

#### ANNEX IV

Periodic disclosure for the financial products referred to in Article 8, paragraphs 1, 2 and 2a, of Regulation (EU) 2019/2088 and Article 6, first paragraph, of Regulation (EU) 2020/852

**Product name:**DPAM B Balanced Low Strategy

Legal entity identifier: 5493001ZAG4NOQSG4141

# Environmental and/or social characteristics

Sustainable investment means an investment in an economic activity that contributes to an environmental or social objective, provided that the investment does not significantly harm any environmental or social objective and that the investee companies follow good governance practices. The **EU Taxonomy** is a classification

system laid down in Regulation (EU) 2020/852, establishing a list of environmentally sustainable economic activities. That Regulation does not lay down a list of socially sustainable economic activities. Sustainable investments with an environmental objective might be aligned with the Taxonomy or not.

Did this financial product have a sustainable investment objective?					
Yes	• No				
It made sustainable investments with an environmental objective:%  in economic activities that qualify as environmentally sustainable under the EU Taxonomy  in economic activities that do not qualify as environmentally sustainable under the EU Taxonomy	It promoted Environmental/Social (E/S) characteristics and while it did not have as its objective a sustainable investment, it had a proportion of 0% of sustainable investments  with an environmental objective in economic activities that qualify as environmentally sustainable under the EU Taxonomy  with an environmental objective in economic activities that do not qualify as environmentally sustainable under the EU Taxonomy  with a social objective				
It made sustainable investments with a social objective:%	It promoted E/S characteristics, but did not make any sustainable investments				



Sustainability indicators measure how the environmental or social characteristics promoted by the financial product are attained.

# To what extent were the environmental and/or social characteristics promoted by this financial product met?

Over the Reference Period (01/01/2022-31/12/2022), the sub-fund promoted environmental and social characteristics by investing at least 75% of its net assets in (1) undertakings for collective investment or their sub-funds (hereinafter collectively referred to as "UCIs"), managed by DPAM or by third-party managers, which promote, among other things, environmental or social characteristics within the meaning of the Regulation 2019/2088 and/or which have a sustainable investment objective within the meaning of the Regulation 2019/2088 (indirect investments); and/or (2) securities that meet the environmental and social characteristics it promotes (direct investments).

Finally, by incorporating ESG factors into its investment process, the sub-fund has promoted environmental, social and governance (ESG) best practices.

During the Reference Period, derivative products, if any, used for the purpose of achieving the investment objectives of the sub-fund were not used for the purpose of promoting environmental and/or social characteristics.

The sub-fund has not designated any benchmark index to achieve the environmental and social characteristics it promotes within the meaning of Article 8 of the Regulation (EU) 2019/2088 of 27 November 2019 on sustainability reporting in the financial services sector (the ""SFDR 2019/2088"").

# How did the sustainability indicators perform?

#### 1) For direct line investments (in shares or corporate bonds):

- The sub-fund has not been exposed to companies considered to be below Global Standards;
- b) The sub-fund has not been exposed to companies involved in excluded controversial activities according to the definitions and thresholds stipulated by DPAM's Controversial Activities Policy (accessible via the link <a href="https://res.cloudinary.com/degroof-petercam-asset-management/image/upload/v1614006839/DPAM">https://res.cloudinary.com/degroof-petercam-asset-management/image/upload/v1614006839/DPAM</a> policy Controversial activities.pdf);
- c) The sub-fund has not been exposed to companies facing extremely serious ESG controversies around environmental or social issues;

#### 2) For direct line investments (in sovereign bonds):

The sub-fund has not been exposed to issuers that do not meet minimum democratic requirements.

## 3) For investments in UCI:

The sub-fund has invested in sub-funds that promote, among other things, environmental or social characteristics within the meaning of Regulation 2019/2088 and/or sub-funds of UCIs that have a sustainable investment objective within the meaning of Regulation 2019/2088.

...and compared to previous periods?

Not applicable

What were the objectives of the sustainable investments that the financial product partially made and how did the sustainable investment contribute to such objectives?

Not applicable

How did the sustainable investments that the financial product partially made not cause significant harm to any environmental or social sustainable investment objective?

Not applicable

How were the indicators for adverse impacts on sustainability factors taken into account?

Not applicable

Were sustainable investments aligned with the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises and the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights? Details:

Not applicable

The EU Taxonomy sets out a "do not significant harm" principle by which Taxonomy-aligned investments should not significantly harm EU Taxonomy objectives and is accompanied by specific Union criteria.

The "do no significant harm" principle applies only to those investments underlying the financial product that take into account the Union criteria for environmentally sustainable economic activities. The investments underlying the remaining portion of this financial product do not take into account the Union criteria for environmentally sustainable economic activities.

Any other sustainable investments must also not significantly harm any environmental or social objectives.



How did this financial product consider principal adverse impacts on sustainability factors?

### For direct investments (in shares or corporate bonds):

During the Reference Period, the Sub-fund has considered all of the principal adverse impacts on sustainability factors (hereinafter "PAI") listed in Table 1 of Appendix I of the Delegated Regulation (EU) 2022/1288.

The PAIs are intrinsically linked to DPAM's commitment to reduce the negative impact of the Sub-fund's investments by avoiding activities or behaviors that may significantly hinder sustainable and inclusive growth. This commitment is incorporated into the entire research and investment process.

In concrete terms, the PAI have been integrated into the various stages of the sub-fund's construction upstream via exclusions and the resulting eligible universe (i), and throughout the investment process via fundamental analysis, monitoring of controversies and ongoing dialogue with the companies invested in (ii):

# 1) Firstly, with regard to environmental PAI:

- a) they have been analyzed and monitored at the level of the invested issuers, particularly with respect to PAI related to greenhouse gas emissions and energy performance, including through DPAM's searches under the recommendations of the Task Force on Climate-Related Financial Disclosures (TCFD) Thus, indicators related to greenhouse gas emissions and water have been integrated into the analysis of the five companies that contribute most to the carbon intensity of the portfolio. This analysis is used by research and management to validate their investment decisions.
- b) after that, the Global Standards compliance filter includes a filter on environmental protection. Companies that do not comply with global standards for significant environmental protection breaches related to pollution (emissions), water, waste and biodiversity were thus excluded from the portfolio in advance.
- c) the exclusion filter for companies involved in controversial activities (in accordance with DPAM's Controversial Activities Policy (accessible via the link <a href="https://res.cloudinary.com/degroof-petercam-asset-management/image/upload/v1614006839/DPAM">https://res.cloudinary.com/degroof-petercam-asset-management/image/upload/v1614006839/DPAM</a> policy Controversial activities.p <a href="https://df">df</a>) has excluded companies involved in thermal coal production for example, and thus has allowed for a better coverage of indicators such as biodiversity and greenhouse gas emissions.
- d) In addition, the filtering and analysis on the basis of the main ESG controversies in which companies may be involved also included controversies related to environmental issues such as the environmental impact of the company's operations (emissions, waste, energy use, biodiversity and water consumption), the environmental impact on the supply chain and the impact of products and services (carbon and environmental impact).

Principal adverse impacts are the most significant negative impacts of investment decisions on sustainability factors relating to environmental, social and employee matters, respect for human rights, anticorruption and antibribery matters.

# 2) Second, the social PAI were systematically analyzed according to the stages of the research and investment process:

- a) the Global Standards compliance filter is structured around human rights, labor rights and the prevention of corruption.
  - Thus, companies in breach of the Global Compact principles and the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises have been de facto excluded from the investment universe.
- b) the exclusion filter for companies involved in controversial activities (in accordance with DPAM's Controversial Activities Policy (accessible via the link <a href="https://res.cloudinary.com/degroof-petercam-asset-management/image/upload/v1614006839/DPAM">https://res.cloudinary.com/degroof-petercam-asset-management/image/upload/v1614006839/DPAM</a> policy Controversial activities.p</a> <a href="https://df">df</a>) has been applied. In this way, companies involved in controversial armaments were directly excluded from the investment universe.</a>
- c) in addition, the filtering and analysis on the basis of the main ESG controversies in which companies may be involved also included controversies related to social issues, namely society and community, customer and employee, and controversies related to governance issues such as business ethics, including corruption and bribery.
- d) The issue of gender diversity within the board of directors has been addressed primarily through shareholder responsibility, by voting against or engaging in dialogue with companies that do not meet a minimum of 30% gender diversity on their boards. DPAM participated in 706 general and extraordinary meetings on behalf of 651 companies in 2022.

#### For direct investments (in sovereign bonds):

Yes, the sub-fund has taken into consideration, over the Reference Period, the environmental and social PAI listed in table 1 of appendix I of the Delegated Regulation (EU) 2022/1288.

The first PAI relates to environmental issues and focuses on the greenhouse gas emission intensity of the investee countries. The indicator is an integral component of the country sustainability model that DPAM developed for its sovereign bond strategies. It is therefore included in the country's sustainability score and may influence it positively or negatively depending on its level and evolution in relation to other issuing countries. The results of the country sustainability scores are optionally discussed with the countries concerned according to DPAM's engagement policy, which is available at <a href="https://res.cloudinary.com/degroof-petercam-asset-management/image/upload/v1614006835/DPAM">https://res.cloudinary.com/degroof-petercam-asset-management/image/upload/v1614006835/DPAM</a> policy engagement.pdf.

The second PAI relates to social issues and focuses on issues of social breaches. The country's sustainability model observes several indicators on this issue, such as respect for civil liberties and political rights, respect for human rights and the level of violence within the country, commitment to major labor conventions, the issue of equal opportunity and distribution of wealth, etc. These different indicators are included in the country's sustainability score and can influence it positively or negatively depending on its level and evolution compared to other issuing countries.

During the Reference Period, the management teams engaged in a dialogue on the results of the sustainability scores with certain countries according to DPAM's engagement policy via the link <a href="https://res.cloudinary.com/degroof-petercam-asset-management/image/upload/v1614006835/DPAM">https://res.cloudinary.com/degroof-petercam-asset-management/image/upload/v1614006835/DPAM</a> policy engagement.pdf.

Over the Reference Period, the management teams conducted 37 dialogues with the various participants in sovereign debt issues. These dialogues allowed us to verify with the stakeholders the points of attention of the governmental policies, notably in environmental and/or social matters.

Details of the dialogues with countries and companies will be published in an annual report in the first quarter of 2023 on the DPAM website (https://www.dpamfunds.com).

#### **Investments in UCIs:**

Yes, the sub-fund has taken into account, over the Reference Period, the PAI only to the extent and according to the consideration of the PAI by the underlying UCI.

As mentioned above, the Sub-fund's ESG investments may include investments in UCIs which are classified as financial products that promote, inter alia, environmental and/or social characteristics within the meaning of Regulation 2019/2088 and/or have a sustainable investment objective within the meaning of Regulation 2019/2088.

As a result of their classification, these UCIs could possibly take into account certain PAI on sustainability factors listed in table 1 of appendix I of the Delegated Regulation (EU) 2022/1288.

DPAM's approach and processes are further described in its Sustainable and Responsible Investments Policy and in the TCFD report, which are available at <a href="https://res.cloudinary.com/degroof-petercam-asset-management/image/upload/v1614006836/DPAM">https://res.cloudinary.com/degroof-petercam-asset-management/image/upload/v1614006836/DPAM</a> policy Sustainable and Respon sible Investment.pdf and DPAM report TCFD.pdf (cloudinary.com).



## What were the top investments of this financial product?

The list includes the investments constituting the greatest proportion of investments of the financial product during the reference period which is: 31/12/2022

Largest investments	Sector	% Assets	Country
DPAM L BONDS EUR QUALITY SUSTAINABLE - P	FINANCIAL AND INSURANCE ACTIVITIES	6.20 %	Luxembourg
DPAM L BONDS CORPORATE EUR - P	FINANCIAL AND INSURANCE ACTIVITIES	6.12 %	Luxembourg
DPAM B BONDS EUR MEDIUM TERM - P	FINANCIAL AND INSURANCE ACTIVITIES	5.59 %	Belgium
DPAM B BONDS EUR - P	FINANCIAL AND INSURANCE ACTIVITIES	5.28 %	Belgium

FINANCIAL AND INSURANCE ACTIVITIES	3.74 %	Belgium
FINANCIAL AND INSURANCE ACTIVITIES	3.69 %	Belgium
FINANCIAL AND INSURANCE ACTIVITIES	3.56 %	Belgium
FINANCIAL AND INSURANCE ACTIVITIES	3.51 %	Luxembourg
FINANCIAL AND INSURANCE ACTIVITIES	3.46 %	Luxembourg
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION AND	3.42 %	United States
FINANCIAL AND INSURANCE ACTIVITIES	3.17 %	Luxembourg
FINANCIAL AND INSURANCE ACTIVITIES	3.04 %	Belgium
FINANCIAL AND INSURANCE ACTIVITIES	2.74 %	Luxembourg
FINANCIAL AND INSURANCE ACTIVITIES	2.57 %	Belgium
FINANCIAL AND INSURANCE ACTIVITIES	2.18 %	Luxembourg
	FINANCIAL AND INSURANCE ACTIVITIES FINANCIAL AND INSURANCE ACTIVITIES FINANCIAL AND INSURANCE ACTIVITIES FINANCIAL AND INSURANCE ACTIVITIES  PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION AND DEFENCE; COMPULSORY SOCIAL FINANCIAL AND INSURANCE ACTIVITIES FINANCIAL AND INSURANCE ACTIVITIES FINANCIAL AND INSURANCE ACTIVITIES FINANCIAL AND INSURANCE ACTIVITIES	FINANCIAL AND INSURANCE ACTIVITIES  PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION AND DEFENCE; COMPULSORY SOCIAL FINANCIAL AND INSURANCE ACTIVITIES  2.57 %



# What was the proportion of sustainability-related investments?

### What was the asset allocation?

Over the Reference Period, the sub-fund has invested a minimum of 75% of its assets:

- in securities that meet the environmental and social characteristics it promotes; or
- in UCIs which promote, inter alia, environmental or social characteristics within the meaning of Article 8 of Regulation 2019/2088 or have a sustainable investment objective within the meaning of Article 9 of Regulation 2019/2088.



**#1** Aligned with E/S characteristics includes the investments of the financial product used to attain the environmental or social characteristics promoted by the financial product.

**#20ther** includes the remaining investments of the financial product which are neither aligned with the environmental or social characteristics, nor are qualified as sustainable investments.

# **Asset allocation** describes the share of investments in

specific assets.

### In which economic sectors were the investments made?

Sector	Sub-Sector	% Assets
	Financial service activities, except insurance and pension	
Financial and insurance activities	funding	86.39 %
Public administration and defence;		
compulsory social security	Public administration and defence; compulsory social security	8.30 %
Real estate activities	Real estate activities	0.37 %
Derivatives	Derivatives	0.42 %
Cash	Cash	4.52 %

Taxonomy-aligned activities are expressed as a share of:

- turnover reflects the "greenness" of investee companies today.
- expenditure
  (CapEx) shows the green investments made by investee companies, relevant for a transition to a green economy.
- operational expenditure (OpEx) reflects the green operational activities of investee companies.

Enabling activities directly enable other activities to make a substantial contribution to an environmental objective.

Transitional activities are activities for which low-carbon alternatives are not yet available and among others have greenhouse gas emission levels corresponding to the best performance.

# \*\*\*\*

# To what extent were the sustainable investments with an environmental objective aligned with the EU Taxonomy?

Not applicable

The graphs below show in green the percentage of investments that were aligned with the EU Taxonomy. As there is no appropriate methodology to determine the taxonomy-alignment of sovereign bonds\*, the first graph shows the Taxonomy alignment in relation to all the investments of the financial product including sovereign bonds, while the second graph shows the Taxonomy alignment only in relation to the investments of the financial product other than sovereign bonds.





\*For the purpose of these graphs, 'sovereign bonds' consist of all sovereign exposures

What was the share of investments made in transitional and enabling activities?

Not applicable

How did the percentage of investments that were aligned with the EU Taxonomy compare with previous reference periods?

Not applicable

are sustainable investments with an environmental objective that do not take into account the criteria for environmentally sustainable economic activities under Regulation (EU) 2020/852.



What was the share of sustainable investments with an environmental objective not aligned with the EU Taxonomy?

Not applicable



What was the share of socially sustainable investments?

Not applicable



What investments were included under "other", what was their purpose and were there any minimum environmental or social safeguards?

Binding ESG screenings carried out in accordance with the investment strategy described above have been applied to the entire sub-fund, excluding the:

- Liquid assets (excluding treasury bills)
- Derivative instruments
- Issuers (including UCI) that do not report sufficient information or are insufficiently covered by ESG research to judge their environmental and/or social characteristics.

The sub-fund may invest in or hold these types of assets for the purpose of achieving investment objectives, portfolio diversification, liquidity management and risk hedging.

There are no minimum environmental or social guarantees.

Over the Reference Period, for liquidity management purposes, the sub-fund was exposed to 4.52% of cash. There are no minimum environmental or social guarantees on these investments.



What actions have been taken to meet the environmental and/or social characteristics during the reference period?

For investments in shares or corporate bonds:

For direct investments (in shares or corporate bonds):

On a quarterly basis, a normative screening has been established based on compliance with Global Standards.

Secondly, companies meeting the thresholds as defined in the activities excluded by the responsible investment policy were excluded.

On a quarterly basis, the controversy exposure of the companies in the investment universe was analyzed to screen out the most severe controversies on environmental, social and governance issues.

From this defined eligible universe, the research and management teams have applied their expertise to select the securities in the portfolio on the basis of an in-depth fundamental analysis, which also includes a thorough analysis of the various environmental, social and governance criteria relevant to the business sector.

#### For direct investments (in sovereign bonds):

The sub-fund did not invest in countries considered not to meet minimum democratic requirements. To determine whether a country does not meet this minimum requirement the Manager applied a methodology that is based primarily on the classifications of the International NGO Freedom House ("not free") and The Economist Intelligence Unit ("authoritarian regime"). The list of countries was reviewed on a semi-annual basis and provided to management via the management systems so that it could not give transaction orders on papers issued by these excluded countries.

#### For investments in UCIs:

Among its ESG investments, the sub-fund has invested in UCIs that are classified as UCIs that promote, among other things, environmental and/or social characteristics as defined in Regulation 2019/2088 and/or have a sustainable investment objective as defined in Regulation 2019/2088.

In its selection of these UCIs for the sub-fund, DPAM has therefore taken into account the integration of environmental, social and/or governance criteria by the third party manager in the management of these UCIs. The investment strategy and methodology for selecting ESG and/or sustainable investments by third-party managers may vary from one UCI to another.

The list of undertakings for collective investment in which the Sub-fund may invest is updated on a regular basis by DPAM and on an ad hoc basis in the event of deterioration. At least once a year, DPAM conducts an analysis of the underlying undertakings for collective investment to verify the extent to which their selection methodology is aligned with the environmental and/or social characteristics that the Sub-fund aims to promote.

In addition, DPAM is in regular dialogue with the managers of these funds. If a UCI no longer has the above-mentioned classification (Article 8 or Article 9 according to Regulation 2019/2088) according to the information declared in the sub-fund's prospectus, DPAM will sell the investment in the UCI concerned in the interest of the sub-fund's shareholders within six months if such sale is necessary in order to comply, at the overall level of the sub-fund, with the promoted environmental and social characteristics.

The stages of the investment process are outlined below:

ESG INTEGRATION	VOTE	BASELINE NEGATIVE SCREENING	NORMATIVE & NEGATIVE SCREENING
Integration into the investment decision (PAIs)	Influencing behaviour	Exclusions based on the activity of the issuer	Compliance with global standards/ Exclusion of the most controversial behaviour (safeguarding social and governance minimums)
<del></del>			

#### **ARTICLE 8**



How did this financial product perform compared to the reference benchmark?

Not applicable

- How does the reference benchmark differ from a broad market index?
  Not applicable
- How did this financial product perform with regard to the sustainability indicators to determine the alignment of the reference benchmark with the environmental or social characteristics promoted?

Not applicable

- How did this financial product perform compared with the reference benchmark?
  Not applicable
- How did this financial product perform compared with the broad market index?
  Not applicable

Reference benchmarks are indexes to measure whether the financial product attains the environmental or social characteristics that they promote.