

Press Release VanEck Integrates ESG Factors in Three Multi-Asset ETFs

- VanEck changes index methodology for the conservative, balanced and growthoriented multi-asset allocation ETFs
- For the underlying indices, two of the four components will be exchanged
- As Article 8 funds, the three ETFs now take ESG aspects into account in their allocations
- VanEck expects demand for investment solutions with a sustainable focus to increase in the future.

Frankfurt, 6 September 2022 – Asset manager VanEck is changing the strategy of its three multiasset ETFs and strengthening the sustainability focus of the fund concepts. The changes relate to the following ETFs (Exchange Traded Funds):

- VanEck Multi Asset Conservative Allocation ETF (NL0009272764)
- VanEck Multi Asset Balanced Allocation ETF (NL0009272772)
- VanEck Multi Asset Growth Allocation ETF (NL0009272780)

The three ETFs invest with different weightings in equities, government and corporate bonds, and real estate stocks, thus combining a diversified portfolio in each case in one investment product.

Further information on these ETFs can also be found at: <u>https://www.vaneck.com/de/de/multi-asset-etf/</u>

For the stronger focus on ESG criteria, index administrator IHS Markit replaces two of the four components of the underlying indices:

- The Solactive Global Equity Index will be replaced by the Solactive Sustainable World Equity Index.
- The Markit iBoxx EUR Liquid Corporates Index will be replaced by the iBoxx SD-KPI EUR Liquid Corporates Index.

For VanEck, there are several reasons for further integrating sustainability into its product range. "We expect demand for index funds that incorporate ESG criteria to increase significantly in the future, while demand for funds that do not incorporate ESG considerations will decrease," explains Martijn Rozemuller, CEO at VanEck Europe. "We therefore want to present our customers with a well-designed range of ETFs with a sustainable focus." To this end, the provider focuses on investment strategies that incorporate environmental and social sustainability and good corporate governance (ESG) criteria into the investment process.

In the past, VanEck has already integrated ESG criteria into ETFs that track indices from the multiasset sector: For the VanEck iBoxx EUR Corporates UCITS ETF, the iBoxx SD-KPI EUR Liquid Corporates Index replaced the Markit iBoxx EUR Liquid Corporates Index in February 2022. And already in October 2021, the VanEck Global Equal Weight UCITS ETF was merged with the VanEck Sustainable World Equal Weight UCITS ETF. "As a result, we believe it is in the best interest of investors to incorporate ESG factors and screenings into the underlying index methodology of our multi-asset ETFs as well," Rozemuller said.



The change in index methodology results in a corresponding change in the Sustainable Finance Disclosure Regulation (SFDR) classification for the three ETFs: They are thus classified under Article 8 of the SFDR as products that promote, among other things, environmental and social characteristics, provided that the companies in which they invest practice good corporate governance. VanEck already offers some ETFs that are classified under Article 8. Further offers are being planned.

Equity market risk: The prices of securities in the Funds are subject to the risks inherent in investing in the securities market, including general economic conditions and sudden and unpredictable price drops. An investment in the fund may result in losses.

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About VanEck

VanEck has a history of looking beyond the financial markets to identify trends that are likely to create impactful investment opportunities. As of August 30, 2022, VanEck managed approximately 69 US Dollar billion in assets, including mutual funds, ETFs and institutional accounts.

With more than 90 ETFs globally, the asset manager offers a comprehensive portfolio covering numerous sectors, asset classes and smart beta strategies. VanEck was one of the first asset managers to offer investors access to international markets. The objective has always been to identify new trends and asset classes – such as Gold Investments (1968), Emerging Markets (1993) and ETFs (2006), which have shaped the investment industry to this day.

VanEck is headquartered in New York City and has offices in Frankfurt (Germany), Pfaeffikon (Switzerland), Amsterdam (Netherlands), Sydney (Australia) and Shanghai (China).

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Investors must read the sales prospectus and key investor information before investing in a fund. These are available in English and the KIIDs in certain other languages as applicable and can be obtained free of charge at www.vaneck.com, from the local information agent Computershare Investor Services PLC or from the Management Company.

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