

# “REFUND” PROJECT

## LIFE CYCLE ASSESSMENT OF GREEN BONDS AND FUNDS

# AVOIDING GREENWASHING WITH ADEQUATE SUSTAINABILITY MEASUREMENT

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2023



**DID YOU EXPERIENCE NOT TRUSTING THE  
SUSTAINABILITY CLAIMS OF A INVESTMENT PRODUCT?**

**AND WHAT WAS THE REASON?**

# WHAT IS LIFE CYCLE ASSESSMENT ? AND HOW CAN IT SUPPORT SUSTAINABLE FINANCE ?

## SUSTAINABILITY ASSESSMENT IN SUSTAINABLE FINANCE

**impact over the life  
cycle**

**multi-criteria  
impact analysis**

“take into account the life cycle, including evidence from existing life-cycle assessments, by considering both the environmental impact of the economic activity itself and the environmental impact of the products and services provided by that economic activity, **in particular by considering the production, use and end of life of those products and services**”

*Article 19 (g), REGULATION (EU) 2020/852 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL of 18 June 2020 on the establishment of a framework to facilitate sustainable investment, and amending Regulation (EU) 2019/2088*

The six environmental objectives that this Regulation should cover are: **climate change mitigation; climate change adaptation; the sustainable use and protection of water and marine resources; the transition to a circular economy; pollution prevention and control; and the protection and restoration of biodiversity and ecosystems.**

“compliance with **minimum safeguards** should be a condition for economic activities to qualify as environmentally sustainable.”

*(23) REGULATION (EU) 2020/852 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL of 18 June 2020 on the establishment of a framework to facilitate sustainable investment, and amending Regulation (EU) 2019/2088*

# LIFE CYCLE IMPACT ASSESSMENT

## COMPLETE SET OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

### ecoinvent Database

As the world's most consistent and transparent life cycle inventory database, the ecoinvent database supports environmental assessments of products and processes worldwide.

#### Goal and scope



e.g. LCA of a car of typology X, assuming a use for Y years, produced in country Z, ect.

#### LCI - Life Cycle Inventory

For each stage of a product life cycle (e.g. resource extraction, manufacturing, use, etc.) data on **emissions into the environment** (e.g. CO<sub>2</sub>, benzene, organic chemicals) and **resources used** (e.g. metals, crude oil) are collected in an inventory.



Each emission in the environment and resource used are then characterised in term of potential impact in the LCIA, covering a number of impact categories.

#### LCIA - Life Cycle Impact Assessment



CLIMATE CHANGE



EUTROPHICATION



LAND USE



RESOURCE DEPLETION



ACIDIFICATION



OZONE DEPLETION



ECOTOXICITY



IONISING RADIATION



PHOTOCHEMICAL OZONE FORMATION



WATER DEPLETION













HUMAN TOXICITY

#### Areas of protection

Human health  
Ecosystem health  
Natural resources

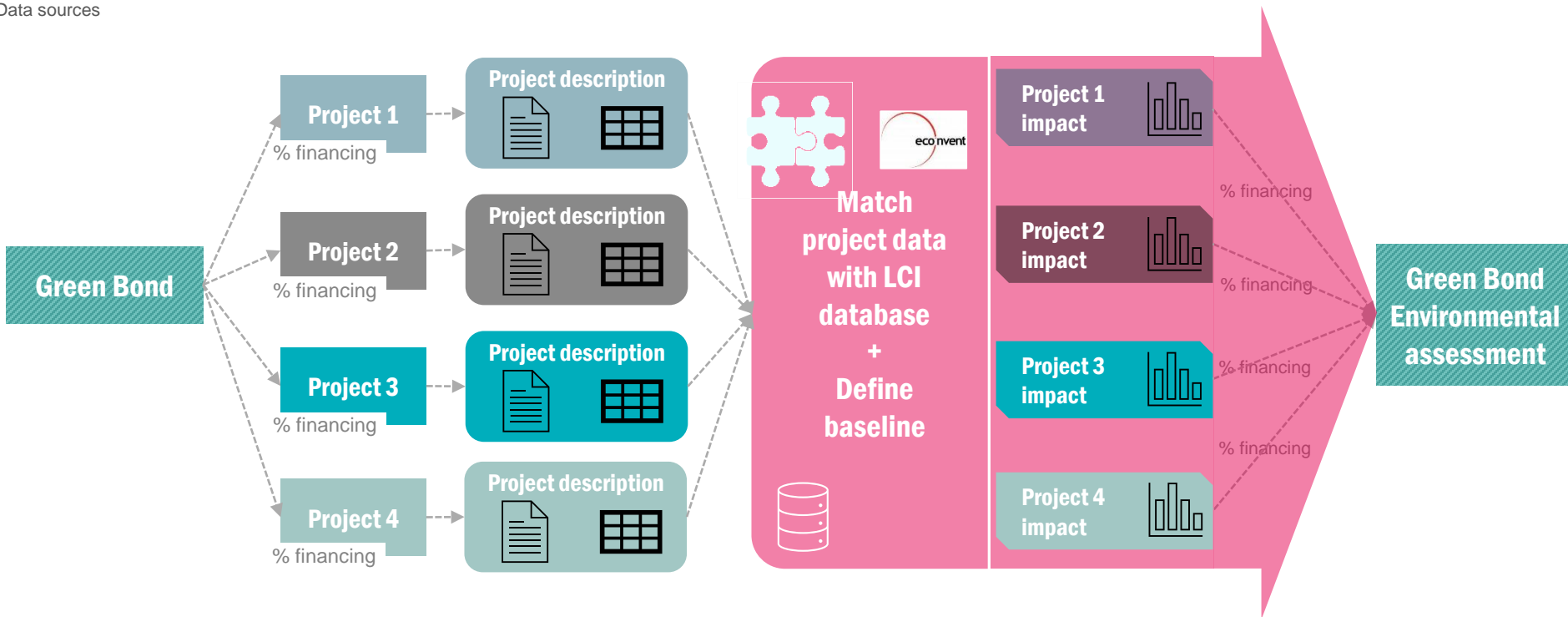
#### Interpretation

	EF impact category	Impact category indicator (unit)	IO-based environmental flows & ReCiPe method
	Climate change, total	GHG emissions, GWP100 (kgCO <sub>2</sub> eq)	CO <sub>2</sub> , CH <sub>4</sub> , N <sub>2</sub> O, SF <sub>6</sub> , HFC, PFC
	Human toxicity, cancer	Comparative Toxic Unit for humans (CTUh)	Benzo(a)pyrene, PCDD_F, HCB, As, Cd, Hg, Ni, B(a)P, Pb, PCDD/F
	Human toxicity, non-cancer	Comparative Toxic Unit for humans (CTUh)	HCB, As, Cd, Cu, Hg, Ni, Pb, Zn
	Particulate matter	Impact on human health (DALYs)	PM <sub>2.5</sub> , CO, SO <sub>x</sub> , NH <sub>3</sub> , TSP
	Photochemical ozone formation, human health	Tropospheric ozone concentration increase (kg NMVOC eq)	CH <sub>4</sub> , SO <sub>x</sub> , CO, NMVOC
	Acidification	Accumulated Exceedance (mol H <sup>+</sup> eq)	SO <sub>x</sub> , NO <sub>x</sub> , NH <sub>3</sub>
	Eutrophication, terrestrial	Accumulated Exceedance (mol N eq)	NH <sub>3</sub> , NO <sub>x</sub>
	Eutrophication, marine	Fraction of nutrients reaching marine end compartment (kg N eq)	NH <sub>3</sub> , N
	Ecotoxicity, freshwater	Comparative Toxic Unit for ecosystems (CTUe)	Benzo(a)pyrene, Indeno(1,2,3-cd)pyrene, PCDD_F, HCB, As, Cd, Cr, Hg, Cu, Ni, Pb, PAH, B(k)F, Benzo(k)fluoranthene, Se, Zn, B(a)P, Indeno, PCDD/F, NMVOC
	Land use	Land-use related biodiversity loss (global PDF years)	Land use, crop, forest, pasture
	Water use	Water stress (m <sup>3</sup> of H <sub>2</sub> O equivalents)	Water consumption
	Resource use, minerals and metals	Material footprint (tonnes of cultivated biomass, extracted mineral ore and fossils)	Extraction Used

# DEMYSTIFYING SUSTAINABILITY ASSESSMENT — GREEN BONDS

# LCA BASED METHODOLOGY: FOCUS ON PROJECTS

Data sources



# ADDITIONALITY AND CHOICE OF REFERENCE PRODUCT

BOF Publishing Environ. Res. Lett. 15 (2020) 104045 <https://doi.org/10.1088/1748-9326/aba00c>

Environmental Research Letters






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LETTER

Shades of green: life cycle assessment of renewable energy projects financed through green bonds


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Supplementary material for this article is available online

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**Abstract**  
Green bonds have emerged as a key instrument to fund projects contributing to climate change mitigation or environmental protection. However, a consistent, robust and comparable standard for the estimation of the environmental impacts of green bonds is lacking, hampering growth in sustainable finance. As encouraged by second-party opinion reports, the use of life cycle assessment (LCA) allows for the complete environmental evaluation of projects over their life cycle. Here we estimate the LCA-based impacts along several environmental metrics of a set of green bonds for renewable power plants issued by the European Investment Bank from 2015–2018. Life cycle avoided greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions varied by a factor of 12 from 29 to 359 t CO<sub>2</sub> eq./M€ invested—information that is not available to investors at the outset, indicating that funds are unlikely to be allocated efficiently. Furthermore, linking environmental impact indicators to the Sustainable Development Goals unveils significant trade-offs. Bonds may perform well on water use and emissions, while having a negative impact on waste and land use. Conducting LCA of green bonds comes at a cost of additional methodological challenges and increased data needs compared with current reporting practices. However, the ready infrastructure of LCA databases and methodologies can provide the necessary tools to meet future reporting requirements as the EU taxonomy framework and standardization of impact reporting evolve.

sample of green bonds (climate awareness bonds)  
from the European Investment Bank

What is the impact attributable to the bond, on a series of indicators?

What would happen without the green bond investment?

If we have a renewable electricity project, do we consider as reference scenario the current electricity mix, or the electricity mix that we foresee for when the project would be in operation?



# GREENWASHING RISK - CONCERNS REGARDING USE OF PROCEEDS

## China expected to allow green bonds to fund clean coal projects in potential blow to climate change fight

- China consumes half of the world's coal and generates 60 per cent of its electricity from coal
- The move would put the world's largest emitter of greenhouse gases at odds with the European Union on green financing standards



Li Jing

Published: 8:00am, 12 Sep, 2019



- clean coal would be better than an inefficient coal plant, but is it what we aim to finance with a green bond project?

## Teekay preps 'green bond' to fund new oil tanker fleet

By Owen Sanderson 01 Oct 2019

Teekay Shuttle Tankers has mandated a \$150m "green bond" to fund new oil tankers built to the firm's "e-shuttle" standards. The deal raises questions about the logic of using green-branded debt instruments to fund fossil fuel extraction.

The bond has been assessed as "light green" by second-opinion provider Cicero.

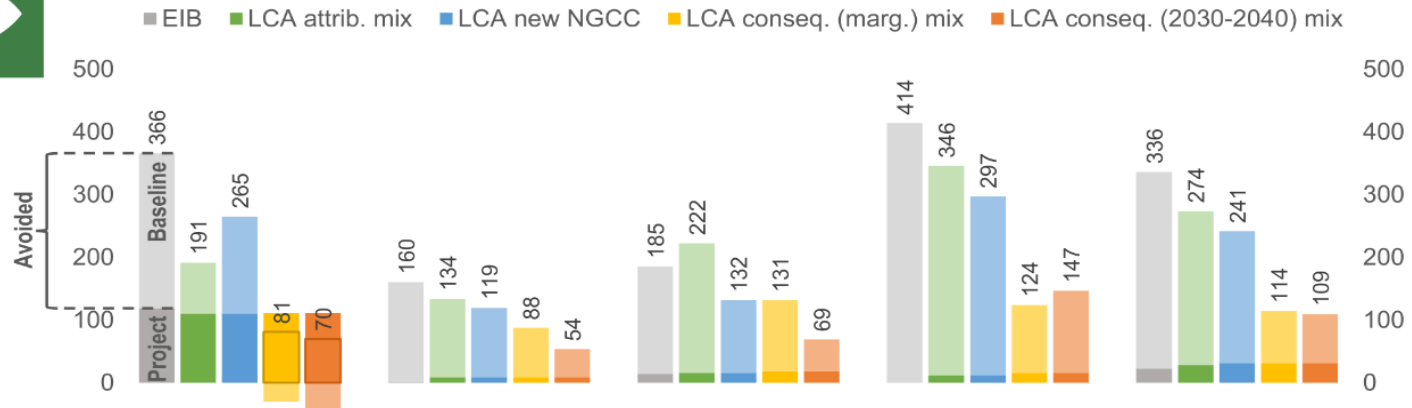
Cicero describes such bonds as being climate friendly, but that they do "not by themselves represent or contribute to [a] long-term vision. These represent necessary and potentially significant short-term [greenhouse gas] emission reductions, but need to be managed ...



# INFLUENCE OF THE CHOICE OF BASELINE ON AVOIDED EMISSIONS



Absolute and avoided emissions per project type and baseline assumption (kt CO<sub>2</sub> eq./year)



	CHP	Hydropower	Solar	Wind	All
Number of projects	10	7	11	33	61
Avg investment (M€)	376	258	486	673	543
Avg capacity (MW)	188	301	112	204	196

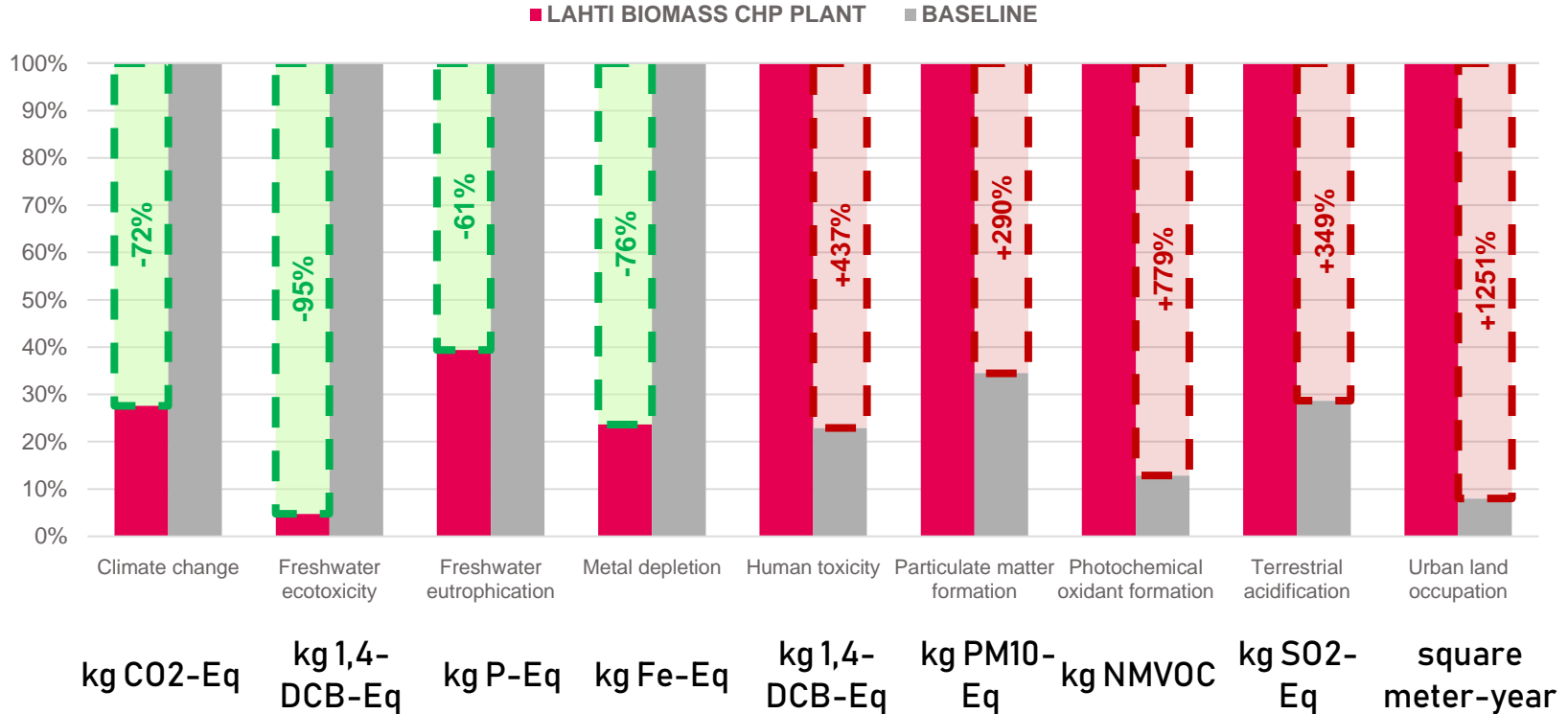
# GREENWASHING RISK - CONCERNS REGARDING USE OF PROCEEDS



Amazonians protest at the construction of the Belo Monte hydroelectric dam in Brazil. The use of a green bond to fund the controversial Jirau Dam in 2014 raised questions about the lack of scrutiny and regulation.  
© Lunae Parracho/Reuters

- are the effects on all stakeholders addressed in the impact assessment of the project ?
- social considerations start to be part of sustainable finance regulations, such as the EU Taxonomy

# EIB GREEN BONDS & LCA IMPACT ANALYSIS Multicriteria. Co-benefits and trade-offs



**Project Details.** CHP biomass-fired plant at Kymijärvi in Lahti. The plant will provide 4.5 TWh of electricity to the national grid and heat to the district heating system in the city (**feedstock in this example: dedicated crops**)

# EIB GREEN BONDS & LCA IMPACT ANALYSIS. THE IMPACT AT BOND LEVEL

CAB	CAB in sample (EURm)	CAB in Sample from total CAB value allocated by EIB proceeds 2015-2018 (%)	Climate Change	Freshwater ecotoxicity	Freshwater eutrophication	Human toxicity	Metal depletion	Relative Particulate matter formation	Relative photochemical oxidant formation	Terrestrial acidification	Urban land occupation
USD CAB due 24/05/2027	585.75	43%	208.52	27.56	79.0	88.0	20.9	143.2	221.1	259.6	-1006.2
SEK CAB due 20/01/2021	73.98	68%	36.34	26.22	54.2	167.0	19.0	127.4	273.7	230.5	1646.5
TRY CAB due 27/03/2019	46.85	55%	93.54	26.26	69.9	152.2	21.7	102.3	252.3	115.1	1287.4
EUR CAB due 15/11/2023	466.30	24%	215.02	17.78	83.6	140.2	12.3	268.2	351.4	294.1	-1.3
AUD CAB due 12/01/2023	185.63	38%	188.61	17.60	67.4	172.6	20.1	167.8	401.1	192.2	1127.7
SEK CAB due 19/07/2022	74.61	24%	113.01	22.08	70.7	-111.1	14.8	-18.2	-496.1	-314.1	-8444.0
EUR CAB due 18/05/2029	289.56	58%	136.67	23.93	79.3	9.2	17.2	125.1	-92.4	55.7	-4091.4
USD CAB due 15/10/2024	574.64	72%	124.29	30.72	130.1	251.1	22.4	407.2	686.9	1011.3	2704.7
USD CAB due 13/04/2026	572.08	44%	242.65	17.27	182.7	192.8	13.2	343.6	496.8	685.3	2177.6
EUR CAB due 15/11/2047	531.17	43%	308.83	22.28	164.2	161.0	14.2	415.3	295.3	382.6	-10931.6
CAD CAB due 18/01/2023	272.75	59%	333.43	15.07	122.9	129.2	9.0	425.9	365.4	387.6	-14616.4
CAD CAB due 16/09/2021	142.36	42%	212.43	16.41	207.4	133.4	15.3	203.2	229.6	468.9	-448.3
EUR CAB due 13/11/2037	606.77	54%	128.86	26.97	112.5	140.0	19.5	179.6	213.2	258.4	229.2
SEK CAB due 02/03/2027	141.60	61%	230.70	25.09	142.8	189.6	17.7	323.6	429.1	490.7	1500.5
SEK CAB due 30/01/2025	75.72	48%	508.15	24.55	131.7	106.3	16.0	433.1	717.3	1189.5	192.1
AUD CAB due 03/02/2028	268.23	38%	448.91	27.00	193.0	54.2	17.1	339.8	326.7	818.2	-2845.8
GBP CAB due 07/03/2020	811.34	45%	157.47	20.93	71.9	9.4	15.9	116.7	-31.4	46.5	-3938.6
EUR CAB due 13/11/2026	506.99	38%	131.87	24.29	102.0	184.4	18.1	239.5	401.1	436.0	958.7
SEK CAB due 13/11/2023	56.04	37%	158.60	19.00	56.2	118.2	16.0	106.3	294.2	183.4	878.1
ZAR CAB due 12/03/2018	11.03	75%	61.91	39.77	105.9	183.5	32.8	98.5	174.0	-26.9	1150.7
ZAR CAB due 15/09/2017	45.87	71%	30.31	19.35	47.1	175.7	17.1	129.8	310.2	238.3	1925.3
SEK CAB due 23/04/2019	78.57	100%	126.08	39.51	41.9	-448.6	31.2	-357.8	-1521.5	-1371.4	-22223.3
EUR CAB due 15/11/2019	196.30	49%	105.15	27.86	167.6	241.9	19.9	525.1	862.3	1573.3	2807.2
SEK CAB due 24/07/2020	20.49	77%	142.64	-0.60	6.3	18.3	0.9	45.7	194.6	142.8	225.6

# FINANCING THE GREEN TRANSITION... OR NOT?



نيوم NEOM

## THE WORLD'S LARGEST GREEN HYDROGEN PLANT

Harnessing NEOM's abundant sun and wind to create green hydrogen and supply renewable energy to the global economy.



Promote the circular economy



Reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions



Produce 650 tons of green hydrogen daily



Improve the health of our people & planet



Create a dynamic new industry in Saudi Arabia

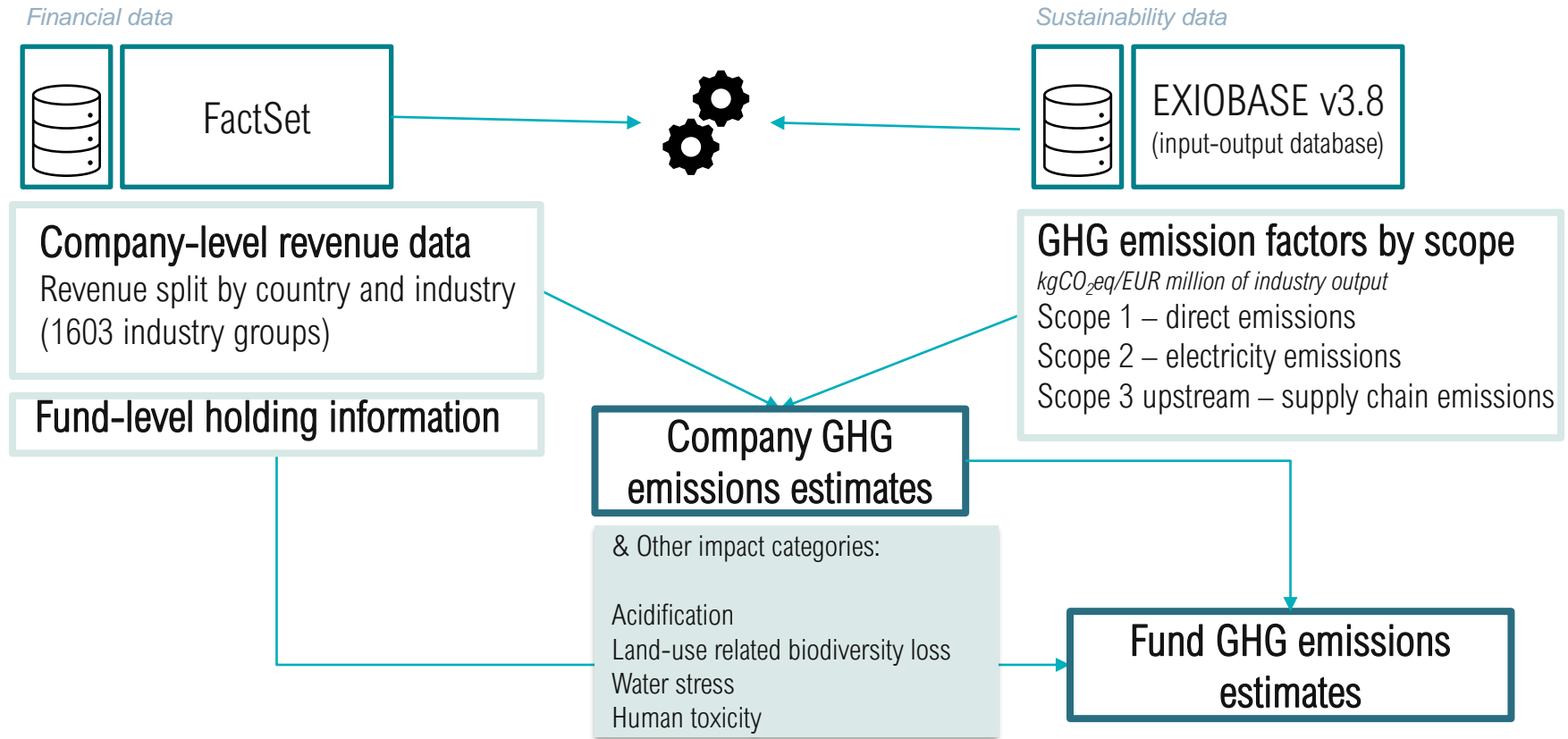
Finally, Natixis CIB arranged the financing of the **largest green hydrogen production site, NEOM** Green Hydrogen Project, in Saudi Arabia, powered entirely by renewable energy. PFI awarded it the title of "Middle East & Africa Green Deal of the Year".

Yet Saudi Arabia **promised to increase oil production** just weeks after making headline green pledges for this year's COP26 climate conference. The energy minister Prince Abdulaziz bin Salman **reportedly said** the Saudis wouldn't stop pumping: "We are still going to be the last man standing, and every molecule of hydrocarbon will come out."

# LIFE CYCLE ASSESSMENT FOR MEASURING IMPACT OF INVESTMENT FUNDS

# METHODOLOGY & DATA FOR CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS

## DATA SOURCES AND MODEL STRUCTURE





# IOLCA-ESTIMATED SUSTAINABILITY DATA – COVERAGE

- large coverage of listed companies (30,000 companies in year 2020) & time series data 2012 – 2021
- model can be adapted to compute impact for any company, needed data: revenue breakdown (production) by region and industry
- full range of environmental indicators and one social indicator: **GHG emissions, acidification, particulate matter, human toxicity, eutrophication, land use, water use, resources use, vulnerable employment**
- Scopes covered: scope 1, scope 2, scope 3 upstream **GHG emissions** and direct, indirect impact for other indicators
- results expressed as absolute values or intensity (per MEUR invested / per MEUR of revenue)

# MODEL OUTPUT – LIFE CYCLE GHG EMISSIONS ESTIMATES FOR COMPANIES AND FUNDS

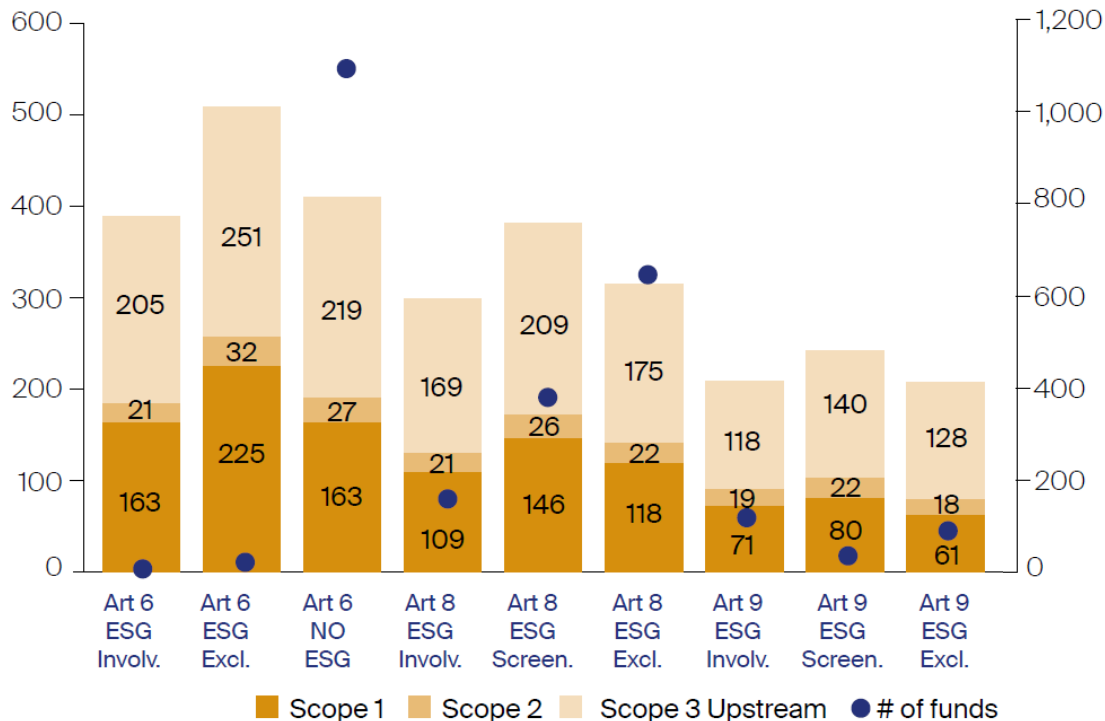
COMPANY	WACI – Weighed average Carbon Intensity (tCO <sub>2</sub> -eq/MEUR)				reporting year
	scope 1	scope 2	scope 3 upstream	life cycle	
Saudi Arabian Oil Co.	1,267	77	575	1,919	2018
Agilysys, Inc. (software)	10	17	65	92	2018
iHeartMedia, Inc.	54	32	145	231	2018
CytomX Therapeutics, Inc.	130	74	235	439	2018
SG Fleet Group Ltd. (fleet mgmt.)	25	20	166	211	2018

FUND	RCF – Relative Carbon Footprint (tCO <sub>2</sub> -eq/MUSD invested)				reporting year
	scope 1	scope 2	scope 3	life cycle	
State Street Europe Small Cap ESG Screened Equity Fund	104	20	196	321	2018
AMUNDI MSCI EMU ESG LEADERS	133	27	222	382	2018
iShares Developed World ESG Screened Index Fund (IE)	112	17	133	263	2018
Lyxor MSCI Europe ESG Leaders	108	21	172	301	2018
State Street Emerging Markets Small Cap ESG Screened Equity	639	214	643	1,497	2018

Including indirect scope 3 emissions doubles or even triples total carbon exposure of an investment fund

# APPLICATION – SAMPLE OF SFDR SELF-LABELLED FUNDS DOMICILED IN LUXEMBOURG

**Exhibit 65:** Relative Carbon Footprint for the funds sample, in tCO<sub>2</sub>-eq/mUSD invested (GWP100) (averages by fund category)



<https://lsfi.lu/sf-luxembourg-study/>

Source: Luxembourg Institute of Science and Technology (LIST)

# DEMYSTIFYING SUSTAINABILITY ASSESSMENT — GREEN/ESG INVESTMENT FUNDS

# UNDERLYING INVESTMENTS OF AN ESG FUND

## Fund | iShares MSCI Europe ESG Screened UCITS ETF

CPRS /unit Classification based on Battiston et al. (2017) <sup>1</sup>	Total company revenue exposure mEUR	Market value held mUSD	Scope 1	Scope 2	Scope 3	Life cycle
3-energy-intensive	2,041,664	125	9,447	2,943	18,587	30,976
7-finance	1,731,529	63	982	354	3,601	4,936
9-other	885,785	33	606	397	4,052	5,055
4-buildings	273,327	14	229	83	1,389	1,701
5-transportation	663,606	12	465	420	4,731	5,616
1-fossil oil	553,133	11	6,925	571	15,142	22,639
2-utility electricity	363,058	7	10,164	1,440	3,247	14,851
1-fossil gas	97,605	4	1,187	225	1,448	2,861
5-transportation air	59,031	1.4	843	8	279	1,130
1-fossil-fuel	138,769	1.3	2,086	243	1,117	3,446
5-transportation other	34,457	1.3	40	11	106	157
5-transportation roads	20,865	0.78	4	4	80	89
1-fossil coal	118,802	0.74	9,863	225	2,812	12,900
2-utility water&sewerage	12,436	0.65	6	44	71	121

- “ESG screened fund” does not ensure the investor that the investment fund is sustainable
- some “sustainable” funds still hold investments in polluting companies
- quantitative rather than qualitative indicators should be analysed when making an investment decision
- assessment usually includes only the direct commitments of a holding, without looking at the impact over the life cycle of the company

<sup>1</sup>Battiston, S., Mandel, A., Monasterolo, I., Schütze, F., Visentin, G., 2017. A climate stress-test of the financial system. Nat. Clim. Chang. 7, 283–288. <https://doi.org/10.1038/nclimate3255>

# SFDR ARTICLE 9 VS ARTICLE 8 IMPACT AND EXPOSURE

## BREAKDOWN OF FUND IMPACT USING CPRS INDUSTRY CLASSIFICATION

SFDR Article 9 fund  
sustainable goals as their objective

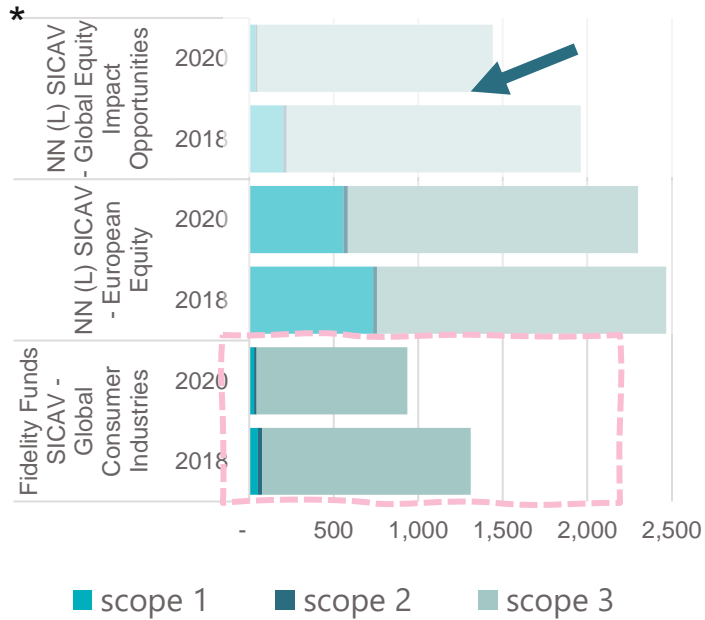
CPRS2 sector	Holdings'	MV held	Scope 1 & 2	Scope 3		
	revenue	by fund	impact share	impact share		
	mEUR	'000 USD	tCO2-eg.	tCO2-eg.		
3-energy-intensive	287,629	144,364	7,644	33%	14,980	62%
9-other	222,974	66,754	834	3.6%	3,121	13%
7-finance	60,185	45,689	475	2.1%	1,116	4.6%
5-transportation	861	12,619	74	0.3%	170	0.7%
4-buildings	7,695	6,852	61	0.3%	283	1.2%
2-utility/electricity	34,757	4,510	13,865	60%	4,490	19%
2-utility/waste	377	2,403	9	0.0%	78	0.3%
1-fossil oil	35	5	3	0.0%	1	0.0%
1-fossil gas	14	2	3	0.0%	2	0.0%

SFDR Article 8 fund  
promoting sustainability characteristics

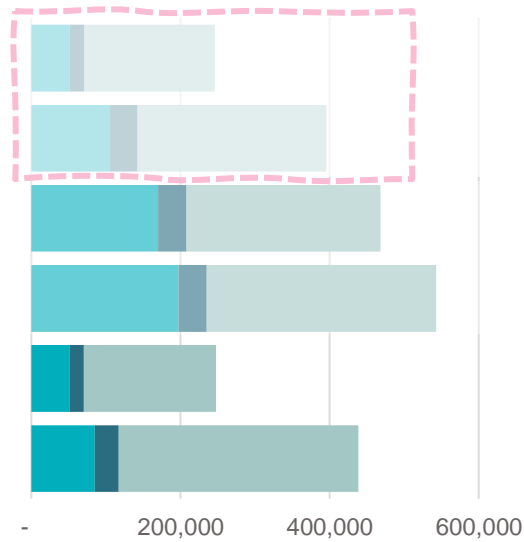
CPRS2 sector	Holdings'	MV held	Scope 1 & 2	Scope 3		
	revenue	by fund	impact share	impact share		
	mEUR	'000 USD	tCO2-eg.	tCO2-eg.		
3-energy-intensive	535,592	74,092	8,438	27%	10,499	30%
7-finance	513,047	33,346	419	1.3%	2,034	5.9%
9-other	244,320	22,360	575	1.8%	1,817	5.2%
1-fossil oil	706,699	13,819	14,951	48%	28,341	82%
2-utility electricity	156,778	12,249	12,296	39%	4,680	13.5%
4-buildings	75,471	11,051	409	1.3%	3,312	9.5%
5-transportation	322,840	8,527	908	2.9%	5,061	14.6%
2-utility waste	5,026	2,744	461	1.3%	302	0.9%
5-transportation air	5,040	2,699	389	1.2%	184	0.5%
1-fossil gas	19,859	1,180	1,107	3.5%	844	2.4%
5-transportation roads	9,156	423	9	0.0%	74	0.2%
1-fossil coal	8,835	415	1,308	4.2%	520	1.5%
1-fossil-fuel	11,230	378	279	0.9%	358	1.0%
6-agric. etc agriculture	2,133	166	32	0.1%	64	0.2%
6-agric. etc forestry	320	36	3	0.0%	3	0.0%

# ADDITIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL INDICATORS | LINK TO EU TAXONOMY ENVIRONMENTAL OBJECTIVES

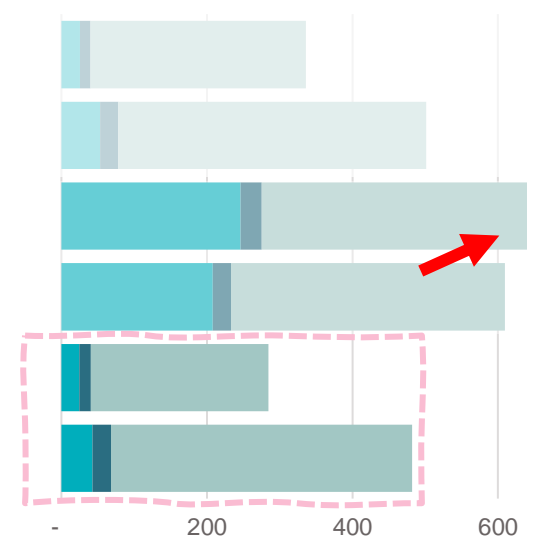
## Freshwater aquatic ecotoxicity



## GHG emissions



## Particulate matter



\*Sample selection: 3 Article 9 funds listed on LGX

# LIFE CYCLE ASSESSMENT OF INVESTMENT FUNDS AND THEIR HOLDINGS

## SUMMARY OF THE TOOL

- Estimation method for life cycle GHG emissions (and other sustainability impact categories), based on Input-Output (IO) Life Cycle Assessment (LCA), or IOLCA and company-level detailed revenue data, used as proxy to build the country-industry exposure profile of a company and investment fund
- The main novelty compared to previous tools and literature is using a detailed country and sectorial breakdown of companies' revenue, sourced from the FactSet database combined with regionalized industry emission factors from the Environmentally Extended Multi-Regional IO (EEMRIO) database EXIOBASE

### Benefits

- Accounts for all impacts happening in supply chain and production phase (no cut-off)
- Ability to cover a very large universe of companies (95% sample coverage, compared to 17% coverage in company self-reported data)
- Homogenous method across industries and thus companies
- Uses real and verified trade data and emissions

### Limitations

- Assumes the same production recipe for all companies under the same country industry class
- There are uncertainties in the data from the input-output databases that are transmitted to the company-level estimates
- Emissions intensity is expressed in monetary terms and thus absolute emissions are influenced by the price level of a company



# ARE MEASUREMENT TOOLS AT INVESTMENT FUND LEVEL FIT FOR PURPOSE ?

- measurement tools should be science-based
- difficulty in adapting product-level tools to investment products

<u>Sustainability Performance Measurement</u>		<u>Criteria</u>							<u>Total score</u>
<u>Level 2 Family of methods</u>	<u>Level 3/4 Specific Measurement Tool</u>	<u>Double Materiality</u>	<u>Reliability</u>	<u>Life cycle consideration</u>	<u>Comprehensiveness of impact categories</u>	<u>Compatibility with SBTs</u>	<u>Prospectiveness</u>	<u>Investor's additionality</u>	<u>(equally weighted criteria)</u>
<b>Carbon footprints and exposure metrics</b>	Carbon Footprint	1	1	0		0	0		2
	Trucost Carbon Scorecard	2	2	2	1	2	2		11
	IO-based Carbon Footprint	2	1	3		0	0		6
	Weighted Average Carbon Intensity	1	2	0		0	0		3
<b>Alignment with low-carbon pathways</b>	Carbon Impact Analytics (CIA)	2	1	2		1	1		7
	PACTA	2	2	1		3	3	1	12
<b>ESG ratings</b>	Proprietary ESG Scores and Ratings	0	1	0	2	0	1		4
	Free-to-search Ratings	2	2	1	2	0	1	1	9
<b>Sustainability labels</b>		1	2	0	2	1	1	1	8
<b>Sustainability-based impact assessments</b>	CISL Impact Framework	2	2	0	3	3	2		12
	Portfolio Impact Footprint	1	1	0	2	2	0		6
	Biodiversity Footprinting	3	2	3	2	1	0		11
	Net Environmental Contribution	3	2	3	2	2	0		12

## Legend

- 0 Criterion not addressed
- 1 Slightly addressing criterion
- 2 Good level of addressing the criterion
- 3 Best practice in addressing criterion
- Grey Criterion not applicable for method

Source:

Popescu, I.-S., Hitaj, C., Benetto, E., 2021. Measuring the sustainability of investment funds: A critical review of methods and frameworks in sustainable finance.

J. Clean. Prod. 314, 128016. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jclepro.2021.128016>

# UNPACKING POSITIVE IMPACT CREATION

**Need to adopt forward-looking view** – otherwise already low-carbon sectors are more and more popular to invest in, without contributing to climate transition

**Public equity investment funds may not be the answer to positive impact creation, alternatives can be** – private equity, blended finance, impact funds, green and sustainability-linked bonds

**Measurement of impact should be differentiated by industry** – a general metric may not be suited to measure impact across all industries

# thank you

## The “REFUND” project group at LIST



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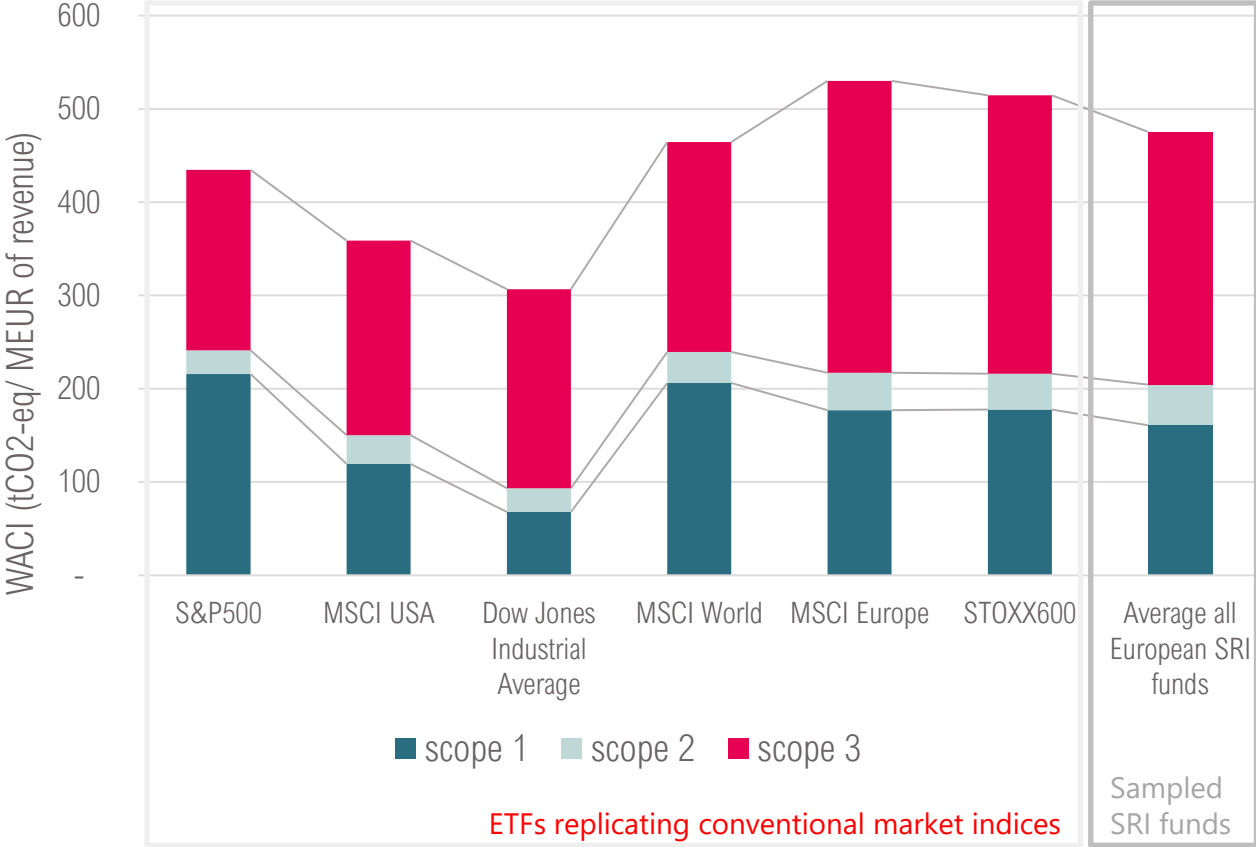
**Thomas  
Schaubroeck**

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# MODEL OUTPUT | COMPARING SUSTAINABLE FUNDS TO CONVENTIONAL INDICES

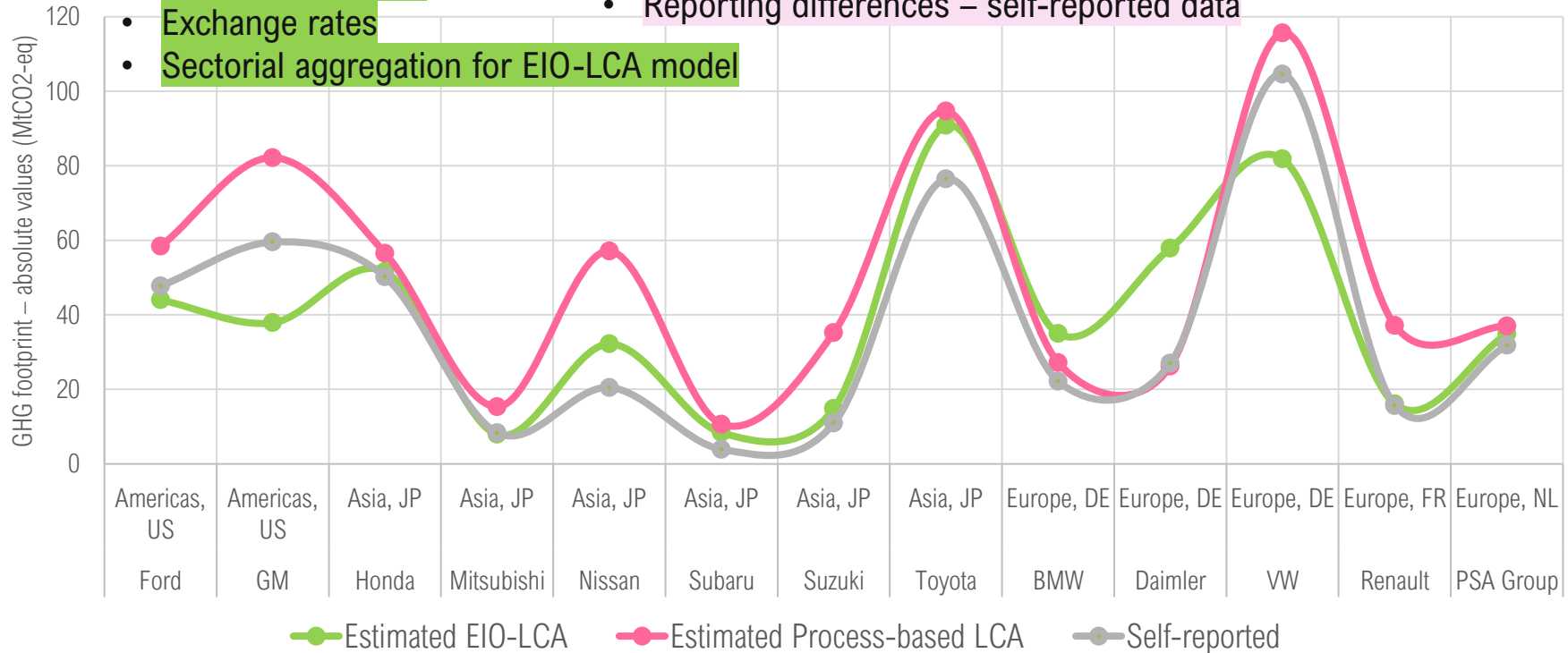


Including indirect scope 3 emissions doubles or even triples total carbon exposure of an investment fund

# Validation of IOLCA estimation method in the Automobiles industry | Results – Estimated vs reported data

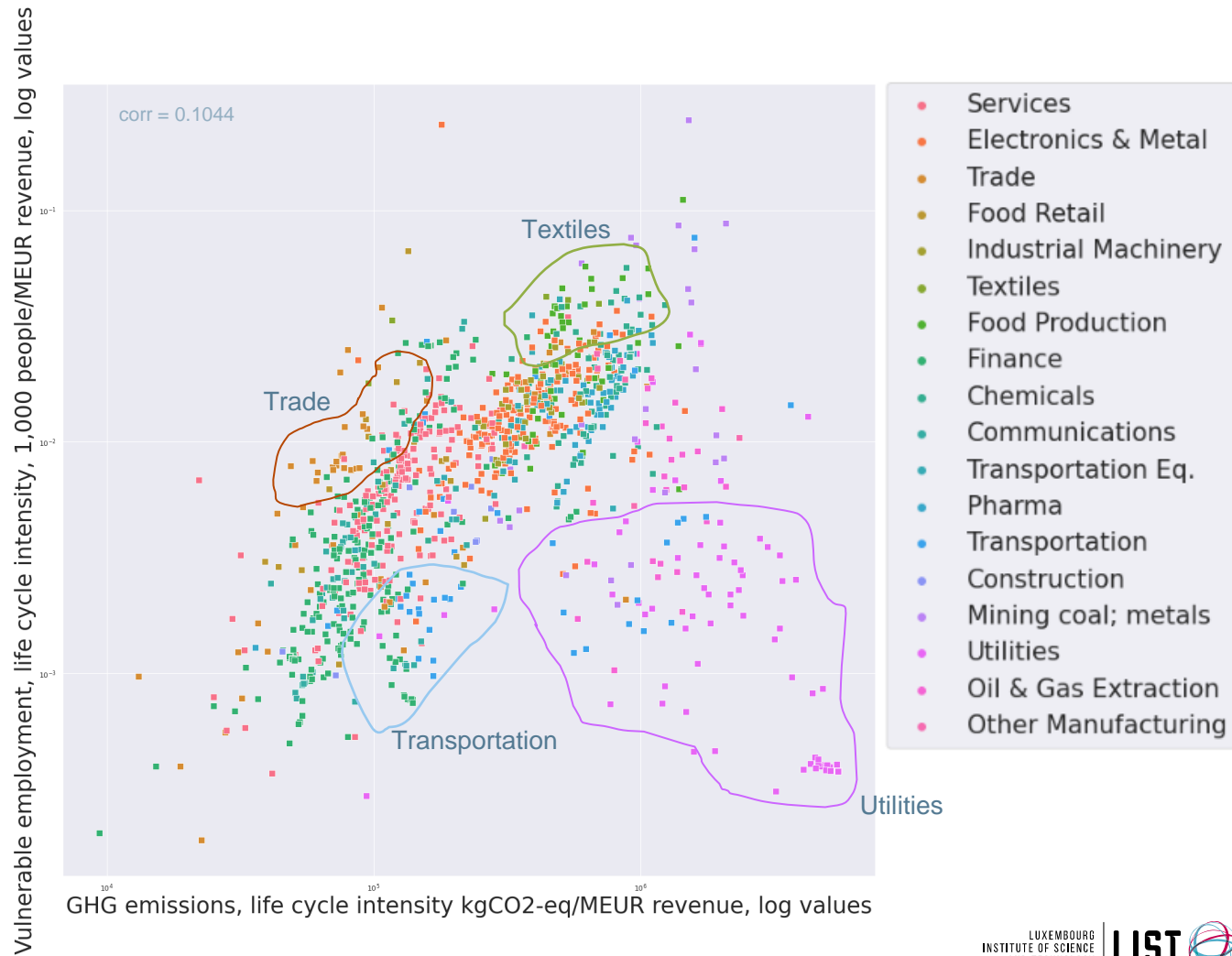
- Product price level
- Exchange rates
- Sectorial aggregation for EIO-LCA model

- Electricity mix
- Powertrain type (ICEVs vs BEVs vs PHEVs) and car size
- Reporting differences – self-reported data



# RESULTS

*Life cycle intensity, vulnerable employment and GHG emissions, for companies in the MSCI Climate Transition Index*



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