

# SPDR MSCI USA Climate Paris Aligned UCITS ETF

## Opplysninger på nettstedet til et artikkel 8-fond



### A. Sammendrag

SPDR MSCI USA Climate Paris Aligned UCITS ETF ("fond") er et indeksfond som sporer utviklingen til MSCI USA Climate Paris Aligned Index. Denne indeksen har blitt valgt for at man skal oppnå de miljømessige og sosiale egenskapene som fremmes av fondet. De miljømessige og sosiale egenskapene fremmes av fondet gjennom indeksen fondet har valgt. Indeksen tar sikte på å gjenspeile avkastningen til et visst utvalg av aksjer i selskaper innenfor MSCI USA-indeksen ("overordnet indeks") for å redusere eksponeringen for overgangsrisiko og fysisk klimarisiko, samtidig som man utnytter muligheter som oppstår ved overgangen til en lavkarbonøkonomi, og søker å tilpasse seg Paris-avtalen som er vedtatt under FNs rammekonvensjon om klimaendringer ("Paris-avtalen").

Fondet fremmer miljømessige eller sosiale egenskaper, men har ikke bærekraftig investering som mål.

De miljømessige og sosiale egenskapene fremmes av fondet gjennom indeksen fondet har valgt. Indeksen tar sikte på å gjenspeile avkastningen til et visst utvalg av aksjer i selskaper innenfor MSCI USA-indeksen ("overordnet indeks") for å redusere eksponeringen for overgangsrisiko og fysisk klimarisiko, samtidig som man utnytter muligheter som oppstår ved overgangen til en lavkarbonøkonomi, og søker å tilpasse seg Paris-avtalen som er vedtatt under FNs rammekonvensjon om klimaendringer ("Paris-avtalen"). I tillegg ekskluderer indeksen visse selskaper basert på deres deltakelse i følgende kontroversielle næringsaktiviteter: kontroversielle våpen, tobakk, olje og gass samt termisk kullgruvedrift og kraftproduksjon. Nærmere informasjon om hvordan indekssleverandøren definerer hva som utgjør "deltakelse", er beskrevet i indekismetodologien. Indeksen ekskluderer også selskaper som er identifisert av indekssleverandøren som involvert i kontroverser som har negativ ESG-påvirkning på deres virksomhet, og/eller produkter og tjenester basert på en MSCI ESG-kontroversscore ("MSCI ESG-kontroversscore").

Investeringsforvalteren og/eller underforvalteren skal, på vegne av fondet, investere ved å bruke replikasjonsstrategien som er nærmere beskrevet i "Investment Objectives and Policies – Index Tracking Funds" i prospektet. Investeringene skal hovedsakelig skje i verdipapirene i indeksen, og de skal til enhver tid være i samsvar med investeringsbegrensningene som er angitt i prospektet.

Investeringsforvalteren benytter en bindende ESG-metodologi som tar sikte på å sette sammen en portefølje der minst 90 % av fondets eiendeler investeres i verdipapirer som er i samsvar med de miljømessige og sosiale egenskapene som fondet fremmer. Den gjenværende delen (<10 %) av porteføljen, som består av kontanter og kontantekvivalenter som investeringsforvalteren holder etter eget skjønn, vil ikke være i samsvar med de miljømessige og sosiale egenskapene som fremmes. I den utstrekning fondet kan bruke finansielle derivater, vil disse ikke bli brukt til å oppnå de miljømessige eller sosiale egenskapene som fondet fremmer. Fondet forplikter seg ikke til å gjøre bærekraftige investeringer i henhold til SFDR eller taksonomiforordningen.

Hvor stor andel av fondets portefølje som investeres i verdipapirer som inngår i indeksen, utgjør en bærekraftindikator som brukes til å måle oppnåelsen av de ulike miljømessige og sosiale egenskapene som fondet fremmer.

Koblingen til indeksmetodologien som fanger opp de miljømessige og sosiale egenskapene som fondet fremmer, er gjort tilgjengelig i det relevante tillegget og er inkludert nedenfor.

Datakildene som brukes til å oppnå de relevante miljømessige og sosiale egenskapene, er nærmere beskrevet i indeksmetodologien.

Det foreligger en risiko for at indeksleverandøren gjør feil, som for eksempel kan være feilvurdering av sorteringskriteriene beskrevet i investeringspolicyen, inkludering av ukorrekte komponenter og/eller utelatelse av korrekte komponenter i screeningsprosessen. ESG-data kan være basert på visse forutsetninger, prognoser, fremskrivninger, synspunkter og meninger, som igjen kan være basert på dagens markedstrender eller forventede fremtidige hendelser. Gitt den evolverende og innovative naturen til datamodeller, metodologier og forutsetninger og den iboende usikkerheten ved prognoser om fremtidige hendelser, kan det ikke garanteres at ESG-dataene alltid er nøyaktige eller korrekte, eller at ESG-dataene vil tilfredsstillende målene eller kravene til en bestemt kunde eller investor. Videre kan det forekomme at data ikke kan hentes inn på grunn av manglende tilgang til datakilder.

SSGA fører tilsyn med eksterne leverandører, inkludert indeksleverandører, i henhold til dets tredjeparts risikostyringsprogram. SSGA er regelmessig i kontakt med indeksleverandører for å gjennomgå servicenivå, og de foretar også målrettede gjennomganger av indeksleverandørenes prosesser, systemer, systemkontroller, data, kvalitetskontroller og IT-sikkerhet.

SSGAs retningslinjer for engasjement er ikke direkte integrert i fondets investeringsstrategi. SSGAs Asset Stewardship-program konsoliderer imidlertid alle stemme- og engasjementsaktiviteter på tvers av aktivaklasser uavhengig av investeringsstrategi eller geografisk region, og dette gjør de også på vegne av fondet.

Fondet har valgt indeksen for å oppnå de miljømessige og sosiale egenskapene som fremmes av fondet. Indeksen rebalanseres halvårlig, på slutten av siste virkedag i mai og november.

Det henvises til MSCI USA Climate Paris Aligned Index-metodologien:

[https://www.msci.com/eqb/methodology/meth\\_docs/MSCI\\_Climate\\_Paris\\_Aligned\\_Indexes.pdf](https://www.msci.com/eqb/methodology/meth_docs/MSCI_Climate_Paris_Aligned_Indexes.pdf)



## **B. No sustainable investment objective**

The Fund promotes environmental or social characteristics, but does not have as its objective a sustainable investment.



### C. Environmental or social characteristics of the financial product

The environmental and/or social characteristics promoted by the Fund are those promoted by the MSCI USA Climate Paris Aligned Index (the "Index") which the Fund tracks. The Index aims to reflect the performance of a sub-set of equity securities of companies within the MSCI USA Index (the "Parent Index"), to reduce exposure to transition and physical climate risks while pursuing opportunities arising from the transition to a lower-carbon economy and seeks to align with the Paris Agreement adopted under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change requirements (the "Paris Agreement").



### D. Investment Strategy

The investment policy of the Fund is to track the performance of the Index (or any other index determined by the Directors from time to time to track substantially the same market as the Index) as closely as possible, while seeking to minimise as far as possible the tracking difference between the Fund's performance and that of the Index.

The Index aims to reflect the performance of a sub-set of equity securities of companies within the Parent Index which are selected and weighted in accordance with the Index methodology. The Index methodology aims to reduce exposure to transition and physical climate risks while pursuing opportunities arising from the transition to a lower-carbon economy and seeking to align the Fund's portfolio with the Paris Agreement adopted under the Paris Agreement. The Parent Index measures the performance of large and mid-capitalisation stocks of the U.S. equity markets. The Index aims to exceed the minimum standards for EU Paris-Aligned benchmarks set out in the Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/1818 for the methodology of benchmark indices that would be aligned with the objectives of the Paris Agreement. The Index excludes certain companies based on their involvement in the following controversial business activities: controversial weapons, tobacco, oil and gas, and thermal coal mining and power generation, with further detail on how the Index provider defines what constitutes "involvement" outlined in the Index methodology. The Index also excludes companies which are identified by the Index provider as being involved in controversies that have a negative ESG impact on their operations and/or products and services based on an MSCI ESG controversy score ("MSCI ESG Controversy Score").

The Investment Manager and/or Sub-Investment Manager, on behalf of the Fund, will invest using the replication strategy as further described in the "Investment Objectives and Policies – Index Tracking Funds" section of the Prospectus, primarily in the securities of the Index, at all times in accordance with the Investment Restrictions set forth in the Prospectus.

Companies deemed not in violation by the Index provider of the UNGC principles are considered to exhibit good governance. For information on the methodologies used in the construction of the Index and further information on the exclusion criteria and data sources, please refer to MSCI's index methodology description which can be found at the following link:  
[https://www.msci.com/eqb/methodology/meth\\_docs/MSCI\\_Climate\\_Paris\\_Aligned\\_Indexes.pdf](https://www.msci.com/eqb/methodology/meth_docs/MSCI_Climate_Paris_Aligned_Indexes.pdf)



### E. Proportion of investments

Environmental and social characteristics are promoted via the adoption of screens and best in class criteria within the Index .

At least 90% of the Fund's assets are invested in securities that are constituents of the Index and aligned with environmental and / or social characteristics, while the Index provider applies ESG ratings on all the Index constituents. The Fund does not commit to making sustainable investments within the meaning of the SFDR or the Taxonomy Regulation. The Fund may hold 10% of its assets in cash or cash equivalents and derivatives used for currency hedging and efficient portfolio management purposes, at the Investment Manager's discretion. Such assets will not be aligned with environmental and social characteristics, nor will there be any environmental or social safeguards in place.

The Fund does not commit to making sustainable investments within the meaning of the SFDR or the EU Taxonomy Regulation.

The portfolio of the Fund is predominantly composed of securities that comply with the ESG standards outlined above and in the index methodology (and in ensuring that the portfolio is exempt of issuers having activities that would significantly harm this objective).



## F. Monitoring of environmental or social characteristics

Attainment of the relevant characteristics is evaluated using the indicators described below. The Index aims are:

- A reduction of overall greenhouse gas (GHG) intensity compared with the Parent Index;
- A minimum decarbonisation rate of GHG intensity reduction per year
- Exposure to sectors with a high impact on climate change at least equivalent to the Parent Index to align with the objectives of the Paris Agreement to include exposure to sectors that should actively reduce GHG emissions.

The index takes into account:

- Increased exposure to companies that publish emissions reduction targets, publish their annual emissions and reduce their GHG intensity;
- Contribution to reduced weighted average potential emissions intensity compared with the Parent Index;
- Contribution to increased overall low carbon transition (LCT) score compared with the Parent Index (i.e., lower overall exposure to companies facing risks from LCT and / or higher overall exposure to companies which may have opportunities from LCT), as determined by the index provider;
- Reduction in exposure to physical risk arising from extreme weather events compared with the Parent Index
- Contribution to increased overall exposure to companies with a minimum green-to-brown revenue ratio compared with the Parent Index with green revenues being those which reflect company revenues from products and services that have the potential to contribute to the low carbon transition versus brown revenues which have the potential to harm the environment and worsen the low carbon transition (for further information on the meaning of green and brown revenue and how they are calculated please refer to the index methodology);
- Contribution to increased overall green revenue compared with the Parent Index; and
- Constituent-level liquidity and diversification caps.

The Fund rebalances on a semi-annual basis, in line with the Index rebalancing frequency.



## G. Methodologies

The index methodology which captures the environmental or social characteristics promoted by the financial product is made available in the fund supplement.



## H. Data sources and processing

The data sources used to attain the relevant environmental or social characteristics are detailed in the index methodology.



## I. Limitations to methodologies and data

There is a risk that the index provider may make errors, such as incorrect assessment of the screen criteria described in the Investment Policy and/or include incorrect/exclude correct constituents in the screening process. ESG scoring and screening is subject to inherent methodological limits. Any assessment of ESG criteria by an Index is based on the data provided by third parties. Such assessments are dependent upon information and data that may be incomplete, inaccurate or unavailable, which could cause incorrect assessment of an issuer's ESG performance. In particular there may be potential inconsistencies, inaccuracy or a lack of availability of required ESG data, particularly where this is issued by external data providers. These limitations may include but are not limited to issues relating to: - Missing or incomplete data from companies (for example, relating to their capacity to manage their Sustainability Risks) which have been used as input for any scoring model; - The quantity and quality of ESG data to be processed; and - The identification of relevant factors for the ESG analysis.

ESG data may be based on certain assumptions, forecasts, projections, views and opinions which may be based on current market trends or anticipated future events. To assess company involvement in different activities and to estimate revenue shares as accurately as possible, data providers strive to obtain information directly from companies and issuers. Sources of data include annual reports, regulatory filings, sustainability reports, press releases, investor presentations, company websites, and other company disclosures. Given the developing and innovative nature of data models, methodologies and assumptions and the inherent uncertainty in predicting forward-looking events, it cannot be guaranteed that the ESG data is always accurate or correct or that the ESG data will satisfy the aims or requirements of any specific client or investor. Furthermore, there may be data that cannot be sourced due to the lack of availability of data sources.



## J. Due diligence

SSGA oversees external vendors, including index providers, in line with its third party risk management programme. SSGA engages with index providers regularly for service level reviews and also undertakes targeted reviews of index providers' processes, systems & systems controls, data, quality controls & IT security.



## K. Engagement policies

**Is engagement part of the environmental or social investment strategy?**

Yes

No

While SSGA engagement policies are not directly embedded into the Fund's investment strategy, for SSGA the informed exercise of voting rights coupled with targeted and value-driven engagement is the most effective mechanism of creating value and managing Sustainability Risk for the investors. SSGA's Asset Stewardship programme consolidates all voting and engagement activities across asset classes, irrespective of investment strategy or geographic region. The engagement strategy is built on SSGA's ability to prioritise and allocate resources to companies and issues that have the greatest potential impact. SSGA's Asset Stewardship programme is underpinned by 3 separate pillars, that is, (i) providing information and guidance to investee companies on the development of ESG practices across key issues, (ii) engaging with portfolio companies to encourage transparent, accountable, high performing boards and companies, and (iii) by exercising voting rights in a manner that reflects long term investment objectives for the purpose of influencing the activity or behaviour of the issuers. To support this process, SSGA has developed proprietary in-house tools to help identify companies for active engagement based on various financial and ESG indicators.



## L. Reference benchmark

**Has a reference benchmark been designated for the purpose of attaining these characteristics promoted by the Fund?**

Yes

No

The Fund is an index fund tracking the performance of the MSCI USA Climate Paris Aligned Index. The Index has been designated for the purpose of attaining the environmental and social characteristics promoted by the Fund. The Index aims to reflect the performance of a sub-set of equity securities of companies within the MSCI USA Index (the "Parent Index"), to reduce exposure to transition and physical climate risks while pursuing opportunities arising from the transition to a lower-carbon economy and seeks to align with the Paris Agreement adopted under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change requirements (the "Paris Agreement").

The Index is rebalanced on a semi-annual basis, as of the close of the last business day of May and November.

Please refer to MSCI USA Climate Paris Aligned Index methodology:

[https://www.msci.com/eqb/methodology/meth\\_docs/MSCI\\_Climate\\_Paris\\_Aligned\\_Indexes.pdf](https://www.msci.com/eqb/methodology/meth_docs/MSCI_Climate_Paris_Aligned_Indexes.pdf)

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The Fund uses (within the meaning of the Benchmark Regulation) the following MSCI Limited benchmark: MSCI USA Climate Paris Aligned Index. No MSCI Limited entity is listed on the ESMA Register referred to in Article 36 of the Benchmark Regulation. MSCI Limited is and remains authorized as a UK benchmark administrator regulated by the UK Financial Conduct Authority (“FCA”) (and can be found on the FCA Financial Services Register), but will be considered a “third country” UK administrator vis-à-vis the EU and will not appear on the ESMA Register per Article 36 of the Benchmark Regulation unless and until the EU grants the UK “equivalence” or until MSCI is granted “endorsement” or “recognition”.

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