Swiss Climate Scores

Vontobel Fund - Credit Opportunities

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Switzerland and its financial markets are commited to transitioning to net zero greenhouse gas emission by 2050. This is needed to meet its obligation under the Paris Agreement of holding the increase in the global average temperature to well below 2°C and pursuing efforts to limit it to 1.5°C. Current science indicates that global warming beyond 1.5°C has potentially catastrophic impacts on the natural world and human society. The Swiss Climate Scores establish best-practice transparency on the Paris-alignment of financial investments to foster investment decisions that contribute to reaching the climate goals.

SWISS CLIMATE SCORES

General

Overall investment objectives with regard to climate

Do you consider this portfolio to be aligned with the goal of the Paris Agreement of holding the increase in the global average temperature to well below 2°C and pursuing efforts to limit it to 1.5°C? **No**

What is the basis for this assessment? **Not applicable**

Do you consider that investing in this portfolio contributes to the mitigation of climate change? **No**

What is the basis for this assessment? **Not applicable**

Coverage

Proportion of eligible portfolio covered by the Swiss Climate Scores: **82.30%**

Proportion of eligible portfolio (suggested minimum threshold is 50%): **87.32%**

Reasons for proportion of portfolio not covered by the Swiss Climate Scores (if any): the Swiss Climate Scores may not cover the entire portfolio. Reasons may include data gaps on eligible assets and ineligible assets that compose the portfolio (sovereign issuers, real estate, cash, derivatives).

Current state

Greenhouse gas emissions

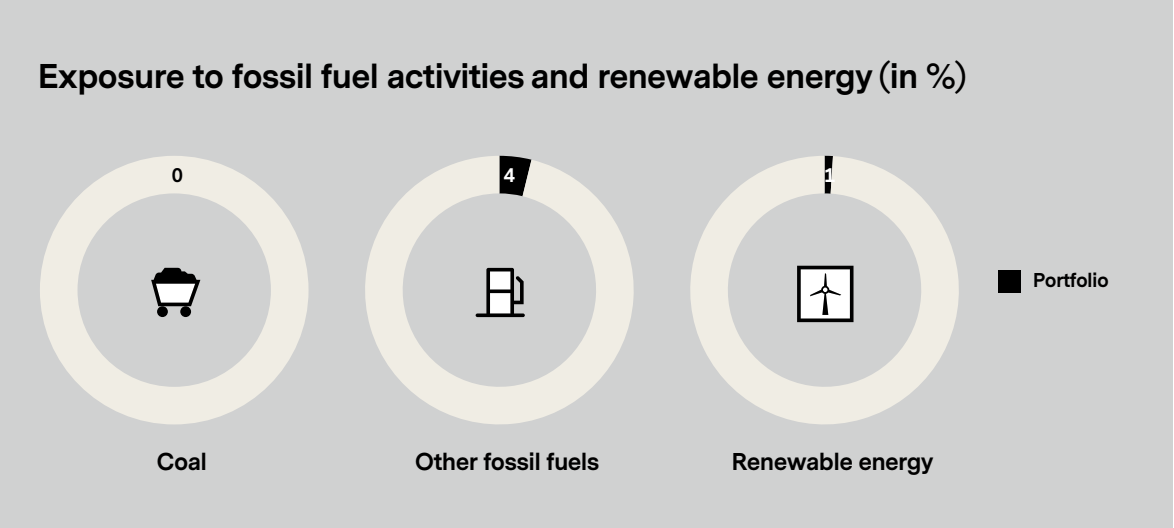
Encompasses all sources of greenhouse gas emissions from invested companies (scope 1–3), including relevant emissions from their suppliers and products.

Intensity (tons CO_2/USD M revenue)

Footprint (tons CO_2/USD M invested)

⚠ **Medium** estimation uncertainty

Scope 1–2 **Scope 3**



There is scientific consensus regarding the need to phase out coal and more generally fossil fuels as well as regarding the need to invest in renewable energy to enable the transition to net zero.

⚠ **Low** estimation uncertainty

Transition to net zero

Verified commitments to net zero

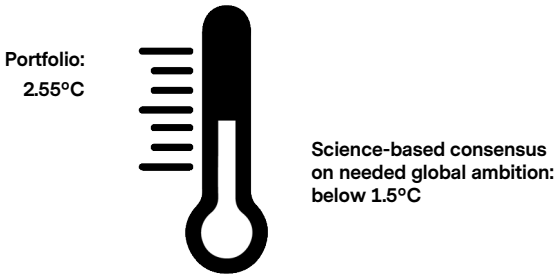
Companies are increasingly committing voluntarily to transitioning to net zero and setting interim targets. The effectiveness of such commitments depends on whether interim emissions reduction targets applied are credible, science-based, transparent, and supported by credible action to cut emissions.

Proportion of portfolio subject to public commitments to net zero and verified credible interim targets: **5.77%**

⚠ **Low** estimation uncertainty

Global warming alignment

This is the level of global warming that would occur if the global economy acted with the same ambition as the companies in the portfolio. Some portfolios with climate objectives may intentionally include investments that are not yet on track to limit warming to 1.5°C, but seek to contribute actively to climate goals by improving the alignment of investee companies to bring a larger share of the real economy into alignment over time.



Climate scenarios used: **REMIND NGFS Net Zero 2050**

⚠ **High** estimation uncertainty

Credible climate stewardship

Financial institutions can contribute to the transition to net zero, notably by utilizing their shareholder voting rights at general meetings of investee companies and bringing climate resolutions into being, as well as by engaging with invested companies on third-party verified, science-based and net zero aligned transition plans until 2050.

Please refer to our voting and engagement policies:
Climate Stewardship Strategy and Report

Are companies in the portfolio subject to credible stewardship on climate transition? **Yes**

Proportion of portfolio currently under active climate engagement: **n/a**

Share of votes, over the last year, on climate resolutions voted in a manner consistent with the ambition of reaching net zero by 2050: **n/a**

Is the financial institution a member of a climate engagement initiative? **No**

⚠ **Medium** estimation uncertainty

Management to net zero

Financial institutions can align their investment strategy with a consistent 1.5°C decarbonization pathway.

Is the portfolio part of a third-party verified commitment to net zero by the financial institution, including credible interim targets? **No**

Does the investment strategy include a goal to reduce the greenhouse gas emissions of its underlying investments through concrete short (1–3 years) or mid-term (4–7 years) targets? **No**

Average annual reduction path: **Not applicable**

Coverage summary

Data coverage (in % of eligible portfolio)

	GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS				EXPOSURE TO FOSSIL FUEL ACTIVITIES AND RENEWABLE ENERGY			TRANSITION TO NET ZERO	
	CARBON INTENSITY (SCOPE 1-2)	CARBON INTENSITY (SCOPE 3)	CARBON FOOTPRINT (SCOPE 1-2)	CARBON FOOTPRINT (SCOPE 3)	COAL	OTHER FOSSIL FUELS	RENEWABLE ENERGY	VERIFIED COMMIT-MENTS TO NET ZERO	IMPLIED TEMPER-ATURE RAISE
Portfolio	79.78	80.38	82.30	79.83	86.04	80.32	86.04	86.04	79.37

Additional information

Eligible assets
Assets eligible for the Swiss Climate Scores are corporate (bonds and equities), and supranational issuers. Sovereign issuers, real estate, cash and derivatives are out of scope (ineligible assets).

Greenhouse gas emissions
Carbon intensity and carbon footprint include investee companies' scope 1, 2 and scope 3 emissions. If emissions are not reported by the companies themselves, estimates are used when available from our data provider. Carbon intensity is calculated as the weighted average carbon intensity of the portfolio and is expressed in tons CO_2 e/USD million revenue. The carbon footprint is the weighted average EVIC (Enterprise Value including Cash) intensity of the portfolio. Positions not covered by the metric, either because of data gaps (for eligible assets) or ineligible assets are out of scope of the calculation.
Data source: MSCI ESG Research.

Exposure to fossil fuel activities and renewable energy
Share of investments into companies with activities in coal or other fossil fuels. The full company is taken into account if it derives more than 0% of revenue from fossil fuels (binary approach). Coal activities include mining of thermal coal (lignite, bituminous, anthracite and steam coal). Other fossil fuel activities include oil and gas related activities. For renewable energy, a weighted approach is applied based on the revenues the company derives from renewable energy activities including products, services or infrastructure projects supporting the development or delivery of renewable energy.
Data source: MSCI ESG Research.

Verified commitments to net zero
Share of investments into companies that have publicly committed to achieving net zero emissions. The targets of these companies must have been verified by the Science Based Targets initiative (SBTi).
Data source: MSCI ESG Research.

Credible climate stewardship
Financial institutions can contribute to the transition to net zero, by engaging with invested companies on third-party verified, science-based and net-zero-aligned transition plans until 2050. Any linked climate engagement strategy should be consistent with the ambition of reaching net zero by 2050. An example for a climate engagement initiative is Climate Action 100+. The escalation procedure is clearly defined and made transparent. Stewardship is considered as credible when it follows defined objectives and milestones and proper monitoring and reporting on climate engagement (UNPRI recommendations). Only current engagement activities as of the reporting date are considered. Included are activities directly conducted by Vontobel or externally held by CTML REO, Vontobel's engagement partner. For voting, the activities of the past year (last 12 months) are accounted for.
Data source: CTML REO, Vontobel.

Management to net zero
To include portfolios as being part of a third-party-verified commitment to net zero, they must have publicly communicated net-zero targets under one of the sector-specific alliances of the Glasgow Financial Alliance for Net Zero (GFANZ). If the claim is made that the investment strategy includes a goal to reduce the portfolio's greenhouse gas emissions, or those of its underlying investments, included scope 3 emissions must at a minimum be aligned to the schedule described in the EU benchmark regulation 2019/2089.
Data source: Vontobel.

Global warming alignment
The concept of implied temperature rise is used to measure the alignment of the portfolio with the temperature target of the Paris Agreement. The metric represents the level of global warming that would occur if the global economy acted with the same ambition as the companies in the portfolio. The scenario used by our ESG data provider is REMIND NGFS Net Zero 2050.
Data source: MSCI ESG Research.

Aggregation methodology
The methodology is aligned with the one prescribed by the Swiss Climate Scores update from December 8, 2023, from the Secretariat for International Finance (SIF), and the template 2.0 prepared by the Asset Management Association (AMAS) and Swiss Sustainable Finance (SSF).

Estimation uncertainty
The estimation uncertainty levels have been defined by the SIF.

More information on the Swiss Climate Scores
Please refer to the Secretariat for International Finance (SIF) website https://www.sif.admin.ch/en/swiss-climate-scores-en and to AMAS or SSF website to access the template 2.0 of the Swiss Climate Scores: https://www.am-switzerland.ch/en/topics/sustainable-finance/swiss-climate-scores
https://www.sustainablefinance.ch/en/resources/climate-finance/swiss-climate-scores.html

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