

# **Alken Fund Small Cap Europe**

Factsheet as at 29th February 2024

Marketing Communication for professional investors use only. Please refer to the prospectus of the fund and the Key Information Document before making any final investments.

### **Monthly Comment**

The Alken Fund Small Cap Europe rose 4.3% in February against 0.1% for the benchmark. This brings the relative performance to 2.7% year to date.

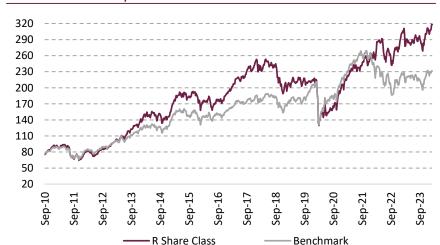
Equity markets were strong in February amid persistent investor debate around the timing and speed of interest rate cuts given sticky inflation numbers. Market leadership remained unchanged with large cap names outperforming as a pivot to monetary policy continues to be delayed.

Performance was particularly strong in February thanks to good stock selection across energy, industrials, and communication services. Defence stocks continued a stellar trajectory underpinned by incremental orders and still attractive valuations with significant scope for further rerating. Energy names were also robust contributors including Energean PLC, which surged following confirmation of a gas discovery and the signature of a new gas supply agreement.

In contrast, ALD was down this month on the back of softer than expected quarterly results and cautious guidance for the current year reflecting higher costs.

Equity concentration risks are becoming unhealthy as returns continue to be driven by a handful of stocks whose valuation premiums are reaching unsustainably historical highs. We believe that greater diversification into more value-oriented names is crucial to weathering a market environment that may prove more volatile amid economic and monetary policy uncertainty and heightened geopolitical risks.

## Performance since inception 1



Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future performance

| Share Class      | R            | Α            | EU1          |
|------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| NAV              | 317.36       | 272.12       | 272.12       |
| Launch Date      | Jun-07       | Jun-13       | Sep-13       |
| ISIN             | LU0300834669 | LU0524465548 | LU0953331096 |
| Bloomberg Code   | ALKSMEU LX   | ALKSMEA LX   | ALKSEU1 LX   |
| Currency Hedging | No           | No           | No           |

#### **Portfolio Managers**

Nicolas Walewski



Marc Festa



#### **Investment Objective & Universe**

Achieve annualised capital appreciation in the long-term through a risk adjusted outperformance of the benchmark. The fund will invest at least 75% of its assets in equity and equity related securities issued by companies headquartered in Europe, with a market capitalisation below €10 billion.

#### **Fund Facts**

| Tuliu Tacts                    |            |   |       |      |      |        |      |  |
|--------------------------------|------------|---|-------|------|------|--------|------|--|
| AuM:                           |            |   |       |      | EUF  | R 177  | 7 m  |  |
| Bench:                         |            | M | SCI E | urop | e Sn | nall C | ар*  |  |
| Base Currency:                 | Currency:  |   |       | EUR  |      |        |      |  |
| Legal Status:                  | UCITS      |   |       | CITS |      |        |      |  |
| Domicile:                      | Luxembourg |   |       |      |      |        |      |  |
| Management Fee <sup>1</sup> :  | 1.75%      |   |       | ′5%  |      |        |      |  |
| Performance Fee <sup>2</sup> : |            |   |       |      |      | 1      | .0%  |  |
| Settlement:                    |            |   |       |      |      | -      | T+3  |  |
| SFDR <sup>3</sup> :            |            |   |       |      |      | Ar     | t .8 |  |
| SRI <sup>4</sup> :             | 1          | 2 | 3     | 4    | 5    | 6      | 7    |  |

- (1) Share Class R
- (2) Above reference benchmark
- (3) Sustainable Financial Disclosure Regulation
- (4) Summary Risk Indicator

| Performance 1   | Fund   | Benchmark |
|-----------------|--------|-----------|
| Since inception | 317.4% | 193.6%    |
| YTD             | 1.9%   | -0.8%     |
| MTD             | 4.3%   | 0.0%      |
| 1Y              | 3.4%   | 1.3%      |
| 3Y              | 48.3%  | 3.7%      |
| 5Y              | 53.7%  | 33.0%     |
| 2023            | 14.5%  | 12.7%     |
| 2022            | 5.9%   | -22.5%    |
| 2021            | 30.3%  | 24.8%     |
| 2020            | -7.9%  | 4.2%      |
| 2019            | 11.2%  | 32.0%     |

(1) Performance of the R share class. Inception 8 June 2007

\*Until 24/11/2022 the Sub-Fund's performance was measured against the STOXX Europe TMI Small Net Return EUR Index and then change to: MSCI Europe Small Cap Index

| Risk Indicators <sup>1</sup> | Fund  | Benchmark |
|------------------------------|-------|-----------|
| Volatility                   | 19.3% | 17.2%     |
| Alpha                        | 3.0%  |           |
| Tracking Error               | 8.4%  |           |
| Information Ratio            | 0.3   |           |
| Active Share                 | 95.7% |           |



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| <b>Key Contributors</b>    | Exposure | Contribution |
|----------------------------|----------|--------------|
| Industrials (Single Stock) | 4.7%     | 1.1%         |
| C. Services (Single Stock) | 5.9%     | 0.7%         |
| Industrials (Single Stock) | 2.4%     | 0.5%         |

| Concentration      | Fund  | Benchmark |
|--------------------|-------|-----------|
| Top 10 Holdings    | 48.5% | 5.2%      |
| Top 20 Holdings    | 71.4% | 9.5%      |
| Number of Holdings | 52    | 915       |
| Cash Holding       | 0.0%  |           |

| Key Detractors                  | Exposure | Contribution |
|---------------------------------|----------|--------------|
| Industrials (Single Stock)      | 2.7%     | -0.3%        |
| C. Discretionary (Single Stock) | 2.0%     | -0.3%        |
| Real Estate (Single Stock)      | 1.6%     | -0.2%        |

# Top 5 HoldingsExposureEnergy (Single Stock)6.8%Energy (Single Stock)6.2%C. Services (Single Stock)5.9%Financials (Single Stock)5.5%Industrials (Single Stock)4.7%

## 

(1) Large Cap > €10 bn, Mid Cap < €10 bn, Small Cap <€2 bn, Micro Cap <€1 bn

■ Small Cap

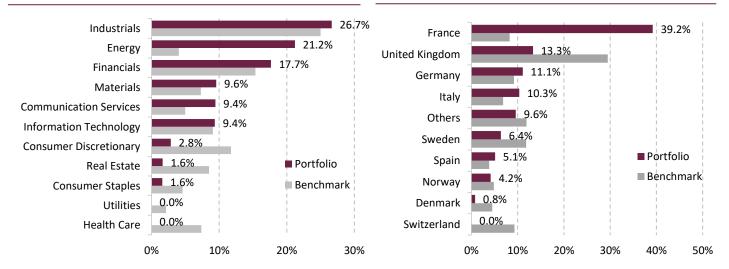
Micro Cap

Mid Cap

## Sector Breakdown

## **Country Breakdown**

Large Cap



Exposure: end of month exposures



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Austria: The facility agent is Raiffeisen Bank International AG, Am Stadtpark 9, 1030 Vienna, Austria.

Germany: The facility agent is Zeidler Legal Services, Bettinastrasse 48, 60325 Frankfurt, Germany.

Belgium: The facility agent is CACEIS Belgium, Belgium Branch Avenue du Port 86C b320, 1000 Brussels, Belgium.

France: The facility agent is BNP Paribas Securities Service, 66, rue de la victoire, F-75009 Paris, France.

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Information on sustainability-related aspects can be found at http://www.affm.lu/esg.aspx.

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