

NAV per share: €50.70

31 March 2024

## **KEY DIFFERENTIATORS**

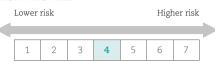
- Quality comes first, we seek growth that can endure
- Team-based approach, rather than starmanager fund, which we believe leads to greater consistency
- ESG integrated into the investment process leveraging proprietary ESG research
- Culture matters. Comgest's broad partnership structure incentivises long-term thinking, an ESG mindset, teamwork and low employee turnover

## INVESTMENT TEAM



Franz Weis, Alistair Wittet, Pierre Lamelin Team may include advisors from affiliates within the Comgest Group.

## **RISK PROFILE**



The indicator represents the risk profile presented in the PRIIPs Key Information Document. The indicator assumes you keep the product for 5 years otherwise the actual risk can vary significantly.

## **INVESTMENT POLICY**

The objective of the Sub-Fund ("the Fund") is to increase the value of the Fund (capital appreciation) over the long term. The Fund intends to achieve this objective through investment in a portfolio of high-quality, long-term growth companies. The Fund will invest at least two-thirds of its assets in securities issued by companies that have their headquarters in, or principally carry out their activities in Europe or which are guaranteed by European governments. The Fund is actively managed. The index is provided for comparative purposes only.

The Fund is aimed at investors with a long-term investment horizon (typically 5 years or more).

## **CUMULATIVE PAST PERFORMANCE (REBASED TO 100)**



## **ROLLING PERFORMANCE (%)**

				Annualised						
	1 Month	QTD	YTD	1 Year	3 Years	5 Years	10 Years	Since Incep.		
Fund	2.4	11.8	11.8	21.6	12.6	14.1	11.6	13.0		
Index	3.9	7.6	7.6	14.7	9.2	8.8	7.0	8.7		
Fund Volatility				14.1	16.7	18.0	15.9	15.0		
Index Volatility				10.9	13.5	17.9	16.3	15.7		

## **CALENDAR YEAR PAST PERFORMANCE (%)**

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Fund	9.3	16.8	-2.2	13.4	-4.5	34.6	11.3	35.4	-20.2	23.8
Index	6.8	8.2	2.6	10.2	-10.6	26.0	-3.3	25.1	-9.5	15.8

#### ANNUAL PERFORMANCE (%) AS AT QUARTER END

	-	-	-	1Q17 -1Q18	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fund	26.7	-6.9	13.7	1.2	14.7	2.6	32.0	13.2	3.8	21.7
Index	22.0	-13.7	16.9	-0.4	5.5	-13.5	35.3	9.3	3.8	14.8

Performance data expressed in EUR. Returns may increase or decrease as a result of exchange rate fluctuations. Index: MSCI Europe - Net Return.The index is used for comparative purposes only and the Fund does not seek to replicate the index.

#### Past performance does not predict future returns.

Performance figures are calculated net of investment management fees, administrative fees and all other fees with the exception of sales charges. If taken into account, sales charges would have a negative impact on performance.

The cumulative graph and "Since Inception" data may refer to the last relaunch date of the share class which may differ from its actual inception date. Calendar year past performance is only shown for years for which a full calendar year of past performance is available.

## **RATINGS** (AS AT 29/02/2024)



Morningstar Category: EAA Fund Europe Large-Cap Growth Equity (Number of funds in Category: 459)

#### SEDR CLASSIFICATION: Article 8

The Fund promotes environmental and/or social characteristics

#### ESG LABELS



The LuxFLAG ESG label has been granted from 01/04/2023 to 31/03/2024. Investors must not rely on the label with regard to investor protection issues and LuxFLAG cannot incur any liability related to financial performance or default of the labelled fund.

#### **CARBON FOOTPRINT<sup>1</sup>**



Source: MSCI as at 31/12/2023, tCO2e per EUR m invested

#### **ENVIRONMENTAL FOOTPRINT<sup>1</sup>**



Source: Trucost as at 31/12/2023, estimation of the environmental costs per EUR m invested.

<sup>1</sup> Calculation methodology and scope on page 5.

#### Please see risks and other important information on following pages

Issued by Comgest Asset Management International Limited, 46 St. Stephen's Green, Dublin 2, Ireland - info@comgest.com

Source: CAMIL / FactSet financial data and analytics, unless otherwise stated. All information and performance data is as at 31/03/2024, unless otherwise indicated, and is unaudited.



## 31 March 2024

## FUND COMMENTARY

European equity markets started 2024 on a strong note, much like they ended 2023. Inflationary pressures are easing, with the European Central Bank now expecting to reach its 2% inflation target in 2025. Against this backdrop, central banks have indicated a readiness to lower interest rates, albeit at a slower pace than originally anticipated.

The full-year results published during the quarter confirmed 2023 was a strong year for portfolio holdings. Organic sales growth of the companies in the portfolio rose to low double digits in 2023, maintaining the high 2022 growth pace.

The sales growth dynamic of the portfolio companies has accelerated from its long-term average. This partly has to do with price increases supporting nominal growth during a period of high inflation. But not only.

Fundamentals have also been strong during a period of significant disruption (inflation, supply chain constraints and tightening credit, to name a few). In this environment the portfolio's quality characteristics have come to the fore and have helped drive an acceleration of growth.

ASML was one of the top contributors during the quarter, benefitting from the rise of Nvidia and the broader strong backdrop for AI chipsets. This has driven a sharp increase in its backlog, helping underpin the company's strong medium- and long-term visibility.

Novo Nordisk also performed strongly. The firm acquired fill-finish sites from Catalent to help satisfy the rapidly growing demand for its obesity franchise while continuing to invest in its pipeline of new products. The company's Capital Markets Day underscored the long-term opportunity in obesity, but also Novo's commitment to investing elsewhere to secure long-term growth. The acquisition of German biotech Cardior Pharmaceuticals in heart disease is a case in point.

Lonza's shares performed strongly. The group announced the acquisition of Roche's Genentech manufacturing facility for large-scale biologics manufacturing in Vacaville, triggering an upgrade to the company's mid-term targets. This comes at a time when potential implications of the US Biosecure Act threaten competitor WuXi in the US market.

Adyen was another top contributor. H2 results confirmed a significant reacceleration of growth after the H1'23 slowdown. The combination of accelerating top-line growth and slower hiring yielded strong operating leverage, while the company reiterated its medium-term guidance out to 2026.

Ferrari also continues to surprise positively. The brand is in rude health, as demonstrated by its ability to continue premiumising, while limiting volumes.

Among the detractors, Jeronimo Martins reported FY 2023 results with a cautious tone for 2024, highlighting potentially higher margin pressure in its Polish business due to the combination of food deflation and a difficult consumer environment at a time when labour costs and rents are still rising.

Accenture published Q2 results as well as a FY 2024 outlook which were both below expectations due to a less dynamic spending behaviour by its clients. The stock reacted negatively on the day as AI had spurred significant investor interest and multiple expansion. We continue to think that Accenture has a significant revenue opportunity from AI, as its clients position themselves to embrace the technology.

Campari fell following the acquisition of Courvoisier which will be dilutive to EPS in the short-term. EPS accretion or dilution is, however, not a good guide for long-term value generation in M&A. We added on the weakness.

Another weak performer was Dassault Systèmes as its life sciences division Medidata underwhelmed. As was the case with Accenture, the share dropped strongly as results were released, following a 40% rally since the low point of October.

During the quarter we initiated a new position in Schneider Electric. Its leadership position within the electrification of buildings and infrastructure, built over many years, positions it well for sustained growth acceleration as customers turn to the company to help reduce their environmental footprint.

We added back to LVMH having reduced the position in 2023 and trimmed a basket of names on valuation grounds

The portfolio has risen strongly since the end of October. While earnings continue to edge up, the portfolio's valuation multiple has also expanded in the context of an anticipated fall of interest rates. While company valuations are not at the highs of 2021, most are above their long-term average raising the risk of short-term volatility should they normalise.

Fundamentals, meanwhile, remain strong and we anticipate another year of double-digit earnings growth in 2024.

The views expressed in this document are valid at the time of publication only, do not constitute independent investment research and should not be interpreted as investment advice. The reference to specific companies does not constitute a recommendation to invest directly in these securities. Allocation is subject to change without notice. Remember that past performance does not predict future returns.

## RISKS

This Fund has the following core inherent risks (non-exhaustive list):

Investing involves risk including possible loss of principal.

- The value of all investments and the income derived therefrom can decrease as well as increase.
- There is no assurance that the investment objective of the Fund will be achieved. To the extent that the Fund is invested in or denominated in a currency other than yours, the cost and return in your currency may increase or decrease due to exchange rate fluctuations.

A more detailed description of the risk factors that apply to the Fund is set out in the Prospectus.

Please see important information on following pages.

Issued by Comgest Asset Management International Limited, 46 St. Stephen's Green, Dublin 2, Ireland - info@comgest.com Source: CAMIL / FactSet financial data and analytics, unless otherwise stated. All information and performance data is as at 31/03/2024, unless otherwise indicated, and is unaudited.

comgest.com



## 31 March 2024

## **PORTFOLIO CHARACTERISTICS**

Total Net Assets (all classes, m)	€6,527.1
Number of holdings	35
Average weighted market cap (bn)	€146.1
Weight of top 10 stocks	47.6%
Active share	77.8%
Holdings exclude cash and cash equivalents	

## **SECTOR BREAKDOWN (%)**

	Fund	Index
Health Care	32.0	15.4
Information Technology	18.2	8.1
Consumer Discretionary	15.2	11.1
Industrials	13.7	16.4
Consumer Staples	9.2	10.7
Materials	5.8	7.0
[Cash]	3.2	
Financials	2.6	18.4
Energy		5.4
Utilities		3.8
Communication Services		3.0
Real Estate		0.8
Source: Comgest / GICS sector classification		

## TOP 5 HOLDINGS (%)

	Fund
ASML Holding	8.2
Novo Nordisk B	7.9
EssilorLuxottica	4.9
LVMH Moet Hennessy Louis Vuitton	4.4
Accenture A	4.3
Above holdings are provided for information only, are subject to change and are not a recommendation to buy or sell	

## **TOP 10 COUNTRY WEIGHTS (%)**

	Fund	Index
France	21.2	18.6
Netherlands	12.8	7.8
Switzerland	12.7	14.4
United Kingdom	11.6	22.3
Ireland	11.4	0.5
Denmark	9.6	5.6
Italy	5.9	4.3
Germany	4.6	13.4
Spain	4.3	4.1
[Cash]	3.2	
Sweden	1.6	4.7
Source: Compet / MSCI country classification		

Source: Comgest / MSCI country classification

## **CURRENCY BREAKDOWN (%)**

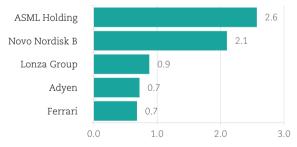
	Fund	Index
EUR	57.5	53.0
CHF	12.7	14.4
USD	11.0	0.3
DKK	9.6	5.6
GBP	7.7	21.2

#### **CURRENCY BREAKDOWN (%) - CONT.**

	Fund	Index
SEK	1.6	4.7
NOK		0.9
Prechdown haad on aurrengies in which holdings as	in priced	

Breakdown based on currencies in which holdings are priced.

## **TOP 5 QTD CONTRIBUTORS (%)**



## **BOTTOM 5 QTD CONTRIBUTORS (%)**

Jeronimo Martins			-0.4	
Davide Campari-Mila			-0.2	
Dassault Systemes			-0.2	
Sika			-0.2	
Amadeus IT Group A			-0.2	
	-3.0	-2.0	-1.0	0.0

Past performance does not predict future returns. Data on holdings is provided for information purposes only and is not a recommendation to buy or sell the securities shown.

Issued by Comgest Asset Management International Limited, 45 LS Stephen's Green, Dublin 2, Ireland - info@comgest.com Source: CAMIL / FactSet financial data and analytics, unless otherwise stated. All information and performance data is as at 31/03/2024, unless otherwise indicated, and is unaudited.



## COMGEST GROWTH EUROPE

## 31 March 2024

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE DATA SHOWN BELOW IS THE OUTCOME OF OUR INVESTMENT PHILOSOPHY AND STOCK SELECTION. THESE METRICS ARE NOT ALL SPECIFICALLY TARGETED BY COMGEST BUT MAY BE ADDRESSED AS PART OF OUR RESPONSIBLE INVESTMENT PROCESS.

## **RESPONSIBLE INVESTMENT APPROACH**

We believe a responsible approach to environmental, social and governance issues has a positive impact on a company's long-term sustainable growth. ESG is part of our fundamental analysis and we have developed and implemented a three-pronged responsible investment strategy: Integration / Active Ownership / Partnership.

#### MAIN EXCLUSIONS\*

Coal Exit Policy: Coal-exposed electricity producers & thermal coal mines Tobacco: Producers & distributors

Weapons: Conventional & controversial

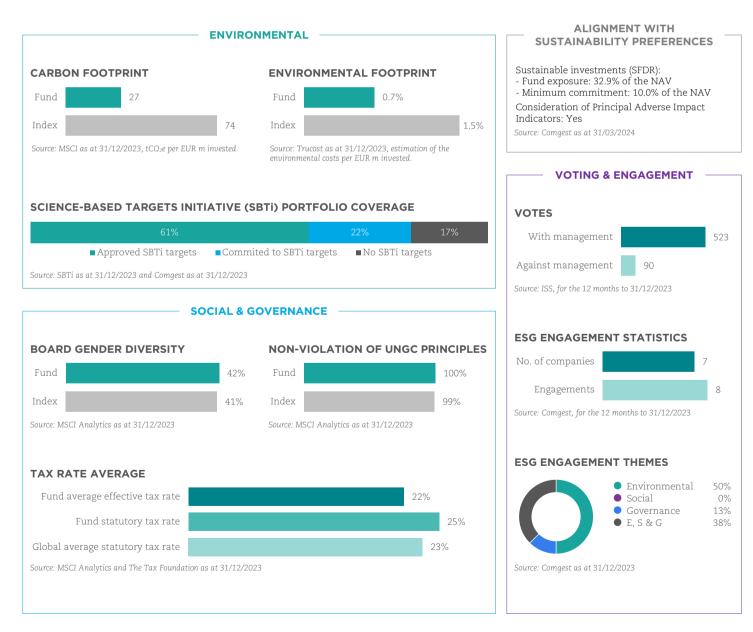
**UN Global Compact:** Severe violations without prospect for improvement

Controversial Jurisdictions: High-risk jurisdictions & sanctions regime



Working alongside clients Advocacy initiatives Transparent communication

\* Further information on the exclusion policies and **applicable revenue thresholds** may be found in the Prospectus and the Investment Manager's Responsible Investment Policy on the Comgest website at www.comgest.com/en/our-business/esg



Please see methodologies and glossary on following pages. The information above is based on available data and data may not be available for all portfolio holdings.

Issued by Comgest Asset Management International Limited, 46 St. Stephen's Green, Dublin 2, Ireland - info@comgest.com Source: CAMIL / FactSet financial data and analytics, unless otherwise stated.

comgest.com



## 31 March 2024

## **FUND DETAILS**

ISIN: IE00B5WN3467 Bloomberg: COMEEIA ID Domicile: Ireland Dividend Policy: Accumulation Fund Base Currency: EUR Share Class Currency: EUR Inception Date: 04/01/2012 Index (used for comparative purposes only): MSCI Europe - Net Return Ongoing Charges: 1.06% p.a of the NAV Investment Manager's Fees (part of ongoing charges): 1.00% p.a of the NAV Maximum Sales Charge: None Exit Charge: None Minimum Initial Investment: EUR 750,000 Minimum Holding: None

Contact for Subscriptions and Redemptions: CACEIS Investor Services Ireland Limited Dublin\_TA\_Customer\_Support@caceis.com Tel: +353 1 440 6555 / Fax: +353 1 613 0401

Dealing Frequency: Any business day (D) when banks in Dublin are open for business

Cut Off: 12:00 pm Irish time on day D An earlier deadline for receipt of application or redemption requests may apply if your request is sent through a third party. Please enquire with your local representative, distributor or other third party

NAV: Calculated using closing prices of D NAV Known: D+1

Settlement: D+3

Legal Structure: Comgest Growth Europe, a subfund of Comgest Growth plc (an open-ended investment company with variable capital authorised by the Central Bank of Ireland), is an Undertaking for Collective Investment in Transferable Securities (UCITS)

Management Company: None as Comgest Growth plc is self-managed

Investment Manager: Comgest Asset Management International Limited (CAMIL) Regulated by the Central Bank of Ireland and registered as an investment adviser with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission SEC registration does not imply a certain level of skill or training

Sub-Investment Manager: Comgest S.A. (CSA) Regulated by the Autorité des Marchés Financiers - GP 90023

#### **IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

This is a marketing communication. Please refer to the fund prospectus and to the PRIIPS KID before making any final investment decisions. UK investors should refer to the UCITS KIID. Tax applicable to an investment depends on individual circumstances. Depending on where you live, the Fund may not be available to you for subscription. In particular this Fund cannot be offered or sold publicly in the United States. Consult your financial or professional adviser for more information on investing and taxation.

The Prospectus, the PRIIPS KID, the UCITS KIID (UK investors), the latest annual and interim reports and any country specific addendums can be obtained free of charge from the Investment Manager (at www.comgest.com) or the Administrator and from local representatives/paying agents listed below. For a full list of the local representatives/paying agents please contact Comgest at info@camil.com. Prospectus may be available in English, French or German and the PRIIPS KIDs in a language

United Kingdom: BNP Paribas Trust Corporation UK Limited, Facilities Agency Services, c/o Company Secretarial Department, 10 Harewood Avenue, London, NW1 6AA. Investors in the United Kingdom WILL NOT have any protection under the UK Financial Services Compensation Scheme.
Sweden: SEB Merchant Banking, Custody Services, Global Funds, RB6, Rissneleden 110, SE-106 40 Stockholm.

- Spain: Allfunds Bank S.A., c/Estafeta no. 6 (La Moraleja), Complejo Plaza de la Fuente, Edificio 3, 28109, Alcobendas, Madrid, Spain. The CNMV registration number of Comgest Growth plc is 1294. Switzerland: BNP Paribas, Paris, Zurich Branch, Selnaustrasse 16, 8002 Zürich.

Further information or reporting may be available from the Investment Manager upon request.

Complaints handling policies are available in English, French, German, Dutch and Italian on our website at www.comgest.com in the regulatory information section. Comgest Growth Plc may decide to terminate at any time the arrangements made for the marketing of its UCITS.

© 2024 Morningstar, Inc. All rights reserved. The information contained herein: (1) is proprietary to Morningstar and/or its information providers; (2) may not be copied, adapted or distributed; and (3) is not warranted to be accurate, complete or timely. Neither Morningstar nor its information providers are responsible for any investment decisions, damages or losses arising from any use of this information or any information provided in conjunction with it.

Morningstar Medalist Rating<sup>™</sup> is a forward-looking measure derived through research of three key pillars, People, Process, and Parent. It is expressed on a five-tier scale running from Gold to Negative. The Medalist Rating is not a statement of fact, nor is it a credit or risk rating, and should not be used as the sole basis for investment decisions. It is not intended to be nor is a guarantee of future performance. Morningstar Rating<sup>™</sup> is an objective, quantitative measure of a fund's historical risk-adjusted performance relative to other funds in its category. The overall rating is a

weighted combination of the three-, five- and ten-year ratings. The top 10% of funds will receive a 5-star rating and the next 22.5% receive a 4-star rating.

Carbon Footprint: estimates the apportioned Scope 1 and 2 greenhouse gases emissions of the portfolio holdings. Environmental Footprint: estimates the apportioned ratio of annual costs linked to greenhouse gases, water abstraction, waste generation, air, land & water pollutants, and natural resource use associated with the portfolio holdings per EUR m invested. Environmental Footprint Source: S&P Trucost Limited © Trucost 2024. All rights in the Trucost data and reports vest in Trucost and/or its licensors. Neither Trucost, nor its

affiliates, nor its licensors accept any liability for any errors, omissions or interruptions in the Trucost data and/or reports. No further distribution of the Data and/or

Reports is permitted without Trucost's express written consent. Science Based Targets Initiative Portfolio Coverage: calculates the % of the Fund's AUM invested in companies with SBTi approved targets or which have committed to set SBTi targets

Board Gender Diversity: this indicator represents the weighted average ratio of female board members to total board members in investee companies, expressed as a percentage of all board members. Non-Violation of UNGC Principles: this indicator represents the percentage of investee companies that have not been involved in violations of the United Nations Global

Compact (UNGC) principles. Effective Tax Rate: an indicator of corporate responsibility and impact. Using MSCI data, Comgest calculates the average effective tax rate and average statutory tax rate

of the portfolio's holdings.

Index Source: MSCI. This report contains information (the "Information") sourced from MSCI Inc., its affiliates or information providers (the "MSCI Parties") and may have been used to calculate scores, ratings or other indicators. The Information is for internal use only, and may not be reproduced/redisseminated in any form, or used as a basis for or a component of any financial instruments or products or indices. The MSCI Parties do not warrant or guarantee the originality, accuracy and/or completeness of any data or Information herein and expressly disclaim all express or implied warranties, including of merchantability and fitness for a particular purpose. The

Information is not intended to constitute investment advice or a recommendation to make (or refrain from making) any investment decision and may not be relied on as such, nor should it be taken as an indication or guarantee of any future performance, analysis, forecast or prediction. None of the MSCI Parties shall have any liability for any errors or omissions in connection with any data or Information herein, or any liability for any direct, indirect, special, punitive, consequential or any other damages (including lost profits) even if notified of the possibility of such damages. For more detailed information on ESG integration please consult our website: **www.comgest.com/en/our-business/esg** 

Issued by Comgest Asset Management International Limited, 46 St. Stephen's Green, Dublin 2, Ireland - info@comgest.com

Source: CAMIL / FactSet financial data and analytics, unless otherwise stated. All information and performance data is as at 31/03/2024, unless otherwise indicated, and is unaudited.

comgest.com



# Glossary

Active Share: The percentage of fund holdings that is different from the reference index holdings. A fund that has no holdings in common with the reference index will have an active share of 100%, and a fund that has exactly the same holdings as the reference index considered will have an active share of 0%.

ADR - American Depositary Receipt: A negotiable security that represents securities of a foreign company and allows that company's shares to trade in the financial markets of the United States.

Annualised: A figure converted into an annual rate. Figures covering a period of more than one year are averaged to present a figure for a 12month period

**Bp(s) - Basis point(s):** One basis point is equal to one hundredth of 1% (i.e. 0.01%). **BV - Book Value:** The value of the company assets

minus its liabilities

CAGR - Compound Annual Growth Rate: The rate of return that would be required for an investment to grow from its beginning balance to its ending balance, assuming the profits were reinvested at the end of each year of the investment's lifespan.

CapEx - Capital Expenditure: The money invested by a company to acquire or upgrade fixed, physical, non-consumable assets such as plants, buildings, technology, or property, equipment.

Cash Flow: The net amount of cash and cash equivalents being transferred in and out of a company. Cash received signifies inflows, and cash spent signifies outflows.

CPI - Consumer Price Index: An index that measures the overall change in consumer prices based on a representative basket of goods and services over time. It is the metric often used to measure inflation.

DY - Dividend Yield: A ratio that shows how much a company pays out in dividends each year relative to its share price.

EBITDA - Earnings Before Interest, Taxes, Depreciation and Amortisation: Used to measure a company's core profitability and is calculated by interest, tax, adding depreciation and amortisation expenses to net income.

EBIT - Earnings Before Interest and Taxes: Used to measure a company's core profitability and is calculated by adding interest and tax expenses to net income.

EPS - Earnings Per Share: The profits of a company attributed to each share, calculated by dividing profits after tax by the number of shares. EPS serves as an indicator of a company's profitability.

FCF - Free Cash Flow: The cash generated by a company from its normal business operations after subtracting any money spent on capital expenditures.

GDP - Gross Domestic Product: The total market value of all the finished goods and services produced within in a country's border in a specific time period.

GDR - Global Depositary Receipt: A certificate issued by a bank that represents shares in a foreign stock on two or more global markets. A GDR is similar to an American depositary receipt (ADR), except an ADR only lists shares of a foreign country in the markets of the United States.

LTM - Last 12 Months: LTM multiples are backward-looking and are based on historical performance.

Market Cap(italisation): A measure of a company's size, calculated by multiplying the total number of shares in issue by the current share price. Companies are commonly grouped according to size, such as small cap, mid cap, large cap or all cap. There is no consensus on the definition of these groupings and they may vary from portfolio to portfolio depending on the country of investment.

NAV - Net Asset Value: The current market value of the portfolio's assets minus the portfolio's liabilities

NTM - Next 12 Months: NTM multiples are forward-looking and are based on projected performance

Ongoing Charges: A fund's operational costs over a year. Ongoing Charges are calculated as a percentage of the average fund size over the year and include, for example, investment manager's fees, administration fees and custody costs.

Operating Margin: Measures how much profit a company makes on a dollar (or relevant currency) of sales after paying for variable costs of production, such as wages and raw materials, but before paying interest or tax.

Operating Profit: A company's gross income less operating expenses and other business-related expenses, such as wages, cost of goods sold (COGS) and depreciation.

Organic Growth: Growth a company achieves by increasing output and enhancing sales through the business' own operations and internal processes. This does not include profits or growth attributable to mergers, acquisitions, divestitures and foreign exchange but rather an increase in sales and expansion through the company's own resources

Organic Sales: Sales generated from within a company that are a direct result of the company's existing operations and internal processes. Organic sales do not include the impacts of mergers, acquisitions, divestitures and foreign exchange

P/B or P/BV - Price-to-Book Value Ratio: Measures the market's valuation of a company relative to its book value. P/B or P/BV is calculated by dividing the company's stock price per share by its book value per share.

P/E - Price-to-Earnings Ratio: A ratio used to value a company's shares. It is calculated by dividing the current market price by the earnings per share

P/S - Price-to-Sales Ratio: A valuation ratio that compares a company's stock price to its revenues. It is an indicator of the value that financial markets have placed on each dollar of a company's sales or revenues.

- Price/Earnings-To-Growth Ratio: PEG stock's price-to-earnings (P/E) ratio divided by the growth rate of its earnings for a specified time period. The PEG ratio is used to determine a stock's value while also factoring in the company's expected earnings growth.

PMI - Purchasing Managers' Index: An index of the prevailing direction of economic trends in the manufacturing and service sectors.

Reference Index: Index against which a fund's performance is compared.

**ROE** - **Return On Equity:** Measures financial performance and is calculated by dividing net income by shareholders' equity. ROE is a gauge of a company's profitability and how efficiently it

generates those profits. ROIC - Return On Invested Capital: Calculation used to assess a company's efficiency at allocating the capital under its control to profitable investments.

SME - Small- Or Medium-Sized Enterprise: A company, or companies considered as a group, that are neither very small nor very large and which employ fewer than a given number of employees. This number varies across countries.

Volatility: Measures the movements of an asset up and down over time. Volatility is generally considered to be a measure of risk.



## <sup>/</sup>ESG Glossary

**Engagement:** Proactive, targeted dialogue with companies or other industry stakeholders (e.g. policymakers, industry bodies) in order to make known areas of concern and to incite tangible, positive change to improve outcomes for stakeholders.

**Environmental Factors:** Issues related to pollution, climate change, energy efficiency, natural resource use, waste management, biodiversity and other environmental challenges and opportunities.

**ESG** - **Environmental, Social and Governance:** The three key factors when measuring the sustainability and ethical impact of an investment in a business or company.

**GHG** - Greenhouse Gases: Gases that trap heat in the atmosphere and warm the planet. The best known greenhouse gases are carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide and fluorinated gases.

**Governance Factors:** Governance refers to a set of rules or principles defining rights, responsibilities and expectations between different stakeholders in the governance of corporations. Governance factors include a company's leadership, executive pay, audits, internal controls and shareholder rights.

**Net Zero:** Achieving a balance between emitting carbon and absorbing carbon from the atmosphere. This balance, or net zero, will be achieved when the amount of carbon added to the atmosphere is no more than the amount removed **PAI - Principal Adverse Impact:** A list of sustainability factors that firms need to take into account for their investment policies and decisions. These indicators relate to environmental and social topics.

**Proxy Voting:** A form of voting whereby a shareholder delegates their vote to another who votes on their behalf at company meetings. This allows the shareholder to exercise their right to vote without being physically present.

**RI** - **Responsible Investment:** The integration of environmental, social and governance factors (ESG) into the selection and management of investments.

**Scope 1 Emissions:** Emissions directly generated by a company, such as an airline emitting exhaust fumes.

**Scope 2 Emissions:** Emissions indirectly generated by a company, such as emissions from the electricity or energy used to heat and cool a company's office.

Scope 3 Emissions: All other indirect emissions that occur in the value chain of a company and are not already included within scope 2. These emissions are a consequence of the company's business activities but occur from sources the company does not own or control. For example, emissions from a company's employees commuting to work. Scope 3 emissions are often difficult to measure. SFDR Classification: SFDR product classifications fall under three categories and aim to make the sustainability profiles of funds more comparable and easier to understand by investors. SFDR - EU Sustainable Finance Disclosure

SFDR - EU Sustainable Finance Disclosure Regulation: An EU regulation which aims to make the sustainability profile of funds more comparable and better understood by endinvestors. The regulation requires firms to advise whether principal adverse impacts on sustainability factors are considered in their investment decision making process.

substantiability factors are constrained by a constrained by a constrained by a company communicates with employees, suppliers, customers, governments, regulators and the communities where it operates.

and the communities where it operates. tCO2e: Tonnes (t) of carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) equivalent. Carbon dioxide equivalent is a standard unit for counting greenhouse gas emissions regardless of whether they are from carbon dioxide or another gas, such as methane.

**UNGC** - **UN Global Compact:** A voluntary pact of the United Nations (UN) to encourage businesses and firms worldwide to adopt sustainable and socially responsible policies, and to report on their implementation.

**UN Global Compact (UNGC) Principles:** Ten principles defined as part of the UNGC framework to promote responsible investment. Companies, investors and other participants are called upon to align their strategies and operations with the principles in the areas of human rights, labor, the environment and anti-corruption.

**Voting:** A mechanism for active owners to influence companies, usually done with the aim of influencing a company's governance or operations. Public equity investors typically have the right to vote on company and shareholder resolutions at annual and extraordinary general meetings (AGMs and EGMs).