Contribution ID: f61c5e2c-eabd-4078-af77-0d001754bcec

Date: 15/12/2023 19:47:13

Public consultation on the implementation of the Sustainable Finance Disclosures Regulation (SFDR)

Fields marked with * are mandatory.

Introduction

This consultation is also available in German and French.

The <u>Sustainable Finance Disclosures Regulation (SFDR)</u> started applying in March 2021 and requires financial market participants and financial advisers to disclose at entity and product levels how they integrate sustainability risks and principal adverse impacts in their processes at both entity and product levels. It also introduces additional product disclosures for sustainable financial products making sustainability claims.

This public consultation aims at gathering information from a wide range of stakeholders, including financial practitioners, non-governmental organisations, national competent authorities, as well as professional and retail investors, on their experiences with the implementation of the SFDR. The Commission is interested in understanding how the SFDR has been implemented and any potential shortcomings, including in its interaction with the other parts of the European framework for sustainable finance, and in exploring possible options to improve the framework.

The main topics to be covered in this questionnaire are:

- 1. current requirements of the SFDR
- 2. interaction with other sustainable finance legislation

The public consultation covers the SFDR as it is today, exploring how the regulation is working in practice and the potential issues stakeholders might be facing in implementing it.

The Commission is also interested in exploring possible options to improve the framework and address any potential shortcomings. You can therefore find a <u>targeted consultation</u> that in addition to topics 1 and 2 mentioned above, includes questions about potential changes to the disclosure requirements of the SFDR and the potential establishment of a categorisation system for financial products.

Please note that::

 we advise you to save your draft reply regularly by clicking on the "Save as draft" button on the right side of the screen

- some questions of this online questionnaire are displayed only when a specific response is given to a previous question
- in order to ensure a fair and transparent consultation process **only responses received through our online questionnaire will be taken into account** and included in the report summarising the responses. Should you have a problem completing this questionnaire or if you require particular assistance, please contact <u>fismasfdr@ec.europa.eu</u>

More information on

- this consultation
- the related targeted consultation
- the consultation document
- sustainability-related disclosure in the financial services sector
- the protection of personal data regime for this consultation

About you

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Latvian

_anguage of my contribution
Bulgarian
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*I am giving my contribution as
Academic/research institution
Business association
Company/business
Consumer organisation
EU citizen
Environmental organisation
Non-EU citizen
Non-governmental organisation (NGO)
Public authority
Trade union
Other
* First name
Alistair
*Surname
Jones
*Email (this won't be published)
alistair.jones@leadenhallcp.com
*Organisation name
255 character(s) maximum

Leadenhall Capital Partne	rs Ll	LP				
*Organisation size						
Micro (1 to 9 emp	olov	rees)				
Small (10 to 49 e)	•	•				
Medium (50 to 24	•	• ,				
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Algeria		Ecuador		Luxembourg		Samoa
American Samoa		Egypt		Macau		San Marino
Andorra		El Salvador		Madagascar		São Tomé and
						Príncipe
Angola		Equatorial Guine	a®	Malawi		Saudi Arabia
Anguilla		Eritrea		Malaysia		Senegal
Antarctica		Estonia		Maldives		Serbia
Antigua and		Eswatini		Mali		Seychelles
Barbuda						
Argentina		Ethiopia		Malta		Sierra Leone
Armenia		Falkland Islands		Marshall Islands		Singapore
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Australia		Fiji		Mauritania		Slovakia

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0	Benin	0	Gibraltar		Morocco	0	Sudan
	Bermuda	0	Greece		Mozambique	0	Suriname
	Bhutan	0	Greenland		Myanmar/Burma	0	Svalbard and
							Jan Mayen
	Bolivia	0	Grenada		Namibia		Sweden
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0	Bosnia and Herzegovina	0	Guam		Nepal	0	Syria
	Botswana	0	Guatemala		Netherlands	0	Taiwan
0	Bouvet Island	0	Guernsey	0	New Caledonia		Tajikistan
0	Brazil	0	Guinea	0	New Zealand		Tanzania
0	British Indian Ocean Territory	0	Guinea-Bissau	0	Nicaragua	0	Thailand
0	British Virgin Islands	0	Guyana	0	Niger	0	The Gambia
	Brunei	0	Haiti		Nigeria		Timor-Leste
©	Bulgaria	0	Heard Island and McDonald Islands		Niue	0	Togo
0	Burkina Faso	0	Honduras	0	Norfolk Island	0	Tokelau
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Chile	0	Isle of Man	0	Panama	0	Ukraine
China	0	Israel	0	Papua New	0	United Arab
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Christmas Island	0	Italy	0	Paraguay	0	United Kingdom
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Colombia	0	Jersey	0	Pitcairn Islands	0	Uruguay
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0	Denmark	Liberia	Saint Lucia
* Field	of activity or secto	r	
	Accounting		
	Auditing		
	Banking		
	Credit rating agen	cies	
	Insurance		
	Pension provision		
	Investing		
V		gement (e.g. hedge f ey market funds, se	unds, private equity funds, venture curities)
	Financial advice		
	Administration of b	oenchmarks	
	Providing of ESG	data and/or ratings	
	Structuring/issuan	ce of securities	
	Market infrastructu	ure operation (e.g. C	CPs, CSDs, Stock exchanges)
	Social entreprener	urship	
	Other		
	Not applicable		
*To w	hich category do y	ou mainly belong or	do you mainly represent:
•	I am a financial ma	arket participant as c	lefined in Article 2(1) of the Sustainable
	Finance Disclosur	e Regulation (SFDR	
	I am a financial ad	lviser as defined in A	article 2(11) of SFDR
	I am both a financ	ial market participan	t as defined in Article 2(1) of the SFDR
	and a financial adv	viser as defined in A	rticle 2(11) of SFDR
	I am another type	of financial undertak	ing that does not fall under the definition
	of financial market	participant of the SI	FDR
0	I am a non-financi	· ·	
0	I am a non-profess		
0	I am a professiona		
0		thority or supervisor	
0	I am an NGO		
0	I am an ESG data	and/or ratings provide	der

I am an academic
My organisation is none of the above
To which sub-category/sub-categories do you belong:
Please select as many answers as you like
an insurance undertaking which makes available an insurance-based investment product (IBIP)
an investment firm which provides portfolio management
an institution for occupational retirement provision (IORP)
a manufacturer of a pension product
an alternative investment fund manager (AIFM)
a pan-European personal pension product (PEPP) provider
lacktriangle a manager of a qualifying venture capital fund registered in accordance with
Article 14 of Regulation (EU) No 345/2013
a manager of a qualifying social entrepreneurship fund registered in
accordance with Article 15 of Regulation (EU) No 346/2013
a management company of an undertaking for collective investment in
transferable securities (UCITS management company)
a credit institution which provides portfolio management'

I am a benchmark administrator

Where applicable, please indicate your assets under management (in million EUR): (If not applicable, please indicate N/A)

	Your assets under management (in million EUR)
Overall	4480
Products disclosing under Article 8	3003
Products disclosing under Article 9	0

- *Your business is oriented:
 - predominantly towards professional investors
 - predominantly towards retail investors
 - equally to professional and retail investors

Please indicate your revenues, if applicable as published in your most recent financial statement (in million EUR):

	Your revenues as published in your most recent financial statement (in million EUR)
Overall	30.744
Products disclosing under Article 8	23.261
Products disclosing under Article 9	0

Please indicate your balance sheet size, if applicable as published in your most recent financial statement (in million EUR):

00.400		
20.429		

- *Do you have more than 500 employees on average during the financial year?
 - Yes
 - No
- *Will your organisation be subject to the reporting requirements under the <u>Corporate</u> Sustainability Reporting Directive (CSRD)?

(The CSRD requirements will apply to all large and all listed undertakings with limited liability (except listed micro-enterprises) according to categories defined in Article 3 of <u>Directive 2013</u> /34/EU (the Accounting Directive). Credit institutions and insurance undertakings with unlimited liability are also in scope subject to the same size criteria. Non-EU undertakings listed on the EU regulated markets and non-EU undertakings with a net turnover above EUR 150 million that carry out business in the EU will also have to publish certain sustainability-related information through their EU subsidiaries that are subject to CSRD (or in the absence of such EU subsidiaries – through their EU branches with net turnover above EUR 40 million).

- Yes
- No
- Don't know / no opinion / not applicable

The Commission will publish all contributions to this public consultation. You can choose whether you would prefer to have your details published or to remain anonymous when your contribution is published. Fo r the purpose of transparency, the type of respondent (for example, 'business association, 'consumer association', 'EU citizen') country of origin, organisation name and size, and its transparency register number, are always published. Your e-mail address will never be published. Opt in to select the privacy option that best suits you. Privacy options default based on the type of respondent selected

*Contribution publication privacy settings

The Commission will publish the responses to this public consultation. You can choose whether you would like your details to be made public or to remain anonymous.

Anonymous

Only organisation details are published: The type of respondent that you responded to this consultation as, the name of the organisation on whose behalf you reply as well as its transparency number, its size, its country of origin and your contribution will be published as received. Your name will not be published. Please do not include any personal data in the contribution itself if you want to remain anonymous.

Public

Organisation details and respondent details are published: The type of respondent that you responded to this consultation as, the name of the organisation on whose behalf you reply as well as its transparency number, its size, its country of origin and your contribution will be published. Your name will also be published.

I agree with the personal data protection provisions

Would you be available for follow-up questions under the contact information you provided above?

- Yes
- No

Section 1. Current requirements of the SFDR

The EU's sustainable finance policy is designed to attract private investment to support the transition to a sustainable, climate-neutral economy. The SFDR is designed to contribute to this objective by providing transparency to investors about the sustainability risks that can affect the value of and return on their investments ('outside-in' effect) and the adverse impacts that such investments have on the environment and society ('inside-out'). This is known as double materiality. This section of the questionnaire seeks to assess to what extent respondents consider that the SFDR is meeting its objectives in an effective and efficient manner and to identify their views about potential issues in the implementation of the regulation.

We are seeking the views of respondents on how the SFDR works in practice. In particular, we would like to know more about potential issues stakeholders might have encountered regarding the concepts it establishes and the disclosures it requires.

Question 1.1 The SFDR seeks to strengthen transparency through sustainability-related disclosures in the financial services sector to support the EU's shift to a sustainable, climate neutral economy.

In your view, is this broad objective of the regulation still relevant?

- 1 Not at all
- 2 To a limited extent
- 3 To some extent
- 4 To a large extent
- 5 To a very large extent
- Don't know / no opinion / not applicable

Question 1.2 Do you think the SFDR disclosure framework is effective in achieving the following specific objectives (included in its Explanatory Memorandum and mentioned in its recitals):

Note: In this questionnaire we refer to the term 'end investor' (retail or professional) to designate the ultimate beneficiary of the investments in financial products (as defined under the SFDR) made by a person for their own account.

	1 (totally disagree)	2 (mostly disagree)	quantially disagree and partially agree)	4 (mostly agree)	5 (totally agree)	Don't know - No opinion - Not applicable
Increasing transparency towards end investor with regard to the integration of sustainability risks	•	•	0	•	0	•
Increasing transparency towards end investor with regard to the consideration of adverse sustainability impacts	0	0	•	0	0	•
Strengthening protection of end investors and making it easier for them to benefit from and compare among a wide range of financial products and services, including those with sustainability claims	0	0	0	•	0	0
Channelling capital towards investments considered sustainable, including transitional investments ('investments considered sustainable' should be understood in a broad sense, not limited to the definition of sustainable investment set out in Article 2(17) of SFDR)	©	•	•	•	•	•

Ensuring that ESG considerations are integrated into the investment and advisory process in a consistent manner across the different financial services sectors	•	•	•	•	•	•
Ensuring that remuneration policies of financial market participants and financial advisors are consistent with the integration of sustainability risks and, where relevant, sustainable investment targets and designed to contribute to long-term sustainable growth	•	•	•	•	©	0

Question 1.3 Do you agree that opting for a disclosure framework at EU level was more effective and efficient in seeking to achieve the objectives mentioned in Question 1.2 than if national measures had been taken at Member State level?

- 1 Totally disagree
- 2 Mostly disagree
- 3 Partially disagree and partially agree
- 4 Mostly agree
- 5 Totally agree
- Don't know / no opinion / not applicable

Question 1.4 Do you agree that the costs of disclosure under the SFDR framework are proportionate to the benefits it generates (informing end investors, channelling capital towards sustainable investments)?

- 1 Totally disagree
- 2 Mostly disagree
- 3 Partially disagree and partially agree
- 4 Mostly agree
- 5 Totally agree
- Don't know / no opinion / not applicable

We are seeking the views of respondents on how the SFDR works in practice and the impact it has had.

Question 1.5 To what extent do you agree with the following statements?

	1 (totally disagree)	2 (mostly disagree)	quantially disagree and partially agree)	4 (mostly agree)	5 (totally agree)	Don't know - No opinion - Not applicable
The SFDR has raised awareness in the financial services sector of the potential negative impacts that investment decisions can have on the environment and/or people	©	©	•	•	•	•
Financial market participants have changed the way they make investment decisions and design products since they have been required to disclose sustainability risks and adverse impacts at entity and product level under the SFDR	0	0	0	•	0	0
The SFDR has had indirect positive effects by increasing pressure on investee companies to act in a more sustainable manner	0	0	•	0	0	0

We would also like	to know more	about potential iss	ues stakeholders	might have	encountered	regarding the	concepts
that the SFDR estab	lishes and the	disclosures it requ	res.				

Question 1.6 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

	1 (totally disagree)	2 (mostly disagree)	quantially disagree and partially agree)	4 (mostly agree)	5 (totally agree)	Don't know - No opinion - Not applicable
Some disclosures required by the SFDR are not sufficiently useful to investors	©	•	©	•	•	•
Some legal requirements and concepts in the SFDR, such as 'sustainable investment', are not sufficiently clear	0	0	0	•	0	0
The SFDR is not used as a disclosure framework as intended, but as a labelling and marketing tool (in particular Articles 8 and 9)	0	0	0	•	0	0
Data gaps make it challenging for market participants to disclose fully in line with the legal requirements under the SFDR	0	0	0	•	0	0
Re-use of data for disclosures is hampered by a lack of a common machine-readable format that presents data in a way that makes them easy to extract	0	0	0	0	0	•
There are other deficiencies with the SFDR rules (please in text box following question 1.7)	0	0	0	•	0	0

Question 1.7 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

	1 (totally disagree)	2 (mostly disagree)	quantially disagree and partially agree)	4 (mostly agree)	5 (totally agree)	Don't know - No opinion - Not applicable
The issues raised in question 1.6 create legal uncertainty for financial market participants and financial advisers	0	0	•	0	0	0
The issues raised in question 1.6 create reputational risks for financial market participants and financial advisers	0	0	•	0	0	0
The issues raised in question 1.6 do not allow distributors to have a sufficient or robust enough knowledge of the sustainability profile of the products they distribute	0	0	•	0	0	0
The issues raised in question 1.6 create a risk of greenwashing and mis-selling	0	0	•	0	0	0
The issues raised in question 1.6 prevent capital from being allocated to sustainable investments as effectively as it could be	0	0	•	0	0	0
The current framework does not effectively capture investments in transition assets	0	0	•	0	0	0
The current framework does not effectively support a robust enough use of shareholder engagement as a means to support the transition	0	0	•	0	0	0

Others	0	0	0	0	0	•
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Please provide any additional explanations as necessary for questions 1.5, 1.6 and 1.7:

5000 character(s) maximum

including spaces and line breaks, i.e. stricter than the MS Word characters counting method.

Reporting taxonomy aligned investments by turnover, capex and opex does not mean anything for Insurance Linked Strategies (ILS). These metrics do not apply in this asset class.

The metric that is most helpful to show the ESG characteristics for ILS is the social resilience or protection that it provides to society. Unfortunately this is not an indicator that is suggested under SFDR. If it was a suggested indicator ILS would be more commonly recognised as a sustainable investment.

Metrics such as carbon emissions are also not applicable to ILS as the Partnership for Carbon Accounting Financials hasn't yet written rules for the asset class.

Disclosures of principal adverse impacts (PAIs)

There are several disclosures concerning PAIs in the SFDR. As a general rule, the SFDR requires financial market participants who consider PAIs to disclose them at entity level on their website. It also includes a mandatory requirement for financial market participants to provide such disclosures when they have more than 500 employees (Article 4). The <u>Delegated Regulation</u> of the SFDR includes a list of these PAI indicators. These entity level PAI indicators are divided into three tables in the Delegated Regulation. Indicators listed in table 1 are mandatory for all participants, and indicators in tables 2 and 3 are subject to a materiality assessment by the financial market participant (at least one indicator from table 2 and one from table 3 must be included in every PAI statement).

Second, the SFDR requires financial market participants who consider PAIs at entity level to indicate in the precontractual documentation whether their financial products consider PAIs (Article 7) and to report the impacts in the corresponding periodic disclosures (Article 11). When reporting these impacts, financial market participants may rely on the PAI indicators defined at entity level in the Delegated Regulation.

Finally, in accordance with the empowerment given in Article 2a of SFDR, the Delegated Regulation requires that the do no significant harm (DNSH) assessment of the sustainable investment definition is carried out by taking into account the PAI indicators defined at entity level in Annex I of the Delegated Regulation.

In this context:

Question 1.8 To what extent do you agree with the following statements about entity level disclosures?

	1 (totally disagree)	2 (mostly disagree)	quantially disagree and partially agree)	4 (mostly agree)	5 (totally agree)	Don't know - No opinion - Not applicable
I find it appropriate that certain indicators are always considered material (i.e. "principal") to the financial market participant for its entity level disclosures, while having other indicators subject to a materiality assessment by the financial market participant (approach taken in Annex I of the SFDR Delegated Regulation)	•	©	•	©	©	•
I would find it appropriate that all indicators are always considered material (i.e. "principal") to the financial market participant for its entity level disclosures	•	0	0	0	0	0
I would find it appropriate that all indicators are always subject to a materiality assessment by the financial market participant for its entity level disclosures	0	•	0	0	0	0

Question 1.8.1 When following the approach described in the first statement of question 1.8 above, do you agree that the areas covered by the current indicators listed in table 1 of the Delegated Regulation are the right ones to be considered material in all cases?

- 1 Totally disagree
- 2 Mostly disagree
- 3 Partially disagree and partially agree
- 4 Mostly agree
- 5 Totally agree
- Don't know / no opinion / not applicable

Question 1.9 To what extent do you agree with the following statements about product level disclosures?

	1 (totally disagree)	2 (mostly disagree)	quantially disagree and partially agree)	4 (mostly agree)	5 (totally agree)	Don't know - No opinion - Not applicable
The requirement to 'take account of' PAI indicators listed in Annex I of the Delegated Regulation for the DNSH assessment, does not create methodological challenges	©	•	©	©	©	©
In the context of product disclosures for the do no significant harm (DNSH) assessment, it is clear how materiality of principal adverse impact (PAI) indicators listed in Annex I of the Delegated Regulation should be applied	0	•	0	0	0	0
The possibility to consider the PAI indicators listed in Annex I of the Delegated Regulation for product level disclosures of Article 7 do not create methodological challenges	0	•	0	0	0	0
It is clear how the disclosure requirements of Article 7 as regards principal adverse impacts interact with the requirement to disclose information according to Article 8 when the product promotes environmental and/or social characteristics and with the requirement to disclose information according to Article 9 when the product has sustainable investment as its objective	•	•	•	©	•	©

Please provide any additional explanations as necessary for questions 1.8, 1.8.1 and 1.9:

5000 character(s) maximum

including spaces and line breaks, i.e. stricter than the MS Word characters counting method.

The current Principal Adverse Indicators do not consider the Insurance Linked Strategies (ILS) asset class. The social resilience or protection provided to societies from meteorological and climate events is a metric that is very relevant to ILS and therefore should be included as a PAI. These ESG characteristics could then be more easily used by ILS managers and be recognised more widely by end investors.

The current PAI metrics, such as GHG emissions, are irrelevant to alternative asset classes such as ILS because they do not invest directly in companies, governments or real estate. The PAIs should be added to so that they are more inclusive of other asset classes.

The cost of disclosures under the SFDR today

Questions 1.10, 1.10.1 and 1.11 are intended for financial market participants and financial advisors subject to the SFDR.

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The following two questions aim to assess the costs of the SFDR disclosure requirements distinguishing between one-off and recurring costs. One-off costs are incurred only once to implement a new reporting requirement, e.g. getting familiarised with the legal act and the associated regulatory or implementing technical standards, setting-up data collection processes or adjusting IT-systems. Recurring costs occur repeatedly every year once the new reporting is in place, e.g. costs of annual data collection and report preparation. In the specific case of precontractual disclosures for example, there are one-off costs to set up the process of publishing precontractual disclosures when a new product is launched, and recurring annual costs to repeat the process of publishing pre-contractual disclosures each time a new product is launched (depends on the number of products launched on average each year). These two questions apply both to entity and product level disclosures.

Question 1.10 Could you provide estimates of the one-off and recurring annual costs associated with complying with the SFDR disclosure requirements (EUR)?

Please split these estimates between internal costs incurred by the financial market participant and any external services contracted to assist in complying with the requirements (services from third-party data providers, advisory services, etc.).

If such a breakdown is not possible, please provide the total figures.

Please leave the cell blank for the data you are not able to provide.

	Estimated one off costs (in euros)	Estimated recurring annual costs (in euros)
Total internal costs		
Internal costs for personnel		
Internal costs for IT	3000	
Total external costs		
External costs for data providers		
External costs for advisory services	200000	

Total costs of SFDR disclosure requirements

Question 1.10.1: Could you split the total costs between product level and entity level disclosures?

Please leave the cell blank for the data you are not able to provide.

	Product-level disclosures (in %)	Entity-level disclosures (in %)
Estimated percentage of costs	100	

If you wish, please provide additional details: 5000 character(s) maximum including spaces and line breaks, i.e. stricter than the MS Word characters counting method. Question 1.11 In order to have a better understanding of internal costs, could you provide an estimate of how many full-time-equivalents (FTEs - 1 FTE corresponds to 1 employee working full-time the whole year) are involved in preparing SFDR disclosures? 5000 character(s) maximum including spaces and line breaks, i.e. stricter than the MS Word characters counting method.

0.2

Question 1.11.1 Could you please provide a split between:

Please leave the cell blank for the data you are not able to provide.

	Retrieving the data (in %)	Analysing the data (in %)	Reporting SFDR disclosures (in %)	Other (in %)
Estimated percentage	20	60	20	

Please specify what corresponds to "other" costs: 5000 character(s) maximum including spaces and line breaks, i.e. stricter than the MS Word characters counting method. **Data and estimates** Financial market participants' and financial advisers' ability to fulfil their ESG transparency requirements depends in part on other disclosure requirements under the EU framework. In particular, they will rely to a significant extent on the Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive (CSRD). However, entities are not reporting yet under those new disclosure requirements, or they may not be within the scope of the CSRD. Besides, even when data is already available today, it may not always be of good quality. Question 1.12 Are you facing difficulties in obtaining good-quality data? Yes No Don't know / no opinion / not applicable Question 1.12.2 Is the SFDR sufficiently flexible to allow for the use of estimates? 1 - Not at all 2 - To a limited extent 3 - To some extent 4 - To a large extent 5 - To a very large extent Don't know / no opinion / not applicable Question 1.12.3 Is it clear what kind of estimates are allowed by the SFDR? 1 - Not at all 2 - To a limited extent 3 - To some extent 4 - To a large extent 5 - To a very large extent

Question 1.12.4 If you use estimates, what kind of estimates do you use to fill the data gap?

Don't know / no opinion / not applicable

a) For entity level principal adverse impacts:

	1 (not at all)	(to a limited extent)	(to some extent)	4 (to a large extent)	5 (to a very large extent)	Don't know - No opinion - Not applicable
Estimates from data providers, based on data coming from the investee companies	•	•	•	©	©	•
Estimates from data providers, based on data coming from other sources	•	•	©	©	©	•
In-house estimates	•	0	0	0	0	•
Internal ESG score models	•	0	0	0	0	•
External ESG score models	•	0	0	0	©	0
Other	0	0	0	0	0	•

Please specify to what other kind(s) of estimates you refer in your answer to question 1.12.3 a):

5000 character(s) maximum

including spaces and line breaks, i.e. stricter than the MS Word characters counting method.

Principal adverse impacts are not relevant metrics for Insurance Linked Strategies.

b) For taxonomy aligned investments (product level):

	1 (not at all)	(to a limited extent)	(to some extent)	4 (to a large extent)	5 (to a very large extent)	Don't know - No opinion - Not applicable
Estimates from data providers, based on data coming from the investee companies	•	•	•	•	•	•
Estimates from data providers, based on data coming from other sources	•	•	©	©	©	•
In-house estimates	•	•	0	0	•	0
Internal ESG score models	•	•	0	0	©	0
External ESG score models	•	0	0	0	©	0
Other	0	0	0	0	0	•

c) For sustainable investments (product level):

not at all)	(to a limited extent)	(to some extent)	4 (to a large extent)	5 (to a very large extent)	Don't know - No opinion - Not applicable
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	1					
Estimates from data providers, based on data coming from the investee companies	•			•		
Estimates from data providers, based on data coming from other sources	•	©	•	©	©	•
In-house estimates	•	0	0	0	0	0
Internal ESG score models	•	0	0	0	0	•
External ESG score models	•	0	0	0	©	0
Other	0	0	0	0	0	•

d) Other data points:

	1 (not at all)	(to a limited extent)	(to some extent)	4 (to a large extent)	5 (to a very large extent)	Don't know - No opinion - Not applicable
Estimates from data providers, based on data coming from the investee companies	•				•	•

Estimates from data providers, based on data coming from other sources	•	•	©	©	•	•
In-house estimates	0	•	•	0	•	•
Internal ESG score models	0	•	•	0	0	•
External ESG score models	•	0	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0	0	•

Question 1.12.5 Do you engage with investee companies to encourage reporting of the missing data?

- 1 Not at all
- 2 To a limited extent
- 3 To some extent
- 4 To a large extent
- 5 To a very large extent
- Don't know / no opinion / not applicable

Please provide further explanations to your replies to questions 1.12 to 1.12.5:

5000 character(s) maximum

including spaces and line breaks, i.e. stricter than the MS Word characters counting method.

The indicators listed in SFDR are not appropriate for the Insurance Linked Strategies (ILS) asset class. The social resilience or protection provided to societies from meteorological and climate events are metrics that are very relevant to ILS and therefore should be defined as indicators in the SFDR so that they can be used by ILS managers. Consequently the ESG characteristics of ILS would be better recognised by the investment industry.

Question 1.13 Have you increased your offer of financial products that make sustainability claims since the disclosure requirements of Articles 8 and 9 of the SFDR began to apply (i.e. since 2021, have you been offering more products that you categorise as Articles 8 and 9 than those you offered before the regulation was in place and for which you also claimed a certain sustainability performance)?

- 1 Not at all
- 2 To a limited extent
- 3 To some extent
- 4 To a large extent
- 5 To a very large extent
- Don't know / no opinion / not applicable

Question 1.13.1 Please specify how the share of financial products making sustainability claims has evolved in the past years

(Please express it as a percentage of the total financial products you offered each year)

	Percentage of the total financial products
2020	0%
2021	0%
2022	61%
2023	67%

Question 1.13.2 If you have increased your offering of financial products making sustainability claims, in your view, has any of the following factors influenced this increase?

	1 (not at all)	2 (not really)	3 (partially)	4 (mostly)	5 (totally)	Don't know - No opinion - Not applicable
SFDR requirements	0	0	0	•	0	0
Retail investor interest	•	0	0	•	0	0
Professional investor interest	0	0	•	©	0	0
Market competitiveness	0	0	•	0	0	0
Other factors	0	0	0	0	0	•

Please provide further explanations to your replies to questions 1.13, 1.13 1 and 1.13.2:

5000 character(s) maximum ncluding spaces and line breaks, i.e. stricter than the MS Word characters counting method.					

Section 2. Interaction with other sustainable finance legislation

The SFDR interacts with other parts of the EU's sustainable finance framework. Questions in this section will therefore seek respondents' views about the current interactions, as well as potential inconsistencies or misalignments that might exist between the SFDR and other sustainable finance legislation. There is a need to assess the potential implications for other sustainable finance legal acts if the SFDR legal framework was changed in the future. Questions as regards these potential implications are included in section 4 of this questionnaire, when consulting on the potential establishment of a categorisation system for products, and they do not prejudge future positions that might be taken by the Commission.

The SFDR mainly interacts with the following legislation and their related delegated and implementing acts:

- the Taxonomy Regulation
- the Benchmarks Regulation
- the Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive (CSRD)
- the Markets in Financial Instruments Directive (MiFID 2) and the Insurance Distribution Directive (IDD)
- the Regulation on Packaged Retail Investment and Insurance Products (PRIIPs)

Other legal acts that are currently being negotiated may also interact with the SFDR in the future. They are not covered in this questionnaire as the detailed requirements of these legal acts have not yet been agreed. At this stage, it would be speculative to seek to assess how their interaction with SFDR would function.

Both the SFDR and the Taxonomy Regulation introduce key concepts to the sustainable finance framework. Notably, they introduce definitions of 'sustainable investment' (SFDR) and 'environmentally sustainable' economic activities (taxonomy). Both definitions require, inter alia, a contribution to a sustainable objective and a do no significant harm (DNSH) test. But while these definitions are similar, there are differences between them which could create practical challenges for market participants.

Question 2.1 The <u>Commission recently adopted a FAQ</u> clarifying that investments in taxonomy-aligned 'environmentally sustainable' economic activities can automatically qualify as 'sustainable investments' in those activities under the SFDR.

To what extent do you agree that this FAQ offers sufficient clarity to market participants on how to treat taxonomy-aligned investment in the SFDR product level disclosures?

- 1 Totally disagree
- 2 Mostly disagree
- 3 Partially disagree and partially agree
- 4 Mostly agree
- 5 Totally agree
- Don't know / no opinion / not applicable

The Benchmarks Regulation introduces two categories of climate benchmarks – the EU climate transition benchmark (EU CTB) and the EU Paris-aligned benchmark (EU PAB) - and requires benchmark administrators to disclose on ESG related matters for all benchmarks (except interest rate and foreign exchange benchmarks). The SFDR makes reference to the CTB and PAB in connection with financial products that have the reduction of carbon emissions as their objective. Both legal frameworks are closely linked as products disclosing under the SFDR can for example passively track a CTB or a PAB or use one of them as a reference benchmark in an active investment strategy. More broadly, passive products rely on the design choices made by the benchmark administrators.

Question 2.2 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

	1 (totally disagree)	2 (mostly disagree)	quantially disagree and partially agree)	4 (mostly agree)	5 (totally agree)	Don't know - No opinion - Not applicable
The questions & answers published by the Commission in April 2023 specifying that the SFDR deems products passively tracking CTB and PAB to be making 'sustainable investments' as defined in the SFDR provide sufficient clarity to market participants	©	©	©	©	©	•
The approach to DNSH and good governance in the SFDR is consistent with the environmental, social and governance exclusions under the PAB/CTB	0	0	0	0	0	•
The ESG information provided by benchmark administrators is sufficient and is aligned with the information required by the SFDR for products tracking or referencing these benchmarks	0	0	0	0	0	•

Both the SFDR and the Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive (CSRD) introduce entity level disclosure requirements with a double-materiality approach [1]. The CSRD sets out sustainability reporting requirements mainly for all large and all listed undertakings with limited liability (except listed micro-enterprises)[2], while the SFDR introduces sustainability disclosure requirements at entity level for financial market participants and financial advisers as regards the consideration of sustainability related factors in their investment decision-making process. Moreover, in order for financial market participants and financial advisers to meet their product and entity level disclosure obligations under the SFDR, they will rely to a significant extent, on the information reported according to the CSRD and its European Sustainability Reporting Standards (ESRS) (provided positive scrutiny of co-legislators of the ESRS delegated act).

¹ Transparency requirements relate to the sustainability risks that can affect the value of investments (SFDR) or companies (CSRD) ('outside-in' effect) and the adverse impacts that such investments or companies have on the environment and society ('inside-out').

² Credit institutions and insurance undertakings with unlimited liability are also in scope subject to the same size criteria. Non-EU undertakings listed on the EU regulated markets and non-EU undertakings with a net turnover above EUR 150 million that carry out business in the EU will also have to publish certain sustainability-related information through their EU subsidiaries that are subject to CSRD (or - in the absence of such EU subsidiaries – through their EU branches with net turnover above EUR 40 million).

Question 2.3 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

	totally disagree)	2 (mostly disagree)	quantially disagree and partially agree)	4 (mostly agree)	5 (totally agree)	Don't know - No opinion - Not applicable
The SFDR disclosures are consistent with the CSRD requirements, in particular with the European Sustainability Reporting Standards	0	©	©	©	©	•
There is room to streamline the entity level disclosure requirements of the SFDR and the CSRD	0	0	0	0	0	•

Financial advisors (under MiFID 2) and distributors of insurance-based investment products (under IDD) have to conduct suitability assessments based on the sustainability preferences of customers. These assessments rely in part on sustainability-related information made available by market participants reporting under the SFDR.

Question 2.4 To what extent do you agree that the product disclosures required in the SFDR and <u>its Delegated Regulation</u> (e.g. the proportion of sustainable investments or taxonomy aligned investments, or information about principal adverse impacts) are sufficiently useful and comparable to allow distributors to determine whether a product can fit investors' sustainability preferences under MiFID 2 and the IDD?

- 1 Totally disagree
- 2 Mostly disagree
- 3 Partially disagree and partially agree
- 4 Mostly agree
- 5 Totally agree
- Don't know / no opinion / not applicable

Question 2.5 MIFID and IDD require financial advisors to take into account sustainability preferences of clients when providing certain services to them.

Do you believe that, on top of this behavioural obligation, the following disclosure requirements for financial advisors of the SFDR are useful?

	1 (not at all)	(to a limited extent)	(to some extent)	4 (to a large extent)	5 (to a very large extent)	Don't know - No opinion - Not applicable
Article 3, entity level disclosures about the integration of sustainability risks policies in investment or insurance advice	•	•	•	•	•	•

Article 4, entity level disclosures about consideration of principal adverse impacts		•		•	•	•
Article 5, entity level disclosures about remuneration policies in relation to the integration of sustainability risks	©	•	•	•	•	•
Article 6, product level pre- contractual disclosures about the integration of sustainability risks in investment or insurance advice	©	•	•	•	•	•
Article 12, requirement to keep information disclosed according to Articles 3 and 5 up to date		©	©	©	©	•

Question 2.6 Have the requirements on distributors to consider sustainability preferences of clients impacted the quality and consistency of disclosures made under SFDR?

Yes

0		
	Ν	C

0	Don't kno	ow / no	opinion	/ not a	pplicable
			Op		PP040.0

PRIIPs requires market participants to provide retail investors with key information documents (KIDs). As part of the <u>retail investment strategy</u>, the Commission has recently proposed to include a new sustainability section in the KID to make sustainability-related information of investment products more visible, comparable and understandable for retail investors. Section 4 of this questionnaire includes questions related to PRIIPs, to seek stakeholders' views as regards potential impacts on the content of the KID if a product categorisation system was established.

Please clarify yo	lease clarify your replies to questions in section 2 as necessary:				
5000 character(s) max	rimum				
including spaces and lir	ne breaks, i.e. stricter than	the MS Word charact	ters counting method.		

Additional information

Should you wish to provide additional information (e.g. a position paper, report) or raise specific points not covered by the questionnaire, you can upload your additional document(s) below. Please make sure you do not include any personal data in the file you upload if you want to remain anonymous.

The maximum file size is 1 MB.

You can upload several files.

Only files of the type pdf,txt,doc,docx,odt,rtf are allowed

Useful links

More on this consultation (https://finance.ec.europa.eu/regulation-and-supervision/consultations-0/public-consultation-implementation-sustainable-finance-disclosures-regulation-sfdr_en)

Consultation document (https://finance.ec.europa.eu/document/download/602155f2-f429-47a9-bc91-b5a55145724b_en?2023-sfdr-implementation-consultation-document_en.pdf)

More on sustainability-related disclosure in the financial services sector (https://finance.ec.europa.eu/sustainable-finance/disclosures/sustainability-related-disclosure-financial-services-sector_en)

Specific privacy statement (https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/specific-privacy-statement_en)

Related targeted consultation (https://finance.ec.europa.eu/regulation-and-supervision/consultations-0/targeted-consultation-implementation-sustainable-finance-disclosures-regulation-sfdr_en)

Contact

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