Article 10 web disclosure

Sustainability-related disclosure

# **Econopolis Exponential Technologies** DBI/RDT

A Sub-Fund of Econopolis Invest • SFDR product category: Article 8

# Summary

The Sub-Fund is a compartment of Econopolis Invest, a Belgian domiciled SICAV. The objective of the Sub-Fund is to offer investors, by means of an actively managed portfolio, a long-term capital gain on their investment. This objective will be pursued by investing the assets of the Sub-Fund primarily in shares and other equity securities of companies that are (wholly or partly) active in the technology and communication services sector, without geographical limitation.

The Sub-Fund uses the following ESG strategies: (I) ESG integration, (II) best-in-class selection and (III) Activity- and norms-based exclusions.

#### Samenvatting

Het Compartiment is een compartiment van Econopolis Invest, een in België gevestigde SICAV. Het Compartiment heeft tot doel beleggers via een actief beheerde portefeuille een meerwaarde op lange termijn op hun belegging te bieden. Dit doel wordt nagestreefd door de activa van het Compartiment hoofdzakelijk te beleggen in aandelen en andere effecten van ondernemingen die (geheel of gedeeltelijk) actief zijn in de sector van de technologie- en communicatiediensten, zonder geografische beperking.

Het Compartiment hanteert de volgende ESG-strategieën: (I) ESG-integratie, (II) best-in-class selectie en (III) op activiteiten en normen gebaseerde uitsluitingen.

#### No sustainable investment objective

This Sub-Fund promotes E/S characteristics, but does not have as its objective sustainable investments.

Nevertheless, this Sub-Fund will target at least 40% sustainable investments.

#### "No significant harm" principle

For an investment to be sustainable, among other criteria, it mustn't significantly harm any E/S objectives. To that end, the investment committee makes a qualitative and quantitative assessment of company strategies. This assessment takes into account Risk ratings, Controversy scores, Country scores, investments in controversial activities and exclusion lists. For more details, please see the Sustainable Investment policy: <u>https://www.econopolis.be/en/sustainability.</u>

#### Main indicators for measuring impact on sustainability

**Climate and other environmental indicators** For the proportion of sustainable investments (i.e. min 40%), the Sub-Fund uses the scope 1 and scope 2 emissions indicators (PAIs #1 and #2). The Sub-Fund will only invest in issuers which are in the top 33% of the investment universe in terms of scope 1 and scope 2 emissions.

Social, employee and human rights indicators The Sub-Fund excludes certain activities such as:

- Controversial weapons
- Tobacco industry

- Alcohol industry
- Gambling industry
- Specialty leather
- Fur sector
- Adult entertainment / pornography
- Oppressive regimes
- Issuers who evade taxes
- Issuers in breach of the UNGC-principles

For more details, thresholds, and the complete list, please see the Sustainable Investment policy: <u>https://www.econopolis.be/en/sustainability.</u>

# E/S characteristics

The Sub-Fund promotes environmental and social (E/S) characteristics that include:

**Best-in-universe selection:** The Sub-Fund can only invest in instruments that are accepted by the Investment Committee. Among other criteria, the Investment Committee will only accept the following instruments:

- Instruments that are in the top 75% of the whole Sustainalytics universe;
- Instruments with a controversy score which is lower than 5, as calculated by Sustainalytics; and
- For sovereign bonds, only in countries with a negligible, low or medium country score as calculated by Sustainalytics.

In some instances, and up to a very limited amount, the fund manager can deviate from the above criteria, more details can be found in the ESG policy: <u>https://www.econopolis.be/en/sustainability.</u>

**ESG-integration:** The total portfolio ESG Risk Rating needs to be below 30, as calculated by Sustainalytics. More details can be found in the ESG policy: <u>https://www.econopolis.be/en/sustainability.</u>

**Norms- and values-based exclusions:** The Sub-Fund excludes or restricts investments in certain sectors or activities that have significant activities with adverse environmental or social impacts, such as tobacco, controversial weapons, companies that are in severe breach of international social, labour and human rights norms, .... Please read the Sustainable Investment policy for more details and the complete list: <u>https://www.econopolis.be/en/sustainability.</u>

#### Investment strategy

Objective The objective of the Sub-Fund is to offer its shareholders long-term capital gains.

**Investment policy** The assets of this Sub-Fund are mainly (90%) invested in shares and/or other securities equivalent to equity equivalent securities of companies around the world which are deemed to be well placed to benefit from the development of technological innovation, both for companies operating in developed markets (Europe, the United States and Japan) and for companies operating in developing and frontier markets ("emerging and frontier markets").

Benchmark(s) The Sub-Fund is actively managed without using a reference benchmark.

**Derivatives and techniques** The Sub-Fund will not invest in derivatives

**Strategy** The investment portfolio manager's approach stems from the belief that investing in companies bringing new technologies to market generates generate value. As part of the investment selection process, the investment portfolio manager a thematic analysis (identification of the growth areas of the sector) with a bottom-up financial analysis of the companies. The focus here is on

breakthrough technology, market leaders and innovative players. The Sub-Fund may have significant exposure to "emerging and frontier markets" exhibit, which, however, may never exceed the Sub-Fund's cumulative limit of 50% exceed. The Sub-Fund invests in stocks whose selection is based on continuous financial analysis, including the macroeconomic environment, the specific profile of the issuer, future developments, etc. There are no limits or restrictions regarding regarding currencies or geographical regions.

# Base currency EUR.

# Asset allocation

	% of assets
Investments aligned with the Sub-Fund's E/S characteristics	Min. 90%
Qualifying as sustainable investments	Min. 40%
- under the EU Taxonomy <sup>1</sup>	-
- with a social objective	-
Not qualifying as sustainable investments but having other E/S characteristics	Min. 0%
Other investments <sup>2</sup>	Min. 0%
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<sup>1</sup>Cannot yet be calculated due to the lack of issuer data and only EU Taxonomy criteria for 2 out of the 6 sustainable goals are available.

<sup>2</sup> Includes derivatives and cash positions (which are not measured as to E/S characteristics) as well as securities of issuers that are neither aligned with the Sub-Fund's E/S characteristics nor qualify as sustainable.

# Monitoring of E/S characteristics

# Ex-ante:

Fund management can propose instruments to the Investment Committee by writing an investment thesis. The Investment Committee then decides whether the instrument can be added to the investable universe. In this process, the committee takes into account all the ESG characteristics as mentioned above. Only instruments that have been approved by the Investment Committee will be added to the universe (it is not possible in the portfolio management system to trade in instruments that are not captured in this universe).

# Ex-post:

The Fund managers monitor ESG scores and analyst reports on an ongoing basis. Moreover, monthly, a tool keeps stock of the ESG ratings and scores of the portfolio and the underlying instruments. Through this process, Econopolis keeps track of changes in ratings and scores, and fund managers will revise the positions in the Sub-Funds if needed.

# E/S methodologies

# **Ratings and scores:**

- The ESG risk rating calculated by Sustainalytics (an external ESG data provider) o Only corporate issuers with an ESG Risk Rating part of the best 75% of the Sustainalytics universe are eligible for the portfolio.
  - The average Sustainalytics ESG Risk Rating of the portfolio needs to be below 30 (highest score is 50).
- The Controversy Score calculated by Sustainalytics 
   Corporate issuers with a
   Sustainalytics Controversy Score higher than 4 are not eligible for the portfolio (highest score
   is 5)
- The Country Score as calculated by Sustainalytics (for Sovereign Bonds) 

   Governments with a Sustainalytics Country Score that is high or severe are not eligible for the portfolio (going from negligible, low, medium, high to severe)

# **Exclusions and restrictions:**

- The % of investments in controversial activities excluded by Econopolis (E.g., Weapons, Tobacco, (Un)Conventional oil & gas, etc. )
- The % of holdings subject to the IFC/World Bank exclusion list
- The % of holdings listed on the exclusion list of the Norwegian Pension Fund

More details on the Sub-Fund's ESG policy can be found on the following link: <u>https://www.econopolis.be/en/sustainability</u>

#### Data sources and processing

The data sources include:

- Analyst reports;
- issuer-provided data;
- data purchased from two external data providers<sup>1</sup>; and
- other public data.

This data is processed both internally as externally (e.g. by Sustainalytics).

# Limitations of methodologies and data

As sustainability is one of the key pillars on which Econopolis was founded, fund managers are engaged with companies and external data providers. When fund managers, based on own analysis, disagree with external data providers, they will engage in dialogue which often leads in revision of scoring and ratings provided by the external parties.

The reasons behind different interpretation can be of many kinds. Today, data provided by any source, in particular companies themselves, may be biased, incomplete, or incorrect.

#### Due diligence

The fund management evaluates and continually monitors both actual and potential investments using widely accepted standards and a variety of internal and external data sources, including major financial industry providers. When they spot inconsistencies within data provided by external data providers, these inconsistencies will be notified and resolved with the provider.

#### Engagement policies

When a certain decision or vision of a company does not match Econopolis' philosophy of sustainable investing, Econopolis actively approaches that company to discuss potential alternative ideas. Moreover, Econopolis will actively vote with regards to ESG-related topics. For more on please read the voting policy. Econopolis is prepared to disinvest whenever a company's vision and plans are not aligned with Econopolis' philosophy anymore.

#### Reference benchmark (ESG)

The Sub-Fund does not use a benchmark to evaluate its ESG characteristics.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Today, external data providers still use some estimate data when no data is reported by the underlying issuers.

#### Terms to understand

E/S Environmental and/or social.

ESG Environmental, social and governance.

**ESG score** A measure of an issuer's exposure to ESG/ sustainability risks, typically based on data from an external data provider.

**EU Taxonomy** The EU's official classification of economic activities that contribute to an environmental objective (such as climate change mitigation, water protection, circular economy, pollution prevention or biodiversity protection). In future the taxonomy will include activities with a social objective.

**issuer** A company, government, government agency, government-sponsored organisation, or supranational or public international entity that registers and sells securities.

**reference benchmark** An index or combination of indices used by the Sub-Fund to attain or compare its E/S characteristics.

SFDR Regulation (EU) 2019/2088 on sustainability-related disclosures for financial products.

**sustainable investment** An investment in economic activities, undertaken by companies that follow good governance practices, that contribute to an E/S objective without significantly harming other E/S objectives.

# Summary

The Sub-Fund is a compartment of Econopolis Invest, a Belgian domiciled SICAV. The Sub-Fund aims to deliver a long-term return to investors. The universe of the Sub-Fund is established with an aim to select companies that have their business model geared towards providing solutions or parts of solutions, or that have adapted their operating model, to the growing climate change challenges.

The Sub-Fund uses the following ESG strategies: (I) ESG integration, (II) best-in-class selection and (III) Activity- and norms-based exclusions.

# Samenvatting

Het Compartiment is een compartiment van Econopolis Invest, een in België gevestigde SICAV. Het Compartiment wil beleggers een langetermijnrendement bieden. Het universum van het Compartiment is opgebouwd met als doel ondernemingen te selecteren waarvan het bedrijfsmodel gericht is op het bieden van oplossingen of delen van oplossingen, of die hun bedrijfsmodel hebben aangepast aan de toenemende uitdagingen op het gebied van klimaatverandering.

Het Compartiment hanteert de volgende ESG-strategieën: (I) ESG-integratie, (II) best-in-class selectie en (III) op activiteiten en normen gebaseerde uitsluitingen.

#### No sustainable investment objective

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Nevertheless, this Sub-Fund will target at least 40% sustainable investments.

# "No significant harm" principle

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# Investment strategy

Objective The objective of the Sub-Fund is to offer its shareholders long-term capital gains.

**Investment policy** The Sub-Fund invests mainly in one of the asset classes defined in Article 52, §1of the Royal Decree of 12 November 2012. To achieve its objective, the Sub-Fund invests from a at least (90%) in a portfolio of company shares. The Sub-Fund invests both in companies operating in developed markets (Europe United States and Japan) (without limitation) and in companies operating in emerging markets and frontier markets ("emerging and frontier markets") with a cumulative maximum of 30% in the latter markets.

Benchmark(s) The Sub-Fund is actively managed without using a reference benchmark.

**Derivatives and techniques** The Sub-Fund may, subject to the limits defined by law, invest in financial derivative products, including, for example, futures, options, forward exchange contracts, credit default swaps or interest rate swaps in order to achieve the investment objectives and for risk hedging purposes.

**Strategy** The Sub-Fund invests both in companies operating in developed markets (Europe United States and Japan) (without limitation) and in companies operating in emerging markets and frontier markets ("emerging and frontier markets") with a cumulative maximum of 30% in the latter markets.

Base currency EUR.

Asset	allocation

	% of assets
Investments aligned with the Sub-Fund's E/S characteristics	Min. 80%
Qualifying as sustainable investments	Min. 40%

	1
- under the EU Taxonomy <sup>1</sup>	-
- with a social objective	-
Not qualifying as sustainable investments but having other E/S characteristics	Min. 0%
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