



London, 10 October 2023 Peter Kwaak, Credit Portfolio Manager



# A clear focus on Sustainable Investing

In our strategy we focus on four key areas









## SDG & Climate focused credit investing

### Building diversified credit portfolios with a strong sustainability focus



#### SDG credit investing

- > Proprietary SDG scoring methodology to construct diversified and sustainable focused credit portfolios
- > In some industries it is more difficult to find eligible companies
- > Credit portfolio's alignment with the SDGs is also reflection of tactical investment views
- > SDG credit portfolio typically has a lower carbon footprint compared to the broader market



- Allocating capital within the limits of a 1.5 °C global warming scenario, bringing the commitment to the Paris Agreement of 2015 to life
- > Paris Aligned Corporate benchmark: 50% carbon reduction and 7% annual decarbonisation
- > Using proprietary climate scores to identify bottom-up climate leaders and laggers
- > Climate credit portfolio is diversified across industries but avoiding fossil fuel producers



# SDG Credit investing

## Why should investors care about the SDGs?

"SDGs help select winners, avoid losers, are part of SI regulation, and are a plan for positive impact"

#### **Business opportunities**

"SDGs present USD 12 trillion in annual business opportunities"\*

#### Positive impact

Contributing to wealth, well-being, and a stable planet\*\*

### Risk mitigation

For instance, oil majors face a real risk of stranded assets due to climate change legislation

### Regulatory compliance

The SDGs are increasingly part of SI regulation, like the EU Sustainable Finance Action Plan



<sup>\*</sup> Business & Sustainable Development Commission. (2017). Valuing the SDG prize

<sup>\*\*</sup> Steffen, W., Richardson, K., Rockström, J., Cornell, S. E., Fetzer, I., Bennett, E. M., ... & Folke, C. (2015). Planetary boundaries: Guiding human development on a changing planet. Science, 347(6223).

# The SDG Framework applies a three-step analysis...

### Resulting in an SDG score

Three step framework



**Product** 

Do products and services contribute positively or negatively to the SDGs?



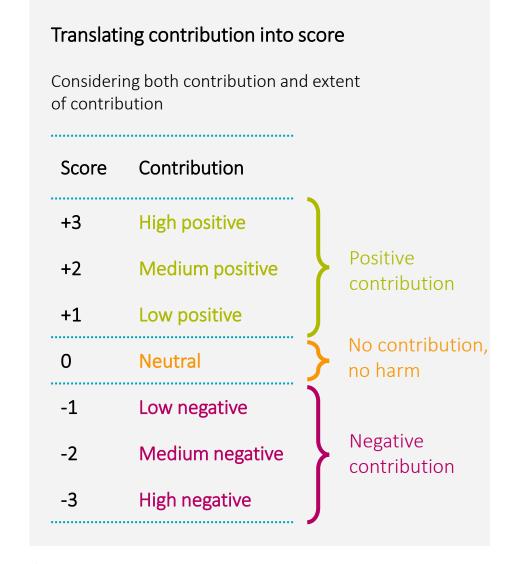
**Procedure** 

Does the company's business conduct contribute to the SDGs?



Controversies

Has the company been involved in controversies?



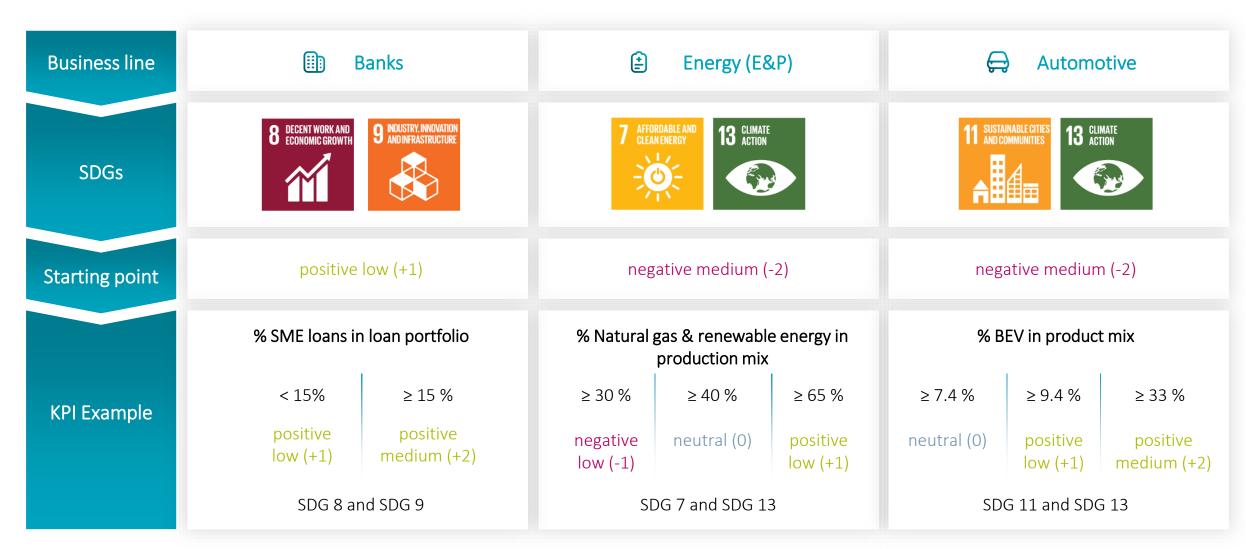
	Defining the investable universe					
Global C	Breaking down the Bloomberg Global Corporate Index by # constituents					
Score	# of c	onstit	tuents			
+3	3%	1				
+2	26%	}	60%			
+1	31%	Į				
0	19%	}	15%			
-1	11%	Ĺ				
-2	7%	}	25%			
-3	7%	J				

Source: Robeco. Data Dec 2022. Issuer data: Bloomberg Global Aggregate Corporate Index. These examples are for information purposes only and not intended to be an investment advice in any way



# SDG framework: Examples of KPIs used to evaluate contributions to SDGs

### What do companies produce?



Source: Robeco, Guidebook for SDG Framework, June 2023.

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# Using the SDG scores to construct a diversified credit portfolio

### Combining top-down and bottom-up research



# Proprietary SDG framework

Only bonds with a neutral or positive RobecoSAM SDG score

#### Green bonds

Eligible green bonds

#### **Exclusion**

Level 2 Exclusions+ list

Longer-term risl budget 30%

#### Top-down analysis

Credit Quarterly Outlook
Credit beta target
and portfolio themes

Longer-term risk budget 70%

#### Bottom-up analysis

### Fundamental research

F-scores and portfolio recommendations

# Portfolio construction

Portfolio Managers

- > Issuer and bond selection
- > Credit beta positioning
- Positioning overlay strategies













Source: Robeco

## Alignment with the various SDGs

Reflection of tactical investment views...some SDGs are more difficult to invest in through the public debt market



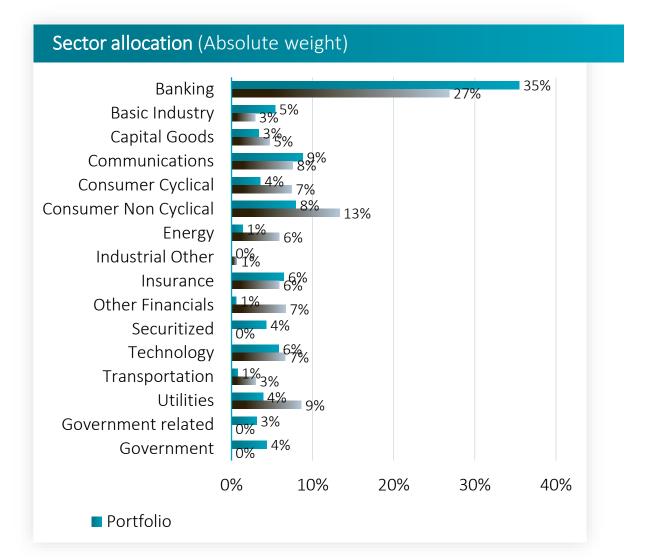
Source: Robeco. Net figures for individual SDGs.

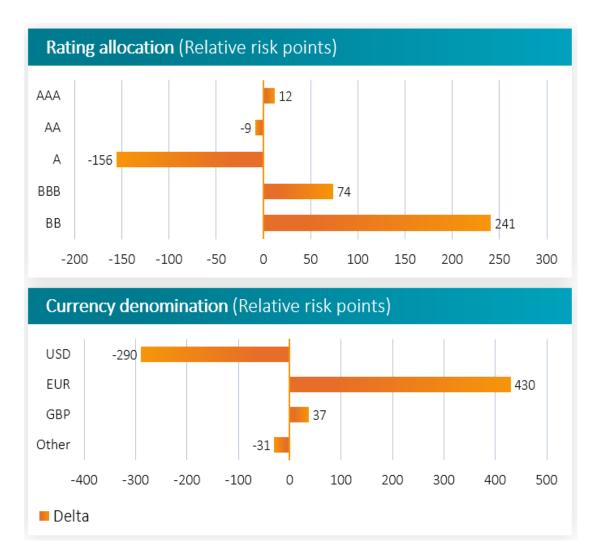
Portfolio: RobecoSAM Global SDG Credits. Index: Bloomberg Global Aggregate Corporates Index. This example is for information purposes only and not intended to be an investment advice in any way



## Global SDG Credits portfolio

Diversified across sectors but in some sectors (Energy) it is more difficult to find eligible companies



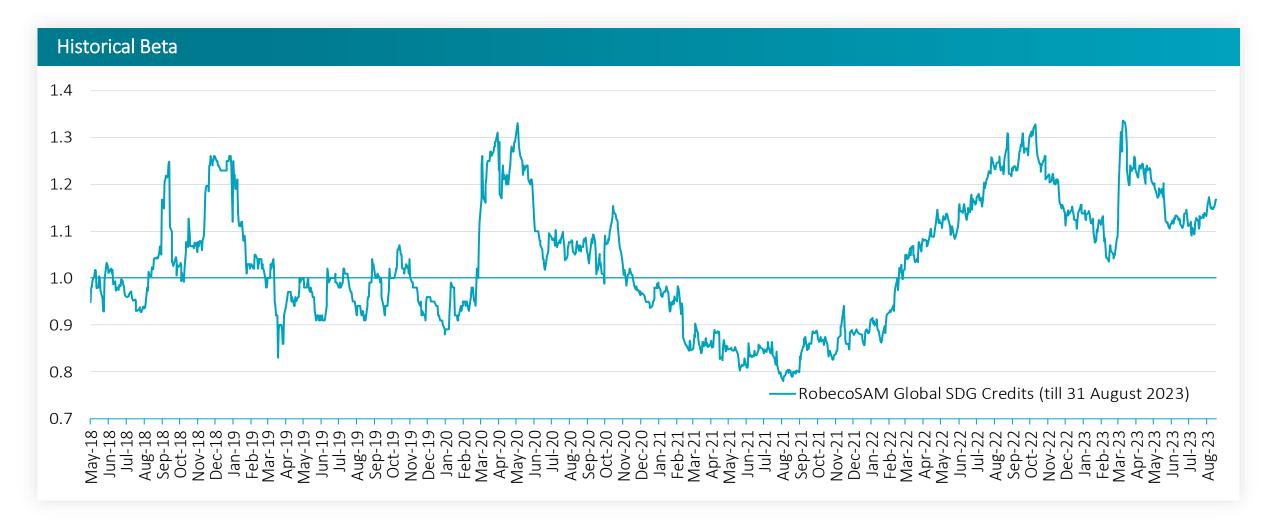


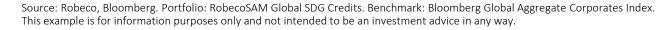
Source: Robeco, Bloomberg. Portfolio: RobecoSAM Global SDG Credits. Benchmark: Bloomberg Global Aggregate Corporates Index. Data end of August 2023. This example is for information purposes only and not intended to be an investment advice in any way.



## Positioning: Beta

### RobecoSAM Global SDG Credits





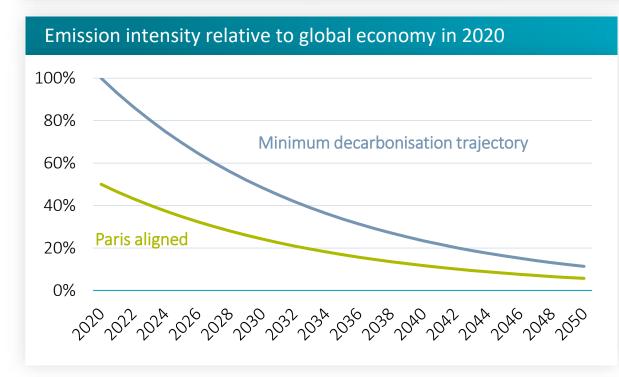


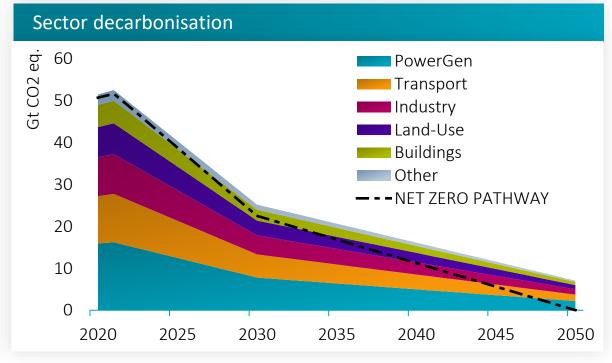
Paris Aligned credit investing

# A Paris aligned credit portfolio

### Keeping temperature rise "well below 2 °C"

- > Paris Agreement ambition is to keep temperature rise well below 2 °C above pre-industrial levels and to pursue efforts to limit the temperature increase even further to 1.5 °C
- > Robeco Fixed Income Climate strategy allocates capital within the limits of a 1.5 °C global warming scenario<sup>1</sup>. Bringing the commitment to the Paris Agreement of 2015 to life





Source: Robeco. Stylized trajectory

Source: IPCC, IEA, BAML research

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>In line with the Paris-aligned benchmark.

## Solactive Paris Aligned Global Corporate Index

Same characteristics as broader market benchmark but with specific carbon requirements

### Characteristics Paris Aligned Benchmark

- Same characteristics as broader market benchmark, in terms of yield, duration and rating
- Lower carbon footprint<sup>1</sup> from the start,
   and 7% year-on-year emission reduction
  - > Corporates: scope 1, 2, and 3 emissions
  - Based on ISS Emission data used in the Solactive benchmark
- Sector diversification, excluding fossil fuel production and utilities > 100g CO2/KWh

### Requirements Paris Aligned Benchmark

- Carbon Intensity Reduction at inception: 50% vs market
- > At least 7% self-decarbonisation annually

### Activity exclusions:

- Coal (>1% of revenues)
- > Oil (>10% of revenues
- Natural Gas (>50% of revenues)
- Electricity producers with carbon intensity of lifecycle GHG emissions higher than 100g CO2/kWh (>50% of revenues)

<sup>1</sup>Equal to what is defined as carbon intensity in the EU benchmark regulation calculated as footprint per invested USD Source: Solactive, Robeco. These examples are or information purposes only and are not intended to be an investment advice in any way.



## Building a Paris Aligned credit portfolio

Climate change is fully integrated in every step of the process

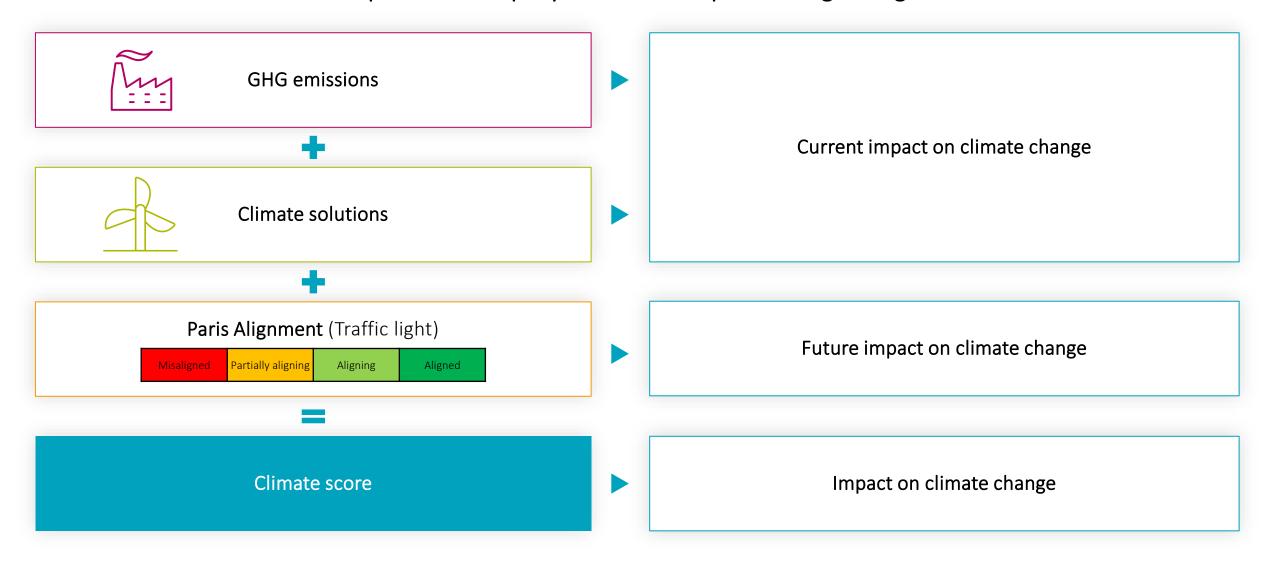


Bottom-up selection of issuers with acceptable climate risk score which fit within the decarbonisation pathway of the portfolio

Source: Robeco

# Climate score measures a company's impact on climate change

It factors in both the current impact of a company and future impact through mitigation activities

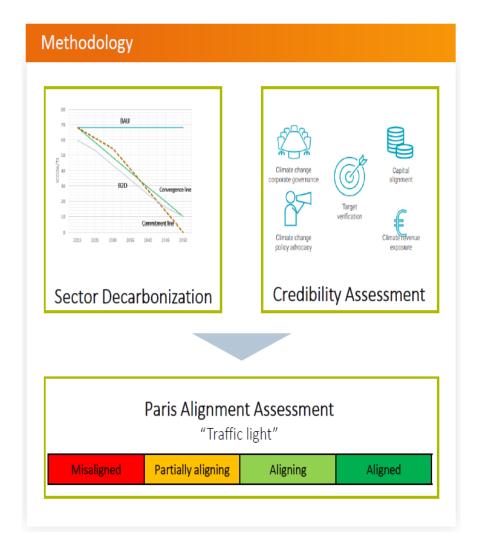


Source: Robeco

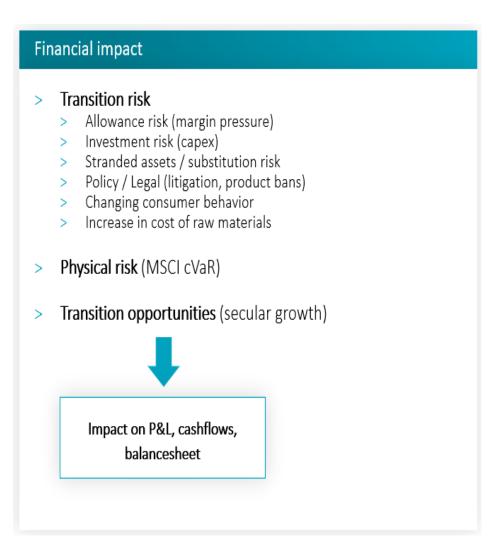
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# The future impact: How Paris-aligned are companies?

Alignment is scored by analyzing carbon reduction plans and the credibility of those plans







Source: Robeco

These examples are or information purposes only and are not intended to be an investment advice in any way.

# Examples in the steel sector

# Forward-looking assessment is a key differentiator

		SSAB	JSW Steel
	Should Scope 3 downstream be included for this sector?	No	No
GHG	Carbon footprint (tCO2e/EVIC)	3,106 ( <b>-3</b> )	3,663 ( <b>-3</b> )
missions	% thermal coal revenues	0%	0%
	GHG Emissions score	-3	-3
Climate solutions	Does the company have significant climate related revenues (SDG 13)?	0	0
	SDP score	100	50
Paris Alignment	Credibility assessment	Has targets (100) B2D SBTi approval (50) Insufficient capex (0) Positive lobbying (75) Good governance (100) Total CA: 62 CA notches (+1)	Has targets (100) No SBTi approval (0) Insufficient capex (0) Neutral lobbying (50) Good governance (100) Total CA: 50 CA notches (-11)
	Thermal coal expansion plans	No	No
	Total traffic light	Aligned (+3)	Partially aligning (+1)
	Final Company Climate Score	0	-2

Source: Robeco, April 2023. These examples are for information purposes only and not intended to be an investment advice in any way.



# Tooling: Carbon data & Climate analytics available in our Company Dashboard

### To support analysts and portfolio managers

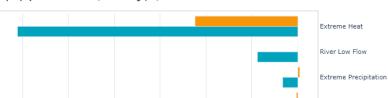
Overview Survey Material Factors Active Ownership Climate Sustainalytics Investments
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#### Climate change risks and opportunities

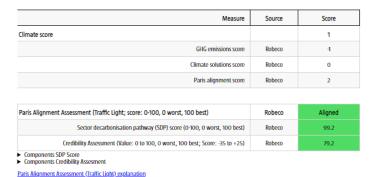
			Industry (GICS3)		
Measure	Source	Value	Median	Percentile	Sample Size
Current emissions					
Scope 1+2 / EVIC (tCO2e/\$m)	Robeco default	274.44	370.40	46	140
Scope 1+2+3 upstream / EVIC (tCO2e/\$m)	Robeco default	311.78	453.88	44	140
Scope 1+2+3 / EVIC (tCO2e/\$m)	Robeco default	552.31	708.91	42	140
Scope 1+2+3 / EVIC (tCO2e/\$m)	MSCI	598.27	812.16	42	109
Scope 1+2+3 / EVIC book (tCO2e/\$m)	ISS	978.44	1,896.47	28	151
Scope 1+2+3 / Revenue (tCO2e/\$m)	Robeco default	1,465.19	1,746.51	49	139
Scope 1 (tCO2e)	Robeco default	45,254,999.00	3,214,476.05		139
Scope 2 (tCO2e)	Robeco default	7,855,954.00	8,488.99		139
Scope 3 (tCO2e)	Robeco default	53,775,904.61	1,128,743.42		139
Transition risks and opportunities					
Policy Climate VaR (1.5°C scenario, %)	MSCI	-90.38	-50.06	73	150
Technology Opportunities Climate VaR (1.5°C scenario, %)	MSCI	96.22	11.13	11	148
Physical risks and opportunities					
Physical Climate VaR (3°C Average, %)	MSCI	-6.28			
Physical Climate VaR Category	Robeco	Low			

#### Climate Value at Risk (CVaR) explanation

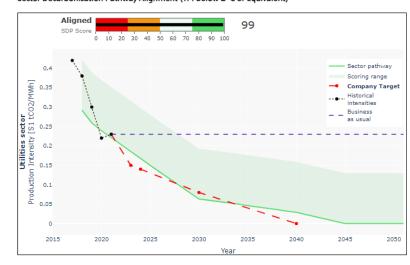
#### Top 5 physical risk hazards (3°C Average, %)



#### Climate change alignment: Robeco proprietary assessment



#### Sector Decarbonisation Pathway Alignment (TPI Below 2°C or Equivalent)



### Company Dashboard

All proprietary and data vendor SI information accessible throughout Robeco

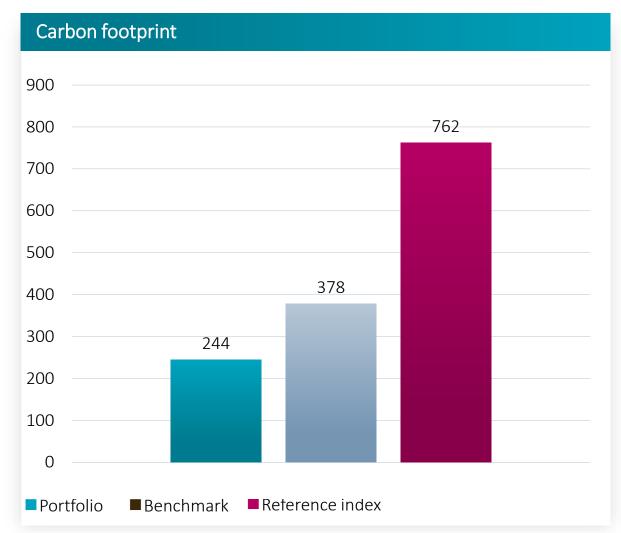
### Forward looking example

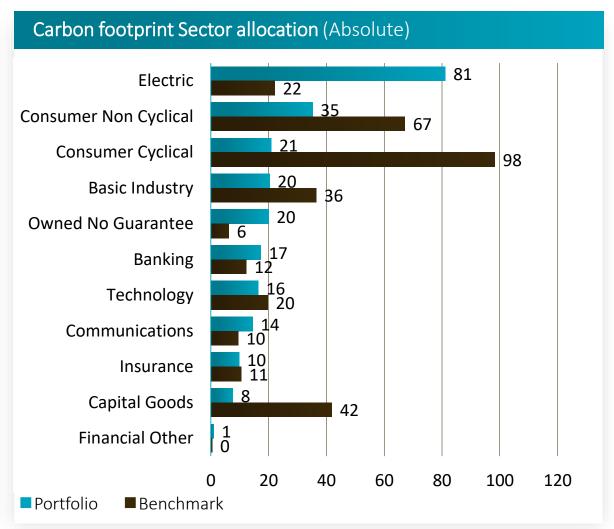
Alignment of company vs sector decarbonisation pathway by SI analysts



# Climate Credit portfolio: Carbon footprint

### Portfolio Carbon footprint in line with Paris aligned decarbonisation





ISS Carbon Footprint Scope 1+2+3/EVIC BOOK, expressed as tCO2e/mUSD invested.

Source: Robeco, Solactive, Bloomberg. Portfolio: RobecoSAM Climate Global Credits. Benchmark: Solactive Paris Aligned Global Corporate Index. Reference index: Bloomberg Global Aggregate Corporates Index. These examples are for information purposes only and are not intended to be an investment advice in any way. Data end of June 2023.



# Positioning: Characteristics

### **RobecoSAM Climate Global Credits**

Characteristics	Portfolio	Solactive	Bloomberg
Yield to Worst (Unhedged)	5.5%	5.2%	5.3%
Yield to Worst (Hedged to EUR)	4.6%	3.9%	4.1%
Yield to Worst (Hedged to USD)	6.3%	5.7%	5.8%
Yield to Worst (Hedged to GBP)	6.1%	5.5%	5.6%
Interest rate duration (OAD in years)	6.2	6.2	6.0
Spread duration (OASD in years)	4.8	6.3	6.1
Credit spread (OAS in bps)	174	123	133
Coupon	3.7%	3.2%	3.5%
Risk points	967	825	873
Numbers of issuers	121	863	2,102
Average rating	A3/BAA1	A3/BAA1	A3/BAA1

Source: Robeco, Solactive, Bloomberg. Portfolio: RobecoSAM Climate Global Credits. Solactive: Solactive Paris Aligned Global Corporate Index, Bloomberg: Bloomberg Global Aggregate - Corporates. Data end of August 2023. This example is for information purposes only and not intended to be an investment advice in any way.



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