

METHODOLOGY BOOK FOR:

- MSCI EUR IG SRI P-SERIES EX FOSSIL FUEL (1Y-3Y)
 CORPORATE BOND INDEX
- MSCI EUR IG SRI P-SERIES EX FOSSIL FUEL CORPORATE BOND INDEX
- MSCI USD HY SRI P-SERIES CORPORATE BOND INDEX
- MSCI EUR HY SRI P-SERIES CORPORATE BOND INDEX
- MSCI USD IG LIQUID SRI P-SERIES CORPORATE BOND INDEX

May 2025



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1 General Methodology Overview

The MSCI USD IG Liquid SRI P-Series Corporate Bond Index, MSCI USD HY SRI P-Series Corporate Bond Index, MSCI EUR IG SRI P-Series ex Fossil Fuel Corporate Bond Index, MSCI EUR IG SRI P-Series ex Fossil Fuel (1Y-3Y) Corporate Bond Index and MSCI EUR HY SRI P-Series Corporate Bond Index (the 'Indexes') are market value-weighted and are constructed over an market value weighted universe of corporate bonds, which are defined by applying various selection criteria, such as security type, credit rating, bond size, maturity, country of domicile etc.

The Indexes aim to represent the performance of companies that are consistent with specific values-based business involvement criteria and at the same time have a relatively better Environmental, Social and Governance ("ESG") profile vs. the relevant underlying market value-weighted parent index. The index includes issuers with MSCI ESG Rating of BBB or higher and negatively screens out issuers that are involved in Red Flag Controversies or in business activities like Alcohol, Civilian Firearms, Gambling, Nuclear Weapons, Controversial Weapons, Conventional Weapons, Nuclear Power, Tobacco, Adult Entertainment, Genetic Engineering, Thermal Coal Mining, Oil & Gas, Fossil Fuels based Power Generation and Fossil Fuels.



2 Index Construction Methodology

The Indexes are constructed over market value weighted parent indexes ('Parent Indexes') as noted below:

Index	Parent Index
MSCI USD IG Liquid SRI P-Series	MSCI USD IG Core Corporate Bond
Corporate Bond Index	Index (MSCI Index Code: 725976)
MSCI USD HY SRI P-Series Corporate	MSCI USD HY 500 Custom Corporate
Bond Index	Bond Index
MSCI EUR IG SRI P-Series ex Fossil	MSCI EUR IG 500 Custom Corporate
Fuel Corporate Bond Index	Bond Index
MSCI EUR IG SRI P-Series ex Fossil	MSCI EUR IG 500 Custom Corporate
Fuel (1Y-3Y) Corporate Bond Index	Bond Index
MSCI EUR HY SRI P-Series Corporate	MSCI EUR HY 250 Custom Corporate
Bond Index	Bond Index

2.1 Defining the Parent Index¹

2.1.1 General Guidelines

The Parent Indexes are constructed from a universe of corporate bonds denominated in USD and EUR.

Index eligible bonds are selected by applying the following criteria².

Security Type:

Eligible Security Types	Ineligible Security Types
Corporate Debt only ³	Floating Rate Coupon Bonds
Senior and Subordinated Issues	Zero Coupon Bonds
Puttable and Callable Bonds	Inflation Protected Bonds
Bullet Bonds	Perpetual Bonds

¹ Section 2.1 defines the construction of custom market value weighted parent indexes. For the construction of the standard MSCI USD IG Core Corporate Bond Index (MSCI Index Code: 725976), please refer to the MSCI Corporate Bond Index Methodology.

² MSCI leverages the GICS® sector classification framework for construction of the respective Parent Indexes. Please refer to MSCI GICS Methodology for details. The GICS methodology is available at: www.msci.com/GICS

³ Corporate issuers classified as government owned as per MSCI data vendors are excluded from the Indexes. Each corporate issuer eligible for Index inclusion will have a GICS code assigned to it.



Eligible Security Types	Ineligible Security Types
Bonds with Step-up / Step-down Coupons	Bonds with sinking fund provision
USD denominated indexes include 144A bonds ⁴ while EUR denominated indexes include RegS bonds	Private Placements
Fixed to Floating Rate Bonds are eligible	Dual Currency Bonds
for inclusion during their fixed rate term only. They are excluded 1 year prior to	Strips (IO/PO)
the conversion date as measured from	PIKs and Hybrids ⁶
the effective date of Index rebalancing ⁵ (Rebalancing Date)	

Credit Rating: Eligible Index constituents must be rated either by S&P or Moody's. For bonds that are rated by both S&P and Moody's, the lower rating will be used to determine the index inclusion criteria.

The table below summarizes higher and lower rating thresholds for Investment Grade (IG), Corporate Bond Indexes and High Yield (HY) Corporate Bond Indexes.

	S&P Rating		Moody's Rating	
	Higher Rating Lower Rating Threshold Threshold		Higher Rating Threshold	Lower Rating Threshold
IG	AAA	BBB-	Aaa	Baa3
HY	BB+	CC	Ba1	Ca

Issuer Country of Domicile: Eligible Index constituents must belong to issuers domiciled in the Developed Market universe as described in Appendix I of this document.

Maturity: Eligible Index constituents must have a maturity greater than or equal to 1 year as measured from the Rebalancing Date. New additions to the index must have a maturity greater than or equal to 1 ½ years as measured from the Rebalancing Date.

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⁴ The MSCI USD IG Corporate Bond Index only includes 144a bonds with registration rights, whereas the MSCI USD HY 500 Custom Corporate Bond Index includes both 144a bonds with registration rights and 144a bonds without registration rights.

 $^{^{\}rm 5}$ See section 4 "Index Rebalancing & Maintenance" for more details on Rebalancing Dates.

⁶ Equity linked hybrid bonds are ineligible (e.g. - convertible bonds, warrants, preferred shares etc.)



Corporate Event: Eligible Index constituents must not have any known corporate events which will result in notional amount outstanding of the bond falling below the minimum bond size criteria over the next 1 month as measured from the Rebalancing Date.

Pricing: MSCI uses bid side pricing from its data vendors. Securities included in the index are priced to par. Securities not priced by the designated pricing source are ineligible for index inclusion. Securities eligible for index inclusion should have prices available from more than one source as per MSCI's pricing vendor data⁷.

If an index constituent is no longer priced (intra-rebalancing) by the pricing source or the price is unavailable, then the last available price is used for index calculation.

Size: At rebalancing, eligible index constituents must have a notional amount outstanding greater than or equal to the thresholds tabulated below.

Index	Security Size Threshold	Issuer Size Threshold
MSCI USD HY 500 Custom Corporate Bond Index	USD 500 million	-
MSCI EUR IG 500 Custom Corporate Bond Index	EUR 500 million	-
MSCI EUR HY 250 Custom Corporate Bond Index	EUR 250 million	-

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⁷ This screen is not applicable in the construction of the MSCI USD IG Liquid SRI Sustainable Corporate Bond Index



2.2 Defining the Indexes

The Indexes are constructed by applying the following steps on the Parent Indexes.

2.2.1 ESG Screening

The Eligible Universe is constructed by excluding securities based on the following criteria. MSCI applies these exclusions based on the data provided by MSCI ESG Research at the time of the Index rebalancing.

ESG Ratings Eligibility

Eligible Index constituents must have an MSCI ESG Rating of 'BBB' or above.

ESG Controversies Score Eligibility

Eligible Index constituents are required to have an MSCI ESG Controversies Score of 1 or above.

Controversial Business Involvement Criteria

The indexes use MSCI ESG Business Involvement Screening Research and MSCI Climate Change Metrics to identify companies that are involved in the following business activities. Please refer to Appendix II for details on the screening criteria

- Controversial Weapons
- Civilian Firearms
- Nuclear Weapons
- Tobacco
- Adult Entertainment
- Alcohol
- Conventional Weapons
- Gambling
- Genetically Modified Organisms
- Nuclear Power
- Fossil Fuel Reserves Ownership
- Arctic Oil & Gas
- Global Norms United Nations Global Compact Compliance
- Labor Compliance Broad
- Thermal Coal Mining
- Oil & Gas
- Unconventional Oil & Gas



- Thermal Power
- Fossil-Fuel Based Power Generation

The following criteria is only applicable to the MSCI EUR IG SRI Sustainable ex Fossil Fuel Corporate Bond Index and MSCI EUR IG SRI Sustainable ex Fossil Fuel (1-3Y) Corporate Bond Index.

Fossil Fuel Exclusion Criteria:

The MSCI EUR IG SRI Sustainable ex Fossil Fuel Corporate Bond Index and MSCI EUR IG SRI Sustainable ex Fossil Fuel (1-3Y) Corporate Bond Index uses the MSCI ESG Climate Change Metrics to identify and exclude companies with fossil fuel reserves. Please refer to Appendix II for details on this screening criteria.

In addition to ESG-based screens, a maturity screen is applied to construct the MSCI EUR IG SRI Sustainable ex Fossil Fuel (1-3Y) Corporate Bond Index.

All eligible constituents in this Index must have a maturity greater than or equal to 1 year and less than or equal to 3 years, as measured from the Rebalancing Date.

2.2.2 Treatment for issuers not covered by MSCI ESG Research

Companies not assessed by MSCI ESG Research on data for any of the following MSCI ESG Research products are not eligible for inclusion in the Indexes:

- MSCI ESG Controversies
- MSCI ESG Ratings
- MSCI Climate Change Metrics
- MSCI Business Involvement Screening Research (BISR)

2.2.3 Time from Issuance Constraint

For the investment grade indexes, all eligible constituents must have time from issuance less than or equal to five years, as measured on the Rebalancing Date.

2.2.4 Liquidity Score Eligibility

The Monthly Relative Liquidity Score ("MRLS") of a security is calculated as the simple average of MarketAxess Relative Liquidity Scores over a rolling 21-day window⁸. All eligible constituents must have a MRLS greater than 1.

^{8 21-}day window is defined by using weekdays.



2.3 Weighting Scheme

Eligible Index constituents are weighed based on their market value.



3 Index Rebalancing & Maintenance

3.1 Monthly Index Reviews

The composition of the Index is reviewed monthly, with an effective rebalancing impact on the first business day of the month (Rebalancing Date). For clarification, bonds are added to the Index on the closing of the last business day of every month, however, the return impact is on the first business day of the month.

In general, change in the Index composition is based on the latest data available (including MSCI ESG & Climate data) as of three days prior to the Rebalancing Date, which is defined as the Cut-Off Date. Any inclusion or exclusion criteria satisfied for a given security in the universe, after the CutOff Date (T-3), will generally become effective at the following monthly rebalancing; should conditions remain unchanged. In exceptional cases, for instance, cases of input data correction, MSCI can reduce the Cut-Off Date for Index rebalancing from T-3 to T-2, T-1 or T. In such instances, MSCI will notify Index clients of such changes via announcement.

Any cash that accrues within the index each month is re-invested on a pro-rata basis across the index constituents on the effective date of rebalancing. The opening index portfolio on the Rebalancing Date starts with zero accrued cash balance.

For further information on index total return calculation and corporate events handling please refer to the MSCI Fixed Income Index Calculation Methodology⁹. For the holiday calendar used in the index, please refer to the MSCI Fixed Income Data Methodology¹⁰.

⁹ Please refer to MSCI Fixed Income Index calculation methodology for further details on calculation of market value. Available at https://www.msci.com/index-methodology

¹⁰ Please refer to MSCI Fixed Income Index Data methodology for further details on the holiday calendar. Available at https://www.msci.com/index-methodology



4 MSCI ESG Research

The Indexes are products of MSCI Inc. that utilize information such as company ratings and research produced and provided by MSCI ESG Research LLC (MSCI ESG Research), a subsidiary of MSCI Inc. In particular, the Indexes use the following MSCI ESG Research products: MSCI Climate Change Metrics, MSCI Climate Value-at-Risk, MSCI ESG Sustainable Impact Metrics, MSCI ESG Controversies and MSCI ESG Business Involvement Screening Research. MSCI Indexes are administered by MSCI Limited and MSCI Deutschland GmbH.

4.1 MSCI ESG Ratings

MSCI ESG Ratings aim to measure entities' management of environmental, social and governance risks and opportunities. MSCI ESG Ratings use a weighted average key issue calculation that is normalized by industry to arrive at an industry-adjusted ESG score (0-10), which is then translated to a seven-point scale from 'AAA' to 'CCC', indicating how an entity manages relevant key issues relative to industry peers.

The MSCI ESG Ratings methodology can be found at: https://www.msci.com/legal/disclosures/esg-disclosures.

4.2 MSCI ESG Controversies

MSCI ESG Controversies provide assessments of controversies concerning the potential negative environmental, social, and/or governance impact of company operations, products and services. The evaluation framework used in MSCI ESG Controversies is designed to be consistent with international norms represented by the UN Declaration of Human Rights, the ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work, and the UN Global Compact. MSCI ESG Controversies Score falls on a 0-10 scale, with "0" being the most severe controversy.

The MSCI ESG Controversies methodology can be found at: https://www.msci.com/legal/disclosures/esg-disclosures.

4.3 MSCI ESG Business Involvement Screening Research

MSCI ESG Business Involvement Screening Research (BISR) aims to enable institutional investors to manage environmental, social and governance (ESG) standards and restrictions reliably and efficiently. For more details on MSCI ESG Business Involvement Screening Research, please refer to https://www.msci.com/legal/disclosures/esg-disclosures.

4.4 MSCI Climate Change Metrics

Climate Change Metrics provides climate data and tools to support institutional investors seeking to integrate climate risk and opportunities into their investment strategy and processes. This includes investors seeking to achieve a range of objectives, including measuring and reporting on climate risk exposure, implementing low carbon and fossil fuel-free strategies, alignment with temperature pathways and factoring climate change research into their risk management processes, in particular through climate scenario analysis for both transition and physical risks.



For more details on MSCI Climate Change Metrics, please refer to: https://www.msci.com/legal/disclosures/climate-disclosures.



5 MarketAxess Data

5.1 Relative Liquidity Score

The MarketAxess Relative Liquidity Score provides a defined measurement of the current liquidity for individual bonds and highlights the potential ease that a trader can expect to transact in that instrument. The score ranges from 10, meaning the highest level of liquidity, down to 1.

MarketAxess combines data points from multiple sources – Inventory data, MarketAxess platform data, TRACE¹¹ data, and Trax¹² data, to calculate multiple bond-specific factors on a relative basis over a 30-day look back period. The proprietary model then aggregates the individual factors to derive the final relative liquidity score.

For more details on Relative Liquidity score, please refer to: https://www.marketaxess.com/price/relative-liquidity-score.

¹¹ TRACE, Trade Reporting and Compliance Engine, is the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority's (FINRA) fixed income market real-time price reporting and dissemination service.

¹² Trax, a wholly owned subsidiary of MarketAxess Holdings, Inc., provides capital market data, trade matching and regulatory reporting services to the global securities market.



Appendix I: List of Developed Market Countries

Australia	Japan
Austria	Luxembourg
Belgium	Netherlands
Canada	New Zealand
Denmark	Norway
Finland	Portugal
France	Singapore
Germany	Spain
Hong Kong	Sweden
Ireland	Switzerland
Israel	United Kingdom
Italy	United States of America



Appendix II: Business Involvement Screening Criteria

Controversial Business Involvement Criteria

Alcohol

All companies either deriving 5% or more revenue from the production of alcohol related products, or deriving 15% or more aggregate revenue from production, distribution, retail, and supply of alcohol related products

Civilian Firearms

All companies either classified as "Producer" of firearms and small arms ammunitions for civilian markets. It does not include companies that cater to the military, government, and law enforcement markets, or companies deriving 5% or more aggregate revenue from the production and distribution (wholesale or retail) of firearms or small arms ammunition intended for civilian use

Gambling

All companies either deriving 5% or more revenue from ownership of operation of gambling related business activities or deriving 15% or more aggregate revenue from gambling related business activities

Nuclear Weapons

All companies that manufacture nuclear warheads and/or whole nuclear missiles

All companies that manufacture components that were developed or are significantly modified for exclusive use in nuclear weapons (warheads and missiles)

All companies that manufacture or assemble delivery platforms that were developed or significantly modified for the exclusive delivery of nuclear weapons

All companies that provide auxiliary services related to nuclear weapons

All companies that manufacture components that were not developed or not significantly modified for exclusive use in nuclear weapons (warheads and missiles) but can be used in nuclear weapons

All companies that manufacture or assemble delivery platforms that were not developed or not significantly modified for the exclusive delivery of nuclear weapons but have the capability to deliver nuclear weapons

All companies that manufacture components for nuclear-exclusive delivery platforms

All companies with any tie to nuclear weapons



Controversial Weapons

All companies with any tie to Controversial Weapons (cluster munitions, landmines, depleted uranium weapons, biological/chemical weapons, blinding lasers, non-detectable fragments and incendiary weapons)

Conventional Weapons

All companies either deriving 5% or more revenue from the production of conventional weapons and components, or deriving 15% or more aggregate revenue from weapons systems, components, support systems and services

Nuclear Power

All companies generating 5% or more of their total electricity from nuclear power in a given year

All companies that have 5% or more of installed capacity attributed to nuclear sources in a given fiscal year

All companies deriving 15% or more aggregate revenue from nuclear power activities

Tobacco

All companies either classified as a "Producer" or deriving 5% or more of their aggregate revenue from the production, distribution, retail, supply, and licensing of tobacco related products

Adult Entertainment

Excludes all companies either deriving 5% or more revenue from the production of adult entertainment materials, or deriving 15% or more aggregate revenue from the production, distribution, and retail of adult entertainment materials

Genetically Modified Organisms (GMO)

All companies deriving 5% or more revenue from activities like genetically modifying plants, such as seeds and crops, and other organisms intended for agricultural use or human consumption

Fossil Fuel Reserves Ownership

All companies with evidence of owning proven & probable coal reserves and/or proven oil and natural gas reserves used for energy purposes

Thermal Coal Mining

All companies deriving any revenue (either reported or estimated) from the mining of thermal coal (including lignite, bituminous, anthracite and steam coal) and its sale to external parties. It



excludes revenue from metallurgical coal, coal mined for internal power generation (e.g. in the case of vertically integrated power producers), intra-company sales of mined thermal coal, and revenue from coal trading (either reported or estimated).

All companies with evidence of thermal coal distribution or transport involvement. This includes transport of thermal coal by road, rail, shipping or air, and physical trading of thermal coal. It does not include involvement in storage of thermal coal, or involvement in metallurgical coal-related activities.

Oil & Gas

All companies deriving 10% or more revenue from various oil related activities, including extraction and production, pipelines, transportation (excluding pipelines), refining, distribution (including storage facilities and terminals), exploration services (excluding extraction and production), and drilling services (excluding extraction and production).

All companies deriving 50% or more revenue from gas related activities, including exploration services, seismic surveys, drilling wells, extraction and production of natural gas, natural gas pipelines, transportation, processing, and distribution of gas and related products.

Unconventional Oil & Gas Extraction

All companies deriving any revenue from oil sands, oil shale (kerogen-rich deposits), shale gas, shale oil, coal seam gas, and coal bed methane. It does not cover all types of conventional oil and gas production including Arctic onshore/offshore, deep water, shallow water and other onshore/offshore

Thermal Power

All companies deriving 5% or more revenue (either reported or estimated) from thermal coalbased power generation

Fossil Fuel Based Power Generation

All companies deriving 50% or more revenue from Thermal Coal-based power generation, Liquid Fuel-based power generation and Natural Gas-based power generation¹³.

Arctic Oil & Gas

All companies deriving more than 10% of their revenue from arctic oil exploration.

All companies deriving more than 10% of their revenue from arctic gas exploration.

¹³ As per https://www.ipcc.ch/site/assets/uploads/2018/02/ipcc_wg3_ar5_chapter7.pdf, thermal coal based power generation, liquid fuel based power generation and natural gas based power generation have median lifecycle emissions exceeding 100qCO₂/kWh.



Global Norms - United Nations Global Compact Compliance

All companies which have been deemed to have failed to comply with the UN Global Compact Principles (which cover human rights, labor standards, the environment and anti-corruption), the United Nations Guiding Principles for Business and Human Rights and the International Labor Organization's fundamental principles and broader set of labor standards

Labor Compliance - Broad

All companies which have failed to comply with the International Labor Organization's broader set of labor standards.

Fossil Fuel Exclusion Screening Criteria¹⁴

The screen identifies companies with an industry tie to fossil fuels (thermal coal, oil and gas), in particular fossil fuel reserve ownership, related revenues from fossil fuel exposure and power generation. The screen does not flag companies providing evidence of owning metallurgical coal reserves.

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¹⁴ Only applied in the construction of MSCI EUR IG SRI P-Series ex Fossil Fuel Corporate Bond Indexes



Appendix III: Changes to this Document

The following section has been modified since May 2025:

Updated Index Names throughout the document Amended Section 2.2 and Appendix II to reflect the modification of Thermal Coal Mining Screen as well as addition of Oil & Gas and Fossil Fuel Based Power Generation Screen.

The following sections have been modified since June 2023:

Added Section 2.2.3 Liquidity Score Eligibility Re-aligned section 4 Included section 5 MarketAxess Data

The following sections have been modified since February 2023:

Section 3.1 – Modified the Pricing eligibility criteria
Section 3.2.1 - Added additional screens to the Controversial Business Involvement Criteria
Appendix II - Added descriptions for the additional screens under the Controversial Business
Involvement Criteria



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