

Annex Sustainability-Related Information

Periodic 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:
ERSTE RESPONSIBLE BOND

Legal entity identifier:
529900EP00J79DGD84

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

For improved readability, for the purpose of this document, "Taxonomy Regulation" means Regulation (EU) 2020/852, "Disclosure Regulation" means Regulation (EU) 2019/2088, and "RTS" means Delegated Regulation (EU) 2022/1288.

Did this financial product have a sustainable investment objective?	
<input checked="" type="radio"/> <input checked="" type="radio"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
<input type="checkbox"/> It made sustainable investments with an environmental objective : __ %	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> It promoted Environmental/Social (E/S) characteristics and while it did not have as its objective a sustainable investment, it had a proportion of 98.87 % of sustainable investments
<input type="checkbox"/> in economic activities that qualify as environmentally sustainable under the EU Taxonomy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> with an environmental objective 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> with an environmental objective in economic activities that do not qualify as environmentally sustainable under the EU Taxonomy
<input type="checkbox"/> It made sustainable investments with a social objective : __ %	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> with a social objective
	<input type="checkbox"/> It promoted E/S characteristics, but did not make any sustainable investments



To what extent were the environmental and/or social characteristics promoted by this financial product met?

Conformity with the environmental and social characteristics promoted by the Fund was ensured by the continuous application of the process described below:

Fund applies a broad interpretation of sustainability. Both environmental and social characteristics are promoted through the application of the Management Company's proprietary sustainability approach. This is ensured by the application of the Management Company's ESG toolbox as part of the investment process.

No derivatives have been used to meet the environmental and social characteristics.

A distinction must be made between direct investments in securities, investments in investment funds managed by the management company and investments in investment funds managed by external management companies.

Direct investments in securities and investments in investment funds (indirect investments) managed by the management company

Exclusion Criteria			ESG Analysis / Best in Class		Integration	Engagement	Voting	Thematic funds	Focused sustainability Impact	Fulfill Austrian ecolabel or FNG label criteria
Minimum criteria	Exclusion criteria	Norm-based Screening	ESG Risk Analysis	Best in Class						
✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Not applicable			✓

At the level of the Fund, the Management Company is pursuing the objective of achieving improvements in the following key environmental and social aspects through its proprietary sustainability approach:

- The environmental footprint of the investments held by the Fund, in particular
 - the carbon footprint and the mitigation of climate change in general, and
 - the water footprint and measures for the responsible use of the resource water.
- The avoidance of environmental risks
 - for the protection of biodiversity
 - the responsible management of waste and other emissions
- Social factors such as
 - the exclusion of any investments in companies that produce or deal in controversial weapons.
 - the promotion of human rights and exclusion of issuers complicit in human rights violations.
 - the promotion of good working conditions, for example in the areas workplace safety and training, and the exclusion of issuers that are complicit in labour law violations, in particular of the core standards of the ILO.
 - the promotion of diversity and the exclusion of issuers that practice discrimination.
 - The avoidance of corruption and fraud.
- The promotion of good corporate governance:
 - the independence of supervisory bodies
 - management remuneration
 - good accounting practices
 - the protection of shareholder rights

Investments in investment funds (indirect investments) managed by external management companies

All invested financial products managed by external management companies must be classified as either Art. 8 or Art. 9 under the Disclosure Regulation, or at least comply with good governance requirements. This does not apply to invested government bond funds.

In addition, the sustainable/ESG investment process of all such investment funds undergo a pre investment due diligence. Only investment funds demonstrating an ESG selection process and ESG criteria similar to those of ERSTE RESPONSIBLE funds will be whitelisted for investment. Compliance with this requirement is reviewed on a regular basis. Funds, which's ESG standard no longer meet the ERSTE RESPONSIBLE standards are deleted from the whitelist and divested in the best interests of the investors.

In the case of the use of third party funds, based on the ESG fund selection criteria of the Management Company and the analysis of the investment process as disclosed by the respective producer, it is expected that these third party funds will have similar environmental and social characteristics as the funds managed by the Management Company. Nevertheless, differences may remain.

Therefore the environmental and/or social characteristics promoted by these investment funds are those declared by their respective producer in compliance with the Disclosure Regulation.

● **How did the sustainability indicators perform?**

Direct investments in securities and investments in investment funds (indirect investments) managed by the management company

Compliance with the social and environmental characteristics of the Fund is evaluated on the basis of the following indicators:

ESGenius score:

The ESGenius score depicts the ESG risk profile and quality of the ESG management of the issuer. It provides a holistic view of the performance of the analysed issuer in terms of the sustainability focuses listed above.

The minimum score required for the Fund and the average score of the investments held by the Fund are both considered.

Indicator 1: Compliance with the minimum score required for the Fund expressed in per cent of the fund assets

100% of the fund assets comply with the Fund's exclusion criteria.

Indicator 2: Average score of the investments held by the Fund

73.13 of 100 (As of 03/31/2023)

Exclusion criteria:

Continuous compliance with the Fund's exclusion criteria is assessed. This verification is performed daily by the Management Company's Risk Management department.

Indicator: Compliance with the Fund's exclusion criteria

100% of the fund assets comply with the Fund's exclusion criteria.

Sustainable Development Goals:

The Management Company assesses and reports to what degree the investments held by the Fund contribute to the 17 United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The contributions to the individual goals and the positive and negative overall contribution to the SDGs are reported.

Indicator 1: Share of the fund assets that makes a positive contribution to each of the 17 SDGs (As of 03/31/2023)

SDG	% fund volume
No Poverty #1	0.00
No Hunger #2	0.76
Good Health and Well Being #3	2.87
Quality Education #4	0.00
Gender Equality #5	0.00
Clean Water and Sanitation #6	0.25
Affordable and Clean Energy #7	5.83
Decent Work and Economic Growth #8	0.00
Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure #9	0.00

Sustainability

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

Reducing Inequality #10	3.62
Sustainable Cities and Communities #11	0.55
Responsible Consumption and Production #12	0.08
Climate Action #13	5.83
Life Below Water #14	0.00
Life on Land #15	2.02
Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions #16	0.02
Partnerships for the Goals #17	0.00

Indicator 2: Proportion of impacts/contributions to SDGs generated by the investment fund's investments that are positive in nature
65.89 % of the generated impacts/contributions to SDGs are positive in nature as of 03/31/2023

Indicator 3: Proportion of impacts to SDGs generated by the investment fund's investments that are negative in nature:
34.11 % of the generated impacts to SDGs are negative in nature as of 03/31/2023

A comprehensive description of the indicators, the most important contributions to the SDGs broken down by issuer, and the methodology upon which the calculation is based can be viewed on the following website:

<https://www.erste-am.at/en/private-investors/sustainability/publications-and-guidelines/green-pledge/sdg-report>

Carbon footprint:

The Management Company calculates the Fund's carbon footprint based on the 12-month average of scope 1 + 2 greenhouse gas emissions.

Indicator: Carbon footprint

The carbon footprint of the Fund amounts to 107.50 tones per 1 million EURO sales (As of 03/31/2023)

A description of the indicators and the methodology upon which the calculation is based can be viewed on the following website:

<https://www.erste-am.at/en/private-investors/sustainability/responsible/co2-footprint>

Water footprint:

The Management Company calculates the Fund's water footprint annually based on securities held directly in the Fund. The footprint is calculated and reported separately based on the degree of water scarcity in the regions in which the issuers in which the Fund invests consume water.

The indicator is calculated as far as there is sufficient data in the calculation systems.

Indicator: Water footprint relative to the overall global market, broken down by regions with low, medium, and high water scarcity as of 03/31/2023 (Unit of measurement: water withdrawal in m3 / thousand USD sales)

Region	Volume
High Stress Region	0.43
Medium Stress Region	2,197.43
Low Stress Region	1,266.03

A description of the indicators and the methodology upon which the calculation is based can be viewed on the following website:

<https://www.erste-am.at/en/private-investors/sustainability/responsible#wasserfussabdruck>

In case of subfunds, these factors are tracked based upon available look-through data. Tracking is only guaranteed for investment funds managed by the management company.

Investments in investment funds (indirect investments) managed by external management companies

- Compliance with the management company's ESG fund whitelist:

All invested investment funds managed by external management companies must be classified as either Art. 8 or Art. 9 under the Disclosure Regulation or at least comply with the requirements for good corporate governance. This does not apply to invested government bond funds.

In addition, the sustainable/ESG investment process of all such investment funds undergo a pre investment due diligence. Only investment funds demonstrating an ESG selection process and ESG criteria similar to those of ERSTE RESPONSIBLE funds will be whitelisted for investment. Compliance with this requirement is reviewed on a regular basis. Funds, which's ESG standard no longer meet the ERSTE RESPONSIBLE standards are deleted from the whitelist and divested in the best interests of the investors.

- Third party investment funds environmental and/or social characteristics:

The environmental and/or social indicators used to measure the attainment of their respective environmental and social characteristics promoted by these financial products are those declared by their respective manufacturers in compliance with the regulation.

Based on the management companies' ESG fund selection criteria and the analysis of the investment process, as disclosed by the respective manufacturer, it is expected that third party funds demonstrate similar environmental and social characteristics as funds managed by the management company. Nevertheless, differences can persist.

● **...and compared to previous periods?**

Not applicable

● **What were the objectives of the sustainable investments that the financial product partially made and how did the sustainable investment contribute to such objectives?**

The selection process provides, among other things, for investing in economic activities or assets that contribute to or promote one or more environmental objectives within the meaning of Art. 9 of the Taxonomy-Regulation. At the same time, the selection process does not exclude the possibility of promoting other environmental, social and corporate governance objectives with the investments underlying the investment fund than those currently provided for in the Taxonomy-Regulation.

The Taxonomy-Regulation (Art. 9) identifies environmentally sustainable activities based on their contribution to the following six environmental objectives:

- Climate change mitigation;
- Climate change adaptation;
- The sustainable use and protection of water and marine resources;
- The transition to a circular economy;
- Pollution prevention and control;

The protection and restoration of biodiversity and ecosystems. An economic activity is considered environmentally sustainable if it makes a significant contribution to one or more of the six environmental objectives, does not significantly compromise any of the environmental objectives, and is carried out in compliance with the minimum safeguards set forth in Art. 18 of the Taxonomy-Regulation.

The investment fund contributes to the objectives mentioned in Art. 9 of the Taxonomy-Regulation.

The breakdown of the share of investments for the EU taxonomy objectives mentioned in the previous questions, to which the investment fund contributed, is currently only possible to a limited extent due to the insufficient data situation.

A statement is currently only possible for the following environmental objectives as defined by the Taxonomy-Regulation:

- Climate protection: 3.78 %
- Climate change adaptation: 0.88 %

Due to the insufficient data situation, it is currently not possible to make a more differentiated allocation of the contribution of the sustainable facility to the stated goals.

In the past reporting period, sustainable investments were made with social objectives, among others.

Their description is discussed above.

If the disclosure of the companies in which investments are made does not readily indicate the extent to which the investments are made in environmentally sustainable business activities, data, if available, from ESG research partners is used.

Direct investments in securities and investments in investment funds (indirect investments) managed by the management company

The social and environmental objectives of the investment fund correspond to the focuses presented above. The sustainable investment process of the investment fund ensures that no investments are made in issuers that violate these criteria. In addition, security selection taking the ESGenius score into account results in issuers being preferred for the portfolio that have a lower risk of adverse impacts on the environmental and social objectives of the fund, and that make a positive environmental and/or social contribution through their exemplary management of these risks.

All issuers in which the Fund invests are analysed and selected before acquisition on the basis of a predefined sustainability process. The proprietary ESGenius process provides a comprehensive ESG analysis of each issuer based on its specific ESG risk profile and the measures taken to mitigate these risks. Based on the results of this analysis, the ESGenius rating, only those issuers that achieve a score of at least 50 of 100 possible points are eligible for investment based on a best-in-class approach. This minimum score can be higher depending on the sector of the economy in which the issuer is active. All issuers are also evaluated for violations of the Fund's exclusion criteria. This excludes at least half of the analysed issuers from the eligible universe of the Fund. The investment universe is assessed for compliance with these criteria at least once per quarter and updated as needed. Compliance with the eligible investment universe is verified daily. Securities from issuers that no longer meet the sustainability criteria of the Fund are sold while protecting Unit-holder interests.

Investments in sovereign bonds are subject to similar, specific analysis. The minimum ESGenius Score for investment in sovereign bonds is 70 out of 100 points.

Moreover, social, and environmental characteristics are promoted by applying exclusion criteria.

These are available on the following website:

<https://www.erste-am.at/en/private-investors/sustainability/publications-and-guidelines>

The Management Company also exercises an active ownership function. Through Engagement with issuers in the analysed investment universe, contributions are made to the improvement of the environmental and social performance of these companies.

The focus topics of the ESG analysis, selection process, and active ownership practices are adapted to the specific ESG risk profile of each issuer.

Investments in sovereign bonds are not covered by the fund management company's active ownership programmes.

Investments in investment funds (indirect investments) managed by external management companies

All invested investment funds managed by external management companies shall be officially classified as Art. 8 or 9 in accordance with the Disclosure Regulation by their manufacturer or at least comply with good governance rules. This is not applicable to invested government bond funds.

In addition, the sustainable/ESG investment process of all such investment funds undergo a pre investment due diligence. Only investment funds demonstrating an ESG selection process and ESG criteria similar to those of ERSTE RESPONSIBLE funds will be whitelisted for investment. Compliance with this requirement is reviewed on a regular basis. Funds, which's ESG standard no longer meet the ERSTE RESPONSIBLE standards are deleted from the whitelist and divested in the best interests of the investors.

In the case of the use of third party funds, based on the ESG fund selection criteria of the Management Company and the analysis of the investment process as disclosed by the respective producer, it is expected that these third party funds will have similar environmental and social characteristics as the funds managed by the Management Company. Nevertheless, differences may remain.

Therefore the objectives of the sustainable investments that these investment funds partially intends to make and the ways the sustainable investment contribute to such objectives are those defined by their respective producers.

● ***How did the sustainable investments that the financial product partially made not cause significant harm to any environmental or social sustainable investment objective?***

Direct investments in securities and investments in investment funds (indirect investments) managed by the management company

The sustainable investments described below, which comprise part of this financial product, do no significant harm to the environmental or social sustainable investment objectives because this financial product invests solely in issuers that have been qualified as sustainable by the Management Company based on the sustainable investment process described above. This categorisation sets forth that issuers may have no significant adverse impacts on environmental or social factors, as such a violation would preclude an investment based on the binding ESG characteristics of this investment process.

Investments in investment funds (indirect investments) managed by external management companies

All invested investment funds managed by external management companies shall be officially classified as Art. 8 or 9 in accordance with the Disclosure Regulation by their manufacturer or at least comply with good governance rules. This is not applicable to invested government bond funds.

In addition, the sustainable/ESG investment process of all such investment funds undergo a pre investment due diligence. Only investment funds demonstrating an ESG selection process and ESG criteria similar to those of ERSTE RESPONSIBLE funds will be whitelisted for investment. Compliance with this requirement is reviewed on a regular basis. Funds, which's ESG standard no longer meet the ERSTE RESPONSIBLE standards are deleted from the whitelist and divested in the best interests of the investors.

The sustainable investments partially made with these investment funds and how the sustainable investments partially made with these investment funds do not cause significant harm to an environmental or social sustainable investment objective are defined by their respective manufacturers.

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

Direct investments in securities and investments in investment funds (indirect investments) managed by the management company

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, anticorruption and bribery matters.

The principal adverse impacts (PAI) on sustainability factors were taken into account during the reporting period through the application of social and environmental exclusion criteria.

These can be viewed on the following website:

<https://www.erste-am.at/en/private-investors/sustainability/publications-and-guidelines>

All 14 PAIs from Table 1 of the RTS, that apply to the investment fund were taken into account. The investment fund also takes the following PAIs from Tables 2 and 3, Annex I of the RTS into account:

- Indicator 8 (Table 2) - Exposure to areas of high water stress (share of investments in investee companies with sites located in areas of high water stress without a water management policy)
- Indicator 14 (Table 3) - Number of identified cases of severe human rights issues and incidents (number of cases of severe human rights issues and incidents connected to investee companies on a weighted average basis)

In addition, all issuers in which the Fund invests are analysed and selected before acquisition on the basis of a predefined sustainability process. The proprietary ESGenius process provides a comprehensive ESG analysis of each issuer based on its specific ESG risk profile and the measures taken to mitigate these risks. Based on the results of this analysis, the ESGenius rating, only those issuers that achieve at least an ESGenius score on the predefined minimum score are eligible for investment. This minimum score can be higher depending on the sector of the economy in which the issuer is active. For investments for which no ESGenius rating is available, the application of the good governance requirements ensures that PAI is taken into account on a fundamental level.

This excludes at least half of the analysed issuers from the eligible universe of the Fund.

The investment universe is assessed for compliance with these criteria at least once per quarter and updated as needed. Compliance with the eligible investment universe is verified daily. Securities from issuers that no longer meet the sustainability criteria of the Fund are sold while protecting Unit-holder interests.

During the reporting period, this led to a significant reduction in the principal adverse impacts on sustainability factors from the investments held by the Fund.

Investments in investment funds (indirect investments) managed by external management companies

All invested investment funds managed by external management companies shall be officially classified as Art. 8 or Art. 9 in accordance with the Disclosure Regulation by their manufacturer or at least comply with good governance rules. This is not applicable to invested government bond funds.

In addition, the sustainable/ESG investment process of all such investment funds undergo a pre investment due diligence. Only investment funds demonstrating an ESG selection process and ESG criteria similar to those of ERSTE RESPONSIBLE funds will be whitelisted for investment. Compliance with this requirement is reviewed on a regular basis. Funds, which's ESG standard no longer meet the ERSTE RESPONSIBLE standards are deleted from the whitelist and divested in the best interests of the investors.

Based on the management companies' ESG fund selection criteria and the analysis of the investment process, as disclosed by the respective manufacturer, it is expected that third party funds demonstrate similar environmental and social characteristics as funds managed by the management company. Nevertheless, differences can persist.

The indicators for negative impacts on the sustainability factors were therefore taken into account in the way they were defined by the respective manufacturers.

Were sustainable investments aligned with the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises and the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights? Details:

Direct investments in securities and investments in investment funds (indirect investments) managed by the management company

Sustainable investments are made by applying the exclusion criteria described above and taking into account the ESG analysis of issuers following the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises and the United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights. Details are available on the following website:

<https://www.erste-am.at/en/private-investors/sustainability/publications-and-guidelines>

Investments in investment funds (indirect investments) managed by external management companies

All invested mutual funds managed by external management companies must be classified as either Art. 8 or 9 under the Disclosure Regulation or at least comply with the requirements for good corporate governance. This does not apply to invested government bond funds. How the sustainable investments comply with OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises and the United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights can be found in the documents of the external management companies.

These were assessed and complied with throughout the reporting period as described above.

The EU Taxonomy sets out a "do not significant harm" principle by which Taxonomy-aligned investments should not significantly harm EU Taxonomy objectives and is accompanied by specific Union criteria.

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

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

**How did this financial product consider principal adverse impacts on sustainability factors?****Direct investments in securities and investments in investment funds (indirect investments) managed by the management company**

The Management Company takes into account the principal adverse impacts (PAI) on sustainability factors in the investment strategy of this Fund.

The process described here was complied with throughout the reporting period.

All climate and other environment-related indicators and indicators for social and employee, respect for human rights, anti-corruption, and anti-bribery matters as set forth in Annex I of the RTS are taken into account in principle. However, it must be noted that not every indicator is relevant for every investment made by the Fund. The investment process ensures that all environmental, social, and corporate governance criteria that are relevant for the assessment of the respective investment are taken into account in the assessment of that investment.

In addition to taking the above indicators into account, the investment process also employs the optional indicators from Tables 2 and 3 of Annex I to the RTS where sufficient data is available

The Management Company considers the avoidance of greenhouse gas emissions, the responsible use of water, and respecting human rights to be the most important PAI.

Fundamentally, the PAI are taken into account not using quantitative requirements, but through the structured inclusion of the respective criteria in the sustainability analysis that is part of the Fund's investment process.

The most important PAI of the Fund are taken into account through multiple elements of the investment process. The following table shows the key process elements where this occurs on the basis of the Management Company's ESG toolbox.

Erste Asset Management ESG-Toolbox – PAI Consideration

Principal Adverse Impacts (PAI)		Exclusion Criteria			ESG Analysis / Best in Class		Integration	Engagement	Voting	Themed Funds	Focused sustainability impact	Austrian ECO label / FNG label
		Minimum Criteria	Exclusions	Normsbased Screening	ESG Risk Analysis	Best in Class						
Environment	Greenhouse gas emissions	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓	not applicable			
	Biodiversity	✓			✓	✓		✓				
	Water				✓	✓		✓				
	Waste		✓		✓	✓		✓				
Social & employee matters	UN Global Compact		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓				
	OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprise		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓				
	Gender equality		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓				
	Controversial weapons	✓										

In this, measures including the following are taken:

1. GHG emissions
2. Carbon footprint
3. GHG intensity of investee companies
4. Exposure to companies active in the fossil fuel sector
5. Share of non-renewable energy consumption and production
6. Energy consumption intensity per high impact climate sector
7. Activities negatively affecting biodiversity-sensitive areas
8. Emissions to water
9. Hazardous waste and radioactive waste ratio
10. Violations of UN Global Compact principles and Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises
11. Lack of processes and compliance mechanisms to monitor compliance with UN Global Compact principles and OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises
12. Unadjusted gender pay gap
13. Board gender diversity
14. Exposure to controversial weapons (anti-personnel mines, cluster munitions, chemical weapons and biological weapons)

The most important PAI from investments in government bonds are also taken into account. The following table shows the key process elements where this occurs on the basis of the Management Company's ESG toolbox.

Erste Asset Management ESG-Toolbox – PAI Consideration

Principal Adverse Impacts (PAI)		Exclusion Criteria			ESG Analysis / Best in Class		Integration	Engagement	Voting	Themed Funds	Focused sustainability impact	Austrian ECO label / FNG label
		Minimum Criteria	Exclusions	Normsbased Screening	ESG Risk Analysis	Best in Class						
Environ-ment	Greenhouse gas emissions		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	not applicable				
Social	Social regulations in internationl treaties, conventions as well as UN principles		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					

The PAI are taken into account at the level of the ESG analysis as well as by applying relevant exclusion criteria and integrating the financial analysis of the selected bonds.

This covers the following PAI:

15. GHG intensity
16. Investee countries subject to social violations

Investments in investment funds (indirect investments) managed by external management companies

All invested investment funds managed by external management companies shall be officially classified as Art. 8 or Art. 9 in accordance with the Disclosure Regulation by their manufacturer or at least comply with good governance rules. This is not applicable to invested government bond funds.

In addition, the sustainable/ESG investment process of all such investment funds undergo a pre investment due diligence. Only investment funds demonstrating an ESG selection process and ESG criteria similar to those of ERSTE RESPONSIBLE funds will be whitelisted for investment. Compliance with this requirement is reviewed on a regular basis. Funds, which's ESG standard no longer meet the ERSTE RESPONSIBLE standards are deleted from the whitelist and divested in the best interests of the investors.

Based on the management companies' ESG fund selection criteria and the analysis of the investment process, as disclosed by the respective manufacturer, it is expected that third party funds demonstrate similar environmental and social characteristics as funds managed by the management company. Nevertheless, differences can persist.

Therefore, the indicators for negative impacts on the sustainability factors were taken into account, in the way, they were defined by the respective manufacturers.



What were the top investments of this financial product?

<i>Largest investments</i>	<i>Sector</i>	<i>% Assets</i>	<i>Country</i>
XS1171485722 - THE WELLCOME TRUST 15/27	K - FINANCIAL AND INSURANCE ACTIVITIES	3.45	GB
XS0953580981 - QUEBEC PROV. 13/23 MTN	O - PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION AND DEFENCE; COMPULSORY SOCIAL SECURITY	3.09	CA
XS0691970601 - OEGB INFRAST 11/26 MTN	O - PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION AND DEFENCE; COMPULSORY SOCIAL SECURITY	2.53	AT
IT0004992787 - INTESA SAN. 14/26 MTN	K - FINANCIAL AND INSURANCE ACTIVITIES	2.48	IT

The list includes the investments constituting the **greatest proportion of investments** of the financial product during the reference period which is:

DE000A1YCQ29 - ALLIANZ SE MTN.13/UNBEFR.	K - FINANCIAL AND INSURANCE ACTIVITIES	2.45	DE
NL0013088990 - NAT.-NEDERL.BANK 18/28MTN	K - FINANCIAL AND INSURANCE ACTIVITIES	2.20	NL
XS1588061777 - SNCF RESEAU 17/34 MTN	O - PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION AND DEFENCE; COMPULSORY SOCIAL SECURITY	2.19	FR
AT0000A17Z60 - KELAG-KAERNT.ELE.14-26MTN	D - ELECTRICITY, GAS, STEAM AND AIR CONDITIONING SUPPLY	2.11	AT
XS2168038847 - LITAUEN 20/30 MTN	O - PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION AND DEFENCE; COMPULSORY SOCIAL SECURITY	2.02	LT
AT0000A2N7F1 - OBERBANK 21/29 MTN	K - FINANCIAL AND INSURANCE ACTIVITIES	2.01	AT
XS1072438366 - AGENCE FSE DEV. 14/26 MTN	K - FINANCIAL AND INSURANCE ACTIVITIES	2.00	FR
XS1195216707 - STOCKHOLM GEM. 15/25 MTN	O - PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION AND DEFENCE; COMPULSORY SOCIAL SECURITY	1.92	SE
XS0889216742 - CRP.AND. FOM. 13/33 MTN	K - FINANCIAL AND INSURANCE ACTIVITIES	1.86	SU
IT0005451197 - CAS.DEP.PRES 21/29 MTN	K - FINANCIAL AND INSURANCE ACTIVITIES	1.72	IT
XS2083210729 - ERSTE GR.BK. 19/30 MTN	K - FINANCIAL AND INSURANCE ACTIVITIES	1.72	AT

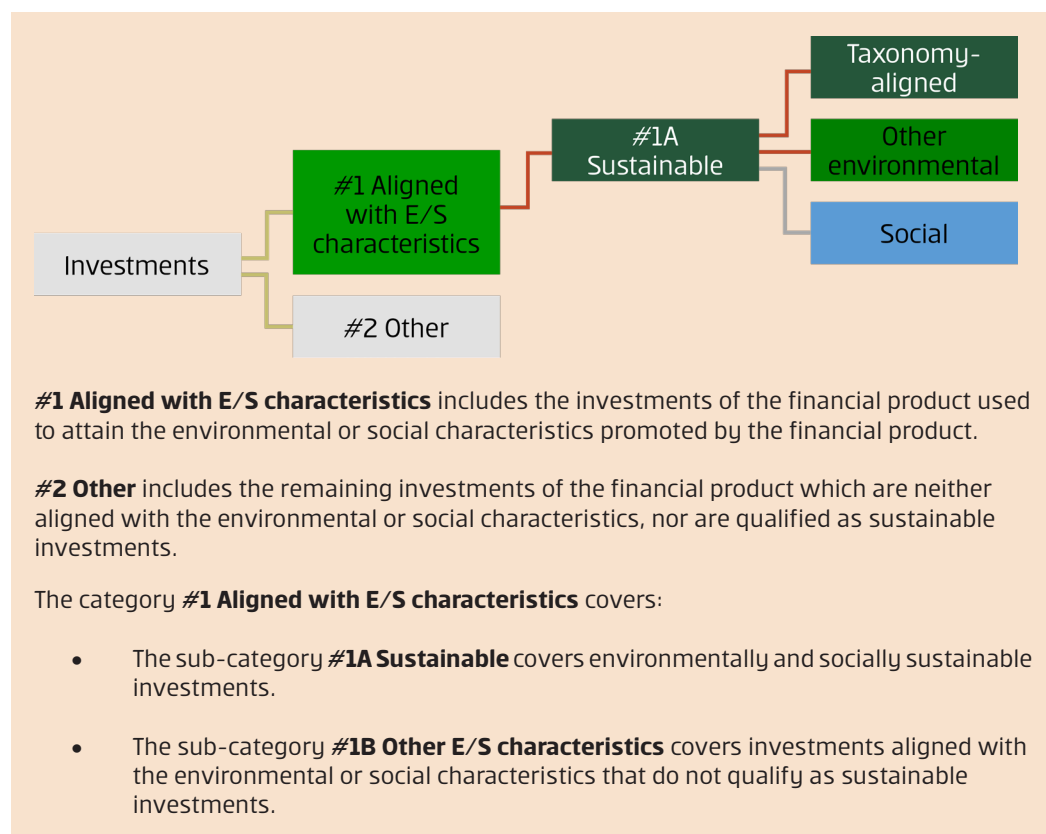


Asset allocation

describes the share of investments in specific assets.

What was the proportion of sustainability-related investments?

● What was the asset allocation?



The investments of the financial product made to achieve the advertised environmental or social characteristics amounted to 98.87 %.

During the reporting period, the Fund invested 98.87 % of the fund assets in sustainable investments in accordance with Art 2 no 17 of the Disclosure Regulation.

Of this, 4.20 % were environmentally sustainable investments in accordance with the Taxonomy-Regulation.

Other environmentally sustainable investments comprised 94.66 % of the fund assets.

98.87 % of the fund assets fulfil the characteristics of socially sustainable investments.

Other investments accounted for 1.13 %.

All investments must confirm with this sustainability approach at the time of purchase, and thus qualify as sustainable in the sense of the Disclosure Regulation. In the event that an investment is identified as no longer qualifying as sustainable during the regular update of the ESG analysis, it must be sold while protecting the interests of Unit-holders.

Apart from the certification of the sustainability process, compliance with the requirements for environmentally sustainable business activities set out in Art. 3 of the Taxonomy-Regulation is neither confirmed by an auditor nor verified by third parties.

The level of investment in environmentally sustainable business activities is measured in terms of sales revenue based on available data. This allows for better comparability (also for investors) with other indicators to show sustainability. The management company currently receives this data from third parties (research providers).

● **In which economic sectors were the investments made?**

Economic sectors	% Share
K - FINANCIAL AND INSURANCE ACTIVITIES	46.01
O - PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION AND DEFENCE; COMPULSORY SOCIAL SECURITY	32.04
M - PROFESSIONAL, SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL ACTIVITIES	7.62
D - ELECTRICITY, GAS, STEAM AND AIR CONDITIONING SUPPLY	4.68
J - INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION	4.09
C - MANUFACTURING	2.02
S - OTHER SERVICE ACTIVITIES	1.52
B - MINING AND QUARRYING	1.45
H - TRANSPORTATION AND STORAGE	0.34
L - REAL ESTATE ACTIVITIES	0.23



● **To what extent were the sustainable investments with an environmental objective aligned with the EU Taxonomy?**

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

☐

Yes

☐

In fossil gas

☐

In nuclear energy

☒

No

Sales from fossil gas and/or nuclear energy are not included in the taxonomy report. Only after the completion of the corresponding calculation methods by the European legislator and the complete availability of data, the disclosure of a possible share can be made.

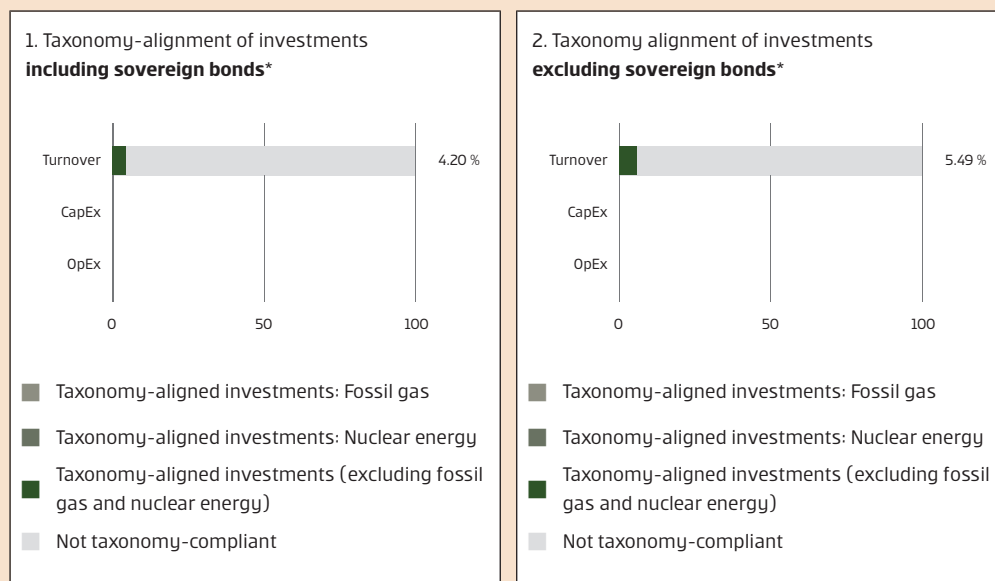
To comply with the EU Taxonomy, the criteria for **fossil gas** include limitations on emissions and switching to renewable power or low-carbon fuels by the end of 2035. For **nuclear energy**, the criteria include comprehensivesafety and waste management rules.

Taxonomy-aligned activities are expressed as a share of:

- **turnover** reflects the "greenness" of investee companies today.
- **capital expenditure** (CapEx) shows the green investments made by investee companies, relevant for a transition to a green economy.
- **operational expenditure** (OpEx) reflects the green operational activities of investee companies.

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 graphs below show in green the percentage of investments that were 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

The breakdown of the share of investments for the EU taxonomy objectives mentioned in the previous questions, to which the Fund contributed, is currently only possible to a limited extent due to the insufficient data situation.

A statement is currently only possible for the following environmental objectives as defined by the Taxonomy-Regulation:

- Climate protection: 3.78 %
- Climate change adaptation: 0.88 %

The stated values refer to the Taxonomy-alignment of investments including sovereign bonds.

Due to the insufficient data situation, it is currently not possible to make a more differentiated allocation of the contribution of the sustainable facility to the stated goals.

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


- **What was the share of investments made in transitional and enabling activities?**

No data available.

- **How did the percentage of investments that were aligned with the EU Taxonomy compare with previous reference periods?**

Not relevant for the first reporting period.

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 Regulation (EU) 2020/852.



What was the share of sustainable investments with an environmental objective not aligned with the EU Taxonomy?

Other environmentally sustainable investments comprised 94.66 % of the fund assets.

The Taxonomy-Regulation currently only takes into account ecologically sustainable products and services from environmental technologies that are offered commercially. Ecologically sustainable business activities in the production of goods of other economic sectors are not referenced.

The management company believes that any action should also be evaluated according to its positive or negative contribution, and that such positive contributions are essential in the transition to a climate-friendly and/or environmentally sustainable economy. The investment process of this investment fund analyzes the ecologically sustainable business conduct of all invested companies and selects those companies where an ecologically responsible economic activity is recognized, also outside of pure environmental technologies as defined by the Taxonomy-Regulation. These investments had to comply with this sustainability approach at the time of acquisition and can therefore be classified as ecologically sustainable within the meaning of the Disclosure Regulation, irrespective of their categorization as ecologically sustainable economic activities within the meaning of the Taxonomy-Regulation.



What was the share of socially sustainable investments?

98.87 % of the fund assets qualify as socially sustainable investments.



What investments were included under "other", what was their purpose and were there any minimum environmental or social safeguards?

Direct investments in securities and investments in investment funds (indirect investments) managed by the management company

Item #2 exclusively includes demand deposits, time deposits and derivatives for liquidity management and hedging purposes. These assets are currently considered neutral from an environmental and social perspective. No other investments beyond these fall under this item #2.

All other investments held in the Fund (# Item 1) must be qualified by the Management Company as sustainable on the basis of the predefined screening process at the time of acquisition. The application of social and environmental exclusion criteria and the proprietary ESG analysis along with the Best-In-Class approach that is based on this analysis affords a minimum degree of comprehensive basic environmental and social protection for the entire Fund.

Investments in investment funds (indirect investments) managed by external management companies

The investment purpose of the investments included in Third Party Funds listed in Item #2 and any minimum environmental or social protections are those established and disclosed by their respective producers in accordance with the Disclosure Regulation.



What actions have been taken to meet the environmental and/or social characteristics during the reference period?

Direct investments in securities and investments in investment funds (indirect investments) managed by the management company

The investment process described above was applied in full. The ESG criteria were complied with continuously in terms of the environmental, social, and ethical exclusion criteria as well as the ESG analysis conducted via the Management Company's proprietary ESGenius model. This was ensured by the quarterly review and update of the investable universe by the responsible Responsible Investments team as well as a daily review of the investment fund by Risk Management.

The Fund is subject to the engagement policy that the Management Company has defined in accordance with Article 3g of Regulation (EU) 2007/36. This sets forth extensive focuses on environmental and social topics.

The complete engagement policy can be found on the Management Company's website:

https://cdn0.erstegroup.com/content/dam/at/eam/common/files/ESG/stewardship-policy/Stewardship_Policy_EN.pdf

All engagement activities undertaken by the Management Company are presented in the annual engagement reports.

These can be viewed on the following website:

<https://www.erste-am.at/en/private-investors/sustainability/publications-and-guidelines#/active-ownership>

The management company exercises its rights as a shareholder in accordance with its voting policy. This policy and the detailed voting behavior of the management company for the past calendar year are available on the following website:

https://cdn0.erstegroup.com/content/dam/at/eam/common/files/ESG/VotingPolicy/EAM_Voting_Policy_EN.pdf

Investments in investment funds (indirect investments) managed by external management companies

All invested investment funds managed by external management companies shall be officially classified as Art. 8 or Art. 9 in accordance with the Disclosure Regulation by their manufacturer or at least comply with good governance rules. This is not applicable to invested government bond funds.

The monitoring of environmental or social characteristics is ensured by the investment process described above as well as by the daily review of all investments in investment funds managed by external management companies by the risk management of the management company. It is assumed that the indirect investments held in investment funds managed by third party management companies are reviewed by the risk management processes of these management companies and therefore comply with all regulatory requirements.



How did this financial product perform compared to the reference benchmark?

No index was assigned as a reference benchmark for the attainment of environmental and/or social objectives.

- **How does the reference benchmark differ from a broad market index?**
Not applicable
- **How did this financial product perform with regard to the sustainability indicators to determine the alignment of the reference benchmark with the environmental or social characteristics promoted?**

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

Not applicable

- ***How did this financial product perform compared with the reference benchmark?***

Not applicable

- ***How did this financial product perform compared with the broad market index?***

Not applicable