

01.01.2023

# Publication pursuant to SFDR - Details

Xtrackers II EUR Corporate Bond Short Duration SRI PAB UCITS ETF

This financial product promotes environmental and social characteristics and qualifies as a financial product in accordance with article 8(1) of Regulation (EU) 2019/2088.

Capitalised terms used in this document shall have the same meaning ascribed to them in the latest version of the prospectus of the Company (the "Prospectus"), unless the context otherwise requires.

## No sustainable investment objective

This financial product promotes environmental or social characteristics, but does not have as its objective sustainable investment.

The financial product commits to partially invest in sustainable investments. To ensure those sustainable investments do not cause significant harm to any environmental or social sustainable investment objective, the following processes are implemented:

### DNSH Assessment

In accordance with Article 2 (17) SFDR, any such sustainable investments must not significantly harm any environmental or social objectives and such sustainable investment issuers must follow good governance practices. Any investment that fails to meet the do no significant harm ("DNSH") thresholds will not be considered towards the sustainable investment share of the financial product. Such DNSH thresholds will include, but not be limited to:

- Involvement in harmful business activities;
- Violation of international norms or involvement in very severe controversies; and
- Violation of certain principal adverse indicator thresholds.

### Integration of adverse impacts on sustainability factors

As part of the DNSH assessment under article 2(17) SFDR, the investment assessment integrates certain metrics related to principle adverse indicators and the Reference Index of the financial product (as defined below) includes criteria to reduce exposure to or to exclude securities which are negatively aligned with the following principal adverse indicators:

- Carbon footprint (no. 2);
- GHG emissions (Scope 1, 2, 3 and total) (no. 3);
- Exposure to companies active in the fossil fuel sector (no. 4);
- Share of non-renewable energy consumption and production (no. 5);
- Violation of UN Global Compact principles and OECD Guidelines for multinational enterprises (no. 10); and

- Exposure to controversial weapons (no. 14).

### Alignment with the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises and the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights

Any securities violating the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises and the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights are excluded by the financial product's Reference Index.

## Environmental or social characteristics of the financial product

The financial product promotes environmental and social characteristics and qualifies as a financial product subject to Article 8(1) SFDR by tracking the Reference Index which includes environmental and/or social considerations. The financial product holds a portfolio of securities that comprises all or a representation of the securities comprised in the Reference Index or unrelated transferable securities or other eligible assets. The Reference Index is designed to represent the performance of investment grade, euro-denominated, fixed-rate corporate bonds with at least 1 month and up to (but not including) 5 years to maturity, excluding bonds which do not fulfil specific ESG (environmental, social, and governance) criteria. The Reference Index aims to comply with the minimum standards laid out for EU PAB in the PAB Regulation.

The Reference Index will set an initial 50% decarbonization of absolute greenhouse gas ("GHG") emissions relative to the Parent Index, followed by an annual 7% decarbonization trajectory of absolute GHG emissions. In addition, the Reference Index will exclude bonds which do not fulfil specific ESG criteria.

In particular, the following bonds will be excluded from the Reference Index:

- Issuers where MSCI does not have reported or estimated absolute GHG emissions data;
- Securities that are unrated by MSCI ESG Research LLC;
- Bonds issued by issuers rated BB or below by MSCI ESG Research LLC. MSCI ESG ratings provide scores to measure a company's ESG characteristics, relative to

their industry peers and takes into account over 30 Environmental, Social and Governance Key Issues;

- Issuers with a "red" MSCI ESG Controversies Score or issuers which breach a MSCI Environmental Controversy Score. MSCI ESG Controversies identifies companies involved in severe ESG controversies consistent with global conventions and norms, such as, but not limited to, United Nations Global Compact, Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work;
- Issuers that are classified by MSCI in their Business Involvement Screening Research as breaching certain revenue thresholds in controversial activities, including, but not limited to, alcohol, tobacco, gambling, adult entertainment, genetically modified organisms, civilian firearms, oil & gas, nuclear power and weapons, and thermal coal; and
- Issuers with any involvement in controversial weapons or fossil fuel reserves.

If having applied the above ESG exclusion criteria, less than 20% of the total number of issuers in the universe of eligible bonds (the "Relevant Threshold") are excluded, the remaining issuers are ranked according to MSCI ESG Ratings score and MSCI ESG Controversies score and those with the lowest ranking will be excluded from the Reference Index, until the number of excluded issuers is higher than the Relevant Threshold.

The MSCI GHG emissions data, MSCI ESG ratings, MSCI ESG Controversies scores and Business Involvement Screening Research are sourced from MSCI ESG Research LLC.

### **Investment strategy**

The investment objective of the financial product is to track the performance before fees and expenses of the "Reference Index", which is the Bloomberg MSCI Euro Corporate SRI 0-5 Year PAB Index, which is designed to reflect the performance of Euro-denominated, investment grade, fixed-rate corporate bonds with at least 1 month and up to (but not including) 5 years to maturity. The Reference Index aims to comply with the minimum standards laid out for EU PAB in the PAB Regulation. The Reference Index will set an initial 50% decarbonisation of absolute greenhouse gas ("GHG") emissions relative to the Bloomberg Euro Corporate 0-5 Year Index (the "Parent Index"), followed by an annual 7% decarbonisation trajectory of absolute GHG emissions. In addition, the Reference Index will exclude bonds which do not fulfil specific ESG (environmental, social, and governance) criteria.

### **ESG Assessment**

The investment objective of the financial product is to track the performance before fees and expenses of the Reference Index, which incorporates the ESG characteristics outlined above.

### **Policy to assess Good Governance**

The investment objective of the financial product is to track the performance before fees and expenses of the Reference Index which excludes companies with very severe controversies (including governance controversies) using the

MSCI ESG Controversies data, and companies that have an MSCI ESG Rating (which assesses, amongst other things, how well companies manage governance risks and opportunities) below a certain threshold or do not have an MSCI ESG Rating.

### **Proportion of investments**

This financial product invests at least 90% of its net assets in investments that are aligned with the promoted environmental and social characteristics. Within this category, at least 10% of the financial product's assets qualify as sustainable investments in the sense of article 2(17) SFDR. Up to 10% of the investments are not aligned with these environmental or social characteristics. A more detailed description of the specific asset allocation of this financial product can be found in the Prospectus.

Financial derivative instruments ("FDIs") may be used for efficient portfolio management purposes. It is not intended to use FDIs for the attainment of the financial product's objective but rather as ancillary investments to, for example, invest cash balances pending rebalance or investment in constituents of the Reference Index. Any exposures obtained through the use of FDIs for these ancillary purposes will be aligned with the investment objective of the financial product and would conform to ESG standards substantially similar to those of the Reference Index, or would fall within the quoted percentage of the investments that are not aligned with the promoted environmental and social characteristics.

### **Monitoring of environmental or social characteristics**

The Reference Index applies the ESG criteria outlined above. DWS performs a regular assessment of the ESG alignment of the financial product, incorporating two key elements:

- (i) That the composition of the financial product's portfolio is closely aligned with the ESG standards of the Reference Index (although some deviations may be observable due, amongst other factors, to: efficient portfolio management, portfolio optimisation, cash balances, and/or recent rebalances); and
- (ii) That the Reference Index is correctly applying the stated ESG criteria through an independent verification of the constituents of the Reference Index against an appropriate ESG data source.

Investors should note that whilst the financial product and the Reference Index seek to ensure compliance with such criteria at each rebalance or review date, between these reviews or rebalances, securities which no longer meet these criteria may remain included in (i) the Reference Index until they are removed at the subsequent rebalance or review or, (ii) the portfolio of the financial product until it is possible and practicable to divest such positions.

### **Methodologies**

The attainment of the promoted environmental and social characteristics promoted by the financial product is measured using the following sustainability indicators:

- **Total GHG Emissions:** The financial product's portfolio's weighted average of its issuers' total GHG emissions (Scopes 1, 2 and 3) as determined by MSCI.
- **Exposure to Fossil Fuels:** The percentage of financial product's portfolio's market value exposed to companies flagged for involvement in fossil fuels as determined by MSCI, and includes companies deriving revenue from thermal coal extraction, unconventional and conventional oil and gas extraction, oil refining, as well as revenue from thermal coal based power generation, liquid fuel based power generation, or natural gas based power generation.
- **Exposure to Very Severe Controversies:** The percentage of financial product's portfolio's market value exposed to companies facing one or more Very Severe controversies related to the environment, customers, human rights, labour rights and governance as determined by MSCI, and includes violations of the United Nations Global Compact, as well as the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises.
- **Exposure to Worst-in-Class issuers:** The percentage of the financial product's portfolio's market value exposed to companies with a rating of "CCC" as determined by MSCI.

### Data sources and processing

The Reference Index uses data from various products provided by MSCI ESG Research LLC. These products include, MSCI ESG Ratings, MSCI ESG Business Involvement Screening Research ("BISR") and MSCI ESG Controversies Scores.

MSCI ESG Controversies identify companies involved in severe ESG controversies consistent with global conventions and norms, such as, but not limited to, the United Nations Global Compact, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the International Labour Organisation (ILO) Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work. The MSCI ESG Ratings are used to remove the worst performers and select the best performing ESG constituents, relative to their industry sector peer group.

MSCI ESG BISR is utilised to identify and exclude companies involved in industries with a high potential for negative environmental, health and/or social impact, such as weapons and tobacco.

### Limitations to methodologies and data

The Reference Index's environmental, social and governance standards limit the number of securities eligible for inclusion in the Reference Index. As a result, the Reference Index, and as such the financial product, may be more heavily weighted in securities, industry sectors or countries that underperform the market as a whole or underperform other funds screened for environmental, social and governance standards, or which do not screen for such standards.

Investors should note that the determination that the financial product is subject to the disclosure requirements of a financial product under Article 8(1) of SFDR is made solely on the basis that the Reference Index promotes environmental and social characteristics. The Company is relying on the activities conducted by and information provided by the Index Administrator or other data providers to make this determination. Neither the Company, nor any of its service providers, makes any representation or otherwise as to the suitability of the Reference Index and the financial product in meeting an investor's criteria on minimum ESG standards or otherwise. Investors are advised to carry out their own review as to whether the Reference Index and the financial product accords with their own ESG criteria. Information on how the Reference Index is consistent with environmental, social and governance characteristics is contained in the Prospectus of the financial product.

Investors should note that whilst the financial product and the Reference Index seek to ensure compliance with the ESG criteria at each rebalance or review date, between these reviews or rebalances, securities which no longer meet these criteria may remain included in (i) the Reference Index until they are removed at the subsequent rebalance or review or, (ii) the portfolio of the Fund until it is possible and practicable to divest such positions.

Investors should note that the Reference Index solely relies on analysis from the Index Administrator or other data providers (as applicable) in relation to sustainability considerations. Neither the Company, nor any of its service providers, makes any representation with respect to the accuracy, reliability, correctness of the sustainability related data or the way that these are implemented.

It should also be noted that analysis of companies' ESG performance may be based on models, estimates and assumptions. This analysis should not be taken as an indication or guarantee of current or future performance.

ESG information from third-party data providers may be incomplete, inaccurate or unavailable. As a result, there is a risk that the Index Administrator or other data providers (as applicable) may incorrectly assess a security or issuer, resulting in the incorrect inclusion or exclusion of a security in the Reference Index and therefore the portfolio of the financial product.

### Due diligence

With regards to the selection of any new reference indices for Xtrackers ETFs, DWS will conduct a due diligence process that includes the assessment of sustainability risks, and endeavour to work in conjunction with benchmark providers to embed certain sustainability risks into the construction of new indexes for both new financial products and also reference indexes considered as a potential reference index in case of substitution for an existing financial product. As part of this process, minimum ESG standards will be applied.

### Engagement policies

Active engagement with our investee issuers to drive change for the benefit of clients is a key part of DWS Group's approach to sustainable investment. DWS applies the following engagement policies.

#### *Engagement Policy*

The Engagement Policy establishes inter alia the engagement framework for DWS on how to engage with its investee issuers in relation to both equity as well as debt investments.

This policy sets out types and methods of engagement, escalation strategies and expectations regarding communication with inter alia DWS as an investor and DWS on behalf of its clients on a number of topics, including ESG.

#### *Corporate Governance & Proxy Voting Policy*

This policy details DWS's engagement framework in relation to its equity investments. It contains the core governance understanding, governance values and expectations including ESG relating to investee companies in line with the framework and principles as set out in the Engagement Policy as well as proxy voting guidelines. It includes guidelines on how to vote in relation to ESG topics such as ESG-related shareholder proposals.

#### **Designated reference benchmark**

The financial product has designated the Bloomberg MSCI Euro Corporate Sustainable and SRI 0-5 Year PAB Index as the reference benchmark.

#### **Alignment with environmental and social characteristics**

The Reference Index promotes environmental and social characteristics by aiming to comply with the minimum standards laid out for EU PAB in the PAB Regulation. The Reference Index will set an initial 50% decarbonisation of absolute greenhouse gas ("GHG") emissions relative to the Parent Index, followed by an annual 7% decarbonisation trajectory of absolute GHG emissions. In addition, the Reference Index will exclude bonds which do not fulfil specific ESG (environmental, social, and governance) criteria.

#### **Alignment of the methodology with the Investment Strategy**

In order to seek to achieve the investment objective, the financial product will adopt a "Direct Investment Policy" which means that the financial product will aim to replicate the Reference Index by buying all or a representation of the securities comprised in the Reference Index or unrelated transferable securities or other eligible assets. Any unrelated transferable securities held by the financial product will typically be similar to the securities comprised in the Reference Index.

#### **Methodology used for calculation of the designated index**

Full information on the Reference Index including ESG criteria, eligibility rules and constituents can be found on the relevant Bloomberg website (<https://www.bloombergindeces.com>).

#### **Important Information**

Xtrackers, Xtrackers II and Xtrackers (IE) plc are undertakings for collective investment in transferable securities (UCITS) in accordance with the applicable

laws and regulations and set up as open-ended investment companies with variable capital and segregated liability between their respective compartments.

Xtrackers and Xtrackers II are incorporated in the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, are registered with the Luxembourg Trade and Companies' Register under number B-119.899 (Xtrackers) and B-124.284 (Xtrackers II) respectively and have their registered office at 49, avenue J.F. Kennedy, L-1855 Luxembourg. Xtrackers (IE) plc is incorporated in Ireland with registered number 393802 and has its registered office at 78 Sir John Rogerson's Quay, Dublin 2, Ireland.

DWS Investment S.A. acts as the management company of Xtrackers, Xtrackers II and Xtrackers (IE) plc.

The information contained in this document is provided for information purposes only. Any investment decision in relation to an Xtrackers ETF should be based solely on the latest version of the prospectus, the audited annual and, if more recent, un-audited semi-annual reports and the Key Investor Information Document (KIID), all of which are available in English upon request or on [www.Xtrackers.com](http://www.Xtrackers.com). In the case of any inconsistency with the prospectus, the latest version of the prospectus shall prevail.

This document is intended for discussion purposes only and does not create any legally binding obligations on the part of DWS Group GmbH & Co. KGaA and/or its affiliates (DWS). Without limitation, this document does not constitute an offer, an invitation to offer or a recommendation to enter into any transaction. When making an investment decision, you should rely solely on the final documentation relating to the transaction and not the summary contained herein. DWS is not acting as your financial adviser or in any other fiduciary capacity in relation to this transaction. The transaction(s) or products(s) mentioned herein may not be appropriate for all investors and before entering into any transaction you should take steps to ensure that you fully understand the transaction and have made an independent assessment of the appropriateness of the transaction in the light of your own objectives and circumstances, including the possible risks and benefits of entering into such transaction. You should also consider seeking advice from your own advisers in making this assessment. If you decide to enter into a transaction with DWS, you do so in reliance on your own judgment.

Although information in this document has been obtained from sources believed to be reliable, we do not guarantee its accuracy, completeness or fairness, and it should not be relied upon as such. All opinions and estimates herein, including forecast returns, reflect our judgment on the date of this document and are subject to change without notice and involve a number of assumptions which may not prove valid.

Any opinions expressed herein may differ from the opinions expressed by Deutsche Bank AG and/or any other of its affiliates (DB). DB may engage in transactions in a manner inconsistent with the views discussed herein. DB trades or may trade as principal in the instruments (or related derivatives), and may have proprietary positions in the instruments (or related derivatives) discussed herein. DB may make a market in the instruments (or related derivatives) discussed herein.

DWS SPECIFICALLY DISCLAIMS ALL LIABILITY FOR ANY DIRECT, INDIRECT, CONSEQUENTIAL OR OTHER LOSSES OR DAMAGES INCLUDING LOSS OF PROFITS INCURRED BY YOU OR ANY THIRD PARTY THAT MAY ARISE FROM ANY RELIANCE ON THIS DOCUMENT OR FOR THE RELIABILITY, ACCURACY, COMPLETENESS OR TIMELINESS THEREOF.

This document has been prepared without consideration of the investment needs, objectives or financial circumstances of any investor. Before making an investment decision, investors need to consider, with or without the assistance of an investment adviser, whether the investments and strategies described or provided by DWS, are appropriate, in light of their particular investment needs, objectives and financial circumstances. Furthermore, this document is for information/discussion purposes only and does not constitute an offer, recommendation or solicitation to conclude a transaction and should not be treated as giving investment advice.

DWS does not give tax or legal advice. Investors should seek advice from their own tax experts and lawyers, in considering investments and strategies suggested by DWS. Investments with DWS are not guaranteed, unless specified.

Investments are subject to various risks, including market fluctuations, regulatory change, counterparty risk, possible delays in repayment and loss of income and principal invested. The value of investments can fall as well as rise and you

may not recover the amount originally invested at any point in time. Furthermore, substantial fluctuations of the value of the investment are possible even over short periods of time.

This document contains forward looking statements. Forward looking statements include, but are not limited to assumptions, estimates, projections, opinions, models and hypothetical performance analysis. The forward-looking statements expressed constitute the author's judgment as of the date of this material. Forward looking statements involve significant elements of subjective judgments and analyses and changes thereto and/or consideration of different or additional factors could have a material impact on the results indicated. Therefore, actual results may vary, perhaps materially, from the results contained herein. No representation or warranty is made by DWS as to the reasonableness or completeness of such forward looking statements or to any other financial information contained herein. The terms of any investment will be exclusively subject to the detailed provisions, including risk considerations, contained in the offering documents.

This document may not be reproduced or circulated without our written authority. The manner of circulation and distribution of this document may be restricted by law or regulation in certain countries, including the United States. This document is not directed to, or intended for distribution to or use by, any person or entity who is a citizen or resident of or located in any locality, state, country or other jurisdiction, including the United States, where such distribution, publication, availability or use would be contrary to law or regulation or which would subject DWS to any registration or licensing requirement within such jurisdiction not currently met within such jurisdiction. Persons into whose possession this document may come are required to inform themselves of, and to observe, such restrictions.

PAST PERFORMANCE IS NO GUARANTEE OF FUTURE RESULTS.

BLOOMBERG INDEX SERVICES LIMITED DISCLAIMER RELATING TO XTRACKERS II EUR CORPORATE BOND SHORT DURATION SRI PAB UCITS ETF. BLOOMBERG® and the Bloomberg MSCI Euro Corporate SRI 0-5 Year PAB Index (the "Bloomberg MSCI Index") are service marks of Bloomberg Finance L.P. and its affiliates, including Bloomberg Index Services Limited ("BISL"), the administrator of the index (collectively, "Bloomberg"), and have been licensed for use for certain purposes by Xtrackers II. MSCI® is a trademark and service mark of MSCI Inc. (collectively with its affiliates, "MSCI"), used under license. Xtrackers II EUR Corporate Bond Short Duration SRI PAB UCITS ETF (the "Bloomberg MSCI SubFund") is not sponsored, endorsed, sold or promoted by Bloomberg or MSCI. Neither Bloomberg nor MSCI make any representation or warranty, express or implied, to the owners of or counterparties to the Bloomberg MSCI SubFund or any member of the public regarding the advisability of investing in securities generally or in the Bloomberg MSCI Sub-Fund particularly. The only relationship of Bloomberg and MSCI to Xtrackers II is the licensing of certain trademarks, trade names and service marks and of the Bloomberg MSCI Index, which is determined, composed, and calculated by BISL without regard to Xtrackers II or the Bloomberg MSCI Sub-Fund. Neither Bloomberg nor MSCI have any obligation to take the needs of Xtrackers II or the owners of the Bloomberg MSCI SubFund into consideration in determining, composing, or calculating the Bloomberg MSCI Indices. Neither Bloomberg nor MSCI are responsible for and have not participated in the determination of the timing of, prices at, or quantities of the Bloomberg MSCI Sub-Fund to be issued. Neither Bloomberg nor MSCI shall have any obligation or liability, including, without limitation, to Bloomberg MSCI Sub-Fund customers, in connection with the administration, marketing or trading of the Bloomberg MSCI Sub-Fund. NEITHER BLOOMBERG NOR MSCI GUARANTEE THE ACCURACY AND/OR COMPLETENESS OF THE BLOOMBERG MSCI INDEX OR ANY DATA RELATED THERETO AND SHALL HAVE NO LIABILITY FOR ANY ERRORS; OMISSIONS OR INTERRUPTIONS THEREIN. NEITHER BLOOMBERG NOR MSCI MAKE ANY WARRANTY, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, AS TO RESULTS TO BE OBTAINED BY XTRACKERS II, OWNERS OF THE BLOOMBERG MSCI SUB-FUND OR ANY OTHER PERSON OR ENTITY FROM THE USE OF THE BLOOMBERG MSCI INDEX OR ANY DATA RELATED THERETO. NEITHER BLOOMBERG NOR MSCI MAKE ANY EXPRESS OR IMPLIED WARRANTIES, AND EXPRESSLY DISCLAIM ALL WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY OR FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE OR USE WITH RESPECT TO THE BLOOMBERG MSCI INDEX OR ANY DATA RELATED THERETO. WITHOUT LIMITING ANY OF THE FOREGOING, TO THE MAXIMUM EXTENT ALLOWED BY LAW, MSCI AND BLOOMBERG, ITS LICENSORS, AND ITS AND THEIR RESPECTIVE EMPLOYEES, CONTRACTORS, AGENTS, SUPPLIERS, AND VENDORS SHALL HAVE NO LIABILITY OR RESPONSIBILITY WHATSOEVER FOR ANY INJURY OR DAMAGES—WHETHER DIRECT, INDIRECT, CONSEQUENTIAL, INCIDENTAL, PUNITIVE OR OTHERWISE—ARISING IN CONNECTION WITH THE BLOOMBERG MSCI SUB-FUND OR BLOOMBERG MSCI INDEX OR ANY DATA OR VALUES

RELATING THERETO—WHETHER ARISING FROM THEIR NEGLIGENCE OR OTHERWISE, EVEN IF NOTIFIED OF THE POSSIBILITY THEREOF.

© DWS Investments UK Limited 2023.