

# EXPLANATION OF HOW KEY ELEMENTS OF THE BENCHMARK METHODOLOGY REFLECT ENVIRONMENTAL, SOCIAL, AND GOVERNANCE (ESG) FACTORS

Solactive Responsible US Equity Index GTR



This document provides an explanation of how the key elements of the benchmark methodology reflect ESG factors. It is compiled in accordance with the requirements of point (d) of Article 13 (1) of Regulation (EU) 2016/1011 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 8 June 2016 (the "Benchmarks Regulation") and of the Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/1817.

## General Information

<b>Name of the benchmark administrator</b>	Solactive AG
<b>Type of benchmark or family of benchmarks</b>	Equity
<b>Name of the benchmark or family of benchmarks</b>	Solactive Responsible US Equity Index GTR
<b>Does the benchmark methodology for the benchmark or family of benchmarks take into account ESG factors?</b>	Yes

## ESG Factors Applied in the Benchmark Methodology

<b>List of environmental factors considered</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>&gt; Exclusion of companies with verified ongoing failure to respect established international norms. The core normative framework consists of the Principles of the UN Global Compact and the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises.</li><li>&gt; Exclusion of companies generating revenues from coal mining.</li><li>&gt; Exclusion of companies generating revenues (in proportion to their total revenues) &gt;50% from services in the sector of fossil fuels or &gt;5% from production or &gt;5% from distribution or &gt;5% from exploration of fossil fuels.</li><li>&gt; Exclusion of companies generating revenues (in proportion to their total revenues) &gt;5% from coal power generation.</li><li>&gt; Exclusion of companies generating revenues from the production or exploration of oil sands.</li><li>&gt; Exclusion of companies generating revenues from hydraulic fracturing.</li><li>&gt; Exclusion of companies generating revenues (in proportion to their total revenues) &gt;5% in the sector of nuclear power.</li><li>&gt; Exclusion of companies generating revenues from the production of nuclear power.</li><li>&gt; Exclusion of companies generating revenues from agricultural genetically modified organisms (GMOs).</li><li>&gt; Exclusion of the worst 25% securities by Carbon Intensity within each sector.</li></ul>
<b>List of social factors considered</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>&gt; Exclusion of companies with verified ongoing failure to respect established international norms. The core normative framework consists of the Principles of the UN Global Compact, the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises and the UN Guiding Principles for Business and Human Rights.</li><li>&gt; Exclusion of companies with verified ongoing involvement in the area of controversial weapons (including chemical, biological and nuclear weapons)</li></ul>



	<p>(outside the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons), depleted uranium munitions, cluster munitions, and anti-personnel mines).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Exclusion of companies generating revenues (in proportion to their total revenues) &gt;50% from services or &gt;5% from production or &gt;5% from distribution in the sector of military equipment.</li> <li>&gt; Exclusion of companies generating revenues (in proportion to their total revenues) &gt;5% in the sector of pornography.</li> <li>&gt; Exclusion of companies generating revenues from the production of pornography.</li> <li>&gt; Exclusion of companies generating revenues (in proportion to their total revenues) &gt;50% from services or &gt;5% from distribution in the sector of tobacco.</li> <li>&gt; Exclusion of companies generating revenues from the production of tobacco.</li> <li>&gt; Exclusion of companies generating revenues (in proportion to their total revenues) &gt;50% from services or &gt;5% from production or &gt;5% from distribution in the sector of gambling.</li> <li>&gt; Exclusion of companies generating revenues (in proportion to their total revenues) &gt;50% from services or &gt;5% from production or &gt;5% from distribution in the sector of alcohol.</li> <li>&gt; Exclusion of companies generating revenues (in proportion to their total revenues) &gt;50% from services or &gt;5% from production or &gt;5% from distribution in the sector of cannabis.</li> <li>&gt; Exclusion of companies that do not have at least one woman on the management board or in one of the following positions: CEO, CFO, COO, CMO, CIO, CHRO, CTO.</li> </ul>
<b>List of governance factors considered</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Exclusion of companies with verified ongoing failure to respect established international norms. The core normative framework consists of the Principles of the UN Global Compact, the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises and the UN Guiding Principles for Business and Human Rights.</li> </ul>

## Data and Standards used

<b>Data Input</b>	The data used to construct the index is sourced externally from Institutional Shareholder Services Inc.
<b>Verification and quality of data</b>	The provider of ESG-related data input is selected by the Administrator based on an assessment of its existing processes in order to ensure the reliability and representativeness of the ESG-related data. The data provider has established processes in accordance with accepted and established market standards that ensure the permanent quality and reliability of the ESG-data provided.
<b>Reference standards</b>	International standards referenced by the index methodology are listed in the respective section above.
<b>Information updated on</b>	23/02/2024



**Reason for update:**

Initial document creation.

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