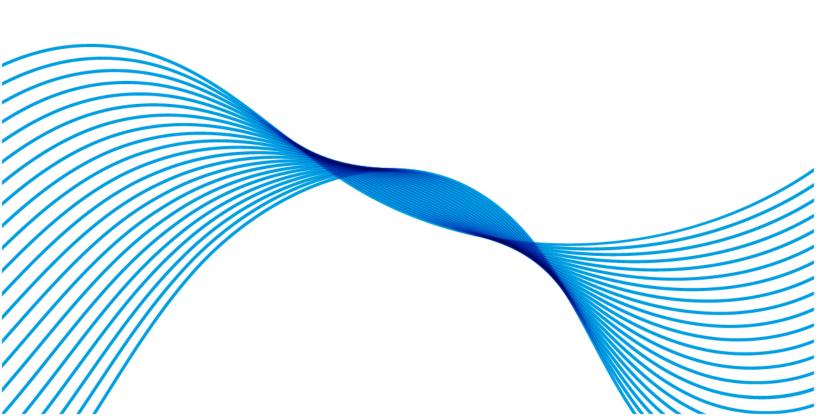
# **PRI** Principles for Responsible Investment

# PUBLIC TRANSPARENCY REPORT

2023

# CANDRIAM

Generated 15-12-2023



# About this report

PRI reporting is the largest global reporting project on responsible investment. It was developed with investors, for investors.

PRI signatories are required to report publicly on their responsible investment activities each year. In turn, they receive a number of outputs, including a public and private Transparency Report.

The public Transparency Reports, which are produced using signatories' reported information, provide accountability and support signatories to have internal discussions about their practices and to discuss these with their clients, beneficiaries, and other stakeholders.

This public Transparency Report is an export of the signatory's responses to the PRI Reporting Framework during the 2023 reporting period. It includes the signatory's responses to core indicators, as well as responses to plus indicators that the signatory has agreed to make public.

In response to signatory feedback, the PRI has not summarised signatories' responses – the information in this document is presented exactly as it was reported.

For each of the indicators in this document, all options selected by the signatory are presented, including links and qualitative responses. In some indicators, all applicable options are included for additional context.

# Disclaimers

# **Responsible investment definitions**

Within the PRI Reporting Framework Glossary, we provide definitions for key terms to guide reporting on responsible investment practices in the Reporting Framework. These definitions may differ from those used or proposed by other authorities and regulatory bodies due to evolving industry perspectives and changing legislative landscapes. Users of this report should be aware of these variations, as they may impact interpretations of the information provided.

# Data accuracy

This document presents information reported directly by signatories in the 2023 reporting cycle. This information has not been audited by the PRI or any other party acting on its behalf. While this information is believed to be reliable, no representations or warranties are made as to the accuracy of the information presented.

The PRI has taken reasonable action to ensure that data submitted by signatories in the reporting tool is reflected in their official PRI reports accurately. However, it is possible that small data inaccuracies and/or gaps remain, and the PRI shall not be responsible or liable for such inaccuracies and gaps.

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# **SENIOR LEADERSHIP STATEMENT (SLS)**

# SENIOR LEADERSHIP STATEMENT

# SENIOR LEADERSHIP STATEMENT

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
SLS 1	CORE	N/A	N/A	PUBLIC	Senior Leadership Statement	GENERAL

#### Section 1. Our commitment

Why does your organisation engage in responsible investment?

• What is your organisation's overall approach to responsible investment, and what major responsible investment commitment(s) have you made?

In the face of the environmental & social challenges society faces today, there is a clear need for smarter, more sustainable and inclusive socio-economic development that strengthens the resilience of the global economy.

At CANDRIAM we believe asset management has a key role to play in building a more sustainable future by channelling capital into projects that will ensure sustainable & inclusive growth.

We have considered responsible investment (RI) a key component of our fiduciary duty to our investors for over 25 years. We believe incorporating materially relevant sustainability factors into our investment decision-making process improves our ability to (a) effectively manage risk (b) accurately assess intrinsic value and (c) generate long-term returns and ensure sustainable outcomes for our clients, our employees, our partners and society as a whole.

Our commitment to RI starts with our name – CANDRIAM, which stands for "Conviction AND Responsibility In Asset Management". Created by employees, our name embodies the belief in the long-term benefits of a responsible approach: as an active and responsible asset manager, we consider that the systematic integration of ESG dimensions is a necessary part of every investment strategy, across all asset classes. To deliver on its RI philosophy, CANDRIAM has developed a unique value proposition based on three pillars

• Systematic integration of materially relevant ESG criteria into our investments. We analyse the sustainable challenges issuers are facing as well as the responses they develop to address them. This leads our investment managers to select issuers that are better positioned to help accelerate the transition to a sustainable future. Our proprietary ESG models focus on how companies' business activities contribute to solving global challenges whilst looking after all their stakeholders. Furthermore activities deemed unsustainable are subject to certain company-wide thresholds/exclusions : thermal coal, tobacco, controversial weapons (anti-personnel landmines, cluster bombs, depleted uranium weapons armor, chemical, biological, white phosphorus weapons), & gross violations of international norms. 74 % of our AUM are applying an ESG approach -above our company-wide exclusions-, based on our in-house proprietary screening.

• Active stewardship to help corporates & governments progress on their sustainability journey and express our disagreement when necessary. Direct dialogue, as well as collaborative initiatives when appropriate, are part of our ESG due diligence process.

Impact measurement and transparency. We aim to set clear objectives that measure the contribution of our investment to solving sustainability related challenges whilst delivering on the UN SDGs. We report on the impact of our investments in a transparent way enabling investors to assess their contribution through investing in our funds.



Through its experience in investing with ESG considerations, Candriam has developed proprietary ESG analytical frameworks for assessing the sustainability of corporate and sovereign issuers. These frameworks enable Candriam to offer a broad range of sustainable investment strategies spanning equity & fixed income, both in the active as well as passive space.

A key characteristic of our ESG analytical frameworks is that they have been built to be comprehensive and forward-looking and uses the double materiality principle.

Candriam's corporate ESG framework is structured around a two-fold assessment : 1 the corporate business activity analysis exposure to Candriam's "Key Sustainability Challenges" 2 a company's ability to sustainably incorporate stakeholder interests into its long-term strategy. This assessment is supplemented by an "In-depth negative screening", composed of controversial activities analysis for identification of companies that have a substantial negative impact & carry serious risks from both a financial & a sustainability perspective as well as norms-based assessment, which evaluates corporates' compliance with international norms and standards.

Beyond the investments it makes on behalf of its clients, and as part of its societal commitment, Candriam is fully engaged to advancing research and education in RI, in order to bridge the knowledge gap on ESG and help investors of all kinds improve their skills on this subject and their investment practices. Launched in 2017, the Candriam Academy (https://academy.candriam.com/row/) – the world's first free-to-access training platform on RI – has now reached 13,000 members from all over the world. Based on a sustainable web design methodology, the Academy's dedicated website try to keep its carbon footprint as low as possible.

CANDRIAM also established academic partnerships on ESG with leading institutions: Grantham Research Institute at LSE & Imperial College Business School (UK), Kedge BS & Paris School of Economics (FR), LUMSA (ITL), or UC Louvain & Vlerick Business School (BE).

#### Section 2. Annual overview

Discuss your organisation's progress during the reporting year on the responsible investment issue you consider most relevant or material to your organisation or its assets.

Reflect on your performance with respect to your organisation's responsible investment objectives and targets during the reporting year. Details might include, for example, outlining your single most important achievement or describing your general progress on topics such as the following (where applicable):

- · refinement of ESG analysis and incorporation
- stewardship activities with investees and/or with policymakers
- collaborative engagements
- · attainment of responsible investment certifications and/or awards

In 2022, CANDRIAM aimed at further strengthening its ESG commitments, notably focusing on the following key areas:

#### Climate Roadmap

At Candriam, we actively participate in the fight against climate change. As a global investor, we believe it is our responsibility to protect our clients' investments and address the concerns of other stakeholders & wider society for the long-term sustainability of our planet. In 2021, we committed to becoming net zero by 2050, which will redefine the way we invest, impact how our investment teams manage climate risks and ultimately create positive climate benefits.

In 2022 we detailed the climate approach we use for our investment decisions which is based on four complementary pillars:

Exclude activities deemed incompatible with the objectives established by the Paris Agreement

Integrate climate risks & impacts in our investments



Engage with high emitting companies to accelerate their transition strategy

Report on the climate impacts of our portfolio in a comprehensive & transparent manner

Candriam's commitment to net zero is the natural next step of our previous engagement. Back in 2015, we signed the Montreal Carbon Pledge and commit ourselves to disclose carbon emissions of all our sustainable strategies with the overarching ambition to reduce the carbon footprint of these strategies year-on-year. Candriam defined specific indicators to assess the company' performance towards climate change, both at the operational & investment level.

#### ESG Research & Investments

In 2022, in line with Candriam's ongoing commitment to sustainable investing, the firm expanded its sustainable fund range

A sustainable global convertible strategy with a 30% reduction in carbon footprint and a higher ESG score than its benchmark.

A sustainable balanced asset allocation strategy which invests in the Candriam sustainable solutions, targets a carbon reduction 25% below its benchmark.

A new thematic strategy which invests in companies contributing to the sustainable production of food, provide healthier & better nourishment.

A sustainable bond Impact strategy which aligns financial returns alongside a positive impact on society and the environment by using each of the UN SDGs to invest in bond issuance that facilitates the development of projects in support to the transition to a low carbon economy / improve social disparity.

#### Active Stewardship

During 2022, we engaged 336 corporate issuers through our direct dialogue & made our voice heard in 1,939 general meetings. Climate & Energy transition, Biodiversity Loss are all topics on corporates' & sovereigns' dashboards. For these systemic risks, we usually prioritize collaborative engagement for leverage reasons and focus on investees accounting for the greatest carbon contribution to our portfolio. Corporate Governance still accounts for a large part of our engagements (i.e. board's capacity to oversee ESG risks, alignment b/w executive remuneration & company performance). Labour & Human Rights-related engagements continued their Covidborn trends, fuelled by the tense geopolitical context, transparency and quality of related due diligences ramping up in our dialogues top charts.

#### ESG Governance

Across the firm, Candriam has more than 50 professionals actively involved in the governance of sustainability matters. These professionals ensure a consistency of approach through a number of committees that govern Candriam's ESG investment practices & corporate sustainability across our organisation: Sustainability Risk Committee, Proxy Voting Committee, Candriam Institute for Sustainable Development, ESG Steering and CSR Steering Committees.

In 2022, to further strengthen governance and oversight of ESG matters within the firm, Candriam developed the CSR Ethics Committee which from 2023 assesses and monitors human rights risks related to Candriam's operations, incl. human resources & suppliers. It oversees the due diligence process for human rights within Candriam's operations & follows up on issues flagged by operational, procurement or risk teams or via the Compliance whistleblowing procedure.

#### Awards

In 2022, Candriam received several ESG awards covering a broad range of our asset classes and recognizing the expertise of our teams. We notably received an important industry recognition:Candriam has been named the global leading asset manager in sustainable investing by H&K Responsible Investment Brand Index (RIBI) who evaluate 600 asset managers worldwide.

#### "CANDRIAM Institute for Sustainable Development"

Created in 2017, it embodies Candriam's philanthropic activities & focuses on

ESG Education & Research: Candriam Academy & academic partnerships

Social Inclusion & solidarity : inclusive youth empowerment program & emergency crisis donations

Protecting the Environment : contribution to mangroves restauration in Senegal

Contribution to the fight against cancer: a new partnership with AIRC Foundation for Cancer Research (ITL)

#### Section 3. Next steps



What specific steps has your organisation outlined to advance your commitment to responsible investment in the next two years?

We believe that our role in promoting green finance extends beyond our investment activities. Accordingly, our ESG Investments & Research Department conducts and publishes expert research on the ecological transition and organizes events, such as roundtables and conferences, allowing investors to gain better insight into the role that finance plays in facilitating this transition. Moreover, Candriam has developed several partnerships with renowned academic institutions to foster research on environmental matters and offers a public, free training program on sustainable investing, which includes reference material on climate-related matters.

CANDRIAM intends to continue allocating capital to corporate and sovereign issuers supporting a faster transition to a more sustainable economy, through

- Strengthening our value proposition
- Encourage clients to continue their transition towards fully integrating sustainability
- Develop ambitious frameworks to integrate ESG thoroughly within alternative and illiquid investments
- -Further work on developing the impact investing asset class
- -Enhance ESG impact monitoring

-Offer new thematic strategies contributing to the achievements of UN SDGs

- Continuously develop ESG policies to ensure our practices are aligned with the highest standards
- Developing further our assessment framework of corporates exposure to biodiversity
- Increasing the impact & measurement of active stewardship initiatives
- Facilitating access to ESG education & research for investors:
- Expand the Candriam Academy (content, reach, community management)

- Fund academic research on ESG through academic partnerships.

More specifically, as part of our climate policy, our 2030 objectives are

- Engagement: We aim to engage with companies that account for at least 70% of our financed emissions
- Emissions reductions targets: We strive to reduce our average Weighted Average Carbon Intensity (WACI) by at least 50%
- Aligning our investments with net zero: We plan to have at least 50% of our financed emissions coming from companies assessed as Net Zero or aligned to Net Zero pathways

• Financing the ecological transition: We will measure and maximise the share of our investments contributing positively to the transition.

All details on CANDRIAM's CSR policies and Institute initiatives: our CSR report https://csr.candriam.com/pdf/CAND\_CSR-Report-22\_28-July.pdf and our Institute website: https://institute.candriam.com/

#### Section 4. Endorsement

# 'The Senior Leadership Statement has been prepared and/or reviewed by the undersigned and reflects our organisation-wide commitment and approach to responsible investment'.

Name

Hamelink Vincent

Position



CEO

Organisation's Name

CANDRIAM

#### ΘA

'This endorsement applies only to the Senior Leadership Statement and should not be considered an endorsement of the information reported by the above-mentioned organisation in the various modules of the Reporting Framework. The Senior Leadership Statement serves as a general overview of the above-mentioned organisation's responsible investment approach. The Senior Leadership Statement does not constitute advice and should not be relied upon as such. Further, it is not a substitute for the skill, judgement and experience of any third parties, their management, employees, advisors and/or clients when making investment and other business decisions'.

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# **ORGANISATIONAL OVERVIEW (OO)**

# **ORGANISATIONAL INFORMATION**

# **REPORTING YEAR**

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
00 1	CORE	N/A	N/A	PUBLIC	Reporting year	GENERAL

What is the year-end date of the 12-month period you have chosen to report for PRI reporting purposes?

	Date	Month	Year
Year-end date of the 12-month period for PRI reporting purposes:	31	12	2022

# SUBSIDIARY INFORMATION

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
00 2	CORE	N/A	00 2.1	PUBLIC	Subsidiary information	GENERAL

Does your organisation have subsidiaries?

○ (A) Yes● (B) No



# **ASSETS UNDER MANAGEMENT**

# ALL ASSET CLASSES

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle			
00 4	CORE	00 3	N/A	PUBLIC	All asset classes	GENERAL			
What are your total assets under management (AUM) at the end of the reporting year, as indicated in [OO 1]?									
		USD							
including subs	AUM subject to isory, custody, or	US\$ 122,375,028,	140.00						
(B) AUM of subsidiaries that are PRI signatories in their own right and excluded from this submission, as indicated in [OO 2.2]		US\$ 0.00							
	ect to execution, ady, or research	US\$ 25,692,920,5	09.00						

Additional information on the exchange rate used: (Voluntary)

1.06724998



# **ASSET BREAKDOWN**

In	dicator	Type of	indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
0	O 5	CORE		OO 3	Multiple indicators	PUBLIC	Asset breakdown	GENERAL
Pi	rovide a percen	tage brea	kdown of y	our total AUM at t	he end of the repor	ting year as inc	dicated in [OO 1].	
			(1) Percei	ntage of Internally	/ managed AUM	(2) Percentag	je of Externally ma	naged AUM
	(A) Listed equity	y	>10-50%			>0-10%		
	(B) Fixed incom	Ie	>10-50%			>0-10%		
	(C) Private equi	ity	0%			0%		
	(D) Real estate		0%			0%		
	(E) Infrastructur	e	0%			0%		
	(F) Hedge funds	S	>0-10%			>0-10%		
	(G) Forestry		0%			0%		
	(H) Farmland		0%			0%		
	(I) Other		>0-10%			0%		
	(J) Off-balance	sheet	0%			0%		

#### (I) Other - (1) Percentage of Internally managed AUM - Specify:

This % covers cash, derivatives and money markets instruments or investments



# ASSET BREAKDOWN: EXTERNALLY MANAGED ASSETS

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
OO 5.1	CORE	OO 5	Multiple	PUBLIC	Asset breakdown: Externally managed assets	GENERAL

Provide a further breakdown of your organisation's externally managed listed equity and/or fixed income AUM.

	(1) Listed equity	(2) Fixed income - SSA	(3) Fixed income - corporate	(4) Fixed income - securitised	(5) Fixed income - private debt
(A) Active	>75%	>0-10%	>75%	0%	>10-50%
(B) Passive	0%	0%	0%		

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
OO 5.2	CORE	00 5, 00 5.1	SAM 3, SAM 8	PUBLIC	Asset breakdown: Externally managed assets	GENERAL

Provide a breakdown of your organisation's externally managed AUM between segregated mandates and pooled funds or investments.

	(1) Segregated mandate(s)	(2) Pooled fund(s) or pooled investment(s)
(A) Listed equity - active	>10-50%	>50-75%
(C) Fixed income - active	0%	>75%
(H) Hedge funds	>10-50%	>75%



# ASSET BREAKDOWN: INTERNALLY MANAGED LISTED EQUITY

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
00 5.3 LE	CORE	00 5	Multiple	PUBLIC	Asset breakdown: Internally managed listed equity	GENERAL
Provide a further breakdown of your internally managed listed equity AUM.						
(A) Passive e	quity >0-	10%				
(B) Active – q	uantitative >0-	10%				
(C) Active – fundamental		%				
(D) Other stra	tegies 0%					

## ASSET BREAKDOWN: INTERNALLY MANAGED FIXED INCOME

Indicator	Type of ir	ndicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
00 5.3 FI	CORE		00 5	Multiple	PUBLIC	Asset breakdown: Internally managed fixed income	GENERAL
Provide a furth	Provide a further breakdown of your internally managed fixed income AUM.						
(A) Passive -	(A) Passive – SSA >0-10%		ò				
(B) Passive -	- corporate	>0-10%	þ				
(C) Active – S	SSA	>10-50	%				
(D) Active – o	corporate	>50-75	%				
(E) Securitise	ed	>0-10%	, D				



### ASSET BREAKDOWN: INTERNALLY MANAGED HEDGE FUND

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
00 5.3 HF	CORE	00 5	00 11	PUBLIC	Asset breakdown: Internally managed hedge fund	GENERAL
Provide a furth	her breakdown of your i	internally manage	d hedge fund a	ssets.		
(A) Multi-stra	ategy	>0-10%				
(B) Long/sho	ort equity	>10-50%				
(C) Long/sho	(C) Long/short credit					
	ed, special situations riven fundamental	>10-50%				
(E) Structure	ed credit	0%				
(F) Global m	(F) Global macro					
(G) Commo	dity trading advisor	0%				
(H) Other str	rategies	0%				



## **MANAGEMENT BY PRI SIGNATORIES**

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
OO 6	CORE	00 5	N/A	PUBLIC	Management by PRI signatories	GENERAL

What percentage of your organisation's externally managed assets are managed by PRI signatories?

>75%

# **GEOGRAPHICAL BREAKDOWN**

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
00 7	CORE	Multiple, see guidance	N/A	PUBLIC	Geographical breakdown	GENERAL

#### How much of your AUM in each asset class is invested in emerging markets and developing economies?

#### AUM in Emerging Markets and Developing Economies

(A) Listed equity	(3) >10 to 20%
(B) Fixed income – SSA	(2) >0 to 10%
(C) Fixed income – corporate	(2) >0 to 10%
(D) Fixed income – securitised	(2) >0 to 10%
(E) Fixed income – private debt	(11) >90 to <100%
(I) Hedge funds	(1) 0%



# **STEWARDSHIP**

## **STEWARDSHIP**

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
OO 8	CORE	Multiple, see guidance	Multiple indicators	PUBLIC	Stewardship	GENERAL

Does your organisation conduct stewardship activities, excluding (proxy) voting, for any of your assets?

	(1) Listed equity - active	(2) Listed equity - passive	(3) Fixed income - active	(4) Fixed income - passive	(8) Hedge funds	(11) Other
(A) Yes, through internal staff		$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\square$	$\square$	$\square$
(B) Yes, through service providers						
(C) Yes, through external managers						
(D) We do not conduct stewardship	0	0	0	0	0	0

# **STEWARDSHIP: (PROXY) VOTING**

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
00 9 HF	CORE	OO 5	00 9	PUBLIC	Stewardship: (Proxy) voting	GENERAL

Does your organisation have direct investments in listed equity across your hedge fund strategies?

(A) Yes
(B) No



Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
OO 9	CORE	Multiple, see guidance	Multiple indicators	PUBLIC	Stewardship: (Proxy) voting	GENERAL

#### Does your organisation conduct (proxy) voting activities for any of your listed equity holdings?

	(1) Listed equity - active	(2) Listed equity - passive	(3) Hedge funds
(A) Yes, through internal staff			
(B) Yes, through service providers			
(C) Yes, through external managers			
(D) We do not conduct (proxy) voting	o	0	۲

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
OO 9.1	CORE	00 9	PGS 10.1, PGS 31	PUBLIC	Stewardship: (Proxy) voting	GENERAL

For each asset class, on what percentage of your listed equity holdings do you have the discretion to vote?

# Percentage of your listed equity holdings over which you have the discretion to vote

(A) Listed equity – active	(8) >60 to 70%
(B) Listed equity - passive	(10) >80 to 90%



## STEWARDSHIP NOT CONDUCTED

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
OO 10	CORE	OO 8, OO 9	N/A	PUBLIC	Stewardship not conducted	2

Describe why your organisation does not currently conduct stewardship and/or (proxy) voting.

(Proxy) voting

(N) Hedge funds

So far we encounter implementation burden as investment specificities do not go well along with voting requirements aspects. However we always try to challenge this state of affair and regularly check feasibility with investment teams.

# **ESG INCORPORATION**

# INTERNALLY MANAGED ASSETS

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
00 11	CORE	Multiple, see guidance	Multiple indicators	PUBLIC	Internally managed assets	1
For each interr decisions?	nally managed asset cl	ass, does your org	anisation incorpo	orate ESG facto	ors into your investn	nent
			orporate ESG fact estment decisions	• •	No, we do not incorr rs into our investme	
(A) Listed eq	uity - passive		۲		0	
(B) Listed eq quantitative	uity - active -		۲		0	
(C) Listed eq fundamental	uity - active -		۲		0	
(E) Fixed inco	ome - SSA		۲		0	

(F) Fixed income - corporate	۲	0
(G) Fixed income - securitised	۲	0
(L) Hedge funds - Multi-strategy	۲	0
(M) Hedge funds - Long/short equity	۲	0
(N) Hedge funds - Long/short credit	۲	0
(O) Hedge funds - Distressed, special situations and event-driven fundamental	۲	0
(V) Other: This % covers cash,derivatives and money markets instruments or investments	۲	0

# **EXTERNAL MANAGER SELECTION**

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
00 12	CORE	00 5, 00 5.1	Multiple indicators	PUBLIC	External manager selection	1

For each externally managed asset class, does your organisation incorporate ESG factors when selecting external investment managers?

	(1) Yes, we incorporate ESG factors when selecting external investment managers	(2) No, we do not incorporate ESG factors when selecting external investment managers
(A) Listed equity - active	۲	0
(C) Fixed income - active	۲	0
(H) Hedge funds	۲	0



### **EXTERNAL MANAGER APPOINTMENT**

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
00 13	CORE	00 5, 00 5.1	Multiple indicators	PUBLIC	External manager appointment	1

For each externally managed asset class, does your organisation incorporate ESG factors when appointing external investment managers?

	(1) Yes, we incorporate ESG factors when appointing external investment managers	(2) No, we do not incorporate ESG factors when appointing external investment managers
(A) Listed equity - active	۲	0
(C) Fixed income - active	۲	o
(H) Hedge funds	۲	0

# **EXTERNAL MANAGER MONITORING**

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
OO 14	CORE	00 5, 00 5.1	Multiple indicators	PUBLIC	External manager monitoring	1

For each externally managed asset class, does your organisation incorporate ESG factors when monitoring external investment managers?

	(1) Yes, we incorporate ESG factors when monitoring external investment managers	(2) No, we do not incorporate ESG factors when monitoring external investment managers
(A) Listed equity - active	۲	0
(C) Fixed income - active	۲	o
(H) Hedge funds	۲	o



# **ESG IN OTHER ASSET CLASSES**

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
OO 15	CORE	OO 11, OO 12- 14	N/A	PUBLIC	ESG in other asset classes	1

#### Describe how your organisation incorporates ESG factors into the following asset classes.

Internally managed (C) Other

For cash, counterparties need to be eligible to our Norm-based ESG analysis criteria which excludes issuers for severe breach to UNGC principles.

Money market instruments invested in direct lines are subject to the same ESG integration process as for corporates or sovereigns: the issuer has at least to be eligible to our Norm-based screening and controversial activities company-wide exclusion policy covering controversial armament (anti-personnel landmines, cluster bombs, depleted uranium weapons & armor, chemical, biological & white phosphorus weapons), tobacco (5 % revenues) and thermal coal (5 % revenues and no development of new projects). If part of a SRI marketed product, an extended list of controversial activities applies that includes conventional armament, conventional/unconventional O&G, alcohol, adult content... (full list and applied thresholds are available in our disclosed exclusion policy) and only issuers part of the eligible universe based on our ESG assessment framework for corporates and SSA can be invested. The ESG integration process is similar to this described in the FI module that applies to all Fixed Income assets : ESG factors part of our ESG assessment frameworks are impacting the issuer credit rating and influence the issuer's weighting. In case of external money market vehicle, there need at least to respect Candriam's company-wide exclusion policy (norm-based and controversial activities) and for SRI marketed products, an equivalent ESG approach is required. A due diligence process is conducted by the risk management and multi-management team and leads to an approved selection list of third-party products.



Derivatives cover interest rate futures and swaps, equity swaps, CDS, credit derivatives and equity index futures, forwards, listed equities/OTC. For open funds, there use is constrained by the limits approved in the dedicated prospectus but the following rules need to be applied by SFDR art 8 classified products: Credit derivative indices & Equity index futures may be used temporarily for hedging purposes and in the event of large subscriptions or redemptions. Forwards are exclusively used to quickly adjust the portfolio's exposure to foreign exchange risk in the event of strong market fluctuations or a major change in the portfolio's composition. Single underlying derivatives must be compliant with the company-wide exclusion policy. For SFDR art 9 products, the general principle on the use of derivatives is that short positions via derivatives can only be used to cover long positions. No net short positions are authorized, except in exceptional cases where adequate hedging cannot be achieved due to lack of instrument coverage. Counterparties /underlying issuer or index need to be part of the SRI eligible universe.

# **ESG STRATEGIES**

# LISTED EQUITY

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
00 17 LE	CORE	00 11	00 17.1 LE, LE 12	PUBLIC	Listed equity	1

Which ESG incorporation approach and/or combination of approaches does your organisation apply to your internally managed active listed equity?

	Percentage out of total internally managed active listed equity
(A) Screening alone	>0-10%
(B) Thematic alone	0%
(C) Integration alone	0%
(D) Screening and integration	>10-50%
(E) Thematic and integration	0%
(F) Screening and thematic	0%
(G) All three approaches combined	>50-75%



Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
00 17.1 LE	CORE	00 17 LE	LE 9	PUBLIC	Listed equity	1

What type of screening does your organisation use for your internally managed active listed equity assets where a screening approach is applied?

	Percentage coverage out of your total listed equity assets where a screening approach is applied
(A) Positive/best-in-class screening only	0%
(B) Negative screening only	>10-50%
(C) A combination of screening approaches	>50-75%

### **FIXED INCOME**

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
00 17 FI	CORE	OO 5.3 FI, OO 11	Multiple, see guidance	PUBLIC	Fixed income	1

Which ESG incorporation approach and/or combination of approaches does your organisation apply to your internally managed active fixed income?

	(1) Fixed income - SSA	(2) Fixed income - corporate	(3) Fixed income - securitised
(A) Screening alone	>10-50%	>10-50%	>0-10%
(B) Thematic alone	0%	0%	0%
(C) Integration alone	0%	0%	0%



(D) Screening and integration	>50-75%	>10-50%	>50-75%
(E) Thematic and integration	0%	0%	0%
(F) Screening and thematic	0%	0%	0%
(G) All three approaches combined	>10-50%	>10-50%	>10-50%
(H) None	0%	0%	0%

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
00 17.1 FI	CORE	00 17 FI	N/A	PUBLIC	Fixed income	1

# What type of screening does your organisation use for your internally managed active fixed income where a screening approach is applied?

	(1) Fixed income - SSA	(2) Fixed income - corporate	(3) Fixed income - securitised
(A) Positive/best-in-class screening only	0%	0%	0%
(B) Negative screening only	>50-75%	>50-75%	>50-75%
(C) A combination of screening approaches	>10-50%	>10-50%	>10-50%



# **ESG/SUSTAINABILITY FUNDS AND PRODUCTS**

# LABELLING AND MARKETING

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
OO 18	CORE	00 11–14	OO 18.1	PUBLIC	Labelling and marketing	1

Do you explicitly market any of your products and/or funds as ESG and/or sustainable?

(A) Yes, we market products and/or funds as ESG and/or sustainable

Provide the percentage of AUM that your ESG and/or sustainability-marketed products or funds represent:

>75%

• (B) No, we do not offer products or funds explicitly marketed as ESG and/or sustainable

• (C) Not applicable; we do not offer products or funds

#### Additional information: (Voluntary)

This % represents the "Article 8 or 9" SFDR classified products, according to the EU Sustainable Finance Disclosure Regulation. Our ESG/sustainability marketed products/funds are either classified SFDR Article 8 or SFDR Article 9. "Article 9" products have defined and quantifiable ESG (Environmental, Social and Governance) objectives. They are products with a social or environmental objective, aligned with the definition of sustainable investments. "Article 8" products do not have a defined ESG objective but take ESG criteria into consideration when constructing their portfolios. In addition, a proportion of those marketed ESG/sustainability funds carry at least one SRI label among the national French SRI label, the Belgian Towards Sustainability label or the ESG LuxFlag label.

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
OO 18.1	CORE	OO 18	OO 18.2	PUBLIC	Labelling and marketing	1

Do any of your ESG and/or sustainability-marketed products and/or funds hold formal ESG and/or RI certification(s) or label(s) awarded by a third party?

(A) Yes, our ESG and/or sustainability-marketed products and/or funds hold formal labels or certifications
 Provide the percentage of AUM that your labelled and/or certified products and/or funds represent:

>10-50%

• (B) No, our ESG and/or sustainability-marketed products and/or funds do not hold formal labels or certifications



Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
00 18.2	CORE	OO 18.1	N/A	PUBLIC	Labelling and marketing	1
Which ESG/R	l certifications or labels	do you hold?				
	odity type label (e.g. BCI)					
□ (B) GRESE						
$\Box$ (C) Austria	n Ecolabel (UZ49) oration					
□ (E) BREEA						
• •	nate Bonds Standard					
• •	achhaltigkeitskodex-ESG	•				
	achhaltigkeitskodex-ESG	-Impact				
□ (I) EU Ecol	abei en Bond Standard					
. ,	n label (Belgium)					
□ (L) Finansc						
	iegel Ecolabel (Germany,	Austria and Switze	erland)			
. ,	n label (France)					
$\Box$ (O) Grüner	Pfandbrief Green Bond Principles					
	Social Bonds Principles					
	Sustainability Bonds Princ	iples				
• •	Sustainability-linked Bond					
	erstoß gegen Atomwaffen					
	el ISR (French governme Climate Finance	ent SRI label)				
	g Environment					
☑ (X) Luxflag						
🗆 (Y) Luxflag						
□ (Z) Luxflag						
	g Sustainable Insurance nal stewardship code	Products				
Specify:	nai stewardsnip code					
The	UK Stewardship code (FR	C), the EFAMA code				
. ,	c Swan Ecolabel		ronov Codo (c	Novothic)		
🗆 (AE) Peopl	SRI label based on EUR e's Bank of China green I		ency Code (e.g.	. NOVEUNC)		
	(Australia) rde Sustainability Jabel	(Delgium)				

- (AG) Towards Sustainability label (Belgium)
   (AH) Other Specify:

The Eurosif Transparency code



### **PASSIVE INVESTMENTS**

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
OO 19	CORE	OO 5.3 FI, OO 11	LE 8, FI 10	PUBLIC	Passive investments	1

What percentage of your total internally managed passive listed equity and/or fixed income passive AUM utilise an ESG index or benchmark?

#### Percentage of AUM that utilise an ESG index or benchmark

(A) Listed equity - passive	>10-50%
(B) Fixed income - passive	>10-50%

### **THEMATIC BONDS**

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
OO 20	CORE	00 17 FI	FI 15, FI 17	PUBLIC	Thematic bonds	1

What percentage of your total environmental and/or social thematic bonds are labelled by the issuers in accordance with industry-recognised standards?

	Percentage of your total environmental and/or social thematic bonds labelled by the issuers
(A) Green or climate bonds	>50-75%
(B) Social bonds	>0-10%
(C) Sustainability bonds	>10-50%
(D) Sustainability-linked bonds	>10-50%
(E) SDG or SDG-linked bonds	0%
(F) Other	0%



# SUMMARY OF REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

# SUMMARY OF REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
00 21	CORE	Multiple indicators	Multiple indicators	PUBLIC	Summary of reporting requirements	GENERAL

The following table shows which modules are mandatory or voluntary to report on in the separate PRI asset class modules. Where a module is voluntary, indicate if you wish to report on it.

Applicable modules	(1) Mandatory to report oplicable modules (pre-filled based on previous responses)		(2.2) Voluntary to report. No, I want to opt-out of reporting on the module
Policy, Governance and Strategy	۲	0	0
Confidence Building Measures	۲	0	0
(A) Listed equity – passive	۲	0	0
(B) Listed equity – active – quantitative	۲	0	0
(C) Listed equity – active – fundamental	۲	0	0
(E) Fixed income – SSA	۲	0	0
(F) Fixed income – corporate	۲	0	0
(G) Fixed income – securitised	۲	0	0
(L) Hedge funds – Multi-strategy	0	0	۲



(M) Hedge funds – Long/short equity	0	0	۲
(N) Hedge funds – Long/short credit	0	0	۲
(O) Hedge funds – Distressed, special situations and event-driven fundamental	0	0	۲
(T) External manager selection, appointment and monitoring (SAM) – listed equity - active	0	0	۲
(V) External manager selection, appointment and monitoring (SAM) – fixed income - active	0	0	۲
(AA) External manager selection, appointment and monitoring (SAM) – hedge funds	o	о	۲

# SUBMISSION INFORMATION

# **REPORT DISCLOSURE**

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
OO 32	CORE	00 3, 00 31	N/A	PUBLIC	Report disclosure	GENERAL

How would you like to disclose the detailed percentage figures you reported throughout the Reporting Framework?

 $\circ~$  (A) Publish as absolute numbers

(B) Publish as ranges



# POLICY, GOVERNANCE AND STRATEGY (PGS)

# POLICY

# **RESPONSIBLE INVESTMENT POLICY ELEMENTS**

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
PGS 1	CORE	OO 8, OO 9	Multiple indicators	PUBLIC	Responsible investment policy elements	1, 2

Which elements are covered in your formal responsible investment policy(ies)?

☑ (A) Overall approach to responsible investment

- (B) Guidelines on environmental factors
- ☑ (C) Guidelines on social factors
- ☑ (D) Guidelines on governance factors

(E) Guidelines on sustainability outcomes

☑ (F) Guidelines tailored to the specific asset class(es) we hold

☑ (G) Guidelines on exclusions

☑ (H) Guidelines on managing conflicts of interest related to responsible investment

☑ (I) Stewardship: Guidelines on engagement with investees

☑ (J) Stewardship: Guidelines on overall political engagement

☑ (K) Stewardship: Guidelines on engagement with other key stakeholders

☑ (L) Stewardship: Guidelines on (proxy) voting

 $\Box$  (M) Other responsible investment elements not listed here

• (N) Our organisation does not have a formal responsible investment policy and/or our policy(ies) do not cover any responsible investment elements

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
PGS 2	CORE	PGS 1	Multiple, see guidance	PUBLIC	Responsible investment policy elements	1

Does your formal responsible investment policy(ies) include specific guidelines on systematic sustainability issues?

(A) Specific guidelines on climate change (may be part of guidelines on environmental factors)

(B) Specific guidelines on human rights (may be part of guidelines on social factors)

(C) Specific guidelines on other systematic sustainability issues

Specify:



A key characteristic of Candriam's ESG analytical frameworks is that they have been built to integrate a long-term perspective of how sustainability impacts socio-economic development using the double materiality principle. The developed assessment framework provides in-depth evaluations of corporate and sovereign issuers' sustainability, as well as sector-specific ESG analysis and, fundamental research related to sustainability issues. Candriam's corporate proprietary ESG analysis framework combines a Business activity analysis and a Stakeholders analysis. The Business activity analysis assesses the extent to which a company's activities (products and services) are exposed and contribute, positively or negatively, to key ESG trends – i.e. Candriam's "Key Sustainability Challenges" (KSC).

The analytical framework integrates the notion of materiality – meaning that different KSCs have different levels relevance for different sectors and business activities. Accordingly, Candriam's sector models define the materiality of each KSC for each sector. The Stakeholder analysis evaluates a company's ability to sustainably incorporate stakeholder interests into its long-term strategy, and its potential positive or negative short- and long-term impacts on its stakeholders. The framework includes an in-depth analysis of the materiality of each stakeholder for each sector, as different stakeholders will be more or less pivotal for different sectors but the Governance factors are systematically considered in the Stakeholders analysis. By using the ESG score resulting from our proprietary ESG analysis framework to inform their investment decision or as objective our investment processes are systematically considering 1/ the material sustainability issues 2/ the Governance factors.

• (D) Our formal responsible investment policy(ies) does not include guidelines on systematic sustainability issues

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
PGS 3	CORE	PGS 1, PGS 2	N/A	PUBLIC	Responsible investment policy elements	6

Which elements of your formal responsible investment policy(ies) are publicly available?

## ☑ (A) Overall approach to responsible investment

Add link:

https://www.candriam.com/en/professional/SysSiteAssets/medias/publications/sri-publications---candriam-policies/candriams-integration-policy.pdf

#### ☑ (B) Guidelines on environmental factors

Add link:

https://www.candriam.com/en/professional/SysSiteAssets/medias/publications/sri-publications---candriam-policies/candriams-integration-policy.pdf

#### ☑ (C) Guidelines on social factors

Add link:

https://www.candriam.com/en/professional/SysSiteAssets/medias/publications/sri-publications---candriam-policies/candriams-integration-policy.pdf

#### ☑ (D) Guidelines on governance factors

Add link:



https://www.candriam.com/en/professional/SysSiteAssets/medias/publications/sri-publications---candriam-policies/candriamsintegration-policy.pdf

#### (E) Guidelines on sustainability outcomes

Add link:

https://www.candriam.com/siteassets/medias/publications/sri-publications---candriam-policies/candriams-climate-policy.pdf

#### (F) Specific guidelines on climate change (may be part of guidelines on environmental factors) Add link:

https://www.candriam.com/siteassets/medias/publications/sri-publications---candriam-policies/candriams-climate-policy.pdf

# (G) Specific guidelines on human rights (may be part of guidelines on social factors)

Add link:

https://www.candriam.com/en-lu/professional/SysSiteAssets/medias/publications/brochure/corporate-brochures-andreports/candriam-human-rights-policy/human\_rights\_policy\_def\_gb.pdf

#### (H) Specific guidelines on other systematic sustainability issues

Add link:

https://www.candriam.com/en/professional/SysSiteAssets/medias/publications/sri-publications---candriam-policies/candriamsintegration-policy.pdf

### ☑ (I) Guidelines tailored to the specific asset class(es) we hold

Add link:

https://www.candriam.com/en/professional/SysSiteAssets/medias/publications/sri-publications---candriam-policies/candriamsintegration-policy.pdf

#### ☑ (J) Guidelines on exclusions

Add link:

https://www.candriam.com/en/professional/SysSiteAssets/medias/publications/brochure/corporate-brochures-and-reports/exclusionpolicy/candriam-exclusion-policy.pdf

## (K) Guidelines on managing conflicts of interest related to responsible investment

Add link:

https://www.candriam.com/en/professional/SysSiteAssets/medias/legal/regulatory-information/conflict-of-interests-policy-en.pdf

#### ☑ (L) Stewardship: Guidelines on engagement with investees Add link:

https://www.candriam.com/en/professional/SysSiteAssets/medias/publications/brochure/corporate-brochures-andreports/engagement-policy/candriam engagement policy.pdf

#### (M) Stewardship: Guidelines on overall political engagement

Add link:

https://www.candriam.com/en/professional/SysSiteAssets/medias/insights/publications/guiding-principles-on-esg-promotion-influence-2021.pdf

#### (N) Stewardship: Guidelines on engagement with other key stakeholders



https://www.candriam.com/en/professional/SysSiteAssets/medias/publications/brochure/corporate-brochures-and-reports/engagement-policy/candriam\_engagement\_policy.pdf

#### (O) Stewardship: Guidelines on (proxy) voting

Add link:

https://www.candriam.com/en/professional/SysSiteAssets/medias/publications/brochure/corporate-brochures-and-reports/proxy-voting/proxy\_voting\_policy\_2022.pdf

#### • (Q) No elements of our formal responsible investment policy(ies) are publicly available

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
PGS 4	PLUS	PGS 1	N/A	PUBLIC	Responsible investment policy elements	1-6

# Does your formal responsible investment policy(ies) identify a link between your responsible investment activities and your fiduciary duties or equivalent obligations?

#### (A) Yes

Elaborate:

Financial markets play a pivotal role in the financing of companies' activities to support economic growth and foster innovation. They are also an important source of debt finance for sovereign issuers.

Therefore, an essential question for investors is: What type of economic development would they like support through their financing activities, and how can they support its sustainability? For instance, are we seeking growth fuelled by coal-fired power plants that pollute heavily, impact climate change and public health, risk of being stranded and put invested capital at risk? Or are we looking for economic development powered by wind farms, innovation in green hydrogen and sustainable food solutions that may offer attractive risk-adjusted returns in the long run? Thus, as society is changing, investors today are being challenged on their capital allocation and the types of issuers they finance.

It is essential for the international investment community to take a broad, holistic view on the interplay between economic development and the opportunities and risks stemming from sustainability, and to fully appreciate the socio-economic value of considering and integrating sustainability in investments.

Candriam is fully committed to contributing to that mission, to the sustainability objectives of the Paris Agreement and to the UN SDGs. As an active and responsible asset manager, we consider that the explicit and systematic integration of environmental, social and governance issues is a necessary and central part of sustainable investment strategies - being active or passive- across all asset classes in order to create sustainable long term value for our clients. That's why we developed our own ESG analysis framework and propose a full range of SRI marketed products/strategies covering all traditional asset classes and regions. Some are mainstreamed products others are focusing on SDG's related strategies. We also progressively enlarge our coverage to less liquid assets.



Climate change is one of the most urgent and important challenges that society and investors are facing today. It is also a source of opportunity for investors through the reallocation of capital and innovation that our responses to climate change are creating and will undoubtedly stimulate. As an asset manager, Candriam's responsibility is to preserve and develop the assets of its investors. Candriam therefore integrates climate change at every level of analysis and investment decision making as well as in the exercise of its role as an active and responsible investor. We also committed to becoming net zero by 2050 at the end of 2021. This will redefine the way we invest, impact how our investment teams manage climate risks and ultimately create positive climate benefits.

Given the role the financial sector is playing on capital allocation in the real economy, the investment decisions taken by asset managers have a direct or indirect influence on the cost of financing for companies, their ability to develop certain projects rather than others, and their strategic choices. Moreover, these investment decisions are coupled with an ability to influence companies, among other things through the exercise of voting rights held as a shareholder in those companies. This capacity to influence also entails a responsibility to exercise it in the interests of our investors, while taking into account the impact of our decisions on society at large.

#### • (B) No

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
PGS 5	CORE	PGS 1	N/A	PUBLIC	Responsible investment policy elements	2

#### Which elements are covered in your organisation's policy(ies) or guidelines on stewardship?

☑ (A) Overall stewardship objectives

(B) Prioritisation of specific ESG factors to be advanced via stewardship activities

☑ (C) Criteria used by our organisation to prioritise the investees, policy makers, key stakeholders, or other entities on which to focus our stewardship efforts

☑ (D) How different stewardship tools and activities are used across the organisation

(E) Approach to escalation in stewardship

**(F)** Approach to collaboration in stewardship

**G** (G) Conflicts of interest related to stewardship

☑ (H) How stewardship efforts and results are communicated across the organisation to feed into investment decisionmaking and vice versa

☑ (I) Other

Specify:

How stewardship efforts & outcomes are communicated to clients and publicly

o (J) None of the above elements is captured in our policy(ies) or guidelines on stewardship

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
PGS 6	CORE	PGS 1	N/A	PUBLIC	Responsible investment policy elements	2



#### Does your policy on (proxy) voting include voting principles and/or guidelines on specific ESG factors?

- (A) Yes, it includes voting principles and/or guidelines on specific environmental factors
- (B) Yes, it includes voting principles and/or guidelines on specific social factors
- ☑ (C) Yes, it includes voting principles and/or guidelines on specific governance factors

• (D) Our policy on (proxy) voting does not include voting principles or guidelines on specific ESG factors

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
PGS 7	CORE	OO 9	N/A	PUBLIC	Responsible investment policy elements	2

Does your organisation have a policy that states how (proxy) voting is addressed in your securities lending programme?

(A) We have a publicly available policy to address (proxy) voting in our securities lending programme Add link(s):

https://www.candriam.com/en/professional/SysSiteAssets/medias/publications/brochure/corporate-brochures-and-reports/proxyvoting/proxy\_voting\_policy\_2022.pdf

 $https://www.candriam.com/siteassets/medias/publications/brochure/corporate-brochures-and-reports/proxy-voting/proxy_voting_policy_2023.pdf$ 

- (B) We have a policy to address (proxy) voting in our securities lending programme, but it is not publicly available
- $\circ~$  (C) We rely on the policy of our external service provider(s)
- (D) We do not have a policy to address (proxy) voting in our securities lending programme
- $\circ~$  (E) Not applicable; we do not have a securities lending programme

### **RESPONSIBLE INVESTMENT POLICY COVERAGE**

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
PGS 8	CORE	PGS 1	N/A	PUBLIC	Responsible investment policy coverage	1

What percentage of your total AUM is covered by the below elements of your responsible investment policy(ies)?



(A) Overall approach to		
responsible investment		
(B) Guidelines on environmental		
factors	(7) 100%	
(C) Guidelines on social factors		
(D) Guidelines on governance		
factors		

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
PGS 9	CORE	PGS 2	N/A	PUBLIC	Responsible investment policy coverage	1

What proportion of your AUM is covered by your formal policies or guidelines on climate change, human rights, or other systematic sustainability issues?

	AUM coverage			
(A) Specific guidelines on climate change	(1) for all of our AUM			
(B) Specific guidelines on human rights	(2) for a majority of our AUM			
(C) Specific guidelines on other systematic sustainability issues	(2) for a majority of our AUM			

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
PGS 10	CORE	OO 8, OO 9, PGS 1	N/A	PUBLIC	Responsible investment policy coverage	2

Per asset class, what percentage of your AUM is covered by your policy(ies) or guidelines on stewardship with investees?

☑ (A) Listed equity



- (1) Percentage of AUM covered
  - (1) >0% to 10%
  - (2) >10% to 20%
  - (3) >20% to 30%
  - (4) >30% to 40%
  - (5) >40% to 50%
  - (6) >50% to 60%
  - (7) >60% to 70%
  - (8) >70% to 80%
  - (9) >80% to 90%
  - (10) >90% to <100%
  - (11) 100%

#### ☑ (B) Fixed income

- (1) Percentage of AUM covered
  - (1) >0% to 10%
  - (2) >10% to 20%
  - (3) >20% to 30%
  - (4) >30% to 40%
  - (5) >40% to 50%
  - (6) >50% to 60%
  - (7) >60% to 70%
  - (8) >70% to 80%
  - (9) >80% to 90%
  - (10) >90% to <100%
  - (11) 100%

#### ☑ (F) Hedge funds

- (1) Percentage of AUM covered
  - (1) >0% to 10%
  - (2) >10% to 20%
  - (3) >20% to 30%
  - (4) >30% to 40%
  - (5) >40% to 50%
  - (6) >50% to 60%
  - (7) >60% to 70%
  - (8) >70% to 80%
  - (9) >80% to 90%
  - (10) >90% to <100%
  - (11) 100%

#### ☑ (I) Other

- (1) Percentage of AUM covered
  - (1) >0% to 10%
  - (2) >10% to 20%
  - (3) >20% to 30%
  - (4) >30% to 40%
  - (5) >40% to 50%
  - (6) >50% to 60%
  - (7) >60% to 70%
  - (1) >00% to 70%
    (8) >70% to 80%
  - $\bigcirc$  (0) > 70% to 80%
  - (9) >80% to 90%
  - (10) >90% to <100%
  - **(11) 100%**
- (2) If your AUM coverage is below 100%, explain why: (Voluntary)



We apply Candriam Stewardship Policy on 100% of money market instruments but not on derivatives that are also classified as "other"

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
PGS 10.1	CORE	OO 9.1, PGS 1	N/A	PUBLIC	Responsible investment policy coverage	2

#### What percentage of your listed equity holdings is covered by your guidelines on (proxy) voting?

#### ☑ (A) Actively managed listed equity

- (1) Percentage of your listed equity holdings over which you have the discretion to vote
  - (1) >0% to 10%
  - (2) >10% to 20%
  - (3) >20% to 30%
  - (4) >30% to 40%
  - (5) >40% to 50%
  - (6) >50% to 60%
  - (7) >60% to 70%
  - (8) >70% to 80%
  - (9) >80% to 90%
  - (10) >90% to <100%
  - **(11) 100%**

(2) If your AUM coverage is below 100%, explain why: (Voluntary)

As explained in our Voting policy, regarding equity holdings,

1) we chose to exclude some funds directly invested in equities from our proxy voting activities, namely : Absolute return and other investment funds whose positions are subject to rapid change as well as some funds for which voting costs are too high with respect to the funds' net asset value,

2) in case of dedicated funds or mandates, we have discretion of vote only for the ones whose clients gave us voting delegation under Candriam Voting policy. If we added to listed equity holdings over which we have discretion of vote, equity holdings of Mandates or Dedicated funds for which we vote but under custom (non Candriam) voting policy, we will reach 70-80% of listed equity covered by our voting activities.

3) Several clients still refuse to give us delegation of vote (under Candriam or any other voting policy) for their mandates or dedicated funds invested in listed equities.

We review at least once a year our voting scope and challenge feasibility for mandates/funds not being part of it yet. More specifically we regularly engage with institutional clients having refused so far to give delegation of vote to change their opinion. Some regulations (e.g. in Italy) sometimes do not facilitate this delegation to the asset manager.

#### (B) Passively managed listed equity

- (1) Percentage of your listed equity holdings over which you have the discretion to vote
  - (1) >0% to 10%
  - (2) >10% to 20%
  - (3) >20% to 30%
  - (4) >30% to 40%
  - (5) >40% to 50%
  - (6) >50% to 60%
  - (7) >60% to 70%
  - (1) > 66 % to 76 %
    (8) >70% to 80%
  - (9) >80% to 90%
  - (10) >90% to <100%
  - (10) >90% (0 <100
  - (11) 100%



### (2) If your AUM coverage is below 100%, explain why: (Voluntary)

As explained in our Voting policy, regarding equity holdings,

1) we chose to exclude some funds for which voting costs are too high with respect to the funds' net asset value,

2) in case of dedicated funds or mandates, we have discretion of vote only for the ones whose clients gave us voting delegation under Candriam Voting policy.

3) Several clients still refuse to give us delegation of vote (under Candriam or any other voting policy) for their mandates or dedicated funds invested in listed equities.

We review at least once a year our voting scope and challenge feasibility for mandates/funds not being part of it yet. More specifically we regularly engage with institutional clients having refused so far to give delegation of vote to change their opinion. Some regulations (e.g. in Italy) sometimes do not facilitate this delegation to the asset manager.

## GOVERNANCE

## **ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
PGS 11	CORE	N/A	Multiple indicators	PUBLIC	Roles and responsibilities	1

Which senior level body(ies) or role(s) in your organisation have formal oversight over and accountability for responsible investment?

## ☑ (A) Board members, trustees, or equivalent

(B) Senior executive-level staff, or equivalent

Specify:

CEO, Chief Sales & Distribution Officer, Chief Invest. Officer, Chief Fin. Officer, Chief Operational Officer, Chief Risks Officer, Gl. Head of Investment Solutions, Gl. Head of Corporate Dev. & Sustainability, Gl. Head of HR, Gl. Head of Communication & Marketing, Chief Legal & Compliance Officer who all are part of the GSC. Gl. Heads of inv. asset classes, Gl. Head of Institutional Portfolio Management, Gl. Head of SRI & local Head of sales teams who are members of the Executive committee

## ☑ (C) Investment committee, or equivalent

Specify:

Regular invest. committees define invest. strategy, implementation of ESG integration, monitor ESG implementation & products KPI. ESG analysts are regularly invited to present ESG research/assessment results and permanent members of dedicated ESG thematic Committee. The Sustainability Risk Committee approves the ESG processes & framework for products, assess & monitor ESG risks & negative impacts, defines company-wide exclusions as well as engagement actions, monitor compliance & breaches

## ☑ (D) Head of department, or equivalent

Specify department:

All heads of investment units (FI corporate/global bonds/emerging bonds, EQ quantitative/fundamental/indexed/, HF, Institutional portfolio management FI/EQ/Asset allocation, Multi-asset management, External multi-management)

• (E) None of the above bodies and roles have oversight over and accountability for responsible investment



Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
PGS 11.1	CORE	PGS 1, PGS 2, PGS 11	N/A	PUBLIC	Roles and responsibilities	1, 2

Does your organisation's senior level body(ies) or role(s) have formal oversight over and accountability for the elements covered in your responsible investment policy(ies)?

	(1) Board members, trustees, or equivalent	(2) Senior executive-level staff, investment committee, head of department, or equivalent
(A) Overall approach to responsible investment		
(B) Guidelines on environmental, social and/or governance factors		
(C) Guidelines on sustainability outcomes		
(D) Specific guidelines on climate change (may be part of guidelines on environmental factors)		
(E) Specific guidelines on human rights (may be part of guidelines on social factors)		<b>I</b>
(F) Specific guidelines on other systematic sustainability issues		
(G) Guidelines tailored to the specific asset class(es) we hold		
(H) Guidelines on exclusions		



(I) Guidelines on managing conflicts of interest related to responsible investment		
(J) Stewardship: Guidelines on engagement with investees		
(K) Stewardship: Guidelines on overall political engagement		
(L) Stewardship: Guidelines on engagement with other key stakeholders		
(M) Stewardship: Guidelines on (proxy) voting		
(N) This role has no formal oversight over and accountability for any of the above elements covered in our responsible investment policy(ies)	o	O

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
PGS 11.2	CORE	N/A	N/A	PUBLIC	Roles and responsibilities	1-6

Does your organisation have governance processes or structures to ensure that your overall political engagement is aligned with your commitment to the principles of PRI, including any political engagement conducted by third parties on your behalf?

## (A) Yes

Describe how you do this:

As a PRI signatory, Candriam is committed to promoting ESG in its relations with all stakeholders. The organisation's ESG experts are in charge of PRI implementation principles within Candriam and also externally, based on Candriam's own ESG practices which favour stewardship to elevate ESG standards, promote ESG integration and ESG practices in investments. Association memberships are decided and monitored by the Global Strategic Committee (GSC). Candriam's role and representativeness within those associations are decided and regularly reviewed by the GSC. The basic principle is that in industry associations and in associations with a leading role in the promotion of ESG, a Candriam ESG expert is participating as active member in the RI working groups.



Additionally, Candriam fosters leading roles in those associations in order to promote best practices in ESG investments in line with Candriam's positions and participate to the promotion of sustainable standards by policymakers. In consistency with Candriam's organisation and ESG governance, ESG policies and strategic orientations adopted by Candriam are under the responsibility of the GSC. The GSC hosts sustainability focus-sessions supported by Candriam's ESG and CSR experts in order to share and discuss market trends, regulatory evolutions in the field of ESG and decide on new orientations and ESG roadmap. ESG experts have a crucial role in the ESG governance and the working groups in charge of the implementation. Within this ESG governance framework, two dedicated workstreams are in charge of the Candriam's engagement activities to promote sustainable finance and promote the PRI principles Candriam is committed to: the workstream ESG Regulation & Certification and the workstream Stewardship & Collaborative.

The workstream ESG Regulation & Certification is the forum where new policy developments and related consultations, SRI certification and labellisation (incl. PRI) are shared, discussed and monitored. This workstream is co-headed by the Gl. Head of Corporate Sustainability and a Senior Legal Advisor. This committee gathers senior-level staff from Compliance, Risk, Client solution, Solution development, ESG investment & research.

The workstream Stewardship & Collaborative supervises and monitors engagement activities (including support to statements and collaborative initiatives) and decides which are submitted to the GSC/Exco for approval. This workstream is headed by the Lead expert in Stewardship and its members are the Global Head of ESG research & Investments department, of Corporate Sustainability, of Communication & marketing. They also are Candriam's ESG expert representatives in the associations for the RI workgroups and within associations with ESG missions.

• (B) No

• (C) Not applicable, our organisation does not conduct any form of political engagement directly or through any third parties

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
PGS 12	CORE	N/A	N/A	PUBLIC	Roles and responsibilities	1

## In your organisation, which internal or external roles are responsible for implementing your approach to responsible investment?

## ☑ (A) Internal role(s)

Specify:

Chief Investment Officer (CIO), Heads of investment department, Portfolio managers, Investment analysts, Dedicated responsible investment staff (ESG analysis, ESG assessment of issuers, eligible universe, stewardship & voting), Proxy voting committee and its operational sub-committee. The Sustainability Risk Committee is headed by the Global Head of Risk Management & Global Head of SRI. It assesses and monitors ESG risks & negative sustainability impacts, incl climate change, human rights risks

 $\Box$  (B) External investment managers, service providers, or other external partners or suppliers

• (C) We do not have any internal or external roles with responsibility for implementing responsible investment

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
PGS 13	CORE	PGS 11	N/A	PUBLIC	Roles and responsibilities	1



Does your organisation use responsible investment KPIs to evaluate the performance of your board members, trustees, or equivalent?

## (A) Yes, we use responsible investment KPIs to evaluate the performance of our board members, trustees, or equivalent

Describe: (Voluntary)

Candriam operates under a comprehensive governance structure, which is crucial to our oversight functions inclusive RI and CSR :
 The General Meeting of Shareholders holds the broadest powers, overseeing significant corporate actions. These include the approval of annual accounts, appointment of directors and managers and amendments to the company's objectives or form of the company.

• The Board of Directors – ("BoD") is the governing body responsible for guiding our strategy and general policy, management control, risk monitoring and shareholders relations. It ensures that Candriam develops and executes a comprehensive ESG and corporate sustainability strategy. In this context the BoD is responsible for validating the relevant critical policies.

The BoD is supported by the following Committees:

• The Board of Management ("BoM") is responsible for the daily management of Candriam. Meeting monthly, the BoM is our key decision-making body on strategic issues including ESG and corporate sustainability. It examines and approves relevant policies governing the execution of Candriam's strategy and activities, including those covering sustainability risks, climate change and social and human rights.

• The Group Strategic Committee convenes twice a month to make strategic decisions and manage Candriam's financial situation. The committee sets the firm's strategy for sustainable investing. covering investment approach, product and commercial positioning as well as corporate sustainability. It hosts sustainability focus-sessions supported by Candriam's ESG and CSR experts and oversees the due diligence approach across the value chain, including the development and review of appropriate practices.

The Executive Committee meets bi-monthly.

• The Remuneration Committee convenes annually. The Local Management Committees meet quarterly in each branch and in Luxembourg. In the Belgian branch, they meet monthly, and in the French branch, they meet bi-monthly.

The Board members and trustees have as objective to contribute to the development of the organisation's ESG incorporation approach.

The Board of directors involvement in RI is reflected in Candriam's corporate presentations where RI is described as strategic and a "distinguished feature". The annual "management report" to the Board of directors always comment on RI positioning and CSR efforts which are strategic orientations and as such part of their performance assessment.

• (B) No, we do not use responsible investment KPIs to evaluate the performance of our board members, trustees, or equivalent

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
PGS 14	CORE	PGS 11	N/A	PUBLIC	Roles and responsibilities	1

Does your organisation use responsible investment KPIs to evaluate the performance of your senior executive-level staff (or equivalent), and are these KPIs linked to compensation?

(A) Yes, we use responsible investment KPIs to evaluate the performance of our senior executive-level staff (or equivalent)



Indicate whether these responsible investment KPIs are linked to compensation

• (1) KPIs are linked to compensation

• (2) KPIs are not linked to compensation as these roles do not have variable compensation

 $\circ$  (3) KPIs are not linked to compensation even though these roles have variable compensation

Describe: (Voluntary)

The Candriam's Remuneration Policy applies to remuneration within Candriam Group granted to employees & executive directors bound by a management agreement with Candriam. It takes into account Candriam's business strategy, objectives, risk tolerance, and the long-term interests of Candriam's clients, shareholders and employees. It also seeks to promote sound and effective risk management & behaviour which is consistent with the risk profile, strategy, objectives & values of the managed funds and discretionary portfolio management mandates.

Candriam's overarching objective is to provide long term investment performance to its clients. Candriam's structure of remuneration is linked to risk adjusted performance.

In this respect, Candriam aims to provide an appropriate remuneration environment and to ensure that employees are not incentivised to take inappropriate and/or excessive risks including sustainability risks which are inconsistent with the risk profile of Candriam and, where appropriate, the managed funds and discretionary portfolio management mandates. Moreover, when taken into account by the fund or mandate, Candriam ensures that staff duly consider sustainable impacts. The Human Resources department of Candriam manages the yearly performance evaluation process based on qualitative & quantitative measures, including the achievement of pre-established objectives and the employee's professional and personal skills. The total amount of remuneration is based on a combination of the assessment of the performance of the individual and of his/her business unit and the overall results of Candriam. When assessing individual performance, Candriam will take into account both financial and non-financial criteria. To the extent necessary, Candriam will set the evaluation of performance in a multi-year framework appropriate to the life cycle of the funds it manages, where applicable, in order to ensure that the performance evaluation process is based on longer term performance. Qualitative performance evaluation includes the evaluation through a range of factors like risk management including sustainability risks, awareness of sustainability impacts, governance and compliance, teamwork, people leadership, people development and alignment to Candriam's goals and values. For Front Office (Fund Managers and Analysts), the performance of funds as well as the underlying factors influencing fund performance such as the market environment and the risk management including sustainability risks, the attitude towards clients, the fund competitive position and the evolution of AUM are key factors in the appraisal.

The bonus pool available for executive members of the Candriam management body is determined in a discretionary manner with a top-down approach. The bonus pool is then allocated on a discretionary basis between the executive members of the Candriam Management Body depending on their contribution to Candriam's profitability and performance in accordance with the general principles describe above, as well as their contribution to Candriam's ESG & Sustainability goals and CSR commitments. The Board of Directors of Candriam approves the proposed bonuses and salary increases made by the Remuneration Committee for the executive members of this management body. Non-executive members of Candriam's Management Body will never receive any form of variable remuneration from Candriam.

Among the main RI KPI used to define the compensation of Senior-level executives, we can mention

(A) level of ESG incorporation in investment activities (AUM ratio ESG integration, ESG marketed products)



(B) level of development of the organisation's ESG incorporation approach : number of new ESG products launched, ESG innovative products /solutions launched, comparison with peers, level of coverage of investment universe by ESG analysis, extension of ESG integration approach to less common asset classes

(C) the promotion of ESG through internal training on ESG-related topics, organized events to help investors to understand ESG in investments, and stewardship activities e.g. through sharing findings from continuous ESG research or investment decisions
 (D) ESG performance of investment process: % of products with ESG impact indicators (incl. climate ones) compared to benchmark, achievement of defined ESG objectives (e.g % of green bonds, Net zero commitment)

• (B) No, we do not use responsible investment KPIs to evaluate the performance of our senior executive-level staff (or equivalent)

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
PGS 15	PLUS	PGS 11	N/A	PUBLIC	Roles and responsibilities	1

What responsible investment competencies do you regularly include in the training of senior-level body(ies) or role(s) in your organisation?

	(1) Board members, trustees or equivalent	(2) Senior executive-level staff, investment committee, head of department or equivalent
(A) Specific competence in climate change mitigation and adaptation		
(B) Specific competence in investors' responsibility to respect human rights		
(C) Specific competence in other systematic sustainability issues		
(D) The regular training of this senior leadership role does not include any of the above responsible investment competencies	O	O



## EXTERNAL REPORTING AND DISCLOSURES

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
PGS 16	CORE	N/A	N/A	PUBLIC	External reporting and disclosures	6

What elements are included in your regular reporting to clients and/or beneficiaries for the majority of your AUM?

- (A) Any changes in policies related to responsible investment
- (B) Any changes in governance or oversight related to responsible investment
- ☑ (C) Stewardship-related commitments
- (D) Progress towards stewardship-related commitments
- (E) Climate-related commitments
- (F) Progress towards climate-related commitments
- G) Human rights-related commitments
- (H) Progress towards human rights-related commitments
- I) Commitments to other systematic sustainability issues
- ☑ (J) Progress towards commitments on other systematic sustainability issues
- (K) We do not include any of these elements in our regular reporting to clients and/or beneficiaries for the majority of our AUM

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
PGS 17	CORE	N/A	N/A	PUBLIC	External reporting and disclosures	6

## During the reporting year, did your organisation publicly disclose climate-related information in line with the Task Force on Climate-Related Financial Disclosures' (TCFD) recommendations?

☑ (A) Yes, including all governance-related recommended disclosures

(B) Yes, including all strategy-related recommended disclosures

(C) Yes, including all risk management-related recommended disclosures

- (D) Yes, including all applicable metrics and targets-related recommended disclosures
- (E) None of the above

Add link(s):

https://csr.candriam.com/pdf/CAND\_CSR-Report-22\_28-July.pdf https://www.candriam.com/en/professional/SysSiteAssets/medias/insights/sfdrpublications/2023\_06\_30\_pais\_qualitative\_reporting\_gb.pdf https://www.candriam.com/siteassets/medias/publications/sri-publications---candriam-policies/candriams-climate-policy.pdf



Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
PGS 18	PLUS	N/A	N/A	PUBLIC	External reporting and disclosures	6

## During the reporting year, to which international responsible investment standards, frameworks, or regulations did your organisation report?

(A) Disclosures against the European Union's Sustainable Finance Disclosure Regulation (SFDR) Link to example of public disclosures

https://www.candriam.com/FundDocumentDownload/GetApiDocument/J3Ra34z4t0b6jjAeP9igcHye8NnKzqLX6IvWsh8xVTY/Candri amSustainableBondEuroCorporate\_Ar\_20221231\_en\_AC\_1715.pdf

- □ (B) Disclosures against the European Union's Taxonomy
- □ (C) Disclosures against the CFA's ESG Disclosures Standard
- Image: Disclosures against other international standards, frameworks or regulations Specify:

EU Shareholders rights directive 2, EFAMA Stewardship

Link to example of public disclosures

https://www.candriam.com/en/professional/SysSiteAssets/medias/publications/brochure/commercial-brochures/sri-brochure/voting-and-engagement-report-2022.pdf

 $\blacksquare$  (E) Disclosures against other international standards, frameworks or regulations

Specify:

UK Stewardship code

Link to example of public disclosures

https://www.frc.org.uk/getattachment/a983f20c-ff5b-46b7-b361-2c9c9088f56e/UK-Steward\_2022\_FINAL.pdf

(F) Disclosures against other international standards, frameworks or regulations

Specify:

TCFD/NZAMi

Link to example of public disclosures

https://www.candriam.com/siteassets/medias/publications/sri-publications---candriam-policies/candriams-climate-policy.pdf

G) Disclosures against other international standards, frameworks or regulations Specify:

French SRI national label

Link to example of public disclosures

https://www.candriam.com/documents/candriam/article 206/en/document.pdf



Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
PGS 19	CORE	N/A	N/A	PUBLIC	External reporting and disclosures	6

During the reporting year, did your organisation publicly disclose its membership in and support for trade associations, think tanks or similar bodies that conduct any form of political engagement?

• (A) Yes, we publicly disclosed our membership in and support for trade associations, think tanks, or similar bodies that conduct any form of political engagement

Add link(s):

 $\circ$  (B) No, we did not publicly disclose our membership in and support for trade associations, think tanks, or similar bodies that conduct any form of political engagement

• (C) Not applicable, we were not members in or supporters of any trade associations, think tanks, or similar bodies that conduct any form of political engagement during the reporting year

## **STRATEGY**

## **CAPITAL ALLOCATION**

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
PGS 20	CORE	N/A	N/A	PUBLIC	Capital allocation	1

Which elements do your organisation-level exclusions cover?

(A) Exclusions based on our organisation's values or beliefs regarding particular sectors, products or services

(B) Exclusions based on our organisation's values or beliefs regarding particular regions or countries

☑ (C) Exclusions based on minimum standards of business practice aligned with international norms such as the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises, the International Bill of Human Rights, UN Security Council sanctions or the UN

Global Compact (D) Exclusions based on our organisation's climate change commitments

□ (E) Other elements

• (F) Not applicable; our organisation does not have any organisation-level exclusions



Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
PGS 21	CORE	N/A	N/A	PUBLIC	Capital allocation	1

How does your responsible investment approach influence your strategic asset allocation process?

(A) We incorporate ESG factors into our assessment of expected asset class risks and returns

Select from dropdown list:

(1) for all of our AUM subject to strategic asset allocation

• (2) for a majority of our AUM subject to strategic asset allocation

 $\circ$  (3) for a minority of our AUM subject to strategic asset allocation

(B) We incorporate climate change-related risks and opportunities into our assessment of expected asset class risks and returns

Select from dropdown list:

(1) for all of our AUM subject to strategic asset allocation

 $\circ~$  (2) for a majority of our AUM subject to strategic asset allocation

 $\circ~$  (3) for a minority of our AUM subject to strategic asset allocation

☑ (C) We incorporate human rights-related risks and opportunities into our assessment of expected asset class risks and returns

Select from dropdown list:

• (1) for all of our AUM subject to strategic asset allocation

(2) for a majority of our AUM subject to strategic asset allocation

• (3) for a minority of our AUM subject to strategic asset allocation

(D) We incorporate risks and opportunities related to other systematic sustainability issues into our assessment of

expected asset class risks and returns

Select from dropdown list:

● (1) for all of our AUM subject to strategic asset allocation

 $\circ~$  (2) for a majority of our AUM subject to strategic asset allocation

 $\circ~$  (3) for a minority of our AUM subject to strategic asset allocation

Specify: (Voluntary)

Some Countries are at risks for the financial stability, especially under the Financial Action Task Force and this has to be considered in our asset allocation process. The same applies for countries excluded for non compliance to international treaties or conventions for our SRI marketed products.

• (E) We do not incorporate ESG factors, climate change, human rights or other systematic sustainability issues into our assessment of expected asset class risks and returns

• (F) Not applicable; we do not have a strategic asset allocation process



## STEWARDSHIP: OVERALL STEWARDSHIP STRATEGY

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
PGS 22	CORE	OO 8, OO 9	N/A	PUBLIC	Stewardship: Overall stewardship strategy	2

For the majority of AUM within each asset class, which of the following best describes your primary stewardship objective?

		(1) Listed e	quity	(2) Fixed inco	ome (6) Hed	lge funds
(A) Maximise our portfolio-level risk-adjusted returns. In doing so, we seek to address any risks to overall portfolio performance caused by individual investees' contribution to systematic sustainability issues.		O	O			0
(B) Maximise our individual investments' risk-adjusted returns. In doing so, we do not seek to address any risks to overall portfolio performance caused by individual investees' contribution to systematic sustainability issues.		۲		۲		۲
Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
PGS 23	PLUS	OO 5, OO 8, OO 9	N/A	PUBLIC	Stewardship: Overall stewardship strategy	2

How does your organisation, or the external service providers or external managers acting on your behalf, prioritise the investees or other entities on which to focus its stewardship efforts?



The way Candriam sets up its engagement priorities and thus in return, chose where to allocate resources is clearly defined in our engagement policy.

At Candriam, we can classify triggers of engagement into 6 big categories:

- Candriam Strategic decision (Sustainability Risk committee demand)
- ESG opinion review or follow up
- Exceptional Event / Controversy
- Thematic (e.g. Climate, Biodiversity, Diversity)

- Voting related (e.g. weak governance practices, level of dissent or number of failed resolutions at previous AGMs of investee companies)

- Investment team's or client's demand

The formal process of identifying and prioritising the investees to be engaged is then done considering:

1. The presence of the investee in the portfolios as well as the interests of investment teams and potential leverage. We typically won't engage with companies that are not present in our portfolios unless there is a particular interest that a company could be included in the portfolios or could soon become eligible to SRI marketed portfolios. We also consider the overall size of the position held throughout Candriam compared to the overall market capitalization and enterprise value of the investee. We take into account positions where CANDRIAM has strong conviction (overweight vs benchmark) on an investee too and pay particular attention to specific engagement demand from investment teams (e.g. in the context of a controversy). The same way, attention is paid to specific demands of our institutional investors for mandates or dedicated funds.

2. The topic of the engagement must be relevant and material (double materiality approach) and can have an impact on the Candriam ESG opinion of the investee and thus eventually on its eligibility to certain investment strategies. As a result, issuers which are in the middle range of ESG opinion have greater chances to be chosen. Prior to starting an engagement, in coordination with ESG research analyst, fundamental analysts and portfolio managers, we make sure the engagement is associated to clear sustainable issues that are material to the investee and its stakeholders. The trendsetter nature of some investees may also influence prioritisation, as any change at their level might impact market practices or the market approach to the issue in question.

3. The engagement has defined clear and observable objectives over a given timeframe (Milestones).

We also prioritise engagements attached to Candriam engagement conviction topics:

- 1. Business Ethics
- 2. Energy Transition
- 3. Fair Working Condition

These topics are put forward, when relevant, by both ESG and financial analysts when dialoguing with investees. Aligned with the UN SDGs, they are undisputedly seen as important to the community, and their materiality is acknowledged across the value chain.

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
PGS 24	CORE	OO 8, OO 9	N/A	PUBLIC	Stewardship: Overall stewardship strategy	2

Which of the following best describes your organisation's default position, or the position of the external service providers or external managers acting on your behalf, concerning collaborative stewardship efforts?

• (A) We recognise the value of collective action, and as a result, we prioritise collaborative stewardship efforts wherever possible

• (B) We collaborate on a case-by-case basis

• (C) Other

• (D) We do not join collaborative stewardship efforts



Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
PGS 24.1	PLUS	OO 8, OO 9	N/A	PUBLIC	Stewardship: Overall stewardship strategy	2

# Elaborate on your organisation's default position on collaborative stewardship, or the position of the external service providers or external investment managers acting on your behalf, including any other details on your overall approach to collaboration.

Candriam's default position is to engage through collaborative stewardship as we see great advantages. Every year we have joined new collaborative initiatives while at the same time continuing our participation to on-going initiatives. Since 2021, Candriam has also led a collaborative initiative to advocate for ethical use of facial recognition technology (which was hosted on the PRI collaborative platform) and regrouped 55 responsible investors.

We find that joining or leading such collaborative initiatives makes sense when:

- the target of the engagement is a country, a group of countries, an international organization or any authority in which we are not a shareholder;

- the history of individual dialogue with the corporate issuer in question is sub-optimal;

- an opportunity arises to engage with others on the topic in question with a shared understanding of it, while avoiding issuers' fatigue in answering similar questions;

- greater leverage is needed;

- economies of scale are required (large number of companies to be contacted on the same topic);

- further media coverage is expected to raise public attention on the topic under consideration.

By experience, for large systemic topics such as climate change, deforestation or human rights due diligence, we prefer collaborative engagement as it has proven to be more efficient. For collaborative initiatives we join, we can usually choose the issuers on which we wish to be more active. We can actually lead the engagement with the issuer, organising regular group-update calls, providing an engagement evaluation framework for other participating investors, contacting companies in the name of the group and participating in meetings or calls. When supporting actively without taking the lead, we help lead investors in preparations and/or participating in calls/ meetings. For issuers we have proportionally less interest in, we opt for a more passive attitude, being signatories of letters and named as supporting investors participating in any of the calls/meetings organized with the issuers. We find that collaborative engagement work best when lead investors are selected to drive the dialogue and are from the same geographical area as the issuer or stakeholder.

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
PGS 25	PLUS	OO 5, OO 8, OO 9	N/A	PUBLIC	Stewardship: Overall stewardship strategy	2

Rank the channels that are most important for your organisation in achieving its stewardship objectives.

☑ (A) Internal resources, e.g. stewardship team, investment team, ESG team, or staff



Select from the list: ● 1
(B) External investment managers, third-party operators and/or external property managers, if applicable Select from the list:
● <b>3</b>
IC (C) External paid specialist stewardship services (e.g. engagement overlay services or, in private markets, sustainability consultants) excluding investment managers, real assets third-party operators, or external property
managers
Select from the list:
● <b>5</b>
Informal or unstructured collaborations with investors or other entities
Select from the list:
🗹 (E) Formal collaborative engagements, e.g. PRI-coordinated collaborative engagements, Climate Action 100+, or
similar
Select from the list:
● 2
$\circ~$ (F) We do not use any of these channels

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
PGS 26	PLUS	OO 8, OO 9, PGS 1	N/A	PUBLIC	Stewardship: Overall stewardship strategy	2

How does your organisation ensure that its policy on stewardship is implemented by the external service providers to which you have delegated stewardship activities?

#### (A) Example(s) of measures taken when selecting external service providers:

We use external providers to generate custom voting reports, proposing recommendations of votes aligned with our voting policies and passing our votes to AGMs. When selecting external providers, we notably check their capacity both in terms of resources and competencies to cover our voting scope and analyse AGMs in due time taking into account all the specificities of our voting policy, in full independency (Conflict of interest aspects are also discussed). We compare capabilities, additional services and coverage compared to other providers. Analysis samples are requested and discussed ahead of any contract. We also check the relevance and accuracy of communication channels in place to ensure the proper execution of our votes. Several of our internal departments are involved in this initial due diligence, including our middle office as well as the legal, risk and compliance departments. As a consequence, more operational aspects such as service continuity aspects or compatibility of IT systems with our in-house tracking software are also discussed.

## (B) Example(s) of measures taken when designing engagement mandates and/or consultancy agreements for external service providers:

We contract with ISS for providing us with custom voting recommendations. In the related mandate, we ensure by contract we have the final hand on voting and that our provider has relevant human and technology resources to provide us with required recommendations at sufficient/expected standards in due time and ensure our final vote will pass. Its capacity to include new coming AGMs or to expand the service to tailormade policies for our institutional clients is also key.

### (C) Example(s) of measures taken when monitoring the stewardship activities of external service providers:



We have daily contact with ISS our main proxy advisor to discuss voting items and proposed recommendation. We also organize regular meetings with appropriate stakeholders in the company to discuss difficulties they potentially meet, new voting items and related guidelines, potential concerns with application of our voting guidelines. As we reanalyse internally a great share of the voting items our proxy adviser gives us recommendation on, we may identify difference of interpretation; in such situations, we systematically exchange with our proxy advisor counterpart. Our Proxy Voting Committee is regularly updated on our voting activity and the challenges we may encounter. A due diligence is regularly performed by our risk department. Middle Office monthly voting KPIs' report are also effective source of information to identify any potential concern to be addressed.

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
PGS 27	PLUS	OO 8, OO 9	N/A	PUBLIC	Stewardship: Overall stewardship strategy	2

#### How are your organisation's stewardship activities linked to your investment decision making, and vice versa?

Per definition, outcomes of our engagement activities feed our ESG analysis and may strongly influence ESG opinion and thus eligibility level of an issuer. While negative engagement outcome may turn an issuer to non eligible to some investment strategy, such as our sustainable strategies, positive outcome may also make an issuer eligible to a strategy. Generally speaking, engagement is positively perceived by our investment teams.

Engagement related information is thus part of several 'ESG standard communication' to investment teams, such as:

- Sector-based committee reports, which mention dialogues that occurred during the sector ESG reviews
- ESG Alerts

All engagements carried out by the ESG Research & Investment team through individual or collaborative dialogues with issuers are systematically recorded in a dedicated platform designed for this purpose, where all the information on dialogue activity is stored: contact, period of contact, topic and associated target of engagement (including the related impact from an UN SDG perspective), Candriam's role (applicable to collaborative engagements), engagement milestones with associated level of achievement, current status of engagement, impact on Candriam process/analysis and issuer eligibility. E-mails, notes and related documents are also stored on the platform. Our history of votes is there too.

In line with existing operational procedures, validation steps (dialogue continuation/closure, escalation measures, ...) are also recorded. This proprietary platform is built to enable immediate access to the stewardship history (individual & collaborative dialogue, voting history) for every issuer covered.

This platform can thus feed reports provided to Candriam various investment teams and is put to good use at meetings the ESG Research & Investment team holds with these same investment teams. Past or current engagements, as well as related outcomes, will feed conversations during

- regular investment committees,
- when defining engagement priorities,
- for meetings called for specific issues

- for meetings proposed by the ESG team to inform about evolutions of a specific engagement (including potential escalation) or of our approach.



In addition to the above and for specific engagements such as the Net Zero Campaign, emails are sent to the fund managers to inform them about the state of the campaign, the level of responsiveness of the various targets, of achievements and planned next steps.

Good collaboration between internal teams is essential and engagement definitively helps for the expected 'cross fertilization" of ESG integration. For example, pre-AGM dialogues with companies have shaped our governance approach in specific sectors due to their specificities and triggered internal discussions with investment teams to create joint approach in analysing governance topics. As soon as feasible, dialogues with issuers involve representative of the ESG and investment teams. We believe that this is an essential part of ESG Integration in the investment processes. Engagements are also more successful when all teams are speaking of one voice.

Regarding cross-asset Candriam-wide exclusions, such decision being taken at Sustainability Risk committee level, cases presented to the committee systematically encompass an engagement section, presenting outcomes of past engagement plus analysis on how further engagement may or may not help decreasing the level of risks associated to the concerned issuer. This same Sustainability Risks Committee also feeds the ESG team with sound inputs, so that priorities of engagement can address challenges identified as relevant for Candriam.

Various strategic bodies at different hierarchy levels are involved throughout the stewardship activities: Candriam's Global Strategic Committee as well as its Executive Committee are both regularly informed of engagement activities and their related outcomes. Regular meetings with the Stewardship Workstream and/or the Proxy Voting Committee help to structure this communication to Candriam's decision bodies.

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
PGS 28	PLUS	OO 8, OO 9	N/A	PUBLIC	Stewardship: Overall stewardship strategy	2

#### If relevant, provide any further details on your organisation's overall stewardship strategy.

More details are provided in our Engagement policy regarding responsibilities associated to stewardship activities, scope and type of engagement, but also indicators used for monitoring engagement activities and their outcomes, the way we report on these to our clients. For compliance matters, we also detail our approach to communication with issuers, public disclosure of information gathered through engagement, exchanges of information with other investors (incl. Acting in Concert aspects). The way we prioritize engagement is directly linked to a good knowledge of the ESG challenges faced by industries and issuers, and of their respective materiality. This is the necessary entry points to any of our engagement initiative, individual or collective. Such analysis is regularly performed but may also be prompted by exceptional events such as an acquisition, a change in the issuers' business model or a controversial event. Building upon this first step of identifying ESG material topics, priorities and timeline of engagement can be defined and/or updated also in light of our level of exposure, internal parties' interest, topic, current ESG opinion on the issuer, trendsetter nature of the issuer etc...



## **STEWARDSHIP: (PROXY) VOTING**

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
PGS 29	CORE	OO 9, PGS 1	N/A	PUBLIC	Stewardship: (Proxy) voting	2

When you use external service providers to give recommendations, how do you ensure those recommendations are consistent with your organisation's (proxy) voting policy?

☑ (A) Before voting is executed, we review external service providers' voting recommendations for controversial and high-profile votes

Select from the below list:

- (1) in all cases
- $\circ$  (2) in a majority of cases
- $\circ$  (3) in a minority of cases
- (B) Before voting is executed, we review external service providers' voting recommendations where the application of our voting policy is unclear

Select from the below list:

- (1) in all cases
- $\circ$  (2) in a majority of cases
- $\circ~$  (3) in a minority of cases
- $\circ~$  (D) We do not review external service providers' voting recommendations

• (E) Not applicable; we do not use external service providers to give voting recommendations

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
PGS 30	CORE	00 9	N/A	PUBLIC	Stewardship: (Proxy) voting	2

## How is voting addressed in your securities lending programme?

 $\circ~$  (A) We recall all securities for voting on all ballot items

(B) When a vote is deemed important according to pre-established criteria (e.g. high stake in the company), we recall

all our securities for voting

Provide details on these criteria:



For funds with securities lending programs and which are included in the voting perimeter, a minimum of 20% (50% since January 2023) of every position is systematically reserved for voting (except for those which trade in 'share blocking' markets, where the reserved proportion may be smaller). In practice, we rarely have a significant proportion of holdings on loan around the dates of near shareholder meetings. For funds having received the French SRI Labels (List to be found under

www.candriam.com/en/professional/funds-search/afnor-certification/), a recall of the shares is systematically performed (unless materially impossible) in order to be able to vote for 100% of the securities held in the considered portfolio. The decision to recall some or all of the shares on loan may occur when materially feasible and when the meeting is considered of particular importance, such as:

• A controversial item is on the agenda, including specific shareholder resolutions, resolutions seeking approval for corporate actions, or resolutions posing a threat to the fundamental rights of shareholders;

• A shareholder resolution deserves our full support as a passing threshold will be difficult to reach and the topic is of primary interest for shareholders

• We are a co-filer of a shareholder resolution;

• We want to express our full voting interest for the considered meeting as a continuity of an existing engagement with the company;

• We conclude that management should be sanctioned; for example, for failing to manage a severe controversy or for particularly poor risk management practices, with proven consequences on shareholder and stakeholder interests.

o (C) Other

- (D) We do not recall our securities for voting purposes
- (E) Not applicable; we do not have a securities lending programme

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
PGS 31	CORE	OO 9.1	N/A	PUBLIC	Stewardship: (Proxy) voting	2

For the majority of votes cast over which you have discretion to vote, which of the following best describes your decision making approach regarding shareholder resolutions (or that of your external service provider(s) if decision making is delegated to them)?

(A) We vote in favour of resolutions expected to advance progress on our stewardship priorities, including affirming a company's good practice or prior commitment

• (B) We vote in favour of resolutions expected to advance progress on our stewardship priorities, but only if the investee company has not already publicly committed to the action(s) requested in the proposal

• (C) We vote in favour of shareholder resolutions only as an escalation measure

 $\circ~$  (D) We vote in favour of the investee company management's recommendations by default

 $\circ~$  (E) Not applicable; we do not vote on shareholder resolutions

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
PGS 32	CORE	OO 9	N/A	PUBLIC	Stewardship: (Proxy) voting	2



## During the reporting year, how did your organisation, or your external service provider(s), pre-declare voting intentions prior to voting in annual general meetings (AGMs) or extraordinary general meetings (EGMs)?

- □ (A) We pre-declared our voting intentions publicly through the PRI's vote declaration system on the Resolution Database
- (B) We pre-declared our voting intentions publicly by other means, e.g. through our website Add link(s) to public disclosure:

https://www.candriam.com/fr/professional/insights/publications/predeclaration-of-voting-intentions/

- ☑ (C) We privately communicated our voting decision to investee companies prior to the AGM/EGM
- (D) We did not privately or publicly communicate our voting intentions prior to the AGM/EGM
- $\circ~$  (E) Not applicable; we did not cast any (proxy) votes during the reporting year

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
PGS 33	CORE	OO 9	PGS 33.1	PUBLIC	Stewardship: (Proxy) voting	2

After voting has taken place, do you publicly disclose your (proxy) voting decisions or those made on your behalf by your external service provider(s), company by company and in a central source?

(A) Yes, for all (proxy) votes

Add link(s):

https://vds.issgovernance.com/vds/#/NDA0Nw==/

- $\circ~$  (B) Yes, for the majority of (proxy) votes
- (C) Yes, for a minority of (proxy) votes
- (D) No, we do not publicly report our (proxy) voting decisions company-by-company and in a central source

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
PGS 33.1	CORE	PGS 33	N/A	PUBLIC	Stewardship: (Proxy) voting	2

In the majority of cases, how soon after an investee's annual general meeting (AGM) or extraordinary general meeting (EGM) do you publish your voting decisions?

- (A) Within one month of the AGM/EGM
- (B) Within three months of the AGM/EGM
- (C) Within six months of the AGM/EGM
- (D) Within one year of the AGM/EGM
- (E) More than one year after the AGM/EGM



Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
PGS 34	CORE	OO 9	N/A	PUBLIC	Stewardship: (Proxy) voting	2

After voting has taken place, did your organisation, and/or the external service provider(s) acting on your behalf, communicate the rationale for your voting decisions during the reporting year?

	(1) In cases where we abstained or voted against management recommendations	(2) In cases where we voted against an ESG-related shareholder resolution	
(A) Yes, we publicly disclosed the rationale	(1) for all votes	(1) for all votes	
(B) Yes, we privately communicated the rationale to the company	(3) for a minority of votes	(3) for a minority of votes	
(C) We did not publicly or privately communicate the rationale, or we did not track this information	ο	0	
(D) Not applicable; we did not abstain or vote against management recommendations or ESG-related shareholder resolutions during the reporting year	0	O	

## (A) Yes, we publicly disclosed the rationale - Add link(s):

https://vds.issgovernance.com/vds/#/NDA0Nw==/

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
PGS 35	PLUS	OO 9	N/A	PUBLIC	Stewardship: (Proxy) voting	2



## How does your organisation ensure vote confirmation, i.e. that your votes have been cast and counted correctly?

#### 1. Communication channels & flows' monitoring

First step is the connection of the portfolio to our voting platform. Clear procedure are in place involving Client Servicing, Middle Office, and ESG team to ensure voting is set in full accordance with clients expectations and in the right timeframe. Then, Candriam reconciles the Listed Equity/Bond Assets positions and cash balances as well as the transaction movements with the involved custodian on a daily basis. The Listed Equity/Bond Assets positions are sent by the custodian to our main Proxy Voting provider (ISS) who, in turn, sends the vote to the sub-custodian according to the Listed Equity Assets positions reported by the custodian and reconciled by Candriam. All these tasks are performed by our Middle Office in collaboration with internal and external parties.

Every voting ballot received is then tracked into Candriam systems. Meetings or specific resolutions can be flagged depending:

• The nature of these specific voting items;

• The potential for controversy regarding the issuer (identified by the ESG team in collaboration with investment teams);

• The potential for controversy of items subject to intervention during the meeting including those having experienced strong vote dissent in recent history;

• The existence of a direct or collaborative dialogue with the company with respect to one or more of the agenda items of the meeting, or a dialogue whose nature may influence Candriam's vote;

• The relative importance of Candriam's share ownership;

• The relative importance of the involved issuer in Candriam's managed assets

It will trigger internal re-analysis of part or full considered meeting. In 2022, 32% of the 1'939 meetings we voted benefited from this internal review.

In addition, for items of vote & related ballots where the ESG team would have decided to deviate from initial custom recommendation of our main proxy advisor, we have a 4 eyes check mechanism, to ensure any vote change is properly entered into the voting system. In addition to this, Candriam Middle Office performs daily and systematic checks of our voting chains and related transfers of information between parties (incl. custodians, sub-custodians) to monitor closely our voting processes and ensure effective vote, in the direction we expect. Furthermore, Candriam Middle Office team notifies us in case some of our votes are not being processed correctly to make sure we can introduce our vote again and that our vote is taken into consideration. This includes chasing custodian or proxy adviser to ensure our final voting decision will effectively pass. Ultimately and if issue pertains in spite of these efforts, we may decide to enter a manual proxy card to ensure the vote pass effectively.

Still, some votes may not pass: reasons are investigated, analysed and recorded. If ab-normal (not falling under our voting policy 'standards' exceptions), an incident report will be introduced to our risk management team and remediation measures will be put in place to avoid similar cases to occur again.

This daily monitoring is performed by both our Middle Office team as well as our ESG team, and involve alerts set up at different levels of the voting chain. A due diligence addressing, among other items, information security risks and business continuity risks, as well as accuracy and transparency of the information, is also performed regularly by Candriam's Risk Department.

Please be aware the above cover funds and mandates applying Candriam voting strategy but also the mandates or dedicated funds applying a custom voting policy. In this last case, we may consider involving other proxy advisor in complement of our main one to help us in better answering clients' demands related to their voting guidelines. We hold regular meetings or exchanges via emails with them to ensure of our good comprehension of their voting guidelines.

#### 2. Vote: voting instructions' monitoring

Ahead of the voting season, following the update of our voting policy and then during the voting season, regular meetings are held with ISS, our main proxy advisor, but also with other proxy advisor we use, to ensure good comprehension and implementation of our voting guidelines and discuss new type of resolution requiring further guidelines.

During the season, as we re-analyse internally a significant share of the resolutions we vote, we may contact again proxy advisers' analysts to ensure again the good comprehension of involved guidelines or to inform them on guidelines for new type of resolutions, and precise interpretation of the voting guide we provided.



## **STEWARDSHIP: ESCALATION**

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
PGS 36	CORE	OO 8, OO 9	N/A	PUBLIC	Stewardship: Escalation	2

For your listed equity holdings, what escalation measures did your organisation, or the external investment managers or service providers acting on your behalf, use in the past three years?

	(1) Listed equity	(2) Direct listed equity holdings in hedge fund portfolios
(A) Joining or broadening an existing collaborative engagement or creating a new one		V
(B) Filing, co-filing, and/or submitting a shareholder resolution or proposal		
(C) Publicly engaging the entity, e.g. signing an open letter		
(D) Voting against the re-election of one or more board directors		
(E) Voting against the chair of the board of directors, or equivalent, e.g. lead independent director		
(F) Divesting		V
(G) Litigation		
(H) Other		V



## (H) Other - (1) Listed equity - Specify:

We have asked questions at the AGM to address an issue in a more public manner and make other investors aware of our concerns. We may preannounce our voting intentions where we don't follow board voting recommendations for one or more items raising our voice on the involved concern. We may contact market regulator to support change in governance practices or to ask for support in our efforts.

## (H) Other - (2) Direct listed equity holdings in hedge funds portfolios - Specify:

We contacted market regulator to support change in governance practices or to ask for support in our efforts.

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
PGS 37	CORE	Multiple, see guidance	N/A	PUBLIC	Stewardship: Escalation	2

## For your corporate fixed income assets, what escalation measures did your organisation, or the external investment managers or service providers acting on your behalf, use in the past three years?

 $\blacksquare$  (A) Joining or broadening an existing collaborative engagement or creating a new one

- $\blacksquare$  (B) Publicly engaging the entity, e.g. signing an open letter
- ☑ (C) Not investing
- ☑ (D) Reducing exposure to the investee entity
- (E) Divesting
- $\Box$  (F) Litigation
- $\Box$  (G) Other

 $\circ$  (H) In the past three years, we did not use any of the above escalation measures for our corporate fixed income assets

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
PGS 38	PLUS	OO 8, OO 5.3 Fl	N/A	PUBLIC	Stewardship: Escalation	2

## Describe your approach to escalation for your internally managed SSA and/or private debt fixed income assets.

(A) SSA - Approach to escalation



Candriam's ESG Sovereign research process scores countries and defines their eligibility in sustainable portfolios and feeds investment processes of other investment strategies. Escalations cases are less frequent for SSA than for corporates but still exist. Below examples of such escalations, including an example of escalation via collaborative initiative which remains our preferred approach in such situations.

Some countries with high sustainability ranking might have an issue or controversy. In such cases, in accordance with the ESG Sovereign research team and the Debt Portfolio Manager, the ESG engagement team might be tasked with engaging a government on the said specific topic as an escalation, if deemed relevant. While this has not been the case over 2022, it was the case in 2023 when we have engaged a South American government and associated stakeholders, in relation to a recent tax policy related issue impacting negatively its ESG score.

Over systemic issues like climate change, when our ESG country specialists consider some countries are more particularly at risk, and that making governments properly understand our expectations may help to shift the line, it can also be considered as an escalation. In that sense, our active involvement into Investor Policy Dialogue on Deforestation (IPDD) was also an escalation. As for corporates, reduction of position or even ineligibility conducting to progressive or complete divesting is also an option.

## STEWARDSHIP: ENGAGEMENT WITH POLICY MAKERS

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
PGS 39	CORE	OO 8, OO 9	PGS 39.1, PGS 39.2	PUBLIC	Stewardship: Engagement with policy makers	2

Did your organisation, or the external investment managers or service providers acting on your behalf, engage with policy makers as part of your responsible investment approach during the reporting year?

☑ (A) Yes, we engaged with policy makers directly

☑ (B) Yes, we engaged with policy makers through the leadership of or active participation in working groups or collaborative initiatives, including via the PRI

☑ (C) Yes, we were members of, supported, or were in another way affiliated with third party organisations, including trade associations and non-profit organisations, that engage with policy makers, excluding the PRI

• (D) We did not engage with policy makers directly or indirectly during the reporting year beyond our membership in the PRI

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
PGS 39.1	CORE	PGS 39	N/A	PUBLIC	Stewardship: Engagement with policy makers	2

During the reporting year, what methods did you, or the external investment managers or service providers acting on your behalf, use to engage with policy makers as part of your responsible investment approach?

☑ (A) We participated in 'sign-on' letters

(B) We responded to policy consultations

(C) We provided technical input via government- or regulator-backed working groups



## Describe:

In the context of Candriam's representation in the main European asset manager's trade associations, our experts are regularly dialoguing with government or regulatory-backed working groups. This dialogue can take place during dedicated stand-alone interviews or during meetings with other trade association's representatives. As EU Sustainable Finance regulation evolves rapidly, such dialogues have been frequented in the last years. During the reporting year, this has been the case when Candriam's experts have participated to interviews asked by the originator as a follow-up of a public consultation we answered or have been part of working groups for sharing our practices or implementation issues related to the new regulations developments like the EU SFDR L2 implementation, EU ESG ratings regulation, EU Benchmarks surveys, EU Cfe on SRD2 as well as in the case of the revision of the French national SRI label criteria, the AFG guidelines related to the SFDR related Sustainable Investment definition for the French market.

 $\Box$  (D) We engaged policy makers on our own initiative

### □ (E) Other methods

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
PGS 39.2	CORE	PGS 39	N/A	PUBLIC	Stewardship: Engagement with policy makers	2

During the reporting year, did your organisation publicly disclose details of your engagement with policy makers conducted as part of your responsible investment approach, including through external investment managers or service providers?

☑ (A) We publicly disclosed all our policy positions

Add link(s):

https://www.frenchsif.org/isr\_esg/wp-content/uploads/CP-Tribune\_FIR\_SOC-220324.pdf https://finance.ec.europa.eu/document/download/4359d80c-50cd-4e18-bd3d-8393501204fa\_en?filename=2022-esg-ratingsresponses\_en.zip https://csr.candriam.com/pdf/CAND\_CSR-Report-22\_28-July.pdf

☑ (B) We publicly disclosed details of our engagements with policy makers Add link(s):

https://www.candriam.com/en/professional/SysSiteAssets/medias/publications/brochure/commercial-brochures/sri-brochure/voting-and-engagement-report-2022.pdf

 $\circ$  (C) No, we did not publicly disclose details of our engagement with policy makers conducted as part of our responsible investment approach during the reporting year



## **STEWARDSHIP: EXAMPLES**

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
PGS 40	PLUS	OO 8, OO 9	N/A	PUBLIC	Stewardship: Examples	2

Provide examples of stewardship activities that you conducted individually or collaboratively during the reporting year that contributed to desired changes in the investees, policy makers or other entities with which you interacted.

(A) Example 1:

Title of stewardship activity:

KINGSPAN ENGAGEMENT ON GOVERNANCE ISSUES

(1) Led by

- (1) Internally led
- (2) External service provider led
- (3) Led by an external investment manager, real assets third-party operator and/or external property manager
- (2) Primary focus of stewardship activity
  - $\Box$  (1) Environmental factors
  - □ (2) Social factors

☑ (3) Governance factors

- (3) Asset class(es)
  - ✓ (1) Listed equity
  - ☑ (2) Fixed income
  - $\Box$  (3) Private equity
  - $\Box$  (4) Real estate
  - □ (5) Infrastructure
  - □ (6) Hedge funds
  - (7) Forestry
  - (8) Farmland
  - (9) Other

(4) Description of the activity and what was achieved. For collaborative activities, provide detail on your individual contribution.

We engaged Kingspan due to the following concerns:

- 1. the lack of independence in the Nominating Committee and Board of Directors, hindering board's diversity and efficiency.
- 2. The over boarding issue: The chairman of the audit committee was serving on an excessive number of mandates
- 3. The lack of gender (27%) and expertise diversity at the Board level

After several engagements in 2021 and 2022 including dialogues with company and board representatives and votes against some directors and the CEO, we escalated our concerns to some top shareholders and started a collaborative letter.

The company acknowledged our concerns. As a result, in 2022, the over boarding issue has been solved, the Board of Directors is now more than 50% independent and the Nominating Committee is now without executives & more than 50% independent.



(B) Example 2:

Title of stewardship activity:

SAINT GOBAIN Climate Accounting

(1) Led by

- (1) Internally led
- (2) External service provider led
- (3) Led by an external investment manager, real assets third-party operator and/or external property manager
- (2) Primary focus of stewardship activity

(1) Environmental factors

- $\Box$  (2) Social factors
- $\hfill\square$  (3) Governance factors
- (3) Asset class(es)
  - (1) Listed equity
  - (2) Fixed income
  - $\Box$  (3) Private equity
  - $\Box$  (4) Real estate
  - □ (5) Infrastructure
  - □ (6) Hedge funds
  - □ (7) Forestry
  - □ (8) Farmland
  - 🗆 (9) Other

(4) Description of the activity and what was achieved. For collaborative activities, provide detail on your individual contribution.

A CA100+ sub initiative, led by IIGCC since 2019 (Institutional Investors Group on Climate Change, the European coordinator of CA100+), is focusing on accounting practices. Indeed, we believe company accounts should address the financial implications of climate risks in their audits wherever material. As part of this engagement, we targeted the UK and French operations of the 'Big Four' global accounting firms, requesting that they alert shareholders to instances where company accounts are not considering the financial implications of the current decarbonization pathway, the physical impacts from climate change, or the global transition onto a 1.5°C pathway.

Candriam led the dialogue with French branches.

We have also targeted specific CA100+ companies that are lagging in terms of Climate Accounting, as per the CA100+ Climate Accounting and Audit Alignment Assessment done by Carbon Tracker. Candriam has been in particular lead contact for the collaborative engagement with Compagnie de Saint-Gobain SA since 2021, and we have exchanged substantially with the company. We have seen improvements in 2022 in the way they incorporate Climate into their financial statements. Still, we believe it is not sufficient, the company is aware and committed to continue to improve its disclosures. We will closely monitor Saint-Gobain's publications. Candriam actually pre-announced its voting intentions for the company in 2022 to better inform stakeholders of the evolution of the group engagement, and how it was impacting our voting choices.

(C) Example 3:

Title of stewardship activity:

UNILEVER SHAREACTION ENGAGEMENT ON HEALTHY PRODUCTS

- (1) Led by
  - o (1) Internally led
  - (2) External service provider led
  - (3) Led by an external investment manager, real assets third-party operator and/or external property manager
- (2) Primary focus of stewardship activity
- □ (1) Environmental factors
  - ☑ (2) Social factors
  - $\Box$  (3) Governance factors



(3) Asset class(es)

- ☑ (1) Listed equity
- ☑ (2) Fixed income
- $\Box$  (3) Private equity
- □ (4) Real estate
- □ (5) Infrastructure
- $\Box$  (6) Hedge funds
- □ (7) Forestry
- $\Box$  (8) Farmland
- $\Box$  (9) Other

(4) Description of the activity and what was achieved. For collaborative activities, provide detail on your individual contribution.

Governments globally are seeking to combat obesity, which the World Health Organization says has almost tripled since 1975. Increasing regulatory environment and consumer trends demand healthier diets. Healthy products at Unilever represent 17% of its total Food &Beverages (F&B) sales based on 3rd party assessment in 2021. Unilever has its own nutrient profiling model, yet it is unclear if it already meets government-endorsed standards/regulations.

Since 2018, Candriam has been part of the active working group engaging with Unilever in the framework of Access to Nutrition Initiative to improve the group's transparency and practices on nutritional aspects.

In 2019 we engaged specifically and individually with Unilever on sugar matters via a dedicated campaign we led on Sugar Risks in the F&B industry

In spite of progress, Unilever (as other companies from the agri-food industry) falls below our expectation on nutritional matters, and we joined in 2021 the ShareAction-led Healthy Market coalition to co-file a resolution to accelerate the company's tangible actions and send a signal to the whole sector. Few weeks of active engagement with board representatives, R&D representatives started. In 2022, we worked on co-filing a resolution asking for further commitments ahead of the AGM.

In March 2022, Unilever announced its decision to publicly report the performance of its product portfolio against at least six different government-endorsed Nutrient Profile Models, in both volumes and revenues, as well as its own Highest Nutritional Standards. It was the first global food company to take such a commitment and actually started the movement, followed in the next months by Nestlé and Danone.

(D) Example 4:

Title of stewardship activity:

## CHINESE SOLAR COMPANY ENGAGEMENT ON UYGHUR FORCED LABOUR

(1) Led by

## (1) Internally led

- (2) External service provider led
- (3) Led by an external investment manager, real assets third-party operator and/or external property manager
- (2) Primary focus of stewardship activity
  - $\Box$  (1) Environmental factors
  - ☑ (2) Social factors
- $\Box$  (3) Governance factors
- (3) Asset class(es)
  - ☑ (1) Listed equity
  - ☑ (2) Fixed income
  - $\Box$  (3) Private equity
  - $\Box$  (4) Real estate
  - $\Box$  (5) Infrastructure
  - $\Box$  (6) Hedge funds
  - $\Box$  (7) Forestry
  - $\Box$  (8) Farmland
  - $\Box$  (0) f anniant
  - □ (9) Other



(4) Description of the activity and what was achieved. For collaborative activities, provide detail on your individual contribution.

We wish to keep the name of the company confidential as the engagement is still ongoing.

There is mounting evidence of Uyghur forced labour within the upstream part of the Chinese solar panel supply chain. Several known suppliers of this Chinese Solar Company engage in state sponsored "poverty alleviation programs" and "educational programs" targeting Uyghur populations, suspected of being a source of forced labour. We received a worrying response during a first contact in September 2021. We decided to take the lead on the engagement with this company within the Investor Coalition on Uyghur Forced Labour lead by the Investor Alliance on Human Rights.

In May 2022, we had a call with 2 supporting investors and the company's head of compliance where the company detailed their procedures.

The engagement was successful as the company was responsive, showed that procedures had improved recently, that audits at company sites had been completed, that the Supplier Code of Conduct had been strengthened. The Head of compliance was open to further dialogue where we could share best practice and investor expectations. Still greater effort is needed and dialogue is ongoing in 2023.

(E) Example 5:

Title of stewardship activity:

CHEVRON TOTALENERGIES, STOP SUPPORT TO MYANMAR MILITARY JUNTA

- (1) Led by
  - (1) Internally led
  - (2) External service provider led
  - (3) Led by an external investment manager, real assets third-party operator and/or external property manager
- (2) Primary focus of stewardship activity
  - $\Box$  (1) Environmental factors
  - (2) Social factors
  - ☑ (3) Governance factors
- (3) Asset class(es)
  - ☑ (1) Listed equity
  - ☑ (2) Fixed income
  - $\Box$  (3) Private equity
  - $\Box$  (4) Real estate
  - □ (5) Infrastructure
  - □ (6) Hedge funds
  - (7) Forestry
  - (8) Farmland
  - (9) Other

(4) Description of the activity and what was achieved. For collaborative activities, provide detail on your individual contribution.

As a result of the Myanmar military's coup d'etat, both O&G majors were facing significant new risks stemming from their partnership with the state-owned Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise (MOGE), which is under full military control. As investors in the company, we were concerned that inaction by management will increase their exposure to operational,

regulatory, legal, reputational, and financial risks.

We exchanged separately and extensively with both companies. We actively supported the engagement coordinators and more specifically for Chevron, introduced the initiative on the UNPRI platform to attract interest of other investors. While we were supporting feasibility analysis of placing amounts owed as taxes, dividends, and royalties into an escrow account that would be accessible only when a legitimate democratically elected government is in place both groups announced their withdrawal from Myanmar at the beginning of 2022. This can be considered as a partial success.



## **CLIMATE CHANGE**

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
PGS 41	CORE	N/A	PGS 41.1	PUBLIC	Climate change	General

### Has your organisation identified climate-related risks and opportunities affecting your investments?

## ☑ (A) Yes, within our standard planning horizon

Specify the risks and opportunities identified and your relevant standard planning horizon:

At Candriam, we are convinced that climate change is one of the biggest systemic risks facing our economies on the mid and longterm. We also believe that investing in the low-carbon transition can generate significant investment opportunities.

On our standard planning horizon, we have identified the following risks and opportunities:

• Specific sectors and/or assets that are at risk of being stranded: Candriam's in-house ESG assessment framework used since 2008 allows us to identify companies business activities that are incompatible with the Paris Agreement and led to the following decisions:

- Thermal coal: as the most polluting fossil fuel, since 2018, for all investments, companies which are directly or indirectly involved in the thermal coal industry and generate more than 10% (5 % from 2023) of their revenues from coal-based extraction and electricity production are excluded. Companies launching new products are excluded with no minimum revenue threshold applied.

- Oil & Gas: for all SRI marketed products, we exclude companies generating more than 5% of their turnover from conventional or unconventional oil & gas extraction, being production, refining, transport or distribution. We also exclude companies generating more than 50% of revenues from equipment and services dedicated to the oil & gas sector.



- Carbon-intensive utilities: in the utilities sectors, a maximum level of carbon intensity (g CO2/kWh) is fixed in accordance with IEA 1.5 degrees scenario.

Specific sectors and/or assets that are likely to benefit under a range of climate scenarios. Part of our ESG proprietary model (business activity dimension) is based on an in-depth assessment of the positive or negative contribution of issuers' activities to key sustainability challenges, including climate change. We have about 1200 activities that are covered in our ESG model. In addition, we use climate data from C4F in order to assess to what extent each issuer is contributing positively or negatively to reaching the Paris goals. Transition risks are fully integrated in our ESG analysis framework: companies of all sizes within all business sectors face climate change risks. The risks incurred differ in nature and intensity depending on the sector, the business activity and the regional mix. A proprietary climate risks analysis is implemented combining a full understanding of sector climate issues with an indepth analysis of the company business models and climate strategy. The IEA Net Zero scenario is used in the business activity climate assessment and to evaluate the company's climate performance and strategy. The combination of these two dimensions exposure/management allows to assess whether the company is doing enough to mitigate its transition risk. This information is used to limit exposure of our SRI marketed products to transition risks and to target our engagement efforts towards companies' facing the highest transition risks. The IEA Net Zero scenario is used as reference for sectors covered by the IEA. Depending on the credibility of their climate strategy (including targets, strategic planning, capital allocation, governance, risk management), companies are put into 5 categories: "achieving net zero", "aligned to net zero pathway", "aligning towards net zero pathway", "committed to aligning", "not aligned/incompatible". We have set the objective to have 50% of our financed emissions coming from companies assessed as net zero or "aligned to net zero pathway" by 2030. This is the same assessment that helps target our climate engagement efforts and guides our climate voting policy.

• Assets with exposure to direct physical climate risk: At this stage, the physical risks are qualitatively integrated into our climate analysis as well as into our Engagement process. The specific short-term impact of climate change is assessed through continuous monitoring of companies' response to climate change and their exposure to physical risks arising from climate change. This task falls under the mission of our ESG analysts, but also that of each manager called upon to assess the attractiveness of companies within the framework of portfolio management. The medium and long-term exposure of companies to greenhouse gas reduction measures as well as to the physical risks resulting from climate change is monitored through the analysis of company activities and their alignment with climate change on the one hand, and through the active dialogue led by our ESG specialists with companies on the other. We have developed internally a specific assessment tool on water-related risks that is based on asset level data, and include an assessment of present and projected (2030, 2040) water risks, based on WRI Aqueduct and WWF models. This tool is used to assess water related risks in our ESG assessment and to conduct more targeted water-related engagement with high-risk companies.

 $\Box$  (B) Yes, beyond our standard planning horizon

• (C) No, we have not identified climate-related risks and/or opportunities affecting our investments



Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
PGS 41.1	CORE	PGS 41	N/A	PUBLIC	Climate change	General

## Does your organisation integrate climate-related risks and opportunities affecting your investments in its overall investment strategy, financial planning and (if relevant) products?

• (A) Yes, our overall investment strategy, financial planning and (if relevant) products integrate climate-related risks and opportunities

Describe how climate-related risks and opportunities have affected or are expected to affect your investment strategy, financial planning and (if relevant) products:

Climate issues have been part of our ESG consideration since 2008 with Climate change & Resource depletion being the main impacting long term sustainability challenges that must be assessed when considering the business model resilience of investee companies. Combined with the stakeholders management assessment they determine the final ESG score of companies across all sectors and are at the origin of poor ESG score for high impacting sectors. The results of this ESG assessment are used in all fundamental strategies except the hedged funds ones and:

• are embedded in the strategies based on the Best-in-universe and Best-in-class selection (top 50 %/70 %). These strategies cover all asset classes/regions & target a decarbonisation path

- inform the ESG integration process of all fundamental equity & corporate bonds strategies
- all bonds portfolios favour the investment in green/sustainability bonds for a pocket between 5 and 10 %.

Since 2015, Candriam has supported Paris Agreement targets and decided to monitor carbon footprint of its ESG marketed funds that are implementing a strict selection based on Candriam ESG assessment framework and the reduction of exposure to fossil fuels : exclusion of investee companies with > 5 % exposure to coal and to conventional & unconventional oil & gas (including refining, transport and distribution), exclusion of utility companies with a carbon intensity not aligned with the IEA 1.5 degree scenario (374g CO2/kWh in 2022).

Company-wide exclusion policy covering all investments has been extended end 2018.Companies considered as a source of stranded assets in the short to medium term due to the climate change issue are currently excluded across Candriam's investments. This is the case for companies deriving > 5% of revenues from coal.

Aside from this exclusion, ESG integration approach applied to all our Fixed income and Equities investment process and based on the conclusions of our ESG assessment for corporates that are impacted by the climate resilience of companies business model leads to following decisions:

• Fundamental Equity strategies: Energy, Mining & Utilities sectors are structurally underweighted due to the poor perspectives offered by most of investee companies exposed to fossil fuels.

• Quantitative Equity strategies: carbon optimisation approach is implemented across all sectors, low carbon solutions implemented for institutional clients based on a set of climate-related indicators (company's carbon footprint, contribution to energy transition, CO2 of fossil fuels reserves).

• Fixed income corporate process considers climate issue in corporate's credit quality assessment that influence the final credit exposure.

Based on our in-house ESG expertise, dedicated strategies to environmental objectives and open-funds have been proposed to final investors. Investment decisions are directly related to a dedicated framework targeting the environmental thematic which have been developed for Climate change, Circular Economy and Future mobility strategies. More information in our answer to SO 3.3.



The EU SFDR gave us the opportunity to explicitly define targets related to climate change for our products classified as art 8 and 9 (85 % AUM):

• For strategies with an ESG objective (SFDR art9), portfolios target 30 % lower carbon footprint (initially based on scope 1 and 2 emissions, scope 3 being progressively integrated) than the reference benchmark. Fixed income process is also committed to invest 10 % of their portfolio in green bonds with a target at 20 % by 2025. Environmental thematic products are aligned with a 2.5°C temperature with the objective to be aligned with 2°C by 2025.

• For strategies promoting ESG characteristics (SFDR art8), portfolios are committed to have their carbon footprint below this of the reference benchmark.

In 2022, we further integrated climate change at the heart of our ESG strategy by committing to net zero by 2050 with very ambitious 2030 objectives. We joined the NZAMI in November 2021 and have published in April 2023 a new climate strategy including 2030 objectives. The implementation of our net zero strategy started with an initial scope of open funds representing 17 % of our AUM. This is a company-wide commitment involving all teams at Candriam, including ESG, Fund Management, Risk, Data, Reporting. The monitoring of progress is done very regularly to the Sustainability Risk Committee and at least once a year to the Group Strategic Committee.

## • (B) No, our organisation has not yet integrated climate-related risks and opportunities into its investment strategy, financial planning and (if relevant) products

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
PGS 42	PLUS	N/A	N/A	PUBLIC	Climate change	General

#### Which sectors are covered by your organisation's strategy addressing high-emitting sectors?

## (A) Coal

Describe your strategy:

Exclusion driven: We exclude companies that derive more than 5% of their revenues from thermal coal or that develop new coal projects from across our investments.

## ✓ (B) Gas

Describe your strategy:

Exclusion driven: We exclude companies that derive over 5% from gas extraction (conventional and unconventional), processing, transport from our SRI strategies.

Engagement driven: we also conduct dialogue on climate in priority with companies that are carbon intensive and/or face significant climate risks. The oil and gas sector is among priority targets for our collaborative (CA100+) and individual engagement.

## ☑ (C) Oil

Describe your strategy:

Exclusion driven: We exclude companies that derive over 5% revenues from oil extraction, refining, transport, distribution from our SRI strategies.

Engagement driven: we also conduct dialogue on climate in priority with companies that are carbon intensive and/or face significant climate risks. The oil and gas sector is among priority targets for our collaborative (CA100+) and individual engagement.

## (D) Utilities

Describe your strategy:



Selection driven: We exclude companies that produce power with an average carbon intensity above 374g CO2/kWh in 2022 and 354g CO2 kWh in 2023 from our SRI strategies. In addition, carbon reduction targets on SRI strategies limit investment in carbon-intensive companies.

Engagement driven: we also conduct dialogue on climate in priority with companies that are carbon intensive and/or face significant climate risks. The utilities sector is among priority targets for our collaborative (CA100+) and individual engagement.

### (E) Cement

Describe your strategy:

Selection driven: climate-related assessment account for about 50% of the ESG rating of cement companies. As such companies that do not demonstrate a relevant decarbonization strategy are unlikely to reach the SRI eligibility threshold. In addition, carbon reduction targets on SRI strategies limit investment in carbon-intensive companies.

Engagement driven: we also conduct dialogue on climate in priority with companies that are carbon intensive and/or face significant climate risks. The cement sector is among priority targets for our collaborative (CA100+) and individual engagement.

#### ☑ (F) Steel

Describe your strategy:

Selection driven: climate-related assessment account for about 40% of the ESG rating of steel-making companies. As such companies that do not demonstrate a relevant decarbonization strategy are unlikely to reach the SRI eligibility threshold. In addition, carbon reduction targets on SRI strategies limit investment in carbon-intensive companies.

Engagement driven: we also conduct dialogue on climate in priority with companies that are carbon intensive and/or face significant climate risks. The steel sector is among priority targets for our collaborative (CA100+) and individual engagement.

## G (G) Aviation

Describe your strategy:

Selection driven: climate-related assessment account for about 40% of the ESG rating of transport operators, including aviation. As such companies that do not demonstrate a relevant decarbonization strategy are unlikely to reach the SRI eligibility threshold. In addition, carbon reduction targets on SRI strategies limit investment in carbon-intensive companies.

Engagement driven: we also conduct dialogue on climate in priority with companies that are carbon intensive and/or face significant climate risks. The aviation sector is among priority targets for our collaborative (CA100+) and individual engagement.

## ☑ (H) Heavy duty road

Describe your strategy:

Selection driven: climate-related assessment account for about 40% of the ESG rating of heavy duty transport. As such companies that do not demonstrate a relevant decarbonization strategy are unlikely to reach the SRI eligibility threshold. In addition, carbon reduction targets on SRI strategies limit investment in carbon-intensive companies.

Engagement driven: we also conduct dialogue on climate in priority with companies that are carbon intensive and/or face significant climate risks. The heavy duty transport sector is among targeted sectors for our collaborative (CA100+) and individual engagement.

### ☑ (I) Light duty road

Describe your strategy:

Selection driven: climate-related assessment account for about 40% of the ESG rating of automakers. As such companies that do not demonstrate a relevant decarbonization strategy are unlikely to reach the SRI eligibility threshold. In addition, carbon reduction targets on SRI strategies limit investment in carbon-intensive companies.

Engagement driven: we also conduct dialogue on climate in priority with companies that are carbon intensive and/or face significant climate risks. The automotive sector is among priority targets for our collaborative (CA100+) and individual engagement.

## ☑ (J) Shipping



#### Describe your strategy:

Selection driven: climate-related assessment account for about 40% of the ESG rating of transport operators, including shipping. As such companies that do not demonstrate a relevant decarbonization strategy are unlikely to reach the SRI eligibility threshold. In addition, carbon reduction targets on SRI strategies limit investment in carbon-intensive companies.

#### (K) Aluminium

### Describe your strategy

Selection driven: climate -related assessment account for about 40% of the ESG rating of aluminium-making companies. As such companies that do not demonstrate a relevant decarbonization strategy are unlikely to reach the SRI eligibility threshold. In addition, carbon reduction targets on SRI strategies limit investment in carbon-intensive companies.

Engagement driven: we also conduct dialogue on climate in priority with companies that are carbon intensive and/or face significant climate risks. The aluminium sector is among priority targets for our collaborative (CA100+) and individual engagement.

#### ☑ (L) Agriculture, forestry, fishery

Describe your strategy:

Selection driven: climate-related assessment account for about 25% of the ESG rating of food and beverage companies. As such companies that do not demonstrate a relevant decarbonization strategy will be impacted in their ESG rating and could be challenged for SRI eligibility. In addition, carbon reduction targets on SRI strategies limit investment in carbon-intensive companies. Engagement driven: we also conduct dialogue on climate in priority with companies that are carbon intensive and/or face significant climate risks. The food & beverage sector is among priority targets for our collaborative (CA100+) and individual engagement.

#### (M) Chemicals

Describe your strategy:

Selection driven: climate-related assessment account for about 30% of the ESG rating of chemicals. As such companies that do not demonstrate a relevant decarbonization strategy will be impacted in their ESG rating and could be challenged for SRI eligibility. In addition, carbon reduction targets on SRI strategies limit investment in carbon-intensive companies. Engagement driven: we also conduct dialogue on climate in priority with companies that are carbon intensive and/or face significant climate risks. The chemicals sector is among priority targets for our collaborative (CA100+) and individual engagement.

#### (N) Construction and buildings

Describe your strategy:

Selection driven: climate-related assessment account for about 25% of the ESG rating of real estate companies. As such companies that do not demonstrate a relevant decarbonization strategy will be impacted in their ESG rating and could be challenged for SRI eligibility. In addition, carbon reduction targets on SRI strategies limit investment in carbon-intensive companies. Engagement driven: we also conduct dialogue on climate in priority with companies that are carbon intensive and/or face significant climate risks. The construction and building sector is among targeted sectors for our collaborative (CA100+) and individual engagement.

### (O) Textile and leather

### Describe your strategy:

Selection driven: climate-related assessment account for about 30% of the ESG rating of textile companies. As such companies that do not demonstrate a relevant decarbonization strategy will be impacted in their ESG rating and could be challenged for SRI eligibility.

#### ☑ (P) Water

Describe your strategy:



Selection driven: climate-related assessment account for about 40% of the ESG rating of water utilities. As such companies that do not demonstrate a relevant decarbonization strategy are unlikely to reach the SRI eligibility threshold. In addition, carbon reduction targets on SRI strategies limit investment in carbon-intensive companies.

Engagement driven: we also conduct dialogue on climate in priority with companies that are carbon intensive and/or face significant climate risks. The waste & water sector is among targeted sectors for our collaborative (CA100+) and individual engagement.

□ (Q) Other

• (R) We do not have a strategy addressing high-emitting sectors

### Provide a link(s) to your strategy(ies), if available

https://www.candriam.com/en/professional/SysSiteAssets/medias/publications/brochure/corporate-brochures-and-reports/exclusion-policy/candriam-exclusion-policy.pdf

https://www.candriam.com/en/professional/SysSiteAssets/medias/insights/esg/climate-strategy/climate\_strategy\_gb.pdf

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
PGS 43	CORE	N/A	N/A	PUBLIC	Climate change	General

Has your organisation assessed the resilience of its investment strategy in different climate scenarios, including one in which the average temperature rise is held to below 2 degrees Celsius (preferably to 1.5 degrees Celsius) above preindustrial levels?

□ (A) Yes, using the Inevitable Policy Response Forecast Policy Scenario (FPS) or Required Policy Scenario (RPS)

 $\Box$  (B) Yes, using the One Earth Climate Model scenario

☑ (C) Yes, using the International Energy Agency (IEA) Net Zero scenario

 $\Box$  (D) Yes, using other scenarios

• (E) No, we have not assessed the resilience of our investment strategy in different climate scenarios, including one that holds temperature rise to below 2 degrees

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
PGS 44	CORE	N/A	N/A	PUBLIC	Climate change	General

## Does your organisation have a process to identify, assess, and manage the climate-related risks (potentially) affecting your investments?

☑ (A) Yes, we have a process to identify and assess climate-related risks

(1) Describe your process



We have developed an internal proprietary model to assess the specific transition risks faced by issuers in high-stake sectors. This tool allows us to identify the companies that are likely to face high risks related to the transition to a net zero world, such as the risk of stranded assets or the risk of seeing their business outlook impacted by climate-related regulation.

The model combines the expertise of our ESG team and our quantitative team. It is based on both the company's specific exposure to transition risks, linked to its activities and countries of operation, and its management of climate risks.

Our proprietary analysis tool identifies and measures the transition risks faced by companies. The analysis is carried out at the level of individual issuers and combines two dimensions:

• The exposure to transition risks, which combines the assessment of the impacts of the companies' activities on climate with the company's geographical footprint. Various activities face various level of transition risks depending on where they are located and the nature and speed of the transition in each region or country.

• The corporates' climate strategy, which assesses the quality and credibility of companies' climate strategy and how they manage their transition risks.

These two factors result in a companies' ranking according to their management of transition risks in five categories: Highly insufficient / Insufficient / Average / Good / Excellent. This assessment feeds our investment analysis and is used to target our engagement efforts: we prioritise the companies facing the highest risks.

As signatory to the NZAMi in November 2021, Candriam committed itself to "Implement a stewardship and engagement strategy, with a clear escalation and voting policy, that is consistent with our ambition for all assets under management to achieve net zero emissions by 2050 or sooner". Our goal is to encourage our investee companies to align their activities with a pathway to limiting global warming to 1.5°C over several years. Among the intermediate target set, we are committed that by 2030, 50% of Candriam "financed emissions [will be] assessed as "Net Zero" or "Aligned to a Net Zero pathway". We have developed a clear multi-step engagement programme focusing on accompanying our investee companies on their decarbonization journey. This has been validated by our Stewardship workstream and presented to our Global Strategic Committee.

(2) Describe how this process is integrated into your overall risk management

Transition risk assessment are available to all analyst and portfolio managers. For some SRI strategies, companies that face the highest transition risks are not eligible to investment. Investee companies facing the highest transition risks are also priority targets of our climate engagement.

The Risk team is in charge of monitoring climate-related exclusions, and the achievement of climate-related objectives for all relevant investment strategies. The Sustainability Risk Committee is regularly updated by the ESG team on the main identified ESG risks, including the climate-related ones. Escalation process leading to engagement actions or portfolio divestment is also under its responsibility.

### (B) Yes, we have a process to manage climate-related risks

#### (1) Describe your process

Transition risk assessment are available to all analyst and portfolio managers. For some SRI strategies, companies that face the highest transition risks are not eligible to investment. Investee companies facing the highest transition risks are also priority targets of our climate engagement.

In addition, all relevant SRI strategies (excluding monetary and social thematics) have carbon reduction objectives in place that allow to avoid the most carbon intensive companies.

As part of our Net Zero commitment, we have set several objectives to mitigate exposure to climate risks:

Engage: we have set the objective to engage with companies accounting for at least 70% of our financed emissions by 2030

- Aligning our investment with net zero: we have set the objective of having at least 50% of our financed emissions coming from companies assessed as "Net Zero" or "Aligned to net zero pathways" by 2030

- Emissions Reduction targets: we have set the objective of reducing our average Weighted Average Carbon Intensity (WACI) by at least 50% by 2030.

- Financing the ecological transition: measuring and maximizing the share of our investments contributing positively to the transition by 2030.



More specifically, our engagement actions related to our portfolio decarbonization targets is to support our investee companies, and not to immediately divest if we determine that their progress is not 1.5°C aligned. For this purpose, we identified the 50 issuers which make the largest contribution to Candriam's portfolio WACI. We categorized these issuers into three priority groups. We will have a 'route point' in 2025 to perform a global assessment of the progress, and to decide how we deal with the laggards, if there are any. An exception to this 'accompany rather than divest' principle may occur in cases where we have engaged with a company for years, expressing our discontent, and that company has nevertheless consistently refused to take action to adopt a 1.5°C pathway. Of course we have several intermediary escalation measures to show companies that we expect more:

• Filing shareholder resolutions.

• Bringing other interested investors to the conversation to increase leverage with the company.

• Active Proxy Voting. We have a new dedicated section in our Candriam Voting Policy on climate, where we detail how mismanagement of climate risks will impact our voting. We will also preannounce our voting intentions ahead of selected AGMs to highlight and publicise our position on certain proposals.

(2) Describe how this process is integrated into your overall risk management

The Risk team is in charge of monitoring climate-related exclusions, and the achievement of climate-related objectives for all relevant investment strategies.

The implementation of our net zero strategy is a company-wide commitment involving all teams at Candriam, including ESG, Fund Management, Risk, Data, Reporting, that are all contributing to the development of the necessary tools and monitoring process. The monitoring of progress is done very regularly to the Sustainability Risk Committee and at least once a year to the Group Strategic Committee.

• (C) No, we do not have any processes to identify, assess, or manage the climate-related risks affecting our investments

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
PGS 45	CORE	N/A	N/A	PUBLIC	Climate change	General

## During the reporting year, which of the following climate risk metrics or variables affecting your investments did your organisation use and disclose?

 $\Box$  (A) Exposure to physical risk

- (B) Exposure to transition risk
  - (1) Indicate whether this metric or variable was used and disclosed, including the methodology
    - $\circ$  (1) Metric or variable used
    - (2) Metric or variable used and disclosed
    - (3) Metric or variable used and disclosed, including methodology
  - (2) Provide link to the disclosed metric or variable, including the methodology followed, as applicable

https://www.candriam.com/en/professional/SysSiteAssets/medias/insights/esg/climate-strategy/climate\_strategy\_gb.pdf

- $\Box$  (C) Internal carbon price
- ☑ (D) Total carbon emissions
  - (1) Indicate whether this metric or variable was used and disclosed, including the methodology
    - $\circ~$  (1) Metric or variable used
    - $\circ~$  (2) Metric or variable used and disclosed
    - (3) Metric or variable used and disclosed, including methodology
  - (2) Provide link to the disclosed metric or variable, including the methodology followed, as applicable



https://www.candriam.com/en/professional/SysSiteAssets/medias/insights/sfdrpublications/2023 06 30 pais qualitative reporting gb.pdf

### (E) Weighted average carbon intensity

- (1) Indicate whether this metric or variable was used and disclosed, including the methodology
  - $\circ$  (1) Metric or variable used
  - $\circ~$  (2) Metric or variable used and disclosed
  - (3) Metric or variable used and disclosed, including methodology
- (2) Provide link to the disclosed metric or variable, including the methodology followed, as applicable

https://csr.candriam.com/pdf/CAND\_CSR-Report-22\_28-July.pdf

- $\Box$  (F) Avoided emissions
- ☑ (G) Implied Temperature Rise (ITR)
  - (1) Indicate whether this metric or variable was used and disclosed, including the methodology
    - (1) Metric or variable used
    - (2) Metric or variable used and disclosed
    - (3) Metric or variable used and disclosed, including methodology
  - (2) Provide link to the disclosed metric or variable, including the methodology followed, as applicable

https://www.candriam.com/documents/candriam/article\_208/en/document.pdf

- □ (H) Non-ITR measure of portfolio alignment with UNFCCC Paris Agreement goals
- ☑ (I) Proportion of assets or other business activities aligned with climate-related opportunities
  - (1) Indicate whether this metric or variable was used and disclosed, including the methodology
    - $\circ$  (1) Metric or variable used
    - $\circ~$  (2) Metric or variable used and disclosed
    - (3) Metric or variable used and disclosed, including methodology
  - (2) Provide link to the disclosed metric or variable, including the methodology followed, as applicable

https://csr.candriam.com/pdf/CAND\_CSR-Report-22\_28-July.pdf

☑ (J) Other metrics or variables Specify:

Exposure to fossil fuels

- (1) Indicate whether this metric or variable was used and disclosed, including the methodology
  - (1) Metric or variable used
  - (2) Metric or variable used and disclosed
  - (3) Metric or variable used and disclosed, including methodology
- (2) Provide link to the disclosed metric or variable, including the methodology followed, as applicable

https://www.candriam.com/en/professional/SysSiteAssets/medias/insights/sfdrpublications/2023 06 30 pais qualitative reporting gb.pdf

• (K) Our organisation did not use or disclose any climate risk metrics or variables affecting our investments during the reporting year



Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
PGS 46	CORE	N/A	N/A	PUBLIC	Climate change	General

During the reporting year, did your organisation disclose its Scope 1, Scope 2, and/or Scope 3 greenhouse gas emissions?

#### ☑ (A) Scope 1 emissions

- (1) Indicate whether this metric was disclosed, including the methodology
  - (1) Metric disclosed
  - (2) Metric and methodology disclosed
- (2) Provide links to the disclosed metric and methodology, as applicable

https://csr.candriam.com/pdf/CAND\_CSR-Report-22\_28-July.pdf

### (B) Scope 2 emissions

- (1) Indicate whether this metric was disclosed, including the methodology
  - (1) Metric disclosed
  - (2) Metric and methodology disclosed
- (2) Provide links to the disclosed metric and methodology, as applicable

https://csr.candriam.com/pdf/CAND\_CSR-Report-22\_28-July.pdf

### C) Scope 3 emissions (including financed emissions)

- (1) Indicate whether this metric was disclosed, including the methodology
  - (1) Metric disclosed
  - (2) Metric and methodology disclosed
- (2) Provide links to the disclosed metric and methodology, as applicable

https://csr.candriam.com/pdf/CAND\_CSR-Report-22\_28-July.pdf https://www.candriam.com/en/professional/SysSiteAssets/medias/insights/sfdrpublications/2023\_06\_30\_pais\_qualitative\_reporting\_gb.pdf https://www.candriam.com/en/professional/SysSiteAssets/medias/insights/sfdr-publications/sfdr-esg-impact-indicatorsdefinitions\_en.pdf

• (D) Our organisation did not disclose its Scope 1, Scope 2, or Scope 3 greenhouse gas emissions during the reporting year



### SUSTAINABILITY OUTCOMES

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
PGS 47	CORE	N/A	Multiple indicators	PUBLIC	Sustainability outcomes	1, 2

Has your organisation identified the intended and unintended sustainability outcomes connected to its investment activities?

(A) Yes, we have identified one or more specific sustainability outcomes connected to our investment activities

• (B) No, we have not yet identified the sustainability outcomes connected to any of our investment activities

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
PGS 47.1	CORE	PGS 47	N/A	PUBLIC	Sustainability outcomes	1, 2

Which widely recognised frameworks has your organisation used to identify the intended and unintended sustainability outcomes connected to its investment activities?

☑ (A) The UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and targets

(B) The UNFCCC Paris Agreement

☑ (C) The UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (UNGPs)

☑ (D) OECD frameworks: OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises and Guidance on Responsible Business

**Conduct for Institutional Investors** 

- □ (E) The EU Taxonomy
- $\Box$  (F) Other relevant taxonomies
- ☑ (G) The International Bill of Human Rights
- (H) The International Labour Organization's Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work and the eight core conventions

☑ (I) The Convention on Biological Diversity

- $\Box$  (J) Other international framework(s)
- $\Box$  (K) Other regional framework(s)

□ (L) Other sectoral/issue-specific framework(s)

 $\circ$  (M) Our organisation did not use any widely recognised frameworks to identify the intended and unintended sustainability outcomes connected to its investment activities

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
PGS 47.2	CORE	PGS 47	PGS 48	PUBLIC	Sustainability outcomes	1, 2



## What are the primary methods that your organisation has used to determine the most important intended and unintended sustainability outcomes connected to its investment activities?

- (A) Identify sustainability outcomes that are closely linked to our core investment activities
- (B) Consult with key clients and/or beneficiaries to align with their priorities

☑ (C) Assess which actual or potential negative outcomes for people are most severe based on their scale, scope, and irremediable character

Identify sustainability outcomes that are closely linked to systematic sustainability issues

(E) Analyse the input from different stakeholders (e.g. affected communities, civil society, trade unions or similar)

 $\Box$  (F) Understand the geographical relevance of specific sustainability outcome objectives

□ (G) Other method

• (H) We have not yet determined the most important sustainability outcomes connected to our investment activities

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
PGS 48	CORE	PGS 47.2	PGS 48.1, SO 1	PUBLIC	Sustainability outcomes	1, 2

Has your organisation taken action on any specific sustainability outcomes connected to its investment activities, including to prevent and mitigate actual and potential negative outcomes?

(A) Yes, we have taken action on some of the specific sustainability outcomes connected to our investment activities

• (B) No, we have not yet taken action on any specific sustainability outcomes connected to our investment activities

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
PGS 48.1	PLUS	PGS 48	N/A	PUBLIC	Sustainability outcomes	1, 2

Why has your organisation taken action on specific sustainability outcomes connected to its investment activities?

☑ (A) We believe that taking action on sustainability outcomes is relevant to our financial risks and returns over both short- and long-term horizons

□ (B) We believe that taking action on sustainability outcomes, although not yet relevant to our financial risks and returns, will become so over a long-time horizon

 $\Box$  (C) We have been requested to do so by our clients and/or beneficiaries

☑ (D) We want to prepare for and respond to legal and regulatory developments that are increasingly addressing sustainability outcomes

(E) We want to protect our reputation, particularly in the event of negative sustainability outcomes connected to investments

(F) We want to enhance our social licence-to-operate (i.e. the trust of beneficiaries, clients, and other stakeholders)

 $\Box$  (G) We believe that taking action on sustainability outcomes in parallel to financial return goals has merit in its own right  $\Box$  (H) Other



### **HUMAN RIGHTS**

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
PGS 49	PLUS	PGS 47	PGS 49.1	PUBLIC	Human rights	1, 2

## During the reporting year, what steps did your organisation take to identify and take action on the actual and potentially negative outcomes for people connected to your investment activities?

## ☑ (A) We assessed the human rights context of our potential and/or existing investments and projected how this could connect our organisation to negative human rights outcomes

Explain how these activities were conducted:

As described in our Human Rights Policy, a proper Human Rights Governance is in place to ensure actions take place in a specific and well managed framework:

Candriam's Group Strategic Committee oversees Candriam's due diligence approach for Climate and Human Rights risks,

- including the elaboration and review of appropriate policies
- Candriam BoM and BoD validate the relevant critical policies
- More specifically for Candriam's Investment activities, the Sustainability Risk Committee oversees and steers the management of extra-financial risks and validates the Human Rights methodology applied.

We believe actions must be taken on pre and post investment decision basis as Human Rights risks can materialise at the time of the analysis for investment decision and during the life of the investment.

Candriam developed its in-house ESG Framework using data from various data providers to choose the most adapted ones. The corporate ESG Framework is built from the various sector models which reflect the actual risks and opportunities, as well as challenges of each sector, incl. the Human Rights.

This Framework is structured around two pillars that constitute the pre-investment steps:

- Negative Screening
- Norms-based assessment: evaluates corporates' compliance with international norms and standards, incl. those pertaining to Human Rights, monitors and evaluates any incidents.

• Controversial activities analysis: companies' business activities are examined to identify the issuers that are: (1) active in oppressive regimes (2) exposed to controversial activities that can have meaningful implications in terms of Human Rights violations.

- Fundamental analysis
- Business Activity: assesses the extent to which a company's business activities, products/ services are exposed to and contribute, positively or negatively, to key sustainability challenges.

• Stakeholder management analysis: evaluation of issuers ability to sustainably incorporate stakeholder interests into their long-term strategy, and their potential positive or negative impact on these stakeholders.

As a responsible asset manager, Candriam is committed to (1) protect investment portfolios from systemic and/or reputational risks related to investment in controversial activities in line with the UN Global compact and adherence to the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights. (2) reduce the exposure to stranded assets, litigation risks, and further negative financial impact(s) following a regulation and/or social norms. We exclude issuers that are in breach of the United Nations Global Compact covering Human &, Labour Rights, Anti-Corruption and Environment. We rule out issuers involved in controversial activities such as controversial weapons, tobacco, thermal coal and oppressive regime. We apply an additional screening on Palm Oil involvement.



Candriam also developed its own Sovereign ESG Framework, based on

- Negative Screening: we do not invest in debt instruments from sovereign or quasi-sovereign entities that are on the Candriam Oppressive Regimes List, which contains severe Human Rights violators. We implement exclusions pertaining to the Financial Action Task Force "Call for Action" List and Freedom in the World Index "Not Free" list. We may also apply discretionary exclusions proposed by the ESG Team and validated by Sustainability Risk Committee

- Fundamental Analysis: This delves into the four forms of sovereign capital and their sustainable development: Human Capital, Social Capital, Natural Capital, and Economic Capital. The Natural Capital is used as a multiplier to reflect the potential negative and irreversible impact when creating value to the other three Capital. The analysis results in scores integrated into our investment strategies through guidelines and rules defined for different types of funds and mandates.

Identifying the risks during the life of investment is pivotal to ensure our investment comply to Candriam's and our clients' values. To guarantee this compliance as best as possible, policies and monitoring comprise:

- Candriam's ESG Investment Policy
- Implementation of ESG results within the portfolios
- Continuous monitoring by our ESG Framework
- ESG performance monitoring at portfolio level
- Review and monitoring by the Sustainability Risk Committee

Finally, Engagement & Voting help mitigating and overcome the issues and risks related to Human Rights. Our activity linked to Human Rights has grown considerably over the past years and our policy incorporates Human Rights risks for several years now. This translates into closer attention paid to AGMs of issuers where Human Rights risks are considered as salient. Our engagement efforts are very active in the field of Human Rights both in direct engagements as well as lead and active participation in collaborative initiatives in the field of human rights.

More details are available under our Human Rights Policy, Engagement & voting reports.

# □ (B) We assessed whether individuals at risk or already affected might be at heightened risk of harm ☑ (C) We consulted with individuals and groups who were at risk or already affected, their representatives and/or other relevant stakeholders such as human rights experts

Explain how these activities were conducted:

As part of our stewardship activities, we have engaged with various NGOs, academics who have helped us to better understand the impacts of our investee issuers on Human Rights. For example, we have spoken to Human Rights activists and NGOs about Facial Recognition technology and Artificial Intelligence, Uyghur Forced Labour, but also Union Representatives of various companies involved in labour right violations. These dialogues give us better insight into the risks to Human Rights and therefore help us with our ESG analysis of companies but also to clearly communicate expectations of improvements we want to see at investee companies.

More details on these engagements can be found in our Annual Engagement and Voting Report 2022 as well as in our report on Best Practice in Facial Recognition from Sept 2022

(https://www.candriam.com/en/professional/SysSiteAssets/medias/publications/brochure/research-papers/facial-recognition/2022\_09\_candriam-frt-best-practice---web.pdf).

Links:

https://www.candriam.com/en/professional/SysSiteAssets/medias/publications/brochure/commercial-brochures/sri-brochure/voting-and-engagement-report-2022.pdf

https://marketingcatalog.intranet-

candriam.net/SiteCollectionDocuments/Publications/Product%20Sheet/2021\_03\_Facial\_Recognition\_EN\_WEB.pdf

 $\Box$  (D) We took other steps to assess and manage the actual and potentially negative outcomes for people connected to our investment activities



• (E) We did not identify and take action on the actual and potentially negative outcomes for people connected to any of our investment activities during the reporting year

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
PGS 49.1	PLUS	PGS 49	N/A	PUBLIC	Human rights	1, 2

## During the reporting year, which stakeholder groups did your organisation include when identifying and taking action on the actual and potentially negative outcomes for people connected to your investment activities?

### ☑ (A) Workers

Sector(s) for which each stakeholder group was included

- □ (1) Energy
- $\Box$  (2) Materials
- ☑ (3) Industrials
- ☑ (4) Consumer discretionary
- $\Box$  (5) Consumer staples
- ☑ (6) Healthcare
- □ (7) Finance
- $\Box$  (8) Information technology
- $\Box$  (9) Communication services
- 🗆 (10) Utilities
- $\Box$  (11) Real estate

### (B) Communities

Sector(s) for which each stakeholder group was included

- (1) Energy
- ☑ (2) Materials
- ☑ (3) Industrials
- ☑ (4) Consumer discretionary
- **☑** (5) Consumer staples
- □ (6) Healthcare
- $\Box$  (7) Finance

### ☑ (8) Information technology

- $\Box$  (9) Communication services
- □ (10) Utilities
- $\Box$  (11) Real estate

### ☑ (C) Customers and end-users

Sector(s) for which each stakeholder group was included

- □ (1) Energy
- $\Box$  (2) Materials
- $\Box$  (3) Industrials
- $\Box$  (4) Consumer discretionary
- $\Box$  (5) Consumer staples
- $\Box$  (6) Healthcare
- $\Box$  (7) Finance
- ☑ (8) Information technology
- $\Box$  (9) Communication services
- (10) Utilities
- □ (11) Real estate
- $\Box$  (D) Other stakeholder groups



Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
PGS 49.2	PLUS	PGS 47	N/A	PUBLIC	Human rights	1, 2

## During the reporting year, what information sources did your organisation use to identify the actual and potentially negative outcomes for people connected to its investment activities?

### ☑ (A) Corporate disclosures

Provide further detail on how your organisation used these information sources:

Candriam is willing to use any available report from investee companies to identify actual and potential outcomes on Human Rights, as well as assess the consistency of the company in regard to Human Rights outcomes. We use the following documents (not limited to and when available):

- Annual and semi-annual report
- ESG Progress Report
- Corporate Social Responsibility Report
- Investor Day Presentation
- Human Rights Progress Report
- Human Rights Policy
- Corporate Code of Conduct
- Suppliers code of conduct

### (B) Media reports

Provide further detail on how your organisation used these information sources:

Our ESG Analysts Team keep an eye on the press to be aware of any news that could impact an investee in portfolio or within our investible universe. To that extend, they are looking at any press article or press release, as it is usually the way controversies are revealed.

### (C) Reports and other information from NGOs and human rights institutions

Provide further detail on how your organisation used these information sources:

At Candriam, we believe reports and any information from NGOs and human rights-related institutions should be strongly considered and thus any information we can get from the below documents is of value (including but not limited to):

- Public research/analysis from NGOs and Human Rights institutions (e.g., UNGC, OECD, Council of Europe...)
- Business and Human Rights Resource Center
- KnowTheChain
- Institute for Human Rights and Business
- The Danish Institute for Human Rights
- Corporates Human Rights Benchmark

### ☑ (D) Country reports, for example, by multilateral institutions, e.g. OECD, World Bank

Provide further detail on how your organisation used these information sources:



At country level, we are using international institutions materials to identify negative outcomes on Human Rights. We use documents such as:

- World Bank's reports and publications
- Working Groups publications
- Database
- Freedom House
- Human Rights Country Reports
- EU Annual Reports on Human Rights and Democracy
- US Department of Labor List of Goods Produced by Child Labor or forced Labor

#### (E) Data provider scores or benchmarks

Provide further detail on how your organisation used these information sources:

Candriam use external ESG data providers such as MSCI and Sustainalytics, We also use the Corporate Human Rights Benchmark, the World Benchmarking Alliance and the Ranking Digital Rights Index (for both analysis and engagement purposes).

#### ☑ (F) Human rights violation alerts

Provide further detail on how your organisation used these information sources:

ESG data providers we have a commercial agreement with, as well as Freedom House or Business and Human Rights Resource Center

### □ (G) Sell-side research

#### (H) Investor networks or other investors

Provide further detail on how your organisation used these information sources:

We participate to many collective engagements on the subject of human rights. The information gathered via dialogues and seminars help to feed our ESG research.

For more details, please refer to pages 41 to 45 of our 2022 engagement report: https://www.candriam.com/en/professional/SysSiteAssets/medias/publications/brochure/commercial-brochures/sri-brochure/votingand-engagement-report-2022.pdf

We also use, the following networks but not limited to : the Workforce disclosure Initiative, Access to Nutrition Initiative, Investor Alliance for Human Rights.

#### ☑ (I) Information provided directly by affected stakeholders or their representatives

Provide further detail on how your organisation used these information sources:

Through our Stewardship activities we often hear the testimonies of affected workers through union representative and communities through NGOs. This information feeds our ESG research.

- $\Box$  (J) Social media analysis
- □ (K) Other

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
PGS 50	PLUS	PGS 47	N/A	PUBLIC	Human rights	1, 2

## During the reporting year, did your organisation, directly or through influence over investees, enable access to remedy for people affected by negative human rights outcomes connected to your investment activities?

 $\Box$  (A) Yes, we enabled access to remedy directly for people affected by negative human rights outcomes we caused or contributed to through our investment activities



### (B) Yes, we used our influence to ensure that our investees provided access to remedies for people affected by negative human rights outcomes we were linked to through our investment activities Describe:

At Candriam, we believe Human Rights are a pivotal factor to a sustainable future. To have a greater positive impact and/or progress, the three steps (prevent, mitigate and remediate) of access to remedy for people for corporates should be considered bottom-up and top-down in the means, and simultaneously at investor and investee level. Altogether, our Policies, our ESG Framework and Engagement with investees are the cornerstone of the access to remedy for people and the respect of Human Rights:

- Prevent: our proprietary ESG Framework assesses potential and/or actual Human Rights-related risks. This through the four pillars of our corporate methodology (norms-based, controversial activities, business activities and stakeholders). The consideration of SFDR -Principal Adverse Impacts, with the Do No Significant Harm feature, assist good practices and thus prevention of negative outcomes on Human Rights. Candriam Corporate policies (e.g., Human Rights Policy, ESG Integration Policy) help to prevent from negative outcomes in relation to Human rights, as they define rules and good practices put in place within the investor/investee company. Our engagement activities also support implementation of due diligence aligned with UN Guiding Principles at our investees.

- Mitigate: to help mitigate negative outcomes related to Human Rights and based on our ESG Framework, we exclude risky issuers from our investments for non-compliance to our ESG criteria. On the investee side, the Human rights Due Diligence process we support insist on the importance of independent audit process as a way to mitigate negative outcomes by identifying the risks and determining the potential/actual actions to be taken in case it materializes.

- Remediate: Engagement & Voting is the way to remediate to negative outcomes on Human Rights for both investors and investees. Investors use Engagement & Voting with investees to support and/or influence the practices for improved access to remedy.

As a responsible asset manager, all of the above are considered when it comes to Human Rights. We also understand the key role engagement is playing in regard to Human Rights, and shift towards a more social world improving on Human Rights.

Candriam engages with companies directly and collaboratively about "remedy for people" affected by negative Human Rights outcomes. When engaging companies on Human Rights, we often voice our expectations of best practices, such as having strong procedures to offer effective access to remedy to those negatively affected by the company's operations, products or services. As an example, we have engaged a French company, Teleperformance, for several years on Human Rights abuse and controversial working conditions. This engagement has led us to discuss with employees, union representative and the company officials to understand the company's human capital management. We have discussed remedy extensively with the management. For more information please read the Teleperformance Active Engagement July 2020 Case Study (https://www.candriam.com/en-fr/professional/SysSiteAssets/medias/publications/sustainable-

investment/teleperformance/2020\_07\_teleperformance\_engagement\_en\_web.pdf) and Teleperformance Engagement Update February 2023 (https://www.candriam.com/en-fr/professional/SysSiteAssets/medias/publications/sustainableinvestment/teleperformance/2023 02 teleperformance update engagement en web.pdf).

As another example, we have engaged with a well-known Human Rights NGO regarding a US social media company on the implication of such social media platform in the persecution of members of the Rohingya minority in Myanmar in 2017. Access to remedy was intensely discussed during this engagement with impacted community. All this exchanges will feed our future engagement with the US social media company.

• (C) No, we did not enable access to remedy directly, or through the use of influence over investees, for people affected by negative human rights outcomes connected to our investment activities during the reporting year



# LISTED EQUITY (LE)

### **OVERALL APPROACH**

### **MATERIALITY ANALYSIS**

ndicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
LE 1	CORE	00 21	N/A	PUBLIC	Materiality analysis	1
Does your orga listed equity st	anisation have a formal trategies?	investment proce	ess to identify	and incorporate	material ESG factor	s across your
		(1) Passive e	equity	(2) Active - quant	itative (3) Active	- fundamental
• •	investment process material governance	(1) for all of ou	Ir AUM	(1) for all of our <i>i</i>	AUM (1) for al	l of our AUM
incorporates	investment process material al and social factors	(1) for all of ou	Ir AUM	(1) for all of our <i>i</i>	AUM (1) for al	l of our AUM
incorporates	investment process material ESG factors organisation's average olding period	(2) for a majorit AUM	y of our	(1) for all of our <i>i</i>	AUM (1) for al	l of our AUM
process. Our	s identify material ESG	o		0		0
informal proc	o not have a formal or cess to identify and naterial ESG factors	0		0		0



### **MONITORING ESG TRENDS**

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle	
LE 2	CORE	00 21	N/A	PUBLIC	Monitoring ESG trends	1	
Does your organisation have a formal process for monitoring and reviewing the implications of changing ESG trend across your listed equity strategies?							
		(1) Passive (	equity (	2) Active - quan	titative (3) A	ctive - fundamental	
	(A) Yes, we have a formal process that includes scenario analyses		ur AUM	(1) for all of our	AUM (1)	(1) for all of our AUM	
. ,	nave a formal process, ot include scenario						
process for o strategies; ou professionals	ot have a formal our listed equity our investment is monitor how ESG over time at their	ο		O		O	
	ot monitor and review ons of changing ESG r listed equity	O		o		0	

(A) Yes, we have a formal process that includes scenario analysis - Specify: (Voluntary)



The monitoring and review of the implications of the ESG trends is included both in our Best-in-Universe corporate and sovereign approaches, as well as in our ESG integration frameworks within the equity investment process. As part of the calculation of the ESG score, the team analyses the business activities of a company. Companies are exposed to major long-term ESG trends that can strongly influence the environment in which they operate and that may shape their future market challenges and long-term growth. We have identified five key sustainability trends that include Climate change, Resource Depletion, Digitalisation, Health and Wellness and Demographic Evolution. We group companies based on the industry or sector in which each company operates, its geographic location, business model. We determine the degree to which each industry group is exposed to the five major ESG trends, and score them from 0 to +100, based on relevance and materiality. We assess a company exposure, through its revenue generation, assets, CAPEX etc., to the five key trends. Based on the conclusions of the sector Business Activities Analysis, all the company's exposures to the major sustainable development trends/ challenges specific to its sector are evaluated and scored.

The latest ESG trends and specifically regulations that have an impact on issuers and segments (different sectors or regions) are also source of revision of our exclusion policy. Furthermore, when assessing a particular sector (like the Autos for example), we take into account the compliance around the 2-degree scenario that each company will be subjected to while trying to understand how they are positioned for the future.

### **PRE-INVESTMENT**

### **ESG INCORPORATION IN RESEARCH**

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
LE 3	CORE	00 21	N/A	PUBLIC	ESG incorporation in research	1

How does your financial analysis and equity valuation or security rating process incorporate material ESG risks?



(2) Active - fundamental

(A) We incorporate material governance-related risks into our financial analysis and equity valuation or security rating process	(1) in all cases	(1) in all cases
(B) We incorporate material environmental and social risks into our financial analysis and equity valuation or security rating process	(1) in all cases	(1) in all cases
(C) We incorporate material environmental and social risks related to companies' supply chains into our financial analysis and equity valuation or security rating process	(1) in all cases	(1) in all cases
(D) We do not incorporate material ESG risks into our financial analysis, equity valuation or security rating processes	o	Ο

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
LE 4	CORE	00 21	N/A	PUBLIC	ESG incorporation in research	1

What information do you incorporate when you assess the ESG performance of companies in your financial analysis, benchmark selection and/or portfolio construction process?



	(1) Passive equity	(2) Active - quantitative	(3) Active - fundamental
(A) We incorporate qualitative and/or quantitative information on current performance across a range of material ESG factors	(1) in all cases	(1) in all cases	(1) in all cases
(B) We incorporate qualitative and/or quantitative information on historical performance across a range of material ESG factors	(1) in all cases	(1) in all cases	(1) in all cases
(C) We incorporate qualitative and/or quantitative information on material ESG factors that may impact or influence future corporate revenues and/or profitability	(1) in all cases	(1) in all cases	(1) in all cases
(D) We incorporate qualitative and/or quantitative information enabling current, historical and/or future performance comparison within a selected peer group across a range of material ESG factors	(2) in a majority of cases	(2) in a majority of cases	(1) in all cases
(E) We do not incorporate qualitative or quantitative information on material ESG factors when assessing the ESG performance of companies in our financial analysis, equity investment or portfolio construction process	O	Ο	O



### **ESG INCORPORATION IN PORTFOLIO CONSTRUCTION**

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
LE 5	PLUS	OO 21	N/A	PUBLIC	ESG incorporation in portfolio construction	1

## Provide an example of how you incorporated ESG factors into your equity selection and research process during the reporting year.

Our proprietary ESG assessment of companies applied since 2008 is combined with the different equity processes in order to complete financial investment decision. Candriam's ESG analysis for companies consists in evaluating their ability to manage the sustainable development issues specific to their sector. These are addressed from two distinguishable but interlinked angles namely Business Activities and Stakeholders Analysis. This so-called Best-in-universe analysis is followed by a norms-based check designed to exclude companies for which there is definite proof of systematic breaches of the ten principles of the UN Global Compact that covers Human & Labour rights, respect for the environment and anti-corruption. The last step consists in excluding companies involved in controversial activities.

### 1. Business Activities Analysis

This analysis evaluates the company's exposure (services/products, production areas, market segments, etc.) to the major sustainable development challenges. These challenges are long-term trends liable to considerably influence the economic environment in which companies operate and to determine the future challenges in the market as well as the long-term growth opportunities. Candriam has identified five global sustainability trends: Climate Change, Resource Depletion, Health & Wellness, Demographic Evolution and Digitalisation. We assess a company exposure, through its revenue generation, assets, CAPEX etc.

#### 2. Stakeholders Analysis

Relationships with stakeholders give rise to opportunities as well as risks and are therefore determinants of long-term value. The Stakeholder Analysis evaluates a company's ability to incorporate stakeholder interests in its long-term strategy, insofar as they are a source of risks and opportunities for the company. These six categories of stakeholders include Investors, Employees, Customers, Suppliers, Society, and the Environment and cover 20 themes such as employee training, fair working conditions at suppliers, relationships with local authorities, pollution and local impact. We determine the relevance of each category based on qualitative and quantitative data. For instance, we may look at the degree of attention paid to shareholders; the frequency of certain events such as accidents and fines; the tangible or intangible financial impact of ESG issues, and the outlook and prospects for a company to improve or deteriorate in these measures. Based on the relevance, we determine weights for each category.

The company's final ESG score is a combination of those two assessments and results in a ESG rating (1-10) based on a regional best-inuniverse philosophy.

Incorporation of ESG assessment in Equity investment process

- 1. Active Fundamental Strategies
- Five financial criteria with equal weight are part of the company's valuation process:
- 1. Quality of management
- 2. Business Growth
- 3. Competitive Advantage
- 4. Value Creation
- 5. Financial Leverage



ESG factors related to stakeholders management are integrated in the Quality of management criteria. Those related to the sustainability level of its business activities are part of the Business Growth and Competitive advantage ones. Based on this assessment, companies are "green", "orange" or "red" flagged. If the company stakeholder's score belongs to the last 20 % of of its universe, the 'Quality of Management score' cannot be 'green'. Only "green" or "orange"-flagged companies can be potentially part of the portfolio. The company valuation is predominantly based on DCF models where the discount rate is impacted by the company's color flag. Positions against benchmark are function of color flag and the upside potential derived through our valuation analysis

For ESG marketed strategies, this integration process is applied after excluding companies with an ESG rating 6-10 and apply a stricter controversial activities screening. Portfolios are committed to at least a reduction of their carbon footprint of 30 % against benchmark. For ESG thematic strategies like Climate Action or Circular Economy, a dedicated ESG screening framework is applied ensuring companies in portfolio are exposed for more than a defined % of their revenues to the thematic. Portfolios are aligned with 2.5 degrees and target 2 degrees by 2025.

#### 2. Active/Passive Quantitative Strategies

Companies ESG score and carbon intensity are incorporated in the optimization process, defining the final company's portfolio weighting. This enables the portfolio managers to define a specific absolute or relative target that can be set and respected.

### 3. Passive Strategies

Our SRI ETF strategies replicate our ESG proprietary universe which aim to select the best corporate issuers

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
LE 6	CORE	00 21	N/A	PUBLIC	ESG incorporation in portfolio construction	1

## How do material ESG factors contribute to your stock selection, portfolio construction and/or benchmark selection process?

	(1) Passive equity	(2) Active - quantitative	(3) Active - fundamental
(A) Material ESG factors contribute to the selection of individual assets and/or sector weightings within our portfolio construction and/or benchmark selection process	(1) for all of our AUM	(1) for all of our AUM	(1) for all of our AUM
(B) Material ESG factors contribute to the portfolio weighting of individual assets within our portfolio construction and/or benchmark selection process	(2) for a majority of our AUM	(1) for all of our AUM	(1) for all of our AUM



(C) Material ESG factors contribute to the country or region weighting of assets within our portfolio construction and/or benchmark selection process	(2) for a majority of our AUM (1) for all of our AUM		1 (1) for all of our AUM	
(D) Other ways material ESG factors contribute to your portfolio construction and/or benchmark selection process	(1) for all of our AUM	(1) for all of our AUM	(2) for a majority of our AUM	
(E) Our stock selection, portfolio construction or benchmark selection process does not include the incorporation of material ESG factors	o	O	ο	

## (D) Other ways material ESG factors contribute to your portfolio construction and/or benchmark selection process - Specify:

For active quantitative/passive: material ESG factors do have exposure to some financial style bias which are corrected through our risk optimized portfolio construction process

For active fundamental : carbon emissions of companies are taken into consideration with the target to have lower carbon intensity for the portfolio compared to benchmark or to reduce by at least 30% the carbon intensity compared to benchmark.

### **PASSIVE INVESTMENTS**

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
LE 7	PLUS	00 21	N/A	PUBLIC	Passive investments	1

## Provide an example of how material ESG factors influenced weightings and tilts in the design of your passively managed funds.

As a result of our ESG assessment framework which takes into account exposure of business activities to ESG main challenges/trends and stakeholders relationships practices and following the integration of ESG factors, the objective to improve the global ESG score in our portfolio construction overweight key actors of the energy transition. The ESG analysis takes into account forward looking factors and the risk optimization forces to sell the worst scores and highest carbon emitting companies and buy the highest ranked/ Low carbon emitting companies. For example, in the Utilities sector, renewable electricity producers are overweighted and large fossil fuelled electricity producer are underweighted/not held in all passive strategies.

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
LE 8	PLUS	OO 19, OO 21	N/A	PUBLIC	Passive investments	1



### How does your organisation select the ESG index(es) or benchmark(s) for your passive listed equity assets?

#### (A) We commission customised indexes

Explain:

For Indexed ETF (all sustainable marketed products), we track in-house multi-beta strategy indexes. The indexes use our Best-in-Universe analysis/ Controversial activities exclusions and Belgian "Towards Sustainability label" criteria during their construction. The funds passively replicate the index using a full replication methodology.

- $\Box$  (B) We compare the methodology amongst the index providers available
- $\Box$  (C) We compare the costs of different options available in the market
- ☑ (D) Other

Specify and explain:

For the main of our passive funds, we do not select ESG benchmarks. The main idea is to replicate indexes by integrating ESG factors using our own methodology. We can maximize the integration of ESG factors by dynamically modify the weights relative to a broad index as soon as a new ESG analysis is done, or a new controversy is discovered. There is no misalignment between our ESG methodology and our investments. We can tilt our portfolios by overweighting our highest conviction stocks and not be constrained by an external ESG provider.

### **POST-INVESTMENT**

### ESG RISK MANAGEMENT

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
LE 9	CORE	OO 17.1 LE, OO 21	N/A	PUBLIC	ESG risk management	1

What compliance processes do you have in place to ensure that your listed equity assets subject to negative exclusionary screens meet the screening criteria?

☑ (A) We have internal compliance procedures that ensure all funds or portfolios that are subject to negative exclusionary screening have pre-trade checks

 $\Box$  (B) We have an external committee that oversees the screening implementation process for all funds or portfolios that are subject to negative exclusionary screening

☑ (C) We have an independent internal committee that oversees the screening implementation process for all funds or portfolios that are subject to negative exclusionary screening

• (D) We do not have compliance processes in place to ensure that we meet our stated negative exclusionary screens

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
LE 10	CORE	00 21	N/A	PUBLIC	ESG risk management	1

For the majority of your listed equity assets, do you have a formal process to identify and incorporate material ESG risks and ESG incidents into your risk management process?



(A) Yes, our formal process includes reviews of quantitative and/or qualitative information on material ESG risks and ESG incidents and their implications for individual listed equity holdings		
(B) Yes, our formal process includes reviews of quantitative and/or qualitative information on material ESG risks and ESG incidents and their implications for other listed equity holdings exposed to similar risks and/or incidents		
(C) Yes, our formal process includes reviews of quantitative and/or qualitative information on material ESG risks and ESG incidents and their implications for our stewardship activities		
(D) Yes, our formal process includes ad hoc reviews of quantitative and/or qualitative information on severe ESG incidents		
(E) We do not have a formal process to identify and incorporate material ESG risks and ESG incidents into our risk management process; our investment professionals identify and incorporate material ESG risks and ESG incidents at their discretion	Ο	ο



Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
LE 11	PLUS	00 21	N/A	PUBLIC	Performance monitoring	1

## Provide an example of how the incorporation of ESG factors in your listed equity valuation or portfolio construction affected the realised returns of those assets.

0

0

As an example from the active fundamental European equities strategies, we present the case of the incorporation of ESG factors for a company from the Health care sector.

Due to a significantly low ESG stakeholder score, which ranks in the bottom 20% of our European universe, the assessment of the "quality of management" is limited to "ORANGE" level.

We adjust the discount rate based on the final color grade of a company, which incorporates ESG criteria. For this company, as a result, the price target reflected a 5.7% negative impact compared to this without ESG integration.

For this company, this represents an overweight of 175 bp compared to 365bp overweight without ESG integration, resulting in a net impact of -190bp on stock overweight.

In 2022, the company's financial performance was -27.90%, underperforming the index. This resulted in an underperformance of 18.25%. The negative contribution of this company's position to portfolio performance was -32 bp. Without ESG integration, the negative contribution would have been -67 bp. Therefore, the positive impact of ESG integration was 35 bp.

The second example presents the case of a European mining company excluded from the ESG integration process in our passive strategies.

In our passive quantitative strategies, the forward looking ESG factors (including risks and opportunities around a company) resulting from the ESG assessment is taken into account in the risk optimization which forces to sell the worst scores and highest carbon emitting companies and buy the highest ranked/low carbon emitting companies.

Here is an example of a European mining company which is excluded from our investible universe due to breach on the Human Rights and concerns on Labour right and Environment which are three key themes out of four of the UNGC the cornerstone of our norms-based analysis. The company is involved in controversial activities, due to its business activities in the energy sector (oil and coal). Therefore, within business activities analysis the company displays a poor score on the Climate Change and Resource Depletion Key Sustainable Challenges. On the stakeholder analysis, which assess the relationship of the issuer with all stakeholders, the company exhibits a below average score on Environment and Society key stakeholders. The exclusion of this company from our passive quantitative strategies impacted positively the financial performance by 25 pb.



### **DISCLOSURE OF ESG SCREENS**

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
LE 12	CORE	OO 17 LE, OO 21	N/A	PUBLIC	Disclosure of ESG screens	6

For all your listed equity assets subject to ESG screens, how do you ensure that clients understand ESG screens and their implications?

☑ (A) We share a list of ESG screens

☑ (B) We share any changes in ESG screens

☑ (C) We explain any implications of ESG screens, such as their deviation from a benchmark or impact on sector weightings

• (D) We do not share the above information for all our listed equity assets subject to ESG screens

# FIXED INCOME (FI)

### **OVERALL APPROACH**

### **MATERIALITY ANALYSIS**

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
FI 1	CORE	OO 21	N/A	PUBLIC	Materiality analysis	1
Does your organisation have a formal investment process to identify and incorporate material ESG factors across your fixed income assets?				across your		
		(1) SSA	l.	(2) Corporat	e (3) Sec	curitised
()	vestment process naterial governance	(1) for all of ou	ır AUM	(1) for all of our $i$	AUM (1) for all	of our AUM
incorporates n	vestment process naterial l and social factors	(1) for all of ou	ır AUM	(1) for all of our <i>i</i>	AUM (1) for all	of our AUM



(C) Yes, our investment process incorporates material ESG factors depending on different investment time horizons	(1) for all of our AUM	(1) for all of our AUM	(1) for all of our AUM
(D) No, we do not have a formal process; our investment professionals identify material ESG factors at their discretion	0	0	0
(E) No, we do not have a formal or informal process to identify and incorporate material ESG factors	0	0	0

### **MONITORING ESG TRENDS**

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
FI 2	CORE	00 21	N/A	PUBLIC	Monitoring ESG trends	1

Does your organisation have a formal process for monitoring and reviewing the implications of changing ESG trends across your fixed income assets?

	(1) SSA	(2) Corporate	(3) Securitised
(A) Yes, we have a formal process that includes scenario analyses	(1) for all of our AUM	(1) for all of our AUM	(1) for all of our AUM
(B) Yes, we have a formal process, but does it not include scenario analyses			
(C) We do not have a formal process for our fixed income assets; our investment professionals monitor how ESG trends vary over time at their discretion	O	0	O



### (A) Yes, we have a formal process that includes scenario analyses - Specify: (Voluntary)

The monitoring and review of the ESG trends implications are included in our Best-in-Universe corporate and sovereign approaches, as well as in our ESG integration frameworks within the Fixed Income investment processes. As part of the ESG score calculation, the team analyses companies' business activities. We have identified five key ESG trends that may impact companies' long-term growth: Climate change, Resource Depletion, Digitalisation, Health & Wellness and Demographic shifts. We group companies based on the industry or sector in which each company operates, its geographic location, business model. We determine the degree to which each industry group is exposed to the five ESG trends and score them based on relevance and materiality. We assess a company exposure, through its revenue generation, assets, CAPEX etc., to the five key trends. Based on the sector Business Activities Analysis conclusions, all the company's exposures to the major sustainable trends specific to its sector are evaluated and scored.

The latest ESG trends and specifically regulations that have an impact on issuers and segments (different sectors or regions) are also source of revision of our exclusion policy. Furthermore, when assessing a particular sector like Autos, we consider the compliance around the 2-degree scenario that each company will be subjected to while trying to understand how they are positioned for the future.

For sovereigns, our investable universe consists of countries which perform best across our categories of sustainable development criteria: Human, Social, Economic and Natural capital which act as a multiplier for the 3 other capital. This is coupled with an exclusion rule relating to high-risk regimes and minimum standards of democracy. These elements enable us to understand how a sovereign would react under different scenarios. The 2-degree scenario, or a net-zero scenario for each country is something that is included in our sovereign sustainability analysis.

### **PRE-INVESTMENT**

### **ESG INCORPORATION IN RESEARCH**

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
FI 3	CORE	00 21	N/A	PUBLIC	ESG incorporation in research	1

For the majority of your fixed income investments, does your organisation incorporate material ESG factors when assessing their credit quality?



	(1) SSA	(2) Corporate	(3) Securitised
(A) We incorporate material environmental and social factors			
(B) We incorporate material governance-related factors	V	<b>I</b>	<b>V</b>
(C) We do not incorporate material ESG factors for the majority of our fixed income investments	O	o	ο

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
FI 4	CORE	00 21	N/A	PUBLIC	ESG incorporation in research	1

Does your organisation have a framework that differentiates ESG risks by issuer country, region and/or sector?

	(1) SSA	(2) Corporate	(3) Securitised
(A) Yes, we have a framework that differentiates ESG risks by country and/or region (e.g. local governance and labour practices)	(1) for all of our AUM	(1) for all of our AUM	(1) for all of our AUM
(B) Yes, we have a framework that differentiates ESG risks by sector	(1) for all of our AUM	(1) for all of our AUM	(1) for all of our AUM
(C) No, we do not have a framework that differentiates ESG risks by issuer country, region and/or sector	o	ο	O



Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
FI 6	CORE	00 21	N/A	PUBLIC	ESG incorporation in research	1

## How do you incorporate significant changes in material ESG factors over time into your fixed income asset valuation process?

	(1) SSA	(2) Corporate
(A) We incorporate it into the forecast of financial metrics or other quantitative assessments	(1) for all of our AUM	(1) for all of our AUM
(B) We make a qualitative assessment of how material ESG factors may evolve	(1) for all of our AUM	(1) for all of our AUM
(C) We do not incorporate significant changes in material ESG factors	0	0

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
FI 7	CORE	00 21	N/A	PUBLIC	ESG incorporation in research	1

At what level do you incorporate material ESG factors into the risks and/or returns of your securitised products?

 $\circ~$  (A) At both key counterparties' and at the underlying collateral pool's levels

• (B) At key counterparties' level only

Explain: (Voluntary)



In the scope of securitized assets we only invest in covered bonds. Within our investment approach, we assess the Fundamentals and valuations of covered bonds within the same framework as traditional corporate debt. Hence we incorporate ESG factors into covered bonds in the same manner as we do for the rest of our corporate issuers

 $\circ~$  (C) At the underlying collateral pool's level only

### ESG INCORPORATION IN PORTFOLIO CONSTRUCTION

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
FI 8	CORE	OO 21	N/A	PUBLIC	ESG incorporation in portfolio construction	1
How do mater process?	rial ESG factors contribu	ute to your securi	ty selection, p	ortfolio construc	ction and/or benchmar	k selection
		(1) SSA	N	(2) Corpora	te (3) Sec	curitised
to the select and/or secto portfolio cor	ESG factors contribute tion of individual assets or weightings within our nstruction and/or selection process	(1) for all of ou	ır AUM	(1) for all of our	AUM (1) for all	of our AUM
to determini of individual portfolio cor	ESG factors contribute ing the holding period assets within our astruction and/or selection process			(1) for all of our	AUM (1) for all	of our AUM
to the portfo individual as portfolio cor	ESG factors contribute blio weighting of ssets within our nstruction and/or selection process	(1) for all of ou	ır AUM	(1) for all of our	AUM (1) for all	of our AUM
to the count of assets wi	ESG factors contribute ry or region weighting thin our portfolio n and/or benchmark ocess	(1) for all of ou	ır AUM	(2) for a majority AUM		ajority of our UM



(E) Material ESG factors contribute to our portfolio construction and/or benchmark selection process in other ways		(1) for all of our AUM	(1) for all of our AUM
(F) Our security selection, portfolio construction or benchmark selection process does not include the incorporation of material ESG factors	O	0	ο

## (E) Material ESG factors contribute to our portfolio construction and/or benchmark selection process in other ways - Specify:

ESG factors are fully integrated in our investment process, through ESG exclusion filters as well as integration analysis. This results either in the exclusion of an issuer from the investable universe or inclusion based on ESG factors. In case of ESG integration, the issuer still gets an internal credit recommendation, of which ESG analysis is a part of. This, in -turn, indirectly impacts the weighting (along with several other criteria).

All credit recommendations at Candriam are between CR1 and CR5.

If credit rating is between CR1 and CR3, the following applies to portfolio construction.

We provide a weight based on:

- Credit score (ESG integrated)
- Macro assessment.
- Relative value opportunities (yields, Spreads, Prices)
- Market assessment (high yield, IG, EMD etc)

Hence, ESG factors do contribute to the portfolio construction, though the impact is rarely linear or quantitative in nature.

If Credit rating is CR4/CR5, the issuer cannot be included. This obviously has a direct impact on the portfolio construction

### **PASSIVE INVESTMENTS**

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
FI 9	PLUS	OO 5.3 FI, OO 21	N/A	PUBLIC	Passive investments	1

Provide an example of how material ESG factors influenced weightings and tilts in the design of your passively managed funds.



Consideration of ESG factors in our passively managed funds is based on a twofold approach:

Firstly, the Funds exclude issuers involved in the following sectors: Controversial weapons, tobacco and thermal coal. As a result, over 30 issuers are excluded.

Secondly, our fund range of index funds seek to achieve pre-defined ESG KPIs, including outperforming their reference indices on certain metrics. This means that, in addition to the above-mentioned sector specific exclusions, we also underweight or exclude issuers with a disproportionately negative impact on ESG Score and / or carbon footprint. In practice, as our fund range utilise a stratified sampling approach, it would not be cost-effective to hold all issuers in the benchmark in the Funds, anyway. We therefore elect to privilege those issuers with a more favorable ESG profile in portfolio construction. An example is the cement sector, which although not explicitly excluded, is significantly underweighted given its high carbon footprint. At all times, this is done in a strictly risk-controlled manner so as not to exceed the Funds' overall ex-ante tracking error budgets.

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
FI 10	PLUS	00 19, 00 21	N/A	PUBLIC	Passive investments	1

### How does your organisation select the ESG index(es) or benchmark(s) for your passive fixed income assets?

#### ☑ (A) We commission customised indexes

Explain:

Our SRI ETF range of funds utilise custom reference indices calculated by a dedicated index provider, respecting the Candriam Sustainable Universe and utilising custom weighting approaches, different to typical market-weight indices.

 $\Box$  (B) We compare the methodology amongst the index providers available

 $\hfill\square$  (C) We compare the costs of different options available in the market

□ (D) Other

### **POST-INVESTMENT**

### ESG RISK MANAGEMENT

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
FI 11	CORE	00 21	N/A	PUBLIC	ESG risk management	1

How are material ESG factors incorporated into your portfolio risk management process?



	(1) SSA	(2) Corporate	(3) Securitised
(A) Investment committee members, or the equivalent function or group, can veto investment decisions based on ESG considerations	(1) for all of our AUM	(1) for all of our AUM	(1) for all of our AUM
(B) Companies, sectors, countries and/or currencies are monitored for changes in exposure to material ESG factors and any breaches of risk limits	(2) for a majority of our AUM	(2) for a majority of our AUM	(2) for a majority of our AUM
(C) Overall exposure to specific material ESG factors is measured for our portfolio construction, and sizing or hedging adjustments are made depending on the individual issuer or issue sensitivity to these factors	(2) for a majority of our AUM	(2) for a majority of our AUM	(2) for a majority of our AUM
(D) We use another method of incorporating material ESG factors into our portfolio's risk management process			
(E) We do not have a process to incorporate material ESG factors into our portfolio's risk management process	Ο	0	O

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
FI 12	CORE	00 21	N/A	PUBLIC	ESG risk management	1

For the majority of your fixed income assets, do you have a formal process to identify and incorporate material ESG risks and ESG incidents into your risk management process?



	(1) SSA	(2) Corporate	(3) Securitised
(A) Yes, our formal process includes reviews of quantitative and/or qualitative information on material ESG risks and ESG incidents and their implications for individual fixed income holdings			
(B) Yes, our formal process includes reviews of quantitative and/or qualitative information on material ESG risks and ESG incidents, and their implications for other fixed income holdings exposed to similar risks and/or incidents			
(C) Yes, our formal process includes reviews of quantitative and/or qualitative information on material ESG risks and ESG incidents, and their implications for our stewardship activities	<b>I</b>		
(D) Yes, our formal process includes ad hoc reviews of quantitative and/or qualitative information on severe ESG incidents	V		
(E) We do not have a formal process to identify and incorporate ESG risks and ESG incidents; our investment professionals identify and incorporate ESG risks and ESG incidents at their discretion	Ο	ο	ο
(F) We do not have a formal process to identify and incorporate ESG risks and ESG incidents into our risk management process	Ο	0	0



### **PERFORMANCE MONITORING**

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
FI 14	PLUS	OO 5.3 FI, OO 21	N/A	PUBLIC	Performance monitoring	1

## Provide an example of how the incorporation of environmental and/or social factors in your fixed income valuation or portfolio construction affected the realised returns of those assets.

Case of a divestment related to the ESG sovereign integration process

Based on our ESG Sovereign Methodology, we exclude the 25% bottom scored countries and apply a normative filter that also exclude countries that are : (1) on the Candriam's Oppressive Regime List, (2) classified "Not Free" by Freedom House, and (3) classified "Call to Action" by Financial Action Task Force.

The Sovereign fundamental analysis and selection of individual sovereign bonds is built around five steps: Quantitative analysis, Qualitative assessment, Country Recommendation, Country Valuation and the individual government bond selection. The ESG dimension is integrated to the quantitative and qualitative analysis of our Sovereign fundamental analysis, resulting in a CR score (From CR1 to CR4, CR1 being the best).

- Quantitative analysis: our Sovereign Risk Model aims to identify sovereign creditworthiness risks. It relies on a combination of macroeconomic and debt sustainability indicators, alongside the outcome of our Sovereign Sustainability Model. We integrate ESG through its four key pillars both in the analysis of the economic and debt profile.

- Qualitative analysis: our quantitative score is supplemented by a qualitative analysis of higher frequency economics, debt and ESG data and expert analysis of the country. This permits to refine our credit recommendation accounting for recent changes that are potentially not accounted for by our quantitative model. The qualitative analysis is supported by our internal ESG country dashboard that help us to tackle more short-term risk (i.e potential ESG event risk, political and structural reforms risk). A short-term, high-frequency country ESG model has been developed that uses monthly and quarterly data from expert surveys globally to monitor and evaluate ongoing sustainability developments in our country universe. The data allows us to monitor 20 separate sustainability metrics, such as Natural Disaster Vulnerability, Poverty, Human Rights and Civil Liberties, Internal & External Security, Political Stability, Democratic Accountability, Rule of Law, Corruption, Infrastructure Vulnerability, and a variety of Tail Risks across the investable universe.



Petroleos Mexicanos (PeMex) is a Mexican state-owned petroleum company managed and operated by the government, which makes it a sub-sovereign (also accountable for the "Agencies" category of the SSA space).

Aside from the exposure and involvement of PeMex to Oil & Gas because of its business activities, the company has been divested from all our funds due to Human & Labour Right breaches. According to our ESG analysis, the company is very poor in terms of environment and governance practices: decarbonisation pathway as well as the Health & Wellness are very poor. PeMex is deficient in its stakeholder management, particularly with its employees and investors on the following factors: ability to attract, retain, train and develop employees, and also on business ethics and accounting standards. From a credit analysis perspective, the company has significant debt load of over USD100bn, even though it is fully backed by the Mexican government, we believe the company is presenting too many risks such as the increase of the cost of operating costs and the privatization of the Mexican Oil & Gas sector. The liquidity is insufficient, and the increasing level of debt is concerning and led to a recent downgrade with Fitch Ratings (to B+/negative outlook from BB-/stable outlook) and with Moody's (outlook changing from stable to negative). For the above reasons we have excluded PeMex from our portfolios, as it represents too many risks and the opportunities are not clear and sufficient. For our Euro & Global High Yield strategies, this entailed a strong underweight as the indices for both these strategies held PEMEX at roughly 1.9% in 2023 and our lack of exposure meant an underweight of roughly 1.9% vs. index. Over 2023, the issuer yielded weaker relative performance (compared to the broad High Yield markets) and hence led to the outperformance of the strategies vs. their respective benchmark.

Case of ESG integration in passive corporate process

As explained in the response to question FI 9, issuers with weak ESG profiles are overrepresented among those issuers that we elect to omit or underweight in our range of passive funds. We also seek to avoid overweighting issuers with a weak credit profile, which in many cases is based on a weak ESG assessment.

For instance, the omission of this European pharmaceutical issuer was a positive contributor to excess returns vs. the benchmark for the fund Index Euro Corporate Bonds. This company shows a very weak ESG rating for the firm's social and environmental impacts as a result of the continued commercialization of one of its highly controversial product.

In 2022, the exclusion of this company had a positive gross impact of 5 basis points on the Fund's relative return.

## **THEMATIC BONDS**

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
FI 15	PLUS	00 20, 00 21	N/A	PUBLIC	Thematic bonds	3

What percentage of environmental, social and/or other labelled thematic bonds held by your organisation has been verified?

	As a percentage of your total labelled bonds:
(A) Third-party assurance	(5) >75%
(B) Second-party opinion	(5) >75%



(5) >75%

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
FI 16	CORE	00 17 FI, 00 21	N/A	PUBLIC	Thematic bonds	1

#### What pre-determined criteria does your organisation use to identify which non-labelled thematic bonds to invest in?

☑ (A) The bond's use of proceeds

☑ (B) The issuers' targets

**(C)** The issuers' progress towards achieving their targets

(D) The issuer profile and how it contributes to their targets

• (E) We do not use pre-determined criteria to identify which non-labelled thematic bonds to invest in

• (F) Not applicable; we do not invest in non-labelled thematic bonds

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
FI 17	CORE	Multiple, see guidance	N/A	PUBLIC	Thematic bonds	1, 2, 6

During the reporting year, what action did you take in the majority of cases when you felt that the proceeds of a thematic bond were not allocated appropriately or in accordance with the terms of the bond deal or prospectus?

☑ (A) We engaged with the issuer

 $\Box$  (B) We alerted thematic bond certification agencies

☑ (C) We sold the security

 $\Box$  (D) We blacklisted the issuer

(E) Other action

Specify:

We informed portfolio managers. While waiting for additional information from the issuer to take a decision on whether to sold or not, our portfolio manager might be forbidden to increase their position on the issuer.

• (F) We did not take any specific actions when the proceeds of a thematic bond were not allocated according to the terms of the bond deal during the reporting year

• (G) Not applicable; in the majority of cases, the proceeds of thematic bonds were allocated according to the terms of the bond deal during the reporting year



# **DISCLOSURE OF ESG SCREENS**

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
FI 18	CORE	OO 17 FI, OO 21	N/A	PUBLIC	Disclosure of ESG screens	6

# For all your fixed income assets subject to ESG screens, how do you ensure that clients understand ESG screens and their implications?

☑ (A) We share a list of ESG screens

(B) We share any changes in ESG screens

☑ (C) We explain any implications of ESG screens, such as any deviation from a benchmark or impact on sector weightings

• (D) We do not share the above information for all our fixed income assets subject to ESG screens

# SUSTAINABILITY OUTCOMES (SO)

# SETTING TARGETS AND TRACKING PROGRESS

# SETTING TARGETS ON SUSTAINABILITY OUTCOMES

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
SO 1	PLUS	PGS 48	SO 2, SO 2.1, SO 3	PUBLIC	Setting targets on sustainability outcomes	1, 2

What specific sustainability outcomes connected to its investment activities has your organisation taken action on?

#### (A) Sustainability outcome #1

- (1) Widely recognised frameworks used to guide action on this sustainability outcome
  - $\hfill\square$  (1) The UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and targets
  - ☑ (2) The UNFCCC Paris Agreement
  - □ (3) The UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (UNGPs)
  - $\Box$  (4) OECD frameworks: OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises and Guidance on Responsible Business Conduct for Institutional Investors
  - $\Box$  (5) The EU Taxonomy
  - $\Box$  (6) Other relevant taxonomies
  - $\Box$  (7) The International Bill of Human Rights
  - □ (7) The international Bill of Human Rights □ (8) The International Labour Organization's Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work and the eight
  - core conventions
  - □ (9) The Convention on Biological Diversity
  - □ (10) Other international, regional, sector-based or issue-specific framework(s)
- (2) Classification of sustainability outcome
  - ☑ (1) Environmental
  - $\Box$  (2) Social
  - $\Box$  (3) Governance-related
  - (4) Other



#### (3) Sustainability outcome name

NZAM AUM commitment

- (4) Number of targets set for this outcome
  - (1) No target
  - (2) One target
  - (3) Two or more targets
- (B) Sustainability outcome #2
  - (1) Widely recognised frameworks used to guide action on this sustainability outcome
    - $\hfill\square$  (1) The UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and targets
    - (2) The UNFCCC Paris Agreement
    - $\Box$  (3) The UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (UNGPs)
    - (4) OECD frameworks: OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises and Guidance on Responsible Business Conduct for Institutional Investors
    - □ (5) The EU Taxonomy
    - $\Box$  (6) Other relevant taxonomies
    - $\Box$  (7) The International Bill of Human Rights

 $\Box$  (8) The International Labour Organization's Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work and the eight core conventions

- $\Box$  (9) The Convention on Biological Diversity
- □ (10) Other international, regional, sector-based or issue-specific framework(s)
- (2) Classification of sustainability outcome
  - (1) Environmental
  - □ (2) Social
  - $\Box$  (3) Governance-related
  - (4) Other
- (3) Sustainability outcome name

NZAM portfolio emissions

- (4) Number of targets set for this outcome
  - (1) No target
  - (2) One target
  - (3) Two or more targets

### ☑ (C) Sustainability outcome #3

(1) Widely recognised frameworks used to guide action on this sustainability outcome

- $\hfill\square$  (1) The UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and targets
- (2) The UNFCCC Paris Agreement
- $\Box$  (3) The UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (UNGPs)
- □ (4) OECD frameworks: OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises and Guidance on Responsible Business Conduct for Institutional Investors
- □ (5) The EU Taxonomy
- $\Box$  (6) Other relevant taxonomies
- $\Box$  (7) The International Bill of Human Rights
- $\Box$  (8) The International Labour Organization's Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work and the eight core conventions
- $\Box$  (9) The Convention on Biological Diversity
- $\Box$  (10) Other international, regional, sector-based or issue-specific framework(s)
- (2) Classification of sustainability outcome
  - (1) Environmental
  - $\Box$  (2) Social
  - $\Box$  (3) Governance-related
  - (4) Other



#### (3) Sustainability outcome name

NZAM climate engagement

- (4) Number of targets set for this outcome
  - (1) No target
  - (2) One target

(3) Two or more targets

#### (D) Sustainability outcome #4

- (1) Widely recognised frameworks used to guide action on this sustainability outcome
  - $\Box$  (1) The UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and targets
  - $\Box$  (2) The UNFCCC Paris Agreement
  - (3) The UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (UNGPs)
  - ☑ (4) OECD frameworks: OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises and Guidance on Responsible Business Conduct for Institutional Investors
  - □ (5) The EU Taxonomy
  - $\Box$  (6) Other relevant taxonomies
  - ☑ (7) The International Bill of Human Rights
  - (8) The International Labour Organization's Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work and the eight core conventions
  - ☑ (9) The Convention on Biological Diversity
  - □ (10) Other international, regional, sector-based or issue-specific framework(s)
- (2) Classification of sustainability outcome
  - (1) Environmental
  - (2) Social
  - ☑ (3) Governance-related
  - (4) Other
- (3) Sustainability outcome name

UN Global Compact monitoring

- (4) Number of targets set for this outcome
  - (1) No target
  - (2) One target
  - (3) Two or more targets

### (E) Sustainability outcome #5

(1) Widely recognised frameworks used to guide action on this sustainability outcome

- ☑ (1) The UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and targets
- (2) The UNFCCC Paris Agreement
- $\Box$  (3) The UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (UNGPs)
- □ (4) OECD frameworks: OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises and Guidance on Responsible Business Conduct for Institutional Investors
- □ (5) The EU Taxonomy
- $\Box$  (6) Other relevant taxonomies
- $\Box$  (7) The International Bill of Human Rights
- $\Box$  (8) The International Labour Organization's Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work and the eight core conventions
- $\Box$  (9) The Convention on Biological Diversity
- $\Box$  (10) Other international, regional, sector-based or issue-specific framework(s)
- (2) Classification of sustainability outcome
  - (1) Environmental
  - $\Box$  (2) Social
  - $\Box$  (3) Governance-related
  - (4) Other



#### (3) Sustainability outcome name

Allocation of green bonds in corporate sustainable funds

(4) Number of targets set for this outcome

- (1) No target
- (2) One target
- (3) Two or more targets

□ (F) Sustainability outcome #6

 $\Box$  (G) Sustainability outcome #7

 $\Box$  (H) Sustainability outcome #8

 $\Box$  (I) Sustainability outcome #9

□ (J) Sustainability outcome #10

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
SO 2	PLUS	SO 1	SO 2.1, SO 4, SO 5	PUBLIC	Setting targets on sustainability outcomes	1

For each sustainability outcome, provide details of up to two of your nearest-term targets.

(A1) Sustainability Outcome #1:	NZAM AUM commitment
(1) Target name	NZAM AUM commitment
(2) Baseline year	2019
(3) Target to be met by	2030
(4) Methodology	NZIF
(5) Metric used (if relevant)	% AuM in line with Net Zero
(6) Absolute or intensity-based (if relevant)	
(7) Baseline level or amount (if relevant):	2019 USD 23,2 billion (17% AuM)

#### (A1) Sustainability Outcome #1: Target details



(8) Target level or amount (if relevant)	The objective is to increase AuM covered every year. We have not defined a specific quantified targets, as we consider funds as a whole, and not individual assets in our calculation of AuM. It thus depends a lot on our commercial growth (very dependent on our clients' demands, if the mandates share grows a lot (as mandates are not covered by net zero currently), some asset classes are easier to integrate than others)
(9) Percentage of total AUM covered in your baseline year for target setting	17%
(10) Do you also have a longer- term target for this?	(1) Yes
	(B1) Sustainability Outcome #2: Target details
(B1) Sustainability Outcome #2:	NZAM portfolio emissions
(1) Target name	NZAM portfolio emissions
(2) Baseline year	2019
(3) Target to be met by	2030
(4) Methodology	NZIF
(5) Metric used (if relevant)	tCO2e (scope 1&2)/Mn USD revenues
(6) Absolute or intensity-based (if relevant)	(2) Intensity-based
(7) Baseline level or amount (if relevant):	109 t CO2 / Mn USD revenues
(8) Target level or amount (if relevant)	54,5 t CO2 / Mn USD revenues
(9) Percentage of total AUM covered in your baseline year for target setting	17%
(10) Do you also have a longer- term target for this?	(1) Yes



### (C1) Sustainability Outcome #3: Target details

(C1) Sustainability Outo	come #3:	NZAM climate engagement	
(1) Target name		NZ Top Contributor Engagement	
(2) Baseline year		2019	
(3) Target to be met by		2025	
(4) Methodology	NZIF and own/other methodology , p21-23 of our Engagement and Voting Annual Review, under https://www.candriam.com/en/professional/SysSiteAssets/medias/publications/brochure/commercia brochures/sri-brochure/voting-and-engagement-report-2022.pdf		
(5) Metric used (if releve	ant)	Number of actively engaged top corporate contributors to our NZ perimeter WACI	
(6) Absolute or intensity relevant)	v-based (if		
(7) Baseline level or an relevant):	nount (if		
(8) Target level or amou relevant)	unt (if	40	
(9) Percentage of total covered in your baselin target setting		17%	
(10) Do you also have a term target for this?	a longer-	(2) No	
		(C2) Sustainability Outcome #3: Target details	
(C2) Sustainability Outo	come #3:	NZAM climate engagement	
(1) Target name		NZ emissions covered by engagement	
(2) Baseline year		2019	



(3) Target to be met by		2030
(4) Methodology	https://www	wn/other methodology , p21-23 of our Engagement and Voting Annual Review, under v.candriam.com/en/professional/SysSiteAssets/medias/publications/brochure/commercial- sri-brochure/voting-and-engagement-report-2022.pdf
(5) Metric used (if relev	ant)	% of financed emissions that will have been successfully engaged ("net zero" status) or will be under engagement, either direct or collaborative.
(6) Absolute or intensity relevant)	y-based (if	
(7) Baseline level or an relevant):	nount (if	
(8) Target level or amo relevant)	unt (if	70%
(9) Percentage of total covered in your baselin target setting		17%
(10) Do you also have term target for this?	a longer-	(2) No
		(D1) Sustainability Outcome #4: Target details
(D1) Sustainability Out	come #4:	UN Global Compact monitoring
(1) Target name		Absence of severe UNGC breach
(2) Baseline year		2021
(3) Target to be met by		2023



(4) Methodology	Candriam developed a due diligence process to identify UNGC breach for corporates investees. This process is based on information regarding current, suspected and/or related incidents or breaches of international standards are collected through external research combined with internal analyses performed by our ESG analysts. Subsequent to the identification of any breaches of the Global Compact principles, the analysis uses several parameters to evaluate the severity and magnitude of the breaches:
(5) Metric used (if relevant)	all AUM covered by our company-wide exclusion policy
(6) Absolute or intensity-based (if relevant)	
(7) Baseline level or amount (if relevant):	100 % of AUM covered by the company-wide exclusion policy
(8) Target level or amount (if relevant)	100 % of AUM covered by the company-wide exclusion policy
(9) Percentage of total AUM covered in your baseline year for target setting	100%



(E1) Sustainability Outcome #5: Target details (E1) Sustainability Outcome #5: Allocation of green bonds in corporate sustainable funds increase allocation green bonds in A9 SFDR funds (1) Target name (2) Baseline year 2020 (3) Target to be met by 2025 EU Green Bond Standards, Green Bond Principles, defining guidelines and (4) Methodology transparency principles to ensure that green bonds are issued to finance green projects or activities with proper KPIs and monitoring (5) Metric used (if relevant) % of the fund (6) Absolute or intensity-based (if (1) Absolute relevant) (7) Baseline level or amount (if 5 % relevant): (8) Target level or amount (if 20 % relevant) (9) Percentage of total AUM covered in your baseline year for 2.1% target setting (10) Do you also have a longer-(2) No term target for this? Setting targets on SO 2.1 PLUS SO 1, SO 2 N/A PUBLIC sustainability 1

(2) No

outcomes



For each sustainability outcome, provide details of up to two of your long-term targets.

	(1) Target name	(2) Long-term target to be met by	(3) Long-term target level or amount (if relevant)
(A1) Sustainability Outcome #1: NZAM AUM commitment	NZAM AUM commitment	2050	100%
(B1) Sustainability Outcome #2: NZAM portfolio emissions	NZAM portfolio emissions	2050	(net) 0 t CO2/Mn USD revenues

## FOCUS: SETTING NET-ZERO TARGETS

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
SO 3	PLUS	SO 1	Multiple, see guidance	PUBLIC	Focus: Setting net-zero targets	General

If relevant to your organisation, you can opt-in to provide further details on your net-zero targets.

(A) Yes, we would like to provide further details on our organisation's asset class-specific net-zero targets

(B) Yes, we would like to provide further details on our organisation's net-zero targets for high-emitting sectors

(C) Yes, we would like to provide further details on our organisation's mandate or fund-specific net-zero targets

• (D) No, we would not like to provide further details on our organisation's asset class, high-emitting sectors or mandate or fundspecific net-zero targets

• (E) No, our organisation does not have any asset class, high-emitting sectors or mandate or fund-specific net-zero targets

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
NZAM 1	PLUS	NZAM, SO 3	SO 3.1, SO 3.2	PUBLIC	Focus: Setting net- zero targets	General

#### Select the relevant asset class breakdown for your organisation to report on your net-zero targets.

#### • (A) PRI's standard asset class breakdown

 $\circ~$  (B) Asset class breakdown as per the NZAOA's Target Setting Protocol



dicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Princip	
0 3.1	PLUS	SO 3	N/A	PUBLIC	Focus: Setting net- zero targets	General	
rovide details of	f your nearest-term r	net-zero targets pe	er asset class.				
(A) PRI asset ☑ <mark>Listed equ</mark>	class breakdown <mark>ity</mark>						
		Target details					
(A) PRI asset class breakdown: Listed equity							
(1) Baseline yea	ar	2019					
(2) Target to be	met by	2030					
(3) Emissions ir	ncluded in target	(1) Scope 1 (2) Scope 2					
(4) Methodology	у	NZIF					
(5) Metric used			(7) Intensity	based: tCO2e/I	Mn USD Revenue		
(6) Baseline am	nount	95.6t CO2e /Mn USD revenues (this number has been retreated for AuM evolution as some funds in the NZ perimeter did not exist in 2019, so we recreated the theoretical WACI in 2019. Without retreating for AuM evolution, this number was 82.8 t CO2e/ Mn USD revenues)					
(7) Current amo from baseline a		71.2 t CO2e /Mn USD revenues					
(8) Targeted rec to baseline	duction with respect	50%					
(9) Percentage	of total AUM baseline year for	25.8%					



We started with SFDR art 9 and 8 strategies that were Candriam-branded mutual funds (i.e. on which we had a direct influence).

☑ Fixed income

	Target details
(A) PRI asset class breakdown: Fi	xed income
(1) Baseline year	2019
(2) Target to be met by	2030
(3) Emissions included in target	(1) Scope 1 (2) Scope 2
(4) Methodology	NZIF
(5) Metric used	(7) Intensity-based: tCO2e/Mn USD Revenue
(6) Baseline amount	158.8 t CO2e / Mn USD revenues (this number has been retreated for AuM evolution as some funds in the NZ perimeter did not exist in 2019, so we recreated the theoretical WACI in 2019. Without retreating for AuM evolution, this number was 152.0 t CO2e/ Mn USD revenues)
(7) Current amount (if different from baseline amount)	107.9 t CO2e / Mn USD revenues
(8) Targeted reduction with respect to baseline	50%
(9) Percentage of total AUM covered in your baseline year for target setting	6%
(10) If coverage is below 100% for this asset class, explain why	We started with SFDR art 9 strategies that were Candriam-branded mutual funds (i.e. on which we had a direct influence).
<ul> <li>Private equity</li> <li>Real estate</li> <li>Infrastructure</li> <li>Hedge funds</li> <li>Forestry</li> <li>Farmland</li> <li>Other</li> </ul>	



Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
SO 3.2	PLUS	SO 3	N/A	PUBLIC	Focus: Setting net- zero targets	General
Provide details ☑ (A) Coal	s of your nearest-term r	net-zero targets fo	r high-emitting	sectors.		
		Target details				
(A) Coal						
(1) Baseline	year	2019				
(2) Target to	be met by	2023				
(3) Emission	is included in target					
(4) Methodo	logy	Other: exclusion Agreement	of activities that	are deemed inc	compatible with reaching	the Paris
(5) Metric us	sed			(9) Other		
(6) Baseline	amount	10% revenues				
(7) Current a from baselin	amount (if different e amount)	5% revenues				
(8) Targeted to baseline	reduction with respect	50%				
(9) Asset cla	isses covered			Listed equit Fixed incom Other		
□ (B) Gas □ (C) Oil						

□ (C) Oil ☑ (D) Combined oil and gas



# **Target details** (D) Combined oil and gas (1) Baseline year 2021 (2) Target to be met by 2023 (3) Emissions included in target Other: exclusion of activities that are deemed incompatible with reaching the Paris (4) Methodology Agreement (9) Other (5) Metric used (6) Baseline amount 10% revenues unconventional gas & oil (7) Current amount (if different 5% revenues conventional oil & gas, 5% revenues unconventional oil & gas from baseline amount) (8) Targeted reduction with respect 50% to baseline Listed equity Fixed income (9) Asset classes covered Other ☑ (E) Utilities **Target details** (E) Utilities 2019 (1) Baseline year (2) Target to be met by 2023 (1) Scope 1 (3) Emissions included in target (2) Scope 2 Other: exclusion of utilities whose carbon intensity is not in line with a Paris aligned (4) Methodology trajectory



(5) Metric used		(9) Other	
(6) Baseline amount	429 gCO2 /kW		
(7) Current amount (if different from baseline amount)	374g CO2 /kWh		
(8) Targeted reduction with respect to baseline	17.5%		
(9) Asset classes covered		Listed equity Fixed income Other	
<ul> <li>(F) Cement</li> <li>(G) Steel</li> <li>(H) Aviation</li> <li>(I) Heavy duty road</li> <li>(J) Light duty road</li> <li>(K) Shipping</li> <li>(L) Combined aviation, heavy duty ro</li> <li>(M) Aluminium</li> <li>(N) Agriculture, forestry, and fishery</li> <li>(O) Chemicals</li> <li>(P) Construction and buildings</li> <li>(Q) Textile and leather</li> <li>(R) Water</li> </ul>	bad, light duty road and shipping		
Indicator Type of indicator	Dependent on Gateway to	Disclosure Subsection	PRI Principle

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SO 3.3	PLUS	SO 3	N/A	PUBLIC	Focus: Setting net- zero targets	General

### Provide details of your net-zero targets for specific mandates or funds.

### (A) Fund or mandate #1

(1) Name of mandate or fund

### Climate Action.

The Climate Action fund focuses on Climate change. Environmental factors are taken into account to identify the best positioned companies to provide solutions to climate change challenges through mitigation and adaption technologies, products and services as well as companies that will be able to leverage from the energy transition.

### (2) Target details



The fund has to maintain its temperature below 2.5°C and reach < 2°C by 2025, using Carbon4Finance methodology. Fund AuM at end 2022: 1812.32 mio \$

#### ☑ (B) Fund or mandate #2

(1) Name of mandate or fund

Circular Economy.

The Circular Economy fund framework targets the selection of enablers and transformers actors:

- "Enablers" are companies which provide new technologies, innovative product and service solutions to support other businesses and stakeholders to avoid or minimize resource use and waste generation and thus enabling circular economy transition.

- "Transformers" are companies in the process of transforming their business operations and value chain into circular ones, with the aim to provide products or services that help consumers reduce their environmental impact.

(2) Target details

The fund has to maintain its temperature below 2.5°C and reach < 2°C by 2025, using Carbon4Finance methodology. Fund AuM at end 2022: 705.52 mio \$

#### ☑ (C) Fund or mandate #3

(1) Name of mandate or fund

Future of Mobility.

The Future of Mobility fund framework targets companies that actively contribute to a more responsible way of mobility. Companies eligible for this strategy will help preserve the environment by offering solutions that make mobility more environmentally friendly, more safe and more efficient.

#### (2) Target details

The fund has to maintain its temperature below 2.5°C and reach < 2°C by 2025, using Carbon4Finance methodology. Fund AuM at end 2022: 465.3 mio \$

 $\Box$  (D) Fund or mandate #4

- $\Box$  (E) Fund or mandate #5
- $\Box$  (F) Fund or mandate #6
- $\Box$  (G) Fund or mandate #7
- $\Box$  (H) Fund or mandate #8
- $\Box$  (I) Fund or mandate #9
- $\Box$  (J) Fund or mandate #10



# TRACKING PROGRESS AGAINST TARGETS

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
SO 4	PLUS	SO 2	SO 4.1	PUBLIC	Tracking progress against targets	1
Does your	organisation track progres	s against your ne	arest-term sust	ainability outc	omes targets?	
		(A1) Sustainabil	ity outcome #1	:		
(A1) Sus	stainability outcome #1:	NZAM AUM com	mitment			
Target n	ame:	NZAM AUM com	mitment			
progress	ur organisation track s against your nearest-term bility outcome targets?	(1) Yes				
		(B1) Sustainabil	ity outcome #2	:		
(B1) Sus	stainability outcome #2:	NZAM portfolio e	missions			
Target n	ame:	NZAM portfolio e	missions			
progress	ur organisation track s against your nearest-term bility outcome targets?			(1) Yes		
		(C1) Sustainabil	ity outcome #3	:		
(C1) Sus	stainability outcome #3:	NZAM climate en	ngagement			
Target n	ame:	NZ Top Contribut	or Engagement			



Does your organisation track progress against your nearest-term sustainability outcome targets?

	(C2) Sustainability outcome #3:			
(C2) Sustainability outcome #3:	NZAM climate engagement			
Target name:	NZ emissions covered by engagement			
Does your organisation track progress against your nearest-term sustainability outcome targets?	(1) Yes			
	(D1) Sustainability outcome #4:			
(D1) Sustainability outcome #4:	UN Global Compact monitoring			
Target name:	Absence of severe UNGC breach			
Does your organisation track progress against your nearest-term sustainability outcome targets?	(1) Yes			
	(E1) Sustainability outcome #5:			
(E1) Sustainability outcome #5:	Allocation of green bonds in corporate sustainable funds			
Target name:	increase allocation green bonds in A9 SFDR funds			
Does your organisation track progress against your nearest-term sustainability outcome targets?	(1) Yes			

(1) Yes



Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
SO 4.1	PLUS	SO 4	N/A	PUBLIC	Tracking progress against targets	1

During the reporting year, what qualitative or quantitative progress did your organisation achieve against your nearestterm sustainability outcome targets?

	(A1) Sustainability Outcome #1: Target details			
(A1) Sustainability Outcome #1:	NZAM AUM commitment			
(1) Target name	NZAM AUM commitment			
(2) Target to be met by	2030			
(3) Metric used (if relevant)	% AuM in line with Net Zero			
(4) Current level or amount (if relevant)	17%			
(5) Other qualitative or quantitative progress				
(6) Methodology for tracking progress	We measure progress on our total AuM and on our AuM excluding mandates			
	(B1) Sustainability Outcome #2: Target details			
(B1) Sustainability Outcome #2:	NZAM portfolio emissions			
(1) Target name	NZAM portfolio emissions			
(2) Target to be met by	2030			
(3) Metric used (if relevant)	tCO2e (scope 1&2)/Mn USD revenues			



(4) Current level or amount (if relevant)	78,1
(5) Other qualitative or quantitative progress	
(6) Methodology for tracking progress	Average carbon intensity of funds in the net zero perimeter. This is a 27.3% reduction taking the same fund perimeter (AuM 2022 and back- calculating 2019 levels for funds that did not exist in 2019) and a 17.4% reduction when not adjusting for AuM evolution (so taking 2019 AuM, without considering some funds that were created after)
	(C1) Sustainability Outcome #3: Target details
(C1) Sustainability Outcome #3:	NZAM climate engagement
(1) Target name	NZ Top Contributor Engagement
(2) Target to be met by	2025
(3) Metric used (if relevant)	Number of actively engaged top corporate contributors to our NZ perimeter WACI
(4) Current level or amount (if relevant)	This engagement started in the second halve of 2022. By the 31st of December 2022, we had directly contacted 47 companies accounting for 50,7% of our NZ scope Weighted Average Carbon Intensity. We initiated dialogue with these priority companies by explaining our engagement strategy and objectives, and offering them to enter into a multiyear dialogue on climate. At end 2022, we had already received several positive answers, and further calls are scheduled for 2023.
(5) Other qualitative or quantitative progress	Amongst companies engaged, we clearly see that there is a wide range of different 1.5°C alignment levels. But what is really interesting is that when you look at leaders, in terms of disclosure and strategy, it is still critical that we continue to engage with them. Recent event such as droughts across Europe, the war in Ukraine, and political pushbacks (e.g. anti-ESG movement in the US) have sometimes distracted even these leaders from their short-terms emission reduction targets.



(6) Methodology for tracking progress	Number of top WACI contributors actively engaged. For every company engaged, we have defined objectives and timeline and have chosen what appeared to us as the best approach to exercise our leverage. We regularly monitor where we stand compared to planned timeline and objectives, and eventually adjust them if needed. A proprietary database covering dialogue and voting records and connected to Candriam systems (including access to portfolios' positions, ESG analysis) enables us to track and monitor these engagements closely. This tool also allows us to see and set internal deadlines not to forget to remind issuers to answer us.
	Candriam's objective is to support our investee companies, and not to immediately divest if we determine that their progress is not 1.5°C aligned. We will have a 'route point' in 2025 to perform a global assessment of the progress, and to decide how we deal with the laggards, if there are any. An exception to this 'accompany rather than divest' principle may occur in cases where we have engaged with a company for years, expressing our discontent, and that company has nevertheless consistently refused to take action to adopt a 1.5°C pathway. Of course we have several intermediary escalation measures to show companies that we expect more:
	<ul> <li>Bringing other interested investors to the conversation to increase leverage with the company.</li> <li>Active Proxy Voting. We have a dedicated section in our Voting Policy on climate, where we detail how mismanagement of climate risks will impact our voting. Moreover, beginning in the 2023 AGM season, we start preannouncing our voting intentions ahead of selected AGMs to highlight and publicize our position on certain proposals.</li> </ul>
	(C2) Sustainability Outcome #3: Target details

(C2) Sustainability Outcome #3:	NZAM climate engagement
(1) Target name	NZ emissions covered by engagement
(2) Target to be met by	2030
(3) Metric used (if relevant)	% of financed emissions that will have been successfully engaged ("net zero" status) or will be under engagement, either direct or collaborative.
(4) Current level or amount (if relevant)	The companies on which we have started a Net Zero engagement represent 50,7% the the global WACI of our financed emissions on Candriam Net Zero scope.



(5) Other qualitative or quantitative progress	Amongst companies engaged, we clearly see that there is a wide range of different 1.5°C alignment levels. But what is really interesting is that when you look at leaders, in terms of disclosure and strategy, it is still critical that we continue to engage with them. Recent event such as droughts across Europe, the war in Ukraine, and political pushbacks (e.g. anti-ESG movement in the US) have sometimes distracted even these leaders from their short-terms emission reduction targets.
(6) Methodology for tracking progress	<ul> <li>Percentage WACI net zero scope actively engaged. For every company engaged, we have defined objectives and timeline and have chosen what appeared to us as the best approach to exercise our leverage. We regularly monitor where we stand compared to planned timeline and objectives, and eventually adjust them if needed.</li> <li>The proprietary database we use to monitor our engagement activities is helpful but above all, Candriam systems and WACI data available in these systems as well as regular checks performed with our Investment teams and Risk Departments enable us to check we are on track regarding our commitment.</li> <li>Candriam's objective is to support our investee companies, and not to immediately divest if we determine that their progress is not 1.5°C aligned.</li> <li>We will have a 'route point' in 2025 to perform a global assessment of the progress, and to decide how we deal with the laggards, if there are any. An exception to this 'accompany rather than divest' principle may occur in cases where we have engaged with a company for years, expressing our discontent, and that company has nevertheless consistently refused to take action to adopt a 1.5°C pathway.</li> <li>Of course we have several intermediary escalation measures to show companies that we expect more:</li> <li>Filing shareholder resolutions.</li> <li>Bringing other interested investors to the conversation to increase leverage with the company.</li> <li>Active Proxy Voting.</li> <li>We have a dedicated section in our Voting Policy on climate, where we detail how mismanagement of climate risks will impact our voting. Moreover, beginning in the 2023 AGM season, we start preannouncing our voting intentions ahead of selected AGMs to highlight and publicize our position on certain proposals.</li> </ul>
	(D1) Sustainability Outcome #4: Target details
(D1) Sustainability Outcome #4:	UN Global Compact monitoring
(1) Target name	Absence of severe UNGC breach
(2) Target to be met by	2023



(3) Metric used (if relevant)	all AUM covered by our company-wide exclusion policy
(4) Current level or amount (if relevant)	100 % AUM covered by our company-wide exclusion policy
(5) Other qualitative or quantitative progress	it's an ongoing due diligence process that is applied and at the moment a corporate issuer belongs to an exclusion list, new investment is forbidden and divestment is requested to the portfolio managers
(6) Methodology for tracking progress	The risk management tool detects the exposure to companies excluded for UNGC severe breach when portfolio managers try to buy new positions and those are blocked to avoid transaction execution. For existing positions in portfolios, the risk department delivers a report of the positions at the moment the exclusion of the issuer is decided. The standard rule is that portfolio managers have one month to divest. Exception can be given if there are market liquidity issues or if market conditions are not favorable but the waiver has to be approved by the Sustainability Risk Committee.
	(E1) Sustainability Outcome #5: Target details
(E1) Sustainability Outcome #5:	Allocation of green bonds in corporate sustainable funds
(1) Target name	increase allocation green bonds in A9 SFDR funds
(2) Target to be met by	2025
(3) Metric used (if relevant)	% of the fund
(4) Current level or amount (if relevant)	
(5) Other qualitative or quantitative progress	In 2022, we launched our Impact Bonds strategy, that focuses mainly on green bonds, and also on sustainable and social bonds.
(6) Methodology for tracking progress	We measure the percentage allocated to green bonds in each fixed income portfolio. We have set our own proprietary green bond assessment to evaluate the quality, ESG and environmental credentials of each green bond issuances. We are much stricter than green bond indices and reference bodies such as ICMA.



# INDIVIDUAL AND COLLABORATIVE INVESTOR ACTION ON OUTCOMES

# LEVERS USED TO TAKE ACTION ON SUSTAINABILITY OUTCOMES

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
SO 5	PLUS	SO 2	Multiple	PUBLIC	Levers used to take action on sustainability outcomes	1, 2, 5

During the reporting year, which of the following levers did your organisation use to take action on sustainability outcomes, including to prevent and mitigate actual and potential negative outcomes?

Image: A Stewardship with investees, including engagement, (proxy) voting, and direct influence with privately held assets Select from drop down list:

- ☑ (1) Individually
- ☑ (2) With other investors or stakeholders
- □ (B) Stewardship: engagement with external investment managers
- ☑ (C) Stewardship: engagement with policy makers
  - Select from drop down list:
    - $\Box$  (1) Individually
    - (2) With other investors or stakeholders
- ☑ (D) Stewardship: engagement with other key stakeholders
  - Select from drop down list:
    - 🗆 (1) Individually
  - (2) With other investors or stakeholders
- ☑ (E) Capital allocation

• (F) Our organisation did not use any of the above levers to take action on sustainability outcomes during the reporting year

# **CAPITAL ALLOCATION**

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
SO 6	PLUS	SO 5	N/A	PUBLIC	Capital allocation	1

During the reporting year, how did your organisation use capital allocation to take action on sustainability outcomes, including to prevent and mitigate actual and potential negative outcomes?



(1) Capital allocation activities used	<ul><li>(1) Asset class allocation</li><li>(2) Sector allocation</li><li>(4) Divestment from assets or sectors</li></ul>
(2) Explain through an example	Through our ESG model, that puts the majority of the weighting on climate in high stake sectors, we have selected companies that have demonstrated sufficient to outstanding climate strategy, and that are contributing positively to the ecological transition. Indeed, part of our ESG proprietary model (business activity dimension) is based on an in-depth assessment of the positive or negative contribution of activities to key sustainability challenges, including climate change. We have about 1200 activities that are covered in our ESG model, allowing to conduct a very precise assessment of the positive or negative contribution, we use climate data from C4F in order to assess to what extent each issuer is contributing positively or negatively to reaching the Paris goals. Issuer level data are available to all investment teams in fund management tools, and some SRI strategies have temperature limit as part of their climate objectives. This assessment is then used in ESG marketed strategies in order to avoid the most significant transition risks and maximize the share of our investments in companies that contribute positively to the transition.
	(B) Sustainability Outcome #1:
(B) Sustainability Outcome #1:	NZAM AUM commitment
(1) Capital allocation activities used	<ul> <li>(1) Asset class allocation</li> <li>(2) Sector allocation</li> <li>(4) Divestment from assets or sectors</li> <li>(5) Other</li> </ul>
(2) Explain through an example	We ensure that our SFDR Article 9 strategies adapt their asset allocation and sector exposure so it can be net zero compatible. The launch of new strategies, especially in SFDR Article 8 & 9, is always considered in the light of our Net Zero commitment. Article 9 funds are supposed to be Net Zero compatible, except for Socially themed strategies.



### (C) Sustainability Outcome #2:

(C) Sustainability Outcome #2:	NZAM portfolio emissions
(1) Capital allocation activities used	<ul><li>(2) Sector allocation</li><li>(3) Selection of and allocation to third-party funds</li><li>(4) Divestment from assets or sectors</li></ul>
(2) Explain through an example	Progress on WACI reduction was achieved combining different factors: - carbon reduction of investee companies : as climate change is an important factor in ESG eligibility, we tend to invest in companies that have robust climate strategies, especially in high stake sectors. Many investee companies had a decarbonization rate even higher than the required 7% p.a., thus helping in reaching our NZ objectives. - stock picking, by putting more weight on or adding companies with robust climate strategies.
	This is done using several tools: ESG ratings, Net Zero Assessment, Transition Risk asSessment, GHG emissions intensity, temperature alignment data, green share, brown share. Without naming issuers, companies with temperature ratings in line with 1.5°C or 2°C scenario that have lower WACI than peers were favoured. - excluding activities or applying stricter exclusion thresholds on climate harmful activities: coal exclusion threshold was lowered to 5% revenues company-wide; in SRI strategies, oil & gas exclusion was expanded to refining and transport, for utilities, carbon intensity threshold was further lowered in order to mirror the decrease needed in a Paris-aligned scenario. It meant for example that several integrated oil & gas companies or pure refiners were no longer eligible to SFDR Art 9 and some Art 8 strategies.
(D) Sustainability Outcome #3:	(D) Sustainability Outcome #3: NZAM climate engagement
(1) Capital allocation activities used	(5) Other
(2) Explain through an example	NA



### (E) Sustainability Outcome #4:

(E) Sustainability Outcome #4:	UN Global Compact monitoring
(1) Capital allocation activities used	(4) Divestment from assets or sectors
(2) Explain through an example	The monitoring of UNGC related incidents leads to the update of our "red flag" and "out list" exclusion lists and the divestment of positions in portfolios exposed to the excluded issuer. In Candriam's "out list" 4 companies directly covered remained ineligible in 2022 for significant and repeated breaches of international social, human, environmental and anti-corruption standards, as defined by the UN Global Compact and the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises.
	Candriam's article 9 classified financial products apply the most stringent level, namely the "red flag" exclusion list, aimed at identifying companies subject to serious and ver- serious controversies in terms of impact, duration, frequency or lack of response from company management.17 companies lost their eligibility in 2022. Credit Suisse is a case in point, as the bank has been the subject of serious corruption charges, following a massive leak revealing hidden funds belonging to customers involved in serious crimes such as torture, drug trafficking and money laundering. Despite Crédit Suisse's repeated promises to regularize the situation, the investigation revealed significant failings in the bank's due diligence. The bank's governance has also been criticized and has been implicated in several investigations and lawsuits for alleged market manipulation. These factors have led to a negative opinion of the company and a red category rating in our normative analysis with regard to governance and corruption. <b>(F) Sustainability Outcome #5:</b>
(F) Sustainability Outcome #5:	Allocation of green bonds in corporate sustainable funds
(1) Capital allocation activities used	(1) Asset class allocation
(2) Explain through an example	The increase in green bonds exposure will lead to reallocation of capital in the funds ir favor of green bonds issuers and issuance that are eligible to our criteria (ESG eligible issuer and control of the use of proceeds)



Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
SO 7	PLUS	00 17 FI, SO 1	N/A	PUBLIC	Capital allocation	1
During the reporting year, did you use thematic bonds to take action on sustainability outcomes, including to prevent a mitigate actual and potential negative outcomes?						
		Thematic bond(s)	) label			
(A) Sustainab NZAM AUM c	bility Outcome #1: commitment		(A)	Green/climate b	onds	
(B) Sustainab NZAM portfol	ility Outcome #2: io emissions		(A)	Green/climate b	onds	
	bility Outcome #3: e engagement	(F) Other Specify: NA				
	bility Outcome #4: UN act monitoring	(F) Other Specify: NA				
Allocation of g	bility Outcome #5: green bonds in stainable funds		(A)	Green/climate b	onds	

# **STEWARDSHIP WITH INVESTEES**

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
SO 8	PLUS	SO 5	N/A	PUBLIC	Stewardship with investees	2

During the reporting year, how did your organisation use stewardship with investees to take action on sustainability outcomes, including preventing and mitigating actual and potential negative outcomes?



(A)	Across	all	sustainability	outcomes
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(B) Sustainability Outcome #1:
NZAM AUM commitment
Engagement is one of the main tool that we used and are using to try to drive improvements within our investees. We believe the engagement tool is, as of today, the most efficient tool to make things change. Candriam uses two main forms of engagement for reaching its NZ targets : direct and collaborative engagement. Experience and research (Dimson & al. 2015, Barko & al. 2021) have shown that collaborative engagements are most efficient to drive progress. Still, direct engagement is very important as it enables us to be more reactive and more agile. Combination of both is therefore particularly important to us. In addition and part of this NZ engagement approach we have developed an ambitious and active voting policy. Coherence between our opinion on the company's climate strategy, dialogue and our effective votes is crucial. We do not hesitate either to co-file resolutions when we consider they will enables us to move the lines or when we need to escalate a previous unsuccessful engagement.
<ul> <li>(1) Engagement</li> <li>(2) (Proxy) voting at shareholder meetings</li> <li>(3) Filing of shareholder resolutions or proposals</li> <li>(9) Other</li> </ul>
note : "other" makes reference to exchanges with third-parties (auditors, proxy advisors,regulators)
At Candriam, since the beginning of the Say On Climate (management sponsored resolution asking shareholders to give heir opinion on the climate strategy of the company) trend, we have put in place a comprehensive and demanding climate analysis framework in order to have an unbiased approach when voting to a SOC. In 2022, we had to vote on 32 SOC, and supported only 6.



More specifically, for the 3 Oil & Gaz companies having proposed Say on climate and part of our Net Zero Engagement Scope, we oppose to 100% of these Say on climate resolutions : we regret most climate plans suffer from pitfalls that fail to align with a Paris aligned trajectory : growth of production is among these as in contradiction with IPCC and IEA Paris aligned trajectory, as well as unclear or missing absolute Scope 3 emissions reduction targets.

We also reanalyze internally every shareholder resolution, thus every climate-related shareholder resolution.

In 2022, we supported 71 out of 83 climate-related shareholder proposals. In terms of co-filing, in 2022, we co-filed a climate resolution at at TotalEnergies and at a European Bank, as an escalation measure.

We have also targeted specific CA100+ companies that are lagging in terms of Climate Accounting, as per the CA100+ Climate Accounting and Audit Alignment Assessment done by Carbon Tracker.

As highlighted in their last report, "if there has been a growth in net zero pledges and other climate-related commitments and increased reporting on climate risks 'outside' the financial statements, most companies still do not appear to be including the financial impacts of such commitments, or indeed climate change risks, in their financial statements."

We have also consistently supported statements pushing for a mandatory say on climate vote every 3 years on the strategy, and every year on the progress over the implementation of this strategy.

Indeed, while CSRD will enable increase in climate transparency, nothing is planned to bring this topic into annual shareholder discussion. At shareholder meetings, we voted in favour of all resolutions or proposals that advanced our sustainability outcomes and voted against all those that undermined them. As a result, in 2022 and focusing on corporates targeted by our Net Zero engagement campaign, we supported only 4 out of 22 management -sponsored climate proposals

Finally, we are member of the Institutional Investors Group on Climate Change (IIGCC) since 2020.

Under the direction of the IIGCC, a group of leading global investors has defined a list of expectations for the banking sector, calling on banks to set improved net-zero targets for 2050 along with interim targets, to step up the development of green finance, and to withdraw from projects that do not meet the goals of the 2015 Paris Agreement and treaty.

Having taken part in the IIGCC Working Group on banking since 2020, we decided to play a more active role, taking an active role in the associated engagements beginning of 2022.

This collaborative engagement aims to guide banks toward a net zero emissions path.



	The academic partner for this project is the Transition Pathway Initiative (TPI), whose Assessment framework is the starting piece to discuss the strategy and performance of banks regarding their transition to Net Zero. We were and still are lead investor for Credit Agricole and Société Générale, and acted as a collaborating investor for the other entities targeted through this engagement. We do publicly endorse this initiative, since we publicly mention our membership in our 2022 Engagement report. Candriam will continue to play an active role in this initiative, and we hope to help this group secure improvements during 2023.	
	(C) Sustainability Outcome #2:	
(C) Sustainability Outcome #2:	NZAM portfolio emissions	
(1) Describe your approach	Engagement is one of the main tool that we used and are using to try to drive improvements within our investees. We believe the engagement tool is, as of today, the most efficient tool to make things change. Candriam uses two main forms of engagement for reaching its NZ targets : direct and collaborative engagement. Experience and research (Dimson & al. 2015, Barko & al. 2021) have shown that collaborative engagements are most efficient to drive progress. Still, direct engagement is very important as it enables us to be more reactive and more agile. Combination of both is therefore particularly important to us. In addition and part of this NZ engagement approach we have developed an ambitious and active voting policy. Coherence between our opinion on the company's climate strategy, dialogue and our effective votes is crucial. We do not hesitate either to co-file resolutions when we consider they will enables us to move the lines or when we need to escalate a previous unsuccessful engagement.	
(2) Stewardship tools or activities used	(1) Engagement (2) (Proxy) voting at shareholder meetings (3) Filing of shareholder resolutions or proposals	

(9) Other



note : "other" makes reference to exchanges with third-parties (auditors, proxy advisors, regulators)

At Candriam, since the beginning of the Say On Climate (management sponsored resolution asking shareholders to give heir opinion on the climate strategy of the company) trend, we have put in place a comprehensive and demanding climate analysis framework in order to have an unbiased approach when voting to a SOC. In 2022, we had to vote on 32 SOC, and supported only 6. More specifically, for the 3 Oil & Gaz companies having proposed Say on climate and part of our Net Zero Engagement Scope, we oppose to 100% of these Say on climate resolutions : we regret most climate plans suffer from pitfalls that fail to align with a Paris aligned trajectory : growth of production is among these as in contradiction with IPCC and IEA Paris aligned trajectory, as well as unclear or missing absolute Scope 3 emissions reduction targets.

We also reanalyze internally every shareholder resolution, thus every climate-related shareholder resolution. In 2022, we supported 71 out of 83 climate-related shareholder proposals.

In terms of co-filing, in 2022, we co-filed a climate resolution at at TotalEnergies and at a European Bank, as an escalation measure.

We have also targeted specific CA100+ companies that are lagging in terms of Climate Accounting, as per the CA100+ Climate Accounting and Audit Alignment Assessment done by Carbon Tracker. As highlighted in their last report, "if there has been a growth in net zero pledges and other climate-related commitments and increased reporting on climate risks 'outside' the financial statements, most companies still do not appear to be including the financial impacts of such commitments, or indeed climate change risks, in their financial statements."

We have also consistently supported statements pushing for a mandatory say on climate vote every 3 years on the strategy, and every year on the progress over the implementation of this strategy. Indeed, while CSRD will enable increase in climate transparency, nothing is planned to bring this topic into annual shareholder discussion. At shareholder meetings, we voted in favour of all resolutions or proposals that advanced our sustainability outcomes and voted against all those that undermined them. As a result, in 2022 and focusing on corporates targeted by our Net Zero engagement campaign, we supported only 4 out of 22 management -sponsored climate proposals

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(3) Example

	<ul> <li>Having taken part in the IIGCC Working Group on banking since 2020, we decided to play a more active role, taking an active role in the associated engagements beginning of 2022.</li> <li>This collaborative engagement aims to guide banks toward a net zero emissions path. The academic partner for this project is the Transition Pathway Initiative (TPI), whose Assessment framework is the starting piece to discuss the strategy and performance of banks regarding their transition to Net Zero.</li> <li>We were and still are lead investor for Credit Agricole and Société Générale, and acted as a collaborating investor for the other entities targeted through this engagement. We do publicly endorse this initiative, since we publicly mention our membership in our 2022 Engagement report. Candriam will continue to play an active role in this initiative, and we hope to help this group secure improvements during 2023.</li> </ul>
	(D) Sustainability Outcome #3:
(D) Sustainability Outcome #3:	NZAM climate engagement
(1) Describe your approach	Engagement is one of the main tool that we used and are using to try to drive improvements within our investees. We believe the engagement tool is, as of today, the most efficient tool to make things change. Candriam uses two main forms of engagement for reaching its NZ targets : direct and collaborative engagement. Experience and research (Dimson & al. 2015, Barko & al. 2021) have shown that collaborative engagements are most efficient to drive progress. Still, direct engagement is very important as it enables us to be more reactive and more agile. Combination of both is therefore particularly important to us. In addition and part of this NZ engagement approach we have developed an ambitious and active voting policy. Coherence between our opinion on the company's climate strategy, dialogue and our effective votes is crucial. We do not hesitate either to cofile resolutions when we consider they will enables us to move the lines or when we need to escalate a previous unsuccessful engagement.
(2) Stewardship tools or activities used	<ul><li>(1) Engagement</li><li>(2) (Proxy) voting at shareholder meetings</li><li>(3) Filing of shareholder resolutions or proposals</li><li>(9) Other</li></ul>
(3) Example	note : "other" makes reference to exchanges with third-parties (auditors, proxy advisors,regulators) At Candriam, since the beginning of the Say On Climate (management sponsored resolution asking shareholders to give heir opinion on the climate strategy of the company) trend, we have put in place a comprehensive and demanding climate analysis framework in order to have an unbiased approach when voting to a SOC. In 2022, we had to vote on 32 SOC, and supported only 6.



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Having taken part in the IIGCC Working Group on banking since 2020, we decided to play a more active role, taking an active role in the associated engagements beginning of 2022.

This collaborative engagement aims to guide banks toward a net zero emissions path.



	The academic partner for this project is the Transition Pathway Initiative (TPI), whose Assessment framework is the starting piece to discuss the strategy and performance of banks regarding their transition to Net Zero. We were and still are lead investor for Credit Agricole and Société Générale, and acted as a collaborating investor for the other entities targeted through this engagement. We do publicly endorse this initiative, since we publicly mention our membership in our 2022 Engagement report. Candriam will continue to play an active role in this initiative, and we hope to help this group secure improvements during 2023.
	(E) Sustainability Outcome #4:
(E) Sustainability Outcome #4:	UN Global Compact monitoring
(1) Describe your approach	Through engagement, we support adoption of best practices but we also gain some insights on companies that will feed our ESG analysis. For some controversies, ESG analysis will conclude engagement cannot help improving the situation or that the case is too severe and directly leads to the inedibility of the company.
	Candriam makes every effort to ensure that the exercise of voting rights is aligned with the protection of Human, LAbour Rights and fundamental principles of the UNGC. We have had our own Voting Policy since 2003 and it includes the ESG performance of companies when analysing ballots and determining votes. Our Voting Analysts consider the following: o ESG performance scores o Past and present controversies.
	Through our engagement with investee companies and countries, Candriam seeks to promote the protection of Fundamental Rights notably through the implementation of proper business due diligence. This field of engagement, and more specifically the Human Rights aspects, has become more prominent over the past five years. Areas in which Human Rights risks are most salient include, but are not limited to, supply chain management, forced labour, and digital rights. For corporate issuers, as an example, Candriam clearly expresses through our engagements that issuers should demonstrate, amongst other elements: o The existence of a strong Human Rights policy o Strong Human Rights governance o Regular Human Rights impact assessments o Human Rights due diligence procedures covering operations and supply chains o Human Rights risk remediation procedures



o A whistleblowing program o Regular Human Rights performance reporting.

When feasible, we attach great importance to exchanges we may have with companies' stakeholders such as unions' or civil society's representatives.

(2) Stewardship tools or activities used	(1) Engagement (2) (Proxy) voting at shareholder meetings (5) Leveraging roles on the board or board committees (e.g. nomination committees)
(3) Example	As a matter of example, out of the 427 direct dialogues we had with corporates in 2022, 17% were related to potential violation of UN Global compact and OECD principles. On the collaborative side, not considering CDP surveys and out of 2074 dialogues we supported either actively or passively, more than halve was related to such potential breaches.
	On the voting side, in 2022, we supported 20 out of 21 shareholder resolutions in relation to human rights. A lot of collaborative initiatives we support are also in relation to protection of human rights or labour rights : either they support increased transparency on this matter of try to influence practices. While we have been particularly active on risks posed by new technologies to human rights, we are also active within the investors engaging on Uyghurs controversies and coordinated by the Investor Alliance for Human Rights, but also in the engagement attached to the Corporate Human Right Benchmark. As detailed in our last Voting and Engagement annual review, we also led direct campaigns dealing with presence in regimes such as Myanmar or Russia considered as oppressive by our ESG sovereign analysis. Challenging companies on the way they conduct effective human rights due diligence, to identify potential adverse human rights impacts from their activities, integrate these findings into operations, to monitor measures in place to address these risks and finally report on the whole process and outcomes. After unsatisfactory engagement, we may take escalation measures, as we describe in our Teleperformance case Study for instance (https://www.candriam.com/en/professional/SysSiteAssets/medias/publications/sustainable-investment/teleperformance/2023_02_teleperformance_update_engagement_en_web.pdf) . In this specific case, and in the context of the new Duty of Vigilance coming into effect in France in 2017, we started engagement after UNI Global Union released survey results from the independent consultant Syndex, concluding that Teleperformance fell short of the new law.



	Since then we have indeed continued to engage with Teleperformance, both directly and in collaboration with other investors. We have shared our concerns, and shared examples of good practices. We have aided in the increased disclosure of human capital. Following our actions, the company has set up a CSR (Corporate Social Responsibility) committee at Board level, which we believe is fully independent, and which is chaired by an independent director with experience in human resource management. We saw signs of a more structured strategy of risk assessment and management of labour and human rights. However strong concerns remained : as an escalation measure we introduced questions at 2022 AGM. Considering pertaining weaknesses, followed by the insufficient answers to our questions at the April 2022 AGM, we performed a thorough review and update of our ESG analysis and in September, and removed Teleperformance from our ESG-eligible universe for Article 9 funds and sustainable portfolios. Following new allegations in Columbia in November 2022, Teleperformance signed an agreement with UNI Global Union, a global union federation for the services sectors, aimed at strengthening shared commitments to workers' rights to form trade unions and engage in collective bargaining. We commend this move in the right direction and will continue engaging with the company. Environmental controversies may lead also to engagement. That was the case in 2022 with Repsol : on 15 January 2022, nearly 12,000 barrels of crude oil spilled into the sea off the coast of Peru. It came from a tanker unloading at La Pampilla Refinery, which is owned by Repsol. We entered into dialogue with the company ; the investigation on the respective responsibilities is orgoing. Repsol has launched by Peruvian authorities. The investigation into the respective responsibilities between the company and local authorities is crucial for what as been qualified by many as an ecological disaster. We are still monitOring the company. In 2023, and regarding some new
	(F) Sustainability Outcome #5:
(F) Sustainability Outcome #5:	Allocation of green bonds in corporate sustainable funds
(1) Describe your approach	
(2) Stewardship tools or activities used	



#### (3) Example

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
SO 9	PLUS	SO 5	N/A	PUBLIC	Stewardship with investees	2

#### How does your organisation prioritise the investees you conduct stewardship with to take action on sustainability outcomes, including preventing and mitigating actual and potential negative outcomes?

#### (A) We prioritise the most strategically important companies in our portfolio.

Describe how you do this:

This is not the main criteria we will take into account. But in the end, the target that have been selected based on their importance in Candriam portfolio and their impact on the sustainability outcome, will ultimately be companies with huge influence over their peers, their supply chain, professional associations & political organization. That is why, amongst the criteria we are looking at when assessing the transition strategy of a company, we give high importance to suppliers engagement, client engagement and lobbying activities aligned with the goals of the Paris Agreement.

Select from the list:

#### 4

#### (B) We prioritise the companies in our portfolio most significantly connected to sustainability outcomes. Describe how you do this:

That is for sure one of the main driver we take into consideration. Our objective is to have the most positive impact possible. Therefore, we need to target companies that have the most negative impact. For example, for Candriam's net zero engagement, we follow closely the WACI metric which takes into account both the emissions of the company, and the weight it represents within our portfolio.

Select from the list:

#### 2

(C) We prioritise the companies in our portfolio to ensure that we cover a certain proportion of the sustainability outcomes we are taking action on.

Describe how you do this:

As a responsible asset manager with a fiduciary duty to protect our clients' interest, the first criteria we are going to take into account will be the materiality of the ESG problematic for Candriam's and it's clients' assets. For example, for Candriam's net zero engagement, we follow closely the WACI metric which takes into account both the emissions of the company, and the weight it represents within our portfolio. For choosing target, we based ourselves first foremost on the percentage of WACI the company represented out of the total Candriam's net zero scope WACI.

Select from the list:

#### **1**

☑ (D) Other

Describe:

Various. We also take into consideration engagement history, institutional clients (NZAO) specifics requests, as well as sector representation and value chain approach. This explains why we have today in our target engagement scope, representatives of the financials sector for instance.



# STEWARDSHIP: ENGAGEMENT WITH POLICY MAKERS

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
SO 11	PLUS	SO 5	N/A	PUBLIC	Stewardship: Engagement with policy makers	2

During the reporting year, how did your organisation use engagement with policy makers to take action on sustainability outcomes, including preventing and mitigating actual and potential negative outcomes?

	(A) Across all sustainability outcomes
(1) Describe your approach	
(2) Engagement tools or activities used	
(3) Example(s) of policies engaged on	
	(B) Sustainability Outcome #1:
(B) Sustainability Outcome #1:	NZAM AUM commitment
(1) Describe your approach	
(2) Engagement tools or activities used	
(3) Example(s) of policies engaged on	
	(C) Sustainability Outcome #2:
(C) Sustainability Outcome #2:	NZAM portfolio emissions
(1) Describe your approach	



(3) Example(s) of policies engaged on

	(D) Sustainability Outcome #3:
(D) Sustainability Outcome #3:	NZAM climate engagement
(1) Describe your approach	Sometimes, obstacles to sustainability outcome cannot be waived by engaging at corporate level, they need to be addressed directly towards regulators, politics and policy makers. These engagements are often highly uncertain, and with lower likelihood to succeed, but if so, the results have an effect over entire industries, if not the whole market.
(2) Engagement tools or activities used	(1) We participated in 'sign-on' letters (3) We provided technical input via government- or regulator-backed working groups
(3) Example(s) of policies engaged on	Filing a shareholder resolution in France is a difficult right to implement as the legal framework is restrictive. The minimum share threshold to file is 0.5%, which for large caps severely limits the number of shareholders who can file resolutions or makes it extremely difficult to coordinate the co-filing process as many investors need to be involved . In addition, the deadlines are very restrictive, and a management opposed to the filing of a resolution can deny the right of shareholders without any justification or consequence. Shareholder dialogue on climate issues suffers from an efficiency problem in France. The transition plans published by companies are still incomplete. Thus, we took part to an initiative aiming to improve the quality of the Say-on-Climate resolutions of French companies. The investor group seeks information and reporting which are required for investors to assess alignment of their portfolios to 1.5°C scenarios (NZAMi), with the goals of the Paris Agreement, and the IEA Net Zero Emissions 2050 Scenarios.
	In 2022 as an outcome of this thinking process, and due the demanding procedure, especially in France, we were only able to co-file one resolution at TotalEnergies. In parallel to this campaign, we supported the French Sustainable Investment Forum, which calls on companies to present ambitious climate plans and to put these plans every 3 years to shareholders vote, and to put the report of the progress against this plan every year at the agenda.



	(E) Sustainability Outcome #4:
(E) Sustainability Outcome #4:	UN Global Compact monitoring
(1) Describe your approach	We engage with policy makers on an opportunity basis and collaboratively so far on these matters.
(2) Engagement tools or activities used	(1) We participated in 'sign-on' letters
(3) Example(s) of policies engaged on	As a matter of example, in 2022, we co signed the 2022 Investor Statement In Support of EU Digital Rights Regulations. Through this Investor Statement in Support of Digital Rights Regulations, investors are supporting the need for rights-respecting internet regulation to protect people's rights to privacy and free expression, specifically the proposed EU Digital Services Act (DSA) in line with recommendations from the European Data Protection Supervisor, the European Data Protection Board and the U.N. Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression. This Investor Statement calls on the EU to develop regulation, including the DSA, to incentivise and enable technology companies to address risks related to surveillance-based online advertising enable by algorithmic systems and content management that may result in the silencing of journalists, dissident opinions, and vulnerable communities.
	(F) Sustainability Outcome #5:
(F) Sustainability Outcome #5:	Allocation of green bonds in corporate sustainable funds
(1) Describe your approach	
(2) Engagement tools or activities used	
(3) Example(s) of policies engaged	





# STEWARDSHIP: ENGAGEMENT WITH OTHER KEY STAKEHOLDERS

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
SO 12	PLUS	SO 5	N/A	PUBLIC	Stewardship: Engagement with other key stakeholders	2, 5

Does your organisation engage with other key stakeholders to support the development of financial products, services, research, and/or data aligned with global sustainability goals and thresholds?

	(A) Across all sustainability outcomes
(1) Key stakeholders engaged	
(2) Provide further detail on your engagement	
	(B) Sustainability Outcome #1:
(B) Sustainability Outcome #1:	NZAM AUM commitment
(1) Key stakeholders engaged	
(2) Provide further detail on your engagement	
	(C) Sustainability Outcome #2:
(C) Sustainability Outcome #2:	NZAM portfolio emissions
(1) Key stakeholders engaged	
(2) Provide further detail on your engagement	



(D) Sustainability Outcome #3:	NZAM climate engagement
(1) Key stakeholders engaged	<ul> <li>(1) Standard setters         <ul> <li>(5) Auditors</li> <li>(6) External service providers (e.g. proxy advisers, investment consultants, data providers)             <li>(7) Academia</li></li></ul></li></ul>
(2) Provide further detail on your engagement	In its commitment to the PRI principles, Candriam promotes best practices in the field of Responsible Investments and is pleased to contribute in various ways to help the financial industry and investee companies to progress in the transparency, measuring and reporting standards related to UNSDG. Among the recent actions and participations from Candriam's ESG experts, we can mention the following examples: - Candriam's representative in the AFG RI committee chaired a dedicated working group to define coal policy guidelines for asset managers.
	This has been followed by a commitment from AFG members to contribute to the French Observatoire de la Finance Durable which is a platform that disclose progress made by french financial actors in the field of ESG and climate strategies. Indicators like % AUM covered by ESG approach, by climate targets or by coal/O& G policy exclusion, type of metrics used are part of the disclosure. - As part of the IIGCC engagement on Paris-aligned accounting practices, Candriam has led an engagement towards the French big 4 auditing firm in order to encourage them to audit climate disclosure when climate is material for the audited issuer.
	During pre-AGM engagement on climate-related matters, notably when we co-filed a shareholder resolution we engaged also towards proxy advisers to explain our approach and objectives by submitting such an item, as well as the fundamental criteria required to properly assess a Say on Climate resolution and a Net Zero Transition plan, according to us. - In our answer to the EFRAG consultation on European Sustainable Reporting Standards, Candriam supports the request for mandatory data related to Climate KPI & strategy to foster awareness and help investors and the community at large to get more reliable data on carbon emissions.



- As Vice-chair of the AFG RI workgroup, our Global Head of Corporate Sustainability participated to an AFG position paper to contribute to the French Minister of Finance "Mission Perrier" aiming to facilitate the greening of the economy. Among the proposed projects put forward we can mention standard rules for emissions scope accounting (especially for the scope 3), harmonization across the EU market of rules to file resolution at AGM.

	(E) Sustainability Outcome #4:
(E) Sustainability Outcome #4:	UN Global Compact monitoring
(1) Key stakeholders engaged	<ul> <li>(3) Stock exchanges</li> <li>(4) Credit rating agencies</li> <li>(6) External service providers (e.g. proxy advisers, investment consultants, data providers)</li> <li>(7) Academia</li> <li>(8) NGOs</li> </ul>
(2) Provide further detail on your engagement	Thanks to the collaborative initiatives we are part of (like UNI Care, Investor Alliance for Human Rights and the RDR / Uyghurs / CHRB working groups) but also thanks to the network of stakeholders we have been introduced to when preparing and launching our collaborative initiative on Facial Recognition, we have regular contact with unions, academic experts and representatives of NGOs. We also regularly meet our proxy advisors and discuss how to better integrate UNGC-related aspects into voting decisions.
	(F) Sustainability Outcome #5:
(F) Sustainability Outcome #5:	Allocation of green bonds in corporate sustainable funds
(1) Key stakeholders engaged	
(2) Provide further detail on your engagement	



# **STEWARDSHIP: COLLABORATION**

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
SO 13	PLUS	SO 5	N/A	PUBLIC	Stewardship: Collaboration	2

During the reporting year, to which collaborative initiatives did your organisation contribute to take action on sustainability outcomes, including preventing and mitigating actual and potential negative outcomes?

	(A) Initiative #1
(1) Name of the initiative	IGCC Banks Engagement
(2) Indicate how your organisation contributed to this collaborative initiative	<ul> <li>(A) We were a lead investor in one or more focus entities (e.g. investee companies)</li> <li>(B) We acted as a collaborating investor in one or more focus entities (e.g. investee companies)</li> <li>(C) We publicly endorsed the initiative</li> </ul>
	We are member of the Institutional Investors Group on Climate Change (IIGCC) since 2020.
(3) Provide further detail on your participation in this collaborative initiative	Under the direction of the IIGCC, a group of leading global investors has defined a list of expectations for the banking sector, calling on banks to set improved net-zero targets for 2050 along with interim targets, to step up the development of green finance, and to withdraw from projects that do not meet the goals of the 2015 Paris Agreement and treaty.
	<ul> <li>Having taken part in the IIGCC Working Group on banking since 2020, we decided to play a more active role, taking an active role in the associated engagements beginning in 2022.</li> <li>This collaborative engagement aims to guide banks toward a net zero emissions path. The academic partner for this project is the Transition Pathway Initiative (TPI), whose Assessment framework is the starting piece to discuss the strategy and performance of banks regarding their transition to Net Zero.</li> <li>We were and still are lead investor for Credit Agricole and Société Générale, and acted as a collaborating investor for the other entities targeted through this engagement. We do publicly endorse this initiative, since we publicly mention our membership in our 2022 Engagement report. Candriam will continue to play an active role in this initiative, and we hope to help this group secure its first improvements</li> </ul>



#### (B) Initiative #2

(1) Name of the initiative	Investor Policy Dialogue on Deforestation (IPDD)
(2) Indicate how your organisation contributed to this collaborative initiative	<ul> <li>(B) We acted as a collaborating investor in one or more focus entities (e.g. investee companies)</li> <li>(C) We publicly endorsed the initiative</li> <li>(E) We supported the coordination of the initiative (e.g. facilitating group meetings) or provided other administrative support</li> </ul>
(3) Provide further detail on your participation in this collaborative initiative	Stopping deforestation is essential to support limitation of temperature increase. Now entering its third year, IPDD is a very active initiative, with 67 Investors from 19 countries representing over \$10 trillion in AUM. This collective investor engagement undertaking dialogue with governments and related stakeholders on the issue of deforestation. In 2022, initiatives mainly exchanges with Brazil and Indonesia governments and regional representatives or government agencies. For both countries, recent positive trends are observed with slowing deforestation path, but level of forest losses still remain important. Present in both Brazil and Indonesia working groups, Candriam was more specifically active in the second one, with one member of our ESG team, from Indonesian nationality, playing the role of facilitator during our initial exchanges with government members.
	(C) Initiative #3
(1) Name of the initiative	Interim and long-term greenhouse gas targets at Caterpillar
(2) Indicate how your organisation contributed to this collaborative initiative	<ul> <li>(B) We acted as a collaborating investor in one or more focus entities (e.g. investee companies)</li> <li>(C) We publicly endorsed the initiative</li> </ul>
(3) Provide further detail on your participation in this collaborative	We have been member of CA100+ since launch in 2017. Caterpillar has been a company we have been active on within CA100+ working group. In spite of several contacts with the company, situation has not evolved as expected. As You Sow resolution on Climate filed for 2022 AGM was flagged by CA100+ website. The resolution (and vote outcome) was the result of a multi-year engagement effort to align Caterpillar's climate strategy with investor net-zero interests. The resolution asked management to release a report disclosing interim and long-term greenhouse gas



(1) Name of the initiative	Engagement on Facial Recognition
(2) Indicate how your organisation contributed to this collaborative initiative	<ul> <li>(A) We were a lead investor in one or more focus entities (e.g. investee companies)</li> <li>(B) We acted as a collaborating investor in one or more focus entities (e.g. investee companies)</li> <li>(C) We publicly endorsed the initiative</li> <li>(D) We provided pro bono advice, research or training</li> <li>(E) We supported the coordination of the initiative (e.g. facilitating group meetings) or</li> </ul>
	provided other administrative support (H) We contributed to the development of the initiative's materials and/or resources (e.g. co-authored a report)
(3) Provide further detail on your participation in this collaborative initiative	Protection of Fundamental Human & Labour Rights Sustainability outcome We started working on the risks paused by Facial Recognition Technology (FRT) back in 2020. As a responsible investor in technology, we felt a deeper understanding was needed, so we began by contacting experts, academics, journalist and NGOs.
	We published our findings in a white paper, because we felt it was important to share with the investor community. In March 2021, we published our investor guidance on the risk of Facial Recognition Technology. We gathered 55 of our asset management peers, representing over \$5trillion of AUM, to sign an investor statement on facial recognition.
	An investor statement, in itself, has limited impact and only a handful of issuer companies reacted to the statement.
	So, in 2022, with a smaller group of 20 investors ready to go the extra mile, we engaged with 30 companies involved in FRT. A report has been released in September 2022 on the
	outcome of this first phase of engagement (https://www.candriam.com/en/professional/insight-overview/topics/esg/facial- recognition-and-human-rightsresponsible-investors-acting-together/). We have launched this initiative and still coordinate it.
	Candriam facilitates groups meeting, provides administrative support to participant investors, organizes educational sessions with academic or civil society experts in the field. In addition, and given the growing number of initiatives dealing with impact of new technologies on human rights, Candriam coordinates with other organisations to be as efficient as possible, organizing for instance meeting with companies gathering several collaborative initiatives with close objectives.

(D) Initiative #4



# **CONFIDENCE-BUILDING MEASURES (CBM)**

# **CONFIDENCE-BUILDING MEASURES**

# APPROACH TO CONFIDENCE-BUILDING MEASURES

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
CBM 1	CORE	N/A	Multiple indicators	PUBLIC	Approach to confidence-building measures	6

How did your organisation verify the information submitted in your PRI report this reporting year?

(A) We conducted independent third-party assurance of selected processes and/or data related to the responsible investment processes reported in our PRI report, which resulted in a formal assurance conclusion

 $\Box$  (B) We conducted a third-party readiness review and are making changes to our internal controls or governance processes to be able to conduct independent third-party assurance next year

☑ (C) We conducted an internal audit of selected processes and/or data related to the responsible investment processes reported in our PRI report

□ (D) Our board, trustees (or equivalent), senior executive-level staff (or equivalent), and/or investment committee (or equivalent) signed off on our PRI report

(E) We conducted an external ESG audit of our holdings to verify that our funds comply with our responsible investment policy

☑ (F) We conducted an external ESG audit of our holdings as part of risk management, engagement identification or investment decision-making

G) Our responses in selected sections and/or the entirety of our PRI report were internally reviewed before submission to the PRI

 $\circ~$  (H) We did not verify the information submitted in our PRI report this reporting year

# THIRD-PARTY EXTERNAL ASSURANCE

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
CBM 2	CORE	OO 21, CBM 1	N/A	PUBLIC	Third-party external assurance	6

For which responsible investment processes and/or data did your organisation conduct third-party external assurance?

☑ (A) Policy, governance and strategy

Select from dropdown list:

- (1) Data assured
- (2) Processes assured
- (3) Processes and data assured
- ☑ (C) Listed equity



Select from dropdown list:

- (1) Data assured
- $\circ$  (2) Processes assured
- (3) Processes and data assured
- (D) Fixed income

Select from dropdown list:

- (1) Data assured
- (2) Processes assured
- (3) Processes and data assured

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
CBM 3	PLUS	CBM 1	N/A	PUBLIC	Third-party external assurance	6

#### Provide details of the third-party external assurance process regarding the information submitted in your PRI report.

(1) Description of the third-party external assurance process

The external assurance is conducted by auditors recognized by the SRI label in France and Belgium. In France, AFNOR conducts the audit each year in December. In Belgium, the audit is conducted yearly by a consortium of auditors that are expert in ESG. The scope of the audit covers: the ESG policy and ESG governance in place and all related documentations, the data sources used for ESG criteria applied and for ESG reportings (ex. Impact indicators like Portfolio carbon footprint), the internal resources and the process from ESG analysis and selection to portfolio construction and internal controls.

Stewardship activities are part of the audit process. Reports to clients, disclosure on internet and internal/external education program on ESG are also part of the audit as well as commercial activities. The auditors ask a global report on all those elements, a presentation of those is foreseen with representatives of all levels of the company and interview with staff members are conducted for the different activities. The auditor also test internal process (investment committee reports, flow of informations, risk controls,...) and portfolio compliance to the described approach and mandatory ESG criteria (incl. integration of ESG criteria in process and stewardship activities). This type of audit covers all our SRI strategies (which are art 9 SFDR classified products and some art 8 SFDR ones) and by this way also all our ESG integration process and ESG exclusion policy applied to Equity and Fixed income assets.

- (2) Assurance standard(s) used by the third-party assurance provider
- □ (A) PAS 7341:2020
- $\Box$  (B) ISAE 3000 and national standards based on this
- □ (C) Dutch Standard 3810N (Assurance engagements regarding sustainability reports)
- $\Box$  (D) RevR6 (Assurance of Sustainability)
- □ (E) IDW AsS 821 (Assurance Standard for the Audit or Review of Reports on Sustainability Issues)
- □ (F) Accountability AA1000 Assurance Standard (AA1000AS)
- $\Box$  (G) IFC performance standards
- $\Box$  (H) SSAE 18 and SOC 1

☑ (I) Other national auditing/assurance standard with guidance on sustainability; specify:

The audit conducted for the SRI labels (French national SRI label, BE Towards Sustainability label) covers the application of requested ESG criteria as well as the control of the governance, policies, data used and reporting/communication. Those audit cover our ESG integration approach applied to all Equity and Fixed income AUM.

- $\hfill\square$  (J) Invest Europe Handbook of Professional Standards
- □ (K) ISAE 3402 Assurance Reports on Controls at a Service Organisation
- □ (L) AAF 01/20
- □ (M) AAF 01/06 Stewardship Supplement
- □ (N) ISO 26000 Social Responsibility



(O) ISO 14065:2020 General principles and requirements for bodies validating and verifying environmental information

□ (P) ASAE 3410 Assurance Engagements on Greenhouse Gas Statements

□ (Q) PCAF

- □ (R) NGER audit framework (National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting)
- ☑ (S) Auditor's proprietary assurance framework for assuring RI-related information
- $\Box$  (T) Other greenhouse gas emissions assurance standard; specify:
- (3) Third-party external assurance provider's report that contains the assurance conclusion

https://www.candriam.com/en/professional/SysSiteAssets/funds/afnor/candriam-equities-l-emu-innovation.pdf https://towardssustainability.be/products/candriam-sustainable-equity-world#sustainability-strategies

## **INTERNAL AUDIT**

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle	
CBM 4	CORE	OO 21, CBM 1	N/A	PUBLIC	Internal audit	6	
<ul> <li>What responsible investment processes and/or data were audited through your internal audit function?</li> <li>(A) Policy, governance and strategy Select from dropdown list: <ul> <li>(1) Data internally audited</li> <li>(2) Processes internally audited</li> <li>(3) Processes and data internally audited</li> </ul> </li> <li>(C) Listed equity <ul> <li>Select from dropdown list:</li> <li>(1) Data internally audited</li> <li>(2) Processes internally audited</li> <li>(2) Processes internally audited</li> <li>(2) Processes internally audited</li> <li>(2) Processes and data internally audited</li> <li>(2) Processes and data internally audited</li> <li>(3) Processes and data internally audited</li> <li>(b) Fixed income</li> <li>Select from dropdown list:</li> <li>(1) Data internally audited</li> <li>(2) Processes internally audited</li> <li>(3) Processes internally audited</li> <li>(4) Data internally audited</li> <li>(5) Processes and data internally audited</li> <li>(2) Processes and data internally audited</li> </ul> </li> </ul>							
Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle	
CBM 5	PLUS	CBM 1	N/A	PUBLIC	Internal audit	6	

Provide details of the internal audit process regarding the information submitted in your PRI report.



[Free text: medium] Internal Audit team compiles a three-year internal audit plan based on an independent evaluation of the risks to which the company is exposed. Given the importance of ESG factors in all Candriam processes, there are systematically reviewed during audits. Internal audit has the total independence to determine the scope. Audit reviews are based on interviews, review of documents, verifying data and testing. They are performed in accordance with the audit methodology defined by international internal auditing standards. Audit conclusions are reported to the CEO and to the Audit Committee. The most recent concerned the review of Emerging market debt process and proxy voting activities (this last being finalized in Oct 2021 and presented to the audit committee in March 2022).

## **INTERNAL REVIEW**

Indicator	Type of indicator	Dependent on	Gateway to	Disclosure	Subsection	PRI Principle
CBM 6	CORE	CBM 1	N/A	PUBLIC	Internal review	6

Who in your organisation reviewed the responses submitted in your PRI report this year?

#### ☑ (A) Board, trustees, or equivalent

- Sections of PRI report reviewed
  - $\circ~$  (1) the entire report
  - (2) selected sections of the report
- (B) Senior executive-level staff, investment committee, head of department, or equivalent
  - Sections of PRI report reviewed

#### (1) the entire report

• (2) selected sections of the report

• (C) None of the above internal roles reviewed selected sections or the entirety of the responses submitted in our PRI report this year

