Statement on principal adverse impacts of investment decisions on sustainability factors (SFDR Entity Disclosure)

2023



# Financial market participant

ETHIAS SA/NV - 549300WG3JO935L6QD56

#### Summary

ETHIAS SA/NV (LEI: 549300WG3JO935L6QD56) considers principal adverse impacts of its investment decisions on sustainability factors.

The present statement is the consolidated statement on principal adverse impacts on sustainability factors of ETHIAS SA/NV.

This statement on principal adverse impacts on sustainability factors covers the reference period from January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023.

Ethias has developed several frameworks to capture relevant principal adverse impacts (PAIs) for each type of issuer. Each quarter, Ethias monitors the overall ESG score and CO2 emissions of its global holdings as well as certain indicators relating to environment and climate.

For alternative asset classes, PAIs are specific to the relevant sub-asset classes. For example, for real estate assets, Ethias assesses indicators such as energy efficiency and carbon emissions, and where Ethias has management control, specific asset-level plans are developed to address these indicators.

In May 2021, Ethias validated (through its sustainable and responsible investment policy) its commitment to achieve carbon neutrality by 2050 at the latest for all its assets.

Description of the principal adverse impacts on sustainability factors

Indicators applicable to investments in investee companies

Adverse sustainability indicator		Metric	Impact	Impact	Explanation	Actions taken, and actions planned and targets set for the next reference period
			2023	2022		
CLIMATE AND OTHER ENV	IRONMENT-RELATED INDICATORS	1	T	T		
		Scope 1 GHG emissions	79.772	73.806		
		Scope 2 GHG emissions	23.857	24.633		
		Scope 3 GHG emissions	524.634	468.775	tons	
	1. GHG emissions	Total GHG emissions	628.263	567.214	coverage 14%	
					tons/Mio€ EVIC	
	2. Carbon footprint	Carbon footprint	35,66	34,29	coverage 14%	
					tons/Mio€ REVENUE	
	3. GHG intensity of investee companies	GHG intensity of investee companies	153,17	161,36	coverage 20%	
	4. Exposure to companies active in the fossil	Share of investments in companies active in the fossil fuel			%	
	fuel sector	sector	1,23	1,09	coverage 1%	
		Share of non-renewable energy consumption and non-				
		renewable energy production of investee companies from				
		non-renewable energy sources compared to renewable				
	5. Share of non-renewable energy	energy sources, expressed as a percentage of total energy			%	
	consumption and production	sources	8,02	11,77	coverage 12%	
		Energy consumption in GWh per million EUR of revenue of				
		investee companies, per high impact climate sector - SECTOR				
		A	0,00	0,00		
		Energy consumption in GWh per million EUR of revenue of				
		investee companies, per high impact climate sector - SECTOR				
		В	0,00	0,00		
		Energy consumption in GWh per million EUR of revenue of				
		investee companies, per high impact climate sector - SECTOR				
		С	0,01	0,01		
		Energy consumption in GWh per million EUR of revenue of				
		investee companies, per high impact climate sector - SECTOR				
		D	0,02	0,03		
		Energy consumption in GWh per million EUR of revenue of				
		investee companies, per high impact climate sector - SECTOR				
		E	0,00	0,00		
		Energy consumption in GWh per million EUR of revenue of				
		investee companies, per high impact climate sector - SECTOR				
		F	0,00	0,00		
		Energy consumption in GWh per million EUR of revenue of				
		investee companies, per high impact climate sector - SECTOR				
		G	0,00	0,00		
		Energy consumption in GWh per million EUR of revenue of				indirect quarterly monitoring via ESG rating
		investee companies, per high impact climate sector - SECTOR				quarterly monitoring of GHG emissions
		Н	0,00	0,00		signatory of UNGC, UNPRI, UNPSI, SBTi, BACA and Climate Action 100+
		Energy consumption in GWh per million EUR of revenue of		1		PAI n°1 to n°3 included in the "ESG Integration" policy
Greenhouse	6. Energy consumption intensity per high	investee companies, per high impact climate sector - SECTOR		1	GWh/Mio€ REVENUE	included in the exclusion policy
gas emissions	impact climate sector	L	0,02	0,01	coverage 7%	SDG "fighting climate change" closely followed by Ethias
		Share of investments in investee companies with				
		sites/operations located in or near to biodiversity-sensitive		1		
		areas where activities of those investee companies			%	indirect quarterly monitoring via ESG rating
Biodiversity	sensitive areas	negatively affect those areas	0,02	0,11	coverage 1%	signatory of UNPSI, UNGC and PBAF
		Tonnes of emissions to water generated by investee		1		
		companies per million EUR invested, expressed as a		1	tons/Mio€ EVIC	indirect quarterly monitoring via ESG rating
Water	8. Emissions to water	weighted average	0,00	0,20	coverage 0,01%	signatory of UNPSI and UNGC
		Tonnes of hazardous waste and radioactive waste generated		1		
	9. Hazardous waste and radioactive waste	by investee companies per million EUR invested, expressed		1	tons/Mio€ EVIC	indirect quarterly monitoring via ESG rating
Waste	ratio	as a weighted average	0,04	28,30	coverage 4%	signatory of UNPSI and UNGC

Indicators applicable to investments in investee companies

Adverse sustainability indicator		Metric	Impact 2023	Impact 2022	Explanation	Actions taken, and actions planned and targets set for the next reference period		
NDICATORS FOR SOCIAL AND EMPLOYEE, RESPECT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS, ANTI-CORRUPTION AND ANTI-BRIBERY MATTERS								
INDICATORSTORSOCIAL	PAND EIVII EOTEE, RESTECTT OR HOWARK RIGHTS, F	THE COURSE HOW AND ARTH DRIBERT WATTERS						
	10. Violations of UN Global Compact							
	principles and Organisation for Economic	Share of investments in investee companies that have been						
	Cooperation and Development (OECD)	involved in violations of the UNGC principles or OECD			%			
		Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises	0.50	0.00	coverage 20%			
	Gardennes for Maranational Enterprises	dudelines for Marchaelonal Enterprises	0,50	0,00	coverage 20/0			
		Share of investments in investee companies without policies						
		to monitor compliance with the UNGC principles or OECD						
	11. Lack of processes and compliance	Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises or						
	·	grievance/complaints handling mechanisms to address						
	·	violations of the UNGC principles or OECD Guidelines for			%			
	Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises	Multinational Enterprises	6,63	9,45	coverage 20%			
			5,55	-,	%			
	12. Unadjusted gender pay gap	Average unadjusted gender pay gap of investee companies	0.83	0,73	coverage 5%			
	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	Average ratio of male to (male+female) board members in	.,					
		investee companies, expressed as a percentage of all board			%			
	13. Board gender diversity	members	10,42	11,00	coverage 17%	indirect quarterly monitoring via ESG rating		
	3,3,4,4,4,4,4,4,4,4,4,4,4,4,4,4,4,4,4,4		1	, · · ·		signatory of UNGC, UNGPBHRs, ILO, UNPRI and UNPSI		
	14. Exposure to controversial weapons (anti-					quarterly monitoring of the gender diversity ratio within governance bodies		
ocial and employee	personnel mines, cluster munitions,	Share of investments in investee companies involved in the			%	PAI n°10 and n°12 to n°14 included in the "ESG Integration" policy		
natters	chemical weapons and biological weapons)	manufacture or selling of controversial weapons	0,00	0,00	coverage 20%	included in the exclusion policy		

Indicators applicable to investments in sovereigns and supranationals

Adverse sustainability indicator		Metric	Impact	Impact	Explanation	Actions taken, and actions planned and targets set for the next reference period
			2023	2022		
						indirect quarterly monitoring via ESG rating
						signatory of UNGC, UNPRI, UNPSI, SBTi and BACA
					tons/Mio€ GDP	included in the "ESG Integration" policy
Environmental	15. GHG intensity	GHG intensity of investee countries	68,73	72,09	coverage 28%	included in the exclusion policy
		Number of investee countries subject to social violations				
		(absolute number and relative number divided by all				indirect quarterly monitoring via ESG rating
		investee countries), as referred to in international treaties				signatory of UNGC, UNGPBHRs, ILO, UNPRI and UNPSI
	16. Investee countries subject to social	and conventions, United Nations principles and, where			number of countries	included in the "ESG Integration" policy
Social	violations	applicable, national law	0	0	coverage 28%	included in the exclusion policy

Indicators applicable to investments in real estate assets

Adverse sustainability indicator		Metric	Impact	Impact	Explanation	Actions taken, and actions planned and targets set for the next reference period
			2023	2022		
	17. Exposure to fossil fuels through real	Share of investments in real estate assets involved in the				included in the "ESG Integration" policy
Fossil fuels	estate assets	extraction, storage, transport or manufacture of fossil fuels	data not available	data not available		signatory of UNPRI and UNPSI
	18. Exposure to energy-inefficient real	Part d'iShare of investments in energy-inefficient real estate			indicator under	included in the "ESG Integration" policy
Energy efficiency	estate assets	assets	data not available	data not available	construction	signatory of UNPRI and UNPSI

Other indicators for principal adverse impacts on sustainability factors

Adverse sustainability	Adverse impact on sustainability factors	Metric	Impact	Impact	Explanation	Actions taken, and actions planned and targets set for the next reference period
impact	(qualitative or quantitative)		2023	2022		
						indirect quarterly monitoring via ESG rating
		Share of investments in investee companies without carbon				signatory of UNGC, UNPRI, UNPSI, SBTi, BACA and Climate Action 100+
	4. Investments in companies without carbon	emission reduction initiatives aimed at aligning with the			%	included in the exclusion policy
Emissions	emission reduction initiatives	Paris Agreement	4,69	6,59	coverage 17%	SDG "fighting climate change" closely followed by Ethias
		The distribution of income and economic inequality among				indirect quarterly monitoring via ESG rating
		the participants in a particular economy including a			GINI Index (%)	signatory of UNPSI and UNGC
Social	18. Average income inequality score	quantitative indicator explained in the explanation column	8,63	8,92	coverage 28%	SDG "eliminating poverty" closely followed by Ethias

The two additional PAIs (E-type PAI (emissions - no. 4) and S-type PAI (social - no. 18)) were selected because they relate to two of the six Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) identified by Ethias in its 2022 and 2023 annual reports as those where it believes it has the potential to make a real impact in society, namely:

- fighting climate change (-> additional E-type PAI above);
- eliminating poverty (-> additional S-type PAI above);
- promoting health for all;
- creating more sustainable cities and communities;
- adopting more sustainable modes of production and consumption;
- promoting and encouraging all forms of collaboration.

It should be noted that in accordance with the regulations, the PAIs calculations were carried out taking into account all investments, including those without data allowing the calculations. This gives a truncated view of results and risks. However, thanks to the coverage percentage, the correct

interpretation can be made. For example, for board gender diversity, the ratio of men/(men+women) is 10,42% with 17% of investments covered. We can deduce that over the scope of the investments covered, we have a ratio of men/(men+women) of 61,29% (= 10,42% / 17%).

### Description of policies to identify and prioritise principal adverse impacts on sustainability factors

As outlined in the EU Non-Financial Reporting Directive (2014/95/EU), a large number of ESG factors can be analysed from two complementary angles, i.e. the dual materiality of ESG factors:

- » impact on the development, performance or position of a company, as well as on the financial value of an investment in the broadest sense ("financial" materiality);
- » external impacts of the company's activities or the investment on ESG issues ("environmental, social and governance" materiality).

Ethias' sustainable and responsible investment policies and processes address these two impacts.

Thus, with regard to the investments it manages, Ethias uses a sustainability risk approach resulting from the integration of ESG criteria into its investment processes. It created a framework for integrating sustainability risks into investment decisions based on sustainability factors.

This framework is based in particular on these documents available on the Ethias website:

- » sectoral and normative exclusion policies:
  - approved on the 15<sup>th</sup> of March 2024
  - · implemented by Asset Management
  - these are one of the pillars of Ethias' approach to sustainability risks and PAIs because they intend to enable Ethias to exclude assets from considered investments that are exposed to significant sustainability risks or are likely to have a significant adverse impact on sustainability factors E, S and G
  - the PAIs concerned are mentioned in the tables above
- » an "ESG Integration" policy:
  - approved on the 15th of March 2024
  - implemented by Asset Management
  - ESG Integration is the explicit and systematic inclusion of ESG issues (whose PAI's) in investment analysis and decisions, which is a must-have for the Towards Sustainability (TS) label
  - the PAIs concerned are mentioned in the tables above
- » a methodology "Sustainable Investment" :

- approved on the 27<sup>th</sup> of May 2024
- implemented by Asset Management
- with its DNSH principle (abbreviation of Do No Significant Harm) based on different PAIs

Following the principle of double materiality, Ethias uses ESG policies and methodologies mentioned above to manage the principal adverse impacts (PAIs) of its investments. Thus, the identification and prioritization of PAIs within these policies and methodologies are aligned with Ethias' ESG strategy as described in its 2023 annual report.

Ethias relies, for PAIs, on data provided by third-party providers. And this is one of the challenges insurance companies face when integrating sustainability risks or principal adverse impacts into their investment process, the limited availability of relevant data for this purpose: such data is not yet systematically disclosed by issuers or, when disclosed by issuers, may be incomplete or follow different methodologies. Ethias works to develop processes to collect, where appropriate, complete, correct and consistent information and data on the principal adverse impacts of investments.

## **Engagement Policies**

Ethias has adopted an engagement policy in which it seeks to improve the practices of issuers with regard to a specific objective, on behalf of the share and bond positions in the investment portfolio.

This engagement policy describes Ethias' engagement process and Ethias' commitment to provide transparency and regular reporting on engagement activities, as well as how Ethias participates in collaborative engagement actions. At present, adverse impacts are not explicitly taken into account in this policy.

Ethias has also adopted a voting policy (including a summary of Ethias' voting approach), another crucial aspect of its active shareholding.

More information on Ethias' engagement and voting policies is available on the Ethias website.

#### References to international standards

In addition to its commitment (aligned with the Paris Agreement) to achieve carbon neutrality by 2050 at the latest on its assets, Ethias is a signatory to the following codes:

- » Signatory to the Principles for Responsible Investment (www.unpri.org)
- » Science Based Targets Initiative (SBTi)
- » Climate Action 100+
- » United Nations Global Compact

- » Partnership for Biodiversity Accounting Financials (PBAF)» United Nations Principles for Sustainable Insurance (UN PSI)

The link between compliance with these standards and PAIs has not yet been explicitly established.

Similarly, no forward-looking climate scenario is currently used.

# **Historical comparison**

If we compare the 2023 impacts to the 2022 impacts, we see relative stability. It is nevertheless difficult to compare them strictly speaking given the low coverage percentages.