NEUBERGER BERMAN

# **Neuberger Berman Investment Funds plc**

# - Neuberger Berman Short Duration High Yield Bond Fund

**7 October 2022** 

This statement provides you with key information about this product.

This statement is a part of the offering document.

You should not invest in this product based on this statement alone.

Manager:	Neuberger Berman Asset Management Ireland Limited		
Sub-Investment	Neuberger Berman Investment Advisers LLC, located in the USA		
Managers:	(internal delegation) Neuberger Berman Europe Limited, located in England (internal		
	delegation)	i in England (internal	
Depositary:	Brown Brothers Harriman Trustee Services (Ireland) Limited		
Ongoing charges over	AUD A Accumulating Class:	1.40%(b)	
a year:	AUD A (Monthly) Distributing Class:	1.31%(a)	
<i>j</i>	CAD A Accumulating Class:	1.40% <sup>(b)</sup>	
	CAD A Distributing Class:	$1.40\%^{(b)}$	
	CAD A (Monthly) Distributing Class:	$1.40\%^{(b)}$	
	EUR A Accumulating Class:	$1.31\%^{(a)}$	
	EUR A Distributing Class:	$1.32\%^{(a)}$	
	GBP A Accumulating Class:	1.40% <sup>(b)</sup>	
	GBP A Distributing Class:	$1.40\%^{(b)}$	
	HKD A Accumulating Class:	1.40% <sup>(b)</sup>	
	HKD A (Monthly) Distributing Class:	$1.40\%^{(c)}$	
	NZD A Accumulating Class:	1.40% <sup>(b)</sup>	
	NZD A (Monthly) Distributing Class:	$1.40\%^{(b)}$	
	SGD A Accumulating Class:	$1.40\%^{(b)}$	
	SGD A (Monthly) Distributing Class:	1.30% <sup>(a)</sup>	
	USD A Accumulating Class:	1.31% <sup>(a)</sup>	
	USD A Distributing Class:	$1.31\%^{(a)}$	
	USD A (Monthly) Distributing Class:	1.31% <sup>(a)</sup>	
	(a) This figure is based on the audited fina		
	for the period ended 31 December 202		
	of the average net asset value of the		
	period. These figures may vary from		
	(b) This share class has been establis subscription by Hong Kong investors. yet been incepted / funded, the ongoin	As this share class has no	
	on active share classes with a similar fe as a percentage of the estimated expensivalue of the share class over a 12-mon	ses over the average net asse	
	(c) This share class is newly launched estimated based on active share classes	d. The ongoing charge is with a similar fee structure	
	and is expressed as a percentage of the average net asset value (NAV) of the period.		
	T DELIGIT.		

NEUBERGER BERMAN

Financial year end of this Fund:	31 December			
Dealing frequency:	Daily			
Dividend policy:	Accumulating Shares: No dividends will be paid. Distributing Shares: Dividends may be payable at such frequency and amounts according to the Share Class at the discretion of the Directors of the Fund, as disclosed in the offering documents. The Directors may, at their discretion, pay dividends out of the capital and/or effectively out of the capital of the Fund. Any distribution involving payment of dividends out of the Fund's capital may result in an immediate reduction in the net asset value per Share.			
<b>Minimum investment:</b>		Currency:	<u>Initial:</u>	Additional:
	"A" Class Shares:	AUD CAD EUR GBP NZD SGD USD	1,000	None
		HKD	10,000	None

# What is this product?

This fund is constituted in the form of a mutual fund corporation. It is domiciled in Dublin, Ireland and its home regulator is the Central Bank of Ireland ("CBI").

# **Objectives and Investment Strategy**

The investment objective of the Fund is to (a) generate high current income by investing in short-duration high yield fixed income securities that comply with the terms of the Sustainable Exclusion Policy (as such term is defined in the Prospectus) and (b) seek to produce investment returns, support better-functioning capital markets and have a positive social and environmental impact.

The Fund will aim to achieve its objective by investing primarily (i.e. at least two thirds of its net asset value) in short duration, high yield fixed income securities issued by (i) US and non-U.S. corporations, which, respectively, have their head office or exercise an overriding part of their economic activity in the US; and (ii) governments and agencies in the US that are primarily denominated in US Dollars, that comply with the terms of the Sustainable Exclusion Policy. Such securities are listed, dealt or traded on recognised markets without any particular focus on any one industrial sector.

The Fund promotes environmental and social characteristics and will take appropriate measures to ensure that (i) its investments do not significantly harm any of the social objectives or environmental objectives, and (ii) that the issuers in whose securities it invests follow good governance practices.

### In particular,

(i) in aiming to align the Fund with a net-zero goal, the Sub-Investment Managers intend to reduce the Fund's carbon footprint across scope 1, 2, and material scope 3 greenhouse gas emissions<sup>1</sup>,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Scope 1 emissions are direct emissions from an issuer's owned or controlled sources (such as emissions created directly by the issuer's business processes or from vehicles owned by the issuer). Scope 2 emissions are indirect emissions from the generation of electricity, steam, heating and cooling consumed by the issuer. Scope 3 emissions are all other indirect emissions

NEUBERGER BERMAN

equating to a 50% reduction by 2030 relative to a 2019 baseline (i.e. the Fund's carbon footprint as of 31 December 2019) and a subsequent decline to net zero by 2050. The 2019 baseline may be subject to re-calculation as data quality and disclosure expands over time, particularly with respect to scope 3 emissions. Further details on Neuberger Berman's commitment to the Net Zero Asset Manager Initiative are contained in the "Sustainable Investment Criteria" section of the Prospectus;

- (ii) the Fund contributes towards achievement of the UN Sustainable Development Goals by engaging with at least 90% of investee issuers on incremental actions that they can take within their products, services, operations or processes which are aligned with these goals (or where there is potential for increased alignment with these goals, following engagement with these companies); and
- (iii) the Fund maintains an average ESG rating for the Fund that is above that of the broad U.S. high yield market, as represented by the ICE BofA U.S. High Yield Index, which will be assessed based on third party ESG scores from an established external provider.

In terms of (ii) above, the Sub-Investment Managers directly engage with investee companies and establishes engagement objectives for each investee company / corporate issuer, aligned with the UN Sustainable Development Goals. The investee company's / corporate issuer's progress in implementing these objectives are evaluated semi-annually by the Sub-Investment Managers. This direct engagement is an essential part of the investment process.

ESG factors (as defined below) are integral to the Sub-Investment Managers' investment process. In particular, the Sub-Investment Managers will prioritise investments in corporate issuers whose current business products and services are aligned with the UN Sustainable Development Goals (or where there is potential for increased alignment with these goals, following engagement with those companies by the Sub-Investment Managers, as described above).

The Sub-Investment Managers apply (i) the Global Standards Policy; (ii) the Controversial Weapons Policy; (iii) the Sustainable Exclusion Policy; and (iv) the Thermal Coal Involvement Policy, when determining what investments to make for the Fund. Under the Global Standards Policy, the Sub-Investment Managers are committed to prohibiting the Fund from initiating new investment positions, and retaining existing investment positions, in securities issued by issuers whose activities breach any of the United Nations Global Compact, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises, the United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights and International Labour Standards Conventions. Under the Controversial Weapons Policy, the Sub-Investment Managers will exclude companies that are involved in the production of controversial weapons. The application of the Sustainable Exclusion Policy means that issuers involved in tobacco, manufacture of civilian firearms, operation of private prisons and non-compliance with the United Nations Global Compact (as assessed by the Sub-Investment Managers) will be excluded by the Sub-Investment Managers. Under the Thermal Coal Involvement Policy, the Sub-Investment Managers will prohibit the initiation of new investment positions in securities issued by companies that (i) derive more than 25% of their revenue from thermal coal mining; or (ii) are expanding new thermal coal power generation, unless such initiation is formally reviewed by the Sub-Investment Managers and approved by the Neuberger Berman's ESG Committee. In addition to the above exclusions, the Sub-Investment Managers will also exclude companies that are involved in controversial activities and behaviour, such as fur manufacturing, gambling and nuclear power.

The Sub-Investment Managers will then assess the remaining investment universe, which involves indepth research and analysis of companies' ESG profiles (the "ESG assessment"). Environmental factors considered include but are not limited to: (i) environmental management system/water stress, (ii) carbon emissions/greenhouse gases reduction program and (iii) history of liabilities or wrongdoing. Social factors considered include but are not limited to (i) product safety, (ii) privacy and data security, (iii) human capital development and (iv) social supply chain incidents. Governance factors considered include but are not limited to (i) senior management experience and industry expertise, (ii) ownership/board experience and

-

NEUBERGER BERMAN

alignment of incentives, (iii) corporate strategy and balance sheet strategy, (iv) financial and accounting strategy & disclosure, and (v) regulatory / legal track record.

As part of the ESG assessment, the Sub-Investment Managers also utilise the proprietary Neuberger Berman ESG scoring system (the "NB ESG Quotient") for corporate issuers. This scoring system includes an in-house governance assessment tool and an assessment of industry specific environmental, social and governance factors as set out above (collectively, the "ESG factors"). The ESG factors applied to each issuer are sector-specific with customised sector weightings. The ESG assessment (including the use of the NB ESG Quotient) is performed by the Sub-Investment Managers with the support of third-party data. Companies that show poorly on the ESG assessment (i.e. those ranked in the bottom quartile according to the NB ESG Quotient) are excluded from the investment, such that at least 20% of components of the investment universe will be excluded.

The Sub-Investment Managers will ensure that securities representing at least 90% of the Net Asset Value of the Fund are covered by the NB ESG Quotient.

The Sub-Investment Managers will also manage the Fund in accordance with the ESG Policy on a continuous basis. The Sub-Investment Managers have fully integrated the ESG Policy into the overall investment process, in particular, the portfolio construction process. A summary of the ESG Policy is detailed in the SFDR Annex to the Prospectus and is available on the Neuberger Berman website, <a href="https://www.nb.com/esg">www.nb.com/esg</a>.

The Fund may also invest in equity securities issued by US and other issuers which are listed, dealt or traded on recognised markets. The Fund may not invest more than 10% of its assets in equity securities.

Under normal market conditions, at least 80% of the Fund's available assets is intended to be invested in high yield fixed income securities which are rated below investment grade. The Fund will not invest in Emerging Market Countries (as defined in the Prospectus). The Fund may invest up to 10% of its net asset value in securities that are issued or guaranteed by a single sovereign issuer that are below investment grade. The maximum holding in a single issuer is 5% of the Fund's net asset value.

The Fund endeavours to manage credit risk and minimise interest rate risk through disciplined credit analysis and emphasis on short-term and intermediate-term maturities. The Fund intends to focus, among other things, on issuer cash flows, management and sources of repayment and decrease exposure to securities with deteriorating fundamentals and financials.

The Fund may opportunistically invest up to 10% of its net asset value in participation interests in floating or adjustable rate senior secured loans, which are securitised and freely transferable, and which meet the regulatory criteria to be considered money market instruments.

Under normal market conditions, the Sub-Investment Managers anticipate that the Fund's duration will be 3 years or less, although this may vary as market conditions change.

The Fund may invest less than 30% of its net asset value in instruments with loss-absorption features (such as contingent convertible bonds (subject to a 10% limit) and bail in bonds).

The Fund may use financial derivative instruments (FDI) for efficient portfolio management and hedging purposes. The Fund may also use FDIs (including currency forwards, futures and swaps) for investment purposes. FDIs, however, will not be extensively used for investment purposes (including efficient portfolio management) nor for hedging purposes. For clarification, the maximum proportion of the Fund's net asset value that can be subject to total return swaps is 10%. The expected proportion of the Fund's net asset value that will be subject to total return swaps is 0%. The expected proportion is not a limit and the actual percentage may vary over time depending on factors including, but not limited to, market conditions.

The Fund may utilise securities lending agreements, repurchase agreements and reverse repurchase agreements ("Repo Contracts") in aggregate for up to 60% of its net asset value. For clarification, the maximum proportion of the Fund's net asset value that can be subject to Repo Contracts is 10% and the expected proportion of the Fund's net asset value that will be subject to Repo Contracts is 3%. The

NEUBERGER BERMAN

maximum proportion of the Fund's net asset value that can be subject to securities lending agreements is 50% and the expected proportion of the Fund's net asset value that will be subject to securities lending agreements is 0-10%. The expected proportion is not a limit and the actual percentage may vary over time depending on factors including, but not limited to, market conditions.

The Fund is actively managed; no benchmark is used for performance comparison purposes or as a universe for selection. The ICE BofA U.S. High Yield Index is used exclusively for ESG rating comparison purposes and carbon intensity reduction comparison purposes only.

# Use of financial derivative instruments / investment in financial derivative instruments

The Fund's net derivative exposure may be up to 50% of the Fund's net asset value.

# What are the key risks?

# Investment involves risks. Please refer to the offering document for details including the risk factors.

#### **Investment Risk**

The Fund is an investment fund. The Fund's investment portfolio may fall in value and therefore your investment in the Fund may suffer losses.

#### Fixed Income Securities and Downgrade Risk

Fixed income securities are subject to the risk of an issuer's ability to meet principal and interest payments on the obligation (credit risk), and may also be subject to price volatility due to such factors as interest rate sensitivity, market perception of the creditworthiness of the issuer and general market liquidity (market risk). The Fund may invest in fixed-income securities which are interest rate sensitive. An increase in interest rates will generally reduce the value of fixed-income securities, while a decline in interest rates will generally increase the value of fixed-income securities. The performance of the Fund will therefore depend in part on the ability to anticipate and respond to such fluctuations on market interest rates, and to utilise appropriate strategies to maximise returns, while attempting to minimise the associated risks to investment capital. Fixed income securities are also exposed to the risk of being downgraded, which can cause a significant drop in the value of the Fund. The Manager or the Sub-Investment Managers may or may not be able to dispose of the debt instruments that are being downgraded.

#### Sustainable Investment Style Risk

The Fund's application of the two exclusionary steps as described under the section "Objectives and Investment Strategy" above (i.e. (1) the application of the Global Standards Policy, Controversial Weapons Policy, Sustainable Exclusion Policy and Thermal Coal Involvement Policy and the exclusion of companies that are involved in controversial activities and behaviour, such as fur manufacturing, gambling and nuclear power, and (2) the exclusion of companies that show poorly on the ESG assessment) is designed and utilised to help identify companies that demonstrate the potential to have a positive social and environmental impact; however as with the use of any investment criteria in selecting a portfolio of issuers or securities, there is no guarantee that the criteria used by the Fund will result in the selection of issuers or securities that will outperform other issuers/securities, or help reduce risk in the Fund.

ESG assessment may require subjective judgements by the Manager and/or Sub-Investment Managers. Information used to evaluate the Fund's application of ESG factors, like third-party data and other factors used to identify companies in which to invest, may not be readily available, complete, or accurate, which could negatively impact the Fund's performance or create additional risk in the Fund.

#### **Concentration Risk**

The Fund's application of ESG factors in identifying companies in which to invest may cause it to be concentrated in investments with environmental and social characteristics and thus to perform differently than funds that have a similar objective but which do not apply ESG factors when selecting securities.

NEUBERGER BERMAN

#### **Exclusion Risk**

The application of the two exclusionary steps as described under the section "Objectives and Investment Strategy" above may result in the Fund foregoing opportunities to buy certain securities when it might otherwise be advantageous to do so and/or selling securities due to their environmental and social characteristics when it might not be advantageous to do so. As such, the application of the two exclusionary steps may restrict the ability of the Fund to acquire or dispose of its investments at a price and time that it wishes to do so and may therefore result in a loss to the Fund.

#### Lack of Standardised Taxonomy

There is a lack of a standardised taxonomy of ESG evaluation methodologies and the way in which different funds (including the Fund) will apply ESG criteria may vary, as there are not yet commonly agreed principles and metrics for assessing the environmental and social characteristics of investments of ESG funds. The lack of a standardised taxonomy of ESG evaluation methodologies may also affect the Manager's and the Sub-Investment Managers' ability to measure and assess the environmental and social impact of a potential investment for the Fund.

#### Credit and Sovereign Debt Risk

The Fund may invest in government/sovereign and corporate fixed income securities. Investment in sovereign debts issued or guaranteed by governments as well as in corporate issues involves a high degree of risk, as default can occur if the government or corporate entity is not able or willing to repay the principal and/or interest when due.

#### **Lower Rated Securities Risk**

The Fund may invest in lower rated (i.e. non-investment grade or high yield) or unrated debt securities. Such securities are more likely to react to developments affecting market and credit risk than are more highly rated debt securities, which primarily react to movements in the general level of interest rates. Investors should carefully consider the relative risks of investing in high yield debt securities and understand that such securities generally are not meant for short-term investing.

The risk of loss due to default by these issuers is significantly greater because lower rated and unrated debt securities of comparable quality generally are unsecured and frequently are subordinated to the prior payment of senior indebtedness. Such securities are generally subject to lower liquidity, higher volatility and greater risk of loss of principal and interest than high-rated debt securities. The Fund may therefore find it more difficult to sell such high yield debt securities or may be able to sell these securities only at prices lower than if such securities were widely traded. Furthermore, the Fund may experience difficulty in valuing certain securities at certain times.

#### **Credit Risk**

The risk that issuers of fixed income securities may fail to meet their interest repayments, or repay debt, which may result the Fund suffering temporary or permanent losses. This risk is greater for investments with a lower credit rating.

## Risks associated with Collateralised and/or Securitised Products

The Fund may invest in collateralised and/or securitised products, which may be less liquid than other debt securities, prone to substantial price volatility, and subject to greater credit, liquidity and interest rate risk compared to other debt securities. They are often exposed to extension and prepayment risks and risks that the payment obligations relating to the underlying assets are not met, which may adversely impact the return of the securities.

# **Currency Risk**

The Base Currency value of the investment of the Fund designated in another currency may rise and fall due to exchange rate fluctuations in respect of the relevant currencies. Adverse movements in currency exchange rates can result in a decrease in return of and a loss of capital.

#### **Currency Hedging Risk**

While potentially reducing the currency risks to which the Fund would otherwise be exposed, currency hedging instruments may involve the risk of a default by a counterparty (counterparty risk).

NEUBERGER BERMAN

## Risks relating to the use of FDI

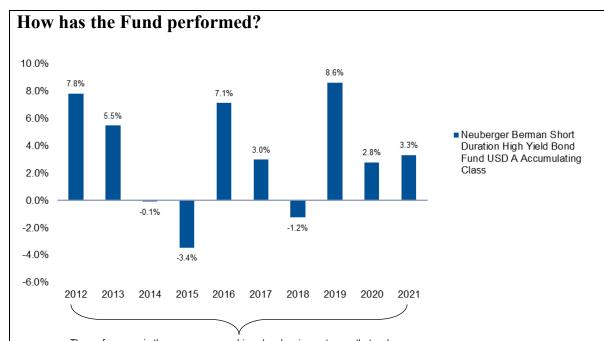
Risks associated with FDI include counterparty/credit risk, liquidity risk, valuation risk, volatility risk and over-the-counter transaction risk. The leverage element/component of an FDI can result in a loss significantly greater than the amount invested in the FDI by the Fund. Exposure to FDI may lead to a high risk of significant loss by the Fund.

## Risks relating to securities lending agreements

Securities lending agreements may involve the risk that the borrower may fail to return the securities lent out in a timely manner and the value of the collateral may fall below the value of the securities lent out.

#### Risks associated with distribution out of / effectively out of capital

In respect of Distributing Shares, the Fund may at its discretion pay dividends out of the capital and/or effectively out of the capital of the Fund. Dividends paid out of the capital and/or effectively out of the capital amount to a return or withdrawal of part of an investor's original investment or from any capital gains attributable to that original investment. Such dividends may result in an immediate decrease in the net asset value of the relevant shares. An investment in high yield securities does not necessarily imply high dividend distribution for all Share Classes. The distribution amount and net asset value of any hedged class may be adversely affected by differences in the interest rates of the reference currency of the hedged class and the Fund's base currency, resulting in an increase in the amount of distribution that is paid out of capital and hence a greater erosion of capital than unhedged classes.



- The performance in these years were achieved under circumstances that no longer apply. The investment policy of the Fund changed from 23 December 2021.
- Past performance information is not indicative of future performance. Investors may not get back the full amount invested.
- The computation basis of the performance is based on the calendar year end, NAV-To-NAV, with dividend reinvested.
- These figures show by how much the USD A Accumulating Class increased or decreased in value during the calendar year being shown. The USD A Accumulating Class is the representative share class selected, being the share class available to the retail public in Hong Kong which is denominated in the Fund's base currency with the longest track record. Performance data has been calculated in USD including ongoing charges and excluding subscription fee and redemption fee you might have to pay.
- Where no past performance is shown there was insufficient data available in that year to provide performance.
- The Fund has no benchmark.
- Fund launch date: 2011
- USD A Accumulating Class launch date: 2011

# Is there any guarantee?

This Fund does not have any guarantees. You may not get back the full amount of money you invest.

# What are the fees and charges?

# Charges which may be payable by you

You may have to pay the following fees when dealing in the Shares of the Fund.

<u>Fee</u>	What you pay
Subscription fee	Up to 5% of the amount you buy^
(Initial Sales Charge)	
Switching fee	Up to 1% of the subscription amount ^
(Exchange Charge)	
Redemption fee	N/A^

NEUBERGER BERMAN

^ Additional fees and service charges in respect of subscriptions for, redemptions of and exchange of Shares may be payable by investors to intermediaries/distributors through whom they invest in such amount as they may agree with the relevant intermediary/distributor.

# Ongoing fees payable by the Fund

The following expenses will be paid out of the Fund. They affect you because they reduce the return you get on your investments.

Annual rate (as a % of the Fund's value)

	I IIII I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I
	"A"
	Class Shares
Management fee	1.20%
Depositary fee	no more than
	0.02%
Performance fee	N/A
Administration fee	0.20%
Aummistration fee	0.20%

# Other fees

You may have to pay other fees when dealing in the Shares of the Fund.

## **Additional Information**

- You generally buy and redeem Shares at the Fund's next-determined net asset value (NAV) after
  the Administrator receives your request in good order on or before 3.00 pm (Irish time) of the
  dealing day being the dealing cut-off time. The Hong Kong Representative/distributors may
  impose different dealing deadlines for receiving requests from investors.
- The net asset value of this Fund is calculated and the price of Shares published each "business day" at the following address: <a href="www.nb.com">www.nb.com</a>.
- Investors may obtain the past performance information of other share classes offered to Hong Kong investors from the Hong Kong Representative on request and at the following address: www.nb.com.
- The compositions of the dividends (i.e. the relative amounts paid from income and capital) for the last 12 months are available from the Hong Kong representative on request and at the following address: <a href="www.nb.com">www.nb.com</a>. The Fund may amend the dividend policy subject to the SFC's prior approval and by giving not less than one month's notice to investors.
- Investors may obtain information on the intermediaries from the Fund's Hong Kong Representative, Neuberger Berman Asia Limited.
- The websites mentioned in this document have not been reviewed by the SFC.

## **Important**

If you are in doubt, you should seek professional advice.

The SFC takes no responsibility for the contents of this statement and makes no representation as to its accuracy or completeness.