



Compensation Policy

DWS International GmbH



DWS International GmbH – a member of DWS Group¹ (“DWS”) – is part of DWS’s company-wide compensation strategy. DWS as a global asset manager pursues to be the investment partner of choice for our clients, employer of choice for our employees and deliver shareholder value. Appropriate compensation plays an integral role in the successful delivery of these strategic objectives of DWS.

Attracting and retaining the most capable employees globally is central to our compensation strategy. The cornerstone to this is the concept of pay for performance, within a sound risk management and governance framework, and with due consideration of market factors and societal values. As we seek to align compensation to evolving internal and external expectations, reward structures are reviewed, and enhanced as needed, on a regular basis.

Within DWS, employees’ Total Compensation is made up of Fixed Pay and Variable Compensation. DWS ensures an appropriate relationship between Fixed Pay and Variable Compensation across all groups of employees. Total Compensation structures reflect the Divisional and Regional compensation structures, internal relativities, and market data and assist in seeking consistency across DWS. Fixed Pay is the key and primary element of compensation for the majority of DWS employees and reflects the responsibility of the individual role and function within the organisation. Variable Compensation is a discretionary compensation element that enables DWS to provide additional reward to employees for their performance and behaviours. An employee’s seniority as well as functional, regional and entity specifics determine which Variable Compensation elements are applicable for a given employee and the conditions under which they apply.

Decisions on variable compensation are taken in consideration of the risk-adjusted performance and the long-term health of the investment managing companies and DWS. The compensation structures are designed not to provide incentives for excessive risk-taking. This especially applies to employees who have a material impact on the risk profile (Material Risk Takers) and who have been identified as such in accordance with the respective regulatory requirements, in particular Investment Firm Directive² and its implementation into national law.

DWS applies a robust methodology when determining Variable Compensation, that reflects the risk-adjusted performance (which includes ex-ante and ex-post risk adjustments) and is primarily driven by (i) DWS affordability, i.e. what “can” DWS award in alignment with DWS risk profile and other regulatory requirements, and (ii) performance, i.e. what “should” DWS award in order to provide an appropriate compensation for performance, while protecting the long-term health of the franchise.

DWS affordability is assessed by the DWS Compensation Committee to determine that key parameters are within the projected fulfilment of regulatory and strategic goals and effects on the DWS risk profile and profitability in line with the strategic targets.

The consideration of Sustainability and Sustainability Risks is an integral part of the performance-based determination of variable compensation at DWS, both via sustainability related targets and via the expectation to adhere to the sustainability principles stipulated in our employees’ values. Aligned to DWS’s sustainability strategy, where applicable, sustainability and sustainability risk-related objectives and key performance indicators (KPI) are incorporated in setting and assessing corporate and divisional priorities, which form an integral part of performance-based determination of variable compensation at DWS Group.

At the level of the individual employee, DWS has established “Variable Compensation Guiding Principles”, which detail the factors and metrics that must be taken into account by managers when making individual variable compensation decisions. The factors and metrics to be considered include, but are not limited to, divisional risk-adjusted financial and non-financial performance, culture and behavioral considerations, disciplinary sanctions, individual performance, and retention considerations.

¹ DWS Group means DWS Group GmbH & Co. KGaA and its subsidiaries consisting of any companies of which DWS Group GmbH & Co. KGaA is the direct or indirect parent company with majority participations (equity or voting capital share of more than 50 %), including branches and representative offices.

² IFD means Directive (EU) 2019/2034 of 27 November 2019 as amended from time to time.

The DWS Compensation Committee was established by the Executive Board of DWS Group GmbH & Co. KGaA and it is mandated to develop and design sustainable compensation frameworks and operating principles and to prepare recommendations on total compensation levels and ensure appropriate compensation and benefits governance and oversight for DWS. The DWS Compensation Committee establishes quantitative and qualitative factors to assess performance as a basis for compensation related decisions and makes appropriate recommendations to the Executive Board regarding the annual Variable Compensation pool and its allocation across the DWS Divisions.

Further details on our remuneration system are frequently disclosed in the respective Annual Report of the investment product.

Version history according to art. 12 of Regulation (EU) 2019/2088

Version	Date	Explanation of changes
V03	17.09.2024	Regular review and amendments made to the description regarding Suitability (according to DWS Group Compensation Policy)
V02	24.07.2023	Regular review and amendments made to the regulatory scope and description of the DCC.
V01	10.03.2021	Initial disclosure according to art. 10 of Regulation (EU) 2019/2088