

The EU Taxonomy and the Disclosures Delegated Act

Lucia Alessi

Responsible for Sustainable Finance European Commission, Joint Research Centre (JRC)

The EU Taxonomy – defining sustainable



A classification system

Provides clarity on what is an environmentally sustainable activity and under which circumstances.



A measuring tool

Measures the degree of sustainability of an investment and the degree of green activities of companies



A transition tool

Helps investors and companies to plan and report on the transition. It sets the objectives and the direction of travel for different economic activities.

Ultimately, it helps raise the needed investments to build a net zero, resilient and environmentally sustainable economy.



6 environmental interlinked objectives

CLIMATE CHANGE

Mitigation

Adaptation

First Technical Screening Criteria in the Climate Delegated Act (April 2021)

OTHER OBJECTIVES

Transition to a circular economy

Pollution prevention and control

Sustainable use and protection of water and marine resources

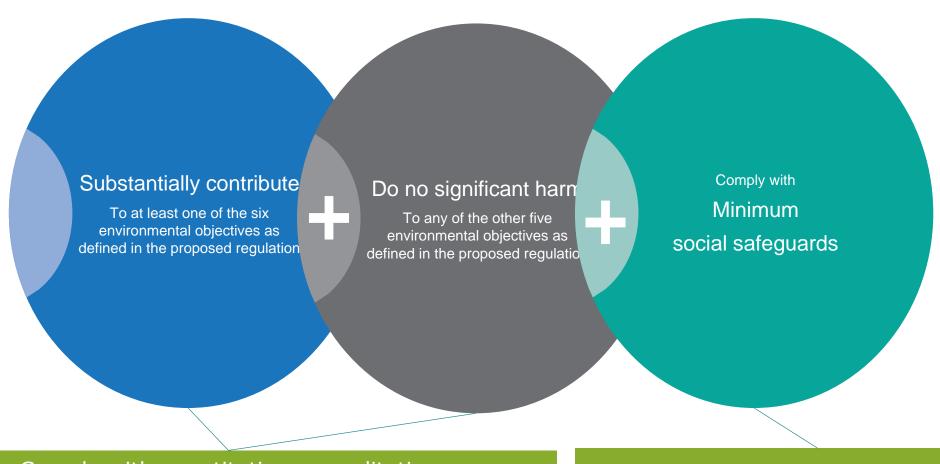
Protection and restoration of biodiversity & ecosystems

Technical Screening Criteria under development



Basic conditions

Activities are green if they...

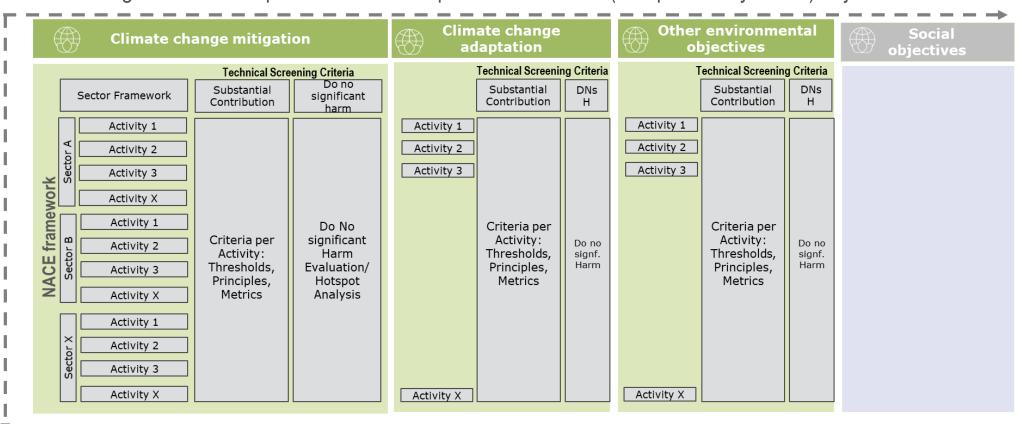


Comply with quantitative or qualitative **Technical Screening Criteria**

UN Guiding Principles and OECD Guidelines

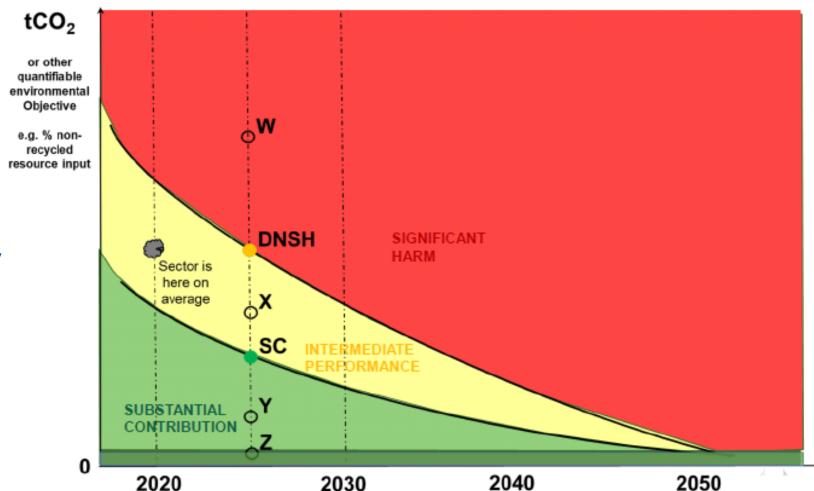
The EU taxonomy – what could it look like?

Progressive development of activities per environmental (and potentially social) objectives





The Taxonomy technical screening criteria are dynamic



European Commission

2030

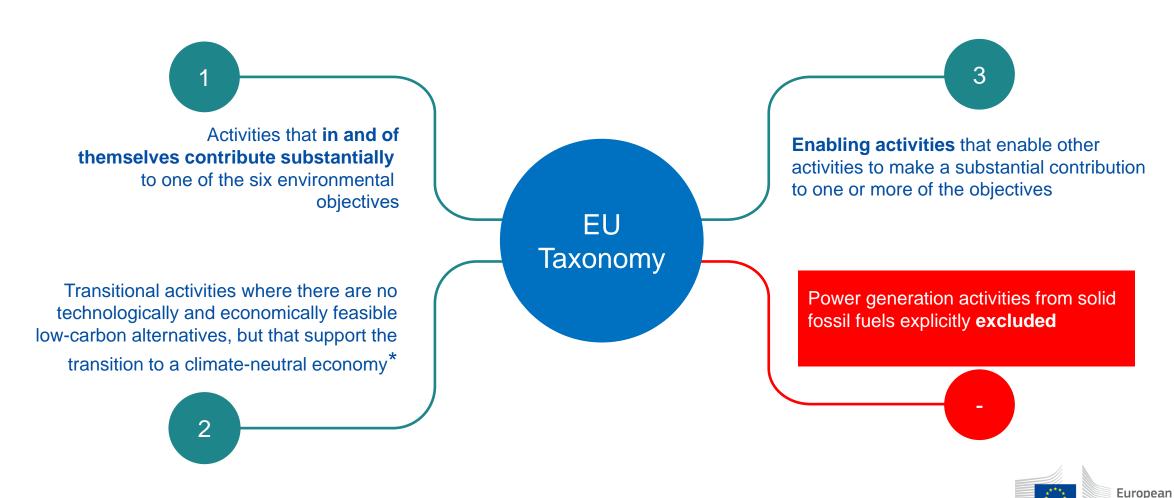
high impact sector/ activity with transition to net zero by 2050.

This graphic represents a

2020

Types of activities

Activities not included are not necessary harmful activities



^{*}Transitional activities for climate change objective only.

Overview of activities covered for substantial contribution to climate change mitigation

Environmental	protection and				
restoration activities					

Manufacturing

Energy

Water, sewerage, waste, remediation

Transport

Information and communication technologies

Construction/Buildings

Professional, scientific and technical activities

1 activity

16 activities (11 transitional manufacturing activities and 5 enabling activities)

25 activities

12 activities

17 activities

2 activities

7 activities

2 activities

Example: restauration of wetlands

Example: manufacture of cement

Example: electricity generation from wind

Example: anaerobic digestion

Example: passenger rail transport

Example: data centres

Example: construction of new buildings

Example: research and development



Overview of activities covered for substantial contribution to climate change adaptation (1/2)

Environmental protection and restoration activities

Manufacturing

Energy

Water, sewerage, waste, remediation

Transport

Information and communication technologies

Construction/Buildings

1 activity

16 activities

25 activities

12 activities

17 activities

3 activities

7 activities

Example: restauration of wetlands

Example: manufacture of cement

Example: electricity generation from wind

Example: anaerobic digestion

Example: passenger rail transport

Example: data centres

Example: construction of new buildings



Overview of activities covered for substantial contribution to climate change adaptation (2/2)

Professional, scientific and technical activities

Financial and insurance Activities

Education

Human health and social work activities

Arts, entertainment and recreation

2 activities (2 enabling)

2 activities (2 enabling)

1 activity

1 activity

3 activities

Example: Research, development and innovation into nature based solutions

Example: Non-life insurance: underwriting

of climate-related perils

Example: Education

Example: Residential care activities

Example: Libraries, archives, museums

and cultural activities



Taxonomy Regulation

Delegated regulation

Delegated Act on CC mitigation and adaptation criteria

- Adopted in April 2021
- Nuclear on hold

Complementary Delegated Act

- Adoption in 2021 (?)
- Agriculture and gas (if and when green)

Delegated Act on criteria for objectives 3-6

Adoption in 2022

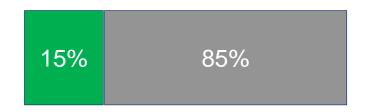
Delegated Act on disclosure obligations (Art. 8)

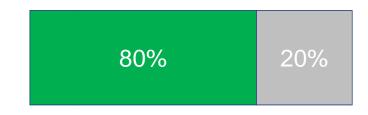
- For larger (NFRD, to be replaced by CSRD) financial and non-financial companies
- Adopted in July 2021
- 2022: disclosures on CC mitigation and adaptation (covering FY2021) – only eligibility reporting
- 2023: disclosures on all objectives (covering the FY2022)
- KPIs for NFCs: Taxonomy-aligned Turnover, CapEx and OpEx
- KPIs for financial institutions: GAR and GIR



Use of the Taxonomy by companies – Turnover vs Capex

Company X





Turnover from taxonomy aligned activities

→ Gives a picture of how sustainable the company is at the moment

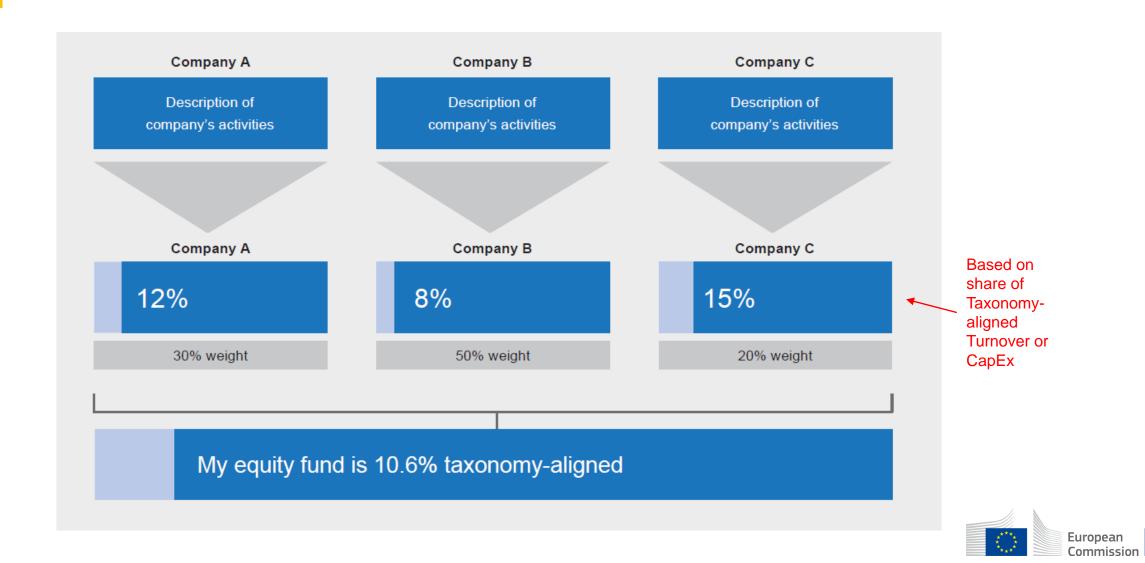
CAPEX related to taxonomy aligned activities

→ Indicates the "direction of travel" (and, if relevant, OPEX)

Breakdown based on the objective, transitional and enabling activities



Asset managers' Green Investment Ratio (GIR)



Banks' Green Asset Ratio (GAR)

- Proportion of the bank's assets invested in Taxonomy-aligned economic activities as a share of total assets (except sovereign exposures)
- Breakdown based on the objective, type of counterparty, transitional and enabling activities
- Exposures to SMEs and non-EU counterparties excluded from the numerator
- Green bonds included in the numerator (but not green loans to SMEs) based on their Taxonomy-alignment
- Inclusion of exposures to SMEs and non-EU in the GAR numerator will be considered by 2024 after impact assessment
- Financial institutions can disclose voluntary KPIs including (estimates of) exposures to sovereigns, SMEs, non-EU



Schedule of disclosures

Review 30 Dec 2024

	2022*	2023	2024	2025
Corporates (NFRD)				
Investment firms				
Asset managers			***	
Insurers	KPI Underwriting			
	KPI Assets		***	
Credit institutions	Main GAR			
	Additional KPIs**		***	

^{*}Entry into force: 1 January 2022, reporting based on previous FY e.g. 2021 data for 2022 reporting **Trading book and Fees and Commissions delayed to 2026

Taxonomy-eligible data

Taxonomy-aligned data

Mix according to holdings



^{***}Reporting for financial holdings may only account eligible data from previous FY, aligned in 2025

Article 8 Delegated Act: next steps

- DA was adopted on 6 July 2021 and the scrutiny period has expired
- FAQ to clarify taxonomy-eligible reporting (via Platform and ESAs) in preparation.
- Entry of application 1 January 2022.
- Further guidance for taxonomy-aligned reporting is under consideration to be developed.
- Review clause in 2024



Sustainable Finance Disclosure Regulation

Obligations for financial market participants

Product-level disclosures as amended by Taxonomy Regulation

SFDR		Taxonomy	
Art. 9	Financial products that contribute to an environmental objective	Art. 5	Need to disclose: i) info on the environmental objective(s) ii) how and in what proportion the investments are Taxonomy-aligned activities
Art. 8	Financial products that promote environmental characteristics	Art. 6	Art. 5 applies + statement: For the part not aligned with the Taxonomy, the Taxonomy is not considered (incl. DNSH)
Art. 7	All other financial products	Art. 7	Statement: The Taxonomy is not taken into account + info on sustainability risks (Art. 6 SFDR)

European Commission

Thank you

© European Union 2021

Unless otherwise noted the reuse of this presentation is authorised under the <u>OCBY 4.0</u> license. For any use or reproduction of elements that are not owned by the EU, permission may need to be sought directly from the respective right holders.



