

**BNP PARIBAS EASY ESG** LOW VOL US UCITS ETF



"Investors do not expect risky stocks to produce lower returns. The low returns come as a surprise. Much is expected of these expensive stocks in terms of future quality. Too much." Robert Haugen

Volatility spikes in the horizon

**Bouts of** volatility are expected during **2022**<sup>1</sup> due to potential new Covid-19 variants

Making high-volatility stocks more exposed to potential heavy losses.

Long term peace of mind

Low volatility portfolios aim at avoiding the heavy losses that high-volatility stocks are exposed to<sup>2</sup>

Academic research shows longrun outperformance in lowvolatility portfolios2 vs highvolatility portfolios.

**Thwart market** expectations

Seeks to achieve high risk-adjusted returns, by investing in low-volatility stocks3

Grounded in the findings of quantitative finance.3

**ESG\*** considerations without additional cost

> **ESG** integration in ETFs does not carry additional charges

Vs ETFs that do not consider ESG criteria.

# **BNP PARIBAS EASY ESG LOW VOL US UCITS ETF**

invests in companies with a low-risk profile.

#### **OBJECTIVES**

- Benefit from potential strong returns of low risk stocks from the US markets.
- Provide a portfolio with high ESG standards.
- Stringent control of the risk through the investment process.

#### **COMPETITIVE EDGES**

- A unique combination of low volatility descriptors to identify the most promising companies.
- An improved methodology to select the companies with the best ESG score and the lowest risk stocks.

## **ESG INTEGRATION**

- **ESG** thorough integration process leveraging the expertise of several ESG data providers such as Moody's ESG Solutions.
- An ESG Filtering Criteria is applied to the Initial Investment Portfolio, selecting only the most complying companies.

## **INVESTMENT PROCESS**



**US** stocks

With an average daily trading volume above 20 Mio USD.



Stocks are rated according to the two metrics that best represent Low Vol factor:

- 3-Year Historical Volatility
- Earnings Per Share Dispersion



**ESG** integration

**Exclusion:** Critical controversies check and ESG screenings (i.e. energy transition score below

Integration: ESG score of each company impacts its expected return & allocation.

Guarantee: ESG characteristics to be better than investment universe.



**Optimization process** 

Implemented at the end to maximize the exposure to the Low Vol Factor under constraints such as the maximum volatility of alpha below 4%

<sup>1</sup> Financial Times as of 24 December 2021, 2 Pim van Vliet: Low-volatility investing - a long-term perspective, as of 11 December 2011, 3 BNP Paribas as of August 2021. \*ESG stands for Environmental, Social, and Governance

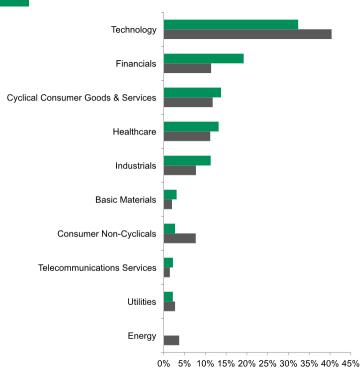


- - 30 Nov 2021: ESG features integration

		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	YTD
2025	ETF	2.09%	-0.74%	-6.56%										-5.31%
	SPTR500N	2.76%	-1.34%	-5.67%										-4.37%
2024	ETF	2.66%	2.27%	1.86%	-2.95%	1.02%	3.07%	1.18%	1.97%	0.62%	1.25%	9.30%	-3.06%	20.35%
	SPTR500N	1.65%	5.29%	3.18%	-4.11%	4.91%	3.55%	1.19%	2.38%	2.10%	-0.93%	5.83%	-2.42%	24.50%
2023	ETF	1.98%	-0.78%	1.70%	-0.70%	0.71%	3.34%	-0.18%	-0.04%	-2.32%	-1.74%	4.28%	3.15%	9.54%
	SPTR500N	6.25%	-2.49%	3.62%	1.53%	0.38%	6.57%	3.18%	-1.65%	-4.80%	-2.13%	9.07%	4.51%	25.67%
2022	ETF	-4.94%	-3.40%	4.36%	-1.78%	-2.86%	-3.26%	10.47%	-2.63%	-6.47%	7.27%	2.38%	-7.91%	-9.98%
	SPTR500N	-5.20%	-3.04%	3.67%	-8.74%	0.13%	-8.30%	9.19%	-4.13%	-9.25%	8.06%	5.52%	-5.80%	-18.51%
2021	ETF	-3.10%	0.35%	8.28%	2.38%	-0.57%	4.10%	2.38%	1.56%	-2.64%	5.63%	0.77%	5.28%	26.60%
	SPTR500N	-1.04%	2.71%	4.34%	5.31%	0.65%	2.30%	2.35%	3.00%	-4.68%	6.98%	-0.73%	4.45%	28.16%
2020	ETF	2.73%	-7.80%	-15.61%	12.01%	3.24%	-2.56%	-0.25%	3.47%	-0.38%	-2.60%	6.01%	0.79%	-3.63%
	SPTR500N	-0.08%	-8.29%	-12.40%	12.78%	4.69%	1.94%	5.60%	7.13%	-3.84%	-2.69%	10.89%	3.81%	17.75%
2019	ETF	5.59%	4.68%	4.17%	2.86%	-1.65%	3.31%	2.87%	2.23%	2.00%	-2.55%	2.75%	0.39%	29.75%
	SPTR500N	7.97%	3.14%	1.90%	4.01%	-6.42%	7.00%	1.40%	-1.65%	1.83%	2.13%	3.56%	2.97%	30.70%
2018	ETF	-1.44%	-3.25%	-0.72%	2.75%	3.93%	2.05%	3.47%	2.38%	1.38%	-1.80%	3.57%	-8.05%	3.61%
	SPTR500N	5.69%	-3.75%	-2.59%	0.35%	2.33%	0.58%	3.69%	3.19%	0.53%	-6.87%	1.96%	-9.07%	-4.94%
2017	ETF	-2.00%	5.73%	-0.54%	-1.19%	-1.09%	-2.32%	-2.12%	-0.89%	1.63%	3.51%	1.22%	-0.83%	0.79%
	SPTR500N	1.86%	3.90%	0.07%	0.99%	1.33%	0.58%	2.02%	0.23%	2.02%	2.30%	2.99%	1.07%	21.10%
2016	ETF							0.29%	0.18%	-2.08%	-0.83%	5.60%	2.71%	10.74%
	SPTR500N							3.65%	0.06%	-0.02%	-1.86%	3.62%	1.93%	6.90%
2004	ETF													
2004	SPTR500N	557.54%												8.36%

On 30th November 2021, the underlying strategy of the ETF has changed to integrate ESG features.
Source: BNP Paribas and Bloomberg. Historical performance of the BNP Paribas Easy ESG Low Vol US UCITS ETF since 07 June 2016. Comparative index: STOXX Europe 600 Index <SXXR Index>. Comparative index for illustrative purpose only. Past or simulated performance or achievement is not indicative of current or future performance. This is for general information only and should not be used as a basis for making any specific investment, business or commercial decisions. Any economic and market trend, prediction, projection or forecast is not necessarily indicative of the future or likely performance of the funds.

# **SECTOR AND COUNTRY COMPOSITION**



Source: BNP Paribasov Pastuperformance ois vacue reliable indicator of future returns. Comparative index: STOXX Europe 600 index, Bloomberg code: <SXXR Index>. Comparative index for illustrative purpose only.

## **INVESTMENT TEAM**

Multi Asset, Quantitative and Solutions (MAQS) is an investment group within BNPP Paribas Asset Management focused on four areas of expertise:
 Solutions & Advisory, Multi Asset, Quantitative & Index and Structured Management. Managing more than EUR 112 billion in assets and boasting
 130 experts, MAQS responds to clients' needs with constant digital innovation, stringent risk management and continuous integration of
 environmental, social and governance criteria.

## **INVESTMENT GUIDELINES**

### 1. Investment Objective

- Replicate the performance of the BNP Paribas Low Vol US ESG Index (Bloomberg: BNPIFELU Index), including fluctuations, and to maintain the
  Tracking Error between the sub-fund and the index below 1%.
- The fund currency is the euro and the fund is not hedged against the EUR/USD currency risk.

#### 2. Benchmark

- The benchmark is the BNP Paribas Low Vol US ESG Index denominated in US dollar. The composition of the index is reviewed on a monthly basis. The index is valued daily. BNP Paribas Low Vol US ESG Index measures the performance of a basket of US stocks whose historical volatility is low.
- Index components can be downloaded from <a href="https://indx.bnpparibas.com/">https://indx.bnpparibas.com/</a>

### 3. Investment Guidelines<sup>1</sup>

- · Long-only equity fund
- The strategy is implemented through a synthetic replication of the index. Exposure to the index is achieved by entering into a swap that enables the sub-fund to convert the exposure of its 'substitute basket' to the exposure to the index
- The sub-fund will not invest more than 10% of its net assets in shares or units issued by UCITS or other UCIs
- <sup>1</sup>These internal guidelines are mentioned for your information only and are subject to change. Prospectus and KID guidelines will prevail.

## **ETF CHARACTERISTICS**

The BNP PARIBAS EASY ESG LOW VOL US UCITS ETF is a Sub-fund of BNP Paribas Easy, a UCITS compliant SICAV registered under Luxembourg law.



\*Registration for Institutional Clients only. For more information about ETFs , please contact : <u>LIST.AM.MAQSETFINDEXPRODUCTDEV@bnpparibas.com</u>

### RISK AND REWARD PROFILE



The summary risk indicator is determined on a scale from 1 to 7 (7 being the highest risk level). It is subject to a periodical computation and can consequently, change over time

- Historical data may not be reliable indication for future
- The risk category of a Fund is an indicator but not a target or a guarantee and may shift over time
- The lowest category does not mean a risk-free investment
- · Why is the Fund in this specific category?
  - The risk category is justified by the investment mainly in Stocks and Shares, the value of which can fluctuate considerably. These fluctuations are
    often amplified in the short term
- · The higher the risk, the longer the recommended investment horizon

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Following the new Sustainable Finance Disclosure Regulation (SFDR) that came into force on the 10<sup>th</sup> of March 2021, financial entities such as BNP Paribas Asset Management who sell products into the EU are required to classify the products they manufacture or advise into three categories: products with sustainable investment objective (Article 9); products promoting environmental or social characteristics (Article 8); products neither Article 8 or Article 9 (Article 6).
Source: BNP Paribas, as of 31 January 2022.

# **INVESTMENT RISKS**

- Investments in equity can involve significant fluctuations in prices, due for instance to negative information about a company or the market. Moreover, these fluctuations are often amplified in the short term.
- Investments in securities are subject to market fluctuations and the risks inherent to the equity market. The value of investments and the
  income they generate may go down as well as up and it is possible that investors will not recover their initial outlay.

# Specific risks related to this fund are described below:

- Counterparty Risk: This risk is associated with the ability of a counterparty in an Over The Counter financial transaction to fulfil its commitments like
  payment, delivery and reimbursement. The Management Company may enter into OTC Derivative with counterparties affiliated to the BNP Paribas
  Group. In this case, there is a potential conflict of interests between the interests of the Shareholders and the interests of the group to which the
  Management Company belongs. An ongoing efficient management policy of conflicts of interests shall ensure the respect of the primacy of
  Shareholders' interests. For more information you can read our best selection and best execution policy on www.bnpparibas-am.com
- Liquidity Risk: This risk arises from the difficulty of selling an asset at a fair market price and at a desired time due to lack of buyers
- Tracking Error Risk: The performance of the Sub-Fund may deviate from the actual performance of the underlying index
- Conflict of Interest Risk: The Management Company may enter into OTC Derivative with counterparties affiliated to the BNP Paribas Group. In this
  case, there is a potential conflict of interests between the interests of the Shareholders and the interests of the group to which the Management
  Company belongs. An ongoing efficient management policy of conflicts of interests shall ensure the respect of the primacy of Shareholders' interests.
- For more information on risks, please see the "Investment Risks" section of the fund's prospectus or KID. All relevant documents (prospectus, annual report, KID...) can be downloaded free of charge from our website: <a href="https://www.easy.bnpparibas.fr">www.bnpparibas.fr</a> or <a href="https://www.bnpparibas.am.com">www.bnpparibas.am.com</a>

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