

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

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

**Product name:**  
AMUNDI FUNDS ABSOLUTE RETURN CREDIT

**Legal entity identifier:**  
222100C0Q8DZ0ONZYS48

## Environmental and/or social characteristics

**Does this financial product have a sustainable investment objective?**

☒ ☐ ☐ **Yes** ☒ ☐ ☒ **No**

<input type="checkbox"/> It will make a minimum of <b>sustainable investments with an environmental objective:</b> ____%	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> It <b>promotes Environmental/Social (E/S) characteristics</b> and while it does not have as its objective a sustainable investment, it will have a minimum proportion of <u>5</u> % of sustainable investments
<input type="checkbox"/> in economic activities that qualify as environmentally sustainable under the EU Taxonomy	<input 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"/> with a social objective
<input type="checkbox"/> It will make a minimum of <b>sustainable investments with a social objective:</b> ____%	<input type="checkbox"/> It promotes E/S characteristics, but <b>will not make any sustainable investments</b>



### What environmental and/or social characteristics are promoted by this financial product?

The Sub-Fund promotes environmental and/or social characteristics by aiming to have a higher ESG score than that of the investment universe. In determining the ESG score of the Sub-Fund and the Investment Universe, ESG performance is assessed by comparing the average performance of a security against the security issuer's industry, in respect of each of the three ESG characteristics of environmental, social and governance. No ESG Reference Index has been designated.

**Sustainability indicators** measure how the environmental or social characteristics

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

promoted by the financial product are attained.

The sustainability indicator used is the ESG score of the Sub-Fund that is measured against the ESG score of the Investment Universe.

Amundi has developed its own in-house ESG rating process based on the “Best-in-class” approach. Ratings adapted to each sector of activity aim to assess the dynamics in which companies operate.

The Amundi ESG rating used to determine the ESG score is an ESG quantitative score translated into seven grades, ranging from A (the best scores universe) to G (the worst). In the Amundi ESG Rating scale, the securities belonging to the exclusion list correspond to a G. For corporate issuers, ESG performance is assessed globally and at relevant criteria level by comparison with the average performance of its industry, through the combination of the three ESG dimensions:

- Environmental dimension: this examines issuers’ ability to control their direct and indirect environmental impact, by limiting their energy consumption, reducing their greenhouse emissions, fighting resource depletion and protecting biodiversity.
- Social dimension: this measures how an issuer operates on two distinct concepts: the issuer’s strategy to develop its human capital and the respect of the human rights in general;
- Governance dimension: This assesses capability of the issuer to ensure the basis for an effective corporate governance framework and generate value over the long-term.

The methodology applied by Amundi ESG rating uses 38 criteria that are either generic (common to all companies regardless of their activity) or sector specific which are weighted according to sector and considered in terms of their impact on reputation, operational efficiency and regulations in respect of an issuer. Amundi ESG ratings are likely to be expressed globally on the three E, S and G dimensions or individually on any environmental or social factor.

For more information on ESG scores and criteria, please refer to the Amundi ESG Regulatory Statement available at [www.amundi.lu](http://www.amundi.lu)

● ***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?***

The objectives of the sustainable investments are to invest in investee companies that seek to meet two criteria:

- 1) follow best environmental and social practices; and
- 2) avoid making products or providing services that harm the environment and society.

In order for the investee company to be deemed to contribute to the above objective it must be a “best performer” within its sector of activity on at least one of its material environmental or social factors.

The definition of “best performer” relies on Amundi’s proprietary ESG methodology which aims to measure the ESG performance of an investee company. In order to be considered a “best performer”, an investee company must perform with the best top three rating (A, B or C, out of a rating scale going from A to G) within its sector on at least one material environmental or social factor. Material environmental and social factors are identified at a sector level. The identification of material factors is based on Amundi ESG analysis framework which combines extra-financial data and qualitative analysis of associated sector and sustainability themes. Factors identified as material result in a contribution of more than 10% to the overall ESG score. For energy sector for example, material factors are: emissions and energy, biodiversity and pollution, health and security, local communities and human rights. For a more complete overview of sectors and factors, please refer to the Amundi ESG Regulatory Statement available at [www.amundi.lu](http://www.amundi.lu)

To contribute to the above objectives, the investee company should not have significant exposure to activities (e.g. tobacco, weapons, gambling, coal, aviation, meat production, fertilizer and pesticide manufacturing, single-use plastic production) not compatible with such criteria. The sustainable nature of an investment is assessed at investee company level.

**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.

● ***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?***

To ensure sustainable investments do no significant harm ('DNSH'), Amundi utilises two filters:

- The first DNSH test filter relies on monitoring the mandatory Principal Adverse Impacts indicators in Annex 1, Table 1 of the RTS where robust data is available (e.g. GHG intensity of investee companies) via a combination of indicators (e.g. carbon intensity) and specific thresholds or rules (e.g. that the investee company's carbon intensity does not belong to the last decile of the sector).

Amundi already considers specific Principle Adverse Impacts within its exclusion policy as part of Amundi's Responsible Investment Policy. These exclusions, which apply on the top of the tests detailed above, cover the following topics: exclusions on controversial weapons, Violations of UN Global Compact principles, coal and tobacco.

- Beyond the specific Principal Adverse Impacts indicators sustainability factors covered in the first filter, Amundi has defined a second filter, which does not take the mandatory Principal Adverse Impact indicators above into account, in order to verify that the company does not have badly perform from an overall environmental or social standpoint compared to other companies within its sector which corresponds to an environmental or social score superior or equal to E using Amundi's ESG rating..

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

The indicators for adverse impacts have been taken into account as detailed in the first do not significant harm (DNSH) filter above:

The first DNSH filter relies on monitoring of mandatory Principal Adverse Impacts indicators in Annex 1, Table 1 of the RTS where robust data is available via the combination of following indicators and specific thresholds or rules:

- Have a CO2 intensity which does not belong to the last decile compared to other companies within its sector (only applies to high intensity sectors), and
- Have a Board of Directors' diversity which does not belong to the last decile compared to other companies within its sector, and
- Be cleared of any controversy in relation to work conditions and human rights.
- Be cleared of any controversy in relation to biodiversity and pollution

Amundi already considers specific Principle Adverse Impacts within its exclusion policy as part of Amundi's Responsible Investment Policy. These exclusions, which apply on the top of the tests detailed above, cover the following topics: exclusions on controversial weapons, Violations of UN Global Compact principles, coal and tobacco.

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

The OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises and the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights are integrated into our ESG scoring methodology. Our proprietary ESG rating tool assesses issuers using available data from our data providers. For example the model has a dedicated criteria called “Community Involvement & Human Rights” which is applied to all sectors in addition to other human rights linked criteria including socially responsible supply chains, working conditions, and labor relations. Furthermore, we conduct controversy monitoring on a, at minimum, quarterly basis which includes companies identified for human rights violations. When controversies arise, analysts will evaluate the situation and apply a score to the controversy (using our proprietary scoring methodology) and determine the best course of action. Controversy scores are updated quarterly to track the trend and remediation efforts

*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 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 Sub-Fund considers all the mandatory Principal Adverse Impacts as per Annex 1, Table 1 of the RTS applying to the Sub-Fund’s strategy and relies on a combination of exclusion policies (normative and sectorial), ESG rating integration into the investment process, engagement and voting approaches:

- Exclusion: Amundi has defined normative, activity-based and sector-based exclusion rules covering some of the key adverse sustainability indicators listed by the Disclosure Regulation.
- ESG factors integration: Amundi has adopted minimum ESG integration standards applied by default to its actively managed open-ended funds (exclusion of G rated issuers and better weighted average ESG score higher than the applicable benchmark). The 38 criteria used in Amundi ESG rating approach were also designed to consider key impacts on sustainability factors, as well as quality of the mitigation undertaken are also considered in that respect.
- Engagement: Engagement is a continuous and purpose driven process aimed at influencing the activities or behaviour of investee companies. The aim of engagement activities can fall into two categories : to engage an issuer to improve the way it integrates the environmental and social dimension, to engage an issuer to improve its impact on environmental, social, and human rights-related or other sustainability matters that are material to society and the global economy..

- Vote: Amundi's voting policy responds to an holistic analysis of all the long-term issues that may influence value creation, including material ESG issues. For more information please refer to Amundi's Voting Policy .
- Controversies monitoring: Amundi has developed a controversy tracking system that relies on three external data providers to systematically track controversies and their level of severity. This quantitative approach is then enriched with an in-depth assessment of each severe controversy, led by ESG analysts and the periodic review of its evolution. This approach applies to all of Amundi's funds.

For any indication on how mandatory Principal Adverse Impact indicators are used, please refer to the Amundi ESG Regulatory Statement available at [www.amundi.lu](http://www.amundi.lu)

☐ No



### **What investment strategy does this financial product follow?**

**Objective:** This financial product seeks to achieve a positive return in any type of market condition (absolute return strategy).

**Investments:** The Sub-Fund invests in debt instruments and up to 30% of net assets in mortgage-backed securities (MBS) and asset-backed securities (ABS). Through to-be-announced securities (TBA) are limited to 30% of net assets. There are no rating or currency constraints on these investments. The Sub-Fund seeks to eliminate the effects of most currency exchange differences for investments in non-euro denominated securities.

The Sub-Fund makes use of derivatives to reduce various risks, for efficient portfolio management and as a way to gain exposure (long or short) to various assets, markets or other investment opportunities (including derivatives which focus on credit, interest rates, foreign exchange and volatility).

**Benchmark:** The Sub-Fund is actively managed and uses the Euro Short Term Rate Index (ESTER) a posteriori as an indicator for assessing the Sub-Fund's performance and, as regards the performance fee benchmark used by relevant share classes, for calculating the performance fees. There are no constraints relative to any such Benchmark restraining portfolio construction.

**Management Process:** The Sub-Fund integrates Sustainability Factors in its investment process as outlined in more detail in section "Sustainable Investing" of the Prospectus. The investment team analyses credit market fundamentals, valuation levels and trends to assess the global credit exposure, geographical and credit segments (High Grade, High Yield, Emerging, Securitized) allocation. Technical and fundamental analysis are then used to select sectors and securities and to construct a highly diversified portfolio in order to generate performance at all stages of the credit cycle. The Sub-Fund seeks to achieve an ESG score of its portfolio greater than that of its investment universe.

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

● ***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?***

All securities held in the Sub-Fund are subject to the ESG Criteria. This is achieved through the use of Amundi’s proprietary methodology and/or third party ESG information.

The Sub-Fund first applies Amundi's exclusion policy including the following rules:

- legal exclusions on controversial weapons (anti-personnel mines, cluster bombs, chemical weapons, biological weapons and depleted uranium weapons, etc.);
- companies that seriously and repeatedly violate one or more of the 10 principles of the Global Compact, without credible corrective measures;
- the sectoral exclusions of the Amundi group on Coal and Tobacco (details of this policy are available in Amundi's Responsible Investment Policy available on the website [www.amundi.lu](http://www.amundi.lu)).

The Sub-Fund as a binding elements aims to have a higher ESG score than the ESG score of the Investment Universe.

The Sub-Fund’s ESG Criteria apply to at least:

- 90% of equities issued by large capitalisation companies in developed countries; debt securities, money market instruments with an investment grade credit rating; and sovereign debt issued by developed countries;
- 75% of equities issued by large capitalisation companies in emerging market countries; equities issued by small and mid-capitalisation companies in any country; debt securities and money market instruments with a high yield credit rating; and sovereign debt issued by emerging market countries.

However investors should note that it may not be practicable to perform ESG analysis on cash, near cash, some derivatives and some collective investment schemes, to the same standards as for the other investments The ESG calculation methodology will not include those securities that do not have an ESG rating, nor cash, near cash, some derivatives and some collective investment schemes.

Furthermore and in consideration of the minimum commitment of 5% of Sustainable Investments with an environmental objective, the Sub-Fund invests in investee companies considered as “best performer” when benefiting over the best top three rating (A, B or C, out of a rating scale going from A to G) within their sector on at least one material environmental or social factor.

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

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

There is no minimum committed rate for the Sub-Fund.

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

We rely on Amundi ESG scoring methodology. Amundi's ESG scoring is based on a proprietary ESG analysis framework, which accounts for 38 general and sector-specific criteria, including governance criteria. In the Governance dimension, we assess an issuer's ability to ensure an effective corporate governance framework that guarantees it will meet its long-term objectives (e.g. guaranteeing the issuer's value over the long term). The governance sub-criteria considered are: board structure, audit and control, remuneration, shareholders' rights, ethics, tax practices and ESG strategy. Amundi ESG Rating scale contains seven grades, ranging from A to G, where A is the best and G the worst rating. G-rated companies are excluded from our investment universe.



## What is the asset allocation planned for this financial product?

At least 75% of the investments of the sub-fund will be used to meet the environmental or social characteristics promoted by the sub-fund in accordance with the binding elements of the investment strategy of the sub-fund. Furthermore, the sub-fund commits to have a minimum of 5% of sustainable investments as per the below chart. Investments aligned with other E/S characteristics (#1B) will represent the difference between the actual proportion of investments aligned with environmental or social characteristics (#1) and the actual proportion of sustainable investments (#1A). The planned proportion of other environmental investment represents a minimum of 5% (i) and may change as the actual proportions of Taxonomy-aligned and/or Social investments increase.



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

Derivatives are not used to attain the environmental and social characteristics promoted by the sub-fund.

For more information on the asset allocation of the financial product, please refer to the prospectus.



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

The sub-fund currently has no minimum commitment to sustainable investments with an environmental objective aligned with the EU Taxonomy. The sub-fund does not commit to make taxonomy-compliant investments in fossil gas and/or nuclear energy as illustrated below. Nevertheless, as part of the investment strategy, it may invest in companies that are also active in these industries. Such investments may or may not be taxonomy aligned.

### Does the financial product invest in fossil gas and/or nuclear energy related activities that comply with the EU Taxonomy<sup>1</sup>?

☐ Yes:

☐ In fossil gas

☐ In nuclear energy

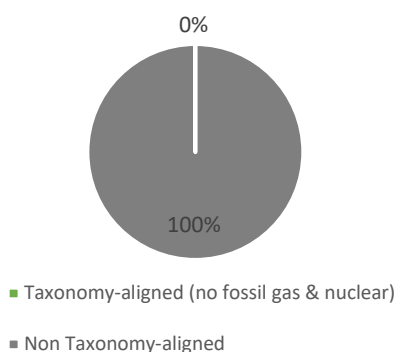
☒ No

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

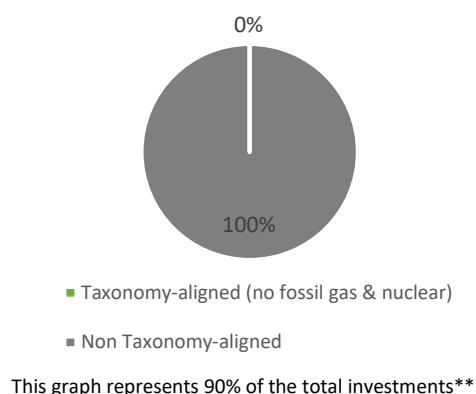
**Transitional activities** are activities for which low-carbon alternatives are not yet available and among others have greenhouse gas emission levels corresponding to the best performance.

*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.*

1. Taxonomy-alignment of investments including sovereign bonds\*



2. Taxonomy-alignment of investments excluding sovereign bonds\*



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

\*\* This percentage is purely indicative and may vary.

<sup>1</sup> 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. 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.



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

The Sub-Fund has no minimum proportion of investment in transitional or enabling activities

 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 Sub-Fund will have a minimum commitment of 5% of Sustainable Investments with an environmental objective with no commitment on their alignment with the EU Taxonomy.



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

The Sub-Fund has no minimum defined minimum share.



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

Included in “#2 Other” are cash and instruments for the purpose of liquidity and portfolio risk management. It may also include ESG unrated securities for which data needed for the measurement of attainment of environmental or social characteristics is not available.



**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?**

This Sub-Fund does not have a specific index designated as a reference benchmark to determine whether this financial product is aligned with the environmental or social characteristics that it promotes.

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

N/A

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

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

N/A

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

N/A

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

N/A



**Where can I find more product specific information online?**

**More product-specific information can be found on the website: [www.amundi.lu](http://www.amundi.lu)**