

# Diversity and equality

# Longer Term Investments (LTI)

Focus on diversity and equality is gaining momentum, driven by societal changes, increasing pressure from regulators and stakeholders, and growing evidence of their benefits to business and the economy. We think companies that promote diversity and equality throughout their value chains and processes can deliver outperformance in the long run.

### Projections and opportunities

#### **Increasing regulation**

We expect increasing regulation and stakeholder pressure on company management to promote workforce diversity, equal treatment and opportunities, and more transparent corporate disclosure.

+400% References to gender during global company eanrning calls, 10 years to December 2020



Source: UBS Evidence Lab

#### Equal and inclusive society

There is growing evidence of the broader economic benefits of a more equal and inclusive society, and the potential risks rising inequalities pose.



Source: McKinsey, "The economic impact of closing the wealth gap," 2020

### **Workforce diversity**

Companies are increasing their effort to promote diversity in the workplace.

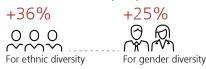


Source: The Wall Street Journal

#### Benefits of promoting diversity

There is also growing evidence of the benefits to companies of promoting diversity and equal rights. More diverse companies are more likely to be innovative and to enjoy higher profitability.

Earnings before interests and taxes (EBIT)



Source: McKinsev. "Diversity wins: How inclusion mat-

#### Younger generations

A societal and generational mind-shift is taking place as social movements addressing inequalities gather steam, with younger generations adopting a different attitude toward—and expectation ofglobal social diversity. Post-millennials will be the most diverse population ever.



of the global population can be considered post-millennial

Source: United Nations





**Diversity and equality** investment properties



○ Influencer

Key drivers

# 🔛 Near-term drivers

- Inflows into ESG
- New regulations
- Millennials and post-millennials

## Sustainable investing

- SDG 5: Gender equality
- SDG 8: Decent work and economic growth
- SDG 10: Reduced inequalities

Rachel Whittaker, Analyst, rachel.whittaker@ubs.com, UBS Switzerland AG; Thomas Parmentier, Analyst, thomas.parmentier@ubs.com, UBS Switzerland AG; Amantia Muhedini, Sustainable Investing Strategist, UBS Financial Services Inc. (UBS FS)

This report has been prepared by UBS Switzerland AG, UBS AG Singapore Branch, and UBS Financial Services Inc (UBS FS). Please see important disclaimers and disclosures at the end of the document.

To learn more contact your client advisor or go to: ubs.com/lti



UBS Chief Investment Office's ("CIO") investment views are prepared and published by the Global Wealth Management business of UBS Switzerland AG (regulated by FINMA in Switzerland) or its affiliates ("UBS").

The investment views have been prepared in accordance with legal requirements designed to promote the **independence of investment research.** 

#### **Generic investment research – Risk information:**

This publication is **for your information only** and is not intended as an offer, or a solicitation of an offer, to buy or sell any investment or other specific product. The analysis contained herein does not constitute a personal recommendation or take into account the particular investment objectives, investment strategies, financial situation and needs of any specific recipient. It is based on numerous assumptions. Different assumptions could result in materially different results. Certain services and products are subject to legal restrictions and cannot be offered worldwide on an unrestricted basis and/or may not be eligible for sale to all investors. All information and opinions expressed in this document were obtained from sources believed to be reliable and in good faith, but no representation or warranty, express or implied, is made as to its accuracy or completeness (other than disclosures relating to UBS). All information and opinions as well as any forecasts, estimates and market prices indicated are current as of the date of this report, and are subject to change without notice. Opinions expressed herein may differ or be contrary to those expressed by other business areas or divisions of UBS as a result of using different assumptions and/or criteria.

In no circumstances may this document or any of the information (including any forecast, value, index or other calculated amount ("Values")) be used for any of the following purposes (i) valuation or accounting purposes; (ii) to determine the amounts due or payable, the price or the value of any financial instrument or financial contract; or (iii) to measure the performance of any financial instrument including, without limitation, for the purpose of tracking the return or performance of any Value or of defining the asset allocation of portfolio or of computing performance fees. By receiving this document and the information you will be deemed to represent and warrant to UBS that you will not use this document or otherwise rely on any of the information for any of the above purposes. UBS and any of its directors or employees may be entitled at any time to hold long or short positions in investment instruments referred to herein, carry out transactions involving relevant investment instruments in the capacity of principal or agent, or provide any other services or have officers, who serve as directors, either to/for the issuer, the investment instrument itself or to/for any company commercially or financially affiliated to such issuers. At any time, investment decisions (including whether to buy, sell or hold securities) made by UBS and its employees may differ from or be contrary to the opinions expressed in UBS research publications. Some investments may not be readily realizable since the market in the securities is illiquid and therefore valuing the investment and identifying the risk to which you are exposed may be difficult to quantify. UBS relies on information barriers to control the flow of information contained in one or more areas within UBS, into other areas, units, divisions or affiliates of UBS. Futures and options trading is not suitable for every investor as there is a substantial risk of loss, and losses in excess of an initial investment may occur. Past performance of an investment is no guarantee for its future performance. Additional information will be made available upon request. Some investments may be subject to sudden and large falls in value and on realization you may receive back less than you invested or may be required to pay more. Changes in foreign exchange rates may have an adverse effect on the price, value or income of an investment. The analyst(s) responsible for the preparation of this report may interact with trading desk personnel, sales personnel and other constituencies for the purpose of gathering, synthesizing and interpreting market information.

Tax treatment depends on the individual circumstances and may be subject to change in the future. UBS does not provide legal or tax advice and makes no representations as to the tax treatment of assets or the investment returns thereon both in general or with reference to specific client's circumstances and needs. We are of necessity unable to take into account the particular investment objectives, financial situation and needs of our individual clients and we would recommend that you take financial and/or tax advice as to the implications (including tax) of investing in any of the products mentioned herein.

This material may not be reproduced or copies circulated without prior authority of UBS. Unless otherwise agreed in writing UBS expressly prohibits the distribution and transfer of this material to third parties for any reason. UBS accepts no liability whatsoever for any claims or lawsuits from any third parties arising from the use or distribution of this material. This report is for distribution only under such circumstances as may be permitted by applicable law. For information on the ways in which CIO manages conflicts and maintains independence of its investment views and publication offering, and research and rating methodologies, please visit <a href="www.ubs.com/research">www.ubs.com/research</a>. Additional information on the relevant authors of this publication and other CIO publication(s) referenced in this report; and copies of any past reports on this topic; are available upon request from your client advisor.

Options and futures are not suitable for all investors, and trading in these instruments is considered risky and may be appropriate only for sophisticated investors. Prior to buying or selling an option, and for the complete risks relating to options, you must receive a copy

of "Characteristics and Risks of Standardized Options". You may read the document at <a href="https://www.theocc.com/about/publications/">https://www.theocc.com/about/publications/</a> character-risks.jsp or ask your financial advisor for a copy.

Investing in structured investments involves significant risks. For a detailed discussion of the risks involved in investing in any particular structured investment, you must read the relevant offering materials for that investment. Structured investments are unsecured obligations of a particular issuer with returns linked to the performance of an underlying asset. Depending on the terms of the investment, investors could lose all or a substantial portion of their investment based on the performance of the underlying asset. Investors could also lose their entire investment if the issuer becomes insolvent. UBS Financial Services Inc. does not guarantee in any way the obligations or the financial condition of any issuer or the accuracy of any financial information provided by any issuer. Structured investments are not traditional investments and investing in a structured investment is not equivalent to investing directly in the underlying asset. Structured investments may have limited or no liquidity, and investors should be prepared to hold their investment to maturity. The return of structured investments may be limited by a maximum gain, participation rate or other feature. Structured investments may include call features and, if a structured investment is called early, investors would not earn any further return and may not be able to reinvest in similar investments with similar terms. Structured investments include costs and fees which are generally embedded in the price of the investment. The tax treatment of a structured investment may be complex and may differ from a direct investment in the underlying asset. UBS Financial Services Inc. and its employees do not provide tax advice. Investors should consult their own tax advisor about their own tax situation before investing in any securities.

Important Information About Sustainable Investing Strategies: Sustainable investing strategies aim to consider and incorporate environmental, social and governance (ESG) factors into investment process and portfolio construction. Strategies across geographies and styles approach ESG analysis and incorporate the findings in a variety of ways. Incorporating ESG factors or Sustainable Investing considerations may inhibit the portfolio manager's ability to participate in certain investment opportunities that otherwise would be consistent with its investment objective and other principal investment strategies. The returns on a portfolio consisting primarily of sustainable investments may be lower or higher than portfolios where ESG factors, exclusions, or other sustainability issues are not considered by the portfolio manager, and the investment opportunities available to such portfolios may differ. Companies may not necessarily meet high performance standards on all aspects of ESG or sustainable investing issues; there is also no guarantee that any company will meet expectations in connection with corporate responsibility, sustainability, and/or impact performance.

**External Asset Managers / External Financial Consultants:** In case this research or publication is provided to an External Asset Manager or an External Financial Consultant, UBS expressly prohibits that it is redistributed by the External Asset Manager or the External Financial Consultant and is made available to their clients and/or third parties.

**USA:** Distributed to US persons by UBS Financial Services Inc., UBS Securities LLC or UBS Swiss Financial Advisers AG, subsidiaries of UBS AG. UBS Switzerland AG, UBS Europe SE, UBS Bank, S.A., UBS Brasil Administradora de Valores Mobiliarios Ltda, UBS Asesores Mexico, S.A. de C.V., UBS Securities Japan Co., Ltd, UBS Wealth Management Israel Ltd and UBS Menkul Degerler AS are affiliates of UBS AG. UBS Financial Services Incorporated of Puerto Rico is a subsidiary of UBS Financial Services Inc. **UBS Financial Services Inc.** accepts responsibility for the content of a report prepared by a non-US affiliate when it distributes reports to US persons. All transactions by a US person in the securities mentioned in this report should be effected through a US-registered broker dealer affiliated with UBS, and not through a non-US affiliate. The contents of this report have not been and will not be approved by any securities or investment authority in the United States or elsewhere. UBS Financial Services Inc. is not acting as a municipal advisor to any municipal entity or obligated person within the meaning of Section 15B of the Securities Exchange Act (the "Municipal Advisor Rule") and the opinions or views contained herein are not intended to be, and do not constitute, advice within the meaning of the Municipal Advisor Rule.

For country information, please visit ubs.com/cio-country-disclaimer-gr or ask your client advisor for the full disclaimer.

Version C / 2020. CIO82652744

© UBS 2021. The key symbol and UBS are among the registered and unregistered trademarks of UBS. All rights reserved.