ESG characteristics



ESG characteristics of Solactive Candriam index range

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1. INTRODUCTION

This document describes the ESG characteristics of the indices that are replicated in the IndexIQ ETF fund range. These indices integrate Candriam's SRI screening and hence, the ESG profile of the index is expected to improve compared to the widely used market capitalization based indices. The analysis below illustrates this with quantitative data.

The table below lists the indices that will be described together with the name of the corresponding reference index.

Solactive Candriam Factors Sustainable Index	Traditional Index		
Solactive Candriam Factors Sustainable EMU Equity	MSCI EMU		
Solactive Candriam Factors Sustainable Europe Equity	MSCI Europe		
Solactive Candriam Factors Sustainable Japan Equity	MSCI Japan		
IQ Candriam SRI World Equity	MSCI World		
Solactive Candriam Factors Sustainable Corporate Bond	ML Euro Corporate		

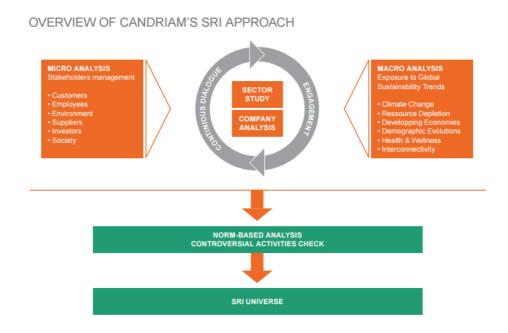
2. OVERVIEW OF CANDRIAM'S SRI SCREENING

Candriam's SRI methodology ranks companies per sector and per geographical region (Europe, Asia Pacific and North America) based on Micro and Macro analyses:

- The Micro Analysis procedure assesses the company's management of customers, employees, the environment, suppliers, investors and the broad society.
- The Macro Analysis procedure measures the company's exposure to global sustainability trends such as climate change, resource depletion, developing economies, demographic evolutions, health & wellness and interconnectivity.

The results of the Macro and Micro analyses are combined and the companies are ranked per sector. For the above indices, the eligible companies are composed of the **Top 70%** of stocks within their sector in the respective universe.

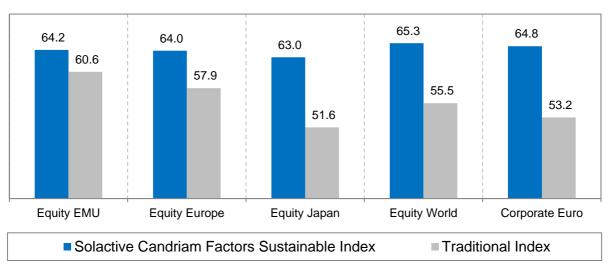
Additionally, a norms-based analysis based on an assessment of how companies comply with the ten principles of the United Nations Global Compact and a verification of controversial activities such as armaments, gambling, tobacco and nuclear activity will eliminate other companies.



3. OVERALL ESG SCORE OF THE INDICES

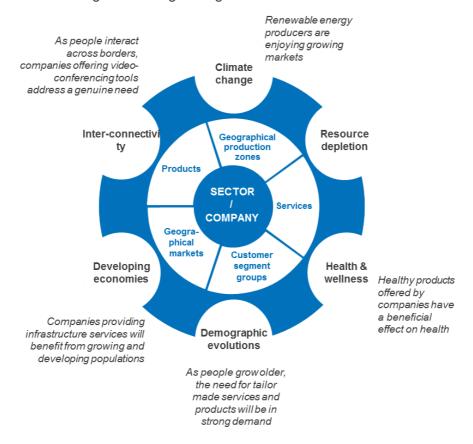
The table below illustrates the overall ESG score of the indices, compared to the standard market capitalization based indices. All indices have a better ESG score than the equivalent market index. In the remainder of this document, a detailed breakdown of this score will be given.

Overall ESG Score (Weighted Average)



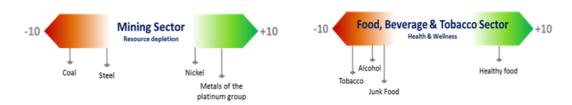
4. MACRO ANALYSIS / LONG TERM VIEW

Candriam defined six Global Sustainability Trends influencing companies' business environment, and shaping future market challenges and long-term growth:



For each category, Candriam's SRI analysts score the companies from -10 to 10.

Example of macros Model:

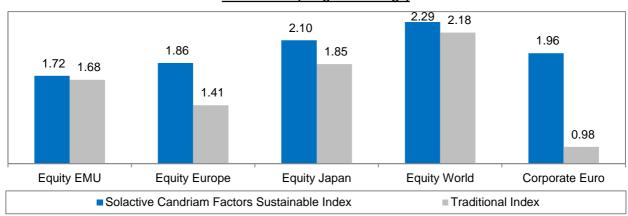


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Macro Score (Weighted Average) of the Index range

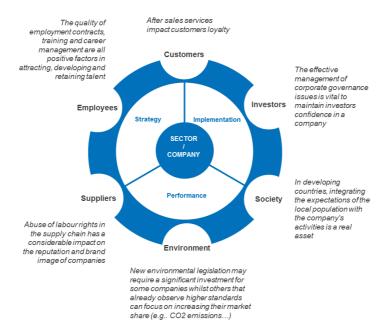
Universe	Index	Climate Change	Resource Depletion	Health & wellness	Demographic Evolution	Developing Economies	Inter Connectivity	Macro Score
Equity	Solactive Candriam Factors Sustainable Index	-0.92	-1.37	-0.60	0.39	2.68	1.54	1.72
EMU	Traditional Index	-0.82	-1.41	-0.63	0.27	2.95	1.29	1.68
Equity	Solactive Candriam Factors Sustainable Index	-0.95	-1.35	-0.33	0.31	2.87	1.31	1.86
Europe	Traditional Index	-1.01	-1.53	-0.37	0.29	3.01	1.01	1.41
Equity	Solactive Candriam Factors Sustainable Index	-1.26	-1.66	-0.96	0.17	3.76	2.04	2.10
Japan	Traditional Index	-1.45	-1.68	-0.69	0.22	3.71	1.73	1.85
Equity	Solactive Candriam Factors Sustainable Index	-1.23	-1.46	-0.35	0.28	3.48	1.56	2.29
World	Traditional Index	-1.25	-1.57	-0.28	0.28	3.37	1.55	2.18
Corporate	Solactive Candriam Factors Sustainable Index	-0.87	-1.52	-0.30	0.31	3.07	1.26	1.96
Euro	Traditional Index	-0.86	-1.43	-0.96	0.13	2.87	1.22	0.98

Macro Score (Weighted Average)



5. MICRO ANALYSIS / STAKEHOLDERS VIEW

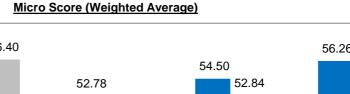
Stakeholder interactions are a source of business risks and opportunities that are sector-specific. For each sector, the specific challenges and the degree of relevance for each stakeholder are defined. The capacity of each company to manage the sector-specific relationships with their stakeholders is assessed.



For each category, Candriam SRI analyst scores from 0 to 100.

Micro Score (Weighted Average) of the Index range

Universe	Index	Customers	Investors	Society	Environment	Suppliers	Employee	Micro Score
Equity	Solactive Candriam Factors Sustainable Index	56.78	54.32	54.99	57.63	53.63	58.34	56.49
EMU	Traditional Index	56.06	54.24	54.49	58.73	53.81	58.40	56.44
Equity	Solactive Candriam Factors Sustainable Index	56.51	57.95	55.63	58.55	55.43	58.18	57.42
Europe	Traditional Index	54.94	56.93	54.17	58.82	55.74	57.56	56.40
Equity	Solactive Candriam Factors Sustainable Index	52.34	46.41	52.58	55.98	54.31	55.34	52.78
Japan	Traditional Index	49.87	45.72	50.27	54.33	52.82	53.48	50.65
Equity	Solactive Candriam Factors Sustainable Index	52.65	54.66	52.64	56.02	54.19	55.82	54.50
World	Traditional Index	50.18	52.81	50.95	55.13	53.52	54.87	52.84
Corporate	Solactive Candriam Factors Sustainable Index	53.85	57.41	53.69	59.34	55.28	58.04	56.26
Euro	Traditional Index	53.45	54.05	51.44	57.32	52.98	57.30	54.45



57.42 56.49 56.44 56.40 56.26 54.45 50.65 **Equity EMU Equity World Equity Europe Equity Japan** Corporate Euro ■ Solactive Candriam Factors Sustainable Index ■ Traditional Index

6. NORMS-BASED SCREENING

Candriam assesses how companies live up to the ten principles of the United Nations' Global Compact. The UN Global Compact consists of 10 principles covering:

- Human rights
 - o 1/ Businesses should support and respect the protection of internationally proclaimed human rights
 - o 2/ make sure that they are not complicit in human rights abuses
- Labour rights
 - o 3/ Businesses should uphold the freedom of association and the effective recognition of the right to collective bargaining
 - 4/ The elimination of all forms of forced and compulsory labour
 - 5/ The effective abolition of child labour
 - o 6/ The elimination of discrimination in respect of employment and occupation
- Environment
 - o 7/ Businesses should support a precautionary approach to environmental challenges
 - o 8/ Undertake initiatives to promote greater environmental responsibility;
 - o 9/ encourage the development and diffusion of environmentally friendly technologies.
- Corruption
 - 10/ Businesses should work against corruption in all its forms, including extortion and bribery

Candriam's norms-based analysis considers breaches of / non-compliance with the principles and company responses and exclude non-respect companies.

The table below shows the weight of companies in traditional indices that do not respect UN Global Compact according to Candriam. Obviously, the Solactive Candriam indices is not invested in these companies.

Portfolio Name	Norms-based (Weight of excluded companies)				
MSCI EMU	1.18%				
MSCI Europe	1.86%				
MSCI Japan	1.81%				
MSCI World	4.27%				
ML Euro Corporate	5.10%				

7. CONTROVERSIAL ACTIVITIES

Candriam excludes companies involved in these controversial activities :

Controversial activities	Exclusion threshold
Activities in oppressive regimes	Large presence in highly oppressive regimesRevenues > 1%
Adult content	Revenues > 5%
Alcohol	Revenues > 10% without any responsible policy
Animal testing	Responsible policy if no legal requirementBreaches to legislation
Gambling	Revenues > 5%
Genetic modification	Revenues > 10%
Nuclear	Revenues > 30%
Tobacco	Revenues > 5%
Weapon	 Illegal Weapons: involved in the production or sale of anti-personnel landmines, cluster bombs, depleted uranium and/or chemical / nuclear / biological weapons, regardless of the revenues involved Conventional Weapons: Revenues >3%

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The table below shows the weight of companies in traditional indices that are involved in controversial activities according to Candriam. Obviously, the Solactive Candriam indices is not invested in these companies.

Portfolio Name	MSCI	MSCI	MSCI	MSCI	ML Euro
	EMU	Europe	Japan	World	Corporate
Total	2.97%	4.85%	7.63%	5.53%	6.59%

8. CONCLUSION

Due to Candriam's SRI screening, the range of Solactive Candriam indices undeniably shows improved ESG characteristics. Eliminating companies that score adversely in the SRI screening adds value and additionally, leaves room to build a broadly diversified portfolio with attractive risk-return perspectives.

Please feel free to contact capitalmarkets@candriam.com for more information.

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