

## Sustainability-related product disclosure: EMF Microfinance Fund

In accordance with Chapter IV, Article. 45-57 and Article 9(1), (2) and (3) of Regulation (EU) 2019/2088

This disclosure applies to the following share classes:

Anteilstklasse	ISIN
Reinvested (F/T USD)	LI0146840751
Distributed (F/A USD)	LI0146840744
Distributed (F/A CHF)	LI0477626480
Distributed (FO/A CHF)	LI0477626498
Reinvested (FO/T USD)	LI0477626506
Distributed (FO/A USD)	LI0542527192
Reinvested (FO/T EUR)	LI0498082135
Reinvested (FO/T CHF)	LI0544844314
Distributed (FO/A EUR)	LI0542527200
Reinvested (I/T USD)	LI0542527226
Reinvested (I/T CHF)	LI0544844322
Reinvested (I/T EUR)	LI0542527242
Distributed (I/A USD)	LI0562930367
Distributed (I/A CHF)	LI0594144581
Distributed (I/A EUR)	LI0595801346

### 1. Summary

The EMF Microfinance Fund (EMF) or the "Fund" has a sustainable investment objective in accordance with Art. 9 Regulation (EU) 2019/2088 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 November 2019 on sustainability-related disclosures in the financial services sector (the "SFDR").

EMF was founded in 2008 as a vehicle to facilitate access to capital where it is needed most and to promote financial inclusion to people in developing economies mainly overlooked by the mainstream financial system.

The Fund is a pure microfinance debt fund. Local currency exposure is hedged against USD. The EMF is invested in a diversified portfolio of debt instruments to mitigate credit, country and liquidity risks while optimizing the social impact and financial inclusion of the portfolio's investments. The Fund is open to institutional and private investors in a variety of currencies.

EMF also contributes positively to 14 of the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

### 2. No significant harm to the sustainable investment objective

The Enabling Microfinance Fund complies with the “do not significantly harm” principle from Article 2(17) Sustainable Finance Disclosure Regulation (EU) 2019/2088 (SFDR). EMF does not directly invest in sectors that are prohibited by the IFC Exclusion List.

EQ has developed an Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) Rating to systematically measure each investee’s adoption and implementation of ESG principles and assess if the principles are aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) established by the United Nations. Furthermore, the Fund is a signatory of the United Nation’s Principles for Responsible Investment since 2013. And the Fund joined the “Inclusive Finance” Group of PRI, which focuses on micro- finance and other impact investments.

For all activities it is ensured that the EMF is not contributing to any potentially negative impact on the environment, clients, employees and communities of the financial institutions that we dis- burse loans to. The careful assessment and monitoring of the ESG-factors is thus an integral part of the Fund’s investment process.

The so-called minimum protection within the meaning of Art. 18 of Regulation (EU) 2020/852 establishing a framework to facilitate sustainable investment and amending Regulation (EU) 2019/2088 is ensured by only considering as borrowers companies that comply with the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises, the United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, the eight ILO core conventions, the International Labour Organization Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at

Work and the International Bill of Human Rights. This is part of the due diligence carried out before any investment.

### **3. Sustainable investment objective of the financial product**

The EMF has a sustainable investment objective in accordance with Art. 9 Regulation (EU) 2019/2088 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 November 2019 on sustainability-related disclosures in the financial services sector (the “SFDR”).

The investment objective of the Fund is to contribute, directly or indirectly, to the financing of investees/issuers of various types (Investee Companies) involved in impact investment activities, across emerging and frontier markets globally. Said financial intermediaries are targeting the productive sector, affordable housing, education, health, agriculture, clean energy, and humanitarian activities.

The financial intermediaries may be involved through direct or down streaming programs in activities such as micro, small and medium enterprises (MSME).

### **4. Investment strategy**

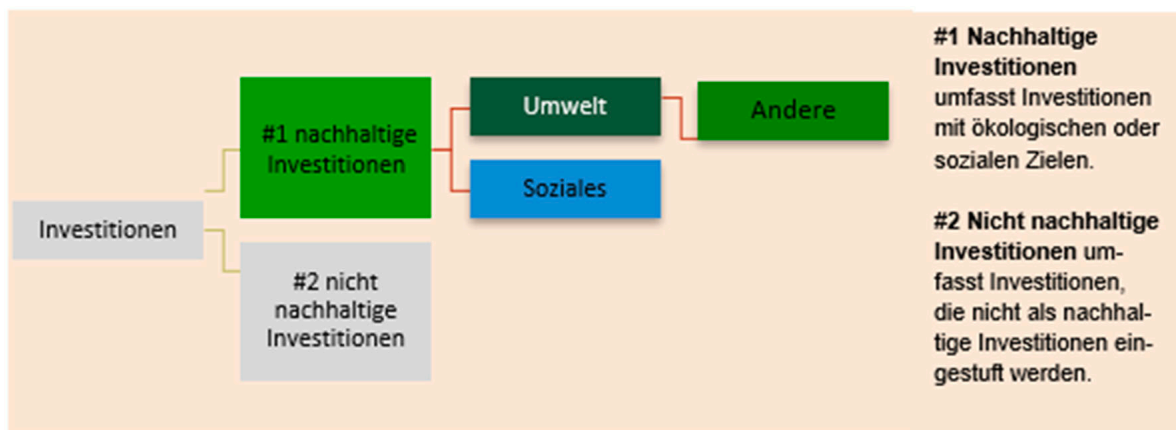
The Investment Strategy of the Enabling Microfinance Fund is to contribute to the economic, social, and environmental development of clients at the bottom of the pyramid by providing

access to targeted financial services and products. This can be done directly or indirectly to the financing of investees involved in impact related investment activities.

The Fund seeks a broad diversification not only across regions and countries but also individual investments. It consists primarily of Tier I and Tier II investees. The Asset Manager has a Good Governance Policy to assess the governance practices of companies. This policy also applies to the Fund.

## 5. Proportion of investments

All investments of the Fund are sustainable investments as defined by the SFDR except for cash investments, derivatives, and money market instruments. These sustainable investments consist of private debt investments in Investee Companies.



## 6. Monitoring of environmental or social characteristics

Compliance with the investment strategy takes place on the one hand on the part of the fund management and on the other hand on the part of the risk management of the management company in the course of the ongoing investment limit control. These daily monitoring activities are documented accordingly. The audit department of LLB Fund Services AG regularly reviews the implementation of these monitoring mechanisms, and (any) violations of the investment strategy are reported to the management and the Board of Directors of LLB Fund Services AG.

All investments of EMF are regularly monitored for their social component. This is achieved through the proprietary EQ's Social Rating Tool of the fund management. We systematically measure each investee's adoption and implementation of ESG principles and assess if the principles are aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) established by the United Nations.

Specific impact related indicators relevant for the Fund such as gender, portfolio activity, location of clients, average loan size, average yield, lending methodology or client protection practices, are monitored at the investee level on a monthly basis. Additionally, the proprietary EQ's Social Rating Tool is updated on a regular basis.

## 7. Methodologies

Enabling Qapital combines a top-down approach of strategic asset allocation of the Fund with a rigorous bottom-up credit analysis. The investment process incorporates a rigorous ESG rating and impact monitoring. The EQ ESG Rating is designed to assess the ESG principles of its investee companies through the lens of each stakeholder.

## 8. Data sources and processing

The data is collected through direct contact with potential investees and questions to the stakeholders they engage with. EQ does an appraisal of the investee's ESG goals and systems, including understanding the end beneficiaries, expected social outcomes, ESG indicators used by the investee, etc.

It monitors on a monthly basis indicator of impact such as gender, number of loans in specific areas, non-financial services offering, etc.

## 9. Limitations to methodologies and data

The proprietary EQ ESG rating tool is updated on a regular basis on the basis of the evolution of industry guidelines. The last update was realized in August 2021. The same tool and methodologies are implemented to measure ESG and impact performance across the Fund portfolio allowing EQ to benchmark investee companies across countries, regions, etc.

The Fund provides financing mainly to non-listed, privately held companies in emerging markets. The combination of self-reported data and lack of external verification can lead to few discrepancies. EQ conducts onsite due diligence interviewing investee stakeholders to address such discrepancies and limitations, focusing on the collection of primary data by trained investment professionals.

## 10. Due diligence

EMF places a strong emphasis on rigorous, in-house due diligence processes. EQ uses proprietary tools developed over decades of experience that go beyond compliance to facilitate a deep understanding of target investees. The vast majority (~90%) of research is generated internally, particularly as it relates to individual MFI financial and social performance assessments. Additionally, to screen potential investees, EQ gathers information from the

following sources:

- Industry Databases and Reports on Financial Institutions;
- Business Networking during conferences and seminars;
- Public information on investments from international or local lenders/shareholders;
- Investment bankers or brokers;
- In-person meetings with local industry participants.

On-site due diligence is a key component of the credit analysis and usually takes a couple of days. This is necessary to perform top-down interviews with management and speak directly with beneficiaries of the provided services to assess impact and ESG practices and loan file reviews are carried out to get a better understanding of the credit underwriting, risk management tools and processes as well as the implementation of client protection principles.

## 11. Engagement policies

This is an important part of the proprietary EQ ESG framework.

EQ is actively engaging with its investees to encourage the adoption of better practices on environmental, client and social issues. EQ is an active participant and support industry-wide initiatives such as the Client Protection Principles, the Smart Campaign, and the United Nations Principles for Responsible Investment, among others. Engagement, on an ad hoc basis, also takes place at the portfolio level to strengthen the social performance practices of the investees when weaknesses are identified by the team.

## 12. Attainment of the sustainable investment objective

No index is used as a benchmark to determine whether the Sub-Fund is in line with the ecological and/or social characteristics. The fund maps its impact to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) providing investors the possibility to map for SDG at fund and investment level. For more information on proprietary EQ ESG rating tool please contact: [info@enabling.ch](mailto:info@enabling.ch).