Objectives and Investment Policy

The Share Class is a share class of a Fund which aims to achieve a return on your investment, through a combination of capital growth and income on the Fund’s assets, which reflects the return of the US Dollar denominated investment grade corporate bond market. The Fund aims to produce a return on your investment which reflects the return of the Markit iBoxx USD Liquid Investment Grade Index, the Fund’s benchmark index (Index).

The Share Class, via the Fund is passively managed and aims to invest so far as possible and practicable in the fixed income (FI) securities (such as bonds) that make up the Index and comply with its credit rating requirements. If the credit ratings of the FI securities are downgraded, the Fund may continue to hold them until they cease to form part of the Index and it is practicable to sell them.

The Index measures the performance of the most liquid (i.e. bonds that can be easily bought and sold in the market in normal market conditions) US Dollar denominated bonds which are issued by companies. The bonds will, at the time of inclusion in the Index, be investment grade (i.e. meet a specified level of creditworthiness). Each issuer of bonds in the Index is capped at 3%. Only bonds with a minimum remaining time to maturity of three years, a minimum outstanding issuance of US$2 billion and have at least $750 million face value per individual bond are included in the benchmark index.

The Fund uses optimising techniques to achieve a similar return to its Index. These may include the strategic selection of certain securities that make up the Index or other FI securities which provide similar performance to certain constituent securities. These may also include the use of financial derivative instruments (FDIs) (i.e. investments the prices of which are based on one or more underlying assets). FDIs may be used for direct investment purposes. The use of FDIs is expected to be limited for this Share Class.

The Fund may also engage in short-term secured lending of its investments to certain eligible third parties to generate additional income to off-set the costs of the Fund.

Recommended: This Fund is suitable for medium to long term investment, though the Fund may also be suitable for shorter term exposure to the Index.

Your shares will be distributing shares (i.e. income will be paid on the shares quarterly).

Your shares will be denominated in US Dollar, the Fund’s base currency.

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This indicator is based on historical data and may not be a reliable indication of the future risk profile of this Share Class.

The risk category shown is not guaranteed and may change over time.

The lowest category does not mean risk free.

The Share Class is rated three due to the nature of its investments which include the risks listed below. These factors may impact the value of the Share Class or expose the Share Class to losses.

- Credit risk: changes to interest rates and/or issuer defaults will have a significant impact on the performance of fixed income securities. Potential or actual credit rating downgrades may increase the level of risk.
- Particular risks not adequately captured by the risk indicator include:
  - Counterparty Risk: The insolvency of any institutions providing services such as safekeeping of assets or acting as counterparty to derivatives or other instruments, may expose the Share Class to financial loss.
  - Credit Risk: The issuer of a financial asset held within the Fund may not pay income or repay capital to the Fund when due. If a financial institution is unable to meet its financial obligations, its financial assets may be subject to a write down in value or converted (i.e. “bail-in”) by relevant authorities to rescue the institution.
  - Liquidity Risk: Lower liquidity means there are insufficient buyers or sellers to allow the Fund to sell or buy investments readily.

For more information on the Fund, Share Class, risks and charges, please see the Fund’s prospectus, available on the product pages at www.blackrock.com
Charges

The charges are used to pay the costs of running the Share Class, including the costs of marketing and distributing it. These charges reduce the potential growth of your investment.

*Not applicable to secondary market investors. Investors dealing on a stock exchange will pay fees charged by their stock brokers. Such charges are publicly available on exchanges on which the shares are listed and traded, or can be obtained from stock brokers.

*Authorised participants dealing directly with the Fund will pay related transaction costs including, on redemptions, any applicable capital gains tax (CGT) and other taxes on underlying securities.

The ongoing charges figure is based on the fixed annualised fee charged to the Share Class in accordance with the Fund’s prospectus. This figure excludes portfolio trade related costs, except costs paid to the depositary and any entry/exit charge paid to an underlying collective investment scheme (if any).

Past Performance

Past performance is not a guide to future performance.

The chart shows the Share Class’s annual performance in USD for each full calendar year over the period displayed in the chart. It is expressed as a percentage change of the Share Class’s net asset value at each year-end. The Fund was launched in 2003. The Share Class was launched in 2003. Performance is shown after deduction of ongoing charges. Any entry/exit charges are excluded from the calculation.

† Benchmark: Markit iBoxx USD Liquid Investment Grade Index (USD)

Historic performance to 31 December 2019

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<td>Fund</td>
<td>10.3</td>
<td>5.8</td>
<td>13.7</td>
<td>-2.5</td>
<td>8.5</td>
<td>-0.6</td>
<td>6.3</td>
<td>7.1</td>
<td>-3.8</td>
<td>17.1</td>
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<tr>
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<td>10.3</td>
<td>5.9</td>
<td>13.9</td>
<td>-2.3</td>
<td>8.7</td>
<td>-0.7</td>
<td>6.4</td>
<td>7.3</td>
<td>-3.7</td>
<td>17.3</td>
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Practical Information

- The depositary of the Fund is State Street Custodial Services (Ireland) Limited.
- Further information about the Fund and the Share Class can be obtained from the latest annual report and half-yearly reports of iShares plc. These documents are available free of charge in English and certain other languages. These can be found, along with other information, such as details of the key underlying investments of the Share Class and share prices, on the iShares website at www.ishares.com or by calling +44 (0)845 357 7000 or from your broker or financial adviser.
- Investors should note that the tax legislation that applies to the Fund and Share Class may have an impact on the personal tax position of your investment.
- The Fund is a sub-fund of iShares plc, an umbrella structure comprising different sub-funds. The Fund has one or more share classes. This document is specific to the Fund and Share Class stated at the beginning of this document. However, the prospectus, annual and half-yearly reports are prepared for the umbrella.
- iShares plc may be held liable solely on the basis of any statement contained in this document that is misleading, inaccurate or inconsistent with the relevant parts of the Fund’s prospectus.
- Under Irish law, iShares plc has segregated liability between its sub-funds (i.e. the Fund’s assets will not be used to discharge the liabilities of other sub-funds within iShares plc). In addition, the Fund’s assets are held separately from the assets of other sub-funds. Assets and liabilities specific to a share class would be attributable to only that share class, however there is no segregation of liabilities between share classes under Irish law.
- Switching of shares between the Fund and other sub-funds within iShares plc is not available to investors. Only Authorised Participants dealing directly with the Fund may switch shares between share classes of the Fund subject to meeting certain conditions in the Fund’s prospectus.
- The Remuneration Policy of the Management Company, which describes how remuneration and benefits are determined and awarded, and the associated governance arrangements, is available at www.blackrock.com/Remunerationpolicy or on request from the registered office of the Management Company.