







**OPERATIONALISATION OF THE METHODOLGY** 

# **Preamble**

#### What this document is:

This document is linked to the *Methodology Paper* of the WWF Retailbanking Rating 2024. It outlines the full questionnaire and operationalization that were used to assess, grade and compare the participating banks' track record in environmental sustainability. At its core, the approach consisted of a weighted sum model across a range of quantitative and qualitative criteria. This approach was chosen because it allows for the aggregation of the achieved score per criterion across various areas, where different weights ensure that differences in importance and impact are taken into account. The full methodology is explained in more detail in the *Methodology Paper* of the WWF Retailbanking Rating 2024.

#### How the assessment is structured:

In the view of WWF, a visionary retail bank holistically pursues ecological sustainability targets and aligns its business from its mission statement to its day-to-day operations accordingly, particularly in three main strategic areas under scrutiny by the WWF-Rating: corporate governance; saving, investments and pension provision as well as lending and mortgages. The evaluation is thus based on these strategic areas which can be further split into 7 topic areas and 32 criteria (see figure 1). Each individual criterion is assessed using 1-3 questions about the bank's implemented measures and graded with a score from 1 to 5 based on a predefined grading system.

				Weighting	
Strategic Area	Topic Area	Criterion	Criterion	Subject Area	Strategic Area
병	Societal Engagement	Political Engagement	3.8%	5%	
₹ I	& Advocacy	Engagement in Industry Initiatives	1.3%		
CORPORATE GOVERNANCE		Bank-Wide Incentives: Internal Pricing, Remuneration & Finance Beyond	2.5%		20%
<u>S</u>	Governance, Monitoring	Commitments & Transition Plan	3.8%	10%	
田田	&Reporting	Risk Management	1.9%	10 /0	
₩.		Reporting & Disclosure	1.9%		
픑	Operational	GHG Emissions (Operational)	1.9%	5%	
8	Management	Approach to On-Balance Sheet Investments	3.1%	5%	
<u> </u>		Savings Account	2.8%		
		Guidelines & Targets	2.8%		- 33%
<u> </u>		Sustainable Investment Offering	2.8%		
<u> </u>	Saving & Investment Solutions	Sustainability KPIs & Transparency	1.7%	22%	
		Active Ownership	2.8%		
Ä		Advisory Process for Investments	2.2%		
<del>-</del>		Environmental Impact of Investment Products	7.2%		
SAVING, INVESTMENTS & PENSION PROVISION	Pension Provision	Cash Account (Pillar 3a)	1.4%		
Ŷ		Guidelines & Targets (Pillar 3a)	1.4%		
کا		Sustainable Investment Offering (Pillar 3a)	1.4%		
¥		Sustainability KPIs & Transparency (Pillar 3a)	Sustainability KPIs & Transparency (Pillar 3a) 0.8% 11%		
E		Active Ownership (Pillar 3a)	1.4%		
N		Advisory Process for Pension Provision (3a)	1.1%		
Z		Environmental Impact of Investment Products (Pillar 3a)	3.6%		
		Guidelines for Corporate Loans	4.4%		
		Advisory Process & Engagement for Corporate Clients	2.9%		
皇	Corporate Loans	Loan Offering For Corporate Clients	2.9%	23.5%	
LOANS & FINANCING		Data Collection & Impact Measurement	1.5%		
		Environmental Impact of Corporate Loans	11.7%		470/
<u> </u>		Guidelines for Mortgages	4.4%		47%
SI		Advisory Process for Mortgage Clients	2.9%		
<b>6</b>	Mortgages	Sustainable Mortgage Offering	2.9%	23.5%	
		Data Collection & Impact Measurement	1.5%		
		Environmental Impact of Mortgages	11.7%		

Source: WWF Switzerland/INFRAS 2024

Figure 1. Assessment criteria, topic areas & strategic areas

#### The scoring approach with 5 classification categories:

The resulting 32 individual scores were aggregated using weighted averages to produce the scores for the topic areas, strategic areas and the overall result. These weights were determined on the basis of a business activity's ecological impact, its average financial volume and possibility of successful engagement with the counterparty.

The scores of 1 to 5 on each level correspond to the categories used to designate the overall performance: 1 - ``latecomer', 1 - '`latecomer', 1 - '`latecomer', 1 - ''latecomer',  $1 - \text$ 

# **Table of Contents**

Preamble	2
Criteria Template	
List of Abbreviations	5
Strategic Area A – Corporate Governance (Weight: 20%)	6
Topic Area – Societal Engagement (Weight: 5%)	6
Topic Area – Governance, Monitoring and Reporting (Weight: 10%)	9
Topic Area – Operational Management (Weight: 5%)	14
Strategic Area B – Saving, Investments & Pension Provision (Weight: 33.3%)	16
Topic Area – Saving and Investment Solutions (Weight: 22.2%)	16
Topic Area – Pension Provision (Weight: 11.1%)	28
Strategic Area C – Loans & Financing (Weight: 46.7%)	37
Topic Area – Corporate Loans (Weight: 23.3%)	37
Tonic Area – Mortgages (Weight: 23.3%)	46

# **Criteria Template**

Please be aware that the following structure applies to all subsequent criteria tables and that, in some instances, the tables span two pages.

1 Point	2 Points	3 Points	4 Points	5 Points
Latecomer / Non-Discloser	Mediocre	Ambitious	Pioneer	Visionary
Criteria definition for 1 point	Criteria definition for 2 points	Criteria definition for 3 points	Criteria definition for 4 points	Criteria definition for 5 points

Note: In general, a bank must fulfil all criteria in a given category to be awarded the corresponding score. However, if the discrepancy within a criterion was significant (e.g. one question/answer would fulfil the ambition for 4 points, while another question/answer is only sufficient to award two points, then on the criteria level, an average score was awarded.

# **List of Abbreviations**

AM Asset Management

AuM Assets under Management

BAFU Bundesamt für Umwelt (Federal Office for the Environment FOE)

BoD Board of Directors

CDP Carbon Disclosure Project ERA European Rental Association

ESG Environmental, Social and Governance

ExBo Executive Board

GFANZ Glasgow Financial Alliance for Net Zero

GHG Greenhouse Gases
GRI Global Reporting Initiative

IUU Illegal, unreported and unregulated (fishing)

KPI Key Performance Indicator

NZ Net Zero

NZAM(i) Net Zero Asset Managers (initiative)

NZBA Net Zero Banking Alliance

PACTA Paris Agreement Capital Transition Assessment

SBA Swiss Bankers Association (Schweizerische Bankiervereinigung SBVg)

SBTi Science-Based Targets Initiative

TCFD Taskforce on Climate-related Financial Disclosures
TNFD Taskforce on Nature-related Financial Disclosures

TP Transition Plan

TPT Transition Plan Taskforce

# **Strategic Area A - Corporate Governance (Weight: 20%)**

**Topic Area - Societal Engagement (Weight: 5%)** 

A1: Political engagement (Weight: 3.8%)

For this part of the assessment, please refer to the *Methodology Paper* of the WWF Retailbanking Rating 2024.

# A2: Engagement in Industry Initiatives (Weight: 1.3%)

#### 1. Membership in initiatives

1.1) Is the bank a member of (inter-)national industry initiatives or working groups in which contributing to global climate and biodiversity goals is an explicit (partial) target? If yes, please list the industry initiatives and working groups (examples illustrated on the next page).

#### 2. Active role in initiatives

2.1) Did the bank assume a leadership or pro-active role in some of the initiatives listed above in the last 3 years? If yes, please explain your role within the initiative (co-chair; chair of working group; founding member etc.).

#### 3. PACTA participation

3.1) Does the bank take part in the 2024 PACTA (Paris Agreement Capital Transition Assessment) organized by the Federal Office for the Environment (FOE / BAFU)? If no, please explain why.

No membership in any of the listed initiatives. (Industry Associations and collective engagement initiatives do not count here.)	Membership in 1-2 listed initiatives. (Industry associations and collective engagement initiatives do not count here.)	Membership in at least 2 listed initiatives (Industry associations and collective engagement initiatives do not count here.)	Membership in at least 3 listed initiatives (Industry associations and collective engagement initiatives do not count here.)	Membership in at least 3 listed initiatives (Industry associations and collective engagement initiatives do not count here.)
No active role in any of the listed initiatives.	No active role in any of the listed initiatives.	Pro-active role in at least 1 initiative. Note: Banks demonstrating comparably more relevant roles in other locally relevant initiatives were awarded the point as well, if they met the criteria of membership in listed initiatives.	Pro-active role (e.g., co-chair in working group) in at least 2 initiatives.  Note: Banks demonstrating comparably more relevant roles in other locally relevant initiatives were awarded the point as well, if they met the criteria of membership in listed initiatives.	Pro-active role in at least 1 initiative.  Leadership in at least 1 initiative. E.g., co-founder that was crucial for the establishment of the initiative OR current co-chair of the initiative.
No participation in PACTA test 2024.	Participation in PACTA test 2024 OR the reason for no participation is convincing, e.g., they have drawn all the important conclusions, and they use other ways to yearly measure and disclose emissions.	Participation in PACTA test 2024 OR the reason for no participation is convincing, e.g., they have drawn all the important conclusions, and they use other ways to yearly measure and disclose emissions.	Participation in PACTA test 2024 OR the reason for no participation is convincing, e.g., they have drawn all the important conclusions, and they use other ways to yearly measure and disclose emissions.	Participation in PACTA test 2024 OR the reason for no participation is convincing (see criteria for grades 1 through 4).

# **List of Initiatives Referenced in Question A2**

Principles for Responsible Investment (PRI)

Principles for Responsible Banking (PRB)

Montreal Carbon Pledge

Carbon Disclosure Project (CDP)

**Equator Principles** 

Taskforce on Climate-related Financial Disclosures (TCFD)

Taskforce on Nature-related Financial Disclosures (TNFD)

Science Based Targets initiative (SBTi)

Partnership for Carbon Accounting Financials (PCAF)

Partnership for Biodiversity Accounting Financials (PBAF)

Poseidon principles

Net Zero Banking Alliance (NZBA)

Net Zero Asset Owner Alliance (NZAOA)

Green Bond Principles

Social Bond Principles

Green Loan Principles

Sustainability Linked Loan Principles (SLLP)

Banking Environment Initiative

Soft commodities compact

Finance for Biodiversity

Blue Economy Finance Principles

# **Topic Area – Governance, Monitoring and Reporting (Weight: 10%)**

A3: Bank-Wide Incentives: Internal Pricing, Remuneration and Finance Beyond (Weight: 2.5%)

#### 1. Internal carbon price

1.1) Does the bank use an internal carbon price? If yes, for what activities is it applied? What is the current price per ton of CO<sub>2</sub>e?

#### 2. Remuneration of BoD

- 2.1) Is the remuneration of the Board of Directors (BoD) and Executive Board (ExBo) linked to environmental sustainability Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)? If yes, please explain the KPIs and outline which percentage of the variable remuneration is linked to these KPIs.
- 2.2) Is there a guideline specifying the environmental skills and/or expertise that need to be represented within the BoD and/or the executive management? If yes, does it include climate- and/or biodiversity-related criteria? If there are no such criteria, how do you ensure with other means the presence of this expertise within these bodies?

#### 3. Finance beyond

- 3.1) Does the bank engage in "finance beyond" activities? (Please be aware about the distinction to offsetting: WWF "Fit for Paris" guide outlining the differences). Finance beyond benefits projects that contribute to a) climate change mitigation/adaptation (e.g., nature-based solutions) b) research, c) climate solution start-ups or d) financially support climate or nature advocacy.
- If yes, please outline the activities financed, the amount granted and whether it is calculated based on the external costs of the current remaining CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.
- 3.2) Does the bank provide other grants to projects/organizations with climate and/or biodiversity goals? If yes, please elaborate and include the amount provided per year.

No internal carbon price.	No internal carbon price. OR carbon price below 60 CHF.	Internal Carbon price for parts of own operations. Carbon price between 60-150 CHF.*	Carbon price of 150-230 CHF is levied on all emissions from own operations.  Some system of bonus and malus linked to emissions introduced in parts of the core business.	Carbon price of 230 CHF is levied on all emissions from own operations, and it is included into the assessment and conditions granted to lending and investments (core business).
Environmental KPIs for variable remuneration focus on own operations only (not financed activities).  No guidelines or process ensures climate and biodiversity knowledge of any BoD or ExBo member.	Approx. 5% of variable remuneration is linked to environmental KPIs for financed emissions or biodiversity metrics. (OR no variable remuneration).  Some intention to have / build climate and biodiversity knowledge at BoD or ExBo level. But no codification nor requirement of quality.	Approx. 10% of variable remuneration is linked to environmental KPIs for financed emissions or biodiversity metrics. (OR no variable remuneration)  The bank ensures that at least one member of both the BoD and ExBo has expertise/track record in climate and/or biodiversity, e.g., educational background or worked in specialized positions around	Approx. 15% of variable remuneration is linked to environmental KPIs. Nearly all of the considered KPIs are for financed activities. (OR no variable remuneration)  The bank ensures that at least one member of both the BoD and ExBo has expertise/track record in climate and/or biodiversity, e.g., educational background or worked in specialized positions around	Approx. 20% of variable remuneration is linked to environmental KPIs. Nearly all of the considered KPIs are for financed activities. (OR no variable remuneration)  The bank ensures that at least one member of both the BoD and ExBo has expertise/track record in climate and/or biodiversity, e.g., educational background or worked in specialized positions around
No finance beyond. Some scattered / unstructured philanthropic activities.	Bank has a strategic approach to its philanthropic activities with several main topics. Climate and/or nature are part of the strategic topics and receive relevant contributions.	these topics.  The bank has a strategic approach to its philanthropic activities with several main topics. Climate or biodiversity are strategic topics and receive considerable sums of money (min 0.75% of profits (annual, company level).	these topics.  The bank has a finance beyond strategy for all of its own residual emissions for which a carbon price of 150-230 CHF is applied. Overall, at least 1% of profits (annual, company level) are allocated to climate and biodiversity causes.	these topics.  The bank has a finance beyond strategy for its own residual emissions as well as for financed emissions. For own emissions a carbon price of 230 CHF is applied. For financed emissions methodology needs to be transparent. Overall, at least 1.5% of profits (annual, company level) are allocated to climate and biodiversity causes.

<sup>\*</sup>If a bank satisfactory fulfilled the ambition level for 3 points in A3.2 & A3.3., missing the ambition level in A3.1 was neglected, resulting in a score of 3 for the criteria.

# A4: Commitments and Transition Plan (Weight: 3.8%)

#### 1. Commitments

- 1.1) Has the bank made public commitments or pledges regarding climate change mitigation? If yes, which ones? Examples could be: Own overarching goals such as NZ2040; SBTi commitment; NZBA
- 1.2) Has the bank made public commitments or pledges regarding the halting and reversing of biodiversity loss?

  If yes, which ones? Examples could be: Own overarching goals; Finance for Biodiversity pledge, Sustainable Blue Economy Finance Principles.

#### 2. Transition plan

- 2.1) Does the bank publish a transition plan (TP) that is aligned with emerging international standards (e.g., TPT, TCFD)? If yes, please indicate the scope of the transition plan by naming main chapters and indicate the standard it is based on.
- 2.2) Does the transition plan include biodiversity and nature, in addition to climate?

No commitment	No commitment OR self-defined NZ2050 commitment.	NZBA commitment OR SBTi commitment OR published self-defined goal of NZ2040 or sooner.	SBTi commitment OR published self-defined goal of NZ2040 or sooner AND at least one commitment regarding biodiversity (e.g., no deforestation by 2025 commitment (covering at least investment OR lending activities)).	All of the following commitments: Own goal of NZ2040 or sooner AND SBTi verified targets, finance for biodiversity pledge, Sustainable blue economy finance principles; No deforestation by 2025 commitment (covering both, lending AND investment activities).
	Some climate reporting in another form than a standardized TP.	Self-defined TP (no reference to or alignment with national or international standards).  NB: In practice, such a TP would probably be akin to traditional climate strategies.	TP in line with requirements of ordinance on climate disclosures for large companies (basic CH regulatory requirements).	TP aligned with recognized international standard, such as the UK Transition Plan Taskforce's Disclosure Framework (version Oct. 2023) OR Glasgow Financial Alliance for Net Zero (GFANZ) guidance on financial institution net zero transition plans. TP also integrates nature targets and includes elements to ensure a just transition as recommended by WWF, see "Nature in Transition Plans" by WWF UK and WWF's criteria for credible climate and nature transition plans.

### A5: Risk Management (Weight: 1.9%)

#### 1. Identification

1.1) Does the bank identify and assess sustainability risks as part of its general risk management, specifically regarding climate-related financial risks (physical, transition, systemic risks)?

If yes, how does the bank identify and assess the risks? Please elaborate.

1.2) Does the bank identify and assess sustainability risks as part of its general risk management, specifically regarding biodiversity-related financial risks (physical, transition, systemic risks)? If yes, how does the bank identify and assess the risks? Please elaborate.

### 2. Integration of sustainability risks

- 2.1) Are sustainability risks considered and integrated into the business strategy?
- 2.2) Are sustainability risks considered and integrated into the risk management strategy?
- 2.3) Are sustainability risks considered and integrated into the risk appetite statements?

No or only very anecdotal, qualitative assessment of climate risks.	Qualitative and limited quantitative assessment of climate risks.	Qualitative and limited quantitative assessment of climate risks.	Qualitative and detailed quantitative assessment of climate risks. Limited qualitative or quantitative assessment of biodiversity risks.  Performance of climate stress tests.	Systematic and strategic assessment of climate and biodiversity risks covering all categories (physical, transition and systemic) and including quantitative and qualitative elements.  Performance of climate & nature stress tests.
No relevant integration of climate and biodiversity risks into any of the processes above.	Mentioning climate risks in risk management or business strategy.	Climate risks are a relevant risk category addressed in the above-mentioned processes.	Climate and biodiversity risks are a relevant risk category addressed in the abovementioned processes.	Climate and biodiversity risks are a relevant risk category addressed in the abovementioned processes.

### A6: Reporting and Assurance (Weight: 1.9%)

# 1. Frameworks and quality assurance

- 1.1) Does the bank follow a sustainability reporting framework for public reporting?

  If yes, which framework(s) did the bank follow for the 2023 reporting (e.g., TCFD, TNFD, ISSB, GRI, CDP, others)?
- 1.2) Does a third-party auditor provide assurance for your sustainability-related reporting? If yes, what level of assurance (limited or reasonable)?

#### 2. Content of disclosure

- 2.1) Does the bank cover sustainability risks in its reporting? If yes, please specify which of the following: physical climate risks / transition climate risks / systemic climate risks // physical nature risks / transition nature risks / systemic nature risks. Please also specify for each risk if you provide qualitative or also quantitative information.
- 2.2) Does the bank cover sustainability impacts in its reporting? If yes, which of the following impacts do you cover with your sustainability-related reporting (only for financed activities, i.e., Scope 3 Cat. 15, not Scope 1 and 2 emissions): Impact on climate change, Impact on biodiversity loss (e.g., surface used by financed buildings; impact on sensitive areas, investment/financing of high impact sectors, etc.).

Follows no framework.	Rather minimal TCFD reporting.	TCFD reporting in line with requirements of ordinance on	TCFD reporting in line with requirements of ordinance on	TCFD reporting in line with requirements of ordinance on
No assurance.	No assurance.	climate disclosures for large companies.  Limited assurance for material parts of the sustainability reporting.	climate disclosures for large companies, Carbon Disclosure Project (CDP) and Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) reporting.	climate disclosures for large companies, CDP, TNFD and GRI reporting.  Reasonable assurance.
			Limited assurance for material parts of the sustainability reporting.	Reporting covers (mutually inclusive):  physical climate risks;
No reporting or reporting covers only:  • physical climate risks; quantitative or qualitative OR  • transition climate risks; qualitative	Reporting covers (mutually inclusive):  • physical climate risks; qualitative  • transition climate risks; qualitative	Reporting covers (mutually inclusive):  • physical climate risks; quantitative; qualitative  • transition climate risks; quantitative; qualitative  • Impact on climate change	Reporting covers (mutually inclusive):  • physical climate risks; quantitative; qualitative  • transition climate risks; qualitative  • systemic climate risks; qualitative  • physical nature risks; quantitative OR qualitative  • Impact on climate change	quantitative; qualitative transition climate risks; quantitative; qualitative systemic climate risks; quantitative; qualitative physical nature risks; quantitative; qualitative transition nature risks; quantitative; qualitative systemic nature risks; quantitative; qualitative Impact on climate change Impact on biodiversity loss

# **Topic Area - Operational Management (Weight: 5%)**

A7: Operational Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions (Weight: 1.9%)

#### 1. GHG emissions reporting

- 1.1) Does the bank record its operational greenhouse gas emissions on an annual basis?
- 1.2) Does the bank record also Scope 3 emissions (excl. GHG Protocol Cat. 15, "investments"), particularly with regards to buildings, business trips and commute of employees? If yes, please elaborate.
- 1.3) By how much did the GHG emissions (Scope 1 and 2) of the bank decrease since 2015 (Paris Agreement)? (absolute and in %)

#### 2. GHG emissions target

2.1) Does the bank follow a science-based target for the further reduction of its operational GHG emissions (Scope 1, 2 and 3 (excl. Cat. 15))? If yes please, specify the target, method and Scope.

No or limited coverage of recording (only Scope 1 &2).  Reduction unknown.	Recording of Scope 1, 2 and 3 emissions (limited coverage)  Achieved GHG reduction below	Recording of Scope 1, 2 and 3 emissions (including commuting by employees and rented buildings).	Recording of Scope 1, 2 and 3 emissions (including commuting by employees and rented buildings)	Recording of Scope 1, 2 and 3 emissions (including commuting by employees and rented buildings)
	25% (Baseline 2015).	Achieved GHG reduction of at least 25% (Baseline 2015).	Achieved GHG reduction of at least 33% (Baseline 2015).	Achieved GHG reduction of at least 50% (Baseline 2015).
No reduction target.	Reduction target in place but not aligned with SBTi.	No reduction target OR reduction target in place but not aligned with SBTi.	Reduction target in alignment with SBTi methodology, but without SBTi commitment/verification.	SBTi-verified reduction goals.

# A8: Approach to On-Balance Sheet Investments (Weight: 3.1%)

# 1. Investment policy and strategy

- 1.1) Does the bank apply sustainability-related investment approaches to the management of its on-balance sheet investments? If yes, please explain the approaches (e.g., exclusion criteria, active ownership with a defined stewardship strategy, etc.).
- 1.2) Does the bank have sustainability-related targets for these portfolios (e.g., SBTs).? If yes, please elaborate.

Only exclusions.	Application of exclusion criteria,	Application of exclusion criteria,	Mostly thematic, impact aligned	Mostly thematic, impact aligned
No engagement.	ESG integration approaches and some best-in class	ESG integration approaches, mostly best-in class approaches	or impact generating approaches.	or impact generating approaches.
No targets.	approaches.	and some thematic, impact aligned or impact generating	SBTi commitment.	Verified SBTi targets.
	No engagement.	approaches OR investee engagement.		At least 1 target in the realm of
	No targets.			biodiversity.

# Strategic Area B - Saving, Investments & Pension Provision (Weight: 33 %)

# Topic Area - Saving and Investment Solutions (Weight: 22%)

**B1: Savings Account (Weight: 2.8%)** 

#### 1. Offering of sustainable savings account

- 1.1) Does the bank offer a sustainable savings account?

  If yes, what are the proceeds of the account used for and can customers influence the use of proceeds?
- 1.2) Is this account the default option?
- 1.3) What percentage of the total savings are placed in these sustainable saving accounts?

#### 2. Transparency

2.1) Does the bank provide representative information to customers about the sectors/activities in which their savings are invested?

If yes, does this only apply to customers of sustainable savings products or to all savings products? Please describe how this information is provided.

(Not applicable; minimum score for this criterion is 2 points)	No sustainable saving account is offered, and customers have no way of influencing the sustainability impact of their savings.	Customers have the option of choosing between sustainability-focused and non-focused uses for their savings OR only sustainable account is offered.	The sustainable savings account is the default account. OR only sustainable account is offered.  Sustainable savings volumes account for a significant proportion (>15%) of the total saving account volume.	The sustainable savings account is the default account OR only sustainable account is offered AND clients can influence the use of proceeds of the sustainable offering.  Sustainable saving volumes account for the majority (>50%) of the total savings account volume.
	Clients are not informed about the use of proceeds.	Clients are not informed about the use of proceeds.	The bank provides its clients proactively with information (e.g., product brochure) on the environmentally relevant sectors and activities to which the money from the sustainable accounts is lent.	The bank provides its clients proactively with information (e.g., product brochure) on the environmentally relevant sectors and activities to which the money from the sustainable account AND standard savings is it lent.

# **B2:** Guidelines and Targets (Weight: 2.8%)

#### 1. Guidelines

- 1.1) Does the bank have binding, overarching environmental guidelines covering all investment products (e.g., exclusion, phase out)? If yes, please explain the guidelines, and clarify if the guidelines are applied only to the bank's own products or also to those of third parties. (Please be aware, exclusion policies are inquired in more detail in the next question.)
- 1.2) Do you have exclusions of coal and other sectors/activities? If yes, please describe, including thresholds applicable.

#### 2. Targets

- 2.1) Did the bank set a science-based quantitative decarbonization target for its investment portfolio?

  If yes, please describe the target, including the method used (science-based target initiative, NZAMI or other), the sectors it applies to and the portfolio coverage (% of assets under management (AuM) without execution only (ExOnly)).
- 2.2) Did the bank set a quantitative target regarding a nature-related indicator for its investment portfolio? If yes, please describe the target, the sector it applies to and portfolio coverage (% of AuM without ExOnly).
- 2.3) Did the bank set other quantitative targets related to other environmental indicator for its investment portfolio (e.g., financing the green transition or the circular economy)?

impact.

If yes, please describe the target and portfolio coverage (% of AuM without ExOnly).

Environmental investment policies/guidelines that cover all own, actively managed investment products include at least coal & controversial oil & gas.

Environmental investment policies that cover all own, actively managed investment products have exclusion/phase out criteria that cover at least coal, oil and gas and one biodiversity-related criteria.

Note: Exclusion of illegal business does not count. // Exclusion criteria include all activities in a given sector. (i.e., coal mining & coal power plant (or airline manufacture & airline services) count as 1 criterion, while coal, oil, and gas count as 3).

Environmental investment policies that cover all (active and passive) own investment products have comprehensive exclusion criteria for climate and biodiversity – at least 7 criteria.

Invested companies exceeding 5% turnover in key sectors like coal, oil and gas require phase-out strategy. The guidelines also include. exit/phase out or transition policies in sectors with a high biodiversity impact OR eligibility criteria for companies in sectors with a positive environmental

Note: Exclusion of illegal business does not count. // Exclusion criteria include all activities in a given sector. (i.e., coal mining & coal power plant (or airline

manufacture & airline services) count

Environmental investment policies that cover all (active and passive) investment products have comprehensive exclusion criteria for climate and biodiversity – 8 or more criteria.

There is a phase-out strategy for key sectors like coal, oil and gas, cars running on fossil fuels. If an eligibility threshold is applied, it is below 5%.

OR bank only invests in companies that fulfil positive eligibility criteria.

Note: Exclusion of illegal business does not count. // Exclusion criteria include all activities in a given sector. (i.e., coal mining & coal power plant (or airline manufacture & airline services) count as 1 criterion, while coal, oil, and gas count as 3).

			as 1 criterion, while coal, oil, and gas count as 3).	
There are no targets for the investment portfolio.	There are no targets for the investment portfolio.	Bank has some quantitative decarbonization target in place for its own products.	The bank has a near-term decarbonization target for at least 50% of its investment portfolio (without ExOnly, without advisory) in line with a recognized standard like NZAMI or SBTi.  Further sustainability targets are in place (e.g., biodiversity targets or financing green or transition-related activities).	The bank has a science-based near-term decarbonization target for 67% of its investment portfolio including the advisory business (without ExOnly) in line with a recognized standard (SBTi).  The bank has some target in place related to the reduction of the negative impact on nature.  At least 1 additional sustainability target is in place (e.g., for financing green or transition-related activities).

### **B3: Sustainable Investment Offering (Weight: 2.8%)**

- 1. Sustainable investment funds (Weight within B3: 50%)
  - 1.1) Please fill out the table in the Excel sheet "B Sust. investment offerings". If you categorize more than one approach into the same category, please distinguish them with the names of your product lines.
  - 1.2) For each of the sustainability-related approaches that you filled in table "B Sust. investment offerings", please name your product line and describe here the sustainability-related criteria applied (e.g., name exclusions incl. thresholds, name positive selection criteria, list ESG data providers used and name specific voting and engagement practices if different from general approach in B5).
- 2. Sustainable investment mandates (Weight within B3: 30%)
  - 2.1) Does the bank offer sustainable discretionary and/or advisory mandates?
  - 2.2) What sustainability approaches are applied? Please name the product line if identical with B3.1.2 or describe the sustainability-related criteria applied (e.g., name exclusions incl. thresholds, name positive selection criteria, list ESG data providers used and name specific voting and engagement practices if different from general approach in B5).
- 3. Sustainable gold products (Weight within B3: 20%)
  - 3.1) Does the bank offer sustainable / certified gold products for a) physical gold transactions (e.g., via the bank teller or metal depot) or b) as ETFs? If yes, please indicate for both a) and b) which sustainability standard/certification is used in these sustainable offerings.
  - 3.2) What share does the sustainable gold offering represent compared to the a) total of transactions and b) AuM in gold?

#### B3.1:

Please refer to WWF Rating of Swiss Retail Banks 2024, Methodology Paper, Chapter 3.3 for the assessment of B3.1

#### B3.2:

mandate is offered. only li applie integra	y limited exclusions are blied and/or ESG risk gration is focused on incial materiality are offered.	related approaches (see WWF Rating of Swiss Retail Banks	Impact-aligned investment mandates (see WWF Rating of Swiss Retail Banks 2024, Methodology Paper, Chapter 3.3) are offered.	Impact-generating investment mandates (see WWF Rating of Swiss Retail Banks 2024, Methodology Paper, Chapter 3.3) are offered.
--	---	---	---	--

# B3.3:

If applicable, only untraceable and uncertified Gold is offered.	If applicable, for physical gold transaction (over the counter or direct holding (in a metal custody account)) clients can choose to buy traceable and responsible gold.	If applicable, for physical gold transactions (over the counter or direct (in a metal custody account)) clients can choose to buy can choose to buy traceable and responsible gold.	If applicable, for physical gold transactions (over the counter or direct holding (in a metal custody account)) clients can choose to buy traceable and responsible gold.	If applicable, for physical gold transactions over the counter or direct holding (in a metal custody account) the products offered are traceable and responsible gold only.
	Traceability and responsibility claims can be supported by meaningful certifications which should be embedded in the bank's greater sustainability strategy (e.g. RCJ Code of Practice, RCJ Chain of Custody, Fairmined / Fairmined eco, Fairtraide or other relevant certifications).	Traceability and responsibility claims can be supported by meaningful certifications which should be embedded in the bank's greater sustainability strategy (e.g. RCJ Code of Practice, RCJ Chain of Custody, Fairmined / Fairmined eco, Fairtraide or other relevant certifications).	Traceability and responsibility claims can be supported by meaningful certifications which should be embedded in the bank's greater sustainability strategy (e.g. RCJ Code of Practice, RCJ Chain of Custody, Fairmined / Fairmined eco, Fairtraide or other relevant certifications).	Traceability and responsibility claims can be supported by meaningful certifications which should be embedded in the bank's greater sustainability strategy (e.g. RCJ Code of Practice, RCJ Chain of Custody, Fairmined / Fairmined eco, Fairtraide or other relevant certifications).
		AND at least 10% of transactions refer to certified gold (e.g. RCJ Code of Practice, RCJ Chain of Custody, Fairmined / Fairmined eco, Fairtraide or other relevant certifications).	AND at least 25% of transactions refer to certified gold (e.g. RCJ Code of Practice, RCJ Chain of Custody, Fairmined / Fairmined eco, Fairtraide or other relevant certifications).	Gold (physical) Fund/ETFs are not offered.
		For gold (physical) Fund/ETFs, clients can choose between 100% traced, certified LBMA responsible gold and non-traced gold ETFs.	For gold (physical) Fund/ETFs, clients can only choose 100% traced, certified responsible gold ETF.	

# **B4: Sustainability KPIs and Transparency (Weight: 1.7%)**

#### 1. Transparency on investment solutions

- 1.1) Does the bank report the Swiss Climate Scores?

  If yes, please specify for which kind of funds and mandates (only sustainability-related or all).
- 1.2) Does the bank quantify and report climate impacts of the offered investment solutions to clients?

  If yes, please outline for which products and services (e.g., only own funds or also 3rd party funds / only for funds, mandates, or also for execution-only portfolios / only for sustainable products or all products). In addition, please state the impact KPIs reported and whether these primarily include direct environmental impacts of investees (Scope 1 and 2) or impacts along entire value chains (Scope 3). Please note that if you report according to the Swiss Climate Scores, just list which optional and additional KPIs you report.
- 1.3) Does the bank quantify and report other environmental impacts, particularly biodiversity-related impacts of the offered investment solutions to clients? If yes, please outline for which products and services (e.g., only own funds or also 3rd party funds / only for funds, mandates, or also for execution-only portfolios / only for sustainable products or all products). In addition, please state the impact KPIs reported.

Climate-related indicator(s)* are disclosed for a few products (e.g., GHG emission intensity).	At least 2 climate-related indicators* are disclosed for all own investment funds.	The Swiss Climate Scores are disclosed for at least all sustainability-related funds.	The Swiss Climate Scores are disclosed for all own funds and for sustainability-related mandates. The (optional) global warming potential indicator is reported, or a reasonable explanation is provided if not.	The Swiss Climate Scores are disclosed for all funds and mandates and the reporting includes the (optional) Global warming potential indicator or a reasonable explanation is provided if not.
		At least 2 climate-related indicators* are disclosed for all own investment funds and discretionary mandates including Scope 1 and 2 GHG emissions of investees.	At least 2 climate-related indicators* are disclosed for all own investment funds and discretionary mandates including Scope 1 and 2 GHG emissions of investees. Scope 3 is reported at least for most material sectors.	At least 3 climate-related indicators* are disclosed for all own and third-party investment funds and discretionary mandates including Scope 1, 2 and 3 GHG emissions.
			At least one nature-related indicator is reported for all own funds and discretionary mandates (e.g., biodiversity footprint; water used from water scarce areas; activities in sensitive locations, SDG 14, 15).	At least 2 nature-related indicators are reported for all own funds and discretionary mandates (e.g., biodiversity footprint; water used from water scarce areas; activities in sensitive locations, SDG 14, 15).

<sup>\*</sup>Scope 1 and Scope 2 emissions count as 1 indicator. Indicators also include, for example, the share of fossil fuel companies, companies with net zero (NZ) target in the portfolio or a global warming potential indicator.

Note: A bank could also score points for achieving the requirement on client portfolio level (discretionary / advisory mandate).

# **B5: Active Ownership (Weight: 2.8%)**

#### 1. Stewardship policy

1.1) Does the bank have a stewardship policy?

If yes, please link it here and please indicate if your policy is aligned with the Swiss Stewardship Code (in case you have done an assessment). Please elaborate on the environmental criteria of the policy.

1.2) Does the stewardship policy of the bank also cover the asset managers of third-party products the bank promotes in addition to the bank's own investment products?

If yes, please elaborate.

1.3) Does the bank provide a report about its exercise of voting as well as its engagements? If yes, please add a link to the report.

#### 2. Guidelines for voting

2.1) Does the bank have climate- and biodiversity-related guidelines for voting.

If yes, please elaborate.

- 2.2) Does the bank systematically exercise its voting rights for own products?
- 2.3) Can clients in Asset Management (AM) / Execution only (ExOnly) mandates delegate the exercise of voting rights to the bank where they are not automatically assumed by the bank?

If yes, please elaborate; If no, is there an easy process offered by the bank for the shareholders (clients) to exercise their votes directly?

#### 3. Investee engagement

3.1) Does the bank do investee engagement with regards to climate- and/or biodiversity-related expectations?

If yes, please describe the main climate and biodiversity expectations you communicate to companies. Please indicate if the expectations focus on transparency, risks, target setting and/or impact. Please also specify if the bank is (additionally) part of collective engagements related to climate and/or biodiversity (including the name of the initiative/provider and the role(s) that the bank assumes in the initiative).

3.2) Does the bank have an escalation strategy?

If yes, please describe the escalation strategy and measures if companies do not follow the bank's expectations. Indicate if the bank has ever divested as a last resort of the escalation measures.

3.3) Does the bank follow a sector-specific engagement strategy for specific sectors/industries?

If yes, please name the sector(s)/industries and describe how it differs from the general approach explained before.

Stewardship policy does not mention any environmental criteria.  There is no annual report about voting and engagement activities.	There is a stewardship policy that mentions climate.  There is no annual report about voting and engagement activities.	There is a stewardship policy aligned with the Swiss Stewardship Code  Publishes an annual report about voting and engagement activities.	There is a stewardship policy aligned with the Swiss Stewardship Code and it mentions the selection or engagement with 3rd party AM whose products are promoted.  Publishes an annual report about voting and engagement activities.	There is a stewardship policy aligned with the Swiss Stewardship Code and it mentions the selection or engagement with 3rd party AM whose products are promoted.  Publishes an annual report about voting and engagement activities.
Voting guidelines do not refer to environmental criteria.  Clients (AM/ExOnly) cannot delegate the voting to the bank.	Voting guidelines exist and include climate-related criteria.  Voting is exercised for some investees of own products.  Clients (AM/ExOnly) cannot delegate the voting to the bank.	Voting guidelines exist and include climate-related criteria. Note: Voting guidelines are expected to match expectation outlined in engagement strategies.  Voting is exercised systematically for most relevant positions in own funds.  Clients (AM/ExOnly) cannot delegate the voting to the bank.	Voting guidelines exist and include climate- and biodiversity-related issues. Note: Voting guidelines are expected to match expectation outlined in engagement strategies.  Voting is exercised systematically for all own products.  Clients (AM/ExOnly) can delegate the voting to bank and an easy process facilitates voting directly.	Voting guidelines exist and include climate- and biodiversity-related issues. Note: Voting guidelines are expected to match expectation outlined in engagement strategies.  Voting is exercised systematically for all own products.  Clients (AM/ExOnly) can delegate the voting to bank and an easy process facilitates voting directly.
No investee engagement with regards to environmental-related expectations.	Environmental-related investee engagement is conducted via a collective engagement provider or initiative.  OR very selective/rare environmental-related investee engagement is	Investee engagement is systematically conducted for most material sectors/themes. At least 3 sectors/themes are covered by own engagement OR via a collective engagement provider or initiative.	Investee engagement is systematically conducted for most material sectors/themes. At least 4 sectors/themes are covered by own engagement OR via a collective engagement provider or initiative in which the bank has an active role.	Investee engagement is systematically conducted for most material sectors/themes. At least 5 sectors/themes are covered by own engagement OR collective engagements with active role.
	conducted by the bank.	Expectations include climate- related targets to be reached by investees. E.g., SBTi reduction pathway.  Escalation measures are strategic and include at least two	Expectations include climate and biodiversity-related targets to be reached by investees. E.g., SBTi reduction pathway, no deforestation, no illegal, unreported and unregulated	Expectations include climate and biodiversity-related targets to be reached by investees. E.g., SBTi reduction pathway, no deforestation, no IUU fishing, % of products recycled etc.

of the following: personal meetings, public communication, voting against members of BoD or Executive Board. Public support of climate- and biodiversity related shareholder resolutions.	(IUU) fishing, % of products recycled etc.  Escalation measures are strategic and include at least 3 of the following: personal meetings, public communication, voting against members of BoD or Executive Board, divestment as last resort. Public support of climate- and biodiversity related shareholder resolutions.	Escalation measures are strategic and include personal meetings, public communication, voting against members of BoD or Executive Board, divestment as last resort. Public support of climate- and biodiversity related shareholder resolutions.  Divestment as last resort has been done in the past or reasonable explanation provided why not (e.g., no case).
---	---	---

Note: A bank that delegates stewardship measures (voting, engagement) to a third-party provider (e.g., their asset manager), the policies, targets, measures etc. of the third-party was evaluated and counted as if the bank did it itself.

### **B6: Advisory Process for Investments (Weight: 2.2%)**

#### 1. Training of client advisors

- 1.1) Does the bank train its client advisors about environmental issues (beyond the minimum requirements of the Swiss Bankers Association (SBA) self-regulation)? If yes, please explain the scope of the training and the frequency (how many hours per employee p.a.) and if the training is on-demand or compulsory. Also elaborate on the topics that have been covered since 2021. Examples are climate change, biodiversity, planetary boundaries, impact measurement, double materiality, ESG rating methods, Swiss Climate Scores, others (please specify).
- 1.2) Is there an internal specialist unit or a dedicated person per branch that client advisors can contact if they have questions about environmental issues in investing activities?

If yes, please explain the services of this department/person.

#### 2. Advisory process

- 2.1) Are customers informed about sustainability risks and impacts during the advisory process?

  If yes, please elaborate on the topics (e.g., climate change, biodiversity, planetary, boundaries, impact measurement, double materiality, ESG-rating, Swiss Climate Scores, others (please specify)).
- 2.2) Are all clients educated about the different sustainability-related investment approaches? If yes, please elaborate and indicate if this also applies to clients that do not have ESG preferences.
- 2.3) Are the clients' ESG preferences classified?

If yes, how are they classified? E.g., does it follow the classification of the SBA self-regulation? Or other categories like the ones from Swiss Sustainable Finance: Financial Performance, Value Alignment, Impact Generation?

#### 3. Default products

3.1) Are sustainable products offered preferentially over conventional investment products/solutions, provided that the client's investment objectives are met? If yes, please specify which sustainability-approach/product-line(s) benefit from the preferential treatment.

Client advisors are not trained regularly regarding relevant topics (see selection in question).	Client advisors receive annually some training in relevant topics (see selection in question) and there is an internal specialist unit or a dedicated person with additional education on sustainability matters.	Client advisors are frequently trained (approx. 8h p.a.) in relevant topics (see selection in question). At least 3 topics have been covered since 2021. There is an internal specialist unit or a dedicated person with additional education on sustainability matters.	Client advisors are frequently trained (approx. 12h p.a.) in relevant topics (see selection in question) incl. biodiversity. At least 4 topics have been covered since 2021.  There is an internal specialist unit or a dedicated person with additional education on sustainability matters.	Client advisors are frequently trained (approx. 16h p.a.) in relevant topics (see selection in question) incl. biodiversity. At least 5 topics have been covered since 2021.  There is an internal specialist unit or a dedicated person with additional education on sustainability matters.
Client preferences inquiry and information provision regarding sustainable investing is limited	Client preferences inquiry and information provision regarding sustainable investing is limited to the minimal requirements of	Client preferences inquiry and information provision regarding sustainable investment goes beyond the minimal	Client information regarding sustainable investing goes beyond the minimal requirements of the SBA self-	Client information regarding sustainable investing goes beyond the minimal requirements of the SBA self-

to the minimal requirements of the SBA self-regulation.  Clients are classified according to SBA self-regulation (very interested, interested, neutral).	the SBA self-regulation (clients are informed generally about sustainability risks, clients without ESG preferences are not informed about ESG products).  Clients are classified according to SBA self-regulation (very interested, interested, neutral).	requirements of the SBA self-regulation and include at least 3 of the relevant topics (see selection in question.). All clients (also the ones without ESG preferences) are informed about the available ESG investment approaches.  Clients are classified according to SBA self-regulation (very interested, interested, neutral).	regulation and include at least 3 of the relevant topics (see selection in question.). All clients (also the ones without ESG preferences) are informed about the available ESG investment approaches/solutions.  Clients are not only classified regarding their ESG- interest (SBA self-regulation), but according to their preferred sustainable investment approach or sustainable investment themes. (This could also include topics regarding social aspects.)	regulation and include biodiversity and at least 2 others of the relevant topics (see selection in question.). All clients (also the ones without ESG preferences) are informed about the available ESG investment approaches/solutions.  Clients are not only classified regarding their ESG- interest (SBA self-regulation), but according to their preferred sustainable investment approach or sustainable investment themes. (This could also include topics regarding social aspects.)
Sustainability-related investment products are not the default option for investment recommendations.	Sustainability-related investment products are not the default option for investment recommendations.	Sustainability-related investment products are not the default option for investment recommendations.	Sustainability-related investment products are the default option for investment recommendations.	Sustainability-related investment products that meet the definition of the Federal Council are the default option for investment recommendations. Nonsustainability-related products are only offered to execution-only clients.

# **B7: Environmental Impact of Investment Products (Weight: 7.2%)**

- 1. Please refer to WWF Rating of Swiss Retail Banks 2024, Methodology Paper, Chapter 3.2 for the assessment of B7.1
- 2. Please refer to WWF Rating of Swiss Retail Banks 2024, Methodology Paper, Chapter 3.3 for the assessment of B7.2

# **Topic Area - Pension Provision (Weight: 11%)**

B8: Cash account (Pillar 3a) (Weight: 1.4%)

#### 1. Offering of sustainable pillar 3a account

- 1.1) Does the bank offer a sustainable pillar 3a account? If yes, what are the proceeds of the account used for and can customers influence the use of proceeds?
- 1.2) Is this account the default option?
- 1.3) What percentage of the total savings in pillar 3a accounts are placed in these sustainable pillar 3a accounts?

#### 2. Transparency

2.1) Does the bank provide representative information to customers about the sectors/activities in which their pillar 3a account are invested? If yes, does this only apply to customers of sustainable pillar 3a accounts or to all pillar 3a accounts? Please describe how this information is provided.

(Not applicable; minimum score for this criterion is 2 points)	No sustainable pillar 3a cash account is offered, and customers have no way of influencing the sustainability impact of their savings.	Customers have the option of choosing between sustainability-focused and non-focused uses for their pillar 3a cash savings OR only sustainable pillar 3a cash account is offered.	The sustainable pillar 3a cash account is the default account OR only sustainable pillar 3a cash account is offered.  Sustainable pillar 3a cash account volumes account for a significant proportion (>15%) of the total pillar 3a cash account volume.	The sustainable pillar 3a cash account is the default account OR only sustainable pillar 3a cash account is offered AND clients can influence the use of proceeds of the sustainable offering.  Sustainable pillar 3a cash volumes account for the majority (>50%) of the total pillar 3a cash account volume.
	Clients are not informed about the use of proceeds.	Clients are not informed about the use of proceeds.	The bank provides its clients proactively with information (e.g. product brochure) on the environmentally relevant sectors and activities to which the money from the sustainable pillar 3a cash account is lent. is invested in.	The bank provides its clients proactively with information (e.g. product brochure) on the environmentally relevant sectors and activities to which the money from the sustainable pillar 3a cash account and standard pillar 3a cash account is lent.

## **B9:** Guidelines and targets (Pillar 3a) (Weight: 1.4%)

#### 1. Guidelines

- 1.1) Does the bank have binding, overarching sustainability and/or environmental guidelines covering all pillar 3a investment products (e.g., exclusion, phase out)? If yes, please explain the guidelines, and if the guidelines are applied to the bank's own products or also to those of third parties. (Please be aware, exclusion policies are inquired in more detailed in the next question.)
- 1.2) Do you have exclusions of coal and other sectors/activities? If yes, pleas describe, including thresholds applicable.

#### 2. Targets

- 2.1) Did the bank set a science-based quantitative decarbonization target for its pillar 3a investment portfolio?

  If yes, please describe the target, including the method used (science-based target initiative, NZAMI or other), the sector it applies to and the portfolio coverage (% of AuM without execution only).
- 2.2) Did the bank set a quantitative target regarding a nature-related indicator for its pillar 3a investment portfolio? If yes, please describe the target, the sector it applies to and portfolio coverage (% of AuM without execution only)
- 2.3) Did the bank set other quantitative targets related to other environmental indicator for its pillar 3a investment portfolio (e.g., financing the green transition or the circular economy?

If yes, please describe the target and portfolio coverage (% of AuM without execution only).

No environmental investment policies/guidelines for pillar 3a investment products OR only applicable to a subset of specific products.	Environmental investment policies/guidelines that cover all own, actively managed pillar 3a investment products include at least coal & controversial oil & gas.	Environmental investment policies that cover all own, actively managed pillar 3a investment products have exclusion/phase out criteria that cover at least coal, oil and gas and one biodiversity-related criteria.*	Environmental investment policies that cover all own pillar 3a investment products have comprehensive exclusion criteria for climate and biodiversity – at least 7 criteria.*  Invested companies exceeding 5% turnover in key sectors like coal, oil and gas require phase-out strategy. The guidelines also include exit/phase out or transition policies in sectors with a high biodiversity impact OR eligibility criteria for companies in sectors with a positive environmental impact).	Environmental investment policies that cover all pillar 3a investment products have comprehensive exclusion criteria for climate and biodiversity – 8 or more criteria.*  There is a phase-out strategy for key sectors like coal, oil and gas, cars running on fossil fuels. If an eligibility threshold is applied, it is below 5%.  OR bank only invests in companies that fulfil positive eligibility criteria.
There are no targets for the pillar 3a investment portfolio.	There are no targets for the pillar 3a investment portfolio.	Bank has some quantitative decarbonization targets in place for its own pillar 3a products.	The bank has a near-term decarbonization target for at least 50% of its pillar 3a investment portfolio in line with a recognized standard like NZAMI or SBTi.	The bank has a science-based near-term decarbonization target for 67% of its pillar 3a investment portfolio in line with a recognized standard (SBTi).

### 30 | WWF RATING OF SWISS RETAIL BANKS 2024

	Further sustainability targets are in place (e.g., biodiversity targets or financing green or transition-related activities).	The bank has some target in place related to the reduction of the negative impact on nature.  At least 1 additional sustainability target is in place (e.g., for financing green or transition-related activities)
		related activities).

<sup>\*</sup>Exclusion of illegal business does not count. // Exclusion criteria include all activities in a given sector. (i.e., coal mining & coal power plant (or airline manufacture & airline services) count as 1 criterion, while coal, oil, and gas count as 3).

# B10: Sustainable Investment Offering (Pillar 3a) (Weight: 1.4%)

#### 1. Sustainable pillar 3a investment funds

- 1.1) Please fill out the table in Excel sheet "B Sust. investment offerings". If you categorize more than one approach into the same category, please distinguish them with the names of your product lines.
- 1.2) For each of the sustainability-related approaches that you filled in table "B Sust. investment offerings", please name your pillar 3a product line and describe the sustainability-related criteria applied (e.g., name exclusions incl. thresholds, name positive selection criteria, ESG data providers used and name specific voting and engagement practices if different from general approach in B6).

Please refer to WWF Rating of Swiss Retail Banks 2024, Methodology Paper, Chapter 3.3 for the assessment of B10.

# B11: Sustainability KPIs and Transparency (Pillar 3a) (Weight: 0.8%)

- 1. Transparency on pillar 3a investment solutions
  - 1.1) Does the bank report the Swiss Climate Scores?

    If yes, please specify for which kind of pillar 3a funds (only sustainability-related or all).
  - 1.2) Does the bank quantify and report climate impacts of the offered pillar 3a investment solutions to clients?

    If yes, please outline for which pillar 3a products (e.g., only own funds or also 3rd party funds / only for sustainable products or all products). In addition, please state the impact KPIs reported and whether these primarily include direct environmental impacts of investees (Scope 1 and 2) or impacts along entire value chains (Scope 3). Please note that if you report according to the Swiss Climate Scores, simply list which optional KPIs you report.
  - 1.3) Does the bank quantify and report other environmental impacts, particularly biodiversity related impacts of the offered pillar 3a investment solutions to clients? If yes, please outline for which pillar 3a products (e.g., only own funds or also 3rd party funds / only for sustainable products or all products). In addition, please state the impact KPIs reported.

Climate-related indicator(s)* are disclosed for a few pillar 3a products (e.g., GHG emission intensity).	At least 2 climate-related indicators* are disclosed for all own pillar 3a investment funds.	At least 2 climate-related indicators* are disclosed for all own pillar 3a investment funds including Scope 1 and 2 GHG emissions of investees.  The Swiss Climate Scores are disclosed for at least all sustainability-related pillar 3a funds.	At least 2 climate-related indicators* are disclosed for all own pillar 3a investment funds including Scope 1 and 2 GHG emissions of investees. Scope 3 is reported at least for most material sectors.  At least one nature-related indicator is reported for all own pillar 3a funds (e.g., biodiversity footprint; water used from water scarce areas; activities in sensitive locations, SDG 14, 15).  The Swiss Climate Scores are disclosed for all own pillar 3a funds. The (optional) Global warming potential indicator is reported, or a reasonable explanation is provided if not.	At least 3 climate-related indicators* are disclosed for all own and third-party pillar 3a investment funds including Scope 1, 2 and 3 GHG emissions.  At least 2 nature-related indicators are reported for all own pillar 3a funds (e.g., biodiversity footprint; water used from water scarce areas; activities in sensitive locations, SDG 14, 15)  The Swiss Climate Scores are disclosed for all pillar 3a funds and the reporting includes the (optional) Global warming potential indicator or a reasonable explanation is provided if not.
--	--	--	---	---

<sup>\*</sup>Scope 1 and Scope 2 emissions count as 1 indicator. Indicators also include, for example, the share of fossil fuel companies, companies with NZ target in the portfolio or a global warming potential indicator.

Note: A bank could also score points for achieving the requirement on client portfolio level.

# B12: Active Ownership (Pillar 3a) (Weight: 1.4%)

# 1. Active ownership

Does the bank have an active ownership approach for its pillar 3a portfolio which is identical with the approach outlined in B5 (Active Ownership)? If no, please elaborate in how far the stewardship policy, voting guidelines, and investee engagement differ to answers outlined in B5.1-B5.3.

Stewardship policy does not mention any environmental criteria.  There is no annual report about voting and engagement activities.	There is a stewardship policy that mentions climate.  There is no annual report about voting and engagement activities.	There is a stewardship policy aligned with Swiss Stewardship Code  Publishes an annual report about voting and engagement activities.	There is a stewardship policy aligned with Swiss Stewardship Code and it mentions the selection or engagement with 3rd party AM whose products are promoted.  Publishes an annual report about voting and engagement activities.	There is a stewardship policy aligned with Swiss Stewardship Code and it mentions the selection or engagement with 3rd party AM whose products are promoted.  Publishes an annual report about voting and engagement activities.
Voting guidelines do not refer to environmental criteria.	Voting guidelines exist and include climate-related criteria.  Voting is exercised for some investees of own pillar 3a products.	Voting guidelines exist and include climate-related criteria. Note: Voting guidelines are expected to match expectation outlined in engagement strategies.  Voting is exercised systematically for most relevant positions in own pillar 3a funds.	Voting guidelines exist and include climate- and biodiversity-related issues. Note: Voting guidelines are expected to match expectation outlined in engagement strategies.  Voting is exercised systematically for all own pillar 3a products.	Voting guidelines exist and include climate- and biodiversity-related issues. Note: Voting guidelines are expected to match expectation outlined in engagement strategies.  Voting is exercised systematically for all own pillar 3a products.
No investee engagement with regards to environmental-related expectations.	Environmental-related investee engagement is conducted via a collective engagement provider or initiative OR Very selective/rare environmental-related investee engagement is conducted by the bank.	Investee engagement is systematically conducted for most material sectors/themes. At least 3 sectors/themes are covered by own engagement OR via a collective engagement provider or initiative.  Expectations include climate-related targets to be reached by investees. E.g., SBTi reduction pathway.	Investee engagement is systematically conducted for most material sectors/themes. At least 4 sectors/themes are covered by own engagement OR via a collective engagement provider or initiative in which the bank has an active role.  Expectations include climate and biodiversity-related targets to be reached by investees. E.g., SBTi	Investee engagement is systematically conducted for most material sectors/themes. At least 5 sectors/themes are covered by own engagement OR collective engagements with active role. Expectations include climate and biodiversity-related targets to be reached by investees. E.g., SBTi reduction pathway, no deforestation, no IUU fishing, % of products recycled etc.

related shareholder resolutions.
----------------------------------

Note: A bank that delegates stewardship measures (voting, engagement) to a third-party provider (e.g., their asset manager), the policies, targets, measures etc. of the third-party was evaluated and counted if the bank did it itself.

# B13: Advisory Process for Pension Provision (3a) (Weight: 1.1%)

# 1. Advisory Process for Pension Provision (3a)

Is the bank's advisory process for pension provision (pillar 3a) identical with the approach outlined in B6 (Advisory process for investments)?

If no, please elaborate how the advisory process regarding pension provision differs compared to the advisory process for investments outlined in B6.1-B6.3.

•			•	
Client advisors are not trained regularly regarding relevant topics (see selection in question).	Client advisors receive annually some training in relevant topics (see selection in question) and there is an internal specialist unit or a dedicated person with additional education on sustainability matters.	Client advisors are frequently trained (approx. 8h p.a.) in relevant topics (see selection in question). At least 3 topics have been covered since 2021. There is an internal specialist unit or a dedicated person with additional education on sustainability matters.	Client advisors are frequently trained (approx. 12h p.a.) in relevant topics (see selection in question) incl. biodiversity. At least 4 topics have been covered since 2021.  There is an internal specialist unit or a dedicated person with additional education on sustainability matters.	Client advisors are frequently trained (approx. 16h p.a.) in relevant topics (see selection in question) incl. biodiversity. At least 5 topics have been covered since 2021.  There is an internal specialist unit or a dedicated person with additional education on sustainability matters.
Client preferences inquiry and information provision regarding sustainable investing is limited to the minimal requirements of the SBA self-regulation.  Clients are classified according to SBA self-regulation (very interested, interested, neutral).	Client preferences inquiry and information provision regarding sustainable investing is limited to the minimal requirements of the SBA self-regulation (clients are informed generally about sustainability risks, clients without ESG preferences are not informed about ESG products).  Clients are classified according to SBA self-regulation (very interested, interested, neutral).	Client preferences inquiry and information provision regarding sustainable investment goes beyond the minimal requirements of the SBA self-regulation and include at least 3 of the relevant topics (see selection in question). All clients (also the ones without ESG preferences) are informed about the available ESG investment approaches.  Clients are classified according to SBA self-regulation (very interested, interested, neutral).	Client information regarding sustainable investing goes beyond the minimal requirements of the SBA self-regulation and include at least 3 of the relevant topics (see selection in question). All clients (also the ones without ESG preferences) are informed about the available ESG investment approaches/solutions.  Clients are not only classified regarding their ESG- interest (SBA self-regulation), but according to their preferred sustainable investment approach or sustainable investment themes (This could also include topics regarding social aspects).	Client information regarding sustainable investing goes beyond the minimal requirements of the SBA self-regulation and include biodiversity and at least 2 others of the relevant topics (see selection in question). All clients (also the ones without ESG preferences) are informed about the available ESG investment approaches/solutions.  Clients are not only classified regarding their ESG- interest (SBA self-regulation), but according to their preferred sustainable investment approach or sustainable investment themes (This could also include topics regarding social aspects).
Sustainability- related pillar 3a investment products are not the default option of investment recommendations.	Sustainability-related pillar 3a investment products are not the default option of investment recommendations.	Sustainability-related pillar 3a investment products are not the default option of investment recommendations.	Sustainability-related pillar 3a investment products are the default option of investment recommendations.	Sustainability-related pillar 3a investment products that meet the definition of the Federal Council are the default option of investment recommendations. Nonsustainability-related products are only offered in execution-only mandates.

# B14: Environmental impact of investment products (Weight: 3.6%)

- 1. Please refer to WWF Rating of Swiss Retail Banks 2024, Methodology Paper, Chapter 3.2 for the assessment of B14.1
- 2. Please refer to WWF Rating of Swiss Retail Banks 2024, Methodology Paper, Chapter 3.3 for the assessment of B14.2

# Strategic Area C - Loans & Financing (Weight: 47%)

# **Topic Area - Corporate Loans (Weight: 23.5%)**

**C1: Guidelines for Corporate Loans (Weight: 4.4%)** 

#### 1. Guidelines

1.1) Does the bank have general guidelines for its corporate lending activities that include environmental criteria (e.g., exclusions, special funding criteria ("Förderkriterien"))?

If yes, please describe. (Please be aware, exclusion policies are inquired in more detailed in the next question.)

1.2) Do you have exclusions of coal and other sectors/activities? If yes, pleas describe, including thresholds applicable.

#### 2. Targets

2.1) Does the bank have a science-based quantitative decarbonization target for its lending portfolio?

If yes, please describe the target including the method used (science-based target initiative, NZBA, other), the sector it applies to and the portfolio coverage.

- 2.2) Does the bank have a quantitative target regarding a nature-related indicator for its lending portfolio? If yes, please describe the target and portfolio coverage.
- 2.3) Does the bank have other quantitative targets related to other environmental indicator for its lending portfolio (e.g., financing the green transition or the circular economy)?

If yes, please describe the target and portfolio coverage.

	T	T		
Lending guidelines do not include environmental criteria.	Lending guidelines include exclusions for harmful activities (that are usually not performed in Switzerland) such as fossil fuel extraction or mineral mining, incl. deep-sea mining (for banks with a balance sheet sum below CHF 50 bn. these exclusions are not required).  Lending guidelines also include exclusions for building / extending the capacity or longevity of nuclear and gas power plants  OR some economic activities are defined as environmentally sensitive and to be escalated or requiring additional due diligence. (No exclusion required).	Lending guidelines include exclusions for harmful activities (that are usually not performed in Switzerland) such as fossil fuel extraction or mineral mining, incl. deep-sea mining (for banks with a balance sheet sum below CHF 50 bn. these exclusions are not required).  Lending guidelines also include exclusions for building / extending the capacity or longevity of nuclear and gas power plants AND some economic activities are defined as environmentally sensitive and to be escalated or requiring additional due diligence.	Lending guidelines include exclusions for harmful activities (that are usually not performed in Switzerland) such as fossil fuel extraction or mineral mining (incl. deep-sea mining). Additionally, at least 1 nature-related activity is covered such as IUU fishing or the production of non-certified deforestation-risk commodities or economic activities in sensitive areas (for banks with a balance sheet sum below CHF 50 bn. these exclusions are not required).  Lending guidelines also include exclusions for building / extending the capacity or longevity of nuclear and gas power plants.  Lending guidelines additionally include at least 1 exclusion criteria regarding nature-related activities that are relevant in Switzerland e.g., selling of non-certified deforestation-risk commodities; production of chemicals, fertilizers and pesticides illegal to use in Switzerland.  Further economic activities are defined as environmentally sensitive and to be escalated or requiring additional due diligence  OR the lending guidelines only formulates positive criteria to select companies that actively contribute to the SDGs while not hurting the environment.	Lending guidelines include exclusions for harmful activities (that are usually not performed in Switzerland) such as fossil fuel extraction or mineral mining (incl. deep-sea mining). Additionally, at least 2 nature-related activities are covered such as IUU fishing or the production of non-certified deforestation-risk commodities or economic activities in sensitive areas (for banks with a balance sheet sum below CHF 50 bn. these exclusions are not required).  Lending guidelines also include exclusions for building / extending the capacity or longevity of nuclear and gas power plants.  Lending guidelines additionally include at least 2 exclusion criteria regarding nature-related activities that are relevant in Switzerland e.g., selling of non-certified deforestation-risk commodities; production of chemicals, fertilizers and pesticides illegal to use in Switzerland.  Further economic activities are defined as environmentally sensitive and to be escalated or requiring additional due diligence. For such activities, the bank has a transition or phase out strategy  OR the lending guidelines only formulates positive criteria to select companies that actively contribute to the SDGs while not hurting the environment.
No targets for corporate loans	No targets for corporate loans.	There is at least 1 environment- related target in place regarding corporate lending.	The bank has quantitative decarbonization targets in line with a recognized standard (e.g., NZBA or	The bank has a science-based decarbonization target for 100% of its corporate loan portfolio in line with a

## 39 | WWF RATING OF SWISS RETAIL BANKS 2024

Note: a bank-wide long-term commitment (e.g. NZBA) without further definition of a corporate loan-specific short- to long-term target does not meet this requirement.	SBTi) for the 3 most relevant sectors in the corporate lending book.  Further sustainability targets are in place (e.g., biodiversity targets or financing green or transition-related activities).	recognized standard (SBTi) – SME not included.  The bank has a target in place related to the reduction of the negative impact on nature.  At least 1 additional sustainability target is in place (e.g., for financing green or transition-related activities).
---	---	--

## **C2:** Advisory Process and Engagement of Corporate Clients (Weight: 2.9%)

### 1. High-impact sector engagement

- 1.1) Does the bank analyse the exposure of the credit portfolio to high-impact sectors? If yes, which sectors have been identified as relevant?
- 1.2) Does the bank have a defined strategy regarding the engagement of clients in the identified high impact sectors?

  If yes, what does it look like? E.g., does the bank offer advisory services (internal or 3rd party) to eligible corporate clients to support them in their transition? Please also describe all the engagement activities (due diligence questionnaire, letters, meeting, events, etc.) that the bank is doing with companies (per sector). Also list the number of companies and (preferably) the percentage of companies in a specific sector that the bank engaged with.
- 1.3) Does the bank have an escalation process for clients in these high-impact sectors that do not make any transition efforts? If yes, please describe the process.

#### 2. Training, internal support and staff incentives

- 2.1) Does the bank train its corporate client advisors about environmental issues?
- If yes, please explain the scope of the training and the frequency (how many hours per employee p.a.) and if the training is on-demand or compulsory. Also elaborate on the topics that have been covered since 2021. Examples are: climate change in general, planetary boundaries, renewable/low energy technologies and energetic modernization, including financial implications (e.g., break-even calculation of investments), biodiversity, impact-measurement, double materiality, ESG-ratings and industry-standards, carbon pricing, others (please specify).
- 2.2) Is there an internal specialist unit or a dedicated person per branch that client advisors can contact if they have questions about environmental issues in corporate lending activities?
- If yes, please explain the services of this department/person.
- 2.3) Is there a (not necessarily monetary) incentive system that motivates client advisors to discuss transformation and promote sustainable credit products to corporate customers?
- If yes, please explain the system / KPIs.

#### 3. Client information

3.1) Does the bank systematically discuss ecological risks and impacts of their economic activities with corporate clients? If yes, please explain how (selection of clients, form).

The bank has not yet analysed its exposure to high-impact sectors.  Advisory services (internal or	High-impact sectors have been identified but a clear engagement strategy, including an escalation process is not yet defined.	High-impact sectors have been identified and the bank has a clear engagement strategy, including an escalation process.	High-impact sectors have been identified and the bank has a clear engagement strategy, including an escalation process.	High-impact sectors have been identified and the bank has a clear engagement strategy, including an escalation process.
3rd party), that support clients in their transition are not an integral part of client advisory process.	Advisory services (internal or 3rd party), that support clients in their transition are an integral part of client advisory process	Advisory services (internal or 3rd party), that support clients in their transition are an integral part of client advisory process. Clients in high-impact sectors that are not willing to transition	Advisory services (internal or 3rd party), that support clients in their transition are an integral part of client advisory process and a significant share of	Advisory services (internal or 3rd party), that support clients in their transition are an integral part of client advisory process and a significant share of

	OR the analysis showed no (relevant) exposure to high-impact sectors.	are not eligible to credit line renewal OR the analysis showed no (relevant) exposure to high-impact sectors.	eligible clients have been engaged (at least 30%). Clients in high-impact sectors that are not willing to transition are not eligible to credit line renewal OR the analysis showed no (relevant) exposure to high-impact sectors.	eligible clients have been engaged (at least 60%). Clients in high-impact sectors that are not willing to transition are not eligible to credit line renewal OR the analysis showed no (relevant) exposure to high-impact sectors.
Client advisors are not trained frequently regarding relevant topics (see selection in question).  There is no incentive system that motivates staff to discuss environment issues with clients and promote sustainable credit products.	Client advisors receive annually some training in relevant topics (see selection in Q, some = less than 8h p.a. or less than 3 topics). There is an internal specialist unit or a dedicated person with additional education on sustainability matters.  There is no incentive system that motivates staff to discuss environment issues with clients and promote sustainable credit products.	Client advisors are frequently trained (approx. 8h p.a.) in relevant topics (see selection in question). At least 3 topics have been covered since 2021. There is an internal specialist unit or a dedicated person with additional education on sustainability matters.  There is no incentive system that motivates staff to discuss environment issues with clients and promote sustainable credit products.	Client advisors are frequently trained (approx. 12h p.a.) in relevant topics (see selection in question) incl. Biodiversity. At least 3 topics have been covered since 2021.  There is an internal specialist unit or a dedicated person with additional education on sustainability matters.  There is an incentive system that motivates staff to discuss environment issues with clients and promote sustainable credit products.	Client advisors are frequently trained (approx. 16h p.a.) in relevant topics (see selection in question) incl. Biodiversity. At least 5 topics have been covered since 2021.  There is an internal specialist unit or a dedicated person with additional education on sustainability matters.  There is an incentive system that motivates staff to discuss environment issues with clients and promote sustainable credit products.
Ecological risks and impacts (at least climate-related) are not discussed with clients active in high-impact sectors.	Ecological risks and impacts (at least climate-related) are not systematically discussed with clients active in high-impact sectors.	Ecological risks and impacts (at least climate-related) are systematically discussed with clients active in high-impact sectors.	Ecological risks and impacts (climate- and biodiversity-related) are systematically discussed with clients engaging in high-impact activities.	Ecological risks and impacts (climate- and biodiversity-related) are systematically discussed with all clients.

## C3: Loan Offering for Corporate Clients (Weight: 2.9%)

#### 1. Environmental factors in loan offerings

- 1.1) Does the bank systematically evaluate environmental factors (quantitative and qualitative) in all or selected credit approval processes? If yes, please specify which factors are integrated (transition plans, sectoral standards like palm oil certification, emission data, share of turnover in nature sensitive areas, etc.).
- 1.2) Do the before-mentioned environmental factors have an influence on the credit score and thus, the interest rate? If yes, explain the mechanism.
- 1.3) Does the bank include clauses (e.g., covenants, representations & warranties) related to environmental issues to mitigate impact and/or reduce risks?

#### 2. Offering of sustainable loan products

- 2.1) Does the bank offer sustainable loan products to companies to support environmental goals and supporting the business transformation (i.e., green loans, sustainability-linked loans, eco-credits, start-up finance)?
- If yes, please describe the loan products, also regarding beneficial conditions for the client.
- 2.2) What are the criteria to qualify for these sustainable loan products? (e.g., the application of international initiatives such as the Green Loan Principles)?
- 2.3) What is the volume of these sustainable loan products in relation to the total of outstanding loans (in %)?

Environmental factors are not considered in the credit approval process.	Limited qualitative OR quantitative environmental factors are unsystematically integrated in the credit approval process.	Qualitative OR quantitative environmental factors are systematically integrated in the credit approval process for high-impact sectors/activities, if applicable. Factors impacting climate or biodiversity influence the credit score and the margin OR identified factors with a negative impact are reflected in contractual terms incl. measures that help mitigating these negative impact / reduce risk of negative impacts.	Qualitative OR quantitative environmental factors are systematically integrated in the credit approval process for high impact sectors and large transactions, if applicable. Factors impacting climate or biodiversity influence the credit score and the margin OR identified factors with a negative impact are reflected in contractual terms incl. measures that help mitigating these negative impact / reduce risk of negative impacts.	Qualitative OR quantitative environmental factors are systematically integrated in the credit approval process for all transactions. Factors impacting climate or biodiversity influence the credit score and the margin AND identified factors with a negative impact are reflected in contractual terms incl. measures that help mitigating these negative impact / reduce risk of negative impacts.
There is no sustainable loan offering to support environmental goals.	There is no sustainable loan offering to support environmental goals.	Sustainable loan products (as defined in the question) are offered and contain beneficial conditions.  Note: Q3 (The volume of sustainable loan products) is evaluated in C5.2.	Sustainable loan products (as defined in the question) are offered and contain beneficial conditions. The offering consists of products in relation to at least 2 of the following topics: climate change mitigation, biodiversity, business transition finance, circular economy, or start uprelated product.  Note: Q3 (The volume of sustainable loan products) is evaluated in C5.2.	Sustainable loan products (as defined in the question) are offered and contain beneficial conditions. The offering consists of products in relation to at least 3 of the following topics: climate change mitigation, biodiversity, business transition finance, circular economy, or start uprelated product.  Alternative approach: No specialized loan product, but loans are only offered if they are aligned with environmental goals.  Note: Q3 (The volume of sustainable loan products) is evaluated in C5.2.

## **C4: Data Collection and Impact Measurement (Weight: 1.5%)**

### 1. Data collection

1.1) Does the bank systematically collect climate- and/or biodiversity-related data from clients?

If yes, what is the approach, scope (e.g., only for clients in certain/high-impact sectors) and type of data inquired? If no, what other data sources does the bank use to quantify sustainability-related impacts of corporate loans?

## 2. Impact quantification

- 2.1) Does the bank quantify the sustainability-related impacts of corporate loans?

  If yes, please state the underlying impact assessment methods (e.g., carbon accounting, biodiversity footprint, water used).
- 2.2) Are the impacts along the entire value chains (Scope 3) considered in addition to the direct environmental impacts of your corporate clients (Scope 1 and 2)?

Neither climate- nor biodiversity- related data is obtained systematically.	Climate data is bought from third-party data providers (and is mostly modelled).	Climate-related data is collected from large clients in high-impact sectors, if applicable.	Climate-related data is collected from large clients.  Some nature-related indicators are collected from large clients in high impact sectors or bought from third party data providers (and mostly modelled).	Climate- and biodiversity-related data is systematically collected from all large clients to quantify the impacts of loan on both climate and biodiversity annually.
The impact of loans on climate and biodiversity is not assessed.	The impact assessment is based on third-party data and covers at least a selection of large clients in high-impact sectors.  The climate-focused impact assessment (carbon accounting (mind. Scope 1&2 emissions) is science-based and follows international standards.	GHG accounting follows the Partnership for Carbon Accounting financials (PCAF) standard. Scope 3 is collected or modelled for most relevant sectors.	GHG accounting follows the PCAF standard. Scope 3 is collected or modelled for most relevant sectors.	GHG accounting follows the PCAF standard. Scope 3 is collected or modelled for most relevant sectors.  Biodiversity accounting follows the Partnership for Biodiversity Accounting Financials (PBAF) or similar standard.

## C5: Environmental Impact Through Financing of Relevant Sectors (Weight: 11.7%)

- 1) Please refer to the WWF Rating of Swiss Retail Banks 2024, Methodology Paper, Chapter 3.2 for the assessment of C5.1.
- 2) Refers to C3.2, Q3.

No or negligible share of sustainable corporate loans (<0.1%).	Very small share of sustainable corporate loans (0.1%-1.99%).	Sustainable corporate loans account for a small proportion of 2-10% of the total loan volume.	Sustainable corporate loans account for a larger proportion (>10%) of the total loan volume.	Sustainable corporate loans account for a significant proportion (>30%) of the total loan volume.
--	---	---	--	---

## **Topic Area - Mortgages (Weight: 23.5%)**

**C6: Guidelines for Mortgages (Weight: 4.4%)** 

#### 1. Guidelines

1.1) Do the bank's guidelines for mortgages and real estate construction loans include environmental criteria? Particularly, are certain properties excluded from financing based on environmental criteria or does the bank only finance properties that fulfil certain environmental standards? If yes, please describe what these guidelines include. One example would be to exclude the financing of fossil fuel heating systems.

#### 2. Targets

- 2.1) Did the bank set a science-based decarbonization target for the mortgage and real estate construction loan portfolio? If yes, please describe the target(s), method(s) and coverage (commercial real estate and private mortgages, share).
- 2.2) Does the bank have other environmental targets for mortgages and real estate construction loan financing (e.g., number of financed energetic modernization per year, ratio of loans to buildings with environmental standards vs. without, construction projects that benefit biodiversity (greenery, condensed building)? If yes, please explain the targets including the portfolio coverage.

	T	1		1
Mortgage guidelines do not include environmental criteria or apply only to a subset of mortgages (e.g., sustainability linked mortgages)	Some kind of environment-related guidelines / criteria that are applicable to all financing activities.	Environmental guidelines applicable to all financing activities include exclusion criteria (at least no financing for 1:1 replacement of fossil fuel heating systems).	Environmental guidelines applicable to all financing activities include exclusion criteria for climate and nature (at least no financing for 1:1 replacement of fossil fuel heating systems; no financing of properties in biodiversity-important areas or that significantly contribute to urban sprawl).	Environmental guidelines applicable to all financing activities include exclusion criteria for climate and nature (at least no financing for 1:1 replacement of fossil fuel heating systems; no financing of properties in biodiversity-important areas or that significantly contribute to urban sprawl) OR the lending guidelines only formulate positive criteria to select eligible real estate financing (e.g., certification for energetically fit properties such as SNBS, GEAK, Minergie.)
No targets for mortgages or real estate construction loans	No targets for mortgages or real estate construction loans	There is at least 1 environmental target in place, e.g., number of financed energetic modernization per year, share of certified buildings, construction projects that benefit biodiversity (greenery), condensed building.  Note: a bank-wide long-term commitment (e.g. NZBA) without further definition of a mortgage portfolio-specific short- to long-term target does not meet this requirement.	The bank has a near-term decarbonization target for its mortgage real estate construction loan portfolio in line with a recognized standard (e.g., NZBA or SBTi). The target value for 2030 is 14 kg CO <sub>2</sub> eq/m2 ERA or lower (Scope 1+2 or respectively; 11.2 kg CO <sub>2</sub> eq/m2 if the target only contains Scope 1 emissions).  One additional sustainability target in the mortgage portfolio is in place (e.g., number of financed energetic modernization per year, share of certified buildings, construction projects that benefit biodiversity (greenery), condensed building).	The bank has a science-based near-term decarbonization target for its mortgage real estate construction loan portfolio in line with a recognized standard (SBTi). The target value for 2030 is 10 kg CO <sub>2</sub> eq/m2 ERA or lower (Scope 1+21 or respectively 8.6 kg CO <sub>2</sub> eq/m2 if the target only contains Scope 12 emissions).  Further sustainability targets in the mortgage portfolio are in place (see criteria for 4 points) (greenery)  AND include at least one biodiversity-related target.

¹ see the Carbon Risk Real Estate Monitor (CRREM): <a href="https://www.crrem.org/pathways/">https://www.crrem.org/pathways/</a>
² see Switzerland's long-term climate strategy: <a href="https://www.bafu.admin.ch/dam/bafu/de/dokumente/klima/fachinfo-daten/langfristige-klimastrategie-der-schweiz.pdf">https://www.bafu.admin.ch/dam/bafu/de/dokumente/klima/fachinfo-daten/langfristige-klimastrategie-der-schweiz.pdf</a>
20Klimastrategie%20Klimastrategie%20Schweiz.pdf

## C7: Advisory Process for Mortgage Clients (Weight: 2.9%)

### 1. Client engagement

- 1.1) Does the bank have a strategy towards client engagement in relation to energetic modernization and biodiversity improvements?

  If yes, what does it look like? Please elaborate e.g. on systematic offering of specialized products; (targeted) information measures (e.g., renovation calculation tools); facilitation of third-party advisement; subsidizing certification schemes, etc.
- 1.2) Are clients informed about the financial implications of energetic modernization measures (i.e., break-even calculations)? If yes, please describe what and how it is explained.
- 1.3) For construction loans/mortgages: Does the bank discuss from an environmental perspective the potential advantages and disadvantages of renovation instead of demolishing and rebuilding with clients?
- If yes, is this a systematic process? Please explain any measures the bank is taking in this regard.

#### 2. Training, internal support and staff incentives

- 2.1) Does the bank train its mortgage client advisors about environmental issues (beyond the minimum requirements of the SBA self-regulation)? If yes, please explain the scope of the training and the frequency (how many hours per employee p.a.) and if the training is on-demand or compulsory. Also elaborate on the topics that have been covered since 2021. Examples are renewable energy technologies and energetic modernization including financial implications (e.g., break-even calculation of investments), biodiversity (garden and roof, urban sprawl), impact measurement, double materiality, real estate standards (SNBS, Minergie, GEAK, GRESB), others (please specify).
- 2.2) Is there an internal specialist unit or a dedicated person per branch that client advisors can contact if they have questions about real estate-related environmental issues and/or energetic modernization?

If yes, please explain the services of this department/person.

2.3) Are there (not necessarily monetary) incentives to motivate client advisors to discuss energetic modernization and promote green mortgage products and services with clients?

If yes, please explain the system / KPIs.

The bank has no strategy towards client engagement.  Sustainable mortgage offerings and advisory services (internal or 3rd party) that support clients in the energetic modernization of their real estate are not an integrated part of the client advisory process.	Client engagement in relation to energetic modernization is systematic and includes targeted information measures as defined by the SBA self-regulation.  Sustainable mortgage products OR advisory services (internal or 3rd party), that support clients in the energetic modernization of their real estate are an integrated part of the client advisory process.	Client engagement in relation to energetic modernization is systematic and includes targeted information measures, including calculations of financial implications (breakeven calculations).  Sustainable mortgage products AND advisory services (internal or 3rd party) that support clients in the energetic modernization of their real estate are an integrated part of the client advisory process.	Client engagement in relation to energetic modernization and biodiversity improvements, including construction loans (e.g. pros & cons of renovation instead of demolishing and rebuilding), is systematic and includes targeted information measures, including calculations of financial implications (Break-even calculation).  Sustainable mortgage products and advisory services (internal or 3rd party), that support clients in the energetic modernization of their real estate are an integrated part of the client advisory process.	Client engagement in relation to energetic modernization and biodiversity improvements, including construction loans (e.g. pros & cons of renovation instead of demolishing and rebuilding), is systematic and includes targeted information measures, including calculations of financial implications (Break-even calculation).  Sustainable mortgage products and advisory services (internal or 3rd party), that support clients in the energetic modernization of their real estate are an integrated part of the client advisory process. The bank subsidizes certification schemes (SNBS; GEAK, Minergie, etc.)
Client advisors are not trained frequently regarding relevant topics (see selection in question).	Client advisors receive annually some training in relevant topics according to the SBA self-regulation.  There is an internal specialist unit or a dedicated person with additional environmental education or training.	Client advisors are frequently trained (approx. 8h p.a.) in relevant topics (see selection in question). At least 3 topics have been covered since 2021.  There is an internal specialist unit or a dedicated person with additional environmental education or training.	Client advisors are frequently trained (approx. 12h p.a.) in relevant topics (see selection in question) incl. biodiversity. At least 3 topics have been covered since 2021.  There is an internal specialist unit or a dedicated person with additional environmental education or training.  There is an incentive system that motivates staff to discuss environment issues with clients and promote energetic modernization.	Client advisors are frequently trained (approx. 16h p.a.) in relevant topics (see selection in question) incl. biodiversity. At least 5 topics have been covered since 2021.  There is an internal specialist unit or a dedicated person with additional environmental education or training.  There is an incentive system that motivates staff to discuss environment issues with clients and promote energetic modernization.

## **C8: Sustainable Mortgage Offering (Weight: 2.9%)**

#### 1. Environmental factors in mortgage offerings

- 1.1) Does the bank evaluate environmental factors (quantitative and qualitative) in the mortgage approval process?

  If yes, are these environmental factors (risks, opportunities) also considered for the mortgage conditions in conventional transactions (i.e., non-green mortgages)?

  Please explain which factors are integrated (e.g., energetic building standard, heating system, energetic renovation history, power-source, mobility concept, m2/person, greenery, certification).
- 1.2) Do the before-mentioned environmental factors have an influence on the credit score and/or the appraised value (both positive and negative) and thus, the interest margin and/or loan-to-value?

  If yes, please explain the mechanism.

### 2. Offering of sustainable mortgages

- 2.1) Does the bank offer sustainable mortgage products with beneficial conditions to clients for environmentally friendly real estate and/or construction/renovation projects (green mortgages), e.g., to increase energy efficiency, produce renewable energy (PV), harness exchange heating systems, or benefit biodiversity (e.g., for the greening of surroundings/roofs or condensed building/room usage)?

  If yes, please explain the product (conditions, eligibility criteria).
- 2.2) What is the volume of these sustainable mortgages in relation to the total volume of outstanding mortgages and real estate loans (in %)?

_		_	_	
Environmental factors are not considered in the mortgage approval process (applicable to all mortgages/products).	Limited qualitative OR quantitative environmental factors are unsystematically integrated in the mortgage approval process (applicable to all mortgages /products).	Qualitative OR quantitative environmental factors are systematically integrated in the mortgage approval process (applicable to all mortgages /products).  Factors impacting climate or biodiversity influence the credit score and the margin or the loan-to-value (LTV) OR identified factors with a negative impact are included in contractual terms incl. measures that help mitigating these negative impact / reduce risk of negative impacts.	Qualitative OR quantitative environmental factors are integrated in the mortgage approval process (at least two climate-related and one biodiversity-related factors) (applicable to all mortgages /products).  Factors impacting climate or biodiversity influence the credit score and the margin or the loan-to-value (LTV) OR identified factors with a negative impact are included in contractual terms incl. measures that help mitigating these negative impact / reduce risk of negative impacts.	Qualitative OR quantitative environmental factors are systematically integrated in the mortgage approval process (at least 3 climate-related and one biodiversity-related factors) (applicable to all mortgages /products).  Factors impacting climate and biodiversity influence the credit score and the margin or the loan-to-value (LTV). AND identified factors with a negative impact are included in contractual terms incl. measures that help mitigating these negative impact / reduce risk of negative impacts.
There is no sustainable mortgage offering for environmental purposes.  Note: Q2 (The volume of sustainable mortgage products) is evaluated in C10.2.	Sustainable mortgage products (as defined in the question) are offered and contain beneficial conditions.  Note: Q2 (The volume of sustainable mortgage products) is evaluated in C10.2.	Sustainable mortgage products (as defined in the question) are offered and contain beneficial conditions. The offering is applicable to both, purchase/construction finance and renovation finance.  Note: Q2 (The volume of sustainable mortgage products) is evaluated in C10.2.	Sustainable mortgage products (as defined in the question) are offered for all relevant types of real estate and contain beneficial conditions. The offering is applicable to both, purchase/construction finance and renovation finance.  Note: Q2 (The volume of sustainable mortgage products) is evaluated in C10.2.	Sustainable mortgage products (as defined in the question) are offered for both climate mitigation AND biodiversity-related measures for all relevant types of real estate and contain significant beneficial conditions (e.g., interest rate discount >50bp). The offering is applicable to both, purchase/construction finance and renovation finance OR bank only offers green mortgage products (i.e., high standards for all mortgages and construction loans apply)  Note: Q2 (The volume of sustainable mortgage products) is evaluated in C10.2.2

## **C9: Data Collection and Impact Measurement (Weight: 1.5%)**

### 1. Data collection

1.1) Does the bank systematically collect environment-related data about the financed properties?

If yes, please describe the (systematic) approach, how the data is collected (from clients or via a third-party provider, frequency) and what data-points are collected.

#### 2. Impact quantification

- 2.1) Does the bank quantify the environmental impacts of its mortgage book?

  If yes, please state the underlying impact assessment methods (e.g., carbon accounting, biodiversity footprint, MSA) and for which of the mortgage products (e.g., whether only for the sustainable or all mortgage, only for certain building types or for all) the bank quantifies its environmental impact.
- 2.2) Are the impacts along the entire value chains (Scope 3, e.g., construction materials) taken into account in addition to the direct environmental impacts of a property (Scope 1 and 2)?

  If yes, please specify if this information is limited to specific mortgage products and/or building types.

Neither climate- nor biodiversity-related data is obtained systematically.	Climate-related data from clients is collected for green mortgages only.  Climate data is bought from third-party data providers (and mostly modelled).	Climate-related data is systematically collected for all new and renewed mortgages. Where necessary, it is complemented with 3rd party data.	Climate-related data is collected systematically from all clients and complemented with 3rd party data, where necessary.  For green mortgage products the data collection also covers Scope 3 emissions OR one additional biodiversity metric (e.g., green area/m2 ERA).	Climate- and biodiversity-related data is collected systematically from all clients and complemented with 3rd party data, where necessary.
The impact of mortgages on climate and biodiversity is not assessed systematically (or along international, science-based standards).	The climate-focused impact assessment (carbon footprint of at least Scope 1&2) is based on external data, science-based and follows international standards.	GHG accounting follows Partnership for Carbon Accounting financials (PCAF) standards.	GHG accounting follows PCAF standards.	GHG accounting follows PCAF standards and includes Scope 3 of buildings.  One nature-related metric for the impact assessment is used.

## **C10: Environmental Impact of Mortgages (Weight: 11.7%)**

### 1. Emission intensity

1.1) What is the overall average portfolio emission intensity of the bank (kg CO<sub>2</sub>eq/m2, effective area p.a.) for a) residential real estate and b) commercial real/other estate? Please specify how much in % of your mortgage book this number covers and indicate the date of calculation (if not per 31.12.2023). (Note: If you have not done your own calculations, please submit the results from the last PACTA evaluation.)

## 2. Volume of sustainable mortgages

2.1) Refers to in C8.2.2 - nothing to fill out.

The overall average emission intensity (Scope 1 + 2) is	The overall average emission intensity (Scope 1 + 2) is below	The overall average emission intensity (Scope 1 + 2) is below	The overall average emission intensity (Scope 1 + 2) is below	The overall average emission intensity (Scope 1 + 2) is below
unknown or above 29	29 kg CO <sub>2</sub> eq/m <sup>2</sup> for the	25 kg CO <sub>2</sub> eq/m2 for the	21 kg CO <sub>2</sub> eq/m2 for the	17 kg CO₂eq/m2 for the
kg CO <sub>2</sub> eq/m <sup>2</sup> for the weighted	weighted average between	weighted average between	weighted average between	weighted average between
average between residential	residential mortgages and	residential mortgages and	residential mortgages and	residential mortgages and
mortgages and	commercial/other real estate.	commercial/other real estate.	commercial/other real estate.	commercial/other real estate.
commercial/other real estate.	OR .	OR .	OR	OR .
OR	The overall average emission			
The overall average emission	intensity (Scope 1) is below	intensity (Scope 1) is below	intensity (Scope 1) is below 14	intensity (Scope 1) is below 11.4
intensity (Scope 1) is unknown	19.33 kg CO₂eq/m2for the	16.66. kg CO₂eq/m2 for the	kg CO₂eq/m2 for the weighted	kg CO₂eq/m2 for the weighted
or above 19.33 kg CO₂eq/m2	weighted average between	weighted average between	average between residential	average between residential
for the weighted average	residential mortgages and	residential mortgages and	mortgages and	mortgages and
between residential mortgages	commercial/other real estate.	commercial/other real estate.	commercial/other real estate.	commercial/other real estate.
and commercial/other real				
estate.	Note: if the bank values are per	Note: if the bank values are per	Note: 21 and 14 kg CO₂eq/m2	Note: if the bank values are per
Note: if the bank values are nor	2022, the threshold is eased	2022, the threshold is eased	resp. are in line with the	2022, the threshold is eased
Note: if the bank values are per 2022, the threshold is eased	+0.5 kg, respectively +1 kg for 2021 values.	+0.5 kg, respectively +1 kg for 2021 values.	decarbonization pathway from CRREM (Scope 1+2)3 and	+0.5 kg, respectively +1 kg for 2021 values.
+0.5 kg, respectively +1 kg for	2021 values.	2021 values.	BAFU4 (Scope 1) resp.	2021 Values.
2021 values.			BAI 04 (Ocope 1) Tesp.	
2021 Valado.			Note: if the bank values are per	
			2022, the threshold is eased	
			+0.5 kg, respectively +1 kg for	
			2021 values.	
No significant share of	Sustainable mortgages products	Sustainable mortgages products	Sustainable mortgages products	Sustainable mortgages products
sustainable mortgages	account for a small proportion	account for a proportion of at	account for a larger proportion	account for a significant
products. (≤1%).	(>1%-10%) of the total mortgage volume.	least 10% of the total mortgage volume.	(>20%) of the total mortgage volume.	proportion (>30%) of the total mortgage volume.
	mongage volume.	volunic.	volunic.	mongage volume.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> see the Carbon Risk Real Estate Monitor (CRREM): https://www.crrem.org/pathways/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> see Switzerland's long-term climate strategy: https://www.bafu.admin.ch/dam/bafu/de/dokumente/klima/fachinfo-daten/langfristige-klimastrategie-der-schweiz.pdf.download.pdf/Langfristige%20Klimastrategie%20der%20Schweiz.pdf

#### **Authors**

Regula Hess | WWF Switzerland Michel Johner | WWF Switzerland Dominik Rothmund | WWF Switzerland Rebeka Furrer | INFRAS AG Anik Kohli | INFRAS AG Moritz Reisser | INFRAS AG

## **Contributors**

Amandine Favier | WWF Switzerland Stephan Kellenberger | WWF Switzerland Carolin Carella | WWF Switzerland Lene Petersen | WWF Switzerland Dina Spörri | WWF Switzerland Judith Reutimann | INFRAS AG Bettina Rüegge | INFRAS AG Jürg Füssler | INFRAS AG Christoph Müller | Inrate AG

## **External Advisory Group**

Prof. Dr. Beat Affolter, Head Center Corporate Performance and Sustainable Financing | ZHAW School of Management and Law Marilen Schwald, Entrepreneur and Co-Founder womenmatter/s, former Head Sustainability | BLKB Jonathan Middleton, Senior Research Officer | ShareAction Niklas Senner, Senior Advisor Sustainable Finance & Policy | WWF Germany Matthias Kopp, Head Sustainable Finance | WWF Germany Nicolas Poolen, Senior Manager, Nature Positive Finance | WWF International

# Our Mission Together, we

Together, we protect the environment and create a future worth living for generations to come.

#### **WWF Switzerland**

Hohlstrasse 110 PO Box 8010 Zürich

Tel.: +41 (0) 44 297 21 21 wwf.ch/contact