

# The role of environmental risks in the prudential framework EBA- Discussion Paper on initial assessment





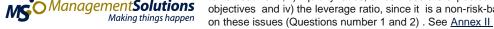
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### **Executive summary** The role of environmental risks in the prudential framework

The EBA has developed an initial assessment of how the prudential framework interacts with environmental risks and poses questions on whether adaptations are required to effectively address such risks

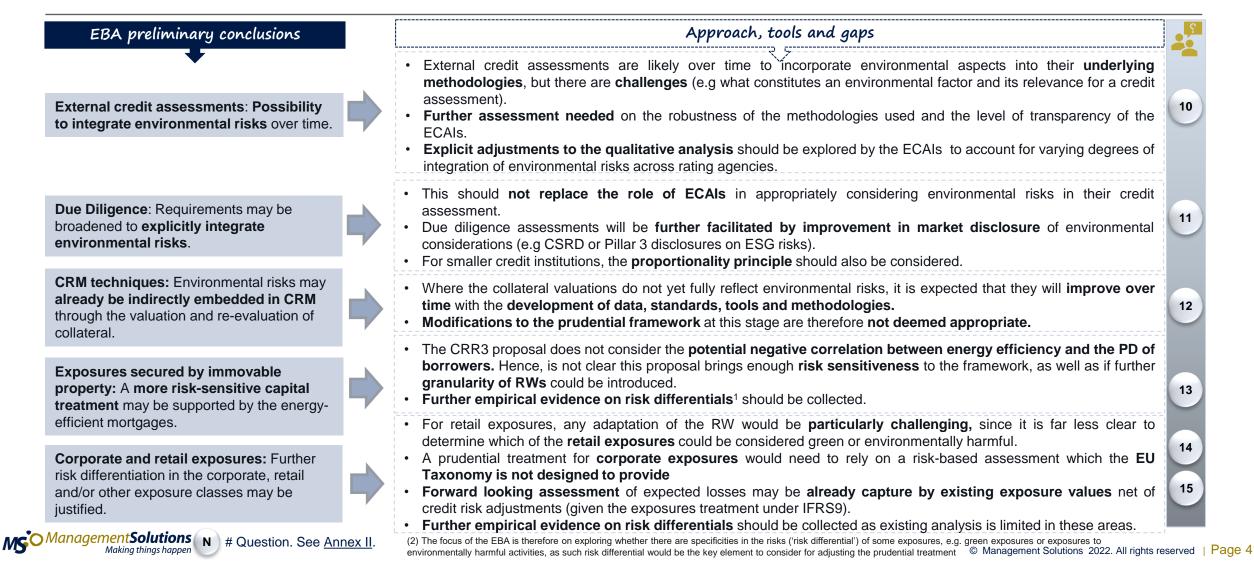
amework and how t • Relevant e	1-Objective Q A published a DP which provides an overview of the <b>existing elements of the prudential</b> they interact with environmental risk. The analysis covers <sup>1</sup> : lements of the <b>prudential framework</b> and how they interact with environmental risks <sup>2</sup> . s for <b>investment firms</b> .	CRR (A (Article	gulatory context art. 501c) and I 34) mandate El e a report on ti	FR Stakeholders BA feedback by	ext steps
	Main conclusions of the analysis		Conclusi	ons for Investme	nt Firms
Credit	<ul> <li>SA approach. External credit assessments are likely over time to incorporate environments aspects into their underlying methodologies.</li> <li>IRB approach: Need to improve forward-looking modelling. Consideration of the possibility of the po</li></ul>		K-factors	Risk types in the CRR	Same Treatment?
risk	introduction of an environment-related adjustment factor with <b>preference given</b> to consideration enhancements within the existing Pillar 1 framework.		K-NPR	Market risk	Yes
	As per the collateralized exposures, environmental risks may already be indirectly embedded through the valuation and re-evaluation of collateral.	ough	K-CMG	Market risk	Some specific features
Market risk	<ul> <li>FRTB SA: Some approaches are described to incorporate environmental risks into the exist components of the FRTB framework Inclusion of an ESG component in the identification of appropriate bucket for risk-weighting seems to be more suitable in order to better re-</li> </ul>	fthe	K-TCD	Counterparty credit risk	Yes
	<ul> <li>environmental risks in the sensitivity-based method (SbM). Also, the residual risk add - (RRAO) framework could be used to capitalise environmental or broader ESG risk</li> <li>Internal Model Approach: It is considered more pragmatic modelling environmental</li> </ul>	– on	K-DTF	Operational risk	Some specific features
Operational	outside the internal model.		K-CON	Concentration	Some specific
risk	Need to incorporate forward-looking information.			risk	features
Concentration risk	Possibility of introducing a <b>new monitoring and reporting standard</b> to improve the understanding the size of exposures subject to environmental risks.	ng of		cess the entire cument	
( (i nagement <b>Solution</b>	<ol> <li>In the analysis presented in this paper both dimensions of 'double materiality' (financial materiality and environmental mathematical that they affect the credit, market and operational risks of the institutions. A <b>question have been raised</b> on these matteriality' (Some aspects of the prudential framework are not covered in depth in this DP: i) the securitisation framework, although to its treatment.; ii) liquidity ratios, since these are expected to remain mostly unafected by environmental risks and have objectives and iv) the leverage ratio, since it is a non-risk-based measure which functions as a backstop. Thus, does not be the securities are applied to the securities and iv) the leverage ratio.</li> </ol>	r ( Question n the considera a limited role	umber 4). See <u>Annex II</u> tions presented for cred in addressing such risks	it risks by construction also s; iii) exposures associated	indirectly apply with social



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## 2 Credit risk (1/2) SA approach

# Environmental risks should be better reflected in the framework, while avoiding excessive complexity which may be achieved through different tools which EBA has identified



### Credit risk (2/2) IRB approach 2 2

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EBA considers that any adjustments in the IRB framework should not lead to an undue decrease in the model performance. On the other hand, is key to ensure that the calculation of RWAs is not distorted and to maintain risk-based capital requirements

EBA preliminary conclusions	Approach, challenges and gaps
<b>Risk drivers.</b> While many environmental risk drivers are currently expected to be already collected, residual data gaps still exist.	<ul> <li>Acknowledging that fully embedding environmental risk drivers in the existing credit risk framework also raises challenges, alternative approaches should continue to be assessed. In any case, any policy approach should avoid overlapping and double counting effects.</li> <li>For instance, current valuations often include certain elements of environmental risks (e.g. factors such as energy efficiency and location in areas affected by floods are taken into account in valuations of immovable properties). It can be expected that valuation standards will further develop over time to include more explicitly and comprehensively the environmental risk factors.</li> <li>The appropriate part to reflect environmental risk drivers is not specified, but rather interest parties are invited to do so.</li> </ul>
<b>Risk qualification.</b> Many environmental risks may <b>already be factored</b> in under the framework.	<ul> <li>Environmental risks are part of the risk differentiation step (RDS) and have led to a materialisation of defaults, realised losses or drawdowns. In addition, the design of the model leaves some room for expert-based qualitative variables.</li> </ul>
Need to improve forward-looking modelling and to develop potential further guidance.	<ul> <li>These would allow to capture the unprecedented nature and expected changes in the character of environmental risks. In this context, it is necessary to carefully assess in which part of the IRB framework such forward-looking perspective would be appropriate, but some challenges arises. This is not specified, but rather interest parties are invited to do so.</li> <li>These should be anchored in available empirical evidence on the impact of climate change and environmental degradation.</li> </ul>
Possible introduction of environment- related adjustment factors in prudential rules may be introduced for one, several or across exposure classes.	<ul> <li>Several stakeholders have raised the prospect of introducing environment-related adjustment factors in prudential rules, mostly in the form of 'green supporting' or 'brown penalising' factors (GSF or BPF).</li> <li>Challenging conditions must be met before adjustment factors could be justified (e.g acquiring clear evidence that certain assets display distinct risk profiles due to environmental risk drivers or assessing that the framework could not (or should not) capture these risk drivers). Also, some problems arises, such as double counting.</li> <li>To avoid the unintended consequences of underestimation or double counting, the possible amendments within the framework and adjustment factors should be treated as alternative solutions.</li> </ul>

## 3 Market risk FRTB Standardised and Internal Model approach

For the FRTB SA EBA describes possible approaches to incorporating environmental risks. For the internal model EBA considers more pragmatic modelling environmental risks outside the internal model

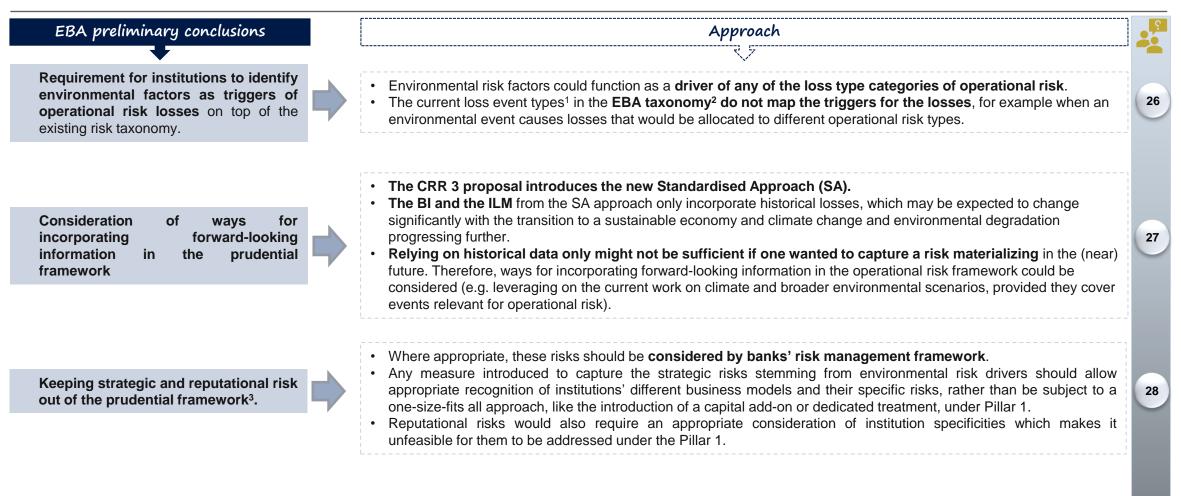
	EBA preliminary conclusions	Approach, tools and gaps
	CR and CVA risk are not specifically nvestigated	<ul> <li>CCR and CVA are build on similar concepts to those on which the credit and market risk prudential frameworks are built. Hence, any potential adjustment to reflect environmental risks in those areas could be replicated, so as to fit also in the context of, for example, CVA risk.</li> </ul>
	A- FRTB Standardised approach	EBA considers that this alternative would be suitable in order to better reflect environmental risks in the SbM. i.e.
	Inclusion of an ESG component in the identification of the appropriate bucket for risk-weighting <sup>1</sup>	reflecting ESG risks when <b>defining the buckets into which a risk factor falls</b> (e.g distinguishing between <b>equity</b> <b>positions</b> that are more subject to environmental risks and those that are less).
NdS	RW adjustment	<ul> <li>The CRR3 proposal contains a provision to introduce a lower risk weight for the commodity delta risk factor related to carbon emissions trading.</li> </ul>
	Creation of a specific risk class or a specific risk factor type	<ul> <li>If environmental risks be priced to the extent that the pricing function captures them via a specific risk factor, this adjustment to the framework can be potentially envisaged on top of delta, vega and curvature.</li> </ul>
DRC	Solutions for credit risk should potentially be replicated when capturing default risk in the trading book.	• The <b>nature of the risk captured</b> when calculating own funds requirements for default risk in the trading book in the form of a jump-to-default, <b>is that of credit risk</b> . Hence, the considerations set out for credit risk, especially in relation to internal or external credit ratings assigned to positions, are applicable to the default risk,
RRA <i>O</i>	Usage of the RRAO framework	<ul> <li>It could be used to capitalize environmental risks or broader ESG risk but, as it is not risk-sensitive, it would need to be adjusted.</li> <li>Its scope would have to be extended to include also simple trading book instruments, which can equally be affected by environmental risks.</li> </ul>
	B- Internal model Nodelling environmental risks directly	<ul> <li>Banks could be required to adjust their historical data so as to account for potential future (non-historically observed) dynamics. Modelling techniques have not been specified. Interest parties are invited to describe them. However, EBA does not support this option.</li> </ul>
	lodelling environmental risks outside he model hagement <b>Solutions</b> (N) # Question, See Annex	Considered the <b>most pragmatic and less distortive</b> policy. Although in accordance with CRR the event risk is to be captured in the internal model, the approach on which an internal model s built may not allow to do so in full.     (1) For example, the RW applicable to capture equity risk depends on the economy (advanced versus emerging) and the sector. An additional dimension distinguishing between equity positions that are more subject to environmental risks and those that are less so could be introduced.

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# 4 Operational risk Environmental risks and the operational risk framework

N # Question. See Annex II.

The EBA considers to incorporate forward-looking information in the operational risk framework as the new BCBS SA for operational risk measurement currently does not include forward-looking elements



1) e.g. Internal fraud; external fraud; employment practices and workplace safety; clients, products, and business practice...

(2) EBA internal risk taxonomy on operational risk (link).

(3) Currently, these two risk types are already addressed under the Pillar 2 framework

# 5 Concentration risk Environmental risks and the concentration risk framework

The EBA considers the possibility of an introduction of a new monitoring and reporting standard to improve the understanding of the size of exposures subject to environmental risks

EBA preliminary conclusions	Approach and problems
Possibility of introducing amendments to the LEX regime to address environmental risks explicitly.	<ul> <li>LEX regime captures concentration risk associated with the default of a single client or a group of connected clients.</li> <li>Environmental risks are not specifically adressed by this regime.</li> <li>Amending the LEX regime to address (sectorally based or geographically based) environmental risks explicitly would require a reorientation of its objective and design and would therefore not be warranted.</li> <li>The EBA opens debate about the best ways to address concentration risks stemming from environmental risk drivers. (e.g. It could be considered whether supervisors could benefit from additional reporting on the largest exposures subject to environmental risks, such as exposures to carbon-intensive firms).</li> </ul>
New concentration limit or new reporting and monitoring requirements in Pillar 1 to ensure a minimal level of harmonisation and comparability across the EU.	<ul> <li>Apart from the LEX regime, an alternative option could be the introduction of new monitoring and reporting requirements or a new concentration limit not for a single client or group of connected clients, but for all clients significantly exposed to environmental risks.</li> <li>A new concentration limit could take various forms: i) single limit on all environmental risks; ii) Limited number of environmental risks.</li> <li>Problems and considerations of a new concentration limit.         <ul> <li>If a specific concentration limit was implemented irrespective of the purpose of exposures, non-financial corporates could be deprived of their ability to receive bank financing for the sustainability transition.</li> <li>The relationship between the potential new limit and the Pillar 2 framework would have to be further considered.</li> <li>Institutions which predominantly operate in specific regions or sectors, and especially smaller institutions, could be disproportionately affected.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

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# 6 Investment firms Environmental risks and the investment firms framework

The EBA highlights the interrelations between the IFR and CRR frameworks and the importance of taking them into account to ensure consistency and proportionality while addressing environmental risks

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<ul> <li>The K-factors under Risk-to-Client are volumetric measures covering those activities where an investment firm may cause harm to clients. The current definitions do not consider environmental risks.</li> <li>K-COH: the client himself decides about the financial instruments, so there are no environmental risks evolving from CoH.</li> <li>K-CMH: captures the potential harm to clients that may occur when an investment firm holds client money on its own balance sheet. This does not seem to be related to environmental risks.</li> <li>K-AUM: refers to operational errors such as poor execution and legal errors, which is not related to environmental factors.</li> <li>K-ASA: ensures that investment firms hold capital proportionately to activities which is not related to environmental factors.</li> <li>Parties are invited to consider if existing K-factors should incorporate explicitly risks related to environmental factors.</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>K-NPR: covers the market risk aligned with CRR (same observations).</li> <li>K-CMG: covers the market risk but with different methodology that CRR. It depends on the clearing member's internal models. (intervening directly on the its calculation is hard to envisage<sup>1</sup>)</li> <li>K-TCD: equivalent to the counterparty credit risk module for credit institutions. This type of risk should be treated under SREP, Pillar 2.</li> <li>K-DTF: covers operational risk related to trading activities. Environmental risk factor seem less relevant</li> <li>K-CON: captures concentration risk (similar to CRR framework). Additional limits can be set because of environmental risks.</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>It might be appropriate to investigate whether environmental risks could justify a dedicated treatment of commodity dealers under the IFR because of the high specialisation of these investment firms.</li> </ul>

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(1) This could only be possible via either: (a) an external add-on to the K-CMG, or (b) limiting further the use of the K-CMG. Intervening directly on the calculation of the K-CMG is hard to envisage.

### 7 Why Management Solutions Differential aspects

Management Solutions has extensive knowledge and experience in the field of sustainability

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### Member of the Chair of Sustainability and Social Impact at ICADE

MS is a member of the Coordinating Council of the ICADE Social Impact Chair to promote training and development of social impact measurement methodologies.

**Detailed knowledge of the implications of Sustainability in industries and businesses** with a fundamental focus on diagnosis and development of strategic Sustainability plans, ESG risk measurement, ESG Risk Management - with a fundamental focus on integration in credit risk management and ESG reporting models, both in Spain and abroad. In addition, we have extensive experience in regulatory adaptation in Sustainability.



### Specialist ESG modelling capabilities (and proprietary tools)

MS has an R&D team specialised in defining and implementing methodologies for measuring climate risk and analysing physical and transition risk scenarios, as well as benchmarks for sustainability dissemination. In addition, it has produced several specialised publications and has participated as a speaker in different international forums. We also have databases and tools that we make available free of charge to the projects in which we collaborate.

### ESG Regulatory Experts

MS has a Regulatory Observatory that provides in-depth knowledge of the regulatory requirements of financial and non financial entities at the European level and, in particular, those specific to sustainability and climate change risks.

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### Highly qualified service provider of the ECB

Management Soltuions is member of the "highly qualified external services providers" of the ECB in internal models, Asset Quality Review, PMO and operational risk.



### 7 Why Management Solutions Areas of collaboration

MS has an expert working group that supports its clients in the development and implementation of the sustainability and climate risk management framework, with a top-down approach in each of the 6 defined lines of action

### Areas of collaboration in the field of sustainability and climate change

#### Business

<ul> <li>Diagnosis, strategic framework and general action plan</li> <li>Strategy, Governance and Culture</li> <li>Diagnosis, strategic framework and general action plan</li> <li>Change management</li> <li>Governance (PMO)</li> <li>Observatory (Regulation / Market)</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Risk policies and frameworks</li> <li>Measurement methodologies (portfolio screening, impact assessment - transitional and physical scenarios-) and alignment</li> <li>Integration of ESG principles in admission model</li> </ul>	Retail
<ul> <li>Training</li> <li>Communication with stakeholders</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Integration of ESG principles in admission model</li> <li>Integration in management (Appetite, Rating, Collateral, Pricing).</li> </ul>	Consumer
<ul> <li>Adaptation and gap analysis to regulatory requirements.</li> <li>Definition of regulatory and internal taxono eligibility criteria and definition of certification processes.</li> <li>Taxonomy implementation: inputs, drivers outputs.</li> <li>Equator Principles v4 implementation.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>ESG model definition and requirements (conceptual, logical and physical)</li> <li>Model metrics definition and KPIs gap analysis</li> <li>Definition of functional and technological architecture</li> </ul>	wholesale and markets
<ul> <li>3</li> <li>Sustainable business development</li> <li>Market diagnosis and analysis (depending the business, including market research, SWOT analysis, etc.).</li> <li>Product/service definition (<i>sprints</i>)</li> <li>Launch and implementation</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Implementation of requirements (NFRD Supplement, SRDR, ECB Guidelines, Taxonomy, EBA Mandates) + (benchmarking of best practices of peers)</li> <li>Definition of contents</li> <li>Governance and mechanisms for information quality and consistency</li> </ul>	Asset Management Insurance

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# Annex I

Abbreviation	Meaning
AUM	Assets Under Management
ASA	Assets Safeguarding and Administering client assets
BCBS	Basel Committee on Banking
BI	Business Indicator
BPS	Brown Penalising Factors
СОН	Client Orders Handled
CCF	Credit Conversion Factor
CMG	Clearing Member Guarantee
СМН	Client Money Held
CON	Concentration
CRM	Credit Risk Mitigation
CRR	Capital Requirements Regulation
CSRD	Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive
DP	Discussion Paper
DRC	Default Risk Charge
DTF	Daily Trading Flow
EBA	European Banking Authority
ECAI	External Credit Assessment Institution
ESG	Environmental Social and Governance
FOR	Fixed overheads requirement

Abbreviation	Meaning
GSF	Green Supporting Factors
FRTB	Fundamental Review of the Trading Book
IFR	Investment Firms Regulation
IFRS	International Financial Reporting Standards
ILM	Internal Loss Multiplier
IRB	Internal Rating Based
JTD	Jump-to-default
LEX	Large Exposures
LGD	Loss Given Default
NPR	Net Position Risk
PD	Probability of Default
RDS	Risk Differentiation Step
RW	Risk Weighted
RWA	Risk Weighted Asset
RRAO	Residual Risk Add-On
SA	Standardised Approach
SBM	Sensitivity-Based Method
SEM	Small and Medium-sized Enterprises
SREP	Supervisory Review and Evaluation Process
TCD	Trading Counterparty Default



# **Annex II**

#### EBA questions background and rationale

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In your view, how could **exposures associated with social objectives** and/or subject to social impacts, which are outside the scope of this DP, be **considered in the prudential framework**? Please provide **available evidence and methodologies** which could inform further assessment in that regard

#### EBA questions on principles, premises and challenges

- 2 Do you agree with the EBA's assessment that liquidity and leverage ratios will not be significantly affected by environmental risks? If not, how should these parts of the framework be included in the analysis?
  - In your view, are **environmental risks** likely to be **predominantly about reallocation** of risk between sectors, or does it imply an increase in overall risk to the system as a whole? What are the implications for optimum levels of bank capital?
- Should the 'double materiality' concept be incorporated within the prudential framework? If so, how could it be addressed?
- How can availability of meaningful and comparable data be improved? What specific actions are you planning or would you suggest to achieve this improvement?
- Do you agree with the **risk-based approach adopted by the EBA** for assessing the prudential treatment of exposures associated with environmental objectives / subject to environmental impacts? Please provide a rationale for your view
  - What is your view on the appropriate time horizon (s) to be reflected in the Pillar 1 own funds requirements?
- Do you have concrete suggestions on how the forward looking nature of environmental risks could be reflected across the risk categories in the Pillar 1 framework?





	EBA questions on credit risk	
	A- Standardised approach	
9	Have you performed any further studies or are you already using any specific ESG dimensions to differentiate within credit risk? If so, would you be willing to share your results?	
10	What are the main challenges that credit rating agencies face in incorporating environmental considerations into credit risk assessments? Do you make use of external ratings when performing an assessment of environmental risks?	
11	Do you see any challenge in broadening due diligence requirements to explicitly integrate environmental risks?	
12	Do you see any specific aspects of the CRM framework that may warrant a revision to further account for environmental risks?	
13	Does the <b>CRR3 proposal's</b> clarification on energy efficiency improvements <b>bring enough risk sensitiveness</b> to the framework for exposures secured by immovable properties? Should further granularity of risk weights be introduced, considering energy-efficient mortgages? Please substantiate your view	
14	Do you consider that high-quality project finance and high-quality object finance exposures introduced in the CRR3 proposal should potentially consider environmental criteria? If so, please provide the rationale for this and potential implementation issues.	
15	Do you consider that further risk differentiation in the corporate, retail and/or other exposure classes would be justified? Which criteria could be used for that purpose? In particular, would you support risk differentiation based on forward-looking analytical tools?	
16	Do you have any other proposals on integrating environmental risks within the SA framework?	



	EBA questions on credit risk (cont.)	
	B- IRB approach	
17	What are your views on the <b>need for revisions to the IRB framework</b> or additional guidance to better capture environmental risks? Which part of the IRB framework is, in your view, the most appropriate to reflect environmental risk drivers?	
18	Have you incorporated <b>environmental risks</b> or broader ESG risk factors in your <b>IRB models</b> ? If so, can you share your insight on the risk drivers and modelling techniques that you are using?	
19	Do you have any other proposals on integrating environmental risks within the IRB framework?	
20	What are your views on potential strengthening of the environmental criterion for the infrastructure-supporting factor? How could this criterion be strengthened?	
21	What would in your view be the most appropriate from a prudential perspective: aiming at integrating environmental risks into existing Pillar 1 instruments, or a dedicated adjustment factor for one, several or across exposure classes? Please elaborate.	
22	If you support the introduction of adjustment factors to tackle environmental risks, in your view how can double counting be avoided and how can it be ensured that those adjustment factors remain risk-based over time?	





	EBA questions on market risk
	A- FRTB Standardised approach
23	What are your views on <b>possible approaches</b> to incorporating environmental risks into the <b>FRTB Standardised Approach</b> ? In particular, what are your views with respect to the various options presented: increase of the risk weight, inclusion of an ESG component in the identification of the appropriate bucket, a new risk factor, and usage of the RRAO framework?
	B- Internal model approach
4	For the Internal Model Approach, do you think that environmental risks could be better captured outside of the model or within it? What would be the challenges of modelling environmental risks directly in the model as compared to modelling it outside of the internal model? Please describe modelling techniques that you think could
	be used to model ESG risk either within or outside of the model.
25	
25	be used to model ESG risk either within or outside of the model.
5	be used to model ESG risk either within or outside of the model.
	be used to model ESG risk either within or outside of the model. Do you have <b>any other proposals</b> on integrating environmental risks within the market risk framework?
6	be used to model ESG risk either within or outside of the model. Do you have <b>any other proposals</b> on integrating environmental risks within the market risk framework?  EBA questions on operational risk What <b>additional information</b> would need to be collected in order to <b>understand how environmental risks impact banks' operational risk</b> ? What are the practical
6 7 8	be used to model ESG risk either within or outside of the model. Do you have any other proposals on integrating environmental risks within the market risk framework?  EBA questions on operational risk What additional information would need to be collected in order to understand how environmental risks impact banks' operational risk? What are the practical challenges to identifying environmental risk losses on top of the existing loss event type classification? What is your view on potential integration of a forward-looking perspective into the operational risk framework to account for the increasing severity and frequency of



# Annex II

#### EBA questions on concentration risk



What is your view on the **potential new concentration limit**? Do you identify other considerations related to such a limit? How should such a limit be designed to avoid the risk of disincentivising the transition?

EBA questions on investment firms

With reference to the three risk categories the IFR is based on (Risk-to-Client, Risk-to-Market and Risk-to-Firm), which of these could be related to environmental risks, and to what extent?

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Should any of the existing K-factors incorporate explicitly risks related to environmental factors?

What elements should be considered concerning the risk from environmental factors for **commodity and emission allowance dealers**? Are there any other specific business models for which incorporation of environmental factors into the Pillar 1 requirements of the IFR would be particularly important?

Do you have any other suggestions as to how the prudential framework for investment firms could be adjusted to account for environmental risk factors?



