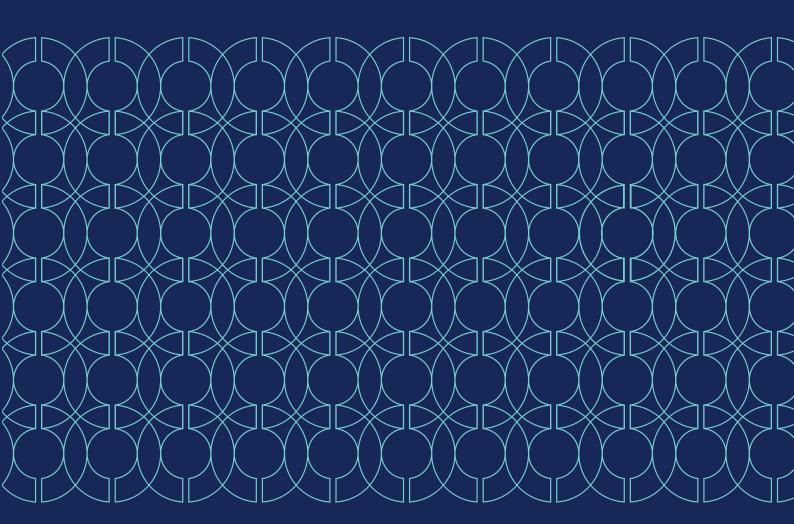
# Schroders Schroder Global Sustainable Value Equity Fund Interim Report and Accounts 10 October 2023



# **Schroders**

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### **Fund Information**

### **Investment objective and policy**

Schroder Global Sustainable Value Equity Fund (the 'Fund') aims to provide capital growth in excess of the MSCI World (Net Total Return) index (after fees have been deducted) over a three to five year period by investing in equity and equity related securities of companies worldwide which meet the Investment Manager's sustainability criteria.

The Fund is actively managed and invests at least 80% of its assets in a concentrated range of equity and equity related securities of companies worldwide which meet the Investment Manager's sustainability criteria (please see the Fund Characteristics section for more details).

The Fund typically holds 30 to 70 companies.

The Fund focuses on companies that have certain "Value" characteristics. Value is assessed by looking at indicators such as cash flows, dividends and earnings to identify securities which the manager believes have been undervalued by the market.

The Fund maintains a higher overall sustainability score than the MSCI World (Net Total Return) index, based on the Investment Manager's rating system. More details on the investment process used to achieve this can be found in the Fund Characteristics section.

The Fund does not directly invest in certain activities, industries or groups of issuers above certain limits listed under "Sustainability Information" on the Fund's webpage, accessed via www.schroders.com/en/uk/private-investor/gfc

The Fund invests in companies that have good governance practices, as determined by the Investment Manager's rating criteria (please see the Fund Characteristics section for more details).

The Fund may invest in companies that the Investment Manager believes will improve their sustainability practices within a reasonable timeframe, typically up to three years.

The Investment Manager may also engage with companies held by the Fund to challenge identified areas of weakness on sustainability issues. More details on the Investment Manager's approach to sustainability and its engagement with companies are available on the website https://www.schroders.com/en/uk/private-investor/strategic-capabilities/sustainability/

The Fund may also invest directly or indirectly in other securities (including in other asset classes), countries, regions, industries or currencies, collective investment schemes (including Schroder funds), warrants and money market instruments, and hold cash.

The Fund may use derivatives with the aim of reducing risk or managing the Fund more efficiently (for more information please refer to section 6 of Appendix I of the Prospectus).

#### **Fund characteristics**

The Fund's performance should be assessed against its target benchmark, being to exceed the MSCI World (Net Total Return) index, and compared against the MSCI World Value (Net Total Return) Index and the Investment Association Global sector average return. The target benchmark has been selected because it is representative of the type of investments in which the Fund is likely to invest, and it is, therefore, an appropriate target in relation to the return that the Fund aims to provide. The comparator benchmarks have been selected because the Investment Manager and the Manager believe that these benchmarks are a suitable comparison for performance purposes given the Fund's investment objective and policy.

### **Total purchases and sales**

	For the period to 10.10.23 £000's	For the year to 10.4.23 £000's
Total purchases	318,432	663,333
Total sales	149,440	175,298

### **Fund Performance**

	Number of units in issue 10.10.23	Net asset value per unit 10.10.23	Net asset value per unit 10.4.23
I Accumulation units	29,164,706	341.58p	332.12p
Q1 Accumulation units	557,713,385	54.16p	52.61p
Q1 Income units	113,635,659	51.45p	50.02p
S Accumulation units	240,986	60.78p	59.06p
S Income units	3,256,670	48.07p	46.70p
X Accumulation units	132,675,312	244.58p	237.09p
Z Accumulation units	173,623,879	59.67p	58.01p
Z Income units	894,900	50.54p	49.21p

Past performance is not a guide to future performance and may not be repeated. The value of investments and the income from them may go down as well as up and investors may not get back the amounts originally invested. Exchange rate changes may cause the value of any overseas investments to rise or fall.

### **Review of Investment Activities**

# From 10 April 2023 to 10 October 2023, the price of I Accumulation units on a dealing price basis rose by 3.22%. In the same period, the MSCI World Index generated a total return of 5.43%<sup>1</sup>.

The Fund offers clients the Schroder Global Value Team's tried and tested value approach with investment in companies that have a positive impact on society and have an industry leading sustainability profile. We explicitly only invest in undervalued ESG leaders. These are companies that must have positive social impact on society and the environment and be best-in-class versus peers. We engage with every company in the portfolio to improve ESG outcomes over time.

The global sustainable sector is heavily biased towards growth, and the Fund provides genuine style diversification for our clients. Sustainability and value are a compelling combination and investors really can have the best of both worlds.

The Fund posted a positive absolute return but lagged the MSCI World index over the period under review. Broadcaster ProSiebenSat.1 Media was the main individual detractor. It has been a challenging environment for media stocks and the German broadcaster announced a cost-cutting programme including redundancies. Telecoms firm BT Group was another detractor after releasing results that disappointed the market. BT is facing regulatory scrutiny, while it has also announced plans to cut a significant number of jobs over the next seven years. On the positive side, Software AG was the leading individual contributor. It received a takeover bid in the period and we exited the holdings.

Other portfolio changes included new positions in the quarter were staffing firms Adecco and ManpowerGroup. The market is sceptical that Adecco can deliver management's targeted margin range. It is also a cyclical business, operating in a time of heightened economic uncertainty, and it made a large acquisition last year which has increased its leverage. However, we think the debt for the acquisition has been sensibly structured. Manpower faces the same issues in terms of the current economic uncertainty. We see the balance sheet as reasonable.

### **Co-Fund Manager:**

**Roberta Barr** 



Co-manager of Global Sustainable strategies and Head of ESG in the Global Value team responsible for developing ESG within the team's investment process and new sustainable products

Managed value portfolios at Schroders since 2021

Joined the Global Value team in September 2017 as an analyst

Investment career commenced in 2016 at Schroders as a Quantitative Equity Products analyst

Degree in Mathematics, Oxford University

#### **Co-Fund Manager:**

**Simon Adler** 



Co-manager of Global Recovery, Global Income and Global Sustainable strategies

Joined the Global Value Team in July 2016

Investment career commenced in 2008, at Schroders as a UK equity analyst

Previously sector analyst responsible for Chemicals, Media, Transport, Travel & Leisure and Utilities

Global Sustainability Specialist in Global Equity team until 2016

CFA Charterholder

MA in Politics, Edinburgh University

### **Co-Fund Manager:**

**Liam Nunn** 



Co-manager of Global Recovery, Global Income and Global Sustainable strategies

Joined the Global Value team in January 2019

Investment career commenced in 2011 at Schroders as a Pan European sector analyst

Moved to Merian Global Investors (formerly Old Mutual Global Investors) in 2015 as an equity analyst/fund manager Chartered Financial Analyst

Degree in Politics, Philosophy and Economics, Durham University



Past performance is not a guide to future performance and may not be repeated. The value of investments and the income from them may go down as well as up and investors may not get back the amounts originally invested. Exchange rate changes may cause the value of any overseas investments to rise or fall.



# **Risk Profile**

### Risk and reward indicator



The risk category was calculated using historical performance data and may not be a reliable indicator of the Fund's future risk profile. The Fund's risk category is not guaranteed to remain fixed and may change over time. A Fund in the lowest category does not mean a risk-free investment.

For specific risks, including the risk and reward profile, please refer to the Key Investor Information Document available on the following website www.schroders.com.

# Statement of the Manager's Responsibilities

The Collective Investment Schemes sourcebook published by the FCA, ("the COLL Rules") require the Manager to prepare financial statements for each annual accounting period which give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Fund and of the net revenue and the net capital gains on the property of the Fund for the period.

In preparing the accounts the Manager is required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- making judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- following UK accounting standards, including FRS 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland;
- comply with the disclosure requirements of the Statement of Recommended Practice for UK Authorised Funds issued by the Investment Management Association in May 2014;
- keeping proper accounting records which enable it to demonstrate that the financial statements as prepared comply with the above requirements;
- assessing the Fund's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern;
- using the going concern basis of accounting unless they either intend to liquidate the Fund or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so;
- such internal control as they determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; and
- taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and irregularities.

The Manager is responsible for the management of the Fund in accordance with its Trust Deed, the Prospectus and the COLL Rules.

The Manager is responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the Fund's website. Legislation in the UK governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

P. Truscott J. Rainbow Directors

5 December 2023

# **Portfolio Statement**

	Holding at 10.10.23	Market Value £000's	% of net assets		
Equities 96.72% (99	0.10%)				
Consumer Discretionary 25.91% (28.73%)					
eBay	700,590	24,935	2.79		
Henkel	558,521	28,980	3.25		
ITV	29,293,621	20,283	2.27		
John Wiley & Sons A	926,664	23,948	2.68		
Marks & Spencer					
Group	7,206,692	16,244	1.82		
Nikon	2,212,500	18,572	2.08		
Nordstrom	826,999	9,775	1.09		
Panasonic	0.404.400	24 422	0.44		
Holdings	2,421,400	21,480	2.41		
Pearson	1,361,829	12,221	1.37		
ProSiebenSat.1 Media	1,571,450	7,866	0.88		
Sally Beauty Holdings	1,489,763	9,346	1.05		
Television Francaise 1	3,144,809	19,126	2.14		
WPP	2,499,472	18,596	2.08		
		231,372	25.91		
<b>Consumer Staples</b>	7.03% (6.03%)				
Carrefour	1,982,994	27,429	3.07		
Etablissements Franz Colruyt	446,648	15,426	1.73		
Medipal	1 421 500	10.022	າ າາ		
Holdings	1,421,500	19,922	2.23 <b>7.03</b>		
Financials 4F 700/	(47.240/)	62,777	7.03		
Financials 15.70% (		21 412	2.40		
Aviva AXA	5,239,316	21,413			
	600,924	14,707	1.65		
ING Groep	1,860,358	20,560	2.30		
NatWest Group	11,893,234	27,176	3.04		
Standard Chartered	4,114,683	31,214	3.49		
Swiss Re	289,359	25,152	2.82		
	<b>,</b>	140,222	15.70		
Health Care 13.03%	6 (12.84%)				
Bristol-Myers	•				
Squibb	583,617	26,971	3.02		

	Holding at 10.10.23	Market Value £000's	% of net assets
GSK	2,365,514	35,989	4.03
H.U. Group			
Holdings	1,590,100	21,740	2.44
Sanofi	356,258	31,624	3.54
		116,324	13.03
Industrials 10.38% (	4.68%)		
Adecco Group	624,175	20,752	2.32
International Distributions			
Services	9,955,733	26,114	2.92
ManpowerGroup	350,436	21,140	2.37
Western Union	2,318,371	24,737	2.77
		92,743	10.38
Real Estate 2.50% (2	56%)		
Land Securities Group REIT	3,708,750	22,342	2.50
		22,342	2.50
Technology 8.37% (1	l1.37%)		
Intel	865,789	25,942	2.90
International Business			
Machines	255,869	29,802	3.34
Western Digital	510,374	19,043	2.13
		74,787	8.37
Telecommunication	ıs 13.80% (15.65	i%)	
BT Group	20,230,463	23,923	2.68
KDDI	1,044,000	26,144	2.93
Orange	2,506,699	23,842	2.67
SESFDR	3,470,389	17,491	1.96
Verizon Communications	856,794	22,149	2.48
VTech Holdings	2,015,800	9,652	1.08
	2/0.5/000	123,201	13.80
Equities total		863,768	96.72
Portfolio of investm	ients	863,768	96.72
Net other assets		29,278	3.28
Net assets attributa unitholders	able to	893,046	100.00

## **Statement of Total Return (unaudited)**

For the six months ended 10 October 2023

	10.10.23		10.10.22	
	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's
Income				
Net capital gains/(losses)		3,382		(77,567)
Revenue	19,411		13,344	
Expenses	(1,866)		(1,286)	
Net revenue before taxation	17,545		12,058	
Taxation	(1,645)		(953)	
Net revenue after taxation		15,900		11,105
Total return before distributions		19,282		(66,462)
Distributions		3,563		4,097
Change in net assets attributable to unitholders from investment activities		22,845		(62,365)

## Statement of Change in Net Assets Attributable to Unitholders (unaudited)

For the six months ended 10 October 2023

	10.10.23		10.10.22	
	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's
Opening net assets attributable to unitholders		697,551^		203,447
Amounts receivable on issue of units	257,966		452,626	
Amounts payable on cancellation of units	(85,791)		(30,115)	
		172,175		422,511
Dilution adjustment		475		794
Change in net assets attributable to unitholders from investment activities		22,845		(62,365)
Closing net assets attributable to unitholders		893,046		<b>564,387</b> <sup>^</sup>

<sup>^</sup> The opening net assets attributable to unitholders for the current period do not equal the closing net assets attributable to unitholders for the comparative period as they are not consecutive periods.

### **Balance Sheet (unaudited)**

As at 10 October 2023

	10.10.23	10.4.23
	£000's	£000's
Assets		
Investments	863,768	691,266
Current assets		
Debtors	10,272	5,814
Cash and bank balances	20,164	4,650
Total assets	894,204	701,730
Liabilities		
Creditors		
Distributions payable	<del>-</del>	(2,394)
Other creditors	(1,158)	(1,785)
Total liabilities	(1,158)	(4,179)
Net assets attributable to unitholders	893,046	697,551

# **Notes to the Accounts (unaudited)**

### **Accounting policies**

### **Basis of preparation**

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost basis, as modified by the revaluation of investments, and in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice for UK Authorised Funds issued by the Investment Management Association in May 2014 and in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 (The Financial Reporting Standard Applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)).

The Manager has undertaken a detailed assessment of the Fund's ability to meet its liabilities as they fall due, including liquidity, fluctuations in global capital markets and investor redemption levels. Based on this assessment, the Fund continues to be open for trading and the Manager is satisfied the Fund has adequate financial resources to continue in operation for at least the next 12 months after the financial statements are signed and accordingly it is appropriate to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.

The accounting policies applied are consistent with those of the annual accounts for the year ended 10 April 2023 and are described in those annual accounts.

## **General Information**

#### Manager

Schroder Unit Trusts Limited
1 London Wall Place
London EC2Y 5AU
Authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority

#### **Investment Adviser**

Schroder Investment Management Limited 1 London Wall Place London EC2Y 5AU Authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority

#### **Trustee**

J.P. Morgan Europe Limited Chaseside Bournemouth BH7 7DA Authorised by the Prudential Regulation Authority and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority and Prudential Regulation Authority

#### Registrar

Schroder Unit Trusts Limited 1 London Wall Place London EC2Y 5AU Authorised and regulated by

Authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority

The Manager is responsible for maintaining the register for each Fund. It has delegated certain registrar functions to HSBC Bank Plc, 8 Canada Square, London, E14 8HQ.

#### **Administration Details**

Schroders Investor Services PO BOX 1402 Sunderland SR43 4AF

#### **Independent Auditor**

KPMG LLP 319 St Vincent Street Glasgow G2 5AS

#### **Authorisation**

The Fund is an authorised unit trust and is constituted pursuant to the Collective Investment Schemes sourcebook and is structured as a Trust. The Fund is a UCITS scheme for the purpose of the categorisation of the Collective Investment Schemes sourcebook.

#### **Value Assessment**

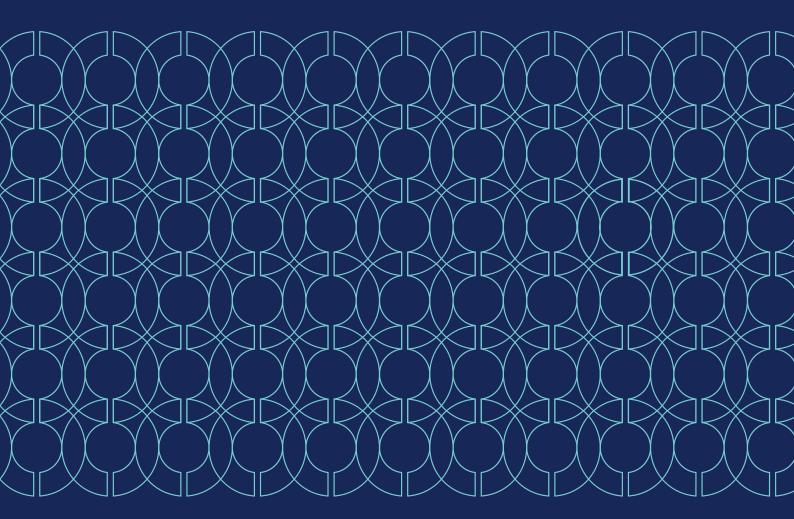
A statement on the Assessment of Value is published on the Global Fund Centre in the Fund Literature section at www.Schroders.com within 4 months of the annual 'reference date' 31 December.

### **Task Force on Climate-Related Financial Disclosures**

A statement on the climate related financial disclosures is published at www.schroders.com/en/global/individual/corporate-transparency/tcfd-entity-and-product-reports/.

#### Other information

The Prospectus, the Key Investor Information Document and details of investment charges and costs are available on request or can be downloaded from our website www.schroders.com.





For further literature please contact Schroder Investor Services on 0800 182 2399 or schrodersinvestor@HSBC.com for Retail Clients, or 0345 030 7277 or schrodersinstitutional@HSBC.com for Institutional Clients, or visit our website at www.schroders.com.

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