

VanEck iBoxx EUR Corporates UCITS ETF Sustainability-related information pursuant to Art. 24 of Regulation (EU) 2022/2088 ("SFDR")

Product name: VanEck iBoxx EUR Corporates UCITS ETF **Legal entity identifier:** 254900FVLH9ZGJUMNG87

ISIN: NL0009690247

(a) Summary

VanEck iBoxx EUR Corporates UCITS ETF (het 'Subfonds') is gecategoriseerd als Artikel 8, lid 1, van Verordening (EU) 2019/2088 betreffende duurzaamheidsgerelateerde informatievoorziening in de financiële sector ('SFDR'). Het subfonds bevordert milieu- en/of sociale kenmerken en belegt in ondernemingen die goede praktijken op het gebied van ondernemingsbestuur volgen. Om elk van de gepromote kenmerken te bereiken, integreert het subfonds ESG-kenmerken in zijn passieve beleggingsproces door middel van ESG-gerelateerde wegingen op het niveau van de door het subfonds gevolgde benchmark. Duurzaam beleggen is geen beleggingsdoelstelling van het subfonds.

Het subfonds voert een passief beleggingsbeleid, waarbij het zijn referentiebenchmark zo dicht mogelijk benadert en belegt in directe financiële instrumenten die 100% aansluiten bij de milieu- en sociale kenmerken die het voorstaat. Het subfonds richt zich op beleggingen in 40 liquide bedrijfsobligaties van beleggingskwaliteit, luidend in euro. Op het moment dat de obligaties in de index worden opgenomen, moeten ze een investment grade-rating hebben. Het minimale uitgiftebedrag is € 750 miljoen en er is een maximum van één obligatie per uitgever opgenomen in de index. Volgens het wegingsschema van het subfonds worden alle uitgevers met hogere SD-KPI-scores overwogen en uitgevers met lagere SD-KPI-scores onderwogen.

De beleggingen van het subfonds moeten voldoen aan het volgende bindende element:

1. Herweging van obligaties op basis van hun SD-KPI-score, als volgt:

SDI-KPI-score	Gewicht Aanpassing
>0 - 20	0,5
>20 - 40	0,75
>40 - 60	1
>60 - 80	1,25
>80 - 100	1,5

Via de ESG-gerelateerde wegingen houdt het subfonds rekening met verschillende Principle Adverse Indicators, zoals de CO2-uitstoot, biodiversiteit, water, afval, sociale en werknemersaangelegenheden, respect voor mensenrechten en anti-corruptie.

Bovendien worden de goede bestuurspraktijken van de ondernemingen waarin wordt geïnvesteerd, beoordeeld door een weging van de samenstellende obligaties op basis van de SD-KPI ESG-score, waarbij onder meer bestuursgerelateerde onderwerpen zoals "Audit Coverage of ILO Labour Standards", "Audit Coverage of the Environmental Management System and its Performance including the Supply Chain", "Business Ethics Incidents and Precautions", "Fair Labour Practices incl. Minimum Wage, Employee Turnover", "Accident and Fatality Rate" en "Integration of Sales and Distribution Risks" als onderdeel van de totaalscore worden overwogen voor bepaalde bedrijfstakken.

(b) No sustainable investment objective

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

(c) Environmental or social characteristics of the financial product

The following environmental and social characteristics apply to the Sub-fund's investments:

- 1. The Sub-fund promotes the reduction of its exposure to companies that account for the most negative impacts on society and the environment, through applying re-weighting criteria:
 - Companies with a low overall performance on environmental, social and governance factors deemed to be of most importance for given Industry by the ESG provider are underweighted in the index.
 - Companies with a high overall performance on the mentioned subjects are over weighted.

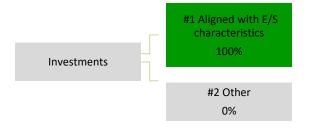
(d) Investment strategy

The Sub-fund's investment objective is to replicate, before fees and expenses, the price and yield performance of the iBoxx SD-KPI EUR Liquid Corporates Index. The Sub-fund seeks to invest in 40 liquid investment grade corporate bonds denominated in Euro. At the time of inclusion of the bonds in the index, the bonds must have an investment grade rating. The minimum issue size is EUR 750 million and a maximum of one bond per issuer is included in the Index. As per Sub-fund's weighting scheme, issuers with higher SD-KPI scores are over-weighted and issuers with lower SD-KPI scores are under-weighted.

Good governance relates to sound management structures, employee relations, remuneration of staff and tax compliance. Good governance practices of the investee companies are assessed by weighting the constituent bonds based on the SD-KPI ESG score, considers, among others, governance-related topics such as "Audit Coverage of ILO Labour Standards", "Audit Coverage of the Environmental Management System and its Performance including the Supply Chain", "Business Ethics Incidents and Precautions", "Fair Labour Practices incl. Minimum Wage, Employee Turnover", "Accident and Fatality Rate" and "Integration of Sales and Distribution Risks" as part of the overall score for certain Industries.

(e) Proportion of investments

The Sub-fund invests in direct financial instruments of which 100% is aligned with the E/S characteristics.



(f) Monitoring of environmental or social characteristics

The environmental and social characteristics are monitored in the following manner:

The Sub-fund promotes the reduction of its exposure to companies that account for the most negative impacts on society and the environment.

- 1. This is measured with the following indicator(s):
 - Weighted average SD-KPI score compared to the iBoxx SD-KPI EUR Liquid Corporates Index.
 The total SD-KPI (Sustainable Development Key Performance Indicator) score is determined within a scale of 0 to 100.
- 2. This is monitored in the following manner:
 - The requirements relating to SD-KPI (Sustainable Development Key Performance Indicator) score of consituents are included in the index rules which are defined by the index provider.
 - The index is rebalanced on a periodic basis by the index provider.
 - The Sub-fund' Portfolio Management Team replicates the index based on the index rules.
 - Any breaches of the index rules are reported by the Legal and Compliance Team VanEck
 has policies in place to assess the alignment of the Sub-fund's investments with the index
 and to undertake recovery measures where necessary.
 - VanEck has policies in place to assess the alignment of the Sub-fund's investments with the
 index and periodic reports are constructed on the replication of the index and whether the
 Sub-fund's portfolio is aligned with the index.

(g) Methodologies

The exact methodology of the integration of the Sub-fund's environmental and/or social characteristics is determined by the index provider. More information can be found in the Sub-fund's index rules.

(h) Data sources and processing

The data sources used

- SD-KPI (Sustainable Development Key Performance Indicator) for the assessment of the ESG performance of companies through the index provider

The index provider may use their own additional data sources.

The measures taken to ensure data quality

The mentioned data sources are used by VanEck and/or its index provider and service provider. VanEck does not receive most of the data directly from data providers and therefore has not taken measures to ensura data quality for the data which VanEck does not directly receive from data providers. For the data which VanEck does use directly from data providers, it uses a reporting service tool where data quality measures are integrated into. It is ofcourse relevant that the data used by the index provider and service provider is of sufficient quality. The index provider and service provider have set up their internal processes to do so. Data quality is a component of the selection process of the index provider

How data are processed

VanEck processes a limited amount of data on its own for the Sub-fund. Data from data providers or the index provider is processed to measure the Sub-fund's environmental and social characteristics based on the Sub-fund's investments as per the end of the year. VanEck is periodically informed on the index construction, implementation and results.

The proportion of data that are estimated

VanEck does not estimate data, but cannot rule out that the index provider or service provider does estimate data and/or use data provider wich estimate data. Although reported data is preferred, missing information is often supplemented with estimated data by the data providers. For more information on how this exactly is determined, we refer to the website of the mentioned data providers, index provider and service provider.

(i) Limitations to methodologies and data

VanEck recognizes the following limitations to methodologies and data:

1. Lack of reported data

In order to attain the environmental and social characteristics, data from external data providers is used by the index provider, VanEck and/or the service provider. Data providers retrieve data from company reports (such as annual reports). Not all companies report the data. Missing data is sometimes estimated by dataproviders and at times there is no data coverage when it is not possible to estimate the data. This means that in not all cases reported data is present to determine whether the promoted characteristics are attained. By means of choosing a reputable data provider, the risk of erroneous estimates is mitigated.

2. Actualisation of data

The index provider rebalances the index on a periodic basis. It is possible that the Sub-fund's investments in between the rebalancing moments do not comply with the promoted characteristics.

(j) Due Diligence

VanEck does not select investments but uses indices which are constructed by index providers. As described in the monitoring section, VanEck replicates the index and this is monitored by by the Portfolio Management Team and the Legal and Compliance Team. VanEck has a due diligence process on the selection of index providers and service provides. The board of VanEck decides on the index selection and appointment of service providers which is prepared by the Portfolio Management Team. VanEck is responsible for monitoring the replication of the index and the service provider.

VanEck's approach is to achieve and maintain the highest standards of integrity, reporting and internal control on all relevant environmental, social, and governance (ESG) matters, sustainability factors in its policies, practices, operational set-up and selection and monitoring of investments as well as identification and mitigation of ESG related risks. A more detailed description on the due diligence that VanEck carries out is available in the ESG Due Diligence Policy, which can be found at the following link: Policies & Procedures

(k) Engagement policies

The financial product engagement is limited to dialogues with the index provider in further refining the index rules and can relate to the increasing consideration of sustainability factors in the composition of the index. The VanEck Shareholder Engagement Policy can be found <a href="https://example.com/here-engagement-new-marked-engagement-new-mark

(I) Designated reference benchmark

As a passive investments strategy, the Sub-und has designated the iBoxx SD-KPI EUR Liquid Corporates Index as reference benchmark to meet the environmental and social characteristics that it promotes.

Sustainability factors are considered as part of the weighting scheme of the reference benchmark and assessed at any rebalancing of the underlying Index. By means of ESG score based weight adjustment, the Sub-fund takes sustainability factors relating to greenhouse gas emissions, biodiversity, water, waste, social and employee, respect for human rights, anti-corruption and anti-bribery matters into account.

More product-specific information can be found on the website: <u>VanEck iBoxx EUR Corporates UCITS ETF |</u>
<u>Documents.</u>