



Morningstar® Developed Markets Large Cap Dividend  
Leaders Screened Select – ESG Benchmark Statement

October 2023

<b>CONSIDERATION OF ESG FACTORS IN THE BENCHMARK METHODOLOGY</b>	
Item 1. Name of the benchmark administrator.	Morningstar
Item 2. Type of benchmark.	Equity
Item 3. Name of the benchmark.	Benchmark – <a href="#">Morningstar Developed Markets Large Cap Dividend Leaders Screened Select</a> Family – Morningstar Equity Sustainability
Item 4. Does the methodology take into account ESG factors?	Yes
Item 5. ESG factors taken into account for benchmark family.	
(a)List of environmental factors considered	<p>This benchmark family takes the following environmental factors into account by</p> <p>Exclusions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Controversy score of 5 (Severe)</li> <li>• A null or Severe ESG Risk Rating</li> <li>• Noncompliance with U.N. Global Compact</li> <li>• More than 5% revenue involvement in thermal coal extraction or thermal coal power generation.</li> </ul> <p>Selection:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Companies must be covered by Controversy ratings, ESG Risk Ratings and Product Involvement Data.</li> </ul> <p>Weighting:</p> <p>N/A</p>
(b)List of social factors considered	<p>This benchmark family takes the following social factors into account by</p> <p>Exclusions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Controversy score of 5 (Severe)</li> <li>• A null or Severe ESG Risk Rating</li> <li>• Noncompliance with U.N. Global Compact</li> <li>• Any revenue involvement in tobacco products production, controversial weapons, Small Arms – Civilian and Small Arms – Key Components.</li> </ul>

	<p>Selection:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Companies must be covered by Controversy ratings, ESG Risk Ratings and Product Involvement Data.</li> </ul> <p>Weighting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• N/A</li> </ul>
(c)List of governance factors considered.	<p>This benchmark takes the following governance factors into account by</p> <p>Exclusions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Controversy score of 5 (Severe)</li> <li>• A null or Severe ESG Risk Rating</li> <li>• Noncompliance with U.N. Global Compact</li> </ul> <p>Selection:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Companies must be covered by Controversy ratings and ESG Risk Rating scores.</li> </ul> <p>Weighting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• N/A</li> <li>•</li> </ul>
Item 6. ESG factors applied for the stated benchmark.	
<p>This benchmark takes the following environmental factors into account by</p> <p>Exclusions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Controversy score of 5 (Severe)</li> <li>• A null or Severe ESG Risk Rating</li> <li>• Noncompliance with U.N. Global Compact</li> <li>• More than 5% revenue involvement in thermal coal extraction or thermal coal power generation.</li> </ul> <p>Selection:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Companies must be covered by Controversy ratings, ESG Risk Ratings and Product Involvement Data.</li> </ul> <p>Weighting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• N/A</li> </ul>	
<p>This benchmark takes the following social factors into account by</p> <p>Exclusions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Controversy score of 5 (Severe)</li> <li>• A null or Severe ESG Risk Rating</li> </ul>	

- Noncompliance with U.N. Global Compact
- Any revenue involvement in tobacco products production, controversial weapons, Small Arms – Civilian and Small Arms – Key Components.

Selection:

- Companies must be covered by Controversy ratings, ESG Risk Ratings and Product Involvement Data.

Weighting:

- N/A

This benchmark takes the following governance factors into account by

Exclusions:

- Controversy score of 5 (Severe)
- A null or Severe ESG Risk Rating
- Noncompliance with U.N. Global Compact

Selection:

- Companies must be covered by Controversy ratings and ESG Risk Rating scores.

Weighting:

- N/A

Description of factors considered.

Controversy ratings: Using smart technologies to monitor more than 700,000 news stories daily, Sustainalytics' Controversies Research identifies companies involved in ESG-related incidents. These incidents are assessed through a framework that considers the severity of incidents, the corporations' accountability, and whether they form part of a pattern of corporate misconduct. Investors use Controversies Research to support investment decisions, including screening and engagement, and to manage reputational risks.

- Controversial weapons: Sustainalytics' Controversial Weapons Radar monitors company involvement in the following areas: antipersonnel mines, biological and chemical weapons, cluster weapons, depleted uranium, nuclear weapons, and white phosphorus weapons

Environmental, social, and governance ratings: Sustainalytics' environmental, social, and governance ratings measure how well issuers proactively manage ESG issues that are the most material to their business.

Product involvement screen: Product Involvement research helps identify companies involved in a range of products, services, and business activities for screening purposes. Each activity is accompanied with a concise summary of the way the company is involved in the relevant product or activity

UNGC Violations: Sustainalytics' Global Standards Screening provides an assessment of a company's impact

on stakeholders and the extent to which a company causes, contributes or is linked to violations of international norms and standards (UNGC, OECD, UNGPs and their underlying conventions).

Data Inputs:

Externally sourced through Sustainalytics ESG Research:

### **Sustainalytics**

Sustainalytics is a leading independent ESG and corporate governance research, ratings, and analytics firm that supports investors around the world with the development and implementation of responsible investment strategies.

In particular, this index uses the following ESG products: Controversies, Global Standards Screening, Product Involvement and Controversial Weapons Involvement.

For details on Sustainalytics ESG Research's full suite of ESG products, please refer to:

<https://www.sustainalytics.com/>

Sustainalytics' research process involves the collection and analysis of information made available by third parties, including civil society, corporate, government, industry association, investor, media and regulatory sources. Sustainalytics also uses third-party data providers about which information is available at

<https://www.sustainalytics.com/legal-disclaimers/>

Verification and quality of data:

The verification and quality of data are checked both externally and internally by automated and manual quality assurance processes involving, inter alia, change control; change mapping; ID mapping; exception reporting; prepublication reviews; continuous incident monitoring; quarterly rebalancing; and centralized definitions.

Incorrect pricing and corporate action data for individual issues in the database will be corrected upon detection. In addition, an incorrect divisor of an index, if discovered within five days of its occurrence, will always be fixed retroactively on the day it is discovered to prevent an error from being carried forward. Commercially reasonable efforts are made to correct an older error subject to its significance and feasibility.

Sustainalytics Quality Approach to ESG data and ratings:

Universe Management

- Centralized universe definitions and processes for rebalancing;
- Quarterly rebalances of Sustainalytics' standard coverage and compliance universes;
- Clear, transparent, and consistent approach to the allocation of research versus coverage entities.

#### Company Research

- Continuous improvement and maintenance of quality and research standards;
- Feedback that is received from companies in Sustainalytics' coverage and that are a part of our ESG Risk Ratings and controversy research is taken into consideration, and whenever relevant included;
- Quality reviews of ESG assessments before publication;
- Reviewing controversy ratings by the Events Oversight Committee — focus on controversy level changes to and from level 4 and 5.

#### Data and Deliverable Management

- Quality and reliability of our covered company and identifier data through automated quality assurance;
- Quality and reliability of our proprietary (research) data through automated quality assurance, prior to publication;
- Quality and reliability of standard deliverables through end-of-gate quality assurance process;
- Quality and reliability of custom client deliverables through end-of-gate quality assurance processes (automated and manual);
- Monitoring and investigating ESG score fluctuations and their root causes using automated tools.

#### Update Cycle

- We aim for annual updates of management indicators for the covered companies.
- Continuous updates are made as incidents occur and feed into updates of event indicators, which is not disclosure-driven.

Annual updates to the rating framework (selection of material ESG issues, weighting of indicators)

#### Reference standards:

U.N. Global Compact violations: The United Nations Global Compact Principles, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises, the U.N. Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, and their underlying conventions.

Controversial weapons: International treaties and conventions used to define controversial weapons include the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (1968), Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention (1972), Chemical Weapons Convention (1997), Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention (1999), Convention on Cluster Munitions (2008), United Nations Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons (1980), and Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material (1980).

The methodology behind Sustainalytics' Global Standards Screening is based on the following international standard:

- U.N. Global Compact Principles
- OECD
- World Governance Indicators

- On top of these international (convention-based) standards, we also look at industry-specific standards or initiatives. Examples are the Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil, the standards for systemically important banks, local corporate governance codes, and many others.