Activity in the Dutch economy is slowing, as the manufacturing sector struggles with weakness in global trade and the downturn in German industry. The near-term outlook for M&A transactions also looks relatively subdued, but we expect a renewed acceleration of deal-making activity from 2021 with an improving economic environment.

The Transaction Attractiveness Indicator is an overall score calculated using a weighted average of the 10 factors included in the chart above. The score reflects the attractiveness of a country's current environment for M&A and IPO activity on a scale from 0 to 10. It's based on past transaction activity in that country and data on key economic, financial and regulatory factors that drive M&A and IPO activity, such as a country's sovereign credit risk, level of trade restrictions and ease of doing business rating by the World Bank. Because many of these factors change slowly over time, a country's current score is a strong indicator of whether it will have the right features to attract transactional activity in the future.