

Pre-contractual 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:  
US Advantage Fund

Legal entity identifier:  
2NPF4LYIICQVCUT1Q64

## 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.

### Does this financial product have a sustainable investment objective?

Yes

It will make a minimum of **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 will make a minimum of **sustainable investments with a social objective**: \_\_\_%

No

It **promotes Environmental/Social (E/S) characteristics** and while it does not have as its objective a sustainable investment, it will have a minimum proportion of \_\_\_% 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 promotes E/S characteristics, but **will not make any sustainable investments**



## What environmental and/or social characteristics are promoted by this financial product?

The Fund promotes the following environmental and social characteristics:

- the Fund promotes the environmental characteristic of limiting environmental externalities by excluding investments in thermal coal; and
- the Fund promotes the social characteristic of avoiding investments in certain activities which can cause harm to human health and wellbeing, including tobacco and certain weapons, comprising civilian firearms, cluster munitions and anti-personnel mines.

These exclusions are implemented in line with the Fund's Restriction Screening Policy, which can be found on [www.morganstanley.com/im](http://www.morganstanley.com/im) at [https://www.morganstanley.com/im/publication/msinvf/material/rsp\\_msinvf\\_counterpointglobal\\_en.pdf](https://www.morganstanley.com/im/publication/msinvf/material/rsp_msinvf_counterpointglobal_en.pdf)

Further detail on the nature of these exclusions is set out below (in response to the question "What are the binding elements of the investment strategy used to select the investments to attain each of the environmental or social characteristics promoted by this financial product?").

No reference benchmark has been designated for the purpose of attaining the environmental or social characteristics promoted by the Fund.

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

● ***What sustainability indicators are used to measure the attainment of each of the environmental or social characteristics promoted by this financial product?***

The sustainability indicator is the percentage of companies in the Fund which breach the exclusionary screens. The sustainability indicator will therefore be that 0% of the Fund's investments are in violation of the Fund's Restriction Screening Policy.

Compliance with the exclusions is monitored on an ongoing basis through an automated process, comprising pre- and post-trade guideline monitoring and exception-based screening.

● ***What are the objectives of the sustainable investments that the financial product partially intends to make and how does the sustainable investment contribute to such objectives?***

Not applicable

● ***How do the sustainable investments that the financial product partially intends to make, not cause significant harm to any environmental or social sustainable investment objective?***

Not applicable

– ***How have the indicators for adverse impacts on sustainability factors been taken into account?***

Not applicable

**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, anti-corruption and anti-bribery matters.

- *How are the 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 EU criteria.*

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

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

*Regulation requires that this document include these statements. However, for the avoidance of doubt, this Fund does not: (i) take into account the EU criteria for environmentally sustainable economic activities in the EU Taxonomy; or (ii) calculate its portfolio alignment with the EU Taxonomy. As such, the Fund is 0% aligned with the EU Taxonomy. The “do no significant harm” principle applies only to the portion of the Fund’s investments that are sustainable investments.*



### **Does this financial product consider principal adverse impacts on sustainability factors?**

Yes

No

The Fund considers principal adverse impacts (“PAI”) on sustainability factors only in part, as follows:

The Fund excludes issuers which receive a certain percentage of their revenue from thermal coal mining and extraction. The Fund therefore partly considers the PAI indicator (4) exposure to companies active in the fossil fuel sector.

The Fund excludes issuers which are involved in manufacturing the core weapon system of cluster munitions and anti-personnel mines. The Fund therefore partly considers the PAI indicator (14) exposure to controversial weapons.

Where the Investment Adviser considers the following PAI indicators to be materially relevant to, or impacted by, the activities of the issuer, it will also consider the following PAIs on sustainability factors. This will be done by the Investment Advisor (a) integrating ESG analysis within the research process and/or (b) engaging with management of investee companies. The PAIs considered are the following:

PAI indicator (1): Greenhouse gas emissions (GHG).

PAI indicator (3): GHG intensity.

PAI indicator (5): Non-Renewable energy consumption and production; and

PAI indicator (6): Energy consumption intensity per high impact climate sector.

As a result, the Fund contributes to mitigating the Fund’s adverse impacts on these sustainability factors.



**The investment strategy** guides investment decisions based on factors such as investment objectives and risk tolerance.

## What investment strategy does this financial product follow?

The Fund seeks long-term capital appreciation by investing primarily in established large-capitalization US companies and on an ancillary basis in securities issued by companies that are not from the US. To achieve its objective, the investment team typically invests in companies it believes have strong name recognition, sustainable competitive advantages with above average business visibility, the ability to deploy capital at high rates of return, strong balance sheets and an attractive risk/reward. The investment process integrates analysis of sustainability by using ESG factors as a lens for additional fundamental research, which can contribute to investment decision-making. The Investment Adviser seeks to understand how environmental and social initiatives within companies can create value by strengthening durable competitive advantages, creating growth opportunities, driving profitability, and/or aligning with secular growth trends. The Investment Adviser generally engages with company management teams to discuss their ESG practices, with the aim of identifying how sustainability themes present opportunities and risks that can be material to the value of the security over the long term.

### ● **What are the binding elements of the investment strategy used to select the investments to attain each of the environmental or social characteristics promoted by this financial product?**

Binding restriction screens are applied to the Fund to restrict investments in corporate issuers whose industry classification or core business activity, determined in accordance with the methodology set out below, involves:

- Tobacco.
- Coal; or
- Weapons, comprising civilian firearms, cluster munitions and anti-personnel mines.

The methodology used to determine industry classification or core business activity for the purpose of the above-described screening is as follows:

- 1) Global Industry Classification Standard (GICS) Sub-Industry is Tobacco or Coal & Consumable Fuels;
- 2) Revenue (as defined by external third-party data):
  - more than 5% of its recent-year revenue (or estimated revenue) from Tobacco;
  - more than 10% of its recent-year revenue (or estimated revenue) from Thermal Coal;
  - more than 10% of its recent-year revenue (or estimated revenue) from the Manufacture of Civilian Firearms and ammunition; or
- 3) Involvement as identified by an external third-party data provider through corporate ownership, in manufacturing the core weapon system, or components/services of the core weapon system that are considered tailor-made and essential for the lethal use of the weapon, or cluster munitions and anti-personnel mines.

Investments that are held by the Fund but which breach one of the above exclusionary screens after they are acquired for the Fund will be sold. Such sales will take place over a time period to be determined by the Investment Adviser, taking into account the best interests of the shareholders of the Fund.

### ● **What is the committed minimum rate to reduce the scope of the investments considered prior to the application of that investment strategy?**

Not applicable. No minimum reduction rate has been defined in relation to the Fund's scope of investments. However, the Investment Adviser anticipates that the application of the exclusions described above will reduce the scope of the Fund's investment universe by up to 2%.

**Good governance** practices include sound management structures, employee relations, remuneration of staff and tax compliance.



### Asset allocation

describes the share of investments in specific assets.

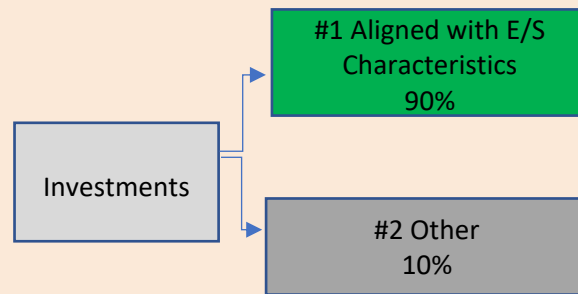
Taxonomy-aligned activities are expressed as a share of:

- **turnover** reflecting the share of revenue from green activities of investee companies
- **capital expenditure** (CapEx) showing the green investments made by investee companies, e.g. for a transition to a green economy.
- **operational expenditure** (OpEx) reflecting green operational activities of investee companies.

### ● **What is the policy to assess good governance practices of the investee companies?**

As part of the Fund's holistic approach to considering sustainability research and factors, the Investment Adviser of the Fund assesses governance practices of investee companies, including but not limited to looking at the management structures, employee relations, remuneration of staff, and tax compliance of such companies. In particular, the Investment Advisor uses a proprietary, systematic evaluation of governance policies, specifically focusing on compensation alignment on long-term value creation.

### What is the asset allocation planned for this financial product?



**#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.

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

Category #1 investments (i.e. those aligned with E/S characteristics) comprise all investments that are screened against the Fund's Restriction Screening Policy. Category #2 investments are those investments that are not screened against the Fund's Restriction Screening Policy.

The entirety of the Fund, apart from cash and derivatives held for efficient portfolio management purposes, are screened against the Fund's Restriction Screening Policy. This comprises 90% of the Fund. Accordingly, at least 90% of the Fund are Category #1 investments and the remaining 10% of the Fund (comprising cash and derivatives held for hedging purposes) are Category #2 investments.

These percentages are measured according to the value of the investments.

### ● **How does the use of derivatives attain the environmental or social characteristics promoted by the financial product?**

Not applicable – the Fund does not use derivatives to attain its environmental or social characteristics.



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

Not applicable

● **Does the financial product invest in fossil gas and/or nuclear energy related activities that comply with the EU Taxonomy<sup>1</sup>?**

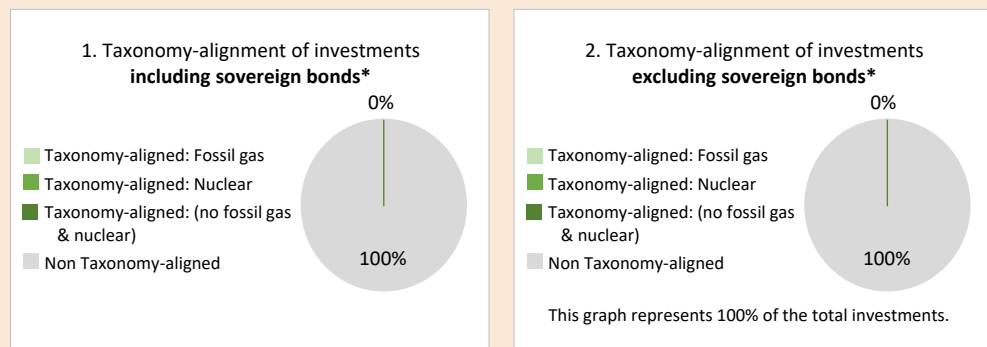
- Yes:  
 In fossil gas     In nuclear energy  
 No

To comply with EU Taxonomy, the criteria for **fossil gas** include limitations on emission and switching to renewable power or low-carbon fuels by the end of 2035. For **nuclear energy**, the criteria include comprehensive safety and waste management rules.

**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.

*The two graphs below show in green the minimum percentage of investments that are 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 is the minimum share of investments in transitional and enabling activities?**

Not applicable

<sup>1</sup> Fossil gas and/or nuclear related activities will only comply with the EU Taxonomy where they contribute to limiting climate change ("climate change mitigation") and do not significantly harm any EU Taxonomy objective – see explanatory note in the left-hand margin. The full criteria for fossil gas and nuclear energy economic activities that comply with the EU Taxonomy are laid down in Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2022/1214.



### What is the minimum share of sustainable investments with an environmental objective that are not aligned with the EU Taxonomy?

Not applicable



are sustainable investments with an environmental objective that **do not take into account** the criteria for environmentally sustainable economic activities under the EU Taxonomy.



### What is the minimum share of socially sustainable investments?

Not applicable.



### What investments are included under “#2 Other”, what is their purpose and are there any minimum environmental or social safeguards?

10% of the Fund, comprising cash and derivatives held for efficient portfolio management purposes, are Category “#2 Other” investments. These instruments are not subject to environmental and/or social screening or any minimum environmental or social safeguards.



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

### Is a specific index designated as a reference benchmark to determine whether this financial product is aligned with the environmental and/or social characteristics that it promotes?

Not applicable



### Where can I find more product specific information online?

More product-specific information can be found on the website:

[https://www.morganstanley.com/im/publication/msinvf/regulatorypolicy/sfdrwebsite\\_msinvf\\_usadvantage\\_en.pdf](https://www.morganstanley.com/im/publication/msinvf/regulatorypolicy/sfdrwebsite_msinvf_usadvantage_en.pdf)