

Exclusionary Criteria

Issuers and issuances must meet our SPECTRUM Bond® criteria to be eligible for the investment universe that is used to build AIM portfolios.

We would exclude investments in corporate issuers that:

- Are involved in manufacturing tobacco products.
- Are involved in the manufacture or sale of weapons and/or ammunition.
- Are involved in gambling operations.
- Are involved in coal mining or production, in particular new greenfield sites.

On a best effort basis, we seek to apply these exclusion policies with a zero-tolerance threshold. We expect issuers to have robust policies and reporting around their own excluded sectors.

For non-corporate issuers, such as sovereigns, states and agencies, we review sanctions lists and avoid poor ESG performers as characterized by international organizations, such as The United Nations, The World Bank Group, International Monetary Fund, World Economic Forum and others. Overall, we examine sovereigns, states and state-controlled institutions and agencies on a case-by-case basis under our SPECTRUM Bond® criteria rather than have a rigid exclusion checklist.

Definition of "involvement" – Issuers that are doing the production or manufacture of tobacco, ammunitions, weapons, gambling, etc. rather than those issuers providing financial services (underwriting, loans, credit facilities etc.) to entities operating in the activities previously described. This would be our zero-tolerance exclusion. In terms of banks/financial institutions that provide any form of financing to these entities, they would not trigger an automatic exclusion as they would be outside our definition of 'involved in' but we should examine them on a case-by-case basis through our SPECTRUM process.