

# Prospectus for Handelsbanken Norden Index Criteria

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2024-11-07

This prospectus includes the following parts:

1. Information about Handelsbanken Norden Index Criteria
2. General information about Handelsbanken Fonder and the management of our funds
3. Appendix containing sustainability-related information according to the requirements of Regulation (EU) 2019/2088.

## 1. Handelsbanken Norden Index Criteria

### Investment orientation and asset classes

The fund is an index fund that follows the performance of the Solactive ISS ESG Screened Paris Aligned Nordic Index with the purpose of generating returns over time that reflect the returns of the index as closely as possible.

The base currency is SEK.

The Solactive ISS ESG Screened Paris Aligned Nordic Index consists of a registered EU reference value for alignment with the Paris Agreement (so-called Paris Aligned Benchmark or “PAB index”) in accordance with the Benchmark Regulation (EU) 2016/1011 and consists of companies registered on the stock exchanges in Stockholm, Oslo, Copenhagen and Helsinki, with consideration taken to specific sustainability requirements. The sustainability requirements in the index are designed to reduce carbon emissions and other greenhouse gases. The fund is classified as a fund pursuant to Article 9.3 of Regulation (EU) 2019/2088 of the European Parliament and of the Council on sustainability-related disclosures in the financial services sector (SFDR). Refer below in the section “Sustainability requirements in the index” for additional information about the sustainability requirements in the index. Shares included in the index refer to ordinary shares in companies included in the index.

The index will be replicated through optimized physical replication, which means that the fund invests directly in a larger selection of the equities included in the index. Tracking error (deviations from index, refer below in the section “Benchmark index and tracking error” for a more detailed explanation, as well as below under the heading “The fund’s management, activity level and returns”) is expected to be less than 0.3% under normal market conditions. The management fee, as well as customer flows, index rebalancing and corporate events result in transaction costs for the fund, which are not present in the index. These are the main factors that impact the fund’s ability to replicate the index.

The index is fully revised twice a year and a smaller revision is also conducted on a quarterly basis, based solely on the

incoming sustainability requirements. The companies’ weighting in the index during the full revision is set on the basis of minimizing deviations from the index’ market-value weighted reference portfolio (refer below in the section “Sustainability requirements in the index”) as well as that the index shall fulfil all of the requirements specified for Paris Aligned Benchmarks. At the time of the smaller quarterly revisions, the weighting from any changes is distributed on a pro-rata basis across the existing index weightings. The index is reinvested, i.e., distributions paid for equities included in the index are reinvested in the index after tax adjustments. Further information about the index is available at [www.solactive.com/indices/?se=1&index=DE000SL0DXX2](http://www.solactive.com/indices/?se=1&index=DE000SL0DXX2). Additional information about the current composition of the index, the method for weighting and rebalancing, as well as the specified sustainability requirements is also available on this website.

The fund is a securities fund (UCITS). The fund is also an index fund that may invest in the following types of assets in accordance with Chapter 5, §7 in the Swedish Investment Funds Act:

- in transferable securities,
- in money market instruments,
- in fund units (to a total maximum of 10% of fund capital),
- in derivative instruments, and
- in an account at a credit institution

The fund may use derivative instruments, including OTC derivatives, as part of its investment focus. However, the use of derivatives is of such a nature that it is only expected to have a marginal impact on the fund’s risk profile. The underlying assets to derivative instruments may consist of or be related to

- such assets as referred to in Chapter 5, §1, paragraph 2, first sentence of the Swedish Investment Funds Act (2004:46),
- a financial index,
- interest rates,
- exchange rates, or
- foreign currencies.

The fund may invest in such transferable securities and money market instruments as referred to in Chapter 5, §5 of the Swedish Investment Funds Act.

The fund may be exposed to transferable securities that are not included in Solactive ISS ESG Screened Paris Aligned Nordic Index over a limited period due to a redefining of the index, corporate events (e.g., new share issues, spin-offs and acquisitions) as well as a shortage of liquidity in a transferable security.

The fund may use such techniques and instruments as designated in Chapter 25, §21 of the Financial Supervisory

Authority's regulations (FFFS 2013:9) for securities funds to increase returns and create leveraging in the fund.

## The funds management, activity level and yield

This fund is an index fund that tracks Solactive ISS ESG Screened Paris Aligned Nordic Index with the purpose of generating returns over time that correspond as closely as possible to the returns of the index. Given that the fund is an index fund, Solactive ISS ESG Screened Paris Aligned Nordic Index represents the fund's benchmark index in the description of the activity level as indicated below.

The fund strives to keep deviations from the index as low as possible (for information on projected tracking error under normal market conditions, refer above under the heading "Investment focus and types of assets"). The index will be replicated through optimized physical replication, which means that the fund invests directly in the majority of the equities included in the index. Management fees, customer flows, index rebalancing and company events result in fees and transaction costs for the fund. However, these costs are not charged to the index. The above factors result in fewer deviations from the index.

The activity level in a fund is calculated through the use of the tracking error measurement. The fund's returns and tracking error are reported for the past ten years (or if the fund has existed for a shorter period, from the launch of the fund if the fund has existed for a minimum of two years) in the following table. Tracking error is defined as the volatility in the difference between the fund's returns and the returns of the benchmark index. Tracking error is calculated according to industry standards, is based on the monthly data and reflects the past 24 months. A higher deviation in returns from the benchmark index gives a higher tracking error. The level of the tracking error differs between different types of funds (actively-managed funds, index funds, etc.) and fund categories (e.g., equities or fixed income), given that the risk levels of the underlying markets differ from each other. The selection of the benchmark index is of importance for the level of the tracking error. In the selection of an index our ambition has been to obtain an index that is as relevant as possible in relation to the fund's long-term investment focus. We have therefore selected a benchmark index that is sustainability-oriented and thus more concentrated/"narrower" than the "broader" benchmark indexes more prevalent in the sector. A broader benchmark index often means that the tracking error in the fund will be higher relative to the more concentrated index.

Information on the comparison of the fund's returns relative to the benchmark index is available on the Management

Company's website. The fund's returns and tracking error are shown in the table below.

	Returns, %	Tracking Error 2 yrs, %
2023	15.53	0.22
2022	-12.99	0.18
2021	32.94	0.14
2020	12.11	0.13
2019	29.97	0.12
2018	-5.06	-
2017	-	-
2016	-	-
2015	-	-
2014	-	-

### Explanation of achieved active risk

The fund's tracking error is slightly higher than the expected results for the management of the fund, which was primarily due to revenues from securities lending.

The fund changed its index in 2021 and therefore the historical returns prior to this are compared to an index that was used previously.

## Register of unit holders

The register of unit holders for each fund is maintained by Handelsbanken on behalf of the Management Company.

A settlement note is provided for the subscription and redemption of fund units as well as at the closing of a fund account. A statement with all of the fund account transactions for the year is provided on an annual basis.

## Valuation of fund assets

The value of a fund unit is the fund's value divided by the number of outstanding fund units. The fund's value is calculated by deducting those liabilities from the assets applicable to the fund. The fund's value is calculated each banking day.

The fund's assets consist of:

- financial instruments that are valued according to the applicable market value. Market prices from an active market are primarily used. If such prices are not available or if the prices are deemed to be misleading by the Management Company, the financial instruments may be valued according to those objective principles decided by the Management Company. Such objective principles may include similar transactions that occurred under market conditions during the recent period, previous market prices for the instrument, market prices from a market maker or broker, or a so-called reference valuation,
- liquid assets,
- accrued interest,
- accrued distributions,

- non-liquidated sales, and
- other receivables related to the fund.

The fund's liabilities consist of:

- remuneration to the Management Company,
- non-liquidated purchases,
- tax liabilities, and
- other liabilities related to the fund.

The market value for such transferable securities and money market instruments as referenced in Chapter 5, §5 of the Swedish Investment Funds Act will be valued in accordance with a specific valuation in the event a price from the active market is not available. The specific valuation may also be based on the following: prices from a non-active market or observable prices from market makers or brokers, the acquisition value, recently completed transactions, corporate events that impact the market value, a reference valuation, discounted cash flows, and share capital from company equity.

The market value of OTC derivatives is set in accordance with a specific valuation in the event a price from the active market is not available. The specific valuation may also be based on the following: prices from a non-active market or observable prices from market makers or brokers, a reference valuation, a valuation based on the input assets/components' market value, or a value based on generally-accepted valuation models, such as Black & Scholes.

Given that the fund consists of share classes, the value of a fund unit will be determined in consideration of the conditions associated with each share class. The value of a fund unit in a share class within the fund consists of the value of the share class divided by the number of outstanding units in the share class in question.

## General information on fees

The Management Company receives remuneration from the fund in the form of a management fee for fund management. The management fee covers the Management Company's costs for management, administration, custody of securities, auditing and supervision.

Expenses for distribution and marketing are also included in the management fee for share classes in which the Management Company pays the distributor a remuneration for distribution.

The remuneration consists of a fixed percentage management fee. The maximum fee permitted is stated in the fund rules and the applicable fee is provided in this prospectus.

Expenses for the fund's trading in securities, namely brokerage fees, are deducted directly from the fund and also apply to any applicable tax, settlement fees and corresponding transaction-related fees. Information about the fund's total costs is included in the fund's annual report. Information about the unit holders' portion of the total costs is provided in the annual account statement.

The term annual cost impact is used in the fund's Key Information Document (fact sheet). The annual cost impact includes the management fee and other administration or operating costs (where such costs arise) as well as transaction costs.

The management fee and other administration or operating costs are an estimated, based on the actual costs from the previous year, unless stated otherwise.

Transaction costs, i.e., costs associated with the fund's trading in securities (for example, brokerage fees, spreads, taxes and interest expenses) is an estimate and may vary depending on the extent of the fund's trading in securities.

The Management Company does not charge any subscription or redemption fees for trading in the Management Company's funds.

The fund is not charged fees for holdings in funds managed by the Handelsbanken Group. Fees in other funds will be charged to the fund, although any discounts revert to the fund in full.

In addition, there is a limit to the types of fees that may be charged for the fund to invest any of its assets in an underlying fund. A maximum fixed annual fee of 3% may be charged for the fixed management fees of the underlying funds in which the fund invests its assets. Any performance-based management fee for the underlying funds may not exceed 30% of the excess returns relative to each fund's benchmark (index or the equivalent) during each measurement period.

There are no subscription or redemption fees charged to the fund for investments in underlying funds managed within the Handelsbanken Group.

## Specific information about the management of index funds

The Management Company shall invest the assets of the index funds for the purpose of replicating the composition of a benchmark index. In the event a fund's investment needs to be adjusted to follow the respective index as a result of a redefinition of an index or corporate event, e.g., stock issue or acquisition, the Management Company shall implement the necessary corrections. The Management Company has the option of delaying the correction if it is

deemed to be in the best interest of the fund unit holders. On those occasions when the Management Company is aware that a change in the index will be forthcoming on a specific date, it may be in the best interest of the fund unit holders to adjust the fund's investments just prior to the change in order to better replicate the composition of the index

## Share classes and fees

The conditions for the share classes in the fund are described in the fund rules and below.

A = Accumulation (non-distribution)

B = Distribution

Currency: SEK, EUR, NOK

Subscription limits or other conditions:

1 = No subscription limit or other conditions

9 = The share class is only open for investors who:

- within the scope of a written agreement for such regular (ongoing) investment advice as stated in Chapter 9, §17, item 3 in the Securities Market Act (2007:528) or comparable Swedish or foreign regulation, invest in the share class and where there is no distribution remuneration from the Management Company, whereby the investor instead pays the investment advisor for the investment advice,
- within the scope of a written agreement for portfolio management in accordance with the Securities Market Act (2007:528) or comparable Swedish or foreign regulation, invest in the share class and where there is no distribution remuneration from the Management Company, whereby the investor instead pays the portfolio manager for asset management, or
- where stated, invest either ten million Swedish crowns (SEK 10,000,000), one million euro (EUR 1,000,000) or ten million Norwegian crowns (NOK 10,000,000) in the minimum initial subscription in the share class and where no distribution remuneration or repayment of a portion of the management fee is paid to the investor by the Management Company.

The share class is also open to life insurance companies in which the customer (the policyholder) has concluded an agreement for investment advisory services as referenced above and where there is no distribution remuneration paid to the advisor from the Management Company. Instead, the customer pays the advisor for advisory services and investments are made through endowment insurance (kapitalförsäkring) with custody management in which the customer is the policyholder in relation to the life insurance company in question.

The share class is also open to life insurance companies in which the customer (the policy holder) has entered into the aforementioned agreement with regard to portfolio

management and where there is no distribution remuneration paid from the Management Company to the portfolio manager, rather the customer instead pays the portfolio manager for asset management. The investments are made through a policy with fund or custodial management and where the customer is the policy holder in reference to the life insurance company in question.

Dividends are distributed in the B share classes. Normally, the dividends are paid out during March. The objective is to annually distribute 4% of the units' value on the record date. However, distributions can be both higher and lower. The Management Company takes the decisions related to distributions and the record date. Detailed information about the basis for dividend payments is contained in the fund rules.

The current management fee is the same as the highest management fee for each share class. Transaction costs such as brokerage fees, taxes, etc. for the purchase and sale of financial instruments are paid out of the fund.

Share class	Fee %
A1 SEK	0.40
A1 EUR	0.40
A1 NOK	0.40
A9 SEK	0.20
A9 EUR	0.20
A9 NOK	0.20
B1 SEK	0.40
B1 EUR	0.40
B9 SEK	0.20
B9 EUR	0.20

## Techniques and instruments (securities lending)

The fund has the right to lend securities in order to streamline management. The reason for the loan, which assets are subject to lending, the scope of the loan (maximum and expected), which counterparties the fund lends to (including terms), potential conflicts of interest, risk and risk management around lending, and how revenue from lending affects the fund's return are described in the second section below under the heading "Techniques and instruments (securities lending, etc.) and management of collateral".

## Sustainability requirements in index

Solactive ISS ESG Screened Paris Aligned Nordic Index is calculated by Solactive in collaboration with ISS ESG. The index consists of a registered EU reference value for alignment with the Paris Agreement (Paris Aligned Benchmark) in accordance with Chapter 3a in the Benchmark Regulation and corresponding EU regulations.

The index follows, and in several cases exceeds, the minimum requirements specified in the Benchmark

Regulation for Paris Aligned Benchmarks. In the event the specified requirement in the applicable index exceeds the minimum requirements in the Benchmark Regulation for Paris Aligned Benchmarks, this is indicated in the table and text below with a plus + symbol. The portfolio of investable companies upon which the index is based prior to the addition of the sustainability requirements in the index methodology is the Solactive Nordic Investable Market Index (referred below as the “reference portfolio”).

The index aims to reflect the performance for companies in the Nordic equity markets with consideration taken to specific sustainability requirements. The sustainability requirements in the index are designed to reduce carbon emissions and other greenhouse gases. The companies in the index are selected and weighted in such a manner that the index portfolio’s greenhouse gas emissions are aligned with the long-term global warming targets in the Paris Agreement. This means the following:

- The index shall have a greenhouse gas intensity, measured as emissions of greenhouse gases in accordance with Scope 1, 2 and 3, that is a minimum of 55% lower than the greenhouse gas intensity for the reference portfolio as well as show a minimum annual reduction of 7% in greenhouse gas intensity.
- The combined exposure to the sectors stated as “high climate impact sectors” in sections A–H and section L in Annex I of Regulation (EC) No. 1893/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council (5) shall at a minimum be equivalent to the combined exposure to these sectors in the reference portfolio.

The requirement is set to ensure that the index provides a realistic view of the real economy, including the sectors that should actively reduce greenhouse gas emissions in order to make it possible to attain the targets in the Paris Agreement.

- Within the scope of the index methodology, companies are also rewarded if they contribute positively to the attainment of the environmental goals in Agenda 2030+ through their products and services.

The sustainability requirements in the index also provide for the exclusion of companies involved in verified violations of international norms related to the environment, human rights, labor rights or combating corruption and bribery. The index also excludes companies that cause significant harm to one or several environmental goals associated with the mitigation of climate change, adjustment to climate change, sustainable usage and the protection of water and marine resources, the transition to a circular economy, the prevention and mitigation of environmental pollution, the protection and restoration of biodiversity and ecosystems.

The index also excludes companies that are active within controversial sectors. Limits are set for certain business operations with regard to the proportion of a company’s turnover that may be related to the production/distribution associated with business operations in question. In some cases, a distinction is made between production and distribution. The table below states what is applicable with regard to these limits.

Area	Maximum turnover		Comment
	production	distribution	
Banned weapons	0%	0%	Cluster bombs, anti-personnel mines, chemical weapons and biological weapons
Nuclear weapons	0%	0%	As well as depleted uranium
Weapons and war materials+	5%	5%	
Alcohol+	5%	5%	
Tobacco	0%	5%	0% applies to production of tobacco
Pornography+	0%	5%	0% applies to production of pornography
Commercial gambling+	5%	5%	
Fossil fuels – mining+ (oil, gas and coal)	5%	5%	1% applies to coal mining 0% applies to production and mining of tar sands
Fossil fuels – power generation+ (oil, gas and coal)	5%	5%	See exception below under the heading “Transition companies”.
Cannabis+	5%	5%	Does not apply to pharmaceutical cannabis

*A limit of 50% of turnover is applied to services within or to the areas listed above (e.g., marketing, key components, raw materials, machinery and technical equipment, technology, IT and support services, etc.). An example of a company with services to an area covered by the sustainability requirements is a company that manufactures cardboard cartons for the use of packaging alcohol.*

## Fund sustainability in brief

The fund has sustainable investment objectives. The Appendix to this prospectus provides the detailed disclosures required by the fund pursuant to Article 9 in the EU regulation 2019/2088, Regulation on sustainability-related disclosures in the financial services sector (SFDR). The Appendix provides information about the sustainable investments objectives the fund intends to make, the exclusion strategy applied by the fund, how Principal Adverse Impacts (PAI) on sustainability factors are taken into account, the minimum share of sustainable investments in the fund, as well as the investment strategy and the asset allocation for the fund.

Additional sustainability-related disclosures for the fund are also available under fund's Sustainability tab at: [www.handelsbanken.se/en/personal/savings/mutual-funds/mutual-fund-unit-prices](http://www.handelsbanken.se/en/personal/savings/mutual-funds/mutual-fund-unit-prices)

The website at [www.handelsbanken.se/sv/om-oss/svenska-dotterbolag/handelsbanken-fonder/our-work](http://www.handelsbanken.se/sv/om-oss/svenska-dotterbolag/handelsbanken-fonder/our-work) provides information about the Management Company's methodologies/tools used to assess the adverse impacts on sustainability factors, the principles for what is defined as a sustainable investment, including how the Management Company determines that an economic activity "does not cause significant harm", as well as methodologies and principles for the assessment of good practice for corporate governance. The website also provides the Management Company's Policy for shareholder engagement and responsible investment, due diligence routines for investment decisions, as well as a description of the Management Company's strategies for Inclusion, Exclusion and Engagement. A statement of how sustainability risks are integrated into the investment decisions is found under the heading "Risk profile of the fund".

## Transition companies

Transition companies refer to companies involved in power generation that are considered to be transitioning business operations in a manner that is expected to contribute to, rather than jeopardize, the attainment of the Paris Agreement. Exceptions are made in the index methodology from the 5% criteria related to "fossil fuels – power generation" if all of the following criteria are met:

- The company has defined and published goals in accordance with the requirements in the Science Based Targets Initiative for transitioning its business operations in line with the Paris Agreement.
- The company has a maximum of 50% turnover from fossil fuels.
- The company has a maximum of 5% turnover from coal power.

- The company has a minimum of 10% turnover from renewable energy.

However, exceptions are never made with regard to the minimum criteria in the regulation for Paris Aligned Benchmarks (refer to Articles 2-12 in the Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/1818/EU to the Benchmark Regulation).

## Indirect exposures

Investments may be made in derivative instruments and exchange-traded funds (ETFs) that do not meet the sustainability requirements specified above (to a maximum of 3 percent of the fund's value) to simply and cost-effectively attain exposure to the underlying markets, as well as to manage the liquidity in the fund. As a result, in the event derivative instruments or ETFs would be screened, there may be individual companies that would not have been included in the index whose performance is tracked by the fund.

## Management of collateral

Because the fund has the right to lend securities in order to streamline management and/or to utilize OTC derivatives, it is exposed to counterparty risk. To manage these counterparty risks, the Management Company pledges and receives securities as collateral on behalf of the fund. For a description of the Company's management of collateral, which securities are accepted and how they are valued, refer to the second section below under "Techniques and instruments (securities lending) and management of collateral".

## Risk profile of fund

The fund is an equity fund which means a higher risk, but also the potential for a higher return. The investments are concentrated to securities in the Nordic countries, which means the risk in the fund can be higher than the risk for an investment in a diversified global fund that distributes its investments over several regions. The fund has a currency risk, which means that the returns and the risk are affected by changes in exchange rates. The fund has share classes in various currencies, which means that the returns and the risk can vary across different share classes.

The fund may invest in derivatives as part of its investment focus to increase returns in the fund and to create leverage. The volume of trading is limited where applicable and is expected to have a marginal impact on the fund's risk profile.

A sustainability risk is an environmental-, social-, or corporate governance-related event or condition that, should it occur, could cause an actual or potential



significant adverse impact on a company's value. Accordingly, environmental-related, as well as social-, or governance-related events can arise from a company's own business operations or from events that occur independently of the company. The sustainability risks in the fund are systematically measured and followed up. The risk is deemed to be low and the actual measurement will be reported in the annual report.

#### *How are sustainability risks integrated into the investment decisions?*

Pursuant to regulations, a sustainability risk means an environmental, social or corporate governance event or condition that, if it occurs, could cause an actual or a potential material negative impact on a company's value.

The fund is an index fund and integrates sustainability risks into the investment decisions through its selection of a Paris Aligned Benchmark in which sustainability risks are taken into account.

Sustainability risks are managed by the fund and its index by applying an explicit methodology for exclusion and inclusion, as well as through the weighting of included companies based on sustainability parameters. The companies in the index are selected and weighted in a manner that aligns the index portfolio's greenhouse gas emissions with the long-term global warming targets in the Paris Agreement. The assessment of the companies in the index is based on data from an external ESG provider. In addition to the integration of sustainability risks and the exclusions made in the fund and its index that are based on these sustainability parameters, annual scenario analyses and stress tests for the fund are also conducted based on climate risks. As a result of the fund's integration of sustainability in its investment focus, the fund has a reduced climate risk due to its low exposure to those companies with the highest climate-related risks, i.e., companies with exposure to coal, oil and gas.

The integration of sustainability risks is followed up regularly by the Management Company's risk control function. Monitoring includes a daily follow-up and control, as well as a more in-depth control of sustainability risks within a specific risk forum that focuses on sustainability. Representatives in this forum include senior decision-makers in the Management Company. Sustainability risks in the fund are followed up by applying a measurement that measures sustainability in the fund's holdings. External sustainability ratings are primarily used in these instances.

The Management Company's assessment is that the management of sustainability risks through the selection of a Paris Aligned Benchmark that includes exclusion, inclusion, the weighting of included companies based on sustainability parameters, as well as engagement in the form of dialogues and active corporate governance will

provide higher risk-adjusted returns over time. However, in the short term such an exclusion strategy can increase the fund's concentration risk and result in weaker returns with rising oil prices, for example.

## **Financial leverage**

Financial leverage refers to a method by which the exposure increases through the use of derivative instruments or by borrowing cash/securities, for example. The financial leverage is expressed as the relationship between the fund's exposure and its net asset value. A securities fund that invests in derivatives has the potential to legally reach a leverage effect of twice the market risk.

## **Target group of the fund**

The fund is suitable for the investor who would like to invest in a broad Nordic fund. The fund is most appropriate for an investor who has an investment horizon of 5 years or more and is prepared to take a somewhat higher risk.

## **The funds index**

New EU regulations are applicable as of 1 January 2018, whereby an administrator responsible for controlling the provision of a reference value must be approved and registered at ESMA no later than 1 May 2020. The index of the fund is provided by an administrator that has been registered at ESMA.

The Management Company has developed a plan for those measures that shall be taken if the fund's index is no longer made available or is changed significantly. In such an event, the Management Company shall use another index that is deemed to be suitable for the fund. In the event the fund's index is no longer available, the fund rules must be amended. Unit holders are protected in this type of change to the fund rules by the review conducted by the Financial Supervisory Authority as well as by being informed of the change by the Management Company (Chapter 4, §§ 9, 9a and 9b of the Swedish Investment Funds Act (2004:46).

## **Marketing of fund units outside of Sweden**

The fund is marketed in:

Norway  
Finland

Svenska Handelsbanken AB in each country is responsible for issuing payments to unit holders, redeeming units as well as providing information. The share classes marketed in other countries within the EEA can be found in the fund list on the respective branch's website.



## 2. General information about Handelsbanken Fonder and the management of our funds

v.24.10

### The Management Company

Handelsbanken Fonder AB  
Corporate identity number: 556418-8851  
The Company's address and headquarters:  
Blasieholmstorg 12  
SE-106 70 Stockholm  
Tel: +46(0)8 - 701 10 00

The Management Company has been authorized to conduct fund operations pursuant to the Swedish Investment Funds Act since 22 June 2006. Prior to this, the Management Company had the authorization to conduct fund operations according to the Mutual Funds Act (1990:1114). In addition, the Management Company has authorization to act as an Alternative Investment Fund Manager (AIFM) pursuant to the Alternative Investment Fund Managers Act (2013:561).

### Shareholder and Equity Capital

Svenska Handelsbanken AB (PLC) owns all of the stock in the Management Company. The Management Company has share capital of SEK 1,500,000.

### Board of Directors

The Management Company's Board of Directors consists of:  
Daniel Andersson, Chairman of the Board, Bank vice president, Svenska Handelsbanken AB (PLC)  
Malin Björkmo, Consultancy specializing in corporate governance and financial regulations  
Helen Fasth Gillstedt, Chief Executive Officer and owner of a management consultancy firm  
Lars Seiz, Strategic advisor in asset management  
Åsa Holtman Öhman, Employee representative, Finansförbundet regional association, CHK association, Svenska Handelsbanken AB (PLC).

### Executive management of the Management Company

Magdalena Wahlqvist Alveskog, Chief Executive Officer  
Emma Viotti, Deputy Chief Executive Officer, as well as Head of Products  
Carina Roeck Hansen, Chief Operating Officer  
Katarina Paschal, CIO Active Asset Management Equities and Fixed Income  
Pär Sjögemark, CIO Asset Allocation and Ruel-based Asset Management  
Anna Larris, Head of Legal and Sustainability  
Aurora Samuelsson, Head of Sustainability

Staffan Ringvall, Head of Corporate Governance and Board secretary  
Stefan Blomé, Head of Sales  
Monika Jenks, Head of Compliance  
Fredrik Köster, Head of Legal  
Fredrik Alheden, Head of the Risk Control

### Compliance

Monika Jenks, service provider, employed by Svenska Handelsbanken AB (PLC).

### Auditors

The Management Company's auditors are:  
PricewaterhouseCoopers AB, 113 97 Stockholm, principal auditor, Peter Nilsson.

### Assignment Contracts

Handelsbanken Fonder AB has entered into an assignment contract with Svenska Handelsbanken AB (PLC) with regard to personnel matters, internal auditing, complaint handling, money-laundering and measures against the financing of terrorism, fund management company administration, legal reporting, distribution of funds and the maintenance of the unit holders' register. The Management Company has also entered into an assignment contract with J.P. Morgan Administration Services (Ireland) Limited regarding certain administration associated with the subscription and redemption of units on the primary market for the Management Company's ETFs. The Management Company has also entered into an assignment contract with Svenska Handelsbanken AB (PLC), branch office in Norway, primarily with regard to the management of funds with Norwegian exposure (only applicable to actively-managed funds).

In addition, there are agreements with other units within the Handelsbanken Group and with certain external fund intermediaries regarding the distribution of funds.

The Management Company has an agreement for all of the XACT funds with Euroclear Sweden ("Euroclear") for the maintenance of the unit holders' register for each of the XACT funds.

### Custodian Institution

The Management Company has appointed J.P. Morgan SE - Stockholm bank branch, as the Custodian Institution. The Custodian Institution shall execute its obligations in accordance with applicable EU directives, applicable

Swedish laws, other statutes and fund rules relating to each fund.

The primary task of the Custodian Institution is to register and hold the assets included in the fund in a safe and secure manner, to monitor the fund's cash flow and to ensure that the fund's assets are calculated and used in a manner that is not in conflict with laws, other statutes and the fund rules of the fund. The Custodian Institution shall act independently of the Management Company and solely in the common interest of the unit holders.

In accordance with the Custodian Institution's agreement, applicable EU directives, laws and other statutes, a custodian institution can, in the context of certain conditions and to comply with its obligations in an effective manner, delegate portions of its obligations to one or several external companies, including other custodian banks that have been appointed periodically by the Custodian Institution. In accordance with applicable EU directives, laws and other statutes, custody and registration are the only tasks that may be delegated. In the context of its delegation, the Custodian Institution shall exercise all due skill, care and diligence required in accordance with applicable regulations to ensure that the fund assets are only entrusted to a service provider that is able to offer adequate protection. The Custodian Institution's responsibility is not impacted in any way if the custody of certain or all of the assets is delegated to an external company.

The Custodian Institution is described in more detail below:  
J.P. Morgan SE - Stockholm bank branch  
Corporate identity number: 516406-1110  
Address: Hamngatan 15, 6th floor,  
SE-111 47 Stockholm

J.P. Morgan Bank SE - Stockholm bank branch (Custodian Institution or J.P. Morgan) is a full-service branch with regard to the custodian institution operations that are under the supervision of the Financial Supervisory Authority. J.P. Morgan SE has its legal domicile and registered headquarters in Germany and is under the supervision of European Central Bank.

In its role as the Custodian Institution, J.P. Morgan can periodically engage the services of other customers, funds or other external companies for custody and associated services. J.P. Morgan Chase Group is an international banking group with a broad range of business activities, which means that conflicts of interest can arise periodically between the Custodian Institution and the companies to which custody services have been delegated. Such a company can be an affiliated company to J.P. Morgan that offers a product or service to a fund and at the same time has financial or business interests in these products or services. The company can also be an affiliated company

to J.P. Morgan that receives payment for other products or services associated to custody, such as foreign exchange or securities loans. If conflicts of interest do arise, the Custodian Institution shall always fulfil their commitments in accordance with applicable law and other statutes and act solely in the common interest of unit holders.

In this respect, unit holders should be aware that the Custodian Institution has delegated the custody of certain securities to companies within J.P. Morgan's network of custodian banks.

Updated information regarding the identity of the Custodian Institution, a description of its work tasks and conflicts of interest that can arise, a description of the custody functions that have been delegated by the Custodian Institution, a list of service providers and any tasks that have been further delegated and any conflicts of interest that could arise as a result of such delegation may be obtained upon request.

The Custodian Institution has no decision-making authority over the Management Company's investments in the fund management operations.

The Custodian Institution is the service provider and does not participate in the preparation of this document. Accordingly, the Custodian Institution has no liability for the correctness of the information in the document.

## **The funds and their legal status**

### **The legal character of the funds**

The UCITS funds and non-UCITS funds of Handelsbanken Fonder are regulated by the Swedish Investment Funds Act (2004:46) and the Alternative Investment Fund Managers Act (2013:561). A fund is established through capital contributions from the general public and is mutually owned by those who have provided capital to the fund. The fund consists of securities purchased by the fund for the capital provided to the fund. Fund assets are owned by the fund unit holders but are managed by the Management Company. The fund may not acquire rights, assume liabilities, or lodge an appeal before a court of law or any other authority. Assets included in a fund may not be seized and unit holders are not held accountable for the liabilities of the fund. This fund is not a legal entity, rather it is solely an object of taxation. The Management Company represents the unit holders in all questions regarding the fund, takes decisions regarding the assets included in the fund and exercises those rights that arise from the fund. The Management Company shall trade solely in the common interest of the unit holders within the asset management of the fund.

One fund unit is a right to a proportion in a fund that is equivalent to the fund's net capital divided by the number of outstanding units. In a fund that lacks share classes, all units are equal and have the same rights to the assets included in the fund. In those cases in which the fund consists of share classes, the value of a fund unit in one share class will differ from the value of a fund unit in another share class. However, fund units within each individual share class are the same size and have the same rights to the assets included in the fund. The unit holder is never held responsible for any liabilities that rest upon the fund.

Each fund has fund rules that explain the specific conditions for subscribing to the fund and specifies what distinguishes each share class, if such is present in the fund. The fund rules have been approved by the Financial Supervisory Authority and constitute a portion of this Prospectus.

### **Share classes – Nomenclature, conditions, distributions, etc.**

The Management Company has introduced a nomenclature of share classes for the Management Company's funds in order to facilitate a review by unit holders of the terms and conditions associated with the different funds and their share classes. Share classes that have identical terms and conditions will be described in the same manner, regardless of the fund. However, the nomenclature of the share classes with specific conditions differs between actively- and passively-managed funds. The nomenclature of share classes facilitates a comparison between different share classes in different funds. The Management Company applies a share class nomenclature that consists of three markers: the first marker is a letter, the second is a number and the third indicates the share class's currency using the international standard for currency codes. The description of the share class is stated in the fund rules, the prospectus and the fact sheet following the name of the share class. The first marker identifies whether the fund is a distribution or a non-distribution (accumulation) share class. The second marker indicates other conditions for the share class and the third marker states the currency of the share class. In those cases where there are share classes in which the conditions for distribution have various subscription limits, the fees will normally differ in the various share classes. The fee levels in each share class are stated in the fund rules and in the prospectus. Information about the annual cost impact is available in the fact sheet for each share class.

#### **Common conditions for the share classes**

A majority of the Management Company's funds have several share classes. The share classes are specified in the fund rules for each fund. The fund-specific section of

the Prospectus states which share classes are applicable specifically for the referenced fund. The share classes differ with regard to currency, distribution, fees and specific conditions for distribution. The value of a fund unit in a share class will differ from the value of a fund unit in another share class. The units within each share class are of equal size and have the same rights to the assets included in the fund.

A non-distribution (accumulation) share class that does not have a subscription limit or other conditions and has the EUR as its currency class will be described as A1 EUR. This description of the share class will remain irrespective of whether the share class originated from the original fund or has been added to the fund after several other share classes have been added to the fund. Thus, the principle is that share classes with identical terms and conditions will be described in the same manner, regardless of the fund. However, the conditions for the A9/B9 share classes differ between the actively- and passively-managed funds.

The conditions for the various share classes apply to the investors, regardless of whether the holdings are registered directly or held in trust at the Management Company in accordance with Chapter 4, §12 of the Swedish Investment Funds Act (2004:46). An investor refers to a unit holder and a potential investor. The entity that distributes the share class to the investor is responsible for ensuring that the investor fulfils the conditions of the share class. When insurance undertakings have invested in fund units within the scope of an agreement with policy holders, the responsibility lies with the insurance undertakings or those within the insurance undertakings and the insurance distributor that hold the agreement with the policy holder for the insurance undertakings to receive the share class for which they are entitled.

As a precondition in share classes with conditions for distribution (A9, B9, A10 and B10), no distribution remuneration will be paid from the Management Company (or "remuneration" concerning the insurance distributor, see A9/B9). Distribution remuneration does not refer to remuneration to pay for a platform service based on the number of funds that the Management Company has on the platform or in similar models, whereby the fund receives access to a trading platform and the fee is based on the value of those fund units (in the Management Company's fund/funds) registered within the platform. Such a "platform fee" is paid by the Management Company for the platform to provide access to the fund units normally through the reception of investment services and transmission of orders or the execution of orders in accordance with Chapter 2, §§1 and 2 of the Swedish Investment Funds Act or corresponding Swedish or foreign regulations.

A switch between share classes at the initiative of a unit holder normally results in a capital gains tax. The Swedish Tax Authority's legislative guidance (September 2013) with regard to the introduction and change of share classes states that a switch in unit holdings between different share classes does not result in any taxation if this is a direct consequence of the fund rules. Any tax consequences due to a switch between share classes is the responsibility of the unit holder. Refer below for further information about tax rules for unit holders.

A unit holder may not concurrently fulfil the conditions for two different share classes while using the same assets. This means, for example, that if a unit holder who owns units in one share class without specific conditions for distribution is eligible for a share class with specific conditions for distribution, the unit holder's units will be allocated to the share class with the lowest fee that fulfils the conditions. In the same manner, when a unit holder no longer fulfils the specific conditions for distribution in a share class, the unit holder's units will be allocated in the first hand to another share class with specific conditions for distribution for which the unit holder fulfils the conditions and, lastly, to a share class without specific conditions for distribution. All of the allocations are made without making changes to the conditions for distribution or the currency. The above applies regardless of whether the unit holder's holdings are registered directly or held in trust (in one or several stages) at the Management Company.

Allocation refers to units in a share class that are allocated by investing the value of the unit holder's holdings in a share class for which the unit holder fulfils the conditions without making a change to the distribution conditions or currency. This applies regardless of whether the unit holder's holdings are registered directly or held in trust (in one or several stages) at the Management Company. The entity that distributes the share class to the investor is responsible for ensuring that the investor allocates units to another share class if this investor qualifies for another share class, or alternatively does not fulfil the conditions of the existing share class.

The distributors of a fund determine which share classes are provided by the distributor. In some cases, not all of the share classes stated in the fund rules are promoted by the Management Company, which means that it is not possible for an investor to purchase units in the share class.

## Distributions

The Management Company determines the amount of the distribution to be paid to fund unit holders in the distribution share classes on an annual basis. Pursuant to the fund rules of the funds, distributions are calculated based on the return in the distribution share classes,

although, as also stated in the fund rules, it is ultimately the best interest of the unit holders that is fundamental for determining the amount of the distribution. The Management Company's view is that it is in the best interest of the unit holders for the historical dividend yields of the share classes to serve as the basis for the distribution size objective. Dividend yields are a good representation of the returns on the fund's assets for a long-term investor and tend to have smaller variations than the fund's absolute returns. As a result, the distribution may be set at a higher or lower amount than the returns of the share classes. Refer to the fund rules for each fund for further information about the objectives with regard to the size and the timing of the distribution. Distributions are normally made during the month of March each year. The Management Company may make the decision for an extraordinary dividend during the year if it is deemed to be in the best interest of the fund unit holders. Dividends are paid to the fund unit holders who are registered as of the record date decided by the Management Company for the distribution. The distribution impacts the relationship between the value of accumulation units and the value of the distribution units, with the value of the distribution units decreasing in relation to the size of the distribution.

## Subscription and redemption as well as information on the most recently calculated NAV

The subscription and redemption of fund units may occur through one of Handelsbanken's Swedish branch offices and via Handelsbanken's website, in accordance with the rules and directives that may be obtained from the Management Company. The subscription and redemption of fund units may also occur at certain distributors external to the Handelsbanken Group in accordance with the rules and directives that can be obtained from the distributor.

The services offered by Handelsbanken Fonder to clients living permanently or temporarily in certain countries, such as the US, are limited. The Management Company reserves the right to refrain from selling fund units to individuals living in certain countries and legal entities with legal domicile in certain countries should this be in conflict with applicable statutes in such countries. Additional information may be obtained from a local Handelsbanken branch office.

When the request for subscription or redemption of a fund unit is received, the Management Company sets the fund unit price and the transaction is completed according to those cut-off times applicable to each fund. Information about the latest cut-off time for the subscription and redemption of fund units may be found on [handelsbanken.se/funds](http://handelsbanken.se/funds) or at a local Handelsbanken branch office. Different time periods can apply at distributors external to the Handelsbanken Group.

Subscriptions and redemptions always occur at an unknown price. It is therefore not possible to state a fund unit price limit for a subscription or redemption.

The most recently calculated net asset value is available on the Management Company's website at [www.handelsbanken.se/funds](http://www.handelsbanken.se/funds) or at a local Handelsbanken branch office.

## Guidelines for the closing of a fund

The funds are available for subscription and redemption each banking day, unless stated otherwise in the fund rules.

However, a fund may be closed for the subscription and redemption of fund units on such banking days or a portion of a banking day where the value of the fund's assets cannot be calculated in such a way to guarantee the equal treatment of the fund unit holders, e.g. when one or several markets in which the fund trades are totally or partly closed or in the event of exceptional circumstances. Normally, a fund is closed for subscription and redemption if approximately 30% or more of the underlying markets are closed.

Normally, a request for the subscription and redemption of fund units may be made even if a fund is closed. However, a consequence of a closed fund is that the Management Company does not calculate a net asset value. If a request for the subscription or redemption is received when a fund is closed, the net asset value for the fund will be set the first banking day after the fund re-opens for trading. This means that the subscription and redemption may be delayed by the number of days the fund was closed.

## Responsible investment, sustainability and governance

The Management Company's view is that responsible actions are the foundation for long-term value creation in a company. Consequently, responsible investments are an important prerequisite to attaining our vision of generating good long-term returns and planetary health.

The Management Company's work toward our vision is based on two sustainability objectives: attain net zero greenhouse gas emissions within our investment portfolios by 2040 and increase our contributions to the UN's 17 Sustainable Development Goals (as defined in Agenda 2030).

We aim to achieve our sustainability objectives by investing in solutions, allocating capital in a sustainable direction and engaging the companies in which we are a shareholder. Our work is based on and derived from three powerful tools: the inclusion of companies, the exclusion of

companies and certain sectors, as well as the pursuit of active engagement work.

Our efforts within responsible investment are ongoing and are integrated into the Management Company's fund management organization and in the various investment processes for all of the Company's funds.

This means that all investments are based on the same principles, which are outlined in our Policy for shareholder engagement and responsible investment. All fund management is therefore guided by international norms and conventions that include such areas as the environment, human rights, working conditions and corruption. The Management Company has also undertaken to comply with several voluntary frameworks, such as the UN's Global Compact initiative, the UN's Principles for Responsible Investment (PRI) and the Net Zero Asset Managers Initiative.

As an owner, the Management Company also takes action under the principles of corporate governance in the Swedish Corporate Governance Code as well as other relevant industry standards from the Swedish Investment Fund Association, including the Swedish code of conduct for fund management companies and Guidelines for fund management companies' shareholder engagement.

The Company's Policy for shareholder engagement and responsible investment contains additional information about the Management Company's work with responsible investment and is available at <https://www.handelsbanken.se/sv/om-oss/svenska-dotterbolag/handelsbanken-fonder/our-work>.

## How we work to achieve our sustainability goals

Sustainability is integrated into investment analyses and decisions, although the approach can vary in the ongoing business activities depending on whether we are dealing with the selection of individual companies in which to invest, the selection of an index, or the selection of funds for inclusion in fund portfolios. The selection of asset classes and management focus also impact the approach taken.

The Management Company **strives** to select investments that carry out their business activities to correspond with or contribute positively to a sustainable development in accordance with Agenda 2030 and the objectives of the Paris Agreement. Fund management strives to increase investments in solutions to the global sustainability challenges and thereby contribute to the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals and the transition to an economy with low carbon emissions.

Investments can be included based on two dimensions of sustainability: as a result of the company's operational

sustainability performance or as a result of the company's products and services.

The **exclusion** strategy provides for the funds' exclusion of investments in a number of controversial sectors or branches with business models that result in markedly elevated sustainability risks. Moreover, the funds exclude companies that are considered to be violating international norms and conventions related to human rights, work conditions, corruption and the environment, for example.

A vital part of taking responsibility as an investor is to exercise the role as owner and **influence** the companies in which we invest. We can accomplish this through company dialogues and corporate governance work.

Company dialogues are conducted by the Management Company itself through direct contact with companies, as well as to a great extent in collaboration with other asset owners and through joint industry initiatives.

An active and responsible corporate governance in those companies in which our funds own equities is an essential part of our assignment as an asset manager. The Management Company does this primarily through voting at shareholders' meetings and representation on nomination committees

Refer to [handelsbanken.se/sv/om-oss/svenska-dotterbolag/handelsbanken-fonder/our-work](https://handelsbanken.se/sv/om-oss/svenska-dotterbolag/handelsbanken-fonder/our-work) for further information about the Management Company's sustainability work.

## Management of currencies and currency exposure

Investing in securities on different markets can involve exposure to different currencies, which in turn involves currency risk.

Equity funds generally have full currency exposure on the markets in which investments are made. The fund managers may have a different currency exposure via cash balance on an account and also via of FX forward contracts, although often to a lesser extent. A fund that invests in multiple markets therefore has a mixture of currency exposures. When investing in equities, regardless of the market, there may also be indirect currency exposure depending on factors such as the company's sales, purchasing and production in other countries. Currency exposure accounts for a substantial portion of the returns.

In fixed income funds, currency exposures are generally always hedged to the fund's base currency. Normally, a maximum of 2% of the fund may be exposed to a currency other than the base currency. What applies in this

regard is stated in the fund rules and is listed in the fund-specific section of the Prospectus for the fixed income funds.

Fund of funds have exposure to the various markets and positions of the underlying funds. The actively-managed fund of funds also work actively to take currency positions in the form of FX forward contracts to obtain the desired exposure. Currency exposure accounts for a substantial portion of the returns.

## Damages

The Management Company is liable for damages in accordance with Chapter 2, §21 of the Swedish Investment Funds Act (2004:46) with regard to the UCITS funds managed by the Management Company and in accordance with Chapter 8, §§28-31 of the Alternative Investment Fund Managers Act (2013:561) for the non-UCITS funds managed by the Management Company. The Custodian Institution is liable in accordance with Chapter 2, §21 of the Swedish Investment Funds Act and in accordance with Chapter 9, §22 of the Alternative Investment Fund Managers Act. The following is stated in these regulations. If a unit holder suffers a loss as a result of the Management Company's violation of current regulations or the fund rules, the Management Company shall compensate for the loss. If a unit holder or a fund management company suffers a loss as a result of the Custodian Institution's violation of the Swedish Investment Funds Act or fund rules, the Custodian Institution shall compensate for the loss. While respecting the provisions of these regulations, the following is also further applicable where appropriate within the meaning of the fund rules for each individual fund.

With regard to all of the incoming measures taken by the Custodian Institution and the Management Company, the Custodian Institution and the Management Company will not be liable for damages due to an external event outside the control of the Management Company or the Custodian Institution as well as Swedish or foreign statutes, measures taken by Swedish or foreign authorities, event of war, strike, blockade, boycott, lockout or other similar circumstances. The reservation concerning strike, blockade, boycott, and lockout even applies if the Custodian Institution and/or the Management Company themselves are subject to or take such conflict measures.

The Custodian Institution and/or the Management Company will not compensate damages that arise in other instances if the Custodian Institution/Management Company has been normally prudent and unless otherwise required by mandatory legislation. The Custodian Institution/Management Company is in no case liable for indirect damages, unless the damage is a result of the

gross negligence of the Management Company or Custodian Institution.

If obstacles exist that prevent the Custodian Institution and/or Management Company from effecting payments or taking other measures due to the circumstances mentioned in the first paragraph, the measures may be postponed until the obstacles have ceased. In the event of deferred payments, the Custodian Institution or Management Company will pay interest, if interest is promised, based on the rate of interest that applied on the due date. If interest is not promised, the Custodian Institution or Management Company is not obliged to pay interest at a higher rate of interest than that which is equivalent to the interest rate set by the Riksbank, with the applicable discount according to §9 of the Interest Act (1975:635), supplemented by two percentage points for each occurrence.

If the Custodian Institution and/or the Management Company, as a result of the circumstances mentioned in the second paragraph, is prevented from accepting payment, the Custodian Institution and/or the Management Company has the right to interest according to those conditions that applied on the due date for that period during which the obstacle existed.

In accordance with the Alternative Investment Fund Managers Act, the Management Company shall comply with certain capital requirements and hold their own funds to cover any claims for damages as a result of an error or omission in the business operations. According to the Management Company, the company-held funds cover all of the capital requirements that can be imposed on the Company with regard to the risks associated with the business under which it is authorized to operate.

The Management Company follows the Swedish Investment Fund Association's guidance with regard to the management of compensation in the event of an incorrect calculation of the net asset value.

The guidance document is available in Swedish at: [www.fondbolagen.se/globalassets/regelverk/foreningens-vagledning/vagledning-for-hantering-av-kompensation-vid-felaktigt-fondandelsvarde-230202.pdf](http://www.fondbolagen.se/globalassets/regelverk/foreningens-vagledning/vagledning-for-hantering-av-kompensation-vid-felaktigt-fondandelsvarde-230202.pdf)

## General risk information

The specific risk to which an individual fund is exposed is stated in the description in part 1 of the Prospectus. Below is a description of the various types of risks that can typically impact a fund's value.

### *Market risk*

Market risk is defined as the risk for a loss that can be attributed to changes in the market value of positions in

the fund as a result of changes in market variables, such as interest rates, exchange rates, share prices or commodities.

An equity fund is primarily affected by changes in the value of the equities. Over time, the changes in value can vary significantly as a result of company specific events, macroeconomic changes or due to other events that impact or are expected to impact the economic growth for an individual company, a sector or a region.

A fixed income fund is exposed to interest rate risk. As a result, when the general interest rate rises, the value of the existing fixed income investments declines, which has a negative impact on the fund. A fund that invests in interest-bearing instruments with a long residual fixed interest duration has a higher interest rate risk than a fund that invests in interest-bearing instruments with a short residual fixed interest duration.

A mixed fund that is permitted to allocate investments across equities and fixed income securities is therefore exposed to both equity and interest rate risks depending on its allocation at a given point in time. Market risk for funds that have another investment focus is defined as the changes in value in the underlying assets, e.g., value changes in commodities or real estate.

**Concentration risk:** Concentration risk refers to the risk for loss as a result of major individual exposure or a high concentration of the fund's investments in individual markets, countries, regions or sectors. Concentration risks are normally found in such funds that, pursuant to their investment focus, invest in specific countries, regions or sectors, but can also arise in some companies' other funds as a result of a broad investment mandate or thematic investment strategies. Securities funds have rules for the distribution of risk to decrease the impact of such risks.

**Currency risk:** Currency risk refers to the risk that the market value of the assets, measured in the fund's base currency, declines when the fund's base currency strengthens against those currencies in which the assets are invested. As a result, those funds that invest in financial instruments that are denominated in a currency other than the fund's base currency will be exposed to currency risk. Thus, the market value for a fund with SEK as the base currency that invests in equities listed in USD will be affected by how the value between SEK and USD changes over time.

**Sustainability risk:** According to the regulations, a sustainability risk is an environmental, social or governance event or condition that, if it occurs, could cause an actual or a potential material negative impact on the value of the investment.



## *Credit risk*

Credit risk is defined as the counterparty or issuer risk. Credit risk refers to the risk for a loss due to the inability of the counterparty or issuer to meet its financial commitments. Credit risks arise primarily in investments of liquid assets at a credit institution or in funds that invest in interest-bearing securities.

**Counterparty risk:** Counterparty risk arises if a counterparty does not meet its obligations, such as by not paying a specified amount or not delivering securities as agreed. If the fund conducts so-called "Over the Counter" (OTC) transactions, it can be subject to risks related to the creditworthiness of the counterparty. A fund's OTC transactions that include futures, options and swap agreements or use other derivative techniques can result in the fund being exposed to the risk that a counterparty does not fulfil its commitments. Counterparty risk can also arise in conjunction with the lending of securities. The concept also includes settlement risk, which is the risk that an agreement in a transmission system cannot be carried out as expected. All of the funds are exposed to counterparty risks.

**Issuer risk:** Issuer risk refers to the risk for changes in value in the individual instruments as a result of factors related to the issuer of the instrument or, with regard to derivative instruments, the party that issued the underlying instrument.

## *Risks with derivative instruments*

Derivative instruments refer to instruments that receive returns from underlying assets. Underlying assets can refer to individual equities or financial indexes, for example. Options and futures are commonly used as derivative instruments. The instrument is an agreement to purchase or sell the underlying asset on a pre-determined date and at a pre-determined price. Value changes are largely determined by the changes in value in the underlying assets. As an example, the risk in option transactions is that the market price declines below the agreed price, which results in the agreement having no value or that it becomes a liability.

## *Liquidity risk*

Liquidity risk refers to the risk that a financial instrument cannot be settled, can only be settled at a substantially reduced price or that the transaction results in significant costs. Liquidity risk can also be the risk that during extreme conditions in the financial markets, units cannot be redeemed within the time limits. Liquidity risk is affected by the type of instrument, the existence of market and clearing functions, the size of the flow in the fund, the traded volume, the number of actors in the market as well

as the size of the fund relative to the size and the turnover of the market or the companies in which the fund invests.

## *Operative risk*

Operative risk refers to the risk for loss due partly to deficiencies in internal routines with regard to personnel and systems in the company that carries out the fund operations or other external factors, partly due to judicial and documentation-related risks, and partly due to risks as a result of trading, settlement and valuation routines. Operative risks are managed by the clear development and documentation of the routines, job descriptions and follow-up systems of the internal organization. All of the funds are exposed to operative risks. The operative risk can be higher in funds that invest in developing regions or in complex financial instruments.

## *Management of liquidity risks*

Liquidity in all the funds is classified for each holding. The classification is updated regularly. The Management Company invests only in funds that offer liquidity on a daily basis. The funds are able to borrow assets on a short-term basis or postpone payment of significant amounts if the fund holds a limited amount of cash. There is also the possibility of delaying subscriptions and/or redemptions in the fund in accordance with the regulations. A reasonable balance should be made between the different interests of unit holders in the selection of an action to be taken.

Quantitative risk limits have been established while taking into consideration the fund's investment focus, redemption policy, concentration of customers and use of derivatives. These limits are followed-up on a regular basis.

Stress tests are conducted regularly as well as when they are necessary. Measures are taken if the stress tests indicate risks for the unit holders.

## *Risk assessment methodology*

A fund's total exposure may be calculated either by the so-called commitment approach or by a Value-at-Risk model. A Value-at-Risk model that has been approved by the Financial Supervisory Authority is used in Handelsbanken for the Handelsbanken Röntestategi and Handelsbanken Röntestategi Plus. All of the other funds managed by the Management Company use the commitment approach to calculate the total exposure of each fund pursuant to Chapter 25, §§5 and 6 in the Financial Supervisory Authority's directives on securities funds, FFFS 2013:9.

## **The fund's risk indicator**

The calculation of the risk indicator (SRI) is standardized pursuant to the PRIIPs regulation 1286/2014 (EU). All of the

Management Company's funds are graded according to a seven-grade scale, with 1 for the lowest risk and 7 for the highest risk. The classification is based on market risk for the fund and is a measure of the variation in returns over time. Category 1 does not mean that the fund is risk free. The Management Company classifies funds that invest within category 1-3 as low risk, funds within category 4-5 as moderate risk and funds that invest within category 6-7 as high risk.

The market risk is calculated as the VaR-equivalent volatility and is based on the fund's historical returns. Based on this volatility, the market risk (MRM) for the fund is classified as follows:

The basis for the risk classification is the standard deviation for the price fluctuations in the fund as shown below:

MRM-class (Risk class)	VaR-equivalent Volatility (VEV)
1	< 0.5
2	≥ 0.5 and < 5.0
3	≥ 5.0 and < 12
4	≥ 12 and < 20
5	≥ 20 and < 30
6	≥ 30 and < 80
7	≥ 80

A credit risk assessment (CRM) may also be completed in addition to market risk. CRM=1 applies to all of the Management Company's funds and results in the risk indicator SRI=MRM.

## Techniques and instruments (securities lending, etc.) and management of collateral

### *Securities lending*

The Management Company uses securities lending as a technique/instrument for effective portfolio management. The following is a description of how securities loans are managed for all of the Management Company's funds to the extent that a fund lends securities. For a more detailed indication of a fund's actual use of securities lending, please refer to the annual report and semi-annual review for each fund.

Each fund may lend transferable securities up to the equivalent of a maximum of 20% of fund capital.

The Management Company's funds may lend equities as well as interest-bearing instruments, although it is

essentially equities that are subject to lending. Normally, the fund is expected to lend less than 10% of fund capital in those cases in which it is stated that the fund lends securities, although the volume may fluctuate significantly from time to time. In the case of securities lending, the fund may lend securities for the purpose of deriving income from lending. The borrower pledges collateral to the fund in the event the borrower is unable to return the securities (refer below to the section *Management of collateral*). The Management Company's funds retain JP Morgan SE – Luxembourg Branch as the intermediary of the securities loans. JP Morgan SE – Luxembourg Branch will receive remuneration for the intermediary services. JP Morgan SE, is the custodian institution for the Management Company's funds, but the business operations are completely separate from one another.

In securities lending, the fund is exposed to the risk that the counterparty will not return the borrowed securities, in conjunction with that JP Morgan SE – Luxembourg Branch is unable to meet its fulfilment guarantee, that JP Morgan SE. - Stockholm bank branch (in its capacity as custodian) is unable to keep the collateral separated, that the value of the collateral declines, and that issues of interpretation arise regarding the securities lending agreement.

Securities lending can expose the lending fund to risks related to the creditworthiness of the counterparties. The Management Company's funds lend securities to:

Barclays Bank Plc.  
 Barclays Capital Securities Ltd  
 BNP Paribas Arbitrage Snc  
 BNP Paribas Prime Brokerage International Ltd  
 Citigroup Global Markets Ltd  
 Goldman Sachs International  
 HSBC Bank Plc  
 J.P. Morgan Securities Plc  
 Merrill Lynch International  
 Morgan Stanley & Co. International Plc  
 Morgan Stanley Europe SE  
 Natixis SA  
 Skandinaviska Enskilda Banken AB (Publ)  
 Société Generale Paris Branch  
 Svenska Handelsbanken AB (Publ)  
 UBS AG London Branch

The Management Company's selection of permitted counterparties is always conducted to obtain the best conditions possible. The Management Company takes into consideration the country in which the counterparty operates in the selection of the permitted counterparty, given that the country's financial and political stability are critical factors in the selection of the counterparty. Only countries within OECD are applicable. In addition, the risk for financial pressures and the financial resilience of the respective counterparties are assessed. The Management

Company evaluates available borrowers as potential counterparties and those that are deemed to be most suitable from a credit perspective are selected as counterparties. Only credit institutions with a minimum rating of BBB from Standard & Poor's or its equivalent is will be accepted.

When the fund lends securities, the fund will receive 80% of the revenues derived from the securities loan and the remaining 20% of the revenues will revert to JP Morgan SE – Luxembourg Branch as the agent of the securities loan. The remuneration paid to the securities lending agent during the revenue allocation agreement is included in the management fees and other administrative or operating costs in the fact sheet.

All of the income derived from the use of techniques and instruments to streamline the investment process is allocated to the fund, after the deduction of costs charged by JP Morgan SE – Luxembourg Branch as the securities lending agent. The fund's custodian institution manages the collateral.

### *Management of collateral*

If the fund uses OTC derivatives and other techniques and instruments designed to streamline management and thus receives collateral, the fund must follow the Management Company's guidelines for collateral management. These guidelines are prepared in accordance with the Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No. 2016/2251 supplementing the European Parliament and Council Regulation (EC) No. 648/2012 on OTC derivatives, central counterparties and trade repositories with regard to technical standards for risk mitigation techniques for OTC derivative contracts that are not cleared by a Central Counterparty Clearing (CCP) (RMT regulation) and ESMA's guidelines on exchange-traded funds and other issues relating to collective investment schemes (ESMA 2014/937) as well as other applicable regulations.

The general requirements for collateral are provided in the Management Company's guidelines for collateral management. Collateral should be distinguished by the high creditworthiness of the issuer, high liquidity, be valued on a daily basis or consist of liquid assets. The cover pool should also be diversified.

In the case of securities loans, government bonds and treasury bills with a minimum rating of AA- from Standard & Poor's or Aa3 from Moody's that are issued by the US government, the British government, states within the eurozone (Austria, Belgium, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Portugal and Spain) as well as Australia, Canada, Denmark, Japan, New Zealand, Norway, Sweden and Switzerland, are accepted as collateral. Equities included in major and well-

established indexes, as well as ETFs with equivalent exposure, are also accepted as collateral. Liquid assets and securities issued by counterparties are currently not permitted as collateral. Collateral received by the fund is valued daily, based on applicable market prices. Collateral shall total the value of the securities lent on a daily basis with an appropriate safety margin.

In the case of OTC derivatives, the Management Company has entered into an ISDA/CSA agreement with each counterparty which states the approved collateral in relation to the counterparty. Liquid assets are currently the only collateral permitted for these transactions.

The Management Company has a haircut strategy that includes all of the share classes and guarantees the management of any problems with a decline in value of the collateral, among others.

The haircut strategy is stated in the Management Company's guidelines for collateral management and in agreements with the counterparties. Collateral not consisting of cash may not be sold, reinvested or pledged. The market value of the collateral shall amount to a minimum of 100% of the exposure to the counterparty, in accordance with the haircut strategy. The fund has the potential to realise the collateral received at any point in time without reference to or approval from the counterparty.

Collateral is kept in custody in an account in the name of the custodian institution, JP Morgan SE - Stockholm bank branch, on behalf of the borrowed fund.

In accordance with the agreement, JP Morgan SE – Luxembourg Branch, as the securities loan agent, and JP Morgan SE - Stockholm bank branch, as the custodian institution, may not reuse the collateral. The Management Company does not reuse the collateral. With regard to collateral in the form of cash, its reuse must meet the requirements of ESMA 2014/937.

### **Fund termination or transfer of fund operations**

A fund can be terminated if the Board of Directors of the Management Company makes such a decision or if the Custodian Institution, after it has taken over the fund's management, makes such a decision. The Custodian Institution will assume the management of a fund if the Board of Directors of the Management Company makes the decision to terminate its management duties, if the Financial Supervisory Authority revokes the Management Company's authorization, if the Management Company goes into liquidation, or if the Company has gone into bankruptcy. If the Financial Supervisory Authority revokes the Management Company's authorization or if the

Management Company has gone into liquidation or gone into bankruptcy, the Custodian Institution shall immediately undertake the management of the fund.

In addition, the Management Company may transfer the management of a fund to another fund management company. The transfer requires the approval of the Financial Supervisory Authority.

If a fund is terminated or transferred, information regarding this shall be published in the Post and Domestic Times, unless the Financial Supervisory Authority has made notification of an exception. A transfer to the Custodian Institution or another fund management company may occur three months after the publication of the change has been made, at the earliest, unless the Financial Supervisory Authority has granted approval for an earlier transfer.

If the Management Company terminates the management of a fund, the Custodian Institution shall assume the management of the fund when the operations have been terminated. The Management Company may transfer the management to another fund management company, although approval must first be obtained from the Financial Supervisory Authority. The transfer may occur three months after the publication of the change has been made, at the earliest, unless the Financial Supervisory Authority has granted approval for an earlier transfer. Information about the changes shall be made available at the Management Company as well as at the Custodian Institution.

In those cases where the Management Company will cease offering a certain share class, the Management Company will take the decision to amend the fund rules and remove the share class in question (further information is provided below under the section *Changes to fund rules*).

## **Changes to fund rules**

The fund rules for a fund can be changed after the Management Company's Board of Directors makes such a decision and the Financial Supervisory Authority has approved the change. A change to the fund rules can affect the fund's character, e.g., its investment focus, fees, risk profile and share classes. All unit holders are to be informed prior to such changes and, if the Financial Supervisory Authority deems this to be a substantial change, the unit holders will be provided the opportunity to sell fund units without being charged a fee in the event the unit holder no longer wishes to retain ownership subsequent to the changes.

## **Annual reports and semi-annual reviews**

At the request of the unit holder, the funds' annual reports and semi-annual reviews will be sent free of charge. The request may be made verbally or in written form at a local Handelsbanken branch office. Annual reports and semi-annual reviews may also be downloaded from the Management Company's website at [www.handelsbanken.se/sv/om-oss/svenska-dotterbolag/handelsbanken-fonder/our-work](http://www.handelsbanken.se/sv/om-oss/svenska-dotterbolag/handelsbanken-fonder/our-work). The documents for the XACT funds are also available at [www.xact.se](http://www.xact.se).

## **Fees, returns and performance**

Information on the size of the fees paid to the Management Company and the Custodian Institution, as well as the funds' returns and performance, may be found in the funds' annual reports and semi-annual reviews. Information about historical performance may also be found in the fact sheet for each fund. The fact sheets constitute a portion of this Prospectus.

## **Regular information on risk and liquidity management as well as financial leverage**

The Management Company provides regular information on risk and liquidity management as well as financial leverage as follows. Information about the current risk profile, the applicable risk management system and the proportion of any non-liquid assets is provided in the annual report and semi-annual review of the fund. Information for those funds applying financial leverage is provided in the annual report and semi-annual review for each fund. Information on the total financial leverage amount as calculated according to the gross method and commitment approach is also provided in the aforementioned reports.

Information about changes in the maximum financial leverage permitted on behalf of the fund and the right to gain access to collateral or other guarantees submitted pursuant to the scheme for financial leverage is provided on the Management Company's website. This also applies to changes in the fund's risk management of liquidity that are of vital importance. The Management Company does not currently permit the right to reuse collateral held and does not provide any guarantees within the framework for financial leverage arrangements.

## **Benchmark index and tracking error**

All of the actively-managed funds managed by the Management Company have a benchmark index. This information is stated in the fact sheet and is provided to investors in order to assess the fund's performance relative to the performance on the market(s) in which the fund invests. The management of the fund is active, whereby the fund manager takes autonomous decisions

independent of the benchmark index's composition. Actively-managed funds deviate more or less from their benchmark index depending on the fund manager's analysis and assessment, the market(s) in which the fund invests as well as the liquidity of the assets in which the fund invests.

The activity level in a fund is calculated by using a measurement known as tracking error. Tracking error is defined as the volatility in the difference between the fund's returns and the returns of the benchmark index. The tracking error is calculated in accordance with industry standards, is based on monthly data and refers to the most recent 24 months. A higher deviation in returns from the benchmark index in general gives a higher tracking error. The level of the tracking error differs between different types of funds (actively-managed funds, index funds, rules-based leverage funds and rules-based generation funds) and fund categories (equities, fixed income), given that the risk levels of the underlying markets differ from each other. The table in part 1 of the Prospectus reports the fund's returns and tracking error for the past ten years or if the fund has been in existence for a shorter period, from the time the fund was launched (if the fund has existed for more than two years). It should be noted that for active fund management, the returns will deviate over time from the benchmark index and the tracking error will differ year to year. Rules-based fund management aims to limit deviations from the benchmark index and therefore the returns will deviate significantly less over time from the index than is the case for non-rules based management (active fund management).

## Tax rules for the funds

As of 1 January 2012, funds are not taxable in Sweden for income of assets included in the fund. The fund is subject to a tax at source in each country for distributions from foreign equities. The tax at source varies between different countries, although it is frequently 30% of the distribution received. However, the tax at source is normally reduced in accordance with the double taxation convention concluded between Sweden and other countries. Taking into consideration that Swedish funds were exempted from income tax in 2012, some uncertainty has arisen regarding the application of the double taxation convention and the tax concessions applicable to these conventions. Distributions are reported in the amount actually received, although it cannot be excluded that the taxes at source may be revised, which would result in the fund being charged with additional taxes at source on distributions previously received. Restitutions (repayment of paid taxes at source) will be reported when received.

There is also uncertainty about how the taxation of distributions from equities within the EU will be imposed, given the background of tax developments within the EU.

This could result in both higher earnings and increased costs with regard to taxes at source in funds with foreign holdings. Revenues or expenses will be reported when received or paid, respectively. With regard to restitutions for certain funds and from certain countries such as Denmark and Finland, the principle of reporting restitutions when received may be waived if there are tax and accounting grounds related thereto.

## Tax rules for unit holders

### Tax residency in Sweden

A Swedish fund is not taxable; rather, unit holders are taxed for their holdings through a standard earnings that is treated as capital income. The standard earnings are calculated as 0.4% of the fund's net asset value as of 1 January (taxation year). The standard earnings are taxed at 30% for private investors, which is an actual tax of 0.12% of the fund value. The tax also applies to the fund unit holdings of legal entities and amounts to 22% of standard earnings. However, the new tax does not apply to fund units held by a legal entity as inventory.

For investors who have a distribution share class and thereby receive dividends, a withholding tax of 30% will be deducted from the amount distributed. This applies to natural persons who are taxable in Sweden. The Management Company will deduct a dividend tax on distributions for unit holders whose tax domicile is located in another country.

When fund units are sold, a profit or loss is calculated as the difference between the sales price and the tax basis. Normally, the actual acquisition fee for the sold units is the tax basis. If a unit holder has received a distribution on the fund units and reinvests a portion of the distribution in the fund or if units have been purchased on several occasions, an acquisition fee shall be included in the tax basis. If only a portion of the holdings in the fund are sold, the average cost method shall be used for the calculation of the tax basis. With the average cost method, the average tax basis is calculated for all of the units in the same fund and the acquisition fees at each occasion are aggregated and divided by the number of units. Capital gains are taxable in their entirety and are subject to a 30% tax rate. Capital losses are deductible to 70%, although these may be deductible in their entirety in certain cases, e.g., offset. Reference the information stated under the section *Share classes – Nomenclature, conditions, distributions, etc.* for questions regarding taxation when switching share classes. Further information is also available on the Swedish Tax Authority's website.

### Foreign resident taxation

Taxation rules apply in the country of residence for unit holders domiciled abroad for tax purposes.

## Remuneration to employees

The principles for the Management Company's remuneration system are established in a remuneration policy that has been approved by the Board of Directors of the Management Company. The remuneration policy of the Management Company is based on the policy applicable to the Group but is adjusted to the specific activities carried out within the Management Company. The Management Company's Board of Directors has appointed a Remuneration Committee that is responsible for preparing information to make decisions regarding remuneration. The Remuneration Committee consists of the Board members Lars Seiz (Committee Chair) and Helen Fasth Gillstedt. The Remuneration Committee meets a minimum of three times each year. The Management Company's remuneration policy is reviewed annually or as needed.

The Management Company's low risk tolerance has dominated the work in developing the policy for remuneration. The Chief Executive Officer and affected senior managers within the Management Company are responsible for identifying, evaluating and limiting remuneration risks, as well as proposing the structure of the remuneration system to be consistent with the Management Company's view on risks and sustainability. The Risk control and Compliance functions are responsible for identifying, monitoring, analyzing and reporting significant risks with the remuneration system.

### *Variable remuneration*

Below is an explanation of the potential variable remuneration available to active equity and fixed income fund managers. The potential variable remuneration available to all employees within the Management Company is described in the section *Oktogonen*.

Variable remuneration is paid within the Management Company only when such remuneration is an established market practice and is necessary to attain the objectives of the Management Company's business activities. Variable remuneration shall not be paid to anyone within the Management Company's executive management. The Heads and employees within the Risk control and Compliance functions shall only be paid fixed remuneration. This also applies to employees working within the staff and fund administration functions. The only personnel categories eligible for variable remuneration are portfolio managers.

The variable remuneration principles adopted by the Management Company are set for the purpose of

reflecting the Management Company's risk tolerance, shall counteract excessive risk-taking and be consistent with the current risk profiles of the funds, the fund rules, the discretionary mandate, as well as the internal and external rules.

Variable remuneration within the Management Company is based on the Group's model for wage setting and the salary-based factors. In addition to the salary-based factors, there are also business-specific factors, and particular emphasis is placed on sound risk-taking, observing good order and compliance. The evaluation of the allocation of variable remuneration shall be based on the results and performance of the Management Company and the individual employee during the evaluation period.

All employees covered by variable remuneration are classified as Risk-takers and are covered by the rules for deferment of remuneration.

Variable remuneration consists only of fund units.

Employees entitled to remuneration receive one-half of the variable remuneration in fund units in the funds in which the employee manages (weighted equally if the employee manages several funds) and one-half in fund units in a number of funds that represent the total fund management in the Management Company.

The parameters that are the basis for the decision on the size of the deferred portion of the variable remuneration are based on the risks in the business operations and the size of the variable remuneration. The Management Company defers up to 40–60% over a minimum of three years. In accordance with the Management Company's policy, an employee's variable remuneration may not exceed 100% of the fixed remuneration. The established rules for the deferral of variable remuneration apply to all employees and managers. An assessment is conducted annually during the deferral period to determine whether the remuneration shall be adjusted downward or discontinued in its entirety. The discontinuation or downward adjustment of deferred variable remuneration will occur in the event that losses, increased risks or costs arise during the deferral period. This includes, for example, the employee's compliance with external and internal rules and regulations. The discontinuation or downward adjustment shall also occur in the event that a payment is deemed to be unjustifiable given the Management Company's financial situation or in the event the Central Board has made a recommendation for a discontinuation or downward adjustment of the deferred variable remuneration.

The deferred variable remuneration and the portion of the non-deferred variable remuneration are subject to a retention period of one year. No assessments for a downward adjustment or discontinuation are made during the retention period. The ownership rights to the fund units

are transferred to the employee entitled to remuneration after the completion of the retention period.

## *Oktogonen*

The Handelsbanken Group has a profit-sharing plan called Oktogonen, which can result in an allocation in the form of cash remuneration when Handelsbanken's profitability exceeds the average of comparable competitors in the bank's home markets and after an overall assessment of the bank's performance by the Central Board. The Management Company is subject to specific rules for remuneration established in the Financial Supervisory Authority's regulations. The following is applicable for the employees of the Management Company. All employees not included in the category of specially regulated staff (specially regulated staff consists of senior managers, risk-takers and employees with particularly high remuneration) receive allocation in accordance with the Group rules, i.e., cash paid directly at the time of allocation. Specially regulated staff who have the right to other variable remuneration are also subject to the rules for such remuneration in the relevant provisions (deferred, retention in the form of fund units) in the Oktogonen allocation. Other specially regulated staff receive the Oktogonen allocation in the form of fund units in a mixed fund and the remuneration is subject to a four-year deferral.

Additional information about remuneration to employees at Handelsbanken Fonder and the applicable remuneration policy is available on the Management Company's website. A hard copy of this information can be obtained upon request.

## **Managed funds**

Below is a list of the funds managed by the Management Company. Part 1 of this Prospectus (the fund-specific portion) provides a description of the current/specific fund's investment focus, the types of assets in which the fund may invest, the use of derivatives and the associated risks, fees paid, the fund's risk profile and the fund's target group. Where applicable, there is also a description of the fund's share classes, information on the use of techniques and instruments in fund management and collateral management. A fund's historical fund performance is presented in the fact sheet for each fund and is provided as an attachment to this Prospectus.

### Actively managed funds

AstraZeneca Allemansfond  
Handelsbanken Aktiv 100  
Handelsbanken Aktiv 30  
Handelsbanken Aktiv 50  
Handelsbanken Aktiv 70  
Handelsbanken Amerika Småbolag Tema  
Handelsbanken Amerika Tema

Handelsbanken Asien Småbolag  
Handelsbanken Asien Tema  
Handelsbanken Brasilien Tema  
Handelsbanken EMEA Tema  
Handelsbanken Euro Corporate Bond Fund  
Handelsbanken Euro Obligation  
Handelsbanken Euro Ränta  
Handelsbanken Europa Selektiv  
Handelsbanken Europa Småbolag  
Handelsbanken Finland Småbolag  
Handelsbanken Flexibel Ränta  
Handelsbanken Företagsobligation  
Handelsbanken Företagsobligation Investment Grade  
Handelsbanken Företagsobligation Investment Grade (NOK)  
Handelsbanken Global Digital  
Handelsbanken Global Impact  
Handelsbanken Global Selektiv  
Handelsbanken Global Tema  
Handelsbanken Hållbar Energi  
Handelsbanken Hållbar Global High Yield  
Handelsbanken Hållbar Global Obligation  
Handelsbanken Hälsovård Tema  
Handelsbanken Høyrente  
Handelsbanken Institutionell Kortränta  
Handelsbanken Japan Tema  
Handelsbanken Kapitalförvaltning 25  
Handelsbanken Kapitalförvaltning 50  
Handelsbanken Kapitalförvaltning 75  
Handelsbanken Kort Rente Norge  
Handelsbanken Kortränta  
Handelsbanken Kortränta SEK  
Handelsbanken Kreditt  
Handelsbanken Långränta  
Handelsbanken Latinamerika Impact Tema  
Handelsbanken Microcap Norden  
Handelsbanken Microcap Sverige  
Handelsbanken Multi Asset 100  
Handelsbanken Multi Asset 120  
Handelsbanken Multi Asset 15  
Handelsbanken Multi Asset 25  
Handelsbanken Multi Asset 40  
Handelsbanken Multi Asset 50  
Handelsbanken Multi Asset 60  
Handelsbanken Multi Asset 75  
Handelsbanken Nanocap Sverige  
Handelsbanken Norden  
Handelsbanken Norden Selektiv  
Handelsbanken Nordiska Småbolag  
Handelsbanken Norge  
Handelsbanken Obligasjon  
Handelsbanken Pension 50 Aktiv  
Handelsbanken Pension 60 Aktiv  
Handelsbanken Pension 70 Aktiv  
Handelsbanken Pension 80 Aktiv  
Handelsbanken Pension 90 Aktiv  
Handelsbanken Prime Balanced



Handelsbanken Prime Defensive  
Handelsbanken Prime Moderate  
Handelsbanken Prime Opportunity  
Handelsbanken Prime Potential  
Handelsbanken Rän-teavkastning  
Handelsbanken Rän-testrategi  
Handelsbanken Rän-testrategi Plus  
Handelsbanken Selection Fixed Income  
Handelsbanken Selection Fixed Income Criteria  
Handelsbanken Selection Global Equities  
Handelsbanken Selection Global Equities Criteria  
Handelsbanken Selection Swedish Equities  
Handelsbanken Selection Swedish Equities Criteria  
Handelsbanken Stiftelsefond  
Handelsbanken Svenska Småbolag  
Handelsbanken Sverige  
Handelsbanken Sverige Selektiv  
Handelsbanken Tillväxtmarknad Obligation  
Handelsbanken Tillväxtmarknad Tema

XACT Svenska Småbolag (UCITS ETF)  
XACT Sverige (UCITS ETF)

### Passively managed funds

Handelsbanken Auto 100 Criteria  
Handelsbanken Auto 25 Criteria  
Handelsbanken Auto 50 Criteria  
Handelsbanken Auto 75 Criteria  
Handelsbanken Developed Markets Index Criteria  
Handelsbanken Emerging Markets Index  
Handelsbanken Europa Index Criteria  
Handelsbanken Global Dynamisk Strategi  
Handelsbanken Global High Dividend Low Volatility Criteria  
Handelsbanken Global Index Criteria  
Handelsbanken Global Infrastruktur  
Handelsbanken Global Momentum  
Handelsbanken Global Småbolag Index Criteria  
Handelsbanken Norden Index Criteria  
Handelsbanken Norge Index Criteria  
Handelsbanken Pension 40  
Handelsbanken Pension 50  
Handelsbanken Pension 60  
Handelsbanken Pension 70  
Handelsbanken Pension 80  
Handelsbanken Pension 90  
Handelsbanken Realränta  
Handelsbanken Sverige 100 Index Criteria  
Handelsbanken Sverige Index Criteria  
Handelsbanken Sverige LM Index  
Handelsbanken USA Index Criteria  
XACT BEAR (ETF)  
XACT BEAR 2 (ETF)  
XACT BULL (ETF)  
XACT BULL 2 (ETF)  
XACT Norden (UCITS ETF)  
XACT Nordic High Dividend Low Volatility (UCITS ETF)  
XACT Obligation (UCITS ETF)  
XACT OMXC25 ESG (UCITS ETF)  
XACT OMXS30 ESG (UCITS ETF)

ANNEX III

Pre-contractual disclosure for 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: Handelsbanken Norden Index Criteria

Legal entity identifier: 549300UD2UEOMSOP2G06

**Sustainable investment**

means an investment in an economic activity that contributes to an environmental or social objective, provided that the investment does not significantly harm any environmental or social objective and that the investee companies follow good governance practices.

**EU Taxonomy** is a classification system laid down in Regulation (EU) 2020/852, establishing a list of environmentally sustainable economic activities. That Regulation does not include a list of socially sustainable economic activities. Sustainable investments with an environmental objective might be aligned with the Taxonomy or not.

**Sustainable investment objective**

Does this financial product have a sustainable investment objective?	
<input checked="" type="radio"/> <input checked="" type="radio"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Yes</b>	<input checked="" type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>No</b>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> It will make a minimum of <b>sustainable investments with an environmental objective: 90%</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> It promotes <b>Environmental/Social (E/S) characteristics ___%</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> in economic activities that qualify as environmentally sustainable under the EU Taxonomy	<input type="checkbox"/> with an environmental objective in economic activities that qualify as environmentally sustainable under the EU Taxonomy
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> in economic activities that do not qualify as environmentally sustainable under the EU Taxonomy	<input type="checkbox"/> with an environmental objective in economic activities that do not qualify as environmentally sustainable under the EU Taxonomy
<input type="checkbox"/> It will make a minimum of <b>sustainable investments with a social objective: ___%</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> with a social objective
	<input type="checkbox"/> It promotes E/S characteristics, but <b>will not make any sustainable investments</b>



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

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

**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, anti-corruption and anti-bribery matters.

The fund is an equity index fund that aims to follow the performance of the Solactive ISS ESG Screened Paris Aligned Nordic Index as closely as possible. The index constitutes a registered EU benchmark for alignment with the Paris Agreement (a so-called Paris Aligned Benchmark) pursuant to Regulation (EU) 2016/1011 (the Benchmark Regulation), and aims to reflect developments in the Nordic equity markets, taking into account specific sustainability requirements.

The sustainability requirements of the index aim to reduce emissions of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases. The companies in the fund and the index are selected and weighted in such a way that the index portfolio's greenhouse gas emissions are adapted to the long-term global warming targets of the Paris Agreement. The fund is reported as a fund in accordance with Article 9(3) of Regulation (EU) 2019/2088 of the European Parliament and of the Council on sustainability-related disclosures in the financial services sector (SFDR). More information about the index that the fund tracks can be found at [www.solactive.com/indices/?se=1&index=DE000SL0DXX2](http://www.solactive.com/indices/?se=1&index=DE000SL0DXX2). Note that it is the fund as a whole that, according to Article 9(3) SFDR, has a reduction in emissions of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases as its objective.

The fund's sustainable investments contribute to the following environmental objectives defined in the EU Taxonomy for environmentally sustainable activities: climate change mitigation and climate change adaptation.

The fund is an index fund and the fund's Paris Aligned Benchmark has been selected with the aim of attaining the objective of reducing emissions of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases.

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

**Greenhouse gas intensity/carbon footprint in accordance with the Paris Aligned Benchmark regulatory framework:** To meet the objective of reducing carbon emissions and other greenhouse gases, the fund and its index shall reduce their greenhouse gas intensity, measured as Scope 1, 2 and 3 emissions relative to EVIC, at least 7% annually. The fund and its index shall also display a greenhouse gas intensity which is at least 55% lower than the greenhouse gas intensity of the reference portfolio. These emissions reductions shall be achieved by requiring that the total exposure to the sectors listed as high climate impact sectors in Sections A-H and Section L of Annex I to Regulation (EC) No 1893/2006 (5) of the European Parliament and of the Council correspond, at least, to the total exposure to these sectors in the reference portfolio. The requirement is established in order to ensure that the index provides a realistic picture of the real economy, including the sectors that need to actively reduce their greenhouse gas emissions in order to achieve the targets of the Paris Agreement.

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

In order to qualify as sustainable investments, companies whose economic activities contribute to the attainment of an environmental or social objective must also not counteract sustainable development through other parts of their value chain (the "do no significant harm" principle). For this fund, which has a reduction in emissions of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases as its objective at the fund level, the fund company ensures this by meeting all, and in certain cases exceeding, the mandatory requirements set for a Paris Aligned Benchmark in the index methodology. This entails that the companies included in the fund are to apply the following principles:

1. Exclusion criteria for companies with activities linked to controversial sectors as well as specific PAI indicators, such as fossil fuels and controversial weapons.
2. Exclusion criteria for companies with confirmed violations of international norms and conventions.
3. Exclusion criteria for companies that cause significant harm to one or more environmental objectives linked to climate change mitigation, climate change adaptation, sustainable use and protection of water and marine resources, transition to a circular economy, prevention and mitigation of environmental pollution, protection and restoration of biodiversity and ecosystems.

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

Indicators for adverse impact on sustainability factors are taken into account by integrating and considering the companies' emissions of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases in the index methodology and thus the portfolio composition. This is done to attain the objective of reducing emissions of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases.

Through screening and exclusion, the fund and its indices exclude issuers with activities linked to controversial sectors as well as issuers with confirmed violations of international norms and conventions such as the UN Global Compact and the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises.

Through dialogue, the fund company influences companies to manage their sustainability risks and any potential principal adverse impacts on sustainability factors.

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

Through screening and exclusion, the fund and its indices exclude companies with confirmed violations of the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises and the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights.



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



**Yes.**

The portfolio manager considers principal adverse impacts (PAI). This is done through a process developed by the fund company where potential adverse impacts are identified and analysed. Certain adverse impacts are managed through exclusion within the scope of the fund's index methodology, while other potential adverse impacts are managed through active asset stewardship and engagement. The fund invests broadly across numerous sectors, and which PAI indicators are relevant therefore differs depending on the fund's investments. Data quality and data availability also currently affect the integration of principal adverse impacts on sustainability factors in the management.

In addition to the fund company's PAI tools, an exclusion strategy is applied to the fund and its index. The aim of the strategy is to ensure that companies are not involved in activities with a heightened risk of adversely impacting sustainability factors. This applies to activities relating to the production and distribution of controversial weapons, military equipment, alcohol, tobacco, cannabis, pornography, commercial gambling and fossil fuels, as well as to companies with confirmed violations of international norms and conventions related to human rights, the environment, employee rights or anti-corruption and anti-bribery. Any deviations are managed by exclusion. The exclusion criteria are built into the fund's index methodology and verification of the fund's exclusion strategy is conducted at the time of investment and on an ongoing basis.

Information on the principal adverse impacts on sustainability factors will be disclosed in the fund's annual report, available on the fund company's website.



**No**



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

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

**Good governance** practices include sound management structures, employee

Target of reducing carbon emissions: The fund is managed in line with an index that is a registered EU benchmark for alignment with the Paris Agreement (a so-called Paris Aligned Benchmark), pursuant to Regulation (EU) 2016/1011 (the Benchmark Regulation). The fund and the composition of its index aim for reduced emissions of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases. The companies in the fund and the index are selected and weighted in such a way that the index portfolio's greenhouse gas emissions are aligned with the long-term global warming targets of the Paris Agreement. This means the following:

- The index must have a greenhouse gas intensity, measured as emissions of greenhouse gases according to Scope 1, 2 and 3, which is at least 55% lower

relations, remuneration of staff and tax compliance.

than the greenhouse gas intensity of the reference portfolio, and it must also show a reduction in greenhouse gas intensity of at least 7% annually.

- The total exposure to the sectors listed as high climate impact sectors in Sections A-H and Section L of Annex I to Regulation (EC) No 1893/2006 (5) of the European Parliament and of the Council must correspond, at least, to the total exposure to these sectors in the reference portfolio. The requirement is established in order to ensure that the index provides a realistic picture of the real economy, including the sectors that need to actively reduce their greenhouse gas emissions in order to achieve the targets of the Paris Agreement.
- Within the framework of the index methodology, companies that, through their products and services, positively contribute to the attainment of the environmental objectives of Agenda 2030, are rewarded.

**Dialogue and asset stewardship:** Active engagement is an essential strategy for influencing companies in a more sustainable direction. The fund company and the fund manager do this through company dialogues, asset stewardship and engagement in investor networks. Company dialogues are conducted both directly between the fund manager and the company, as well as together with other investors or within the scope of investor networks and other collaborations. The dialogues cover a wide range of sustainability issues. Through representation on nomination committees and voting at shareholders' meetings, the fund company conducts active and responsible asset stewardship. The basis for this is our Policy for Shareholder Engagement and Responsible Investments as well as our guidelines for nomination committees.

**Exclusion strategy:** The fund applies sustainability requirements in the form of an exclusion strategy. The strategy applies to companies that produce or distribute controversial weapons, military equipment, alcohol, tobacco, cannabis, pornography, commercial gambling, fossil fuels, as well as companies with confirmed violations of international norms and conventions related to human rights, the environment, employee rights or anti-corruption and anti-bribery. Furthermore, companies are excluded if they cause significant harm to one or more environmental objectives linked to climate change mitigation, climate change adaptation, sustainable use and protection of water and marine resources, transition to a circular economy, prevention and mitigation of environmental pollution, protection and restoration of biodiversity and ecosystems. The index also excludes companies operating in controversial sectors.

Area	Maximum turnover	
	production	distribution
Controversial weapons*	0%	0%
Nuclear weapons	0%	0%
Weapons and military equipment	5%	5%
Alcohol	5%	5%
Tobacco	0%	5%
Cannabis	5%	5%
Pornography	0%	5%
Commercial gambling	5%	5%
Fossil fuels - mining (oil, gas and coal)	5%	5%

Fossil fuels – power generation (oil, gas and coal)**	5%	5%
Tar sands	0%	-

\* Cluster bombs, anti-personnel mines, chemical weapons and biological weapons.

\*\* More information down below.

The fund and its index are able to invest in companies in transition. Companies in transition refers to power generation companies that are deemed to be in the process of transforming their operations in a way that is expected to contribute to, rather than counteract, the fulfilment of the Paris Agreement. Exceptions are made from the 5% criterion regarding "fossil fuels – power generation" in the index methodology if all of the following criteria are met:

- The company has established and published targets in accordance with the requirements of the Science Based Targets Initiative to transform its operations in line with the Paris Agreement.
- The company has a maximum of 50% revenue from fossil fuel energy.
- The company has a maximum of 5% revenue from coal power.
- The company has a minimum of 10% revenue from renewable energy. However, exceptions can never be made to the minimum criteria in the Paris Aligned Benchmarks framework (see Articles 2-12 of the Delegated EU Regulation 2020/1818 to the Benchmarks Regulation).

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

**Target of reducing emissions of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases:** All requirements in the Paris Aligned Benchmarks regulatory framework are mandatory for the fund company to adhere to in the fund's management. This includes an annual reduction of greenhouse gas intensity from the investment portfolio and index of at least 7%.

**Exclusion strategy:** The fund applies sustainability requirements in the form of an exclusion strategy. The strategy is binding for the fund company in the fund's management.

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

By excluding companies with confirmed violations of international norms and conventions linked to, for example, tax, employee rights, corruption and bribery, it is ensured that the companies the fund invests in comply with current practice in terms of good governance.

In addition to the norm-based exclusion, the fund company has developed an internal analysis tool to assess good governance practices in the investee companies with regard to issues related to the companies' governance, such as employee relations, remuneration, executive and management structures, and compliance with tax legislation. In cases where deficiencies are identified, the outcome of the analysis may result in the fund company addressing these deficiencies through dialogue and active asset stewardship.



**Asset allocation**

describes the share of investments in specific assets.

Taxonomy-aligned activities are expressed as a share of:

- **turnover** reflecting the share of revenue from green activities of investee companies
- **capital expenditure** (CapEx) showing the green investments made by investee companies, e.g. for a transition to a green economy.
- **operational expenditure** (OpEx) reflecting green operational activities of investee companies.

To comply with the EU Taxonomy, the criteria for **fossil gas** include limitations on emissions and switching to fully renewable power or low-carbon fuels by the end of 2035. For **nuclear energy**, the criteria include comprehensive safety and waste management rules

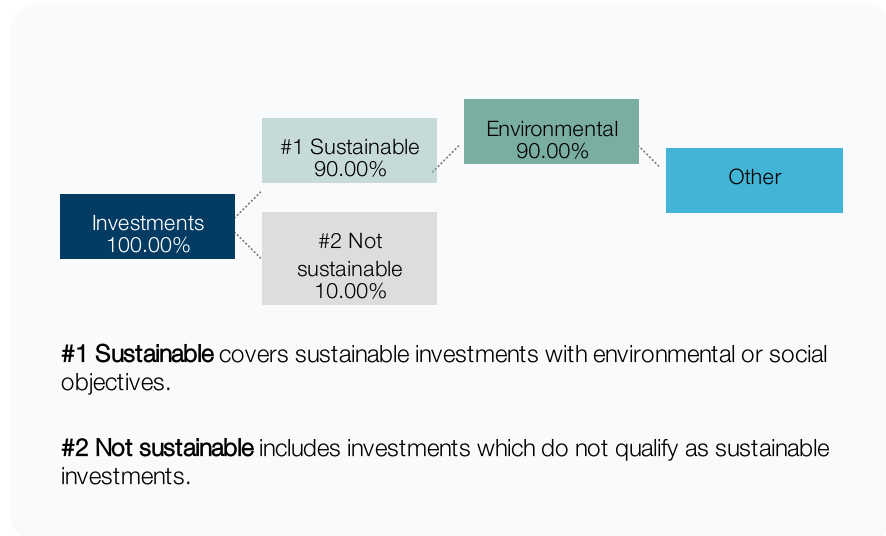
**Enabling activities** directly enable other activities to make a substantial contribution to an environmental objective.

**Transitional activities** are activities for which low-carbon alternatives are not yet available and among others have greenhouse gas emission levels



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

The stated asset allocation is based on the fund's investment strategy and its objective to reduce emissions of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases by, as closely as possible, following the Solactive ISS ESG Screened Paris Aligned Nordic Index – a registered EU benchmark for alignment with the Paris Agreement. The information on the minimum proportion of sustainable investments only refers to investments with environmental objectives and relates to the objective of reducing emissions of carbon dioxide and greenhouse gas at the fund level (the fund as a whole). The result of the actual allocation in the fund is reported in the fund's annual report. It is important to note that the information about the minimum proportion of sustainable investments and the target of, for example, a 7% annual reduction of emissions of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases refers to the fund level, and not to each of the constituent companies in the fund.



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

At the moment, the companies have generally not started reporting on the extent that their activity is aligned with the EU Taxonomy. There are also no technical standards for all environmental objectives. Considering this, the fund company currently chooses not to specify a minimum extent of taxonomy-aligned sustainable investments, and therefore reports 0%.

There is no commitment to a minimum share of investments in transitional and enabling activities.

- **Does the financial product invest in fossil gas and/or nuclear energy related activities that comply with the EU Taxonomy?**<sup>1</sup>

Yes:

In fossil gas

In nuclear energy

No



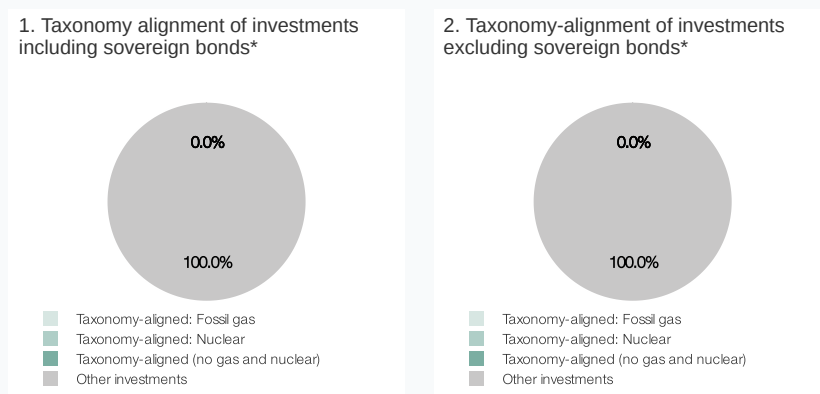
**The two graphs** below show in green the minimum percentage of investments that are aligned with the EU Taxonomy. As there is no appropriate methodology to determine the taxonomy-alignment of sovereign bonds\*, the first graph

<sup>1</sup> Fossil gas and/or nuclear related activities will only comply with the EU Taxonomy where they contribute to limiting climate change ("climate change mitigation") and do not significantly harm any EU Taxonomy objective – see explanatory note in the left hand margin. The full criteria for fossil gas and nuclear energy economic activities that comply with the EU Taxonomy are laid down in Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2022/1214



corresponding to the best performance.

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.



\* For the purpose of these graphs, 'sovereign bonds' consist of all sovereign exposures

• **What is the minimum share of investments in transitional and enabling activities?**

There is no commitment to a minimum share of investments in transitional and enabling activities.



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



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

The fund has a reduction in emissions of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases as its objective and the minimum share of sustainable investments is therefore the same as the commitment concerning the minimum share of sustainable investments with an environmental objective.



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

The fund has a reduction in emissions of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases as its objective and there is no commitment to make a specific minimum share of socially sustainable investments.



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

For its liquidity management and risk balancing, the fund can hold cash. Index-based financial instruments (futures and exchange-traded funds) can also be used in the fund's liquidity management. The fund uses index-based financial instruments with built-in sustainability requirements in underlying indices if possible, i.e. when these are available for the relevant market and are otherwise deemed appropriate.



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

Yes

Reference benchmarks are indexes to measure whether the financial

product attains 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?***

The reference benchmark is a registered EU benchmark for alignment with the Paris Agreement (a so-called Paris Aligned Benchmark) pursuant to Regulation (EU) 2016/1011 (the Benchmark Regulation). The index is rebalanced semi-annually to meet the set objective of reducing emissions of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases, as well as the index's other sustainability criteria.

- ***How is the alignment of the investment strategy with the methodology of the index ensured on a continuous basis?***

The index will be replicated through optimised (sample-based) physical replication, which means that the fund invests directly in most of the equities included in the index. Tracking error (deviation from the index) is expected to be less than 0.3% under normal market conditions. The management fee as well as customer flows, index rebalancing and corporate events all generate transaction costs for the fund which are not present in the index. These are the main factors that impact the fund's ability to replicate the index.

- ***How does the designated index differ from a relevant broad market index?***

The sustainability requirements in the index, for example in the form of the set exclusion criteria, have resulted in a reduction in the investment universe compared to a broad market index.

- ***Where can the methodology used for the calculation of the designated index be found?***

<https://solactive.com/downloads/Guideline-Solactive-SSPABN.pdf>



Where can I find more product specific information online?

- ***More product-specific information can be found on the website:***

[Sustainability-related disclosure - Handelsbanken Norden Index Criteria](#)