

# Index Family: ECPI Global Developed ESG HY Corporate Bond

Benchmark Statement as of 1-May-2023

The purpose of this disclosure is to outline the information required in Article 27 of the EU regulation on indices used as financial benchmarks ("BMR") and the Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2018/1643, 2020/1816, 2020/1817, 2020/1818 and the Benchmarks (Amendment and Transitional Provision) (EU Exit) Regulations n. 657/ 2019.

This document includes clear definitions of the market or economic reality measured by the benchmark and the circumstances in which such measurement may become unreliable, outlines rules around exercise of judgement or discretion and provides some additional information about the benchmark.

This benchmark statement is provided by StatPro as the administrator of the ECPI Index family of indices. This disclosure references and should be read in conjunction with the following methodology and policy documents available at [www.confluence.com/index-governance](http://www.confluence.com/index-governance)

## GENERAL DISCLOSURE

1.1	Date of publication and update	This Benchmark Statement was first published on September 2019; last revision was made on May 2023.
1.2	Review of Benchmark Statement	StatPro is the administrator. StatPro will revise this benchmark statement if material changes are made to the information contained within it, but a review will take place at a minimum of once every two years.
1.3	Use of ISIN	The Index Family is identifiable via Index tickers as no ISINs are assigned
1.4	Contributions of input data	The Index Family does not use contributions of input data.
1.5	Regulated-data benchmark disclosure	The ECPI Indices are not regulated data benchmarks.
1.6	Specific disclosure requirements for significant and non-significant benchmarks	The ECPI Indices includes only non-significant benchmarks according to point 27 of Article 3(1) of Regulation (EU) 2016/1011.

## INDEX CHARACTERISTICS

2.1	Market Reality	The ECPI Global Developed ESG High Yield Corporate Bond Index selects sub-investment grade global corporate bond issues denominated in major currencies which have a positive ESG rating according to ECPI ESG Rating Methodology.
2.2	Use of Discretion	<p>ECPI indices are calculated and rebalanced in accordance with objective rules-based methodologies and do not allow for subjective or discretionary selection of index components. If there were to be exceptional circumstances that are not addressed by either ECPI Equity Benchmarks Calculation Methodology or an administrator policy. Such scenarios might include but are not limited to: (1) Failure of data providers; (2) Significant changes to the underlying market; (3) Complex corporate events; (4) Action by governmental or regulatory bodies that causes market disruption; and (5) Events beyond human control.</p> <p>Then, in the event that the administrator needs to take action or make a decision that has not been foreseen by the methodology or associated policy, senior members of the administration team will consult with the Index Governance Committee to arrive at a decision that is consistent with the objective of the index in question and that causes minimal disruption to index stakeholders. Where appropriate, and reasonably practicable, the administrator may consult with stakeholders. In any event the administrator will make all reasonable efforts to ensure stakeholders are aware that discretion or judgement has been used and how. Additionally, Statpro confirms that the remuneration of the staff responsible for the valuation of the index is not linked to the performance of the financial index.</p>

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## INDEX CHARACTERISTICS

2.3	External Factors	StatPro hereby provides notice to users of the ECPI indices that it is possible that circumstances, including external events beyond the control of StatPro, may necessitate changes to, or cessation of, a benchmark or the entire index family.
2.4	Changes to and cessation of benchmark	Any financial contracts or other financial instruments that reference an ECPI benchmark or investment funds which use the ECPI indices to measure their performance should be able to withstand, or otherwise address the possibility of changes to, or cessation of, a benchmark.
2.5	Definitions of key terms	Please refer to ANNEX 1
2.6	Benchmark Methodology	Please refer to Benchmark Family Rule Book and ECPI Equity Benchmarks Calculation Methodology: <a href="#">RULE BOOK</a> and <a href="#">BENCHMARK CALCULATION METHODOLOGY</a>
2.7	Input data	Input data for the ECPI indices consists of official closing prices sourced via market data vendors from eligible stock exchanges. StatPro considers this to be readily available data. None of the indices use any contributed input data.
2.8	Controls over exercise of judgement and discretion	The only circumstances in which judgement and/or discretion may be exercised are set out in response 2.2 above.
2.9	Determination of the benchmark in stress periods	Given the objective and formulaic methodology of the ECPI Index, any limitations are most likely to arise due to external factors. Such factors could include an inadequate availability of market transaction and pricing data, poor quality data or an insufficient number of eligible constituents available for inclusion in the index. In the unlikely event that such periods of stress were prolonged, then it is probable that the Index Governance Committee would consider decommissioning the index or index series. This would be essential if the index was unable to continue to adequately measure the market or economic reality it was intended to evaluate.
2.10	Errors in the input data	ECPI Indices are recalculated whenever errors or distortions occur that are deemed to be significant. Stakeholder of the ECPI indices are notified of any decisions to recalculate and/or restate an index through appropriate media.
2.11	Potential Limitations of the benchmark	Given the objective and formulaic methodology of the ECPI Index, any limitations are most likely to arise due to external factors. (a) Such factors could include an inadequate availability of market data, poor quality data or an insufficient number of eligible constituents available for inclusion in the index. (b) Not relevant, considering the large scale of the investable markets the indices measure, any such circumstances would be extreme and unexpected and most likely lead to the action detailed in point (c) below. (c) In the unlikely event that such periods of stress were prolonged, then it is probable that the Index Governance Committee would consider decommissioning the index or index series. This would be essential if the index was unable to continue to adequately measure the market or economic reality it was intended to evaluate.

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## ADDITIONAL DISCLOSURES - ESG FACTORS

### Section 1 - Consideration Of ESG Factors

<b>Item 1.</b> Name of the benchmark administrator.	Statpro UK Limited		
<b>Item 2.</b> Type of benchmark or family of benchmarks.	FIXED INCOME		
<b>Item 3.</b> Name of the benchmark or family of benchmarks.	<b>Index Name</b>	<b>Index Code</b>	<b>Classification</b>
	ECPI Global Developed ESG HY Corporate Bond	ECAPHYCB	Non-significant benchmark
	ECPI Global Developed ESG HY Corporate Bond Hedgec	ECAPHYCH	Non-significant benchmark
<b>Item 4.</b> Are there in the portfolio of the benchmark administrator any EU Climate Transition Benchmarks, EU Paris-aligned Benchmarks, benchmarks that pursue ESG objectives or benchmarks that take into account ESG factors?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	
<b>Item 5.</b> Does the benchmark or family of benchmarks pursue ESG objectives?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	
<b>Item 6.</b> Where the response to Item 5 is positive, provide below the details (score) in relation to the ESG factors listed in Annex II for each family of benchmarks at aggregated level. The ESG factors shall be disclosed at an aggregated weighted average value at the level of the family of benchmarks.			

### ESG Ratings Of The Benchmark

ESG RATING	E+
ENVIRONMENTAL RATING	E+
SOCIAL RATING	EE-
GOVERNANCE RATING	E+

### Top 10 Positions

COMPANY	WEIGHT	ESG RATING	COMPANY	WEIGHT	ESG RATING
CHARTER COMMUNICATIONS OPERATING LLC 4	0.64%	E	INTELSAT JACKSON HOLDINGS SA 6.5% 2030-0	0.40%	EE-
CHARTER COMMUNICATIONS OPERATING LLC 4	0.47%	E	HCA INC 5.375% 2025-02-01	0.38%	E+
CARNIVAL CORP 5.75% 2027-03-01	0.47%	EE-	HCA INC 3.5% 2030-09-01	0.34%	E+
CENTENE CORP 4.625% 2029-12-15	0.46%	E-	DAVITA INC 4.625% 2030-06-01	0.34%	EE-
AMERICAN AIRLINES INC 11.75% 2025-07-15	0.41%	E+	CCO HOLDINGS LLC 4.5% 2032-05-01	0.34%	E

### List of environmental, Social and Governance factors

ENVIRONMENTAL	SOCIAL	GOVERNANCE
High Climate Impact Sector Exp. (%)	Controversial Weapons Exp. (%)	Independent Board Members (%)
52.42	0.00	66.83
GHG intensity (tonnes CO2e/USD mn)	Tobacco Exposure (%)	Female Board Members (%)
203.41	0.00	25.66
GHG reported vs estimated (%)	Number Social Violations	
69.03/30.97	0.00	
Brown Sector Exposure (%)	Adherence to ILO Principles (%)	
9.55	100.00	
Green Sector Exposure (%)	Gender Pay Gap (%)	
1.50	14.18	
Climate-related physical risk score	Female to Male Board Members	
31.85	0.40	
	Work Related Accidents (%)	
	0.00	
	Corruption/Bribery (%)	
	0.00	

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## ESG factors calculation and display methodology

**ESG RATING:** Weighted average ESG rating of the benchmark | **ENV RATING:** Weighted average environmental rating of the benchmark | **SOC RATING:** Weighted average social rating of the benchmark | **GOV RATING:** Weighted average governance rating of the benchmark | **TOP 10 POSITIONS:** Overall ESG rating of top ten benchmark constituents by weighting in the benchmark | **High Climate Impact Sector Exposure (%):** Benchmark exposure to activities included in Sections A to H and Section L of Annex I to Regulation (EC) No 1893/2006 | **GHG intensity (tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>e/USD mn):** Greenhouse gas (GHG) intensity of the benchmark | **GHG reported vs estimated (%):** Percentage of GHG emissions reported versus estimated | **Brown Sector Exposure (%):** Benchmark exposure to activities included in the environmental goods and services sector, as defined in Article 2, point (5) of Regulation (EU) No 691/2011 | **Climate-related physical risk score:** Exposure of the benchmark portfolio to climate-related physical risks, expressed as a weighted average physical risk score with exposure to a moderate climate change scenario in the year 2030. Scores are represented as values from 1 (lowest risk) to 100 (highest risk) | **Controversial Weapons Exposure (%):** Weighted average percentage of benchmark constituents in the controversial weapons sector | **Controversial Weapons** definition covers cluster munitions, landmines, nuclear and depleted uranium weapons, biological/chemical weapons | **Tobacco Exposure (%):** Weighted average percentage of benchmark constituents in the tobacco sector | **Number of Social Violations:** Number of benchmark constituents subject to very severe controversies related to Human Rights and Labour Rights | **Adherence to ILO Principles:** Weighted average percentage of benchmark constituents with no significant labour related controversies | **Gender Pay Gap (%):** Weighted average gender pay gap | **Female to Male Board Members:** Weighted average ratio of female to male board members | **Work Related Accidents (%):** Weighted average percentage of benchmark constituents with significant health & safety related controversies | **Corruption/Bribery (%):** Weighted average percentage of benchmark constituents with significant corruption/bribery related controversies | **Independent Board Members (%):** Weighted average percentage of board members who are independent | **Female Board Members (%):** Weighted average percentage of female board members

Data source: ECPI, Trucost, Refinitiv, Public Sources

### Item 8. Data and standards used.

Description of data sources used to provide information on the ESG factors in the benchmark statement.

ESG metrics are calculated based on ECPI research methodology, and third-party data, including Trucost data, Refinitiv and publicly available data sources.

ESG metrics rely on reported data when available and feasible for ESG dimension measured, otherwise they are based on estimated data or qualitative assessment.

Additional details on the ESG disclosure are available in the Benchmark Family Rule Book:

#### [RULE BOOK](#)

Reference standards

- UN Global Compact
- OECD Guidelines
- UN Guiding Principles
- UN Sustainable Development Goals
- Human rights (UN human rights treaties)
- Labour rights (ILO Conventions)
- Environmental standards (e.g. Rio Declaration on Environment and Development; Convention on Biological Diversity; Framework Convention on Climate Change; Paris Agreement)
- Anti-corruption standards (UN Convention against Corruption)

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## Section 2 - Additional Disclosure Requirements For EU Climate Transition And EU Paris-Aligned Benchmarks

**Item 9.** Where a benchmark is labelled as "EU Climate Transition Benchmark" or "EU Paris-aligned Benchmark", benchmark administrators shall also disclose the following information:

forward-looking year-on-year decarbonisation trajectory;	N/A
degree to which the IPCC decarbonisation trajectory (1,5 °C with no or limited overshoot) has been achieved on average per year since creation;	N/A
overlap between those benchmarks and their investable universe, as defined in Article 1, point (e), of Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/1818, using the active share at asset level.	N/A

## Section 3 - Disclosure Of The Alignment With The Objectives Of The Paris Agreement

**Item 10.** By the date of application of this Regulation, for significant equity and bond benchmarks, EU Climate Transition Benchmarks and EU Paris-aligned Benchmarks, benchmark administrators shall also disclose the following information.

By 31 December 2021, benchmark administrators shall, for each benchmark or, where applicable, each family of benchmarks, disclose the following information:

Does the benchmark align with the target of reducing carbon emissions or the attainment of the objectives of the Paris Agreement;	NO
the temperature scenario, in accordance with international standards, used for the alignment with the target of reducing GHG emissions or attaining of the objectives of the Paris Agreement;	N/A
the name of the provider of the temperature scenario used for the alignment with the target of reducing GHG emissions or the attainment of the objectives of the Paris Agreement;	N/A
the methodology used for the measurement of the alignment with the temperature scenario;	N/A
the hyperlink to the website of the temperature scenario used.	N/A
the hyperlink to the website of the temperature scenario used.	N/A

**Date on which information has last been updated and reason for the update:**

September 2019	Initial version
February 2020	Removal of Freedom Indices
May 2023	Updated Format
30 June 2023	Monthly ESG Disclosure

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## Annex 1 - Definition of Key Terms used in the benchmark statement

<b>Administrator</b>	A natural or legal person that has control over the provision of a benchmark, for the ECPI Index this is StatPro.
<b>Benchmark</b>	Any index by reference to which the amount payable under a financial instrument or a financial contract, or the value of a financial instrument, is determined, or an index that is used to measure the performance of an investment fund with the purpose of tracking the return of such index or of defining the asset allocation of a portfolio or of computing the performance fees.
<b>BMR</b>	Regulation (EU) 2016/1011 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 8 June 2016 on indices used as benchmarks in financial instruments and financial contracts or to measure the performance of investment funds and amending Directives 2008/48/EC and 2014/17/EU and Regulation (EU) No 596/2014. The Benchmark Regulations - the Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2018/1643, and the supplementary regulatory technical standards.
<b>Discretion/exercise judgement</b>	The exercise of discretion by an administrator with respect to the use of data in determining a benchmark, including adjusting values for factors that might influence the quality of data such as market events or impairment of a buyer or seller's credit quality, and manually altering constituent weightings.
<b>Family of Benchmarks</b>	A group of benchmarks provided by the same administrator and determined from input data of the same nature which provides specific measures of the same or similar market or economic reality.
<b>Financial Contract</b>	(a) any credit agreement as defined in point (c) of Article 3 of Directive 2008/48/EC; (b) any credit agreement as defined in point (3) of Article 4 of Directive 2014/17/EU
<b>Financial Instrument</b>	Means any of the instruments listed in Section C of Annex I to Directive 2014/65/EU for which a request for admission to trading on a trading venue, as defined in point (24) of Article 4(1) of Directive 2014/65/EU, has been made or which is traded on a trading venue as defined in point (24) of Article 4(1) of Directive 2014/65/EU or via a systematic internaliser as defined in point (20) of Article 4(1) of that Directive.
<b>Input Data</b>	The data in respect of the value of one or more underlying assets, or prices, including estimated prices, quotes, committed quotes or other values, used by StatPro as an administrator to determine a benchmark.
<b>Investment Fund</b>	It is an AIF as defined in point (a) of Article 4(1) of Directive 2011/61/EU, or a UCITS as defined in Article 1(2) of Directive 2009/65/EC.
<b>ISIN</b>	The International Securities Identification Number (ISIN) is a code that uniquely identifies a specific securities issue.
<b>Non-Significant Benchmark</b>	It is a benchmark which is not considered a 'critical benchmark' or 'significant benchmark' according to point 27 of Article 3(1) of Regulation (EU) 2016/1011.
<b>Stakeholder</b>	A natural or legal person that uses a benchmark for: (a) issuance of a financial instrument which references an index or a combination of indices; (b) determination of the amount payable under a financial instrument or a financial contract by referencing an index or a combination of indices; (c) being a party to a financial contract which references an index or a combination of indices; (d) providing a borrowing rate as defined in point (j) of Article 3 of Directive 2008/48/EC calculated as a spread or mark-up over an index or a combination of indices and that is solely used as a reference in a financial contract to which the creditor is a party; (e) measuring the performance of an investment fund through an index or a combination of indices for the purpose of tracking the return of such index or combination of indices, of defining the asset allocation of a portfolio, or of computing the performance fees.
<b>StatPro</b>	The benchmark administrator of the ECPI Index family of indices.
<b>The Index Governance Committee</b>	The group of individuals appointed at the administrator to provide supervision of the ECPI indices.
<b>Transaction Data</b>	Means observable prices, rates, indices or values representing transactions between unaffiliated counter parties in an active market subject to competitive supply and demand forces.

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