

NAV per share: €53.83

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, Eva Fornadi, Denis Callioni Team may include advisors from affiliates within the Comgest Group.

#### **RISK AND REWARD PROFILE**



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

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

EAA Fund Europe Flex-Cap Equity

(Number of funds in Category: 507)

15

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

0.5%

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.

The Fund promotes environmental and/or social

Source: MSCI as at 31/12/2023, tCO<sub>2</sub>e per EUR m

Morningstar Category:

CARBON FOOTPRINT<sup>1</sup>

characteristics.

Fund

Index

invested

Fund

Index

Bronze

74

1.5%

#### **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 "Opportunities" companies, headquartered or carrying out their predominant activity in Europe, which seek to deliver above-average quality earnings growth and are attractively valued. Such companies may have shorter track records and earnings than more established growth companies and may have a higher risk profile.

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	2.6	10.4	10.4	10.5	-0.4	8.5		7.9	
Index	3.9	7.6	7.6	14.7	9.2	8.8		7.1	
Fund Volatility				18.2	20.3	21.5		20.5	
Index Volatility				10.9	13.5	17.9		16.6	

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

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Fund	-7.7	30.6	25.9	24.6	-32.0	12.9
Index	-10.6	26.0	-3.3	25.1	-9.5	15.8

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

						1Q23 -1Q24
Fund	6.1	-2.8	56.6	0.5	-10.9	10.5
Index	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.

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

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## 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% 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 companies within our quality growth portfolio demonstrate robust balance sheets and idiosyncratic growth drivers which help to reduce their sensitivity to macro developments. Nevertheless, fluctuations in interest rates can still induce volatility in valuations

European small- and mid-caps have underperformed their large cap counterparts persistently since January 2022, with this polarisation continuing this quarter. The forward price-to-earnings (NTM P/E) ratio of small caps has derated by 25% over this period, tracking the evolution of bond yields and the concerns associated to their relatively higher leverage. Small-cap stocks are currently trading at a discount to large-caps for the first time in two decades. This is somewhat visible in the portfolio's performance whose exposure to smaller capitalisation companies (<EUR 20bn) is approximately 40%.

The portfolio is still leveraging on long-term trends such as innovation in both healthcare (e.g. obesity) and technology (AI giving a further boost to semiconductors, cloud software, IT services), strong brands with pricing power and other niches with idiosyncratic growth (e.g. Scout24's innovation in digitising the ecosystem within the German real estate market). With the post Covid-19 normalisation hopefully coming to an end (with destocking largely behind us), some companies will gradually resume their long-term growth trend.

The FY'23 earnings season has been pleasing, with many portfolio companies delivering solid results and providing promising outlook statements for 2024. Our larger holdings have performed notably well year-to-date, partly supported by the sharp recovery seen in companies that suffered in 2023 for various reasons, such as Adyen, Lonza and Bakkafrost.

ASML was one of the largest contributors during the quarter, benefitting from the rise of Nvidia and the race of peers to catch up in AI chipsets. The strong backlog yields excellent medium and long term-term visibility. Adyen's H2 results confirmed a significant reacceleration of growth after the H1'23 slowdown. The medium-term guidance provided by management at the capital markets day in November 2023 was well received, as it continues to point to dynamic and visible growth with solid profitability until 2026. Lonza's shares performed strongly following its above-consensus H2 results and management's reassuring commentary regarding the company's margin for 2024. Shares rose further on the announcement of Lonza's acquisition of Roche's Genentech large scale biologics manufacturing facility in the US, which triggered a further upgrade to mid-term targets. This comes at a time when potential implications of the US Biosecure Act could threaten competitor WuXi in the US market. Capgemini posted a solid return despite expecting soft revenue growth this year. The company is seen as an AI enabler, with management expecting a pick-up in activity throughout 2024. The shares retracted in March following a slight softening in Accenture's commentary regarding short-term demand patterns around more discretionary, non-core projects. Bakkafrost rebounded following an encouraging outlook for 2024, driven by continued strong salmon pricing, reduced mortality and increased harvest weight expectations.

Soitec was among the largest detractors from portfolio performance over the quarter. The company's shares fell sharply on the back of FY'25 guidance which was significantly below consensus expectations in connection with the evolution of inventories for its core RF-SOI modules for the smartphone market. Alfen's shares remained under pressure despite the majority of destocking in electric vehicle charging points being resolved and despite an expected margin recovery in 2024. However, the recovery in charging stations post destocking in electric venicle charging points being resolved and despite an expected in agin recovery is weaker than expected and FDA approval regarding PRRS resistant pigs has been slightly delayed. Edenred was weak despite solid underlying results as an investigation regarding a public tender in Italy and a potential associated fine are weighing on the stock. Keywords Studios continued to de-rate on the theme of AI threats despite FY'24 guidance being maintained in a context of tough market conditions.

In terms of core portfolio changes over the quarter, we took profits in ASML and Icon after solid performance. Alfen was reduced due to a shift in business mix and DSV sold down on lower growth expectations. We also tactically reduced Adyen and Lonza following their respective re-ratings. The proceeds were used to fund increases in London Stock Exchange Group (solid execution), Campari (attractive valuation) and Genus (around its short-term warning). Two new positions were added to the portfolio: Richemont for its attractively valued branded jewellery portfolio and Sage for its attractively growing recurring software portfolio and good mid-term margin expansion opportunities. No companies were sold during the quarter.

The portfolio has delivered a solid return since the end of October, a performance supported notably by a re-rating in the portfolio's larger-cap holdings. The The portfolio has delivered a solid return since the end of October, a performance supported notably by a re-rating in the portfolio's larger-cap holdings. The anticipation of lower rates has driven up the valuation of quality growth stocks in recent months. Your portfolio's valuation remains significantly below the peak valuation level seen at the end of 2020. This reflects the mix of the portfolio with small and mid-caps trading at a PE discount versus large-caps for the first time in two decades and also the re-rating (but not to peak levels) of large-cap quality growth companies. The re-rating of large-cap stocks can be partly justified by their accelerated growth trends as is the case of Novo Nordisk (major opportunity in obesity), LVMH (consolidation of demand towards top brands and pricing power) and ASML (AI potentially expanding the market opportunity), for instance. As market sentiment should eventually inflect towards smaller and mid-cap stocks (assuming there is no further deterioration in the economic environment), we believe your portfolio stands to benefit from the smaller-cap outlook (<EUR 20bn) given its circa 40% exposure to the category. We are tactically reducing larger portfolio weights and increasing positions where quality and reliability of growth are still at a discount, exemplified by holding London Stock Exchange Group for example.

Volatility can still be present for the remainder of the year, depending on the evolution of inflation, the exact timing of the central bank's decision to proceed with interest rate cuts and the overall macroeconomic environment. Beyond these elements, we are pleased with the quality and growth characteristics of the portfolio. As always, we remain convinced that it is ultimately earnings growth that will drive long-term performance. The portfolio is expected to deliver solid double-digit growth and higher growth than the underlying European market for the next twelve months and in the mid-term.

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.

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# 31 March 2024

Index

15.4

8.1

18.4

16.4

11.1

10.7

3.0

7.0

5.4

38

0.8

#### **PORTFOLIO CHARACTERISTICS**

**SECTOR BREAKDOWN (%)** 

Information Technology

Consumer Discretionary

Communication Services

Consumer Staples

Health Care

Financials

Industrials

Materials

[Cash]

Energy

Utilities

Real Estate

Total Net Assets (all classes, m)	€838.8
Number of holdings	35
Average weighted market cap (bn)	€81.1
Weight of top 10 stocks	46.9%
Active share	82.8%
Holdings exclude cash and cash equivalents	

Fund

27.1

22.2

13.2

11.3

8.8

7.2

4.9

4.1

1.3

- -

- -

TOP 5 HOLDINGS (%)

	Fund
ASML Holding	7.0
Capgemini	6.2
Adyen	5.4
ICON	4.5
Lonza Group	4.4

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	17.9	18.6
Switzerland	17.4	14.4
Netherlands	16.2	7.8
United Kingdom	13.4	22.3
Ireland	7.6	0.5
Denmark	6.7	5.6
Germany	6.3	13.4
Italy	5.5	4.3
Norway	3.7	0.9
Israel	2.4	
[Cash]	1.3	
Source: Comparet / MSCI country classification		

Source: Comgest / MSCI country classification

#### **CURRENCY BREAKDOWN (%)**

Source: Comgest / GICS sector classification

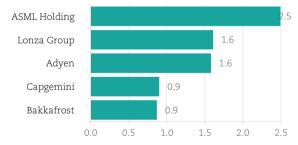
	Fund	Index
EUR	50.3	53.0
CHF	17.4	14.4
GBP	13.4	21.2
DKK	6.7	5.6
USD	6.1	0.3

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

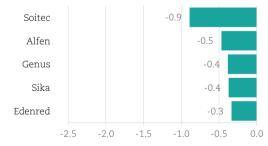
	Fund	Index
NOK	3.7	0.9
ILS	2.4	
SEK		4.7
Described and the second second state in a solution in the latter second s		

Breakdown based on currencies in which holdings are priced.

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



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



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

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# COMGEST GROWTH EUROPE OPPORTUNITIES

# 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

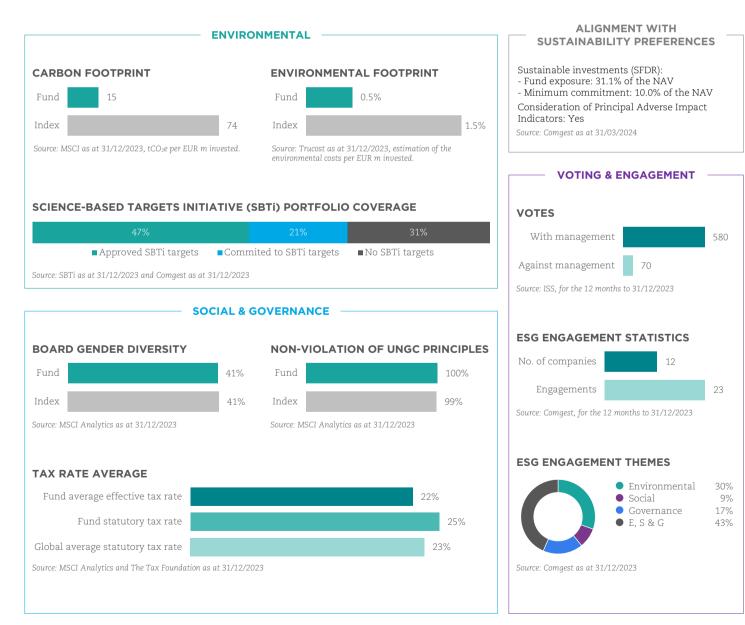
UN Global Compact: Severe violations without prospect for improvement

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.

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### 31 March 2024

#### **FUND DETAILS**

ISIN: IE00BZ0X9T58 Bloomberg: CGEOZEA ID Domicile: Ireland Dividend Policy: Accumulation Fund Base Currency: EUR Share Class Currency: EUR Inception Date: 21/07/2017 Index (used for comparative purposes only): MSCI Europe - Net Return Ongoing Charges: 1.12% p.a of the NAV Investment Manager's Fees (part of ongoing charges): 1.05% p.a of the NAV Maximum Sales Charge: 2.00% Exit Charge: None Minimum Initial Investment: EUR 10 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 Opportunities, a sub-fund 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 the UCITS KIID before making any final investment decisions. 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 UCITS KIID, 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 the facilities agent:

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.

Further information or reporting may be available from the Investment Manager upon request. Complaints handling policies are available 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.

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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

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# 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.

investment decision making process. Social Factors: Factors that examine how 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).