

# Product information on the website for financial products that promote environmental or social characteristics

## a) Summary

DPS: the 'beleggingsmandaat Pensioenfonds PDN (Pensioenfonds PDN investment mandate) is classified as an article 8 product according to the SFDR, which means that it promotes environmental and social sustainability characteristics.

DPS actively identifies and mitigates sustainability risks. We do this in various ways. First of all, we exclude certain investments. DPS also utilizes impact bonds within the investment portfolio to further integrate sustainability in the investment process.

DPS uses various data sources and methodologies to promote environmental and social sustainability characteristics and implement the above-mentioned activities. These data sources and methodologies enable us to implement our activities, and monitor and report on them. Data sources used by DPS are Sustainalytics, Bloomberg, ISS, and Columbia Threadneedle Investments (CTI).

Information from data sources is used to assess companies and countries when selecting investments (integration), to start a dialogue with companies (engagement), to vote at shareholder meetings (voting), or to exclude companies or countries (exclusion). This information is also used to monitor the existing portfolio. The data sources used are based on quantitative and qualitative assessment methodologies or a combination of the two.

Inevitably, the data sources used also have limitations. For example, a patented scoring methodology may have limited comparability with other scoring methodologies. In addition, some underlying data are regularly supplied via company self-assessment and have not always been validated by an independent party.

Integration and exclusion methods form an integral part of the investment and selection process.

#### b) No sustainable investment objective

This financial product promotes environmental or social characteristics but does not have a sustainable investment objective as defined in the SFDR.

## c) The financial product's environmental or social characteristics

Sustainability is a major aspect of DPS's investment philosophy and an integral component of its investment principles. DPS aims to use its investments for long-term social and other value creation. To achieve this, DPS promotes the following environmental and social characteristics:

1. Using ESG factors:

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ESG factors are used in managing and evaluating investments.

## 2. Mitigating climate change and carbon reduction:

By measuring the carbon intensity of the shares and corporate bonds in the investment portfolio, by integrating a carbon reduction target of 55% by 2030 compared with the 2016 benchmark and carbon data for the shares, investment grade credits, and high yield US investment categories, and a reduction of the net zero target (100% reduction) by 2050.

3. Exclusion based on the Ten Principles of the United Nations Global Compact:

Companies that conduct themselves in a manner not compatible with the UN Global Compact's Ten Principles are excluded from investment.

4. Exclusion of socially controversial activities:

Companies involved in the production of tobacco, companies that derive 5% or more of their turnover from coal or tar sands mining, companies involved in the production of controversial weapons such as cluster munition, land mines, chemical and biological weapons, depleted uranium munition, white phosphorus munition, and nuclear weapons. DPS also does not invest in suppliers of products that are vital to the production of the aforementioned controversial weapons (key suppliers). Countries that do not adhere to international treaties or that are under UN, EU, or Dutch government sanctions are also excluded from investment. In most cases, the sanctions relate to human rights, arms proliferation, and democratic rights.

## d) Investment strategy

DPS's sustainability policy aims for long-term social and other value creation. In adopting long-term value creation as a leading principle, sustainability and sustainability risks are integrated in all investment categories using several tools:

- ESG integration
- Impact bonds
- Exclusion
- Transparency

These tools, as well as a carbon reduction target for the shares, investment grade credits, and high yield US investment categories based on WACI scope 1 and scope 2 data, demonstrate DPS's commitment to using its investment portfolio to minimize negative climate impact.

#### **ESG** Integration

Where possible, DPS manages and evaluates investments according to ESG factors. The way in which social issues in the form of ESG aspects are embedded in the investment decisions differs for each investment category and mandate.

In its asset management mandates, DPS aims to achieve a better sustainability profile than the appropriate benchmark on the basis of the ESG Controversies. DPS developed a scoring methodology for this purpose. ESG Controversies provide a good indication of a company's sustainability risk profile, as they refer to incidents at companies or their suppliers that have a negative impact on stakeholders, the environment, or business operations. Data on this are provided by Morningstar Sustainalytics. DPS does not invest in companies that are classified in the worst ESG controversies score category ('severe' impact/category 5), based on information from Morningstar Sustainalytics.

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DPS invests in companies that follow good governance practices. This includes good management structures, relations with their employees, remuneration of staff, and compliance with tax legislation. DPS assesses companies for good governance based on data sources such as the ESG risk score and controversies score taken from Morningstar Sustainalytics.

DPS makes an effort to mitigate climate change by:

Aiming to achieve a carbon reduction of 55% by 2030 compared with the 2016 benchmark and carbon data for the shares, investment grade credits, and high yield US investment categories, and a reduction of net zero (100% reduction) by 2050. This reduction target is based on WACI scope 1 and scope 2 data. With this objective, DPS supports the Paris Climate Agreement ambition to limit global warming to below 2°C compared with pre-industrial levels and is helping to achieve an even lower temperature rise of 1.5°C.

#### Impact bonds

DPS invests in impact bonds in the fixed-income mandates (Nominal Sovereign, Inflation Linked Bonds, High Yield Europe, and Investment Grade Credits Europe). Impact bonds are bonds issued by companies and semi-governmental or governmental bodies to finance social and sustainability projects. These bonds can focus on projects that reduce the negative consequences of climate change, for example. Investment in impact bonds is a way to make a positive contribution to climate-related projects and offers an option to make a positive contribution to the climate theme. DPS allocates at least 2.5% above the mandate benchmarks (aggregate) to impact bonds.

#### **Exclusion**

DPS also monitors its clients' exclusion policy. On behalf of Pensioenfonds PDN, DPS excludes companies and countries based on the risk of negative impact and a conflict with Pensioenfonds PDN's norms and values. DPS's exclusion policy applies to DPS's mandates within the investment categories of shares, listed real estate, corporate bonds, and sovereign bonds.

DPS excludes the following companies on behalf of Pensioenfonds PDN:

- Tobacco producers;
- Companies that derive at least 5% of their turnover from coal or tar sands mining;
- Companies involved in the production of controversial weapons such as cluster munition, land mines, chemical and biological weapons, depleted uranium munition, white phosphorus munition, and nuclear weapons;
- Suppliers of products that are vital to the production of the aforementioned controversial weapons (key suppliers).

Additionally, companies that conduct themselves in a manner not compatible with the UN Global Compact's Ten Principles are excluded from investment.

The Ten Principles of the UN Global Compact are derived from the following four international treaties and declarations:

- 1. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights;
- 2. The ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work;
- 3. The Rio Declaration on Environment and Development;
- 4. The United Nations Convention against Corruption.

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The Ten Principles are subdivided into four main themes. These main themes are human rights, labor law, environment, and anti-corruption measures.

Countries that do not adhere to international treaties or that are under UN, EU, or Dutch government sanctions are also excluded from investment. In most cases, the sanctions relate to human rights, arms proliferation, and democratic rights.

DPS uses the screening and research capacities of Morningstar Sustainalytics. Morningstar Sustainalytics engages in worldwide research into social issues and analyzes investment portfolios for their sustainability. Prior to any investment, this is checked against Pensioenfonds PDN's exclusion list. The investment portfolio is also reviewed each quarter to determine whether all the preceding quarter's investments complied with Pensioenfonds PDN's exclusion criteria.

## **Transparency**

In line with the PRI reporting cycle, DPS produces reports to ensure transparency about the sustainability policy and its implementation. DPS also submits a monthly report to Pensioenfonds PDN about sustainability each quarter.

# e) Share of investments

DPS promotes environmental and social characteristics without pursuing a sustainable investment objective as defined in the SFDR. DPS has no minimum allocation to sustainable investments as defined by the SFDR or investments in environmentally sustainable activities as defined by the Taxonomy Regulation.

DPS's investments are aligned with environmental and/or social characteristics. These investments cover shares, listed real estate, corporate bonds, and sovereign bonds.

## f) Monitoring environmental or social characteristics

DPS uses the following sustainability indicators to monitor how environmental and social characteristics are met:

Integrating ESG factors in investment management:

1. The number of companies that, based on Morningstar Sustainalytics information, fall into the worst ESG controversies score category ('severe' impact/category 5) or if a company receives an ESG controversies score 'high' impact/category 4.

Realizing positive impact on its environment

2. A target percentage of investments in impact bonds for the sovereign and corporate bond investment categories. The KPI is an aggregate target allocation to impact bonds of 2.5% above the benchmark for the sovereign and corporate bond investment categories.

Mitigating climate change and carbon reduction:

3. Reduction objective relating to carbon intensity for the share, investment grade credits, and high yield US investment categories: 55% as of 2030 - 100% (net zero) as of 2050 compared with the 2016 benchmark and based on scope 1 and scope 2 data.

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#### Exclusion of companies

4. Assets invested in excluded individual companies at year-end, excluding fund investments.

# DPS excludes companies that:

- a) Conduct themselves in a way that is incompatible with the UN Global Compact's Ten Principles;
- b) Are active in tobacco production;
- c) Derive at least 5% of their turnover from coal or tar sands mining;
- Are involved in the production of controversial weapons such as cluster munition, land mines, chemical and biological weapons, depleted uranium munition, white phosphorus munition, and nuclear weapons;
- e) Are suppliers of products that are vital to the production of the aforementioned controversial weapons (key suppliers);
- f) Are under UN, EU, or Dutch government sanctions.

#### **Exclusion of countries**

5. Assets invested in excluded countries at year-end, excluding fund investments.

DPS excludes countries that:

Do not adhere to international treaties or that are under UN, EU, or Dutch government sanctions. In most cases, the sanctions relate to human rights, arms proliferation, and democratic rights.

# g) Methodologies

The previous sections introduced the promoted characteristics and associated sustainability indicators. This section further discusses the methodologies used to monitor progress of the promoted characteristics.

Using ESG factors in investment management:

 Based on information from Morningstar Sustainalytics, companies classified in the worst ESG controversies score category ('severe' impact/category 5) are excluded. If a company receives an ESG controversies score 'high' impact/category 4, a formal procedure is instigated.

Mitigating climate change and carbon reduction:

2. The Weighted Average Carbon Intensity (WACI) scope 1 and 2 emissions are used as a carbon intensity measure as an amount of emissions (in tonnes) per million of turnover within the shares, listed real estate, investment grade credits, and high yield US investment categories. DPS calculates the carbon intensity in accordance with TCFD recommendations.

# Exclusion of companies:

 For the purpose of company exclusions, DPS monitors the ESG company controversies score, the turnover ratio from coal and tar sands mining based on a 5% limit of company annual sales, companies that produce tobacco, produce/supply controversial weapons,

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or that violate the UN Global Compact. Lastly, DPS monitors whether companies are under UN, EU, or Dutch government sanctions. This monitoring is carried out based on information and analyses originating from Morningstar Sustainalytics.

#### Exclusion of countries:

4. DPS monitors the countries that do not adhere to international treaties or that are under UN, EU, or Dutch government sanctions. This monitoring is carried out based on information and analyses originating from Morningstar Sustainalytics.

#### h) Data sources and processing

DPS uses external data as input for the investment process, preferring standardized data where possible. We receive data from the following and other sources:

# **Bloomberg**

 Bloomberg provides information on the percentage of impact bonds in the corporate and sovereign bond portfolio.

## Morningstar Sustainalytics

- Morningstar Sustainalytics provides information on the exclusion of companies, State Owned Entities, and countries.
- Morningstar Sustainalytics provides information on scope 1 and scope 2 carbon emissions of companies in the portfolio.
- Morningstar Sustainalytics provides information on companies' ESG controversies score.

#### AFM/Pension Federation

AFM/Pension Federation's cluster munitions list.

# National and international sanctions lists

• The publicly available EU, Dutch government, and UN sanctions lists inform exclusions of countries and companies under sanctions.

# i) Methodologies and data limitations

DPS uses information that is supplied by ESG data providers. Although various sources are used to ensure that environmental and social characteristics are applied within the mandates, there are limitations to the methodologies and data sources.

The scoring methodology of ESG data providers such as Morningstar Sustainalytics is based on a patented methodology. A difference in methodology between the various ESG providers can lead to different outcomes. For instance, the ESG qualification issued by ESG data providers on companies and countries may differ among the various ESG data providers. The ESG ratings issued by ESG data providers are therefore of limited comparability.

Data from companies and countries on which ESG data providers rely for their ESG rating may also be based on public sources. Due to transparency requirements for larger companies, there is generally more public information about larger companies than about smaller companies.

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Information can also be based on input from companies themselves. The qualification of this information is therefore subjective in certain respects. In other cases, the information is not validated by an independent party. Bloomberg's indicators for Green Bonds, Social Bonds, and Sustainability Linked Bonds are not required to be audited by an external auditor.

# j) Due diligence

Sustainability criteria form part of the selection criteria for our investments. This means that DPS considers sustainability as well as financial aspects when assessing investments or investment service providers. The above-mentioned methods of ESG integration, impact investment, and exclusion methods form an integral part of DPS's investment and selection process.

#### k) Engagement policy

DPS does not implement an engagement policy with respect to Pensioenfonds PDN's investment portfolio. Pensioenfonds PDN conducts its own engagement with respect to the investments in this portfolio of Pensioenfonds PDN with the help of its engagement provider Columbia Threadneedle Investments.

To see Pensioenfonds PDN's engagement policy, please visit the Pensioenfonds PDN website. Click **here** for more information.

## I) Designated reference benchmark

There is no comprehensive reference benchmark to determine whether this is aligned with the environmental and/or social characteristics it promotes. This means that this category does not apply.

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