

ANNEX

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 MSCI USA Climate Transition UCITS ETF

Legal entity identifier: 254900DDFT5L2CMNMR62

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 lay down a list of socially sustainable economic activities. Sustainable investments with an environmental objective might be aligned with the Taxonomy or not.

Environmental and/or social characteristics

Does this financial product have a sustainable investment objective?

Yes

No

It will make a minimum of **sustainable investments with an environmental objective: ___%**

in economic activities that qualify as environmentally sustainable under the EU Taxonomy

in economic activities that do not qualify as environmentally sustainable under the EU Taxonomy

It will make a minimum of **sustainable investments with a social objective: ___%**

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 10% of sustainable investments

with an environmental objective in economic activities that qualify as environmentally sustainable under the EU Taxonomy

with an environmental objective in economic activities that do not qualify as environmentally sustainable under the EU Taxonomy

with a social objective

It promotes E/S characteristics, but **will not make any sustainable investments**



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 equity securities that comprises all, or a substantial number of, the securities comprised in the Reference Index. The Reference Index is designed to reflect the performance of large and medium capitalisation companies in the USA that are selected and weighted with the aim of meeting the minimum standards of the EU Climate Transition Benchmarks ("EU CTB"). The Reference Index is based on the Parent Index (as defined below).

The Reference Index aims to meet the minimum standards for EU CTB as set out in the CTB Regulation. The Reference Index also aims to reduce exposure to select indicators, as detailed below, that are considered to have adverse environmental or social impact, and increase exposure to companies that make a positive contribution to the society and the environment.

Securities are removed from the Parent Index that do not meet certain ESG criteria, including, but not limited to, those that:

- are classified as 'Red Flags' by MSCI in their ESG Controversies assessment (such as by failing to comply with the United Nations Global Compact principles);
- are assigned an insufficient Environment Controversy score as determined by MSCI in their ESG Controversies assessment;
- are assigned an insufficient MSCI ESG Rating;
- are categorised below a certain percentile threshold in the Biodiversity & Land Use Key Issue category as determined by MSCI in their ESG Ratings assessment;
- have any involvement in controversial weapons;
- are classified by MSCI in their Business Involvement Screening Research as breaching certain revenue thresholds in controversial activities, including, but not limited to, nuclear weapons, conventional weapons, civilian firearms, tobacco, genetically modified organisms ("GMO") and nuclear power; and
- are classified by MSCI in their Climate Change Metrics as breaching certain revenue thresholds in business activities that have a high potential impact on climate change, including, but not limited to, unconventional oil and gas extraction, arctic oil and gas extraction, thermal coal-based power generation and mining.

Please note that companies that are not assessed by MSCI ESG Research in the ESG Controversies and ESG Ratings assessments are also excluded.

The Reference Index uses company ratings and research provided by MSCI ESG Research. In particular, the following components are utilised:

MSCI ESG Ratings

MSCI ESG Ratings provides research, data, analysis and ratings of how well companies manage environmental, social and governance risks and opportunities. MSCI ESG Ratings provides an overall company ESG rating.

MSCI ESG Controversies

MSCI ESG Controversies provides assessments of controversies concerning the negative environmental, social, and/or governance impact of company operations, products and services.

MSCI ESG Business Involvement Screening Research

MSCI ESG Business Involvement Screening Research ("BISR") aims to enable institutional investors to manage ESG standards and restrictions.

MSCI Climate Change Metrics

MSCI Climate Change Metrics provides climate data and tools to support investors integrating climate risk and opportunities into their investment strategy and processes.

MSCI Impact Solutions: Sustainable Impact Metrics

MSCI Impact Solutions' Sustainable Impact Metrics is designed to identify companies that derive revenue from products or services with positive impact on society and the environment.

Securities from the Parent Index that are not removed in accordance with the ESG exclusions will constitute the "Eligible Universe". Securities from the Eligible Universe are selected and weighted following an optimization-based approach which uses their market capitalisation as a starting point, based on the following constraints and objectives.

Securities in the Reference Index are subject to the following climate and other environmental or social objectives constraints, according to the thresholds determined by the Index Administrator:

- a minimum reduction of 30% in carbon intensity, as measured by Greenhouse Gas ("GHG") intensity compared to the Parent Index;
- a minimum average reduction per year of 7% in carbon intensity;
- a minimum weight in high climate impact sectors at least equal to its weight in the Parent Index
- a minimum reduction in water emissions intensity and hazardous waste intensity compared to the Parent Index;
- a minimum weighted average company revenue in activities deemed as having a sustainable impact as determined by the Index Administrator;
- a minimum increase in the weight of companies setting decarbonisation targets compared to the Eligible Universe; and
- a maximum weight in securities with lower MSCI ESG Ratings.

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

- **Greenhouse Gas Intensity:** The financial product's portfolio's weighted average of its holding issuers' GHG Intensity (Scope 1, Scope 2 and estimated Scope 3 GHG emissions/EUR million revenue) as determined by MSCI.
- **Exposure to Very Severe Controversies:** The percentage of the 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, including violation of the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises and the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights as determined by MSCI.
- **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.
- **Exposure to Fossil Fuels:** The percentage of the 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.

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

- ***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 10% 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. Sustainable economic activities refer to the proportion of an issuer's economic activities that contribute to an environmental objective and/or a social objective, provided that such investments do not significantly harm any of those objectives and that the investee companies follow good governance practices. The sustainability investment assessment uses data from one or multiple data providers and/or public sources to determine if an activity is sustainable. The environmental and/or social objectives are identified by activities that contribute positively to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (“UN SDGs”), which may include, but is not limited to, (i) Goal 1: No poverty, (ii) Goal 2: Zero hunger, (iii) Goal 3: Good health and well-being, (iv) Goal 4: Quality education, (v) Goal 5: Gender equality, (vi) Goal 6: Clean water and Sanitation, (vii) Goal 7: Affordable and clean energy, (viii) Goal 10: Reduced inequality, (ix) Goal 11: Sustainable cities and communities, (x) Goal 12: Responsible consumption, (xi) Goal 13: Climate action, (xii) Goal 14: Life below water, and (xiii) Goal 15: Life on land, are measured in terms of revenues, capital expenditure (CapEx) and/or operational expenditure (OpEx). The extent of contribution to individual UN SDGs will vary based on the actual investments in the portfolio.

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

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 reduce exposure to or to exclude securities which are negatively aligned with the following principal adverse indicators:

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.

- Carbon footprint (no. 2);
- GHG intensity of investee companies (no. 3);
- Exposure to companies active in the fossil fuel sector (no. 4);
- Activities negatively affecting biodiversity-sensitive areas (no. 7);
- Emissions to water (no. 8);
- Hazardous waste ratio (no. 9);
- Violation of UN Global Compact principles and OECD Guidelines for multinational enterprises (no. 10); and
- Exposure to controversial weapons (no. 14).

— *How are the sustainable investments aligned 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.

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):

- Carbon footprint (no. 2);
- GHG intensity of investee companies (no. 3);
- Exposure to companies active in the fossil fuel sector (no. 4);
- Activities negatively affecting biodiversity-sensitive areas (no. 7);
- Emissions to water (no. 8);

- Hazardous waste ratio (no. 9);
- Violation of UN Global Compact principles and OECD Guidelines for multinational enterprises (no. 10); and
- Exposure to controversial weapons (no. 14).

No



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

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 MSCI USA Select Sustainability Screened CTB Index, which is designed to reflect the performance of large and medium capitalisation companies in the USA that are selected and weighted with the aim of meeting the minimum standards of the EU Climate Transition Benchmarks (“EU CTB”). The Reference Index is based on the MSCI USA Index (the “Parent Index”). The Parent Index is designed to reflect the performance of the shares of certain listed large and medium capitalisation companies in the USA.

- ***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. The Reference Index aims to meet the minimum standards for EU CTB as set out in the CTB Regulation. The Reference Index also aims to reduce exposure to select indicators, as detailed below, that are considered to have adverse environmental or social impact, and increase exposure to companies that make a positive contribution to the society and the environment.

Securities are removed from the Parent Index that do not meet certain ESG criteria, including, but not limited to, those that:

- are classified as ‘Red Flags’ by MSCI in their ESG Controversies assessment (such as by failing to comply with the United Nations Global Compact principles);
- are assigned an insufficient Environment Controversy score as determined by MSCI in their ESG Controversies assessment;
- are assigned an insufficient MSCI ESG Rating;
- are categorised below a certain percentile threshold in the Biodiversity & Land Use Key Issue category as determined by MSCI in their ESG Ratings assessment;
- have any involvement in controversial weapons;
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- a minimum reduction of 30% in carbon intensity, as measured by Greenhouse Gas (“GHG”) intensity compared to the Parent Index;
- a minimum average reduction per year of 7% in carbon intensity;
- a minimum weight in high climate impact sectors at least equal to its weight in the Parent Index
- a minimum reduction in water emissions intensity and hazardous waste intensity compared to the Parent Index;
- a minimum weighted average company revenue in activities deemed as having a sustainable impact as determined by the Index Administrator;
- a minimum increase in the weight of companies setting decarbonisation targets compared to the Eligible Universe; and

- a maximum weight in securities with lower MSCI ESG Ratings.

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.

- **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?**

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.

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

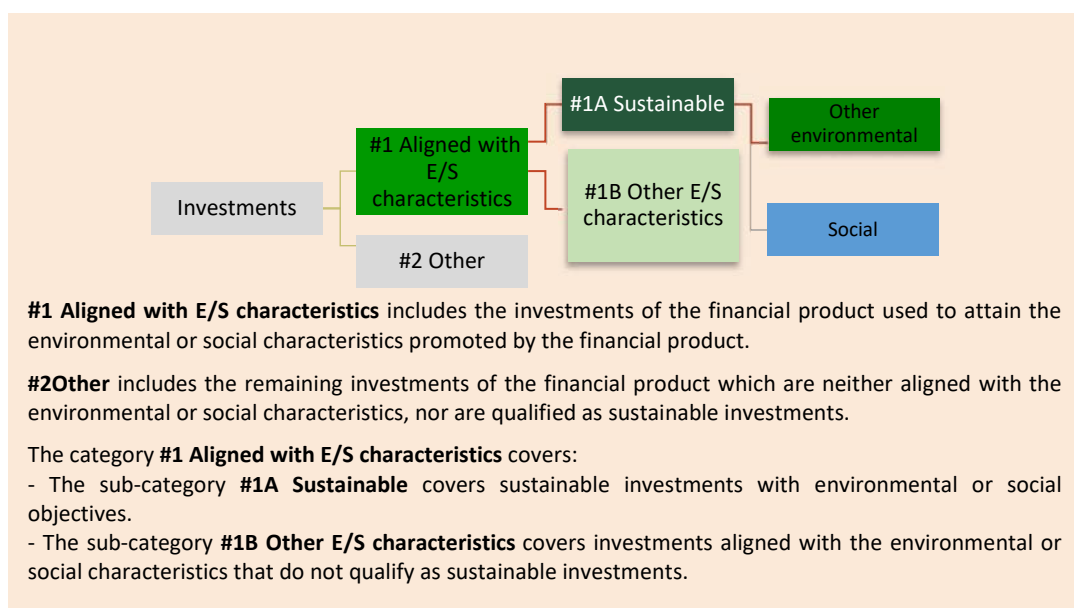


Asset allocation describes the share of investments in specific assets.

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 10% of the financial product's assets qualify as sustainable investments (#1A Sustainable).

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



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.

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.

● **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.

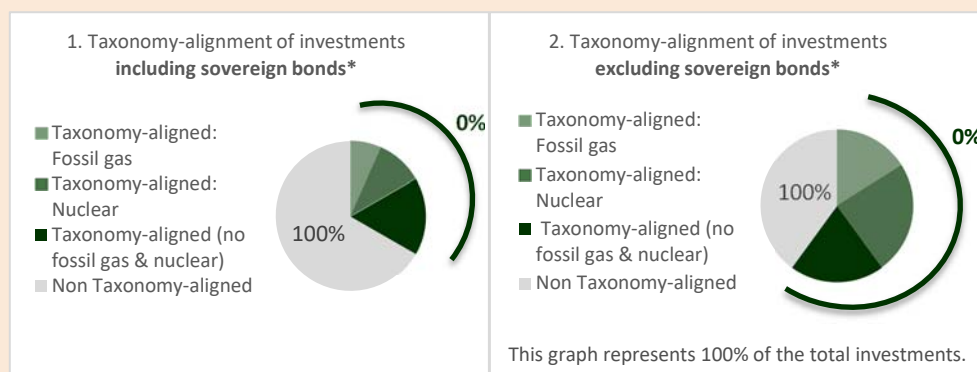
● **Does the financial product invest in fossil gas and/or nuclear energy related activities that comply with the EU Taxonomy²?**

Yes: In fossil gas In nuclear energy

✘ No. However, there is a lack of reliable data in relation to fossil gas and/or nuclear energy related activities that comply with the EU Taxonomy. On this basis, although it is considered that no relevant investments are made, it is possible the financial product may make some investments in fossil gas and/or nuclear energy related activities that comply with the EU Taxonomy.

² 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 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.

● **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.

are sustainable investments with an environmental objective that **do not take into account the criteria** for environmentally sustainable economic activities under 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 10%.



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 10%.



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

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.



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 MSCI USA Select Sustainability Screened CTB Index as the reference benchmark.

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

- ***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 selecting and weighting the constituents with the aim of meeting the minimum standards of the EU Climate Transition Benchmarks ("EU CTB") and removing securities from the Parent Index that do not meet certain ESG criteria as outlined above, as of each Reference Index rebalance.

- ***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 or track, before fees and expenses, the performance of the Reference Index by holding a portfolio of equity securities that comprises all, or a substantial number of, 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 the shares of certain listed large and medium capitalisation companies in the USA. The Reference Index aims to meet the minimum standards for EU CTB as set out in the CTB Regulation. The Reference Index also aims to reduce exposure to select indicators, as detailed below, that are considered to have adverse environmental or social impact, and increase exposure to companies that make a positive contribution to the society and the environment.

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- are assigned an insufficient MSCI ESG Rating;
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 - a minimum reduction in water emissions intensity and hazardous waste intensity compared to the Parent Index;
 - a minimum weighted average company revenue in activities deemed as having a sustainable impact as determined by the Index Administrator;
 - a minimum increase in the weight of companies setting decarbonisation targets compared to the Eligible Universe; and
 - a maximum weight in securities with lower MSCI ESG Ratings.
 -
- ***Where can the methodology used for the calculation of the designated index be found?***

Additional information on the Reference Index, its composition, ESG criteria, calculation and rules for periodical review and re-balancing and on the general methodology behind the MSCI indices can be found on <http://www.msci.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.