

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.

**Annex 3 “Environmental and/or social characteristics” to the Sub-Fund
VARIOPARTNER SICAV – VONTOBEL CONVICTION BALANCED CHF**

Pre-contractual disclosure annex 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: VARIOPARTNER SICAV – VONTOBEL CONVICTION BALANCED CHF
Legal entity identifier: 52990003310NPJK05G49

Environmental and/or social characteristics

●●

☐

Yes

●●

☒

No

☐	It will make a minimum of sustainable investments with an environmental objective: __%	☐	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 __% of sustainable investments
☐	in economic activities that qualify as environmentally sustainable under the EU Taxonomy	☐	with an environmental objective in economic activities that qualify as environmentally sustainable under the EU Taxonomy
☐	in economic activities that do not qualify as environmentally sustainable under the EU Taxonomy	☐	with an environmental objective in economic activities that do not qualify as environmentally sustainable under the EU Taxonomy
☐		☐	with a social objective
☐	It will make a minimum of sustainable investments with a social objective: __%	☒	It promotes E/S characteristics, but will not make any sustainable investments



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

The Sub-Fund promotes environmental and social characteristics and invests in issuers that the Investment Manager considers well-prepared to handle financially material environmental and social challenges. Issuers will be selected based on the Investment Manager’s ESG framework. The ESG approach will be applied to the Sub-Fund’s direct investments and to the UCITS/UCIs.

The Sub-Fund has not designated a reference benchmark for the purpose of attaining the environmental and social characteristics that it promotes.

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

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

The following sustainability indicators apply to the relevant instruments of the portfolio of the Sub-Fund:

- Percentage of investments in securities of corporate issuers that derive a non-negligible part of their revenues from products and/or activities excluded by the Sub-Fund (excluded products and/or activities can be found in the website disclosures referenced below under “Exclusion approach”)
- Percentage of investments in securities of corporate issuers that pass the minimum rating that has been set for this Sub-Fund (set at BB from MSCI)
- Percentage of investments in securities of issuers that are in violation of global norms and standards promoted by the Sub-Fund or that are exposed to critical controversies (unless the Investment Manager believes reasonable progress can be attained, for example, through active ownership activities). Such controversies may be related to environmental, social or governance issues.
- Percentage of UCITS/UCIs that pass the Investment Manager’s ESG assessment.
- Percentage of investments in securities of sovereign issuers based on the Investment Manager’s assessment (based on a score provide by MSCI and/or subject to the Investment Manager’s qualitative assessment).

The Sub-Fund may invest primarily in specific types of instruments, such as UCITS/UCIs. Investors should therefore be aware that while the Sub-Fund seeks to promote environmental and social characteristics across its portfolio, specific sustainability indicators may not apply depending on if the investments are made directly or indirectly through UCITS/UCIs.



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

- ☒ Yes, the Investment Manager considers the following principal adverse impact ("PAI") indicators by applying the corresponding processes:

PAI	PROCESS APPLIED
Table 1, #4: Exposure to companies active in the fossil fuel sector	Exclusion in the fossil fuel area (cf. "exclusion approach", https://www.vontobel.com/esg-library)
Table 1, #5: Share of non-renewable energy production	
Table 1, #14: Exposure to controversial weapons (anti-personnel mines, cluster munitions, chemical weapons and biological weapons)	Exclusion of controversial weapons (cf. "exclusion approach", https://www.vontobel.com/esg-library)
Table 1, #10: Violations of UN Global Compact principles and Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises	Cf. "Monitoring of critical controversies"
Table 3, #14: Number of identified cases of severe human rights issues and incidents	
Table 1, #16: Investee countries subject to social violations	Exclusion of countries with international sanctions (cf. "exclusion approach", https://www.vontobel.com/esg-library)

Information on how principal adverse impacts on sustainability factors were considered will be made available in the periodic reporting of the Sub-Fund.

- ☐ No



What investment strategy does this financial product follow?

In order to attain the environmental and social characteristics, the Sub-Fund applies the following ESG framework: exclusion approach, monitoring of critical controversies, screening, partial investments in green, social or sustainability bonds.

Exclusion approach:

The Sub-Fund excludes issuers (corporate and/or other issuers) based on pre-defined criteria related to certain practices or involvement in certain activities (such as involvement in manufacturing or controversial weapons, and where applicable other types of controversial activities). More information about these pre-defined exclusion criteria are disclosed under <https://am.vontobel.com/view/PBAP3CHF#documents>, and, if applicable, whether the exclusion

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.

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

applies to upstream, midstream/production or downstream activities, the revenue thresholds applied and potential exceptions considered. These exclusion criteria focus on all direct investments in securities. Other exclusion criteria may apply for indirect investments, such as those in UCITS/UCIs.

Monitoring of critical controversies:

- The Investment Manager has established a monitoring process to track incidents or ongoing situations in which an issuer's activities may have adverse effects on environmental, social, and governance aspects. This process intends to ensure the alignment with global norms such as the UN Global Compact principles, the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises, and the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights. This process is initially based on the utilization of third-party data and subsequently entails a comprehensive structured review conducted by the Investment Manager. Securities of issuers are excluded where the Investment Manager has concluded that they (i) violate the norms and standards promoted by the Sub-Fund or (ii) are involved in critical controversies, including those related to governance matters. However, the Investment Manager recognizes that excluding such issuers from the Investment Manager's investments may not always be the best approach to mitigate the adverse effects of their activities. In these cases, the Investment Manager will monitor these issuers, where the Investment Manager believes that reasonable progress can be attained, for example, through active ownership activities, provided the issuer demonstrates good governance.

Screening:

- The Sub-Fund invests in securities of corporate issuers that pass the minimum ESG rating (minimum is set at BB, on a scale from AAA to CCC, with AAA being the best, and CCC being the worst rating), which is provided by MSCI, a third-party ESG data provider selected by the Investment Manager. This model evaluates sector-specific environmental, social and governance criteria. The criteria refer to companies' actions and performance in relation to environmental protection in production, environmental product design, employee relations, environmental and social supply chain standards and management systems. The ESG model scores companies relative to the other companies in the related industry.
- The Sub-Fund invests in selected UCITS/UCIs that pass the Investment Manager's ESG assessment. UCITS/UCIs are evaluated based on qualitative and quantitative criteria, which include sector-based exclusions, consideration of UN Global Compact, and the management of critical ESG events.
- The Sub-Fund invests in securities of sovereign issuers that are selected based on a quantitative screening based on data from a third-party ESG data provider (MSCI) selected by the Investment Manager followed by a qualitative analysis conducted by the Investment Manager. In principle, the sovereign issuers must have a score of 2.5 (on a scale from 0 to 10, with 0 being the worst and 10 the best score). Sovereign issuers with no score or a score below 2.5 may be considered for investment after a qualitative assessment has been conducted by the Investment Manager.

Additionally, the Sub-Fund follows an active ownership approach, which takes into account relevant environmental, social and governance matters. The Investment Manager sees these activities as a way to support the attainment of the environmental and social characteristics promoted by the Sub-Fund. The Sub-Fund is covered by the engagement pool of the Investment Manager's stewardship program, which is mainly based on a collaboration with a stewardship partner. The Investment Manager has limited influence on the stewardship partner's engagement program.

The securities will be analyzed based on the binding elements prior to investment and monitored on a continuous basis. The securities in the portfolio have their sustainability performance periodically revaluated using the above-described sustainability framework. If a security does not comply with the binding criteria described below, the Investment Manager

divests from such an issuer within a time period to be determined by the Investment Manager without exceeding in principle three months after such breach was detected, considering prevailing market conditions, and taking due account of the best interests of the shareholders. The Board of Directors or the Management Company of Vontobel Fund may decide to further postpone the rectification of such a breach or decide to carry out the divestment in several instalments over a longer period of time in exceptional cases, provided this is considered to be in the best interests of the shareholders.

● ***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?***

At least 51% of the Sub-Fund's NAV must adhere to at least one of the following binding elements as applicable:

- The Sub-Fund excludes securities of corporate issuers that derive a non-negligible part of their revenues from excluded products and/or activities referenced above under "Exclusion approach".
- The Sub-Fund excludes securities of issuers that are in violation of certain global norms and standards promoted by the Sub-Fund or that are exposed to critical controversies (unless the Investment Manager believes reasonable progress can be attained, for example, through active ownership activities). Such controversies may be related to environmental, social or governance issues.
- The Sub-Fund invests in securities of corporate issuers that pass the minimum rating that has been set for this Sub-Fund (set at BB from MSCI).
- The Sub-Fund invests in selected UCITS/UCIs that pass the Investment Manager's ESG assessment.
- The Sub-Fund invests in securities of sovereign issuers based on the Investment Manager's assessment (minimum score by MSCI is set at 2.5 out of 10). Sovereign issuers with no score or a score below 2.5 may be considered for investment based on the Investment Manager's qualitative assessment.

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

Not applicable. The Sub-Fund does not commit to a minimum rate to reduce the scope of the investments considered prior to the application of the investment strategy.

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

The Investment Manager will assess investee companies' good governance practices, in particular with respect to sound management structures, employee relations, remuneration of staff and tax compliance, by applying a critical controversies monitoring process. The Investment Manager has established a monitoring process to track incidents or ongoing situations in which an issuer's activities may have adverse effects on environmental, social, and governance aspects. This process intends to ensure the alignment with global norms such as the UN Global Compact principles, the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises, and the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights. This process is initially based on the utilization of third-party data and subsequently entails a comprehensive structured review conducted by the Investment Manager. Securities of issuers are excluded where the Investment Manager has concluded that they (i) violate the norms and standards promoted by the Sub-Fund or (ii) are involved in critical controversies, including those related to governance matters. However, the Investment Manager recognizes that excluding such issuers from the Investment Manager's investments may not always be the best approach to mitigate the adverse effects of their activities. In these cases, the Investment Manager will monitor these issuers, where the Investment Manager believes that reasonable progress can be

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

attained, for example, through active ownership activities, provided the issuer demonstrates good governance.



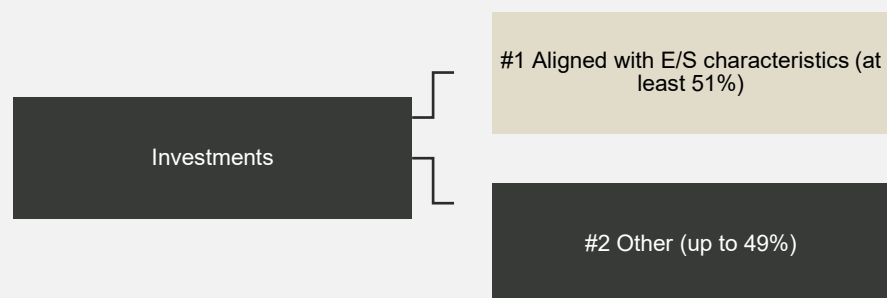
What is the asset allocation planned for this financial product?

The Sub-Fund is expected to invest at least 51% of its NAV in issuers that qualify as aligned with E/S characteristics (#1 Aligned with E/S characteristics), under normal market conditions.

Asset allocation describes the share of investments in specific assets.

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.



#1 Aligned with E/S characteristics includes the investments of the financial product used to attain the environmental or social characteristics promoted by the financial product.

#2 Other includes the remaining investments of the financial product which are neither aligned with the environmental or social characteristics, nor are qualified as sustainable investments.

The category #1 Aligned with E/S characteristics covers:

- The sub-category #1A Sustainable covers environmentally and socially sustainable investments.
- The sub-category #1B Other E/S characteristics covers investments aligned with the environmental or social characteristics that do not qualify as sustainable investments.

The percentages indicated above refer to the Sub-Fund's net asset value.

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

Not applicable. Derivatives are not used for the purpose of attaining the environmental and/or social characteristics promoted by the Sub-Fund.

To comply with the EU Taxonomy, the criteria for **fossil gas** include limitations on emissions and switching to fully renewable power or low-carbon fuels by the end of 2035. For **nuclear energy**, the criteria include comprehensive safety and waste management rules. **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.



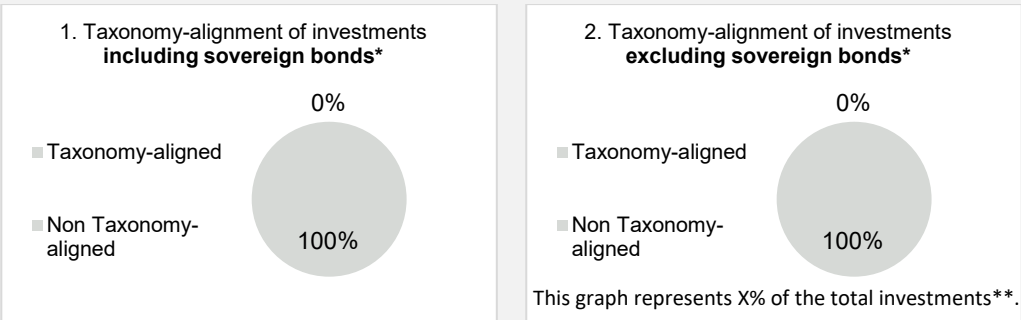
To what minimum extent are sustainable investments with an environmental objective aligned with the EU Taxonomy?

The Sub-Fund does not commit to invest a minimum share in sustainable investments with an environmental objective aligned with the EU Taxonomy. Therefore, the Sub-Fund's minimum share of investments in environmentally sustainable economic activities in accordance with the EU Taxonomy regulation are indicated to be 0%.

● **Does the financial product invest in fossil gas and/or nuclear energy related activities that comply with the EU Taxonomy¹?**

- ☐ Yes:
- ☐ In fossil gas ☐ In nuclear energy
- ☒ No

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.*



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

**As the Sub-Fund does not commit to making sustainable investments aligned with the EU Taxonomy, the proportion of sovereign bonds in the Sub-Fund's portfolio will not impact the proportion of sustainable investments aligned with the EU Taxonomy included in the graph.

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

The Sub-Fund does not partially intend to invest in sustainable investments as defined by the EU Taxonomy. Therefore, the Sub-Fund's minimum share of investments in transitional and enabling activities in accordance with the EU Taxonomy regulation are indicated to be 0%.

¹Fossil 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 – see explanatory note in the left-hand margin. 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.



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?

Not applicable.



What is the minimum share of socially sustainable investments?

Not applicable.



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

The remaining assets of the Sub-Fund will be invested in accordance with the investment objective of the Sub-Fund, including in cash and cash equivalents for liquidity purposes and use of derivatives for the purposes set out in the Special Part. The Sub-Fund may also invest in UCITS and other UCIs for diversification purposes, which may apply no exclusions or not the same exclusions as the Sub-Fund. While these instruments are not expected to detrimentally affect the attainment of the Sub-Fund's environmental and social characteristics, no minimum environmental or social safeguards are applied.



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?

Not applicable.



Where can I find more product specific information online?

More product-specific information can be found on the website:

<https://am.vontobel.com/view/PBAP3CHF#documents>, under “Sustainability Related Disclosures”.