Index Methodology



MSCI EMU Ricardo Comparative Advantage Fixed Basket 25 Index MSCI EMU Ricardo Comparative Advantage Fixed Basket 25 Decrement 5% Index

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1. Introduction

The MSCI EMU Ricardo Comparative Advantage Fixed Basket 25 Index (the "Index")¹ contains a fixed basket of securities whose selection is motivated by the theory of comparative advantage created by the early 19th century British economist David Ricardo. Ricardo's theory of comparative advantage holds that countries produce more efficiently by focusing on their strengths and benefit from focusing on making things they are best at making.

Based on the data as of 3 month prior to the index launch date, a single security has been selected for inclusion in the Index² from each GICS®³ Industry Group, from the country in the MSCI EMU Index that has the highest active weight in this industry.

The MSCI EMU Ricardo Comparative Advantage Fixed Basket 25 Decrement 5% Index aims to represent the performance of the net total return variant of the Index while applying a constant markdown ('synthetic dividend') of 5% on an annual basis, expressed as a percentage of performance.

¹ The Indexes are governed by a set of methodology and policy documents ("Methodology Set"), including the present index methodology document. Please refer to Appendix 1 for more details.

² Refer to the list of securities in section 2.3

³ GICS, the Global Industry Classification Standard jointly developed by MSCI and S&P Global Market Intelligence.



2. Constructing the Index

2.1 Applicable Universe

Applicable Universe includes all the constituents of the MSCI ACWI IMI (denoted the "Parent Index").

2.2 Eligible Universe

The Eligible Universe is constructed from the Applicable Universe by excluding securities of companies based on the exclusion criterion below.

2.2.1 Euro denominated securities

Only Euro denominated securities within the Parent Index are eligible for inclusion in the Index.

2.3 Selected Universe

Securities from the Eligible Universe which belong to the below list of securities are selected for the Index:



2.4 Weighting Scheme

At each Index Review and at initial construction, the securities selected for inclusion in the Index are weighted in proportion of their free-float adjusted market capitalization and are then normalized to sum to 100%.

Additionally, the constituent weights are capped to mitigate concentration risk in the Index. The individual security weights in the final Index are capped at 10%.

2.5 Application of the MSCI Decrement Indexes Methodology

The MSCI Decrement Indexes Methodology⁴ is applied on the Index to construct the MSCI EMU Ricardo Comparative Advantage Fixed Basket 25 Decrement 5% Index. The parameters for the decrement index are noted in Appendix 2.

⁴ Please refer to the MSCI Decrement Indexes Methodology at <u>http://www.msci.com/index-methodology</u> for details as well as intended use of such indexes.



3. Maintaining the Index

3.1 Quarterly Index Review

The Index is reviewed on a quarterly basis, coinciding with the February, May, August, and November Index Reviews of the Parent Index. The pro forma Index is announced nine business days before the effective date.

3.2 Daily Decrement Calculation

The performance of the MSCI EMU Ricardo Comparative Advantage Fixed Basket 25 Decrement 5% Index is computed by reducing the performance of the net total return variant of the Index, by a fixed percentage, on a daily basis using parameters detailed in Section 2.5.

3.3 Conditions for Termination of the Index

If, after an Index rebalance, the number of constituents in the Index falls below 10, due to deletions from the Parent Index over time or otherwise, MSCI will, by default, terminate the Index in line with the Index Termination Policy⁵.

3.4 Ongoing Event-Related Changes

The following section briefly describes the treatment of common corporate events within the Index.

No new securities will be added (except where noted below) to the Index between Index Reviews. For cases where additions are noted below, securities will be added to the Index only if added to the Parent Index. Parent Index deletions will be reflected simultaneously.

EVENT TYPE	EVENT DETAILS
New additions to the Parent Index	A new security added to the Parent Index (such as IPO and other early inclusions) will not be added to the Index.
Spin-Offs	All securities created as a result of the spin-off of an existing index constituent will not be added to the index at the time of event implementation.
Merger/Acquisition	For Mergers and Acquisitions, the acquirer's post event weight will account for the proportionate amount of shares involved in deal consideration, while cash proceeds will be invested across the Index. If an existing Index constituent is acquired by a non- Index constituent, the existing constituent will be

⁵ The MSCI Index Termination Methodology may be found at <u>http://www.msci.com/index-methodology</u>



deleted from the Index and the acquiring nonconstituent will not be added to the Index.

Changes in Security Characteristics

A security will continue to be an Index constituent if there are changes in characteristics (country, sector, size segment, etc.) Reevaluation for continued inclusion in the Index will occur at the subsequent Index Review.

Further detail and illustration regarding specific treatment of corporate events relevant to this Index can be found in the MSCI Corporate Events Methodology book under the sections detailing the treatment of events in Capped Weighted and Non-Market Capitalization Weighted indexes.

The MSCI Corporate Events methodology book is available at: <u>https://www.msci.com/index-methodology.</u>



Appendix 1: Methodology Set

The Index is governed by a set of methodology and policy documents ("Methodology Set"), including the present index methodology document as mentioned below:

- Description of methodology set <u>www.msci.com/index/methodology/latest/ReadMe</u>
- MSCI Corporate Events Methodology <u>www.msci.com/index/methodology/latest/CE</u>
- MSCI Fundamental Data Methodology <u>https://www.msci.com/index/methodology/latest/FundData</u>
- MSCI Index Calculation Methodology <u>www.msci.com/index/methodology/latest/IndexCalc</u>
- MSCI Index Glossary of Terms <u>www.msci.com/index/methodology/latest/IndexGlossary</u>
- MSCI Index Policies <u>www.msci.com/index/methodology/latest/IndexPolicy</u>
- MSCI Global Industry Classification Standard (GICS) Methodology <u>https://www.msci.com/index/methodology/latest/GICS</u>
- MSCI Decrement Indexes Methodology <u>www.msci.com/index/methodology/latest/Decrement</u>
- MSCI Capped Indexes Methodology <u>www.msci.com/index/methodology/latest/Capped</u>
- MSCI Global Investable Market Indexes Methodology www.msci.com/index/methodology/latest/GIMI

The Methodology Set for the Index can also be accessed from MSCI's webpage <u>https://www.msci.com/index-methodology</u> in the section 'Search Methodology by Index Name or Index Code'.



Appendix 2: MSCI EMU Ricardo Comparative Advantage Fixed Basket 25 Decrement 5% Index

The following parameters are used for the calculation of MSCI EMU Ricardo Comparative Advantage Fixed Basket 25 5% Decrement 5% Index:

	MSCI Decrement Indexes Methodology Parameters	Parameter Value
1	Currency of Calculation	EUR
2	Return Variant of the Index	Daily Net Total Return
3	Decrement Type	Fixed Percentage
4	Decrement Application	Geometric
5	Decrement Value	5%
6	Day-count Convention	Actual / 365
7	Index Floor	0
8	Decrement Frequency	Daily

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To learn more, please visit <u>www.msci.com</u>.

The process for submitting a formal index complaint can be found on the index regulation page of MSCI's website at: https://www.msci.com/index-regulation.

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