

## PRESS RELEASE

## BNP Paribas Asset Management enhances responsible index fund range

BNP Paribas Asset Management ('BNPP AM') announces that it is upgrading 18 of its ETFs<sup>1</sup> to ESG<sup>2</sup> indices and Paris-Aligned Benchmarks ('PAB') standards, in order to enhance the responsible nature of its BNP Paribas Easy range. The changes mean that 83% of BNPP AM's range of index funds representing more than EUR 16 billion<sup>3</sup> are now classified as SFDR<sup>4</sup> Article 8 or Article 9.

Isabelle Bourcier, Head of Quantitative & Index Management at BNPP AM, comments:

*"The move towards sustainable indices, including PAB, is a decisive step and a major axis of our development, which reaffirms our ambition to position ourselves as a key player in index solutions integrating ESG and decarbonisation. Since mid-2017, all of our ETF launches have focused on sustainable indices with the aim of having a predominantly responsible range. Our offering within ESG index solutions now covers all equity and bond markets, a range of geographic areas and multiple ESG thematic investments, allowing us to offer new solutions to investors committed to a responsible approach."*

- In addition to the SRI<sup>5</sup> criteria already applied, ETF & index funds tracking the MSCI SRI S-Series 5% Capped range adopt the characteristics of Paris Aligned Benchmarks ('PAB')<sup>6</sup>, the objective of which is specifically to reduce the carbon intensity of the index by at least 50% compared to the initial investment universe in the first year and to achieve a decarbonisation objective of at least 7% annually in subsequent years, in line with the trajectory of the Paris Agreement. There are seven sub-funds in BNPP AM's index range impacted by this development, which now benefit from an SFDR Article 9 classification.
- ETF & index funds tracking the MSCI ex-CW (Controversial Weapons) range are moving towards MSCI ESG Filtered Min TE<sup>7</sup> indices. ESG criteria are integrated by selecting issuers with better ESG scores within their relevant investment universe and by excluding certain controversial sectors (including tobacco, coal and controversial weapons)<sup>8</sup> while minimising tracking error. Five sub-funds are impacted, which benefit from an SFDR Article 8 classification.
- ETF & index funds tracking Smart Beta indices are also adopting ESG criteria, selecting issuers with better ESG scores within their relevant investment universe, and excluding certain controversial sectors. Six sub-funds are impacted, which benefit from an SFDR Article 8 classification.
- Alongside these index changes, BNP Paribas Easy ECPI Global ESG Blue Economy and BNP Paribas Easy ECPI Circular Economy Leaders funds have seen their SFDR classification evolve from Article 8 to Article 9, to better reflect their objectives within responsible investment.

<sup>1</sup> Exchange Traded Funds

<sup>2</sup> Environmental, Social & Governance

<sup>3</sup> EUR 16.4 billion as at 24 November 2021. Source: BNPP AM.

<sup>4</sup> Sustainable Finance Disclosure Regulation. Regulation 2019/2088 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 November 2019 on the information to be provided with regard to sustainable development in the financial services sector. Article 8: a product that promotes environmental or social characteristics. Article 9: a product that has sustainable investment as its objective. Non-sustainable products (Article 6).

<sup>5</sup> Socially Responsible Investment

<sup>6</sup> Benchmark regulation: <https://www.amf-france.org/fr/actualites-publications/dossiers-thematiques/benchmark>

<sup>7</sup> Tracking Error

<sup>8</sup> The index notably excludes companies involved in unconventional fossil fuels, the production of tobacco and certain types of weapons that could be qualified as controversial, as well as companies facing recent critical controversies that could compromise alignment with the 10 principles of the United Nations Global Compact.



**BNP PARIBAS**  
**ASSET MANAGEMENT**

**The sustainable  
investor for a  
changing world**

## Impacted funds in the BNP Paribas Easy range:

- BNP Paribas Easy MSCI Emerging SRI S-Series PAB 5% Capped
- BNP Paribas Easy MSCI Europe Small Caps SRI S-Series PAB 5% Capped
- BNP Paribas Easy MSCI USA SRI S-Series PAB 5% Capped
- BNP Paribas Easy MSCI World SRI S-Series PAB 5% Capped
- BNP Paribas Easy MSCI Japan SRI S-Series PAB 5% Capped
- BNP Paribas Easy MSCI Europe SRI S-Series PAB 5% Capped
- BNP Paribas Easy MSCI EMU SRI S-Series PAB 5% Capped
  
- BNP Paribas Easy MSCI Emerging ESG Filtered Min TE
- BNP Paribas Easy MSCI Europe ESG Filtered Min TE
- BNP Paribas Easy MSCI Japan ESG Filtered Min TE
- BNP Paribas Easy MSCI North America ESG Filtered Min TE
- BNP Paribas Easy MSCI Pacific ex Japan ESG Filtered Min TE
  
- BNP Paribas Easy ESG Low Vol Europe
- BNP Paribas Easy ESG Low Vol US
- BNP Paribas Easy ESG Momentum Europe
- BNP Paribas Easy ESG Quality Europe
- BNP Paribas Easy ESG Value Europe
- BNP Paribas Easy ESG Dividend Europe

Don't take unnecessary risks. Read the Key Investor Information Document (KIID). It states that the risk of this product is high, namely 6 on a scale of 7.

- ENDS -

### PRESS CONTACT

#### BNP Paribas Asset Management

Quentin Smith

+44 (0)20 7827 356 890

[quentin.smith@bnpparibas.com](mailto:quentin.smith@bnpparibas.com)

### About BNP Paribas Easy

BNP Paribas Easy is a Luxembourg SICAV in accordance with Directive 2009/65/EC. Investments made in funds are subject to market fluctuations and the risks inherent in investments in transferable securities. The value of investments and the income from them can go down as well as up, and investors may not get their full investment back. The funds described present a risk of capital loss. For a more complete definition and description of risks, please refer to the fund prospectus and KIID. Before subscribing, you are advised to read the most recent version of the prospectus and KIID, available free of charge on our website [www.bnpparibas-am.nl](http://www.bnpparibas-am.nl). Past performance is no guarantee of future performance.

The lack of common or harmonized definitions and labels integrating ESG and sustainability criteria at EU level may result in different approaches by index providers when setting ESG objectives. This also means that it may be difficult to compare strategies integrating ESG and sustainability criteria to the extent that the selection and weightings applied to select investments may be based on metrics that may share the same name but have different underlying meanings. In evaluating a security based on the ESG and sustainability criteria, the index provider may also use data sources provided by external ESG research providers. Given the evolving nature of ESG, these data sources may for the time being be incomplete, inaccurate or unavailable. Applying responsible business conduct standards in the investment



**BNP PARIBAS**  
**ASSET MANAGEMENT**

**The sustainable  
investor for a  
changing world**

process may lead to the exclusion of securities of certain issuers. Consequently, the Sub-Fund's performance may at times be better or worse than the performance of relatable funds and/or indices that do not apply such standards.

### About BNP Paribas Asset Management

BNP Paribas Asset Management ('BNPP AM') is the investment arm of BNP Paribas, a leading banking group in Europe with international reach. BNPP AM aims to generate long-term sustainable investment returns for its clients, based on a unique sustainability-driven philosophy. BNPP AM's investment capabilities are focused around five key strategies: High Conviction Strategies, Private Debt & Real Assets, Multi-Asset, Quantitative & Solutions (MAQS), Emerging Markets and Liquidity Solutions, with investment processes incorporating quantitative and fundamental analysis.

Sustainability is embedded within BNPP AM's strategy and investment decision-making. Among the leaders in thematic investment in Europe, BNPP AM contributes to the energy transition, environmental sustainability and the promotion of equality and inclusive growth. BNPP AM currently manages EUR 502 billion of assets (EUR 634 billion of assets under management & advisory) and benefits from the expertise of around 500 investment professionals and over 400 client servicing specialists, serving individual, corporate and institutional clients in 69 countries.

Source: BNPP AM, as at 30 September 2021

For more information please visit [bnpparibas-am.com](https://bnpparibas-am.com), our [newsroom](#) or follow us on



### Additional information

BNP Paribas Asset Management funds (ETFs and index funds) are not sponsored, endorsed, sold or promoted by any of the index providers referred to in this document, and each index provider referred to in this document bears no liability with respect to any such funds or any index on which such funds are based. The accuracy, completeness or relevance of the information which has been obtained from external sources cannot be guaranteed, although it has been obtained from sources reasonably believed to be reliable. Subject to any applicable law, any of the index providers referred to in this document shall not assume any liability whatsoever to any person arising out of the use of BNP Paribas Asset Management funds or the underlying data. Please refer to the prospectus for a more detailed description of the limited relationship that each index provider referred to in this document has with any related funds.

List of index providers: BNP Paribas, MSCI.

BNP PARIBAS ASSET MANAGEMENT UK Limited, 'the investment company', is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority. Registered in England No: 02474627, registered office: 5 Aldermanbury Square, London, England, EC2V 7BP, United Kingdom.

This material is produced for information purposes only and does not constitute:

1. an offer to buy nor a solicitation to sell, nor shall it form the basis of or be relied upon in connection with any contract or commitment whatsoever or
2. investment advice.

This material is issued and has been prepared by the investment company. It contains opinions and statistical data that are considered lawful and correct on the day of their publication according to the economic and financial environment at the time. This document does not constitute investment advice or form part of an offer or invitation to subscribe for or to purchase any financial instrument(s) nor shall it or any part of it form the basis of any contract or commitment whatsoever.



**BNP PARIBAS**  
**ASSET MANAGEMENT**

**The sustainable  
investor for a  
changing world**

Whilst the funds described herein has been established as a UCITS (in accordance with the UCITS Directive) in Luxembourg, they have not been registered in the UK, therefore their promotion and the distribution of this document in the UK are accordingly restricted by law.

This document is provided without knowledge of an investors' situation. Prior to any subscription, investors should verify in which countries the financial instruments referred to in this document refers are registered and authorised for public sale. In particular financial instruments cannot be offered or sold publicly in the United States. Investors considering subscriptions should read carefully the most recent prospectus and Key Investor Information Document (KIID) agreed by the regulatory authority, available on the website. Investors are invited to consult the most recent financial reports, which are also available on the website. Investors should consult their own legal and tax advisors prior to investing. Given the economic and market risks, there can be no assurance that the financial instrument(s) will achieve its investment objectives. Their value can decrease as well as increase. In particular, changes in currency exchange rates may affect the value of an investment. Performance that is shown net of management fees and is calculated using global returns with time factored in, with net dividends and reinvested interest, and does not include subscription-redemption fees, exchange rate fees or tax. Any gross of fees performance included in this material do not reflect the deduction of commission, fees and other expenses incurred. Returns will be reduced after the deduction of such fees. Past performance is not a guarantee of future results.

This document is directed only at person(s) who have professional experience in matters relating to investments ('relevant persons'). Any investment or investment activity to which this document relates is available only to and will be engaged in only with Professional Clients as defined in the rules of the Financial Conduct Authority. Any person who is not a relevant person should not act or rely on this document or any of its contents.

All information referred to in the present document is available at [www.bnpparibas-am.com](http://www.bnpparibas-am.com).

This is a Marketing Communication for Professional Investors only. No assurance can be given that any forecast, target or opinion will materialise.

As at November 2021.



**BNP PARIBAS**  
**ASSET MANAGEMENT**

The sustainable  
investor for a  
changing world