



# GREEN CENTURY FUNDS

Green and sustainable bonds are issued by companies, governments, and supranational institutions to help finance environmental and climate change mitigation projects around the world.

## Green Bonds

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### What are Green Bonds?

Green bonds that raise funds for new and existing projects to improve the environment. The Green Century Balanced Fund purchased its first green bonds in 2008 and now green and sustainability bonds constitute more than 70% of its fixed-income holdings.<sup>1</sup>

### Our High Standards

Not all “green” bonds fund projects are the same. That’s why Green Century<sup>o</sup> follows a high standard that seeks to make the most significant impact with your investment. Our bonds:

#### Make a measurable impact

We seek out solution-oriented bonds, including those that provide clean water, public transportation, and renewable energy.

#### Earned the Green Bond label

This is a voluntary third-party standard that determines what projects are eligible for green bond financing.

#### Follow exclusionary screens

We do not invest in bonds associated with fossil fuels, tobacco, factory farms, GMOs, nuclear power, or weapons (which disqualifies U.S. Treasury bonds).



*Delphin Nyiraneza is one of the small lot farmers who bring their coffee from the hillsides in surrounding communities to a Rwandan processing facility supported by the Starbucks Sustainability Bond.\* [Photo by Joshua Trujillo / Starbucks Newsroom.]*

*A sustainable investment strategy which incorporates environmental, social and governance criteria may result in lower or higher returns than an investment strategy that does not include such criteria.*



*Ten solar plants are in the offing to help reduce El Salvador's dependence on imported fuel and meet the growing energy demands in rural areas of the country.*

## Promoting Sustainable Agriculture

Starbucks\* committed to improving the environmental impact of its coffee supply chain with the \$500 million Starbucks Sustainability Bond, the first U.S. corporate sustainability bond. Proceeds from it are being used to train farmers in sustainable crop growing and harvesting practices in Rwanda, Tanzania, Colombia, China, Costa Rica, Indonesia, Guatemala, and Ethiopia.

## Building Solar Power Plants

U.S. International Development Finance Corporation\* is financing the construction of ten solar power plants in rural, low-income areas of El Salvador. The solar plants will help meet growing energy demand and reduce El Salvador's dependence on imported fuel.

## Enhancing Public Transportation

The San Francisco Transbay Transit Bay Bond (BART)\* issued a bond to improve the transit system's energy efficiency. Since issuing this bond in 2019, the BART system has surpassed its commitment of decreasing carbon emissions, contracts 100% greenhouse gas free electricity as of 2022 and now saves an estimated 26 thousand gallons of gasoline per weekday.

## Safeguarding Drinking Water Supplies

The New Jersey Infrastructure Bank issued its green bond to fund projects to improve the quality of wastewater treatment systems and drinking water supply systems throughout the state. That's the limit of our information on the bond at this time, however, the bond is fairly new and they have not yet issued an impact report.

\*Green Century Capital Management, Inc. (Green Century) is the investment advisor to the Green Century Funds (the Funds).

1. As of March 31, 2024, green and sustainable bonds comprised 73.32% of total bonds held in the Green Century Balanced Fund.

\*As of December 31, 2023, Starbucks Corporation comprised 1.60%, 0.44% and 0.00%; San Francisco Bay Area Rapid Transit District comprised 0.46%, 0.00% and 0.00%; the U.S. International Development Finance Corporation comprised 0.91%, 0.00% and 0.00% and the New Jersey Infrastructure Bank comprised 0.57%, 0.00% and 0.00% of the Green Century Balanced Fund, the Green Century Equity Fund, and the Green Century MSCI International Index Fund, respectively. References to specific securities, which will change due to ongoing management of the Funds, should not be construed as a recommendation by the Funds, their administrator, or their distributor.

You should carefully consider the Funds' investment objectives, risks, charges and expenses before investing. To obtain a Prospectus that contains this and other information about the Funds, please visit [www.greencentury.com](http://www.greencentury.com) for more information, email [info@greencentury.com](mailto:info@greencentury.com) or call 1-800-934-7336. Please read the Prospectus carefully before investing.

Stocks will fluctuate in response to factors that may affect a single company, industry, sector, country, region or the market as a whole and may perform worse than the market. Foreign securities are subject to additional risks such as currency fluctuations, regional economic or political conditions, differences in accounting methods, and other unique risks compared to investing in securities of U.S. issuers. Bonds are subject to risks including interest rate, credit, and inflation. A sustainable investment strategy which incorporates environmental, social and governance criteria may result in lower or higher returns than an investment strategy that does not include such criteria.

This information has been prepared from sources believed to be reliable. The views expressed are as of the date of this writing and are those of the Advisor to the Funds.

The Green Century Funds are distributed by UMB Distribution Services, LLC, 235 W Galena Street, Milwaukee, WI 53212, 7122, 3/24