

INDEX RULES



ECPI GLOBAL ESG ALPHA EQUITY INDEX

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INTRODUCTION

The ECPI Global ESG Alpha Equity Index selects the 100 highest market capitalization and ESG-rated companies according to ECPI ESG Rating Methodology.

SUSTAINABLE INVESTING

Ever since 1997, ECPI has provided the financial community with investable indices focused on core ESG principles: Environmental, Social and Corporate Governance.

The ECPI ESG rating methodology is a well-recognized tool in sorting investment exposure to non-financial risks out of a wide range of opportunities in the financial markets.

The rating methodology, based on an academic and scientific approach and inspired by International Bodies dedicated to Responsible Investment such as UN Global Compact (www.unglobalcompact.org), the Global Reporting Initiative (www.globalreporting.org) and UN PRI (www.unpri.org), aims to appraise and monitor a issuer's long-term strategic attitude, operational management and actual behaviour towards the society and the environment.

ECPI currently publishes more than 50 indices for delta one (ETFs, certificates) funds and structured products. (Bloomberg: ECPS <GO>, Reuters: ECAPITAL)

ECPI ESG RATING METHODOLOGY

The ECPI methodology allows an institution to integrate ESG issues into the investment analysis and decision making process (Principle 1 of the United Nations Principles for Responsible Investments, or the UN PRI).

The screening process consists of the analysis of companies along a wide and comprehensive set of indicators belonging to the following macro-categories: Environmental Strategy and Policy, Environmental Management, Products, Production Process, Community Relations, Employees, Markets and Corporate Governance. If a company scores poorly with respect to corporate sustainability and responsibility criteria it is not considered an eligible investment.

STOCK SELECTION

The index components are selected on the basis of the ESG Rating, liquidity and market capitalization.

INDEX SUMMARY

The ECPI Global ESG Alpha is composed of the 100 highest market cap and highest ESG-Rated and liquid companies.

The Index is capitalization weighted and the financial constraints used for the selection are:

- § Min Market Capitalization: EUR 3 billion
- § Min Av. Daily Volume Traded (last 6 months): EUR 5 million

The ECPI Global ESG Alpha benefits from all ECPI traditional advertising/publication tools and becomes another ideal candidate for direct and derivative investment.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

ECPI Alpha Indices are constructed and maintained according to the following principles:

§ **ESG Rated Companies**

The index is representative of the positively/highest ESG-rated companies according to the proprietary ECPI ESG Rating Methodology.

§ **Investible and Replicable**

The index should be capable of being replicated by reference to securities of reasonable size and liquidity.

§ **Disciplined Approach**

The index is constructed and managed using a set of principles, rules and guidelines. This approach is followed to maintain the attributes of stability, diversification across industries and securities accurate with respect to the ESG Rating Methodology.

§ **Transparency**

The index is built and maintained using clear and pre-defined rules in the public domain. The index is published on a daily basis through a variety of well known financial services providers.

§ **Independence and Objectivity**

The index is based on independent and objective content decisions. ECPI believes in an open dialogue with its clients, considering with objectivity their suggestions to enhance the index provision. By analyzing all the feedback received from its clients, ECPI takes the final decision independently in order to preserve the quality of the index.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

ECPI Global ESG Alpha Equity Index is an adjusted capitalization-weighted index designed to give exposure to the top 100 companies in the global developed markets which are eligible investments according to ECPI ESG Screening Methodology

The index is capitalization weighted (free float adjusted) and rebalanced semi-annually on on the third Friday of May and November.

To be eligible for the ECPI Global ESG Alpha Equity Index, a stock must satisfy the following criteria (in which case, it will be an “eligible stock”):

1. 1. It belongs to a developed market as defined in Appendix A
2. It has a positive ECPI ESG Rating (from EEE to E-)
3. The issuer of the stock must have a minimum market capitalization of EUR 3 billion
4. The average daily traded value of the stock over the last 6 months shall be equivalent to a minimum of € 5 million.

Additionally, the ECPI Global ESG Alpha Equity Index has to meet the following criteria (selection order):

5. **Stock Diversification Criteria:** The ECPI Global ESG Alpha Equity Index will be composed of 100 stocks selected in descending order of ESG Rating and subsequently in descending order of market capitalization
6. **Sector Diversification Criteria:** Constituents shall be classified by sector in accordance with the Bloomberg Industry Classification System (BICS). Maximum sector concentration is 20%.
Should the Sector Diversification Criterion not be satisfied, stocks in the sector exceeding the concentration limit will be removed in ascending order of capitalization until the concentration limit is satisfied
7. **Geographical Diversification Criteria** – the index geographical composition will track the geographical composition of the global developed markets with a maximum deviation target of 4%
Should the Geographical Diversification Criterion not be satisfied, stocks in the country exceeding the concentration limit will be removed in ascending order of capitalization until the concentration limit is satisfied

REVIEW

Semi-annually, on the Reference Date¹ immediately preceding the relevant Rebalance Date², stocks will be selected in accordance with the criteria described above (paragraph 3) as new constituents of the index.

As a consequence, if a constituent company is downgraded between two consecutive review dates so that it doesn't satisfy the eligibility criteria any more, it will be replaced on the immediately following rebalance date.

BUFFER RULE

- § all current constituents ranked 150 or above in the selection order will remain in the index.
- § For all index constituents, a tolerance of 20% is applied to the market capitalization and 6-months daily average value traded limits. Therefore, a constituent will be allowed to remain in the index if it has a minimum market cap of €2.4 billion and a minimum liquidity of €4 million.

STOCK REPLACEMENT

If index constituents are displaced, replacement stocks are selected starting from the highest ranked non-constituent in the reference universe according to criteria defined in paragraph 3.

ECPI will discretionary evaluate stock inclusion/exclusion in order to guarantee index market representativeness and a low turnover rate.

¹ "Reference Date" means the last business day of March and September.

² "Rebalance Date" means the third Friday of April and October provided that if such day is not a Scheduled Trading Day the Rebalance Date shall be the next Scheduled Trading Day. In the event that the scheduled Rebalance Date is a Disrupted Day, the Rebalance Date for such rebalancing will be the next Scheduled Trading Day which is not a Disrupted Day.

CALCULATION METHOD

On the Reference Date, the number of shares of each stock will be determined so that every stock is equally weighted. This number of shares will be effective from the immediately following Rebalance Date.

From that moment till the following Rebalance Date, the number of shares will be fixed and constituent weights will vary according to price changes (see Paragraph 6, "Adjustments for Corporate Actions", for details on possible share changes).

CALCULATION FREQUENCY

The Index is calculated and published daily, on a next day basis.
Calendar for the Index calculation is the TARGET calendar.

PRICES

The Index end-of-day calculations use official closing prices from the relevant exchanges of the constituent stocks. Such prices shall be converted into euro using the relevant GMT WM Reuters Currency cross rates.

INDEX CALCULATION ALGORITHM

The closing price of securities is converted into Euro and the index is then calculated using the algorithm described below.

The price index is calculated as follows:

$$I(P)_t = I(P)_{t-1} * \frac{\sum_1^n (P_{i,t} N_{i,t})}{\sum_1^n P_{i,t-1} N_{i,t}}$$

Where

- $I(P)_t$ = price index on day t
- $P_{i,t}$ = official closing price in Euro for stock i on day t
- $N_{i,t}$ = number of shares for stock i on day t
- n = number of index constituents

The net total return index is calculated as follows:

$$I(TR)_t = I(TR)_{t-1} * \left(\frac{\sum_1^i P_{i,t} N_i + \sum_1^n D_{i,t} N_{i,t}}{\sum_1^n P_{i,t-1} * N_{,ti}} \right)$$

Where

- $I(TR)_t$ = total return index on day t
- $P_{i,t}$ = official closing price in Euro for stock i on day t
- $D_{i,t}$ = gross (net) dividend in Euro for stock i on the ex-dividend date t
- $N_{i,t}$ = number of shares for stock i on day t
- n = number of index constituents

Note:

The **Official Closing Price** shall be intended as the official closing price for the stock on the relevant Exchange. The price shall be in Euro or converted into Euro using the foreign exchange spot rate, as defined above. In case, the price of a stock is not available due to exchange holiday, previous day's price is used for index calculations.

See [Appendix B](#) for Dividend Withholding Tax Rates used for the calculation of Net Dividends.

ADJUSTMENTS FOR CORPORATE ACTIONS

CORPORATE ACTION	ADJUSTMENT MADE TO INDEX	DIVISOR ADJUSTMENT
DIVIDENDS	Dividends are reinvested in the Index	Unchanged
SPECIAL DIVIDENDS / RETURN OF CAPITAL	Price of the stock making the special dividend payment is reduced by the per share special dividend amount after the close of trading on the day before the dividend ex-date. Cash from the special dividend is reinvested in the index	Yes
STOCK DIVIDENDS / BONUS ISSUES	No weight change. This event is characterized by a free distribution of new shares to existing shareholders on a pro rata basis. Market Prices and number of shares of securities are adjusted accordingly.	Unchanged
SHARE ISSUANCE OR REPURCHASE	None	Unchanged
SPIN-OFF	The price is adjusted to Price of the parent company minus price of the spun-off company/share exchange ratio. Index shares change so that the company's weight remains the same.	Unchanged
STOCK SPLIT / REVERSE SPLIT / CONSOLIDATIONS	Company shares are multiplied by and the price is divided by the split factor.	Unchanged
RIGHTS OFFERING	Price is adjusted to the price of parent company minus price of the rights offering/rights ratio. Index shares change so that the company's weight remains the same.	Unchanged
DELISTING, ACQUISITION OR ANY CORPORATE ACTION RESULTING IN THE DISPLACEMENT OF A STOCK	When a constituent company is acquired or merged or displaced for any other reason, its shares are removed from the index. The company will be replaced at the next rebalancing.	Yes

APPENDIX A: GLOBAL DEVELOPED MARKETS

GLOBAL DEVELOPED MARKETS

Australia

Austria

Belgium

Canada

Denmark

Finland

France

Germany

Greece

Hong Kong

Ireland

Israel

Italy

Japan

Netherlands

New Zealand

Norway

Portugal

Singapore

Spain

Sweden

Switzerland

United Kingdom

USA

APPENDIX B: DIVIDEND WITHHOLDING TAXES

COUNTRY NAME	COUNTRY ISO	TAXATION
Austria	AT	0.25
Australia	AU	0.3
Belgium	BE	0.25
Bermuda	BM	0
Brazil	BR	0
Canada	CA	0.25
Switzerland	CH	0.35
Chile	CL	0.1875
China	CN	0
Czech	CZ	0.15
Germany	DE	0.26375
Denmark	DK	0.28
Spain	ES	0.19
Finland	FI	0.28
France	FR	0.25
Great Britain	GB	0
Greece	GR	0.21
Hong Kong	HK	0
Hungary	HU	0
Indonesia	ID	0.2
Ireland	IE	0.2
India	IN	0
Iceland	IS	0.15
Italy	IT	0.27
Japan	JP	0.07
South Korea	KR	0.22
Luxembourg	LU	0.15
Mexico	MX	0
Netherlands	NL	0.15
Norway	NO	0.25
New Zealand	NZ	0.15
Philippines	PH	0.3
Poland	PL	0.19
Portugal	PT	0.215
Russia	RU	0.15
Sweden	SE	0.3
Singapore	SG	0
Thailand	TH	0.1
Taiwan	TW	0.2
USA	US	0.3
South Africa	ZA	0

APPENDIX C: DEFINITIONS

Index Constituent or Constituent

Any security comprised in the index, provided that on any Reference Date and in the relevant Rebalance Period, Constituent shall include any stock which will be included in the index as of the next Rebalance Date at the end of such Rebalance Period.

Rebalance Period

It is the timeframe between Reference Date and Rebalance Date.

Exchange and Related Exchange

Each exchange on which any Index Constituent is, in the determination of ECPI, principally traded.

Scheduled Trading Day

Any day on which each Exchange and each Related Exchange are scheduled to be open for trading for their respective regular trading session.

Disrupted Day

Any Scheduled Trading Day on which: (i) a relevant Exchange or any Related Exchange fails to open for trading during its regular trading session; or (ii) a Market Disruption Event has occurred.

Market Disruption Event

The occurrence, in respect of the Index Constituent of:

- § a Trading Disruption
- § an Exchange Disruption
- § an Early Closure

where the aggregate of all Index Constituents in respect of which a Trading Disruption, an Exchange Disruption or an Early Closure occurs, comprises 20 per cent or more of the aggregate number of all Index Constituents for which the Exchange and Related Exchange were scheduled to be open for trading for its regular trading session on such day.

Trading Disruption

Any suspension of or limitation imposed on trading by the Relevant Exchange or Related Exchange or otherwise and whether by reason of movements in price exceeding limits permitted by the Relevant Exchange and Related Exchange or otherwise.

Exchange Disruption

Any event that disrupts or impairs (as determined by the ECPI) the ability of market participants in general (i) to effect transaction in, or obtain market values for the Index Constituents.

Early Closure

The closure on any Exchange Business Day of the Relevant Exchange or any Related Exchange prior to its Scheduled Closing Time.

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