

Press release

VanEck launches sustainable Future of Food ETF

- The *VanEck Sustainable Future of Food UCITS ETF* aims at supporting sustainable Food Production and Development.
- With the ETF, investors invest in food companies, among others, that seek to reduce waste and pollution.
- As an Article 9 SFDR product, the ETF is managed in accordance with “green” criteria, including impact measurement

London, 29 June 2022 – Asset manager VanEck today lists *VanEck Sustainable Future of Food UCITS ETF* on London Stock Exchange and Deutsche Börse Xetra. With the new ETF, investors can invest in a pooled selection of innovative food companies from around the world and thus contribute to more sustainably produced food.

Feeding the world's population is a major challenge that requires high levels of investment. According to the United Nations, the world's population is forecast to grow by a quarter and consume up to 70 percent more food by 2050. After all, it's not just the population as a whole that's growing, especially in emerging markets. The newly emerging middle classes also eat differently; especially more protein, the production of which consumes many resources.

“The production of food, especially meat, harms both the environment and health. This is due to fertilisers, weed killers and other artificial additives in livestock feed, hormones used in raising animals for slaughter, deforestation to make room for farms, air pollution from long transport routes and methane emissions from large farms”, explains Martijn Rozemuller, CEO at VanEck Europe. “Without profound changes in agriculture and food production, the world will not be able to stop climate change. With all this in mind, consumers around the world are now demanding alternatives.” The demand for cleaner, healthier and sustainable food is increasing.

The VanEck Sustainable Future of Food UCITS ETF closely tracks the performance of the MVIS® Global Future of Food ESG Index. This index adheres to ESG criteria and is set up as a pure-play product. This means that only companies that generate at least 50% (25% for current components) of their revenues in the food sector or with innovative agricultural technologies are included. In addition, companies that produce organic food and those that have high standards relating to food waste, food safety or environmental impact are also included in the index. Investment opportunities are primarily offered by alternative proteins, new types of dairy products and the technologies used to produce these foods. In its individual stock selection, VanEck therefore focuses on the following key areas:

1. Food technology

Technology is the key to reducing the environmental impact of agriculture. Meat from plants, for example, consumes less energy, uses less land and water than cattle farming, and significantly reduces emissions of harmful climate gases: Calculations from 2018 by the nongovernmental organisation GRAIN and the Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy show that the five major corporations JBS, Tyson, Cargill, Dairy Farmers of America and Fonterra together produce more emissions in a year than major oil companies like Exxon,

Shell or BP. 20 of the world's largest meat and dairy companies together are responsible for more greenhouse gas emissions than Germany or France.¹

2. Precision agriculture:

The land requirements of traditional agriculture are too great to be sustainable in the future. Solutions can be found through automation, sophisticated Big Data analysis of weather and soil conditions, and more efficient farming methods.

3. Agricultural sustainability:

Fossil fuels are needed to produce nitrogen fertiliser, while other agricultural chemicals can be carcinogenic. Alternatives include fertilisers produced with green hydrogen and renewable energy – in combination with biological crop protection.

With the new ETF, investors will invest in about 35 stocks that are positioning themselves early for the transformation of the food industry, which is still several decades away. “By its very nature, the transformation of food production also addressing issues to solve the challenges and demands of our global food system.”, explains Dominik Schmaus, Product Manager at VanEck. As a Article 9 SFDR fund, the ETF is managed according to strict “green” criteria, including impact measurement.

Equity market risk: The prices of securities in the fund 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. **Industry or sector concentration risk:** The assets of the fund may be concentrated in one or more particular sectors or industries. The fund may be subject to the risk that economic, political or other conditions adversely affecting the relevant sectors or industries may adversely affect the performance of the fund to a greater extent than if the fund's assets were invested in a wider variety of sectors or industries. **Risk of Investing in the Food Industry:** Companies operating in the food industry may be vulnerable to cyclical declines in the food and agricultural industry. **Risk of Investing in Agricultural Technology Industry:** The Fund will be sensitive to, and its performance may depend to a greater extent on, the overall condition of the agricultural technology industry.

	VanEck Sustainable Future of Food UCITS ETF
Index name	MVIS® Global Future of Food ESG Index
Ticker LSE GBP / USD	VEGB / VEGI
Ticker Xetra	VE6I
ISIN	IE000A4XS8I3
Management company	VanEck Asset Management B.V.
Custodian bank	State Street Custodial Services (Ireland) Limited
Company domicile	Ireland
Product structure	Physically (fully replicating)
Launch date	24 June
Total expense ratio (TER)	0.45% p.a.
Appropriation of income	Re-invested income

¹ Cf. <https://grain.org/es/article/5999-big-meat-and-dairy-companies-are-heating-up-the-planet>, accessed 08.02.2022.

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About VanEck:

VanEck has been driven by innovation and stood for intelligent, prescient investment strategies ever since its founding in 1955. As an asset manager, it currently manages some 72 billion US dollars* worldwide, including exchange-traded funds (ETF), active funds and institutional accounts.

With over 100 ETFs around the world, the investment firm 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 global markets. It has consistently aimed at identifying new trends and asset classes, such as gold investments in 1968, emerging markets in 1993 and ETFs in 2006, an approach that is still shaping the entire investment sector today.

Headquartered in New York City, VanEck maintains locations around the globe, including offices in Frankfurt, Madrid, Zurich, Amsterdam, Sydney and Shanghai.

For more information about VanEck and the fund, go to www.vaneck.com or the blog www.vaneck.com/etf-europe/blog.

*Version: 15.06.2022

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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 KIID 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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