

## ANNEX

**Product name:** KBI North America Equity Fund (the “product”)

**Legal entity identifier:** 6354006PXSOJ6YADBK04

## Environmental and/or social characteristics

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

☒ ☒ ☐ **Yes**

☒ ☐ ☒ **No**

☐ It will make a minimum of **sustainable investments with an environmental objective:** \_\_\_\_%

☐ in economic activities that qualify as environmentally sustainable under the EU Taxonomy

☐ in economic activities that do not qualify as environmentally sustainable under the EU Taxonomy

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

☒ It **promotes Environmental/Social (E/S) characteristics** and while it does not have as its objective a sustainable investment, it will have a minimum proportion of **50%** of sustainable investments

☐ with an environmental objective in economic activities that qualify as environmentally sustainable under the EU Taxonomy

☒ with an environmental objective in economic activities that do not qualify as environmentally sustainable under the EU Taxonomy

☒ with a social objective

☐ It promotes E/S characteristics, but **will not make any sustainable investments**

#### Sustainable

**investment** means an investment in an economic activity that contributes to an environmental or social objective, provided that the investment does not significantly harm any environmental or social objective and that the investee companies follow good governance practices.

The **EU Taxonomy** is a classification system laid down in Regulation (EU) 2020/852, establishing a list of **environmentally sustainable economic activities**. That Regulation does not lay down a list of socially sustainable economic activities. Sustainable investments with an environmental objective might be aligned with the Taxonomy or not.



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

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

The environmental and social characteristics promoted by the product are reductions in harm to the environment and climate arising from the emissions of greenhouse gases and better corporate practices that contribute to a more just society by, for example, enhancing human capital or providing improved social opportunities to services such as finance, health care, and communications. While the product promotes carbon emission reduction and better corporate practices, investors should be aware that this product does not have reduction of carbon emissions as its objective within the meaning of Article 9(3) of SFDR.

The MSCI North America Index (the “Index”) is used to compare the ESG performance of the product against the ESG performance of the Index. However, the investment strategy of the product is not continuously aligned with the index and the index is not used for the purpose of determining the attainment of the environmental and social characteristics promoted by the product. The Index is a broad market index and is not aligned with the environmental and social characteristics promoted by the product.

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

The Investment Manager monitors a range of sustainability indicators to measure the environmental and social characteristics of the product, including:

- The weighted average ESG rating of the portfolio, as determined by the use of ESG ratings of companies, supplied by an external data provider of ESG research and ratings.
- The carbon intensity of the portfolio measured by an external provider of carbon footprint measurement services.

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

This product will invest partially in sustainable investments.

The objectives of these sustainable investments are the reduction in harm to the environment and climate arising from the emissions of greenhouse gases and better corporate practices that contribute to a more just society by, for example, enhancing human capital or providing improved social opportunities to services such as finance, health care, and communications. The sustainable investments contribute to these objectives through the reduction in the carbon intensity of the portfolio and through the promotion of improved corporate practices that contribute to a more just society.

**Principal adverse impacts** are the most significant negative impacts of investment decisions on sustainability factors relating to environmental, social and employee matters, respect for human rights, anti-corruption and anti-bribery matters.

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

The sustainable investments of the product are assessed to ensure that they do not cause significant harm to any environmental or social objective. This assessment makes use of Principal Adverse Impact Indicators ("PAI Indicators"), where applicable and where data is sufficiently available, and ensures that certain minimum standards are reached for each applicable PAI Indicator. The PAI Indicators relate to a number of potential negative impacts, including but not limited to greenhouse gas emissions, social and employee matters, respect for human rights, involvement with fossil fuels, gender balance on boards, whether a company is in breach of the Principles of the UN Global Compact, and anti-corruption and anti-bribery matters.

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

The indicators for adverse impacts on sustainability factors are taken into account by applying certain exclusion strategies aligned to the PAI Indicators and by monitoring the PAI Indicators in the following manner:

1. As explained above, the Investment Manager makes use of the PAI Indicators when ensuring that a sustainable investment does not cause significant harm to any environmental or social objective and the Investment Manager ensures that certain minimum standards are reached for each applicable PAI Indicator.
2. The product does not invest in any companies materially engaged in certain activities which, in the opinion of the Investment Manager, are associated with a particularly adverse impact on sustainability. These include but are not limited to companies involved in the manufacture of tobacco products, companies with any involvement in certain types of controversial weapons, and companies with a high degree of involvement in coal extraction or coal-fired electricity generation.
3. The Investment Manager engages with companies in which it invests on a range of issues, including engagement with companies which have high adverse impact (as measured by the PAI Indicators and by other factors), with a view to influencing the company to change its activities in a manner which will reduce the adverse impact.

### — — **How are the sustainable investments aligned with the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises and the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights? Details:**

The product does not invest in any company which violates, repeatedly and seriously, one or more of the ten principles of the UN Global Compact. To implement this, the Investment Manager uses data from data providers which rely on international conventions such as the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises and UN Guiding Principles on Business and

Human Rights, as sources of data to determine risk exposure of companies' geographies of operation and business segments.

*Sustainable investments align with the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises and the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights through the use of environmental and UNGC (UN Global Compact) controversies screening as an indication for alignment with OECD guidelines / UN guiding principles along with other tools including ESG scores and research as part of the investment process.*

*The EU Taxonomy sets out a “do not significant harm” principle by which Taxonomy-aligned investments should not significantly harm EU Taxonomy objectives and is accompanied by specific EU criteria.*

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

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



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

☒ Yes

☐ No

This product considers principal adverse impacts on sustainability factors. This is done in a number of ways.

1. A minimum proportion of the investments held in this product must be sustainable investments. In determining whether an investment is a sustainable investment, the PAI Indicators of the investment are considered, and where the adverse impact is considered to be excessive, in the judgement of the Investment Manager, based on whether the adverse impact breaches certain thresholds set by the Investment Manager, such investments are not deemed to be sustainable investments.
2. The Investment Manager's decision on whether to make an investment in a company, and the size of that investment, takes into account a wide range of PAI Indicators relating to the social, environmental and governance characteristics of that company, including the adverse impact that the company is having on sustainability.
3. The product does not invest in any companies materially engaged in certain activities which, in the opinion of the Investment Manager, are associated with a particularly adverse impact on sustainability. These include but are not limited to

companies involved in the manufacture of tobacco products, companies with any involvement in certain types of controversial weapons, and companies with a high degree of involvement in coal extraction or coal-fired electricity generation.

4. The Investment Manager engages with companies in which it invests on a range of issues, including engagement with companies which have high adverse impact, with a view to influencing the company to change its activities in a manner which will reduce the adverse impact.

The product's annual financial statements will disclose how principal adverse impacts have been considered on sustainability factors.



## What investment strategy does this financial product follow?

Please see response in the next section below.

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

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

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

The Investment Manager integrates an analysis of companies' ESG performance into its investment analysis and investment decisions. Companies are rated on an AAA-CCC scale relative to the standards and performance of their industry peers, which is then translated into an ESG score. The Investment Manager gets a single ESG score for each stock from MSCI ESG Research (the "Data Provider"), each stock receiving a score of between 0 and 10, with the highest scoring company receiving a 10.

The portfolio construction process excludes holdings deemed inconsistent with the Investment Manager's Responsible Investment Policy or that are involved with certain controversial sectors, as determined by the Investment Manager's Responsible Investing Committee. Further, the product cannot invest in companies which are involved in certain activities including tobacco manufacturing, coal extraction and coal-fired electricity generation, in excess of certain thresholds. Full details of the exclusions and thresholds can be found at the link below under the question "Where can I find more product specific information online".

The product is managed with the aim of progressively reducing net carbon emissions of investee companies and of eventually reaching net zero emissions by 2050. The product also seeks to have a carbon intensity level lower than the Index. The Investment Manager monitors the carbon intensity of companies in which the product invests. Carbon intensity is a measure of greenhouse gas emissions, in tonnes, relative to the revenue of the company or portfolio. The Investment Manager obtains carbon intensity data from the Data Provider.

**While the product promotes carbon emission reduction and better corporate practices, investors should be aware that this product does not have reduction of carbon emissions as its objective within the meaning of Article 9(3) of SFDR. Further, the investment strategy of the product is not continuously aligned with the Index and the Index is not used for the purpose of determining the attainment of the environmental and social characteristics promoted by the product. The Index is a broad market index**

and is not aligned with the environmental and social characteristics promoted by the product.

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

There is no committed minimum rate.

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

The Investment Manager assesses the governance practices and governance performance of all companies in which the product invests. This assessment is based on (i) the Investment Manager's own research and knowledge of the company based on its direct interactions with companies and its analysis of the financial statements and related materials of companies; and/or (ii) information including specialised governance information and ratings from at least one external data provider, in order to satisfy itself that the relevant issuers follow good governance practices, in particular with respect to sound management structures, employee relations, remuneration of staff and tax compliance.

When assessing the governance practices of investee companies, the Investment Manager (and/or its data provider, as applicable), has regard to a range of issues including but not limited to:

- Corporate governance: the impact that a company's ownership, board and other corporate governance practices (including the pay of senior management) have on investors.
- Corporate behaviour: the extent to which companies may face ethics issues such as fraud, executive misconduct, corruption, money laundering, or tax-related controversies.
- Staff remuneration: the extent to which pay of the CEO exceeds average pay per employee.
- Labour management: the relationship between management and labour.
- Tax compliance: a company's revenue-reporting transparency and involvement in tax controversies.

**Asset allocation** describes the share of investments in specific assets.



Taxonomy-aligned activities are expressed as a share of:

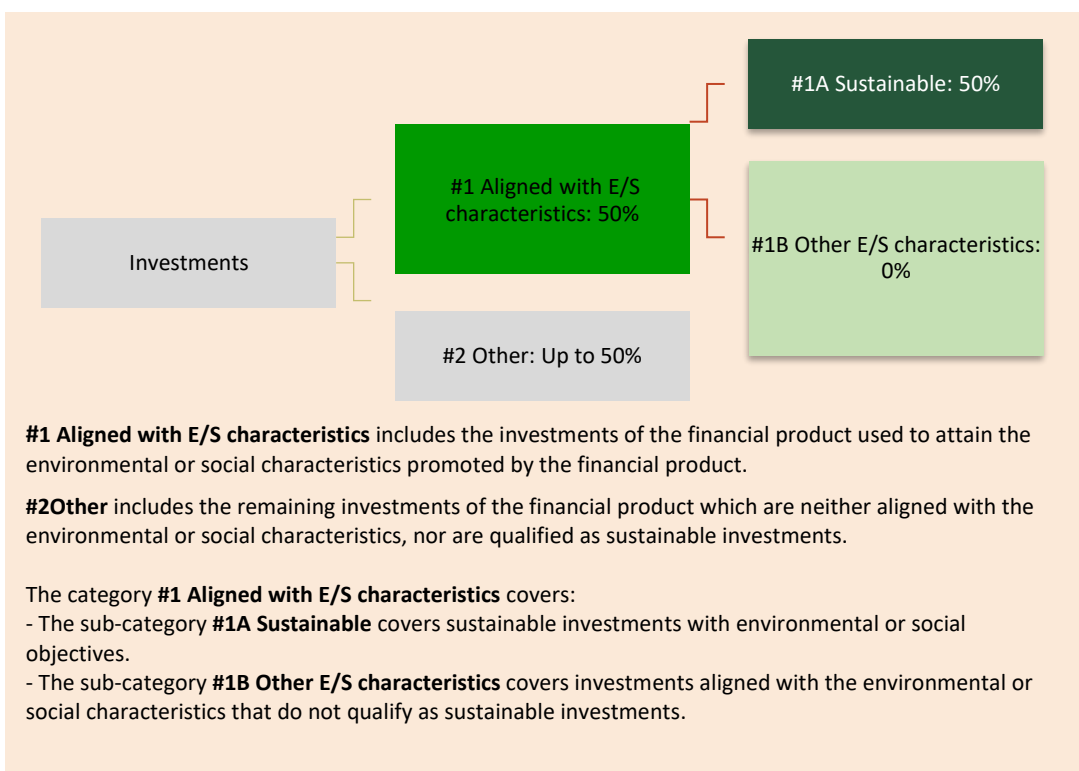
- **turnover** reflecting the share of revenue from green activities of investee companies
- **capital expenditure** (CapEx) showing the green investments made by investee companies, e.g. for a transition to a green economy.
- **operational expenditure** (OpEx) reflecting green operational activities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

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

A minimum of 50% of the investments of the product are used to meet the environmental and/or social characteristics promoted by the product in accordance with the binding elements of the investment strategy.

While the product does not have sustainable investing as its objective, the product seeks to invest a minimum of 50% of its assets in sustainable investments with an environmental and/or social objective.

The purpose of the remaining proportion of the investments, if any, that are not used to meet the environmental characteristics promoted by the product is investment growth, efficient portfolio management and/or to provide ancillary liquidity in accordance with the investment policy of the product. Minimum environmental and social safeguards continue to apply in the selection of these investments including ESG-related exclusions (more details on the Investment Manager's exclusions are included above).



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

Derivatives are not used to attain the environmental and social characteristics promoted by the product. As set out in the product's Supplement, derivatives may be used for the purpose of efficient portfolio management purposes.

### Enabling activities

directly enable other activities to make a substantial contribution to an environmental objective.

### Transitional activities are

activities for which low-carbon alternatives are not yet available and among others have greenhouse gas emission levels corresponding to the best performance.



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

As at the date hereof, it is expected that the minimum proportion of investments of the product in environmentally sustainable economic activities aligned with the EU Taxonomy shall be 0%. The Investment Manager will disclose the actual proportion of investments aligned with EU Taxonomy on an annual basis on its website and in the periodic reporting of the product.

In order to attain the environmental characteristics promoted by this product, the product invests in sustainable investments even though such investments do not meet all of the detailed criteria for “environmentally sustainable investments” within the meaning of Taxonomy Regulation.

### Does the financial product invest in fossil gas and / or nuclear energy related activities that comply with the EU Taxonomy?



Yes:



In fossil gas



In nuclear energy

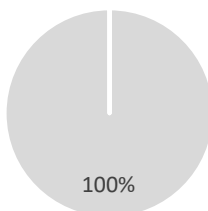


No

**The two graphs below show in green the minimum percentage of investments that are aligned with the EU Taxonomy. As there is no appropriate methodology to determine the Taxonomy-alignment of sovereign bonds\*, the first graph shows the Taxonomy alignment in relation to all the investments of the financial product including sovereign bonds, while the second graph shows the Taxonomy alignment only in relation to the investments of the financial product other than sovereign bonds.**

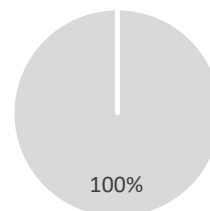
2. Taxonomy-alignment of investments including sovereign bonds\*

■ Taxonomy-aligned (no fossil gas & nuclear)  
■ Non-Taxonomy aligned



2. Taxonomy-alignment of investments excluding sovereign bonds\*

■ Taxonomy-aligned (no fossil gas & nuclear)  
■ Non-Taxonomy aligned



This graph represents 100% of the total investments.

\* For the purpose of these graphs, 'sovereign bonds' consist of all sovereign exposures





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

● **What is the minimum share of investments in transitional and enabling activities?**

The minimum share of investments in transitional activities is 0.0% of the product's assets.

The minimum share of investments in enabling activities is 0.0% of the product's assets.



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

The product commits to invest at least 50% of its assets in sustainable investments. Within this overall commitment, there is no minimum share of sustainable investments with an environmental objective that are not aligned with the EU Taxonomy. This means that the proportion of sustainable investments with an environmental objective that are not aligned with the EU Taxonomy will vary. Minimum percentages are subject to change and updates can be found on the website as referred to in the last question of this Annex.

In order to attain the environmental characteristics promoted by this product, the product invests in sustainable investments which contribute to specific environmental objectives. However, such investments do not meet all of the detailed criteria for “environmentally sustainable investments” within the meaning of the Taxonomy Regulation. Further information on the objectives of the sustainable investments held by the product is provided under the heading “What are the objectives of the sustainable investments that the financial product partially intends to make and how does the sustainable investments contribute to such objectives?”.



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

The product commits to invest at least 50% of its assets in sustainable investments. Within this overall commitment, there is no minimum share of sustainable investments with specifically a social objective. This means that the proportion of sustainable investments with a social objective will vary. Minimum percentages are subject to change and updates can be found on the website as referred to in the last question of this Annex.



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

From time to time some investments may not be aligned with the Environmental or Social characteristics of the product. Examples include, but are not limited to, equity securities for the purpose of investment growth, efficient portfolio management, and cash or cash equivalents to provide ancillary liquidity, in accordance with the investment policy of the product. Minimum environmental and

social safeguards continue to apply in the selection of these investments including the exclusion of companies that violate, repeatedly and seriously, one or more of the ten principles of the UN Global Compact.



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

No

- *How is the reference benchmark continuously aligned with each of the environmental or social characteristics promoted by the financial product?*

N/A

- *How is the alignment of the investment strategy with the methodology of the index ensured on a continuous basis?*

N/A

- *How does the designated index differ from a relevant broad market index?*

N/A

- *Where can the methodology used for the calculation of the designated index be found?*

N/A

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



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

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

<https://www.kbiglobalinvestors.com/sfdr-icavproduct-info/hiyna/>