

# **Sustainability-related Disclosure**

#### Financial product promoting environmental or social characteristics

This document provides you with sustainability-related information about this financial product and is made available on our website. It is prepared in relation to Article 10 of the Sustainability Finance Disclosure Regulation (EU) 2019/2088. The information disclosed is required by law to help you understand the sustainability characteristics and/or objectives and risks for this financial product. It is advised that this disclosure be read alongside other relevant documentation and disclosures for the financial product.

Product Name Lazard Emerging Markets Lo	cal Debt Fund Legal Entity Identifier	J5Y4Q8S1ET6FCZ1QY415
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#### **Summary**

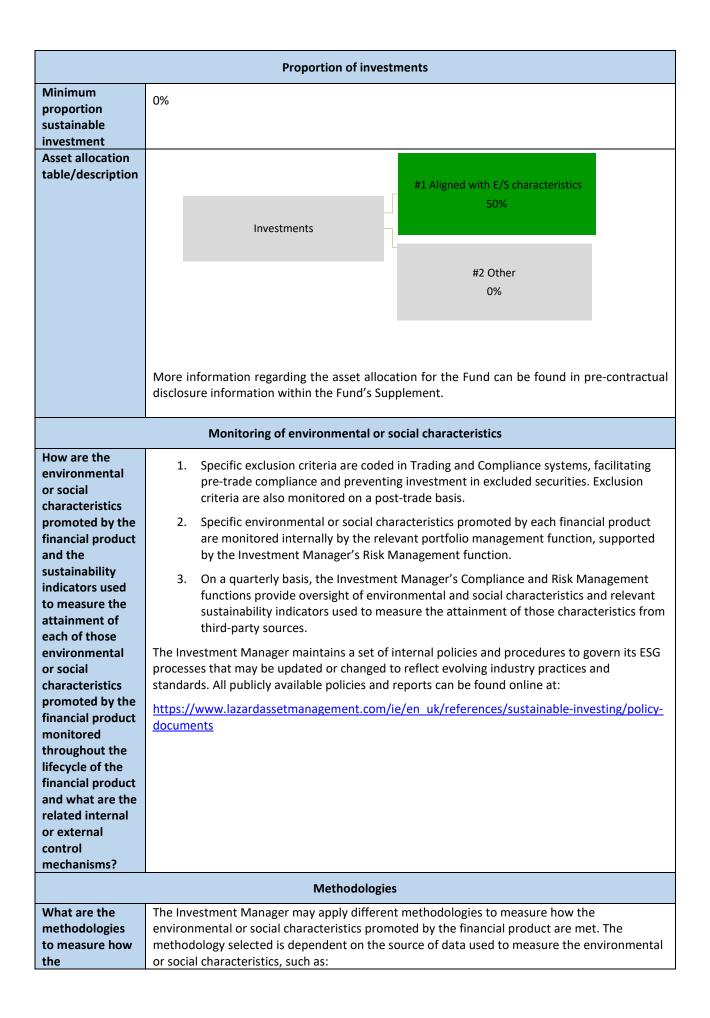
No sustainable investment objective	This financial product promotes environmental or social characteristics but does not have sustainable investment as its objective.
Environmental and/or social characteristics	<ul> <li>The Fund's environmental and social characteristics are:</li> <li>The Investment Manager uses a proprietary Country Risk Assessment scoring tool (the "CRA Risk Score") to assess sovereign issuer risk to long-term prosperity and economic development of relevant countries. The CRA Risk Score tool assesses sovereign issuers according to their environmental, social and governance-related behaviours across a combination of equally weighted ESG indicators:         <ul> <li>Environmental indicators: sovereign energy intensity; climate risk; use of nature resources; greenhouse gas ("GHG") emissions; and food production.</li> <li>Social indicators: progress towards UN Sustainable Development Goals ("SDGs"); health expenditures, education levels; labour force participation, regulatory quality; political stability and personal freedoms; gender equality; and life expectancy.</li> </ul> </li> <li>The Investment Manager prioritises investment in securities of sovereign issuers with a favourable and/or an improving CRA Risk Score and limits exposure to issuers with the poorest CRA Risk Score unless there is a reasonable expectation that the rating improves over time.</li> <li>The Investment Manager maintains an exclusion list of countries in which the Fund will not invest. The country exclusion list is comprised of countries that are deemed, under the CRA Risk Score, to have significant social violations and/or are subject to financial sanctions. The Fund will not invest in the sovereign debt of, or securities issued by government-related entities in, countries on the exclusion list.</li> </ul>
Investment strategy	Lazard Emerging Markets Local Debt Fund is an emerging market, fixed income strategy that invests in securities issued by emerging market companies or emerging market governments and government-related entities. Investments are selected using a fundamental investment process as described in the section of this Supplement entitled "Investment Policy".
Proportion of investments	The Fund does not commit to making sustainable investments.  At least 50% of the Fund will be aligned with environmental/social characteristics. The remainder may include cash, cash equivalents, and derivatives.

Monitoring and Due Diligence	Specific environmental or social characteristics promoted by each financial product are monitored internally by the relevant portfolio management function, supported by the Investment Manager's Risk Management function. Specific exclusion criteria are coded in Trading and Compliance systems, facilitating pre-trade compliance and preventing investment in excluded securities. Exclusion criteria are also monitored on a post-trade basis.
Data Sources, Methodologies, and Limitations	The Investment Manager has access to ESG data from internal and external resources. The Investment Manager assesses data quality of third-party data providers during initial and periodic due diligence assessments. These data sets are expanding in coverage, although reporting the level of estimated data across all vendors and relevant data points is currently challenged without further disclosure across providers.  The Investment Manager may apply different methodologies to measure how the environmental or social characteristics promoted by the financial product are met. The methodology selected is dependent on the source of data used to measure the environmental or social characteristics.  The Investment Manager notes that a central limitation to ESG methodology or data sourcing is the lack of corporate disclosure. This is particularly relevant for data points identified as adverse sustainability impacts in the SFDR regulation. To address data challenges, the Investment Manager relies upon a combination of internal and external resources.
Engagement policies	There is no specific engagement policy applied to the Fund. The Investment Manager may undertake stewardship activities to enhance long-term value and incorporate insights into investment decision-making.  Although engagement is not directly linked to the specific environmental or social investment strategy of the Fund, certain stewardship activities may consider relevant adverse sustainability impacts.
Reference benchmark	There is no reference benchmark designated for the purpose of attaining the environmental or social characteristics promoted by the Fund.

# **Sustainability-related Disclosure**

## Full website disclosure

SFDR Classification	Article 8 of Regulation (EU) 2019/2088 on sustainability-related disclosures in the financial sector (SFDR)	
No sustainable investment objective		
No sustainable	This financial product promotes environmental or social characteristics but does not have	
investment	sustainable investment as its objective.	
objective		
	Environmental or social characteristics of the financial product	
What environmental	The Fund's environmental and social characteristics are:	
and/or social (E/S) characteristics are promoted by	<ul> <li>The Investment Manager uses a proprietary Country Risk Assessment scoring tool (the "CRA Risk Score") to assess sovereign issuer risk to long-term prosperity and economic development of relevant countries. The CRA Risk Score tool assesses sovereign issuers according to their environmental, social and governance-related behaviours across a</li> </ul>	
this financial	combination of equally weighted ESG indicators:	
product?	<ul> <li>Environmental indicators: sovereign energy intensity; climate risk; use of nature resources; greenhouse gas ("GHG") emissions; and food production.</li> <li>Social indicators: progress towards UN Sustainable Development Goals ("SDGs"); health expenditures, education levels; labour force participation, regulatory quality; political stability and personal freedoms; gender equality; and life expectancy.</li> </ul>	
	The Investment Manager prioritises investment in securities of sovereign issuers with a favourable and/or an improving CRA Risk Score and limits exposure to issuers with the poorest CRA Risk Score unless there is a reasonable expectation that the rating improves over time.	
	<ul> <li>The Investment Manager maintains an exclusion list of countries in which the Fund will not invest. The country exclusion list is comprised of countries that are deemed, under the CRA Risk Score, to have significant social violations and/or are subject to financial sanctions. The Fund will not invest in the sovereign debt of, or securities issued by government-related entities in, countries on the exclusion list.</li> </ul>	
	Investment strategy	
What is the	Lazard Emerging Markets Local Debt Fund is an emerging market, fixed income strategy that	
investment	invests in securities issued by emerging market companies or emerging market governments	
strategy used to meet the	and government-related entities. Investments are selected using a fundamental investment process as described in the section of this Supplement entitled "Investment Policy".	
environmental	process as accompany in the section of this supplement character investment rolley.	
or social	More information regarding the investment strategy used to meet the environmental or social	
characteristics	characteristics for the Fund can be found in pre-contractual disclosure information within the	
promoted by the financial	Fund's Supplement.	
product?		
What is the	Not applicable - there is no exposure to corporate issuers within the Fund.	
policy to assess		
good governance		
practices of the		
investee		
companies?		



#### environmental or social characteristics promoted by the financial product are met?

- 1. For characteristics that are supported by the Investment Manager's proprietary processes and frameworks, the methodology will be detailed within product-specific documentation, such as the Fund's Supplement. Any changes to specific methodologies will be included in future updates to relevant documentation.
- For characteristics that are supported by third-party ESG data providers, each
  provider uses its own methodologies and set of internal processes. While there is
  limited influence over these methodologies (as an end consumer of this data), the
  Investment Manager aims to provide appropriate levels of oversight and due
  diligence to ensure services meet data quality expectations.

More information can be found online at:

#### **Sustainable Investment and ESG Integration Policy**

https://www.lazardassetmanagement.com/docs/-m0-/669/SustainableInvestmentAndESGIntegration.pdf

#### **SFDR Sustainability Risks Policy**

https://www.lazardassetmanagement.com/docs/-m0-/117535/LFMISFDRWebsitePolicy.pdf

#### Data sources and processing

# How are the data sources used to attain each of the environmental or social characteristics promoted by the financial product?

The Investment Manager has access to ESG data from internal and external resources, including:

- Internal information, an ESG Watchlist report that flags companies scoring poorly on a selection of ESG risk factors and stewardship activity (engagement, proxy voting, shareholder resolution) related to ESG issues.
- Third-party data and information, including: ESG ratings and risk scores for systematic comparison of ESG performance across companies, controversies analysis and information, global norms compliance screens, and a wider set of ESG metrics for corporates and sovereign issuers in the investible universe. External data providers include Sustainalytics, S&P Global Trucost, Bloomberg ESG, MSCI, Clarity AI.

What measures are taken to ensure data quality?

How is data processed?

What is the proportion of data that are estimated?

The Investment Manager assesses data quality of third-party data providers during initial and periodic due diligence assessments. These data sets are expanding in coverage, although reporting the level of estimated data across all vendors and relevant data points is currently challenged without further disclosure across providers.

Data processing internally can take place in different formats. For example, the Investment Manager has built internal data tools that are designed to combine both internal and external datasets from multiple third-party sources. Portfolio management teams can also access certain third-party datasets via online portals, systems, and reports.

More information can be found online at:

#### **Sustainable Investment and ESG Integration Policy**

https://www.lazardassetmanagement.com/docs/-m0-/669/SustainableInvestmentAndESGIntegration.pdf

#### **SFDR Sustainability Risks Policy**

https://www.lazardassetmanagement.com/docs/-m0-/117535/LFMISFDRWebsitePolicy.pdf

#### Limitations to methodologies and data

What are potential limitations to the methodologies or data sources and how do such limitations not affect how the environmental or social characteristics promoted by the financial product are met?

The Investment Manager notes that a central limitation to ESG methodology or data sourcing is the lack of corporate disclosure. This is particularly relevant for data points identified as adverse sustainability impacts in the SFDR regulation. To address data challenges, the Investment Manager relies upon a combination of internal and external resources.

Proprietary fundamental ESG assessments may also differ from that of external providers, possibly because of provider data gaps, or because the Investment Manager seeks to generate differentiated insights using fundamental analysis to supplement external data.

More information can be found online at:

### Sustainable Investment and ESG Integration Policy

https://www.lazardassetmanagement.com/docs/-m0-/669/SustainableInvestmentAndESGIntegration.pdf

#### SFDR Sustainability Risks Policy

https://www.lazardassetmanagement.com/docs/-m0-/117535/LFMISFDRWebsitePolicy.pdf

#### Due diligence

What due
diligence is
carried out on
the underlying
assets of the
financial product
(including the
internal and
external
controls?)

Investment management teams incorporate ESG considerations into their security selection and portfolio construction as part of investment due diligence processes, in line with the Investment Manager's sustainability-related investment policies.

Further information can be found online at:

#### **Sustainable Investment and ESG Integration Policy**

https://www.lazardassetmanagement.com/docs/-m0-/669/SustainableInvestmentAndESGIntegration.pdf

#### SFDR Sustainability Risks Policy

https://www.lazardassetmanagement.com/docs/-m0-/117535/LFMISFDRWebsitePolicy.pdf

#### **Engagement policies**

What is the engagement policy applied, in the case that engagement is part of the environmental or social investment strategy (including any management procedures applicable to sustainabilityrelated controversies in investee

companies)?

There is no specific engagement policy applied to the Fund. The Investment Manager may undertake stewardship activities to enhance long-term value and incorporate insights into investment decision-making.

Although engagement is not directly linked to the specific environmental or social investment strategy of the Fund, certain stewardship activities may consider relevant adverse sustainability impacts.

More information can be found online at:

#### **UK Stewardship Code Report**

https://www.lazardassetmanagement.com/docs/-m0-/128307/UKStewardshipCode.pdf

Designation reference benchmark		
Has an index has	There is no reference benchmark designated for the purpose of attaining the environmental or	
been designated	social characteristics promoted by the Fund.	
as a reference		
benchmark to		
meet the		
environmental or		
social		
characteristics		
promoted by the		
financial product?		
If yes, how that		
index is aligned		
with the		
environmental or		
social		
characteristics		
promoted by the		
financial product,		
and where can		
one find		
information with		
regards to input		
data,		
methodologies		
used to select		
those data, the		
rebalancing		
methodologies		
and index		
calculations?		

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The tax treatment of each client will vary and you should seek professional tax advice.

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