

# INDEX GUIDELINE

SOLACTIVE L&G ESG DEVELOPED MARKETS EX UK GBP  
HEDGED

Version 1.0

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## INTRODUCTION

This document (the "**GUIDELINE**") is to be used as a guideline with regard to the composition, calculation and maintenance of the Solactive L&G ESG Developed Markets ex UK GBP Hedged (the "**INDEX**"). Any amendments to the rules made to the GUIDELINE are approved by the OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE specified in Section 5.5. The INDEX is owned, calculated, administered and published by Solactive AG ("**SOLACTIVE**") assuming the role as administrator (the "**INDEX ADMINISTRATOR**") under the Regulation (EU) 2016/1011 (the "**BENCHMARK REGULATION**" or "**BMR**"). The name "Solactive" is trademarked.

*The text uses defined terms which are formatted with "SMALL CAPS". Such Terms shall have the meaning assigned to them as specified in Section 6 (Definitions).*

**The GUIDELINE and the policies and methodology documents referenced herein contain the underlying principles and rules regarding the structure and operation of the INDEX. SOLACTIVE does not offer any explicit or tacit guarantee or assurance, neither pertaining to the results from the use of the INDEX nor the level of the INDEX at any certain point in time nor in any other respect. SOLACTIVE strives to the best of its ability to ensure the correctness of the calculation. There is no obligation for SOLACTIVE – irrespective of possible obligations to issuers – to advise third parties, including investors and/or financial intermediaries, of any errors in the INDEX. The publication of the INDEX by SOLACTIVE does not constitute a recommendation for capital investment and does not contain any assurance or opinion of SOLACTIVE regarding a possible investment in a financial instrument based on this INDEX.**

# 1. INDEX SPECIFICATIONS

## 1.1. SCOPE OF THE INDEX

Category	Description
Asset Class	Currency Hedge
Underlying Index	Solactive L&G ESG Developed Markets ex UK Index
Strategy	The index tracks the performance of the Underlying Index and hedges the currency exposure to a local currency on a Monthly basis via FX forward contracts
Local Currency	GBP
Currency Hedge type	Standard
Rebalancing Frequency	Monthly from January to November
Forward contract maturity	1M* from January to October and 2M in November

\* [1M] [2M] means that the reference contract maturity is One Month or Two Month

### Identifiers and Publication

The INDEX is published under the following identifiers:

Name	ISIN	Currency	Type	RIC	BBG Ticker
Solactive L&G ESG Developed Markets ex UK GBP Hedged	DE000SL0A1H6	GBP	CH	.SOESGDHX	SOESGDHX Index

\*CH means that the Index is calculated as Currency Hedge Index

The INDEX is published on the website of the INDEX ADMINISTRATOR ([www.solactive.com](http://www.solactive.com)) and is, in addition, available via the price marketing services of Boerse Stuttgart GmbH and may be distributed to all of its affiliated vendors. Each vendor decides on an individual basis as to whether it will distribute or display the INDEX via its information systems.

Any publication in relation to the INDEX (e.g. notices, amendments to the GUIDELINE) will be available at the website of the INDEX ADMINISTRATOR: <https://www.solactive.com/news/announcements/>.

## 1.2. INITIAL LEVEL OF THE INDEX

The initial level of the INDEX on the 30/11/2018, the START DATE, is 100. Historical values from the 25/08/2020, the LIVE DATE, will be recorded in accordance with Article 8 of the BMR. Levels of the INDEX published for a period prior to the LIVE DATE have been back-tested

## 1.3. PRICES AND CALCULATION FREQUENCY

The level of the INDEX is calculated on each CALCULATION DAY from 9:00 a.m. to 10:57 p.m. CET based on the TRADING PRICES on the EXCHANGES on which the UNDERLYING INDEX COMPONENTS are listed. TRADING PRICES of the UNDERLYING INDEX COMPONENTS not listed in the INDEX CURRENCY are converted using the current Intercontinental Exchange (ICE) spot foreign exchange rate. Should there be no current TRADING PRICE for an INDEX COMPONENT, the later of: (i) the most recent CLOSING PRICE; or (ii) the last available TRADING PRICE for the preceding TRADING DAY is used in the calculation.

In addition to the intraday calculation a closing level of the INDEX for each CALCULATION DAY is also calculated. This closing level is based on the CLOSING PRICES for the UNDERLYING INDEX and 4:00 p.m. London time WM Spot and Forward Fixings quoted by Reuters. If there is no 4pm London time WM Fixing for the relevant CALCULATION DAY, the last available 4pm London time WM Fixing will be used for the closing level calculation.

## 1.4. LICENSING

Licenses to use the INDEX as the underlying value for financial instruments, investment funds and financial contracts may be issued to stock exchanges, banks, financial services providers and investment houses by SOLACTIVE.

## 2. INDEX SELECTION

In a first step, the INDEX ADMINISTRATOR determines the SELECTION DAY in accordance with Section 2.1. The INDEX CURRENCY UNIVERSE comprises all those currencies, on which the UNDERLYING INDEX COMPONENTS are listed in.

Each new INDEX CURRENCY COMPONENT will be assigned a weight as described in Section 2.2.

### 2.1. SELECTION OF THE INDEX CURRENCY COMPONENTS

Based on the INDEX UNIVERSE, the initial composition of the INDEX as well as any selection for an ordinary rebalance is determined on the SELECTION DAY in accordance with the following rules (the “**INDEX CURRENCY COMPONENT REQUIREMENTS**”):

- All of the currencies from the INDEX CURRENCY UNIVERSE.

The selection of the INDEX COMPONENTS is fully rule-based and the INDEX ADMINISTRATOR cannot make any discretionary decision.

### 2.2. WEIGHTING OF THE INDEX CURRENCY COMPONENTS

On each SELECTION DAY, each INDEX CURRENCY COMPONENT WEIGHT is assigned according to the aggregated weights of all the UNDERLYING INDEX COMPONENTS quoted in the respective currency.

## 3. REBALANCE

### 3.1. ORDINARY REBALANCE

In order to reflect the new selection of the INDEX CURRENCY COMPONENTS determined on the SELECTION DAY (in accordance with Section 2.1 and 2.2) the INDEX is adjusted on the REBALANCE DAY after CLOSE OF BUSINESS.

### 3.2. EXTRAORDINARY REBALANCE

The INDEX is not rebalanced extraordinarily.

## 4. CALCULATION OF THE INDEX

### 4.1. INDEX FORMULA

The INDEX is calculated as a Currency Hedge Standard Index.

The Index Value on a Trading Day at the relevant time is calculated in accordance with the following formula:

$$HI_t = HI_{RT} \cdot \left( 1 + \left( \frac{UI_t}{UI_{RT}} - 1 \right) + HIM_t \right)$$

with:

$HI_t$  Hedged Index on Trading Day t

$HI_{RT}$  Hedged Index on the Adjustment Day RT immediately preceding Trading Day t

$UI_t$  Underlying Index in Local currency on Trading Day t

$UI_{RT}$  Underlying Index in Local on the Adjustment Day RT immediately preceding Trading Day t

$HIM_t$  Hedge Impact on Trading Day t, calculated according to the following formula:

$$HIM_t = AF_{RT} \cdot \sum_{i=1}^n W_{i,ST} \cdot S_{i,ST}^m \cdot \left( \frac{1}{F_{i,RT}^m} - \frac{1}{IF_{i,t}^m} \right)$$

with:

$AF_{RT}$  Adjustment Factor on Trading Day t, calculated according to the following formula:

$$AF_{RT} = \frac{HI_{RT-1}}{HI_{RT}}$$

with:

**n** number of different currencies in the unhedged Index (without considering the currency in which the index is calculated)

$W_{i,ST}$  weight of currency i on selection date ST immediately preceding Trading Day t

$S_{i,ST}^m$  Mid Spot of currency i on day selection day ST immediately preceding Trading Day t

$F_{i,RT}^m$	Mid Forward of currency i on rebalancing date RT
$IF_{i,t}^m$	interpolated Forward on day t which is calculated as follows:

$$IF_{i,t}^m = S_t^m + (F_{i,t}^m - S_{i,t}^m) \cdot \frac{D-d}{D}$$

with:

$S_{i,t}^m$	currency i mid spot rate on Trading Day t
$F_{i,t}^m$	currency i 1 month forward mid rate on Trading Day t
$D$	number of calendar days between the last and the next Adjustment Day
$d$	number of calendar days between the last Adjustment Day and Trading Day t

## 4.2. ACCURACY

The level of the INDEX will be rounded to two decimal places.

## 4.3. RECALCULATION

SOLACTIVE makes the greatest possible efforts to accurately calculate and maintain its indices. However, errors in the determination process may occur from time to time for variety reasons (internal or external) and therefore, cannot be completely ruled out. SOLACTIVE endeavors to correct all errors that have been identified within a reasonable period of time. The understanding of "a reasonable period of time" as well as the general measures to be taken are generally depending on the underlying and is specified in the Solactive Correction Policy, which is incorporated by reference and available on the SOLACTIVE website: <https://www.solactive.com/documents/correction-policy/>.

## 4.4. MARKET DISRUPTION

In periods of market stress SOLACTIVE calculates its indices following predefined and exhaustive arrangements as described in the Solactive Disruption Policy, which is incorporated by reference and available on the SOLACTIVE website: <https://www.solactive.com/documents/disruption-policy/>. Such market stress can arise due to a variety of reasons, but generally results in inaccurate or delayed prices for one or more INDEX COMPONENTS. The determination of the INDEX may be limited or impaired at times of illiquid or fragmented markets and market stress.

## 5. MISCELLANEOUS

### 5.1. DISCRETION

Any discretion which may need to be exercised in relation to the determination of the INDEX (for example the determination of the INDEX UNIVERSE (if applicable), the selection of the INDEX COMPONENTS (if applicable) or any other relevant decisions in relation to the INDEX) shall be made in accordance with strict rules regarding the exercise of discretion or expert judgement.

### 5.2. METHODOLOGY REVIEW

The methodology of the INDEX is subject to regular review, at least annually. In case a need of a change of the methodology has been identified within such review (e.g. if the underlying market or economic reality has changed since the launch of the INDEX, i.e. if the present methodology is based on obsolete assumptions and factors and no longer reflects the reality as accurately, reliably and appropriately as before), such change will be made in accordance with the Solactive Methodology Policy, which is incorporated by reference and available on the SOLACTIVE website: <https://www.solactive.com/documents/methodology-policy/>.

Such change in the methodology will be announced on the SOLACTIVE website under the Section "[Announcement](https://www.solactive.com/news/announcements/)", which is available at <https://www.solactive.com/news/announcements/>. The date of the last amendment of this INDEX is contained in this GUIDELINE.

### 5.3. CHANGES IN CALCULATION METHOD

The application by the INDEX ADMINISTRATOR of the method described in this document is final and binding. The INDEX ADMINISTRATOR shall apply the method described above for the composition and calculation of the INDEX. However, it cannot be excluded that the market environment, supervisory, legal and financial or tax reasons may require changes to be made to this method. The INDEX ADMINISTRATOR may also make changes to the terms and conditions of the INDEX and the method applied to calculate the INDEX that it deems to be necessary and desirable in order to prevent obvious or demonstrable error or to remedy, correct or supplement incorrect terms and conditions. The INDEX ADMINISTRATOR is not obliged to provide information on any such modifications or changes. Despite the modifications and changes, the INDEX ADMINISTRATOR will take the appropriate steps to ensure a calculation method is applied that is consistent with the method described above.

## 5.4. TERMINATION

SOLACTIVE makes the greatest possible efforts to ensure the resilience and continued integrity of its indices over time. Where necessary, SOLACTIVE follows a clearly defined and transparent procedure to adapt Index methodologies to changing underlying markets (see Section 5.2 "Methodology Review") in order to maintain continued reliability and comparability of the indices. Nevertheless, if no other options are available the orderly cessation of the INDEX may be indicated. This is usually the case when the underlying market or economic reality, which an index is set to measure or to reflect, changes substantially and in a way not foreseeable at the time of inception of the index, the index rules, and particularly the selection criteria, can no longer be applied coherently or the index is no longer used as the underlying value for financial instruments, investment funds and financial contracts.

SOLACTIVE has established and maintains clear guidelines on how to identify situations in which the cessation of an index is unavoidable, how stakeholders are to be informed and consulted and the procedures to be followed for a termination or the transition to an alternative index. Details are specified in the Solactive Termination Policy, which is incorporated by reference and available on the SOLACTIVE website: <https://www.solactive.com/documents/termination-policy/>.

## 5.5. OVERSIGHT

An oversight committee composed of staff from SOLACTIVE and its subsidiaries (the "**OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE**") is responsible for decisions regarding any amendments to the rules of the INDEX. Any such amendment, which may result in an amendment of the GUIDELINE, must be submitted to the OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE for prior approval and will be made in compliance with the Methodology Policy, which is available on the SOLACTIVE website: <https://www.solactive.com/documents/methodology-policy/>.

## 6. DEFINITIONS

“**CURRENCY HEDGE INDEX**” represent the return resulting from the sum of an underlying index performance and the performance of the hedge of this index using currency forward contracts.

“**BENCHMARK REGULATION**” shall have the meaning as defined in Section “Introduction”.

“**BMR**” shall have the meaning as defined in Section “Introduction”.

“**BUSINESS DAY**” a day on which the UNDERLYING INDEX does not quote, it is not considered BUSINESS DAY.

“**CALCULATION DAY**” is any day which is a business day.

“**CLOSE OF BUSINESS**” is the calculation time of the closing level of the INDEX as outlined in Section 1.4.

The “**CLOSING PRICE**” in respect of an INDEX COMPONENT and a TRADING DAY is a security's final regular-hours TRADING PRICE published by the EXCHANGE and determined in accordance with the EXCHANGE regulations. If the EXCHANGE has no or has not published a CLOSING PRICE in accordance with the EXCHANGE rules for an INDEX COMPONENT, the last TRADING PRICE will be used.

“**EXCHANGE**” is with respect to the INDEX and every INDEX COMPONENT, the respective exchange where the INDEX COMPONENT has its listing as determined in accordance with the rules in Section 2.

“**GUIDELINE**” shall have the meaning as defined in Section “Introduction”.

“**INDEX**” shall have the meaning as defined in Section “Introduction”.

“**INDEX ADMINISTRATOR**” shall have the meaning as defined in Section “Introduction”.

“**Underlying INDEX COMPONENT**” is each security reflected in the UNDERLYING INDEX.

“**Index Currency Components**” is each currency on which UNDERLYING INDEX Component trades in the market.

“**INDEX CURRENCY COMPONENT WEIGHT**” is value resultant from the sum of all the UNDERLYING INDEX COMPONENT's weights quoted in the respective currency.

“**INDEX CURRENCY**” is the currency specified in the column “Currency” in the table in Section 1.2.

“**INDEX CURRENCY UNIVERSE REQUIREMENTS**” shall have the meaning as defined in Section 2.1.

“**INDEX CURRENCY UNIVERSE**” is the sum of all currencies which fulfill the INDEX CURRENCY UNIVERSE REQUIREMENTS.

“**LIVE DATE**” shall have the meaning as defined in Section 1.3.

“**OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE**” shall have the meaning as defined in Section 5.5.

“**REBALANCE DAY**” is the Last Business Day of each month from January to November.

“**SELECTION DAY**” is the business day prior to the Rebalance Day.-

“**SOLACTIVE**” shall have the meaning as defined in Section “Introduction”.

**“START DATE”** shall have the meaning as defined in Section 1.3.

**“TRADING DAY”** is with respect to an INDEX COMPONENT included in the INDEX at the REBALANCE DAY and every INDEX COMPONENT included in the INDEX at the CALCULATION DAY immediately following the REBALANCE DAY (for clarification: this provision is intended to capture the TRADING DAYS for the securities to be included in the INDEX as new INDEX COMPONENTS with close of trading on the relevant EXCHANGE on the REBALANCE DAY) a day on which the relevant EXCHANGE is open for trading (or a day that would have been such a day if a market disruption had not occurred), excluding days on which trading may be ceased prior to the scheduled EXCHANGE closing time and days on which the EXCHANGE is open for a scheduled shortened period. The INDEX ADMINISTRATOR is ultimately responsible as to whether a certain day is a TRADING DAY.

The **“TRADING PRICE”** in respect of an INDEX COMPONENT and a TRADING DAY is the most recent published price at which the INDEX COMPONENT was traded on the respective EXCHANGE.

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