

Pre-contractual disclosure for the financial products referred to in Article 8, paragraphs 1, 2 and 2a, of Regulation (EU) 2019/2088 and Article 6, first paragraph, of Regulation (EU) 2020/852

Product name: Xtrackers II ESG Eurozone Government Bond UCITS ETF
 Legal entity identifier: 2549000GO3T2K1FRUV52

Environmental and/or social characteristics

Does this financial product have a sustainable investment objective?

<input checked="" type="radio"/> <input checked="" type="radio"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes	<input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No
<input type="checkbox"/> It will make a minimum of sustainable investments with an environmental objective : ____% <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> in economic activities that qualify as environmentally sustainable under the EU Taxonomy <input type="checkbox"/> in economic activities that do not qualify as environmentally sustainable under the EU Taxonomy <input type="checkbox"/> It will make a minimum of sustainable investments with a social objective : ____%	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> It promotes Environmental/Social (E/S) characteristics and while it does not have as its objective a sustainable investment, it will have a minimum proportion of 20% of sustainable investments <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> with an environmental objective in economic activities that qualify as environmentally sustainable under the EU Taxonomy <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> with an environmental objective in economic activities that do not qualify as environmentally sustainable under the EU Taxonomy <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> with a social objective <input type="checkbox"/> It promotes E/S characteristics, but will not make any sustainable investments		

Sustainable investment means an investment in an economic activity that contributes to an environmental or social objective, provided that the investment does not significantly harm any environmental or social objective and that the investee companies follow good governance practices.

The **EU Taxonomy** is a classification system laid down in Regulation (EU) 2020/852, establishing a list of **environmentally sustainable economic activities**. That Regulation does not include a list of socially sustainable economic activities. Sustainable investments with an environmental objective might be aligned with the taxonomy or not.



What environmental and/or social characteristics are promoted by this 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 (as defined below) which includes environmental and/or social considerations. The financial product holds a portfolio of securities that comprises constituents of the Reference Index or unrelated transferable securities or other eligible assets. The Reference Index is designed to represent the performance of fixed-rate, euro-denominated, investment-grade sovereign debt issued in developed market countries in the European Economic and Monetary Union ("EMU"), excluding countries which do not fulfil specific ESG (environmental, social, and governance) criteria.

The Reference Index includes securities issued by EMU countries in the Parent Index (as defined below). The Parent Index is designed to measure the performance of fixed-rate, local currency, investment-grade sovereign bonds issued in developed market countries included in the Ultimate Parent Index (as defined below), excluding countries which do not fulfil specific ESG criteria. Countries excluded from the Parent Index will also be excluded from the Reference Index. The Parent Index excludes countries based on the following criteria:

Country Inclusion Criteria

The Parent Index applies a country inclusion criteria assessment by ranking countries based on the country ESG scores, which are calculated as set out in the paragraph 'ESG Criteria and Tilting'. Countries that are identified as significant laggards (i.e. ranked in a certain lowest percentile) are removed from the Parent Index. Further information on the exclusion thresholds is available at: [FTSE ESG Select Government Bond Index Series \(Iseg.com\)](https://www.ftse.com/ESG/ESG-Select-Government-Bond-Index-Series).

Freedom Criteria

The Parent Index also applies an inclusion criterion based on Freedom House data. Freedom House is a non-profit, non-governmental organisation that conducts research and advocacy on democracy, political freedom, and human rights. Freedom House classifies countries as part of its 'Freedom of the World' report as either "Free", "Partially Free" or "Not Free". Only countries designated as "Free" are eligible for inclusion in the Parent Index. Further information is available at: <https://freedomhouse.org>. Further information on the inclusion thresholds is available at: [FTSE ESG Select Government Bond Index Series \(Iseg.com\)](#).

Social Violations

The Parent Index excludes countries that are subject to social violations as referred to in international treaties and conventions, United Nations principles and, where applicable, national law based on data from Sustainalytics. Sustainalytics is a leading independent ESG and corporate governance research, ratings and analytics firm that support investors around the world with the development and implementation of responsible investment strategies. The Reference Index also excludes countries that are present on the EU list of non-cooperative jurisdictions for tax purposes. For further details on which countries are present on this list, refer to the EU list of non-cooperative jurisdictions for tax purposes at: [EU list of non-cooperative jurisdictions for tax purposes - Consilium \(europa.eu\)](#).

ESG Criteria and Tilting

The weights of eligible constituents are adjusted in the Reference Index relative to the EMU subset of the Ultimate Parent Index by overweighting countries with lower ESG risks and underweighting countries with higher ESG risks. The market value weight for each security is "tilted" by its respective country's ESG score such that the weight of each issuer in the Reference Index is a function of the market value weight and the country ESG score (the "Tilted Weight").

Country ESG scores are intended to assess a country's exposure to, and management of, certain ESG risk factors and are sourced from the LSEG Sustainable Sovereign Risk Methodology (2SRM). Further information can be found on: [Sustainable Sovereign Risk Methodology \(Iseg.com\)](#).

ESG scores for each country are established by evaluating and scoring each country's ESG risks across each of the following three pillars:

- Environmental risk: considers topics such as energy, climate, and natural capital;
- Social risk: considers topics such as inequality, employment, human capital, health, and societal wellbeing; and
- Governance risk: considers topics such as corruption, government effectiveness, political stability, regulatory quality, rule of law, and voice & accountability.

These pillar scores are then compared on a relative basis against other eligible constituents in the Reference Index with a specified "tilt factor" applied to each pillar score, and combined to derive a single combined ESG score for each country. This single ESG score is then used to determine each issuer's Tilted Weight in the Reference Index.

Further information on the ESG Pillars, Underlying Indicators and ESG Tilting methodology is available at: [FTSE ESG Select Government Bond Index Series \(Iseg.com\)](#) and the [LSEG Sustainable Sovereign Risk Methodology \(2SRM\)](#).

Weighting and Capping

The Reference Index applies a 35% issuer market value weight cap. If the Tilted Weight of any country exceeds 35%, its weight is capped and any excess market weight is redistributed on a pro-rata basis across the other countries.

After the application of ESG tilting and issuer capping, the Reference Index is reviewed to ensure at least 20% of the least well-rated securities are eliminated from the Reference Index relative to the EMU subset of the Ultimate Parent Index. If the Reference Index does not exclude 20% by market value of the lowest scoring ESG issuers, additional issuers will be removed from the Reference Index until the minimum 20% exclusion is achieved. This may mean the Reference Index could exclude additional EMU countries compared to the Parent Index.

Minimum Green Bond Exposure Criteria

Following the application of the ESG Criteria and Weighting, a green bond tilt is implemented to each green bond's market value weighting within the Reference Index. This ensures that eligible green bonds meet a certain minimum threshold of the Reference Index, while maintaining the country weights previously calculated. The remaining bond weights are then tilted to achieve duration neutrality relative to the index duration of the EMU subset of the Ultimate Parent Index.

Green Bond eligibility is assessed by the Climate Bond Initiative ("CBI") and only bonds classified as either CBI-aligned or CBI-certified are designated as Green Bonds. CBI data is intended to identify eligible Green Bonds whose use of proceeds are in line with the Paris Agreement. The Climate Bond Initiative (CBI) provides independent analysis on green bond use of proceeds and provides opinions on the green credential of the intended proceeds allocation. Further details on the CBI green bond methodology can be found at [cbi-gb-methodology-061020.pdf \(climatebonds.net\)](https://climatebonds.net/cbi-gb-methodology-061020.pdf).

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FTSE ESG Select Government Bond Index Series (Iseg.com)

● **What sustainability indicators are used to measure the attainment of each of the environmental or social characteristics promoted by this financial product?**

- **Freedom House Score:** The weighted average of the financial product's portfolio's market value score according to Freedom House's "Freedom in the World" classification and scoring process.
- **Country Environment Pillar Score:** The weighted average of the financial product's portfolio's market value sovereign environmental risk score, assessing issuers' overall performance on environmental risk factors as measured by MSCI.
- **Country Social Pillar Score:** The weighted average of the financial product's portfolio's market value sovereign social risk score, assessing issuers' overall performance on social risk factors as measured by MSCI.
- **Country Governance Pillar Score:** The weighted average of the financial product's portfolio's market value sovereign governance risk score, assessing issuers' overall performance on governance risk factors as measured by MSCI.

● **What are the objectives of the sustainable investments that the financial product partially intends to make and how does the sustainable investment contribute to such objectives?**

While the financial product does not have sustainable investment as its objective, it will invest a minimum proportion of its assets in sustainable investments as defined by Article 2 (17) SFDR.

At least 20% of the financial product's net assets will be invested in sustainable economic activities that contribute to an environmental and/or social objective, in accordance with Article 2 (17) SFDR by investing in sustainable bonds where the use of proceeds is limited to projects with environmental and/or social benefits ("Use of Proceeds Bonds") which typically contribute to one or several UN Sustainable Development Goals, which may include, but is not limited to, (i) Goal 6: Clean water and sanitation, (ii) Goal 7: Affordable and clean energy, (iii) Goal 9: Industry, innovation and infrastructure, (iv) Goal 11: Sustainable cities and communities, (v) Goal 13: Climate action, (vi) Goal 15: Life on Land.

Use of Proceeds Bonds (re)finance projects or activities with a positive environmental and/or social impact. Issuers of Use of Proceeds Bonds invest the proceeds of the bond issue in environmentally and/or socially beneficial projects or activities and as such directly contribute to the sustainable investment that the financial product partially intends to make.

● **How do the sustainable investments that the financial product partially intends to make, not cause significant harm to any environmental or social sustainable investment objective?**

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 social violations; and
- Violation of certain principal adverse indicator thresholds.

Sustainability indicators measure how the environmental or social characteristics promoted by the financial product are attained.



The investment strategy guides investment decisions based on factors such as investment objectives and risk tolerance.

How have the indicators for adverse impacts on sustainability factors been taken into account?

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

- Investee countries subject to social violations (no. 16).

How are the sustainable investments aligned with the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises and the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights?

N/A - The financial product invests solely into sovereign debt in developed countries within the EMU.

The EU Taxonomy sets out a "do no significant harm" principle by which Taxonomy-aligned investments should not significantly harm EU Taxonomy objectives and is accompanied by specific EU criteria.

The "do no significant harm" principle applies only to those investments underlying the financial product that take into account the EU criteria for environmentally sustainable economic activities. The investments underlying the remaining portion of this financial product do not take into account the EU criteria for environmentally sustainable economic activities.

Any other sustainable investments must also not significantly harm any environmental or social objectives.



Does this financial product consider principal adverse impacts on sustainability factors?



Yes, the financial product considers the following principle adverse impacts on sustainability factors from Annex I of the draft Commission Delegated Regulation supplementing the SFDR (C(2022) 1931 final):

- Investee countries subject to social violations (no. 16).
- Non-cooperative tax jurisdictions (no. 22).

No

What investment strategy does this financial product follow?

The investment objective of the financial product is to track the performance before fees and expenses of the "Reference Index", which is the FTSE ESG Select EMU Government Bond Index, which is designed to reflect the performance of fixed-rate, euro-denominated, investment-grade sovereign debt issued in developed market countries in the European Economic and Monetary Union ("EMU"), excluding countries which do not fulfil specific ESG (environmental, social, and governance) criteria. The Reference Index is based on FTSE ESG Select World Government Bond Index – DM ("Parent Index"), which is designed to reflect the performance of fixed-rate, local currency, investment-grade sovereign bonds issued in developed markets, excluding countries which do not fulfil specific ESG criteria.

What are the binding elements of the investment strategy used to select the investments to attain each of the environmental or social characteristics promoted by this financial product?

The investment objective of the financial product is to track the performance before fees and expenses of the Reference Index.

Principal adverse impacts are the most significant negative impacts of investment decisions on sustainability factors relating to environmental, social and employee matters, respect for human rights, anti-corruption and anti-bribery matters.

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FTSE ESG Select Government Bond Index Series (Iseg.com)

● **What is the committed minimum rate to reduce the scope of the investments considered prior to the application of that investment strategy?**

The financial product does not pursue a committed minimum rate to reduce the scope of investments considered prior to the application of the investment strategy.

● **What is the policy to assess good governance practices of the investee companies?**

Given the financial product invests solely into sovereign debt, there is no policy to assess good governance practices of investee companies. Nonetheless, the investment objective of the financial product is to track the performance before fees and expenses of the Reference Index which excludes countries that are not free (assessing, amongst others, political freedom and human rights) based on Freedom House classifications, and excludes and/or underweights countries that have an ESG Score (which assesses, amongst other things, a country's governance risks) below a certain threshold.

● **What is the asset allocation planned for this financial product?**

This financial product invests at least 90% of its net assets in investments that are aligned with the promoted environmental and social characteristics (#1 Aligned with E/S characteristics). Within this category, at least 20% of the financial product's assets qualify as sustainable investments (#1A Sustainable).

Good governance practices include sound management structures, employee relations, remuneration of staff and tax compliance.

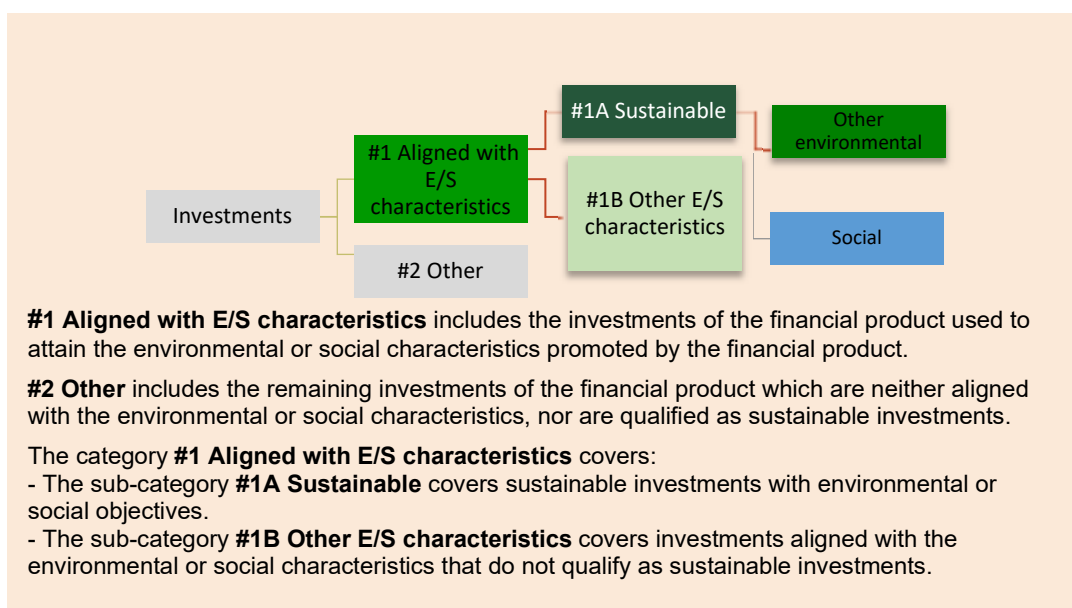
Asset allocation describes the share of investments in specific assets.

Taxonomy-aligned activities are expressed as a share of:

- **turnover** reflecting the share of revenue from green activities of investee companies
- **capital expenditure** (CapEx) showing the green investments made by investee companies, e.g. for a transition to a green economy.
- **operational expenditure** (OpEx) reflecting green operational activities of investee companies.



Up to 10% of the investments are not aligned with these characteristics (#2 Other).



● **How does the use of derivatives attain the environmental or social characteristics promoted by the financial product?**

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 (#2 Other).



To what minimum extent are sustainable investments with an environmental objective aligned with the EU Taxonomy?

While the financial product promotes environmental characteristics, it is not intended that its underlying investments take into account the EU Taxonomy Regulation criteria for the environmentally sustainable economic activities of climate change mitigation and/or climate change adaptation (the only two of the six environmental objectives under the EU Taxonomy Regulation for which technical screening criteria have been defined through delegated acts). As a result, the financial product does not intend to make investments within the scope of the EU Taxonomy Regulation.

To comply with the EU Taxonomy, the criteria for **fossil gas** include limitations on emissions and switching to renewable power or low-carbon fuels by the end of 2035. For **nuclear energy**, the criteria include comprehensive safety and waste management rules.

Enabling activities directly enable other activities to make a substantial contribution to an environmental objective.

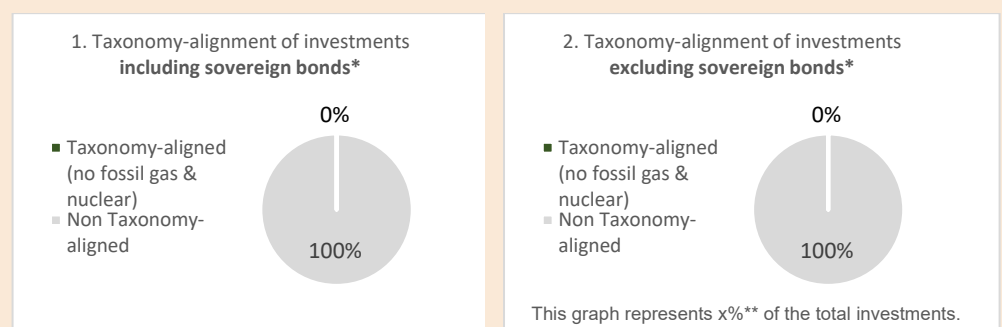
Transitional activities are activities for which low-carbon alternatives are not yet available and among others have greenhouse gas emission levels corresponding to the best performance.

 are sustainable investments with an environmental objective that **do not take into account the criteria** for environmentally sustainable economic activities under the EU Taxonomy.

● **Does the financial product invest in fossil gas and/or nuclear energy related activities that comply with the EU Taxonomy¹?**

- Yes:
 - In fossil gas
 - In nuclear energy
- No.

● *The two graphs below show in green the minimum percentage of investments that are aligned with the EU Taxonomy. As there is no appropriate methodology to determine the Taxonomy-alignment of sovereign bonds*, the first graph shows the Taxonomy alignment in relation to all the investments of the financial product including sovereign bonds, while the second graph shows the Taxonomy alignment only in relation to the investments of the financial product other than sovereign bonds.*



* **For the purpose of these graphs, 'sovereign bonds' consist of all sovereign exposures**


** **There are no investments which are aligned with the EU Taxonomy. This statement is therefore not applicable.**

What is the minimum share of investments in transitional and enabling activities?


The financial product does not have a minimum share of investments in transitional and enabling activities, as it does not commit to a minimum proportion of environmentally sustainable investments aligned with the EU Taxonomy.

 **What is the minimum share of sustainable investments with an environmental objective that are not aligned with the EU Taxonomy?**

The financial product does not intend to make a minimum allocation to sustainable economic activities that contribute to an environmental objective. However, the share of environmentally and socially sustainable investments will in total be at least 20%.

 **What is the minimum share of socially sustainable investments?**

The financial product does not intend to make a minimum allocation to sustainable economic activities that contribute to a social objective. However, the share of environmentally and socially sustainable investments will in total be at least 20%.

 **What investments are included under "#2 Other", what is their purpose and are there any minimum environmental or social safeguards?**

¹ Fossil gas and/or nuclear related activities will only comply with the EU Taxonomy where they contribute to limiting climate change ("climate change mitigation") and do not significantly harm any EU Taxonomy objective – see explanatory note in the left hand margin. The full criteria for fossil gas and nuclear energy economic activities that comply with the EU Taxonomy are laid down in Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2022/1214.

The financial product predominantly promotes asset allocation in investments that are aligned with environmental and social characteristics (#1 Aligned with E/S characteristics).

Those investments included under "#2 Other", may include ancillary liquid assets for the purpose of efficient portfolio management, which may include, secured and/or unsecured deposits and/or units or shares of other UCITS or other collective investment schemes which pursue a money market or cash strategy, or financial derivative instruments. It may also include securities which have been recently downgraded by the relevant ESG data provider but will not be removed from the Reference Index until the next Reference Index rebalance and may therefore not be removed from the portfolio until that time.



Reference benchmarks are indexes to measure whether the financial product attains the environmental or social characteristics that they promote.

Is a specific index designated as a reference benchmark to determine whether this financial product is aligned with the environmental and/or social characteristics that it promotes?

Yes. The financial product has designated the FTSE ESG Select EMU Government Bond Index as the reference benchmark.

How is the reference benchmark continuously aligned with each of the environmental or social characteristics promoted by the financial product?

The Reference Index promotes environmental and social characteristics by excluding or reweighting issuers from the EMU subset of the Ultimate Parent Index by applying certain ESG criteria derived from the FTSE ESG Government Bond Index series, as of each Reference Index rebalance. The Parent Index applies certain inclusion criteria to the Ultimate Parent Index constituents. Countries excluded from the Parent Index will also be excluded from the Reference Index. Constituent weightings are adjusted in the Reference Index relative to the EMU subset of the Ultimate Parent Index by overweighting countries with lower ESG risks and underweighting countries with higher ESG risks. The market value weight for each security is "tilted" by its respective country's ESG score such that the weight of each issuer in the Reference Index is a function of the market value weight and the country ESG score as outlined above.

How is the alignment of the investment strategy with the methodology of the index ensured on a continuous basis?

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.

How does the designated index differ from a relevant broad market index?

The Reference Index is based on the Parent Index, which is designed to reflect the performance of fixed-rate, local currency, investment-grade sovereign bonds issued in developed market countries included in the Ultimate Parent Index, excluding countries which do not fulfil specific ESG criteria. Countries excluded from the Parent Index will also be excluded from the Reference Index. The Parent Index excludes countries based on the following criteria:

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[FTSE ESG Select Government Bond Index Series \(Iseg.com\)](#)

● ***Where can the methodology used for the calculation of the designated index be found?***

For full details on the Reference Index, ESG pillars, underlying ESG indicators and ESG "tilting" methodology, please refer to the FTSE ESG Government Bond Index Series Ground Rules.

[FTSE ESG Select Government Bond Index Series \(Iseg.com\)](#)



Where can I find more product specific information online?

More product-specific information can be found on the website: www.xtrackers.com as well as on your local country website.