

### **Pre-contractual disclosure**

the financial products referred to in Article 9, paragraphs 1 to 4a, of Regulation (EU) 2019/2088 and Article 5, first paragraph, of Regulation (EU) 2020/852

Product name: Swisscanto (LU) Bond Fund Sustainable Global High Yield

Legal entity identifier (LEI-Code): **549300QT8R0DJRSOJL97** 

#### Sustainable investment objective Sustainable investment means an investment in an economic activity that contributes to an environmental or Does this financial product have a sustainable investment objective? social objective, provided that the investment does not Yes significantly harm any environmental or social objective and It will make a minimum of □ It promotes Environmental/Social (E/S) that the investee sustainable investments with characteristics and while it does not companies follow good governance an environmental objective: have as ist objective a sustainable practices. investment, it will a minimum proportion 80% of % of sustainable investments. □ with an environmental objective in in economic activities that gualify economic activities that qualify as as environmentally sustainable under the EU Taxonomy environmentally sustainable under The EU Taxonomy is the EU Taxonomy a classification system laid down in $\boxtimes$ in economic activities that do □ with an environmental objective in Regulation (FU) 2020/852, establishing not qualify as environmentally economic activities that do not a list of sustainable under the EU qualify as environmentally environmentally sustainable under the EU Taxonomy sustainable economic activities. Taxonomy That Regulation does not include a list of □ with a social objective socially sustainable economic activities. It will make a minimum of **sustainable** □ It promotes E/S characteristics, but **will not** Sustainable investments with an investments with a social make any sustainable investments. environmental **objective**: <u>10</u>% objective might be aligned with the Taxonomy or not.

### 1/11



### What is the sustainable investment objective of this financial product?

The primary sustainable investment objective of this financial product is environmental (quota of 80%), with the portfolio focused on a reduction in  $CO_2$  emissions within the meaning of Article 9(3) of Regulation (EU) 2019/2088 on sustainability-related disclosures in the financial services sector.

#### **1. Reduction of CO2e intensity**

The Portfolio Manager's investment activity for the portfolio is focused on a continuous reduction in the CO<sub>2</sub>e intensity of investments in accordance with the Paris Climate Agreement. The Portfolio Manager does not rely on an external reference benchmark aligned with the targets of the Paris Climate Agreement to achieve this objective. Instead, the Portfolio Manager ensures, as part of the direct investment process, that the methodology requirements for EU Paris-aligned benchmarks under Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/1818 are met, rather than the Paris climate target of 1.5 degrees, whereby: (i) greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions are reduced by at least 7.5% plus economic growth per annum; (ii) the weighting of green versus brown investments is at least four times that of the benchmark; and (iii) the exclusions of Delegated Regulation 2020/1818 are complied with.

In accordance with the active investment strategy without use of an external reference benchmark, the requirements of Delegated Regulation 2020/1818 in relation to exposure to climate-critical sectors and GHG intensity are not implemented in relative terms versus a benchmark, but by means of absolute objectives to reduce the CO<sub>2</sub>e intensity of investments (pursuit of a decarbonisation trajectory).

In calculating the decarbonisation trajectory, we do not use Scope 3 GHG emissions due to insufficient data quality and incomplete data coverage, whilst awaiting better data coverage.

#### 2. Sustainable investments in accordance with Article 9(2) SFDR

In addition to the reduction of CO<sub>2</sub>e intensity, the Portfolio Manager focuses on the securities of companies and the specific-purpose bonds of companies, supranational entities and governments (e.g. social, green or sustainable bonds), which, based on its assessment, make a contribution to sustainable objectives (sustainable investment within the meaning of Article 2(17) SFDR) relating to one or more of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (hereinafter the "SDGs").

**Sustainability indicators** measure how the sustainable objectives of this financial product are attained.

### What sustainability indicators are used to measure the attainment of the sustainable investment objective of this financial product?

The Portfolio Manager uses a range of data points to measure the attainment of its sustainable investment objectives. It uses data from independent, third-party providers and proprietary qualitative and quantitative research in this process.

Sustainability indicators integrated with the investment process are then used to assess the attainment of the sustainable investment objectives:

#### 1. Reduction of CO<sub>2</sub>e intensity

 $CO_2e$  intensity for companies is defined as  $CO_2e$  emissions in relation to turnover (tonnes of  $CO_2e$  per USD million of turnover), and for government bonds as  $CO_2e$  emissions in relation to economic value added (tonnes of  $CO_2e$  per USD million of gross domestic product). Greenhouse gases with a global warming effect are included in accordance with the international Greenhouse Gas Protocol (GHG Protocol) (measured in  $CO_2$ equivalents –  $CO_2e$ ). Data of independent third parties is used to calculate  $CO_2e$  intensity. The Portfolio Manager uses this data to calculate the relevant  $CO_2e$  intensity, taking account of data availability and quality, any methodology discrepancies and special cases.

The Portfolio Manager defines a guideline for the average CO<sub>2</sub>e intensity of the subfund's assets on an annual basis. The Portfolio Manager defines the respective guideline in each case on the basis of the target value for the global reduction in CO<sub>2</sub>e emissions (at least 7.5% annually), which is based on the 1.5 degrees target of the Paris Climate Agreement of 12 December 2015. The guideline for the average CO<sub>2</sub>e intensity of the sub-fund's assets is calculated by discounting the CO<sub>2</sub>e intensity of the investment universe as at the end of 2019 annually by the target value (7.5%) and global economic growth. The Portfolio Manager uses a rolling arithmetic average of nominal economic growth over the last three years to calculate economic growth.

#### 2. Exclusion criteria

The Portfolio Manager uses exclusion criteria to identify an increased risk of harm to environmental and social values, or business activities that are considered high risk. These exclusion criteria are also used to establish an investment universe focused more specifically on investments that are aligned with these values.

The following activities correspond to the exclusions described in Delegated Regulation 2020/1818. The Portfolio Manager has also determined other additional activities which result in the exclusion of companies from the investment universe:

- The production of weapons and munitions, including the following banned weapons:
  - Cluster bombs and munitions
  - Anti-personnel and landmines
  - Biological and chemical weapons
  - Nuclear weapons systems
  - Nuclear weapons material
  - Enriched uranium
  - Blinding laser weapons
  - Incendiary weapons
  - Manufacture of war technology
- Behaviour-based exclusions including those included in the list of the SVVK-ASIR (Swiss association for the promotion of responsible capital investment)
- Breaches of the UN Global Compact.
- Child labour
- Production of pornography
- Coal mining \*
- Operation of nuclear plants \*
- Uranium extraction
- Production of nuclear reactors \*
- Genetic engineering: human medicine
- Production of tobacco products and cigarettes
- Alcohol production (> 5% turnover)
- Gambling (> 5% of turnover)
- Factory farming
- Coal reserves \*
- Operation of fossil fuel power plants \*
- Natural gas extraction \*
- Oil extraction \*
- Conventional car manufacturers that do not have a comprehensive strategy for the transition to the use of alternative more environmentally friendly motors \*
- Aircraft production \*
- Airlines \*
- Cruise ship operators \*
- Genetic engineering (release of GMOs) \*
- Unsustainable fishing and fish farming \*
- Unsustainable forestry management \*

Exclusions for government issuers:

- Countries included on the Non-Cooperative Countries and Territories (NCCT) list of the Financial Action Task Force (FATF)
- Countries with low levels of democracy and freedom (classified as "not free" in the Freedom in the World report published annually by Freedom House)
- Use of the death penalty
- High military budget > 4% of gross domestic product (GDP)
- Expanding nuclear energy sector (>50% of total)\*
- Non-signatory to the Paris Climate Agreement\*
- Non-signatory to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)\*
- CPI score < 35 according to the Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI) of Transparency International
- Non-signatory to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty

The Portfolio Manger reserves the right to exclude additional countries for reasons of business policy.

\* Green bonds and sustainable bonds do not require exclusion providing the limits of Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/1818 apply directly to all assets at project level. For green and sustainable bonds, issuers must use the proceeds raised through the issue of the green or sustainable bond for specific purposes. If this is the case, green bonds are used to raise capital for specific activities to mitigate or prevent adverse impacts on the environment. Sustainable bonds are also used to raise capital for specific activities to mitigate or prevent adverse impacts to mitigate or prevent adverse impacts on the environment and on society. Investments in green bonds or sustainable bonds thus make a contribution to a positive impact in relation to the relevant exclusion criteria.

#### 3. Sustainable investments in accordance with Article 9(2) SFDR

The Portfolio Manager focuses on the securities of companies and the specific-purpose bonds of companies, supranational entities and governments (e.g. social, green or sustainable bonds), which, based on its assessment, make a contribution to sustainable objectives relating to one or more of the SDGs. The products and services of companies (hereinafter "sustainable solutions") and specific-purpose bonds are assessed with regards to their contribution to the SDGs using the data of independent third-party providers. The turnover of companies is used to examine the proportion of business that has a positive or negative impact on one or more of the objectives. For the specificpurpose bonds of companies, supranational entities and governments, we assess whether the proceeds have a positive impact on one or more of the SDGs.

If a sub-fund no longer complies with the characteristics described in point 1, the Portfolio Manager adjusts the portfolio by changing the weighting of the various securities or by replacing holdings with securities with lower  $CO_2e$  intensity, in accordance with the annual targets. The Portfolio Manager ensures that the corresponding guideline is complied with on average over the year.

Investments that no longer comply with the characteristics described in points 2 - 3 are removed from the portfolio by an appropriate deadline.

The sub-fund does not use a reference benchmark to meet the described sustainable investment 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, anticorruption and antibribery matters.

#### How do sustainable investments not cause significant harm to any environmental or social sustainable investment objective?

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

Issuers with a negative net contribution to the SDGs are removed from the investment universe of the financial product. The sub-fund also considers adverse impacts on sustainability factors (principal adverse impacts, hereinafter "PAIs"). The mandatory indicators in Annex I to Regulation (EU) 2019/2088 are used for this purpose. Issuers categorised by the Portfolio Manager as causing significant harm on the basis of PAIs are not included in sustainable investments.

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

Any breaches of the following standards are considered when analysing investments for inclusion as sustainable investments: the UN Global Compact (UNGC), UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (UNGP), and the International Labour Organisation (ILO) Conventions. Serious breaches of these standards result in the exclusion of any sustainable investments of the issuer.



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

#### 🛛 Yes,

The sub-fund considers principal adverse impacts (PAIs) on sustainability indicators. The mandatory indicators in Annex I to Regulation (EU) 2019/2088 are used for this purpose. Accordingly, issuers categorised by the Portfolio Manager as causing significant harm on the basis of a PAI rating are excluded from the investment universe.

The Portfolio Manager uses the data of third-party providers. Where this is not possible, the Portfolio Manager will make reasonable efforts to obtain the data directly or to estimate this data in the best way possible.

The information regarding PAIs required under Article 11(2) of Regulation (EU) 2019/2088 is published in the Annual Report.





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

#### What investment strategy does this financial product follow?

The fund invests at least 51% of its assets in fixed or variable-interest securities of issued by private and public-sector debtors in the rating range from Ba1 to Caa3 (Moody's) whereby if there is no official rating, a bank rating or an implicit rating can also be used. The portion of assets that does not have a rating does not exceed more than 15% of the fund's net assets. Up to 10% can be invested in distressed securities.

### What are the binding elements of the investment strategy used to select the investments to attain the sustainable investment objective?

#### 1. Reduction of CO<sub>2</sub>e intensity

The Portfolio Manager's investment activity targets a continuous reduction in the CO<sub>2</sub>e intensity of investments as follows:

The Portfolio Manager defines a guideline for the average CO<sub>2</sub>e intensity of the subfund's assets on an annual basis. The Portfolio Manager defines the respective guideline each year on the basis of the target value for the global reduction of CO<sub>2</sub>e emissions (at least 7.5% annually), which is based on the Paris Climate Agreement of 12 December 2015. The guideline for the average CO<sub>2</sub>e intensity of the sub-fund's assets is calculated by discounting the CO<sub>2</sub>e intensity of the assets included in the reference benchmark as at the end of 2019 annually by the target value (7.5%) and global economic growth. The Portfolio Manager uses a rolling arithmetic average of nominal economic growth over the last three years to calculate economic growth.

#### 2. Exclusion criteria

The consideration of sustainability aspects includes the definition of exclusion criteria for business activities that the Portfolio Manager judges to be high-risk (see above). These include the exclusions described in Delegated Regulation 2020/1818. The exclusion criteria are verified at least once a year for any changes or new information and adjusted accordingly.

#### 3. Sustainable investments in accordance with Article 9(2) SFDR

The Portfolio Manager invests in securities which, in its opinion, make a contribution to one or more sustainable objectives. The sustainable solutions of companies and the specific-purpose bonds of companies, supranational entities and governments (e.g. social, green or sustainable bonds) are assessed with regards to their contribution to the SDGs using the data of independent third-party providers. For this assessment, we verify what proportion of a company's turnover has a positive or negative impact on one or more of the SDGs. The contribution made to the SDGs is classified in one of five categories: strongly positive, positive, neutral, negative or strongly negative. Turnover is also classified according to its contribution to environmental or social objectives. Only turnover classified as making a positive or strongly positive contribution to the SDGs is categorised as sustainable investment. The specific-purpose bonds of companies, supranational entities and governments qualify as sustainable investments if the proceeds have a positive impact on one or more of the SDGs. The turnover of issuers causing significant harm to environmental or social sustainable investment objectives cannot be included in the proportion of sustainable investment.

#### 4. Investments in SDG leaders

When constructing the investment universe, the Portfolio Manager considers the securities of issuers whose products and services or specific-purpose bonds make a significant contribution to the SDGs ("SDG leaders"). A significant contribution means at least 66.67% of turnover from a sustainable solution with a strongly positive contribution, or 33.33% of turnover from a sustainable solution with a positive contribution. In exceptional cases, an issuer may qualify as an SDG leader if it produces a key component of a sustainable solution, even if the 66.67% or 33.33% threshold is not met. Specific-purpose bonds also qualify as SDG leaders. As a result of the turnover requirements for inclusion in the investment universe, SDG leaders generally account for a high proportion of sustainable investments in accordance with Article 9(2).

#### 5. Investments in ESG leaders

For the purposes of diversification, the Portfolio Manager also includes securities in the investment universe that are assessed as above-average on a best-in-class basis relating to a sustainable economic approach using environmental, social and governance (ESG) criteria. These securities are referred to as ESG leaders. Proprietary ESG scores calculated by the Portfolio Manager for companies and governments are used as the basis for identifying ESG leaders. These are based on the data of independent third-party providers and calculated using proprietary criteria, algorithms and weightings. The Portfolio Manager considers the relevance of ESG criteria with regards to sustainability risks and opportunities. The ESG scores calculated cover a scale of 0 to 100, whereby 0 is the lowest value, 50 the average, and 100 the best.

ESG leaders are companies with an ESG score  $\geq$  50 and governments with an ESG score  $\geq$  66.67. In exceptional cases, ESG leaders may be defined on the basis of fundamental research even if their ESG score is under 50.

If an ESG leader generates turnover that qualifies as sustainable investment in accordance with Article 9(2) SFDR, this is also included in sustainable investments in accordance with Article 9(2) SFDR. However, as there is no minimum turnover requirement for ESG leaders, this typically represents a significantly lower proportion than for SDG leaders.

#### 6. ESG integration

As part of the investment process, the Portfolio Manager follows an approach which integrates environmental, social and governance (ESG) aspects. This means that environmental and/or social characteristics are automatically considered in addition to traditional financial analysis when selecting investments, in order to guarantee a positive contribution (opportunities) to ESG criteria and where applicable investment returns. There are therefore limited investments in ESG laggards. ESG laggards are companies within a specific sector or industry branch with particularly poor ESG scores versus their peers based on proprietary ESG scores.

The weighting of all positions in ESG laggards in the sub-fund is the same or lower than the weighting of all positions in ESG laggards in the sub-fund's benchmark.

**Good governance** practices include

sound management structures, employee relations, remuneration of staff and tax compliance.

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

Good governance is considered when analysing investments by verifying compliance with the following global standards: the UN Global Compact (UNGC), UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (UNGP), and the International Labour Organisation (ILO) Conventions. Any breach of these standards results in the exclusion of the issuer from the financial product's universe of investee companies.

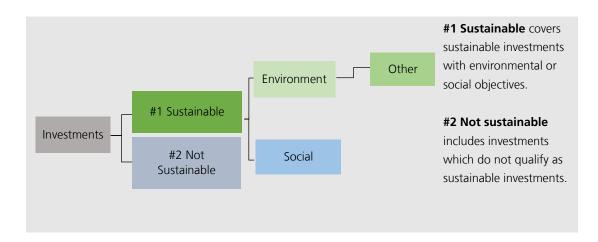


#### Asset allocation describes the share of investments in specific assets.

### What is the asset allocation and the minimum share of sustainable investments?

The Portfolio Manager pursues the aforementioned sustainable investment objectives: (i) reduction of  $CO_2e$  intensity in accordance with Article 9(3) SFDR; and (ii) sustainable investment in accordance with Article 9(2) SFDR. The reduction of  $CO_2e$  intensity aligned with the 1.5-degree target of the Paris Climate Agreement is applied to 80% of the subfund's portfolio (excluding cash and derivatives).

The Portfolio Manager invests at least 20% of the net assets of the sub-fund in sustainable investments in accordance with Article 9(2) SFDR.



### How does the use of derivatives attain the sustainable investment objective?

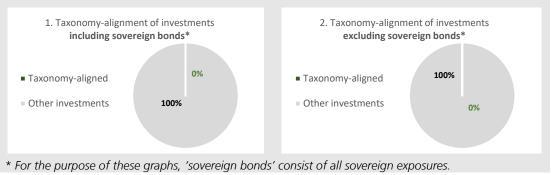
Derivatives are not used to achieve the sustainable investment objective.



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

0% of the portfolio. The fund does not pursue sustainable investments aligned with 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 taxonomyalignment of sovereign bonds<sup>\*</sup>, 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.



What is the minimum share of investments in transitional and enabling

#### 0% of the portfolio.

activities?

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

The minimum proportion of sustainable investments with an environmental objective according to Article 9 (3) SFDR is 80% of the portfolio. The minimum proportion of sustainable investments with an environmental objective according to Article 9 (2) SFDR is 10% of the portfolio, whereby this share is already included in the minimum share of sustainable investments with an environmental objective according to Article 9 (3) SFDR.

## What is the minimum share of sustainable investments with a social objective?

The minimum proportion of sustainable investments with a social objective in accordance with Article 9(2) SFDR is 10% of the portfolio, whereby this is already included in the minimum share of sustainable investments with an environmental objective in accordance with Article 9(3) SFDR.



environmentally sustainable investments that **do not take into account the criteria** for environmentally sustainable economic activities under the EU Taxonomy.



# What investments are included under "#2 Not sustainable", what is their purpose and are there any minimum environmental or social safeguards?

Investments classified as "not sustainable" are all investments included in net assets after the deduction of sustainable investments.

These assets may include any investments covered by the specific investment policy, including derivatives for hedging purposes and cash, and are used to pursue the investment strategy of the sub-fund. For these investments, minimum environmental and social safeguards are generally applied, with the exception of derivatives and cash, to which these principles cannot be applied.



# Is a specific index designated as a reference benchmark to meet the sustainable investment objective?

How does the reference benchmark take into account sustainability factors in a way that is continuously aligned with the sustainable investment objective?

An index is not used as a reference benchmark to meet the sustainable investment objectives.



### Where can I find more product specific information online?

Further information on the product-related sustainability policy of the sub-fund can be found on the following website: https://products.swisscanto.com/products/product/LU0830970272.

11/11