

## Objective

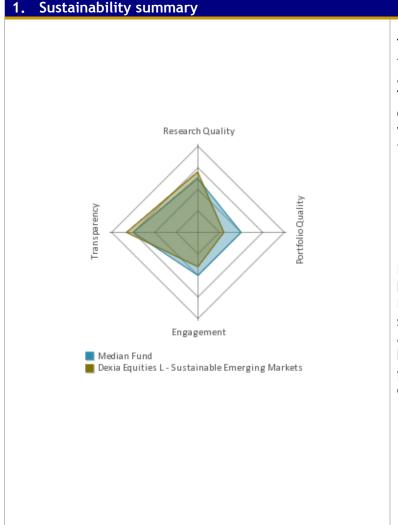
In order to measure the sustainability performance of a fund, Care Group designed a unique research methodology in 2003 which has been further developed ever since. Care Group's unique fund evaluation methodology provides a thorough and fair evaluation of funds from a sustainability perspective, allowing sound investment decisions to be made.

### Added Value

The Sustainability Fund factsheet is based on an easily understandable, consistent and transparent methodology for fund research. It enables finance professionals, fund management companies and private investors to compare funds across all evaluation criteria.

### Methodology

In order to measure the sustainability performance and quality and the implementation in a fund, a sophisticated methodology is required. Care Group therefore evaluates various indicators. These are summed up in four sustainability categories and shown graphically as a diamond. Each axis of the diamond can attain a value between 1 and 5. A 5 stands for a strong agreement with the detailed objectives of the respective axis. A value of 1 means that the detailed objectives earn no support. The diamond visualizes strengths and weaknesses of a fund at a glance - the bigger the net, the better the result. It indicates where the fund is to be seen compared to the median.



The sustainability performance rating of a fund is based on more than 70 indicators and displayed in a sustainability diamond. The sustainability diamond provides a quick overview of a fund's strength and weaknesses in comparison to its peer group in four categories:

- Research quality
- Portfolio quality
- Engagement
- Transparency

Each axis of the sustainability diamond can have a value between 1 and 5 (1 being the lowest, 5 being the highest). The sustainability diamond visualizes strengths and weaknesses of a fund at a glance - the bigger the net, the better the result. It gives a hint where the fund is to be seen in comparison to the median.



## 2. Sustainability Analysis

A leading SRI fund is characterized by its commitment to sustainability, i.e. comprehensive social and environmental company research and is reflected in the fund's portfolio including companies with excellent stakeholder relationships and innovative products. In addition, a top fund actively pursues engagement opportunities and shows a high level of transparency for investors.

### Research Quality (30%)

Care Group analyzes and evaluates the non-financial research methodology (application of SRI criteria, research processes, validation of research results, others) as well as the effort undertaken by the fund manager (SRI experience, research frequency, size of the SRI research team, others)

#### Portfolio Quality (40%)

We assess the non-financial quality of the portfolio by evaluating each portfolio holding. Different approaches for large caps, small caps and countries have been set up in cooperation with external partners. The portfolio quality assessment includes a positive screening, a negative screening and a sector allocation impact assessment.

### Engagement (20%)

Responsible investors often try to change corporate behavior through dialogue with management or offering shareholder resolutions. Voting proxies have become standard practice for many fund managers.

### Transparency (10%)

Investors should have access to all relevant financial and non-financial information of a fund. We check if all relevant information is disclosed and regularly updated.

# 3. Contacts

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