

Pre-contractual 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: AXA WORLD FUNDS – ITALY EQUITY
(the “Financial Product”)

Legal entity identifier: 213800LNEKJGN8QM7D48

Environmental and / or social characteristics

| | | |
|--|---|---|
| <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> | <p>Does this financial product have a sustainable investment objective?</p> <p> <input checked="" type="radio"/> <input checked="" type="radio"/> <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO </p> | |
| | <p><input type="checkbox"/> It will make a minimum of sustainable investments with an environmental objective: %</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> 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 <p><input type="checkbox"/> It will make a minimum of sustainable investments with a social objective: %</p> | <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> It promotes Environmental/Social (E/S) characteristics and while it does not have as its objective a sustainable investment, it will have a minimum proportion of 10.0 % of sustainable investments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> with an environmental objective in economic activities that 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> with a social objective <p><input type="checkbox"/> It promotes E/S characteristics, but will not make any sustainable investments</p> |



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

The environmental and social characteristics promoted by the Financial Product consist of investing in companies considering their carbon intensity.

The Financial Product also promotes other specific environmental and social characteristics, mainly:

- Preservation of climate with exclusion policies on coal and oil sand activities
- Protection of ecosystem and prevention of deforestation
- Better health with exclusion on tobacco
- Labor rights, society and human rights, business ethics, anti-corruption with exclusion on companies in violation of international norms and standards such as the United Nations Global Compact Principles, International Labor Organization's (ILO) Conventions or the OECD guidelines for Multinational Enterprises.

No reference benchmark has been designated for the purpose of attaining the environmental or social characteristics promoted by this Financial Product.

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

The attainment of the environmental and social characteristics promoted by the Financial Product and described above is measured with the following sustainability indicators:

The weighted average Carbon Intensity of the Financial Product and of its Benchmark defined as the amount of GHG emissions per tons per millions \$ revenue released into the atmosphere, expressed in CO₂e tons per millions \$ revenue.

- ***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 Financial Product intends to partially invest in instruments qualifying as sustainable investments with various social and environmental objectives (without any limitation) by assessing the positive contribution of investee companies through the at least one of the following dimensions:

1. **UN Sustainable Development Goals alignment (SDG)** of investee companies as reference framework, considering companies which contribute positively to at least one SDG either through the Products and Services they offer or the way they carry their activities ("Operations"). To be considered as a sustainable asset, a company must satisfy the following criteria:
 - a. the SDG scoring related to the "products and services" offered by the issuer is equal or above 2, corresponding to at least 20% of their revenues being derived from a sustainable activity, or
 - b. using a best in universe approach consisting of giving priority to the issuers best rated from a non-financial viewpoint irrespective of their sector of activity, the SDG scoring of the issuer's operations is on the better top 2.5%, except in consideration to the SDG-5 (gender equality), SDG 8 (decent work), SDG 10 (reduced inequalities), SDG 12 (Responsible Production and Consumption) and SDG 16 (peace & justice), for which the SDG scoring of the issuer's Operation is on the better top 5%. For SDG 5, 8, 10 and

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

16 the selectivity criteria on issuer's "Operations" is less restrictive as such SDGs are better addressed considering the way the issuer carries their activities than the Products and Services offered by the investee company. It is also less restrictive for SDG 12 which can be addressed through the Products & Services or the way the investee company carries their activities.

The quantitative SDG results are sourced from external data providers and can be overridden by a duly supported qualitative analysis performed by the Investment Manager. The assessment is done at entity level and an investee company that satisfies the contribution to UN SDG criteria outlined above is considered as sustainable.

2. **Integration of issuers engaged in a solid Transition Pathway** consistently with the European Commission's ambition to help fund the transition to a 1.5°C world - based on the framework developed by the Science Based Targets Initiative, considering companies which have validated Science-Based targets.

Those methodologies may evolve in the future to take into account any improvements for example in data availability and reliability, or any developments of, but not limited to, regulations or other external frameworks or initiatives.

The Financial Product is not taking into consideration the criteria of the EU Taxonomy environmental objectives.

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?***

The application of the Do No Significant Harm Principle for the sustainable investments the Financial Product partially intends to make means that an investee company cannot qualify as sustainable if it meets any of the criteria listed below:

- The issuer causes harm along any of the SDGs when one of its SDG scores is below -5 based on a quantitative database from an external provider on a scale ranging from +10 corresponding to 'significantly contributing' to -10 corresponding to 'significantly obstructing', unless the quantitative score has been qualitatively overridden. This criterion is applied on the investee companies that are considered as sustainable.
- The issuer is in AXA IM's sectorial and ESG standards ban lists (as described below), which consider among other factors the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises and the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights. This criterion is applied on the entire portfolio.
- The issuer has a CCC (or 1.43) or lower ESG rating according to AXA IM ESG scoring methodology. The ESG score is based on ESG scoring from external data provider as primary inputs assessing data points across Environment, Social and Governance (ESG) dimensions. AXA IM analysts can complement with a fundamental and documented ESG analysis in case of lack of coverage or disagreement on the ESG rating provided that it is approved by AXA IM dedicated internal governance body. This criterion is applied on the entire portfolio.

Indicators for principal adverse impacts on sustainability factors are considered, including through the application of AXA IM's exclusion and stewardship policies.

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

The Financial Product takes into consideration Principal Adverse Impacts (“PAIs”) indicators to ensure that the sustainable investments are not harming significantly any other sustainability objectives under SFDR.

Principal adverse impacts are mitigated through sectorial exclusion policies and AXA IM ESG standards (as described below) that are applied bindingly at all times by the Financial Product, as well as through the filters based on UN Sustainable Development Goals scoring. No specific threshold or comparison with reference value have been defined within the DNSH approach.

Exclusion Policies:

- **Environment:**

| Relevant AXA IM policies | PAI indicator |
|---|---|
| Climate Risk policy Ecosystem Protection & Deforestation policy | PAI 1: Green House Gas (GHG) emissions (scope 1, 2, & 3 starting 01/2023) |
| | PAI 2: Carbon Footprint |
| | PAI 3: GHG intensity of investee companies |
| Climate Risk policy | PAI 4: Exposure to Companies active in the fossil fuel sector |
| Climate risk policy (considering an expected correlation between GHG emissions and energy consumption) ¹ | PAI 6: Energy consumption intensity per high impact climate sector |
| Ecosystem Protection & Deforestation policy | PAI 7: Activities negatively affecting biodiversity sensitive areas |

- **Social and Governance:**

| Relevant AXA IM policies | PAI indicator |
|--|---|
| ESG standards policy: violation of international norms and standards | PAI 10: Violations of UN Global Compact principles & OECD Guidelines for multinational enterprises |
| ESG standards policy: violation of international norms and standards (considering an expected correlation between companies non-compliant with international norms and standards and the lack of implementation by companies of processes and compliance mechanisms to monitor compliance with those standards) ² | PAI 11: Lack of processes and compliance mechanisms to monitor compliance with UN Global Compact principles & OECD Guidelines for multinational enterprises |
| Controversial weapons policy | PAI 14: Exposure to controversial weapons |

Filter based on UN SDGs:

AXA IM also relies on the SDG pillar of its sustainable investment framework to monitor and take into account adverse impacts on those sustainability factors by excluding investee companies which have a SDG score under – 5 on any SDG (on a scale from + 10 corresponding to ‘significant contributing impact’ to – 10 corresponding to ‘significant obstructing impact’), unless the quantitative score has been qualitatively overridden following a duly documented analysis by AXA IM Core ESG & Impact Research. This approach enables us to ensure investee companies with the worst adverse impacts on any SDG are not considered as sustainable investments.

Data availability and quality is lower for the time being on certain sustainability factors related to biodiversity as an example, which may impact the coverage for the following PAI indicators: emissions

¹ The approach used to mitigate the PAI indicators through this exclusion policy will evolve as the improvement in data availability and quality enables us to use the PAI more effectively. Not all high impact climate sectors are targeted by the exclusion policy for the time being.

² The approach used to mitigate the PAI indicators through this exclusion policy will evolve as the improvement in data availability and quality enables us to use the PAI more effectively.

to water (PAI 8), hazardous and radioactive waste ratio (PAI 9), share of non-renewable energy consumption and production (PAI 5), unadjusted gender pay gap (PAI 12) and Board Gender diversity (PAI 13). Those sustainability factors are part of the 17 objectives targeted by the United Nations SDGs (more specifically they are covered through SDG 5 “Gender equality”, SDGs 6 “Clean water and sanitation”, SDG 8 “Economic growth”, SDG 10 “Reduced inequalities”, SDG 12 “Responsible production and consumption” and SDG 14 “Life below water”) and AXA IM’s framework there enables to mitigate the worst impacts pending the increase on data availability and quality.

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

The Financial Product doesn’t invest in companies which cause, contribute or are linked to violations of international norms and standards in a material manner. Those standards focus on Human Rights, Society, Labor and Environment. AXA IM relies on an external provider’s screening framework and excludes any companies that have been assessed as “non compliant” to UN’s Global Compact Principles, International Labor Organization’s (ILO) Conventions, OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises and the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (UNGPs).

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 investment must also not significantly harm any environmental or social objectives.



Does this financial product consider principal adverse impacts on sustainability factors?

Yes

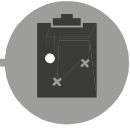
No

Principal adverse impacts are considered with both (i) qualitative and (ii) quantitative approaches:
(i) Qualitative approach to consider principal adverse impact is based on exclusion and, where relevant, stewardship policies. Exclusion policies as part of the AXA IM ESG standards cover the most material sustainability factors' risks and are applied bindingly on a continuous basis.

Through those exclusion policies the Financial Product takes into consideration potential negative impact on those specific PAI indicators:

| | Relevant AXA IM policies | PAI indicator |
|---|--|---|
| Climate and other environment related indicators | Climate Risk policy | PAI 1: Green House Gas (GHG) emissions (scope 1, 2 & 3 starting 01/2023) |
| | Ecosystem protection & Deforestation policy | |
| | Climate Risk policy | PAI 2: Carbon Footprint |
| | Ecosystem protection & Deforestation policy | |
| | Climate Risk policy | PAI 3: GHG intensity of investee companies |
| | Ecosystem protection & Deforestation policy | |
| | Climate Risk policy | PAI 4: Exposure to companies active in the fossil fuel sector |
| | Ecosystem protection & Deforestation policy | PAI 7: activities negatively affecting biodiversity sensitive area |
| Social and employee respect for human rights, anti-corruption and anti bribery matters | ESG standard policy / violation of international norms and standards | PAI 10: Violation of UN global compact principles & OECD guidelines for Multinational Enterprises |
| | Controversial weapons policy | PAI 14: Exposure to controversial weapons |

(ii) Principal adverse impacts are also considered quantitatively through the PAI indicators' measurement and reported annually in the SFDR annex in the periodic reporting. The objective is to provide transparency to investors on significant negative impact on other sustainability factors. AXA IM is measuring all the mandatory PAI indicators, additional optional environmental and social indicators.



What investment strategy does this financial product follow?

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

The Investment Manager selects investments by applying an extra-financial approach based on the exclusion filters as described in AXA IM's Sectorial Exclusion and ESG Standards Policies. Those sectorial exclusions cover areas such as Controversial Weapons, Climate risks, Soft Commodities and Ecosystem Protection & Deforestation. The ESG Standards encompass specific sectorial exclusions such as tobacco and white phosphorus weapons and exclusion of investments in securities issued by companies in violation of international norms and standards such as the United Nations Global Compact Principles or the OECD guidelines for Multinational Enterprises; as well as investments in companies which are involved in severe ESG-related incidents and investments in issuers with a Low ESG quality (which is, as of the date of this Prospectus, below 1.43 (on a scale of 0 to 10) – such number being subject to regular review and adaptation). Instruments issued by countries where serious specific categories of violations of Human Rights are observed are also banned. More details on those policies are available under the following link: [Policies and reports | AXA IM Corporate \(axa-im.com\)](#).

- ***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?***

The Financial Product bindingly applies at all times the following element described below.

The Investment Manager bindingly applies at all times a first exclusion filter, encompassing areas such as Controversial Weapons, Climate risks, Soft Commodities and Ecosystem Protection & Deforestation. The Financial Product also applies the AXA IM's Environmental, Social and Governance standards policy ("ESG Standards") integrating the ESG Standards in the investment process by applying specific sectorial exclusions such as tobacco and white phosphorus weapons and by excluding investments in securities issued by companies in violation of international norms and standards such as the United Nations Global Compact Principles or the OECD guidelines for Multinational Enterprises; as well as investments in companies which are involved in severe ESG-related incidents and investments in issuers with a Low ESG quality (which is, as of the date of this Prospectus, below 1.43 (on a scale of 0 to 10) – such number being subject to regular review and adaptation). Instruments issued by countries where serious specific categories of violations of Human Rights are observed are also banned. More details on those policies are available under the following link: [Policies and reports | AXA IM Corporate \(axa-im.com\)](#).

- ***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 committed minimum rate to reduce the scope of the investments considered.

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

The Financial Product doesn't invest in companies which cause, contribute or are linked to violations of international norms and standards in a material manner. Those standards focus on Human Rights, Society, Labor and Environment and as such, provide a methodology to help assess the good governance practices of an issuer, in particular with respect to sound management structures, employee relations, remuneration of staff and tax compliance. AXA IM relies on an external provider's screening framework and excludes any companies that have been assessed as "non compliant" to UN's

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

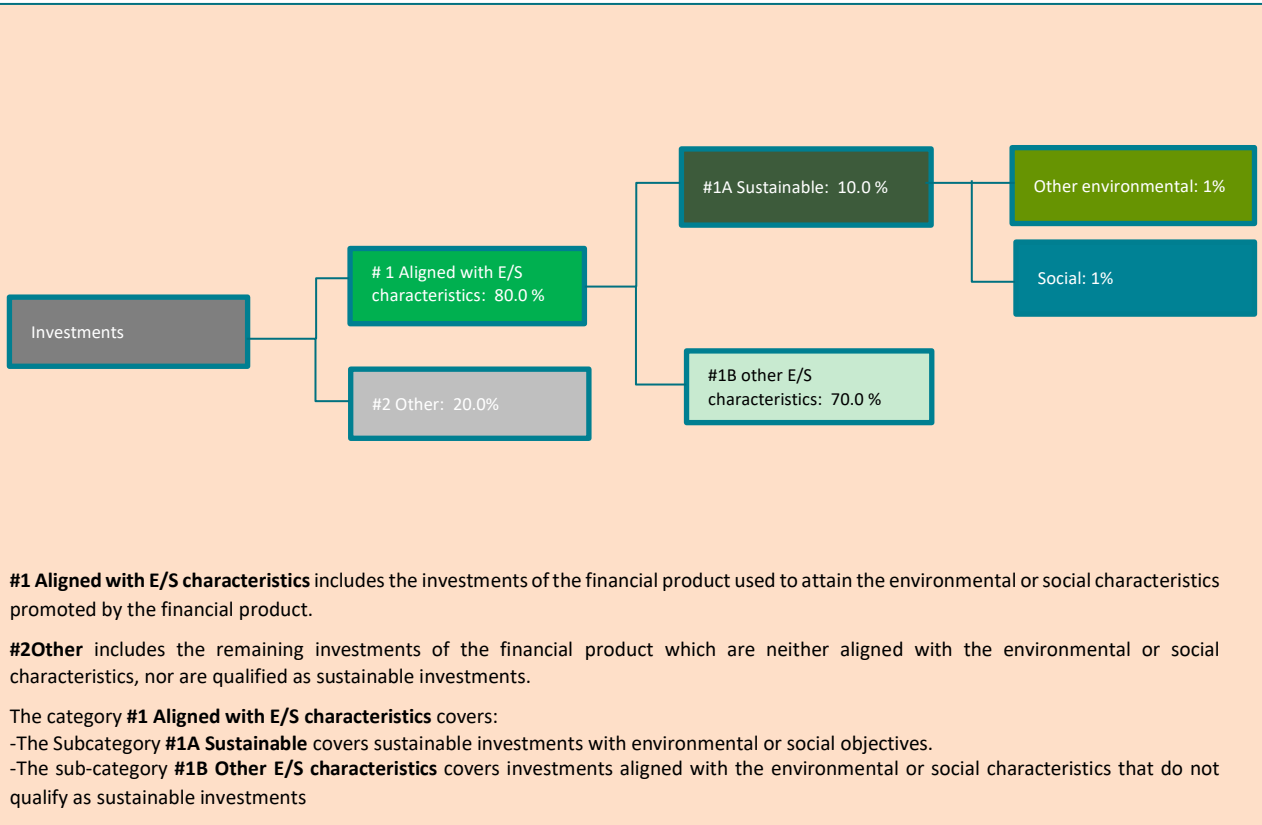
Global Compact Principles, International Labor Organization's (ILO) Conventions, OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises and the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (UNGPs).



What is the asset allocation planned for this financial product?

Asset allocation describes the share of investments in specific assets.

The Financial Product aims to plan its assets' allocation as presented in the graph below. This planned asset allocation might deviate on a temporary basis.



Taxonomy-aligned activities are expressed as a share of:

- **turnover** reflecting the share of revenue from green activities of investee companies
- **capital expenditure** (CapEx) showing the green investments made by investee companies, e.g. for a transition to a green economy.
- **operational expenditure** (OpEx) reflecting green operational activities of investee companies.

The planned minimum proportion of the investments of the Financial Product used to meet the environmental or social characteristics promoted by the financial product is 80.0 % of the Financial Product Net Asset Value.

The planned minimum proportion of sustainable investments of the Financial Product where that Financial Product commits to making sustainable investments is 10.0 % of the Financial Product Net Asset Value.

The remaining "Other" investments will represent a maximum of 20% of the Financial Product Net Asset Value. Remaining "Other" investments are used for hedging, liquidity portfolio and management of the Financial Product. Minimum environmental or social safeguards based on AXA IM exclusion policies are assessed and applied on all "Other" assets except on (i) non single name derivatives, (ii) on UCITS and/or UCIs managed by other management company and (iii) on cash and cash equivalent investments described above.

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

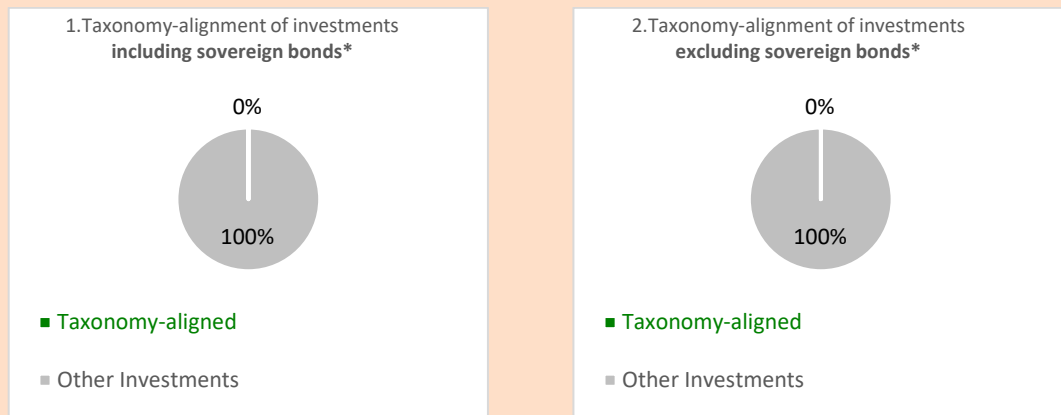
Not applicable



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

The Financial Product is not taking into consideration the criteria of the EU Taxonomy environmental objectives. The Financial Product is not considering the “do not significant harm” criteria of the EU Taxonomy.

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 bond.



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

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

Not applicable



What is the minimum share of sustainable investments with an environmental objective that are not aligned with the EU Taxonomy?

The minimum share of sustainable investments with an environmental objective that are not aligned with the EU Taxonomy is 1.0 % of the Financial Product Net Asset Value. The proportion of investments between environmental sustainable assets not aligned with EU Taxonomy and social sustainable assets is freely allocated and adds up to at least the total sustainable investments.



What is the minimum share of socially sustainable investments?

The minimum share of sustainable investments with social objective is 1.0 % of the Financial Product Net Asset Value. The proportion of investments between environmental sustainable assets not aligned with EU Taxonomy and social sustainable assets is freely allocated and adds up to at least the total sustainable investments.

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.

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

The remaining “Other” investments will represent a maximum of 20% of the Financial Product Net Asset Value. The “other” assets may consist in:

- cash and cash equivalent investments being bank deposit, eligible money market instruments and money market funds used for managing the liquidity of the Financial Product and
- other instruments eligible to the Financial Product and that do not meet the Environmental and/or Social criteria described in this appendix. Such assets may be equity or equity related securities, derivatives investments and investment collective schemes that do not promote environmental or social characteristics and that are used to attain the financial objective of the Financial Product and/or for diversification and/or hedging purposes.

Environmental or social safeguards are applied and assessed on all “other” assets except on (i) non single name derivatives, (ii) on UCITS and/or UCIs managed by other management company and (iii) on cash and cash equivalent investments described above.



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?

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

Not applicable as the designated Benchmark is a broad market index which is not aligned with the environmental and/or social characteristics promoted by the Financial Product.



Where can I find more product specific information online?

More information can be found on the AXA IM fund center following that link: [Funds - AXA IM Global \(axa-im.com\)](https://www.axa-im.com)

More details on AXA IM sustainable investment frameworks are available on [Sustainable Finance | SFDR | AXA IM Corporate \(axa-im.com\)](https://www.axa-im.com)