

Press Release

New climate fund launched: Robeco Climate Global High Yield Bonds, benchmarked against the Solactive Global High Yield Corporate PAB Select Index

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FRANKFURT AM MAIN – Investors have been increasingly emphasizing aligning investment decisions with ESG values. This trend has led to a growing number of investment products that take into account ESG factors in their strategies. In the light of this movement, Robeco launched Robeco Climate Global High Yield Bonds, benchmarked against the Solactive Global High Yield Corporate PAB Select Index, which offers exposure to the performance of global high yield corporate bonds while adhering to the carbon reduction criteria of the Paris-aligned Benchmark regulation.

The **Solactive Global High Yield Corporate PAB Select Index** considers various factors in its weighting methodology, including decarbonization objectives, bond issuance levels, yield levels, and foreign exchange rates. Through the use of multiple providers of ESG data that broaden the coverage, this PAB Select index incorporates a higher number of bonds and issuers compared to the standard Solactive Paris Aligned Corporate High Yield Index. In alignment with the standard PAB series, bonds lacking any required ESG data points are excluded from the eligible universe. Solactive sets strict criteria for its Paris-aligned Benchmarks (PAB) that surpass regulatory requirements. In addition to carbon reduction standards, companies failing to meet specific ESG requisites, such as substantial involvement in controversial weapons, hard coal, fossil fuel production, or tobacco, are also excluded.

Solactive takes a comprehensive approach to emission reduction, including Scope 1, 2, and 3 emissions, as well as carbon intensity based on book values for debt and equity. This approach implies a stricter carbon reduction methodology, extending the requirements also to carbon intensities. Despite compliance with rigorous PAB criteria, Solactive maintains a close index alignment with the general market benchmark risk/return characteristics.

As a pioneer in the PAB-ESG fixed-income index space, Solactive offers a wide range of PAB indices in various currencies and sectors, along with customized solutions.

Timo Pfeiffer, Chief Markets Officer of Solactive, comments: *"We recognize the growing importance of investors seeking to align their investments with ESG values. That's why we are proud to offer a diverse range of PAB indices and customized solutions, providing investors with the opportunity to access global high yield corporate bonds while adhering to the carbon reduction criteria of the Paris-aligned Benchmark regulation."*

Solactive AG
German Index Engineering
Platz der Einheit 1
60327 Frankfurt am Main
Germany

Steffen Scheuble
CEO
+49 (69) 719 160-20
steffen.scheuble@solactive.com

Timo Pfeiffer
Chief Markets Officer
+49 (69) 719 160-320
timo.pfeiffer@solactive.com

Maria Seifert/Gabriela Ormazabal
PR & Communications
+49 (69) 719 160-311
maria.seifert@solactive.com

Erik van Leeuwen, Head of Fixed Income Robeco, comments: *"Robeco is at the forefront of sustainable investing. As investors, we can actively steer the way capital is deployed. Using the Solactive Global High Yield PAB Select index provides our clients with a robust method to track the decarbonization trajectory of their high yield investments, while making sure their investments are in adherence with the goals of the Paris Agreement."*

For more information, please visit:

<http://www.solactive.com>

Solactive AG
German Index Engineering
Platz der Einheit 1
60327 Frankfurt am Main
Germany

Steffen Scheuble
CEO
+49 (69) 719 160-20
steffen.scheuble@solactive.com

Timo Pfeiffer
Chief Markets Officer
+49 (69) 719 160-320
timo.pfeiffer@solactive.com

Maria Seifert/Gabriela Ormazabal
PR & Communications
+49 (69) 719 160-311
maria.seifert@solactive.com

Note to editors

About Solactive

Solactive is a leading provider of indexing, benchmarking, and calculation solutions for the global investment and trading community. Headquartered in Frankfurt and, with offices in Hong Kong, Toronto, Berlin, Dresden, and Amsterdam, we innovate and disrupt the status quo as the partner of choice for our clients.

The unique blend of our 280 staff's expertise in data, data science, financial markets, and technology enables our clients' continued success through the delivery of a superior experience, unique customization capabilities, and the best value for money available in the industry. With more than 25,000 indices calculated daily, we offer a full suite of solutions, including market-leading ESG and thematic indices.

As at January 2023, Solactive served approximately 500 clients across the world, with approximately US\$250 billion invested in products linked to our indices. Solactive is registered with ESMA as a benchmark administrator and is supervised by the BaFin.

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Solactive AG, Platz der Einheit 1, 60327 Frankfurt am Main, Germany. Registered Office: Frankfurt am Main, Registration Court: Amtsgericht Frankfurt am Main, HRB: 79986, USt-IdNr.: DE 255 598 976. Management Board: Steffen Scheuble, Alexander Steiner, and Timo Pfeiffer, Head of Supervisory Board: Dr Felix Mühlhäuser.

Solactive AG
German Index Engineering
Platz der Einheit 1
60327 Frankfurt am Main
Germany

Steffen Scheuble
CEO
+49 (69) 719 160-20
steffen.scheuble@solactive.com

Timo Pfeiffer
Chief Markets Officer
+49 (69) 719 160-320
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