

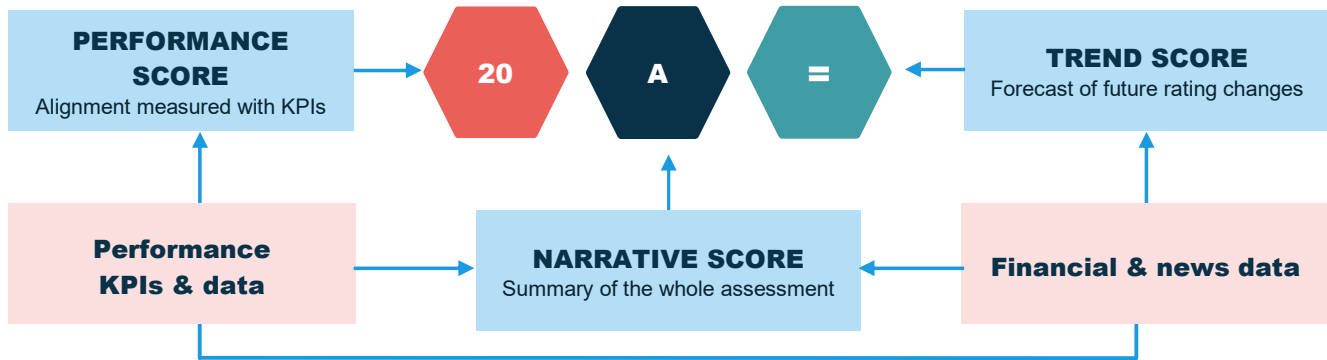
ACT Finance | Investing



VERSION 2.0
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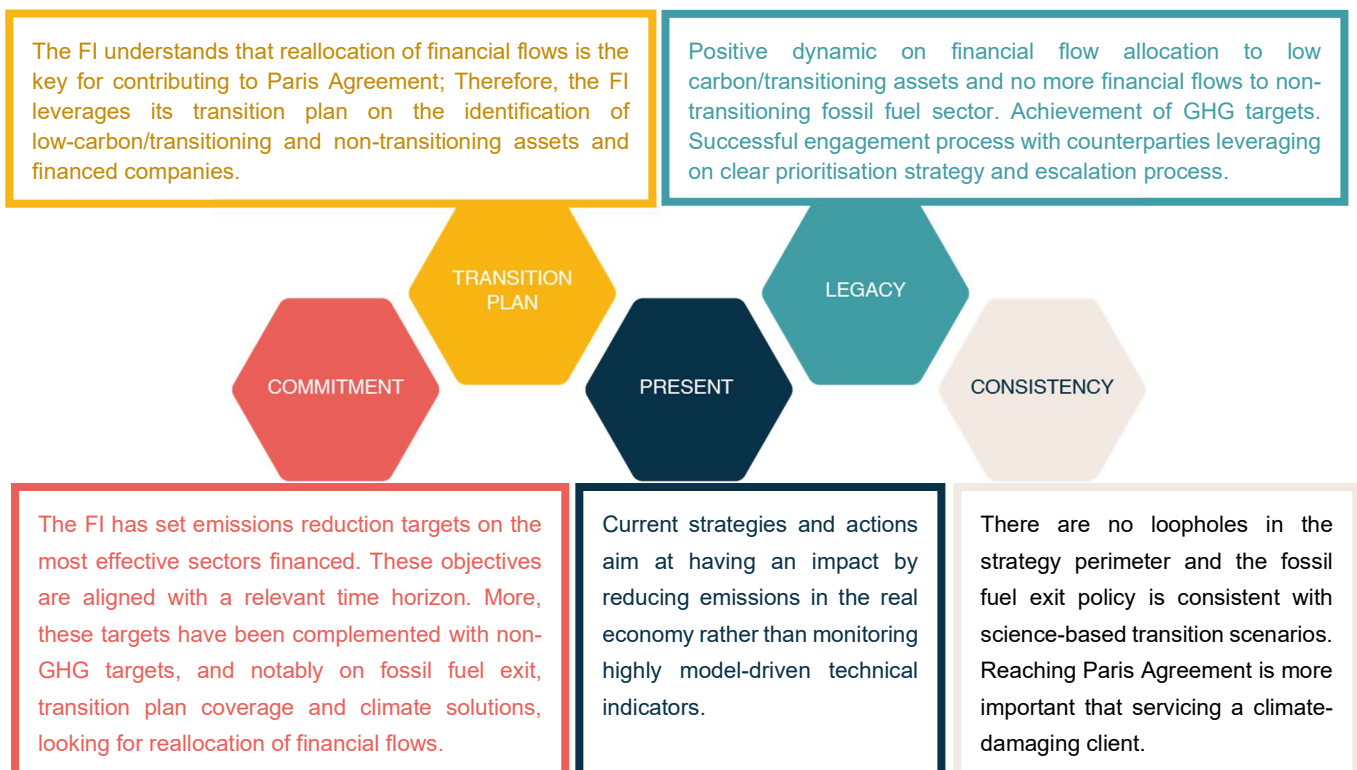
THE ACT RATING

The ACT rating is based on 3 scores (performance, narrative and trend) as shown in the diagram below.



The maximum achievable rating is 20A= and the minimum is 0E=. To achieve the maximum score, a financial institution (FI) must be completely aligned with the low-carbon transition.

ALIGNED STATE FOR FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS - INVESTING



Context & Principles of the ACT Finance METHODOLOGY

The indirect yet crucial role that Finance can play is identified explicitly in the Paris Agreement, Article 2.1c, which states the objective to “[make] financial flows consistent with a pathway towards low greenhouse gas emissions and climate-resilient development”. Regarding current landscape of finance, private finance has a significant role to play in the achievement of this orientation of the flows toward transition. As there are still revenue expectations stemming from climate-damaging activities while climate solutions require innovative thus risky solutions, reorientating financial flows is far from obvious taking into account only traditional short-term risk/profit driven approaches.

As so, it is necessary to assess financial institution climate strategy with regards to Paris Agreement goals. To do so, ADEME provides tools enabling them to improve their practices. Compared to other “real economy” ACT assessment methodologies, ACT Finance has developed specific features considering the indirect role they have to play in Paris Agreement’s achievement (financing necessary transformation of the economy so acting ahead of the actual occurrence of GHG emitting processes).

BENCHMARK

ACT Finance uses on one hand GHG benchmarks for the purpose of assessing GHG targets in module 1, and on another hand a specific low carbon/transitioning share of portfolio benchmark for assessing the portfolio climate performance in module 4.

PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

| MODULE (% = MODULE WEIGHTING) | INDICATORS* |
|---|--|
| 1. TARGETS (20%) | Alignment of scope 3 (cat. 15) financed and facilitated emissions' reduction targets |
| | Time horizons of targets |
| | Achievement of previous targets |
| | Engagement targets |
| | Financing targets |
| 2. MATERIAL INVESTMENT (0%) | Non significative as it is scope 1+2 |
| 3. INTANGIBLE INVESTMENT (2%) | Investments in human capital - trainings |
| 4. Portfolio climate performance (25%) | Financial and facilitated Flows Trend |
| | Portfolio alignment assessment |
| 5. MANAGEMENT (15%) | Oversight of climate change issues |
| | Climate change oversight capability |
| | Low carbon transition plan |
| | Climate change management incentives |
| | Climate risk management |
| | Climate change scenario testing |
| 6. SAVERS ENGAGEMENT (0-3%) | Strategy to influence suppliers to reduce their GHG emissions |
| | Activities to influence suppliers to reduce their GHG emissions |
| 7. CLIENTS ENGAGEMENT (20-23%) | Strategy to influence clients to reduce their GHG emissions |
| | Activities to influence clients to reduce their GHG emissions |
| 8. POLICY ENGAGEMENT (10%) | Financial institution policy on engagement with trade associations |
| | Trade associations supported do not have climate-negative activities or positions |
| | Position on significant climate policies |
| | Collaboration with local public authorities |
| 9. BUSINESS MODEL (5%) | Revenue from low-carbon products and/or services |

* More information on the indicators and module rationales are available in the full methodology.

Low carbon scenarios used for the GHG benchmarks are NZE scenarios, either through a convergence approach (SDA) for homogeneous sectors (e.g. cement, electric utilities) either through a contraction approach (ACA) for heterogeneous sectors (e.g. Agri & Agro, Chemicals). "Low carbon/transitioning" benchmark leverages on a pivot year set at 2030 for most sectors (2025 for Oil&Gas) setting that 100% of the high-emissive sector companies of the portfolio shall be transitioning or low carbon. A linear increase is expected from the base year toward this milestone. To identify the low carbon/transitioning share of the portfolio against this benchmark, the methodology adopts an hybrid approach combining standards (e.g. EU GBS, ACT score) and the financial institution's own transition/low carbon identification framework.