

VanEck Morningstar US Sustainable Wide Moat UCITS ETF Sustainability-related information pursuant to Art. 24 of Regulation (EU) 2022/2088 ("SFDR")

Product name: VanEck Morningstar US Sustainable Wide Moat UCITS ETF

Legal entity identifier: 549300JHVM3IG26SW860

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a) Summary

VanEck Morningstar US Sustainable Wide Moat UCITS ETF ("Fonden") er blevet kategoriseret som artikel 8 (1) i forordning (EU) 2019/2088 om bæredygtighedsrelaterede oplysninger i den finansielle sektor ("SFDR"). Fonden fremmer miljømæssige og/eller sociale egenskaber og investerer i virksomheder, der følger god ledelsespraksis. For at opnå hver af de fremmede egenskaber integrerer fonden ESG-egenskaber i sin passive investeringsproces ved hjælp af ESG-relaterede udelukkelser på niveauet af det benchmark, som fonden sporer, og gennem stemmeafgivning om bæredygtighedsspørgsmål. Fonden har ikke bæredygtige investeringer som sit investeringsmål.

Fonden har en passiv investeringspolitik, hvor den replikerer så tæt som muligt sit referencebenchmark, og den investerer i direkte finansielle instrumenter, som er 100 % afstemt med de miljømæssige og sociale egenskaber, som den fremmer. Fonden investerer direkte i indeksets underliggende aktiepapirer, som primært er noteret på amerikanske børser.

Fondens investeringer skal overholde følgende bindende elementer:

- a) Eksklusion baseret på alvorlige kontroverser: Kontroversscore skal være 4 (ud af 5) eller lavere gennem de sidste 3 år;
- b) Eksklusion baseret på virksomheder med høj og alvorlig ESG-risiko: ESG-risikoscore skal være i kategorierne mellem, lav eller ubetydelig;
- c) Eksklusion baseret på virksomheder med høj og alvorlig kulstofrisiko: Kulstofrisikoscore skal, hvis den vurderes, være i kategorierne mellem, lav eller ubetydelig;
- d) Eksklusion baseret på produktinvolvering: Tobak (>50 % omsætning), kontroversielle våben (>0 %), civile skydevåben (>0 %), termisk kul (>0 %).

Gennem sine ESG-baserede ekskluderinger og sin proxy-stemmepolitik tager fonden hensyn til adskillige principielle negative indikatorer, såsom drivhusgas emissioner, biodiversitet, vand, affald, social og medarbejderstab, respekt for menneskerettigheder, anti-korruption og anti-bestikkelsessager.

Governance-emner betragtes desuden som en del af den økonomiske analyse i indekskonstruktionen ved vurdering af virksomheders opfattede dagsværdi. Sustainalytics' Global Standards-screening er baseret på FN's Global Compact Principles, OECD, World Governance Indicators og branchespecifikke standarder eller initiativer. Styringsfaktorer såsom skatteundgåelse/unddragelse, regnskabsmæssige uregelmæssigheder og regnskabssvig, lobbyvirksomhed og offentlig politik, insiderhandel, bestikkelse og korruption, dyrevelfærd, intellektuel ejendomsret, modstandsdygtighed, vederlag, aktionærtvister og rettigheder, bestyrelsessammensætning og

anden virksomhedsledelse og virksomhed Etiske kriterier er en del af Controversy Screening, der er indlejret i fondens underliggende indeks. Governance Factors udgør også en del af den aggregerede ESG-risikoscore, som bruges i indeksudvælgelsen.

b) No sustainable investment objective

The Fund promotes environmental or social characteristics, but does not have a sustainable investment objective.

c) Environmental or social characteristics of the financial product

The following environmental and social characteristics apply to the Fund's investments:

- 1. The Fund promotes the reduction of the most negative impacts on society and the environment through:
 - Exposure to ESG and carbon risks is reduced by excluding companies with high or severe levels of ESG and Carbon risks
 - Exposure to controversies and controversial business activities is limited by means of of revenuebased screening and exclusion of companies involved in severe UNGC violations and other controversies
 - 1. 2. The Glass Lewis ESG policy guidelines are applied whereby votes are cast on sustainability matters.

d) Investment strategy

The Fund replicates the overall performance (before fees and expenses) of the Morningstar® US Sustainability Moat Focus Index, which targets attractively priced US companies with sustainable competitive advantages according to Morningstar's equity research team, subject to ESG screening based on Sustainalytics data. In addition, an Glass Lewis ESG-tilted voting policy is applied, whereby casted votes in shareholder meetings of companies in the portfolio concern sustainability matters.

Good governance relates to sound management structures, employee relations, remuneration of staff and tax compliance. Governance subjects are considered as part of the financial analysis in the index construction when evaluating companies' perceived fair value. Additionally, Sustainalytics' Global Standards screening is based on the UN Global Compact Principles, OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises, World Governance Indicators and industry-specific standards or initiatives.

e) Proportion of investments

The Fund invests in direct financial instruments of which 100% is aligned with the environmental and social characteristics that it promotes on the basis that all of the Index holdings are screened against its exclusion strategy.



f) Monitoring of environmental or social characteristics

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

- 1. The Fund promotes the reduction of the most negative impacts on society and the environment.
 - This is measured with the following indicator(s):
 - The Total GHG Emissions (Scope 1+2+3) Mio EUR Enterprise Value;
 - o The GHG Intensity (t CO2e/\$M Revenue).
 - This is monitored in the following manner:
 - The requirements relating to the ESG and Carbon risk rating, contoversy ratings and Controversial sector involvement screenings (tobacco, coal, civilian firearms and controversial weapons) 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.
 - o The 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 Fund's investments with the Index and to
 undertake recovery measures where necessary.
- 2. The Glass Lewis ESG tilted voting policy is applied, whereby casted votes concern sustainability matters.
 - This is monitored in the following manner:
 - VanEck has appointed a service provider to exercise voting rights. VanEck is periodically informed by the service provider on the voting activities.

g) Methodologies

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

Voting is delegated to Glass Lewis. Glass Lewis determines the voting approach based on its assessment of the voting proposals and the alignment with the voting policy. VanEck is periodically informed on the activities and has access to an online platform where the information on the proxy voting, policy implementation, recordkeeping and reporting can be found.

h) Data sources and processing

The data sources used

- ISS GHG Emissions data for the assessment of the companies` performance

The index provider and voting service 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 the data directly from data providers. With regards to the non-renewable energy production data VanEck utilizes a reporting service whereby calculations can be made in a tool developed by the data provider. Data quality measures are integrated into the reporting service tool. It is also 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 does not process most of the data on its own for the Fund. Other than the reporting service tool VanEck uses, the reports it receives on a periodic basis come from the index provider and the service provider. VanEck is periodically informed on the index construction, implementation, results and progress of the voting activities.

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 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 | VanEck.

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 here.

I) Designated reference benchmark

As a passive investments strategy, the Fund has designated the Morningstar US Sustainable Moat Focus Index as reference benchmark to meet the environmental and social characteristics that it promotes. Sustainability factors are considered as part of screenings that are included in the reference benchmark and assessed at any rebalancing of the underlying Index. By means of ESG and Carbon Risk scores, Global Standards controversy ratings and Controversial sector involvement screenings, the 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: https://www.vaneck.com/ie/en/moat