

CONSIDERATION OF ESG FACTORS IN THE BENCHMARK METHODOLOGY		
Item 1. Name of the benchmark administrator.	STOXX Ltd.	
Item 2. Type of benchmark.	Equity	
Item 3. Name of the benchmark.	Benchmark – STOXX USA 900 ESG-X Ax Quality Family - STOXX Environmental Social & Governance Family	
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	This benchmark family takes the following environmental factors into account by exclusion: Global Standards Screening; Controversy Ratings; Environmental Ratings, Overall ESG Ratings; Unconventional Oil & Gas; Conventional Oil & Gas; Thermal Coal; Genetically Modified Plants & Seeds; Pesticides; Palm Oil; Subsectorial Classification. This benchmark family takes the following environmental factors into account by selection: Environmental Ratings, Overall ESG Ratings. This benchmark family takes the following environmental factors into account by weighting: Environmental Ratings, Overall ESG Ratings; EU Climate Transition Benchmark (EU CTB) requirements; EU Paris Aligned Benchmark (EU PAB) requirements.	
(b)List of social factors considered	This benchmark family takes the following social factors into account by exclusion: Global Standards Screening; Controversy Rating; Social Rating, Overall ESG Rating; Controversial Weapons; Weapons (Small Arms & Military Contracting); Nuclear Power; Tobacco; Adult Environmental; Alcoholic Beverages; Fur & Speciality Leather; Gambling; Abortion; Contraceptives; Human Embryonic Stem Cells; Genetically Modified Plants & Seeds; Predatory Lending, Subsectorial Classification. This benchmark family takes the following social factors into account by selection: Social Rating; Overall ESG Rating. This benchmark family takes the following social factors into account by weighting: Social Rating; Overall ESG Rating.	
(c)List of governance factors considered.	This benchmark family takes the following governance factors into account by exclusion: Global Standards Screening; Governance Rating; Overall ESG Rating. This benchmark family takes the following governance factors into account by selection: Social Rating; Overall ESG Rating. This benchmark family takes the following governance factors into account by weighting: Social Rating; Overall ESG Rating.	
Item 6. ESG factors applied for the stated benchmark.		
(a)List of environmental factors considered	UN Global Compact Violations	Exclusion
	Product Involvement – Unconventional Oil & Gas	Exclusion

	Product Involvement – Fossil Fuels	Exclusion
	Product Involvement – Thermal Coal	Exclusion
	ESG Rating	Exclusion
	ESG Score	Selection
(a)List of social factors considered	UN Global Compact Violations	Exclusion
	Business Involvement – Controversial Weapons	Exclusion
	Product Involvement – Military Contracting	Exclusion
	Product Involvement – Civilian Firearms	Exclusion
	Product Involvement – Tobacco	Exclusion
	ESG Rating	Exclusion
	ESG Score	Selection
(c)List of governance factors considered.	UN Global Compact Violations	Exclusion
	ESG Rating	Exclusion
	ESG Score	Selection
Description of factors considered.	UNGC Violations: ISS-ESG assesses companies’ adherence to international norms on human rights, labour standards, environmental protection and anticorruption established in the UN Global Compact and the OECD Guidelines.	
	Controversial Weapons: ISS-ESG assesses companies’ involvement in banned or controversial weapons, including cluster munitions, anti-personnel mines, depleted uranium, nuclear weapons, and biological and chemical weapons.	
	ESG Rating: the ISS-ESG ESG Rating provides the rated entity's overall rating based on an assessment of environmental, social, and governance performance. The overall rating is graded on a twelve-point scale from A+ (excellent performance) to D- (poor performance).	
	ESG Score: The ESG scores are sourced from ISS-ESG - ESG Performance Score. This metric provides a numerical score from 0 to 100.	
	Product Involvement: ISS-ESG Product Involvement Research identifies companies’ involvement on a range of product involvement categories.	
	More detailed information on the application of these categories is available within the relevant methodology guides. https://www.stoxx.com/rulebooks	
Item 7. Data and standards used		
(a) Data input.	Data is offered through ISS ESG, the sustainable investment arm of Institutional Shareholder Services Inc. https://www.issgovernance.com/esg/	

(b) 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; pre-publication reviews; continuous incident monitoring; quarterly rebalancing and centralised definitions.
(c) Reference standards	UNGC Violations: The United Nations Global Compact (UNGC) Principles, the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises, the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (UNGPs), and their underlying conventions. Controversial Weapons: International treaties and conventions used to define Controversial Weapons include 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).
Date on which information has been last updated and reason for the update:	May 2025 - Second Version Switch from Sustainalytics to ISS-ESG and addition of new ESG screens