholders is imperative. The Social Disclosure score comprises of:*

- Employee Diversity
- Safety
- Policy
- Community and customers

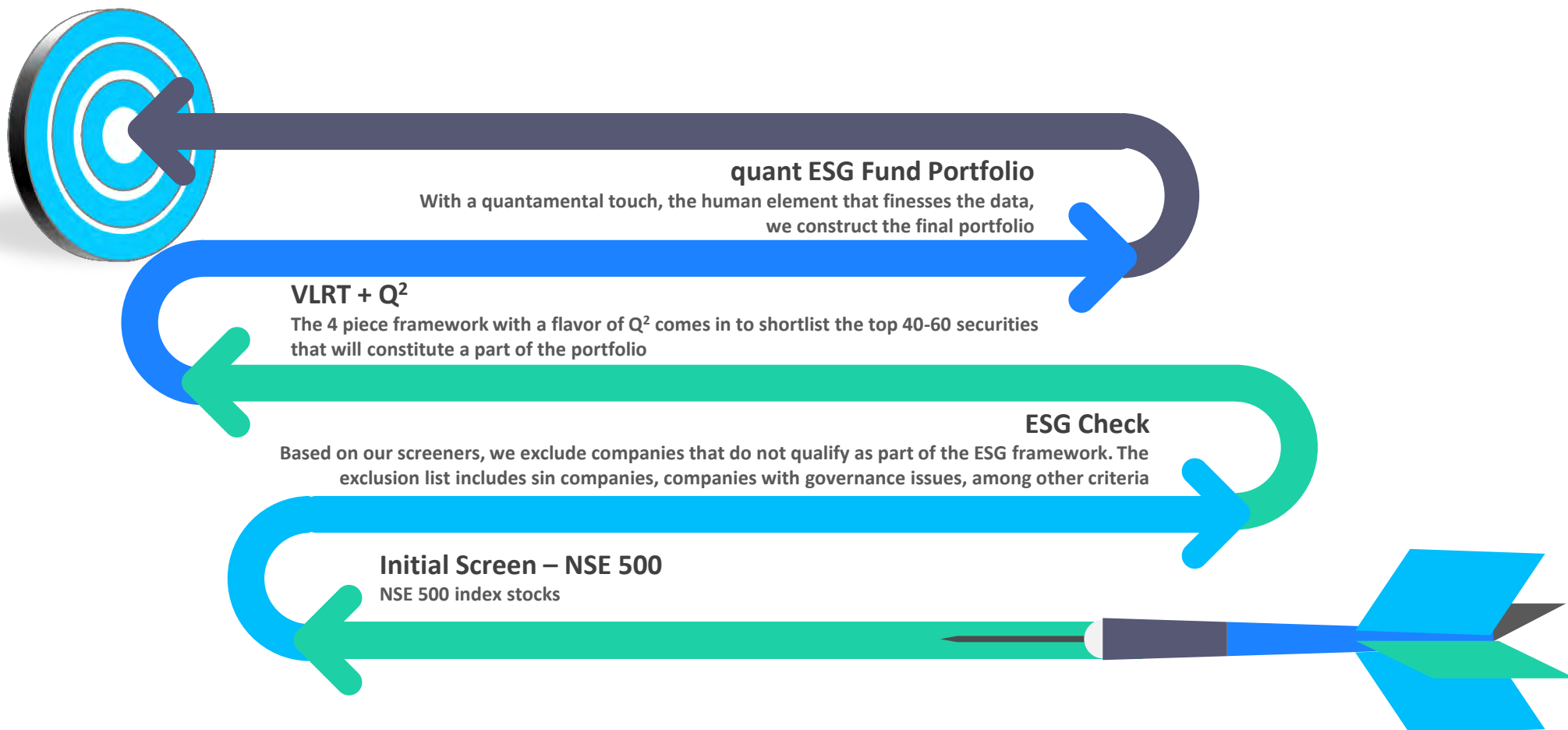


How do we assess the governance of an organisation? The Corporate governance score comprises of:*

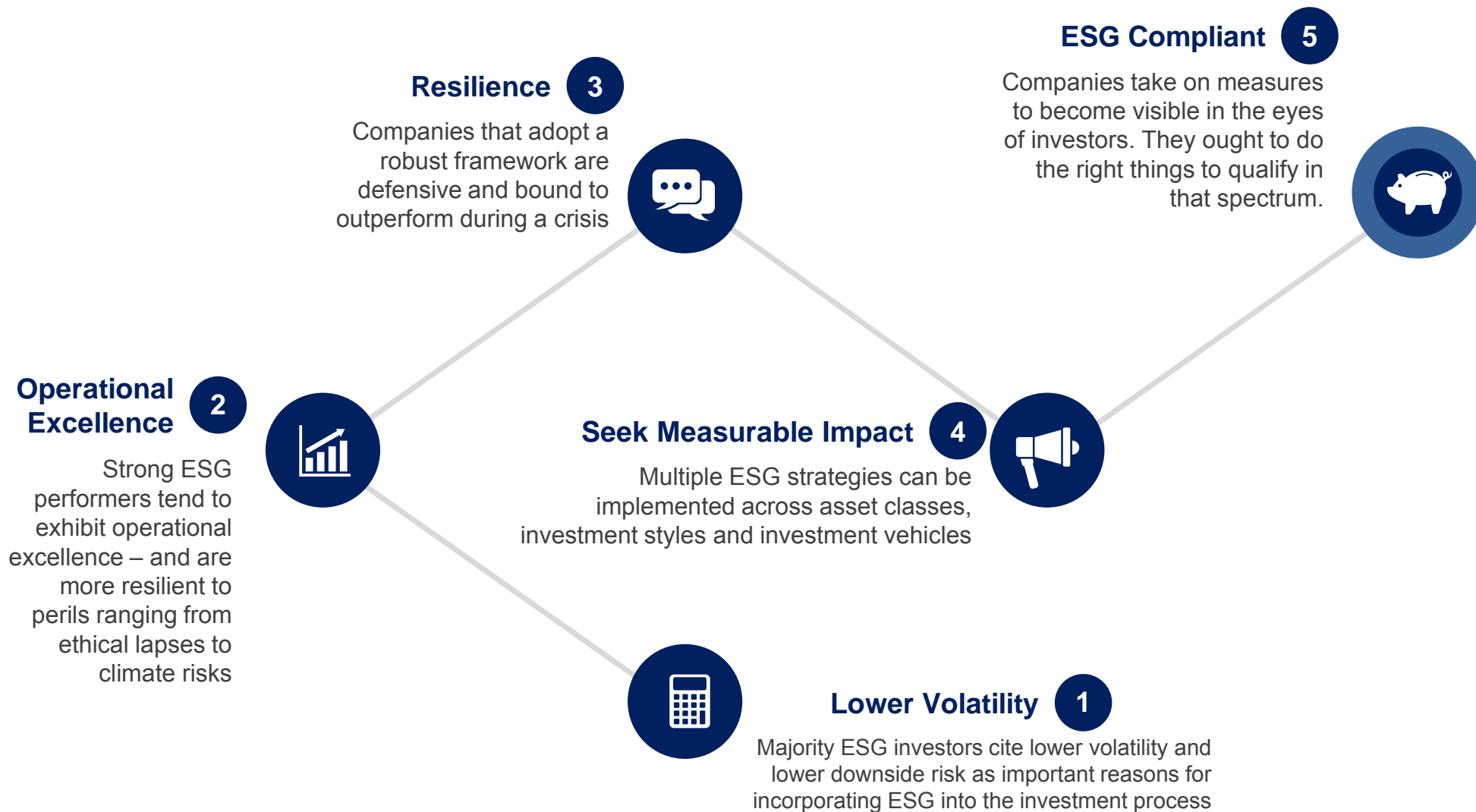
- Board Structure
- Compensation
- Board and Executives Diversity
- Board Independence

On the basis of our VLRT + Q² Framework, we assign a score based on these factors

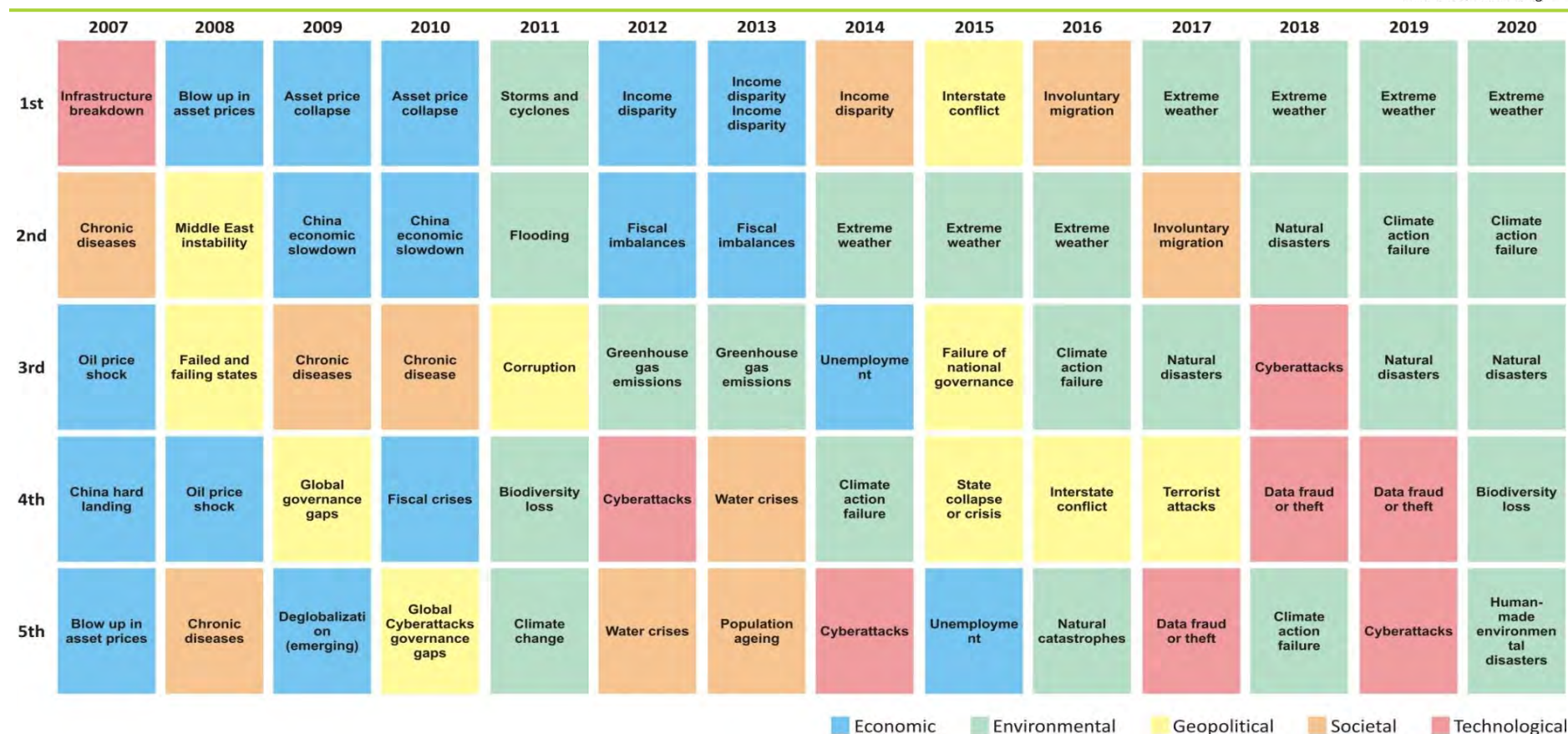
*The list under each head is not exhaustive



It's all about providing sustainable returns through responsible investing!



Top 5 Global Risks in Terms of Likelihood | WEF 2007–2020



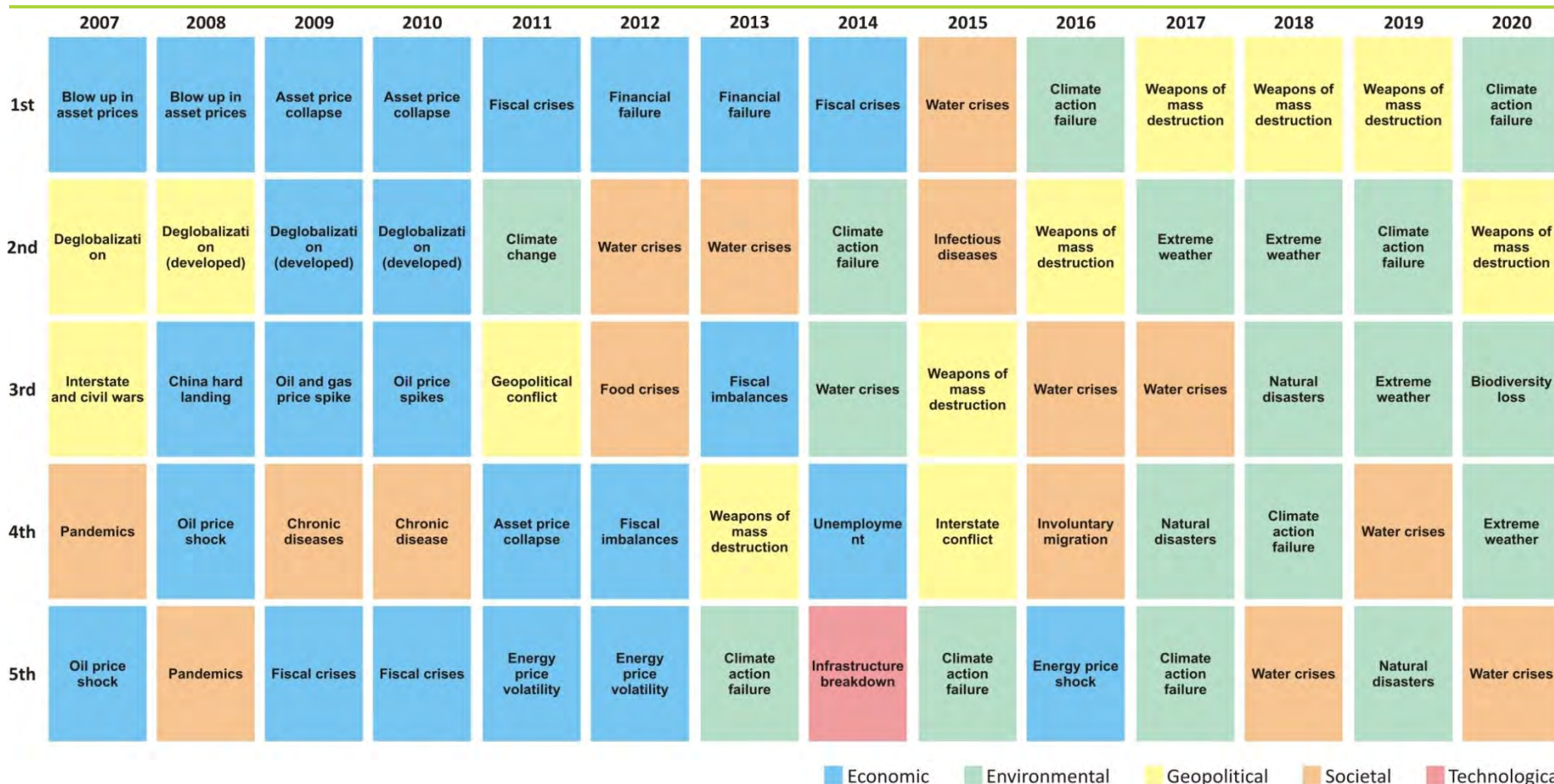
The risk landscape in terms of likelihood has evolved overtime. From 2007-2020, economic risks have relatively declined whereas technological and environmental risks have significantly increased. While there hasn't been a decrease in economic risk, there has been considerable worry with environmental risks. This increase in the likelihood of environment-oriented risks in the 21st century is influencing companies to adopt a standard cohesive with the ESG framework.

Source: World Economic Forum 2007-2020, Global Risks Reports

Note: Global risks may not be strictly comparable across years, as definitions and the set of global risks have evolved with new issues emerging on the 10-year horizon. For example, cyber attacks, income disparity and unemployment entered the set of global risks in 2012

Some global risks have been reclassified: water crises and income disparity were recategorized as societal risks in the 2015 and 2014 Global Risks Reports, respectively

Top 5 Global Risks in Terms of Impact | WEF 2007–2020

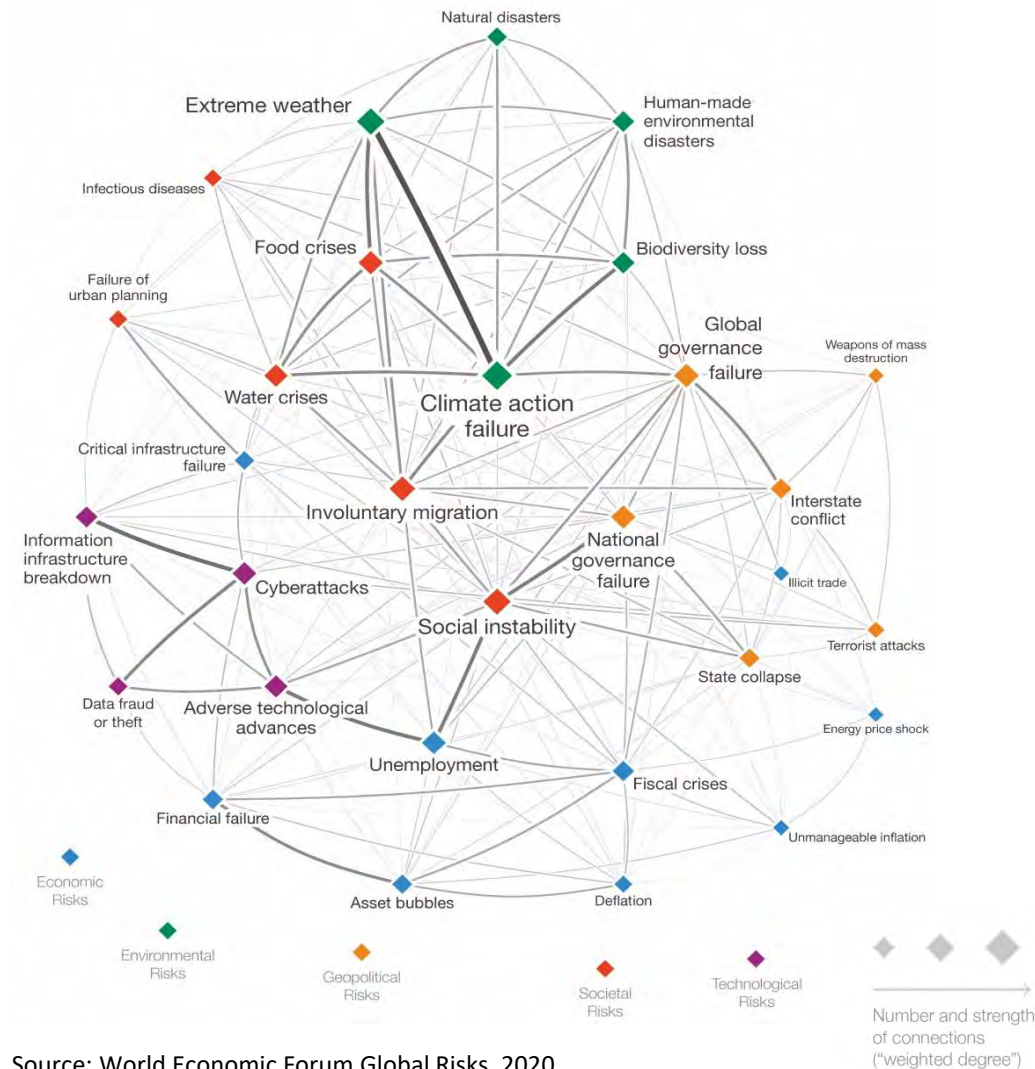


While the likelihood of risks are all pointing towards environmental risks, the impact of the risks is an amalgamation of societal, geopolitical and environmental risks. Albeit, the detailing tells us that the other risks also stem from climate change. With the rise in these risks, we believe that businesses will have to realign their models to be more inclusive, ethical and environmentally aware.

Source: World Economic Forum 2007-2020, Global Risks Reports

Note: Global risks may not be strictly comparable across years, as definitions and the set of global risks have evolved with new issues emerging on the 10-year horizon. For example, cyber attacks, income disparity and unemployment entered the set of global risks in 2012

The Global Risks Interconnections Map 2020



This is the Global Risks interconnections map of 2020. We can observe that the risks are “weighted degrees” by the nature and strength of their connections

Through this graph of interconnections, WEF perceives risks on the basis of climate action failure, social instability and global governance failure

In lieu of the apparent risks which can cause chaos in an ecosystem, companies must develop and adopt a cohesive framework to combat this. We reckon that firms walking on the path towards being ESG compliant is one step in the right direction

India's ESG performance — The Roadmap in the 2020s



India has a score of 4.51/10 and ranks 108/150 countries in the ESG matrix, underperforming the basket of EMs. This presents a massive scope for improvement in the long-term horizon, potentially, leading to companies integrating the ESG framework and an inflow of funds into sustainable investing.

Criteria scores from 1 - 10 (best); scores as of April 2020

* = Corresponds to the average of the 20 largest emerging markets in terms of nominal GDP

Source: World Economic Forum Global Risks Perception Survey 2019–2020.

Note: Survey respondents were asked to assess the likelihood of the individual global risk on a scale of 1 to 5, 1 representing a risk that is very unlikely to happen and 5 a risk that is very likely to occur. They also assessed the impact of each global risk on a scale of 1 to 5, 1 representing a minimal impact and 5 a catastrophic impact.

Everything in nature is connected and the law of cause and effect is supreme.



We believe financial analysis is not limited to human-driven entities but covers everything that can affect markets. As a part of the ESG Framework, we focus on Earth analytics, which connects the Earth's behavior to the financial markets.

For example, if an increased likelihood of extreme weather events in a region has implications for certain crops, it's a relevant factor for predicting prices. Similarly, if a period of extreme weather has higher probability, its impact on energy prices is again relevant.

Source: Being Relevant by qGR

quant | Change - Its blowin' in the wind

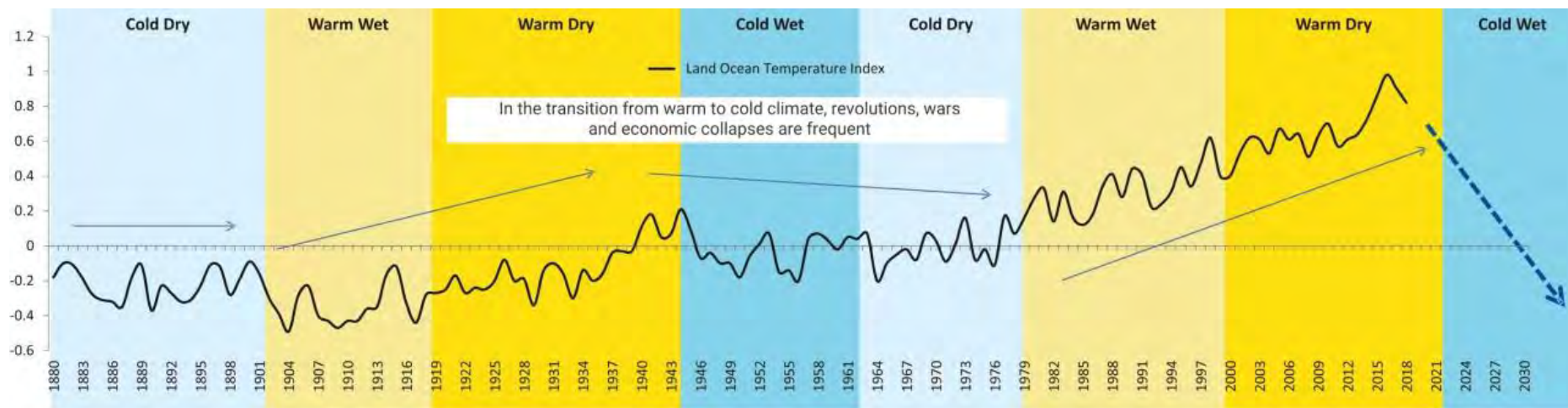
One of the most important and well documented cycles is the 100 year climate cycle. In all these cycles, the 4 phases within each cycle are constant and produce the same effects. The length of each phase may vary by 2.5 years around the 25 year average duration. Apart from the general socio-economic trends within each phase, the effects observed during transition periods, especially from warm to cold, are of great significance.

COLD-DRY (early 1870s to 1900s; early 1960s to late 1970s)

- General individualism, with weak governments, migrations, class struggles and civil wars ranging from palace intrigues to revolutions occur
- Learning is revived, genius appears, industrial revolutions occur, crops are good, and times are prosperous

WARM-DRY (early 1920s to mid 1940s; late 1990s to early 2020s)

- Rigid governments of the previous period become despotic, police states emerge and personal freedom declines
- This phase ends with large scale wars that serve as the climax of society's decadence



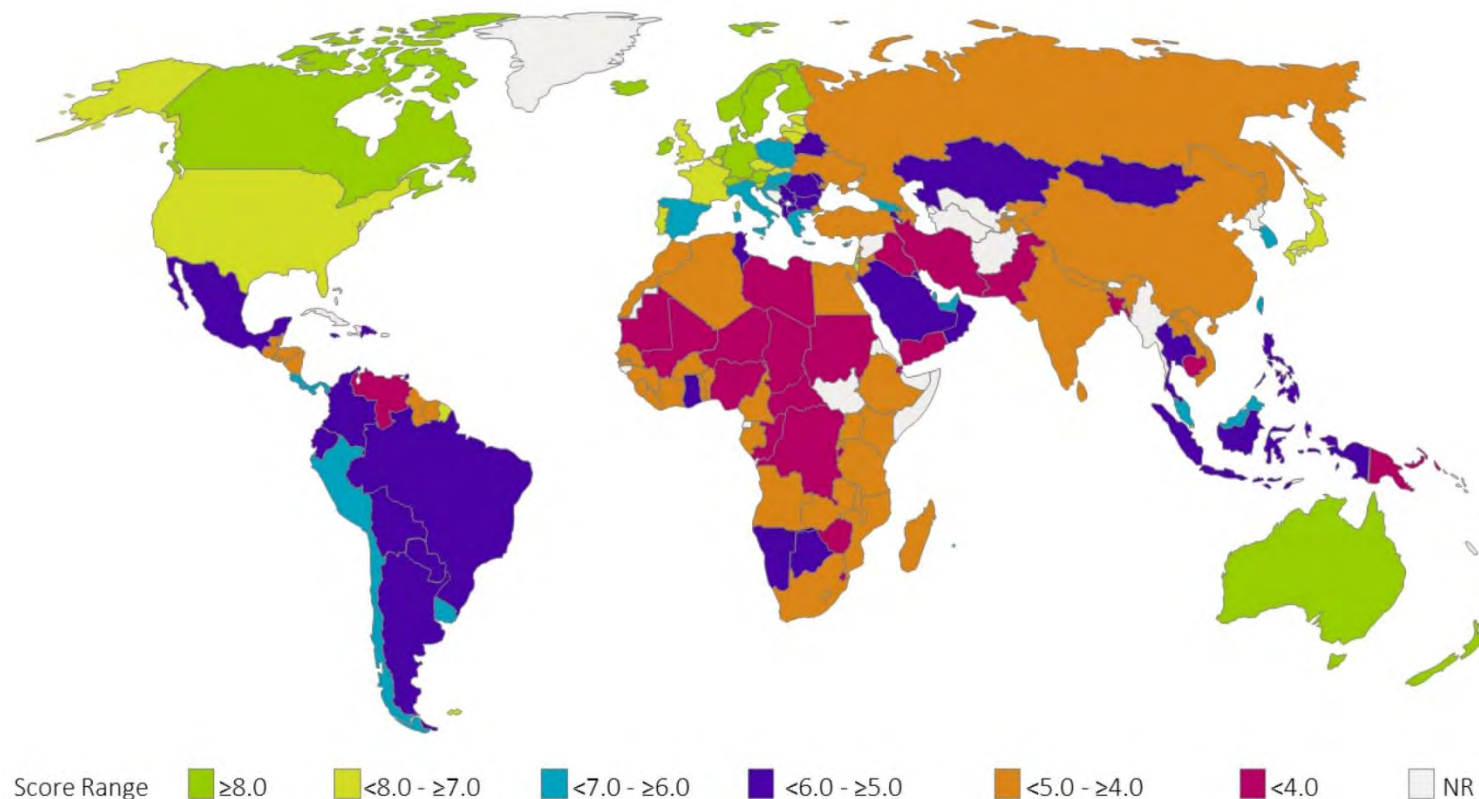
Source: time-price-research-astrofin.blogspot.com, NASA, Dr. Raymond Wheeler

WARM-WET (early 1900s to 20; late 1970s to 90s)

- The warm-wet period sees the climax of the trends started in the previous transition
- New governments develop and nationalistic spirit revives
- Leadership emerges and societies become stabilised, emphasis on cooperation and integration of views and effort

COLD-WET (mid 1940s to early 1960s; mid 2020s to late 2040s)

- Decentralizing trends in government and business with the decline of the old paradigm and concurrent rise of a new paradigm - blockchain technology will enable a quantum leap in this aspect
- Post wars, overall social and economic recovery takes place in later parts of this phase as societies build anew with a reinforced spirit
- As the temperature falls and rainfall increases, activity increases and in the later parts of this phase, crop yields revive



The ESG performance mosaic shows the best and worst ESG performers globally. Countries with ESG scores of 8.0 or above are in the top performing group (dark green). The worst performing countries have ESG scores of or below 4.0 (red) and EMs are the laggards in this scoring. The disparity between EMs and DMs is apparent which showcases the tremendous scope for ESG in EMs.

Source: World Economic Forum Global Risks Perception Survey 2019–2020.

Note: Survey respondents were asked to assess the likelihood of the individual global risk on a scale of 1 to 5, 1 representing a risk that is very unlikely to happen and 5 a risk that is very likely to occur. They also assessed the impact of each global risk on a scale of 1 to 5, 1 representing a minimal impact and 5 a catastrophic impact.

Source: RobecoSAM, Data as of April 2020

Switching costs? Zilch.

Comparison of traditional and ESG-focused equity benchmarks by region, 2012–2018

	US		World ex-US		Emerging markets	
	Traditional	ESG Focus	Traditional	ESG Focus	Traditional	ESG Focus
Annualised return	15.8%	15.8%	10.5%	11.1%	7.8%	9.1%
Volatility	9.5%	9.6%	11.4%	11.6%	14.4%	14.3%
Sharpe ratio	1.62	1.60	0.88	0.92	0.51	0.61
Maximum monthly drawdown	-13.9%	-13.8%	-23.3%	-22.6%	-35.2%	-33.0%
Price-to-earnings	19.4	19.5	17.2	17.1	13.3	13.7
Dividend yield	2.1%	2.1%	3.2%	3.2%	2.7%	2.8%
Number of stocks	620	293	1,011	419	831	288
ESG score	5.2	6.6	6.5	7.9	4.4	6.2

Past performance is not a reliable indicator of current or future results. It is not possible to invest directly in an index.

Sources: BlackRock Investment Institute, with data from MSCI, April 2018. Notes: the data cover the period from 31 May 2012, to 28 Feb. 2018. Returns are annualised gross returns in US dollar terms. Number of stocks, price-to-earnings ratio and dividend yield are monthly averages. Indices used are the MSCI USA Index, MSCI World ex-US Index, MSCI EM Index ('Traditional' columns) and MSCI's ESG-focused derivations of each (example: MSCI USA ESG Focus Index). The MSCI ESG Focus indices use back-tested data. They are optimised to maximise ESG exposure within certain constraints (example: a tracking error of 50 basis points and maximum active weight of 2% for each index constituent in the case of the USA ESG Focus). See important notes on the back page.



The MSCI ESG DM Index has broadly tracked the performance of the MSCI DM Index. This shows that the Developed Markets consist of well-integrated companies with an ESG framework. The scope for outperformance in the DMs as depicted by the indices is limited from a relative standpoint.

Source: Bloomberg



The MSCI EM ESG Index has out performed the MSCI EM Index by ~50% over the 9 year time horizon. Within EMs, we see that there is a premium earned for investing in companies that are ESG compliant. Overtime, the gap between the indices, the ESG outperformance has increased. EMs have tremendous potential in the ESG space which could prove to be lucrative for both, companies and investors.

Source: Bloomberg



From 2011 till 2020, on a net return basis, the MSCI India ESG TRI has outperformed the MSCI India TRI in USD terms by ~60%. We believe that there is tremendous scope in the segment as companies orient themselves towards adopting standards and policies that are aligned with the E+S+G.

Source: Bloomberg



The NIFTY 100 ESG TRI has outperformed the NIFTY 100 TRI by ~40% over the 9 year time horizon. India's ESG score as per the WEF Risk Report is at 4.51/10 and data showcases that there is tremendous scope in EMs compared to DMs. This 50% outperformance shows that companies which are taking active responsibility to comply with the ESG framework are rewarded by the investment fraternity.

Source: Bloomberg

Being Relevant with 'predictive analytics'

The core engine that drives us and sets us apart is a robust and differentiated investment framework that enables us to see beyond the horizon and stay relevant. Our unique analytical framework for enabling 'predictive analytics' encompasses all available asset classes and sectors, formulating a multi-dimensional research perspective.

Why multi-dimensional?

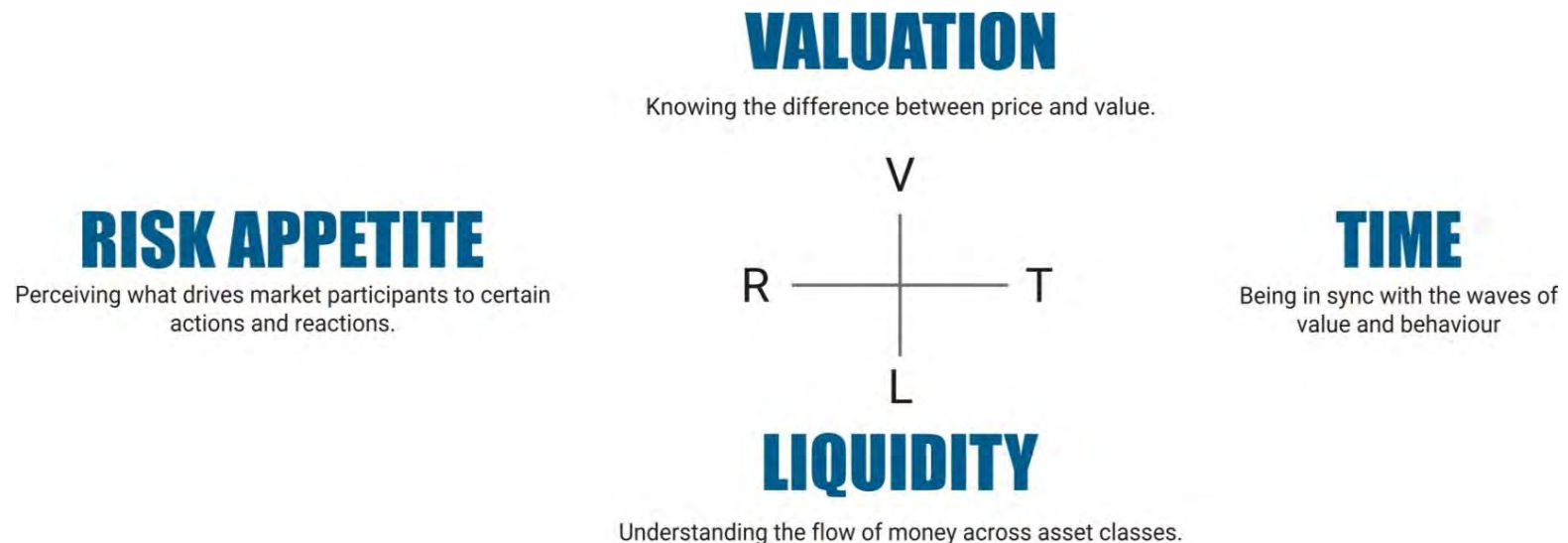
The markets are a complex, dynamic system. There is no one formula or strategy or perspective that can consistently outperform.

A diverse set of variables and participants are continuously interacting with each other in myriad ways.

In the face of this uncertainty and complexity, instead of limiting ourselves to any one school of thought

we have found consistent success by studying markets along four dimensions:

Valuation, Liquidity, Risk Appetite, and Time. [VLRT]



V.L.R.T

valuation, liquidity, risk, time



“VLRT + Q²” - VLRT with Quantifiable Quality is

the fusion of ESG factors and **VLRT**, quant’s proprietary framework, using the ESG integration methodology.

ESG integration follows a multi faceted framework

– at the heart of which is the integration of the ESG scorecard (Illustrated in the following slide) with quant’s proprietary VLRT investment methodology.

This ESG scorecard is well and truly “Integrated” into quant’s investments:

- Decision making is based on ESG scores, along with scoring in V (Valuation analytics), L (Liquidity analytics), R (Risk appetite analytics) and T (Timing) factors
- Positive and negative screening (Inclusion and exclusion) may be used on the overall investment universe based on ESG factors
- Corporate facing engagement in the form of queries & evaluation and possibly even proxy voting is part of the overall ESG integration strategy

Screening on NSE 500

- Positive screening
- Negative screening



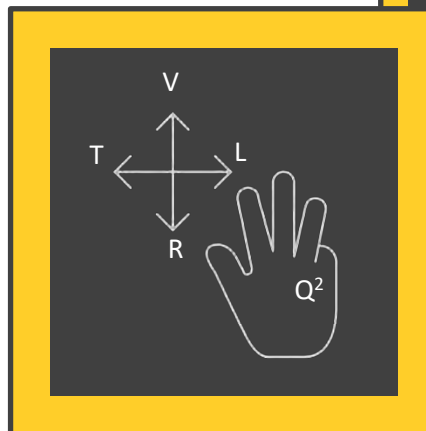
Corporate engagement

- Voting/ proxy voting
- Querying, guiding



ESG Scorecard

- E, S, G scores
- ESG deltas, ESG gammas



VLRT + Q²

- VLRT with Quantifiable Quality
- Uses ESG integration

Environmental

- GHG emissions
- Energy consumption
- Travel emissions
- NOx, SOx emissions
- Water usage
- Waste handling
- Renewable energy target
- Rainwater harvested
- Paper consumption
- Environmental fines
- CDP (Carbon Dating Project) performance

Social

- Employee diversity
- Employee turnover %
- % women in workforce
- % disabled in workforce
- Gender pay gap
- Employee training
- Safety
- Supply chain
- Community & customers

Governance

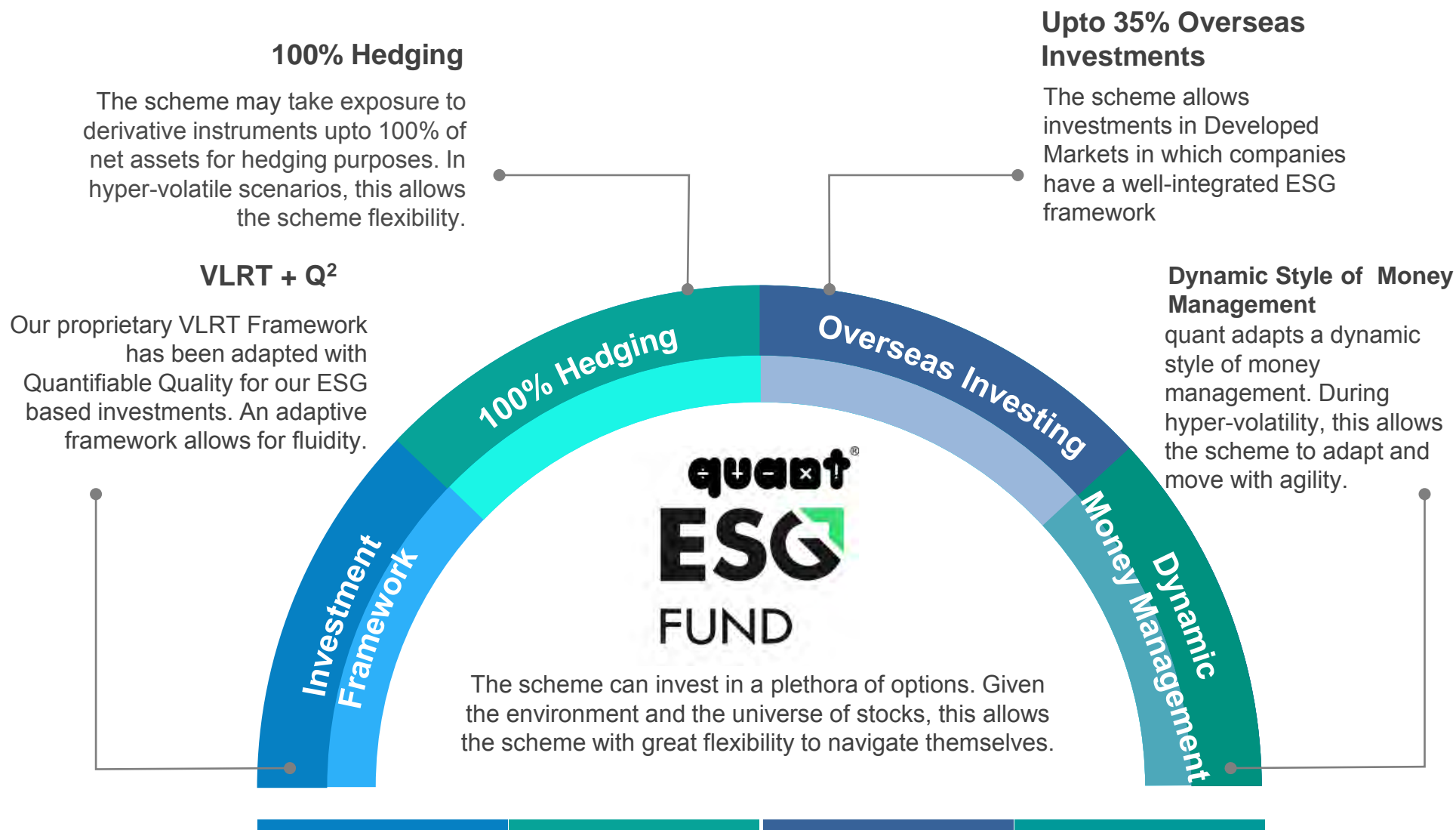
- Board structure
- Board independence
- Board & executive diversity
- Board meetings
- Audit committee
- Compensation committee
- Nomination committee
- Board & executive activities
- Shareholder rights
- AGM voting

ESG Deltas

- ESG disclosure scores
- Greenhouse gases intensity
- Carbon dioxide per revenue
- Energy consumed per revenue
- Water intensity per revenue
- Waste generated as pct of assets
- Social ratios
- Governance ratios

ESG Gammas

- Incentives aligned to climate change
- Climate change strategy
- 3rd party avoided emissions
- Emission reduction activities
- Anti bribery policy
- Fair remuneration
- Environmental supply chain management
- Biodiversity
- Climate change



Sandeep Tandon | Chief Investment Officer

Sandeep is the founder of the quant Group and has consistently demonstrated leadership qualities in his 27 years of experience in the financial services industry. Sandeep is widely recognized as an investment industry pioneer for his role in popularising the use of new financial products viz. equity derivatives in India, and was instrumental in successfully setting up equity derivatives desks at India's leading investment houses viz. Kotak & ICICI group.

Sandeep's credentials as a Global Market Strategist are well established and he has been successful in building proprietary quantitative, qualitative and behavioral indicators, which enabled him in definitive identification of market inflexion points and arrive at definitive micro and macro calls.

Sandeep has a strong belief in quant Group's role as a knowledge partner in creating awareness about latest developments in investment philosophy and ideas, such as behavioural research. It is for this reason that he believes investor education is of utmost importance, and the group, under his leadership, has undertaken many initiatives in this regard.

Before conceptualising quant Group, Sandeep was leading the new initiatives team of Kotak Group (a JV partner of Goldman Sachs in India), where during his four-year stint at the company, Kotak Institutional Equities emerged as the market leader in the equity derivatives segment. Prior to this, he was instrumental in catapulting REFCO (now Philip Securities) to become a major derivatives house in the country.

Sandeep's previous stints include a key role in setting up the equity derivatives desk at ICICI Securities as Vice President. He started his career with the Economic Times Research Bureau, a research wing of the leading financial daily of India, The Economic Times. He later joined IDBI Asset Management (now Principal Asset Management), and was part of the core team that initialized the asset management business, playing a key role in devising, conceptualizing and marketing one of India's most successful mutual fund schemes: IDBI I-NITS 95.



Ankit Pande | Fund Manager

Ankit has an experience of over 8 years in Indian equities and over 3 years in software products. He started his career in core banking software with Infosys' Finacle, nurturing the product with large banking clients in APAC and small and mid-sized banks in India. He then moved in to equity research, along the way picking up the (U.S. based) CFA charter and a masters in business administration from The Chinese University of Hong Kong in 2017, being placed on the school's Dean List. He won the Thomson Reuters StarMine Award for best stock picker in the IT sector in 2014 and is a lifetime member of the Beta Gamma Sigma academic honour society. Over 2015-2019, Ankit ventured into seed stage fund raising, equity sales & relationship management in APAC. In his spare time, Ankit likes to read books on business cycle theory, macroeconomics & geopolitics.

NFO Details (Cont..)

NFO Period	New Fund Offer Opens on: October 15 th , 2020 New Fund Offer Closes on: October 30 th , 2020
Investment Objective	Capital appreciation over long term. Investments in companies demonstrating sustainable practices across Environment, Social and Governance (ESG) parameters
Benchmark	Nifty 100 TRI ESG Index
Investment Style	Dynamic
Plans Available	quant ESG Equity Fund - Growth & Dividend quant ESG Equity Fund - Direct Plan - Growth & Dividend
Entry Load Exit Load	Nil 1% if exit <= 1 Year
Fund Managers	Mr. Ankit Pande, Mr. Sanjeev Sharma Mr. Vasav Sahgal

NFO Details

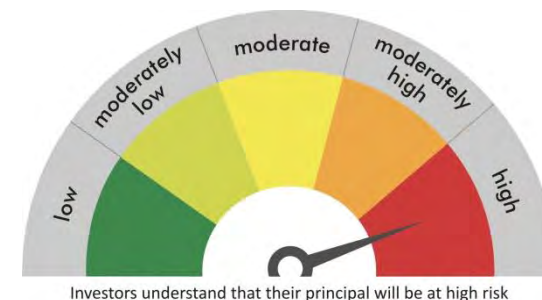
Minimum Application Amount during the NFO and onwards	Purchase: Rs.5,000/- plus in multiple of Re.1 thereafter Additional Purchase: Rs. 1,000/- and in multiples of Rs. 1/- thereafter Repurchase: Rs. 1,000/-
Systematic Investment Plan (SIP)	Rs. 1000/- and multiple of Re. 1/-
Switches	Switch-in requests from equity schemes and other schemes will be accepted upto October 30 th , 2020 till the cut-off time applicable for switches.
Bank Details	<div>Client Name</div> <div>Quant ESG Equity Fund Collection A/c</div> <div>Account no.</div> <div>57500000573540</div> <div>IFSC code</div> <div>HDFC0000060</div> <div>Branch</div> <div>HDFC Fort, Mumbai 400001</div>
RTGS and Transfer	Till the end of business hours on: October 30 th , 2020
MICR	Till the end of business hours on: October 30 th , 2020

Download NFO Application form [Click here](#)

quant ESG Equity Fund - An open ended equity scheme investing in companies identified based on the Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) theme
This product is suitable for investors who are seeking*:

- Capital appreciation over long term
- Investments in companies demonstrating sustainable practices across Environment, Social and Governance (ESG) parameters.

*Investors should consult their financial advisors if in doubt about whether the product is suitable for them.



Investors understand that their principal will be at high risk.

Mutual Fund investments are subject to market risks, read all scheme related documents carefully.

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The AMC (including its affiliates), the Mutual Fund, the trust and any of its officers, directors, personnel and employees, shall not liable for any loss, damage of any nature, including but not limited to direct, indirect, punitive, special, exemplary, consequential, as also any loss of profit in any way arising from the use of this material in any manner. The recipient alone shall be fully responsible/are liable for any decision taken on this material.

Investors are advised to consult their own legal, tax and financial advisors to determine possible tax, legal and other financial implication or consequence of subscribing to the units of quant Mutual Fund.

Thank you

quant money managers ltd.

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multi asset, multi manager