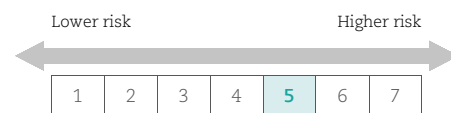


**KEY DIFFERENTIATORS**

- Quality comes first, we seek growth that can endure
- Team-based approach, rather than star-manager 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**

Christophe Nagy, Justin Streeter, Louis Citroën, Rémi Adam  
 Team may include advisors from affiliates within the Comgest Group.

**RISK PROFILE**

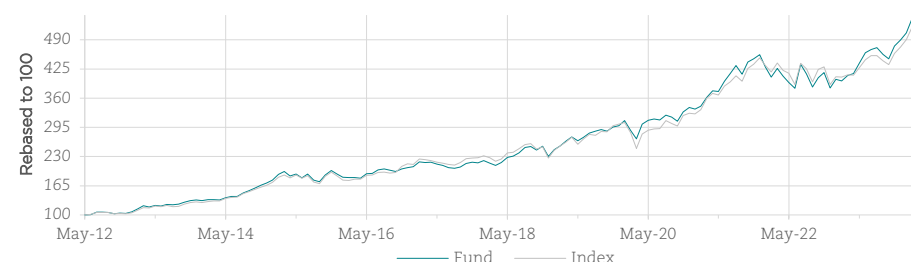
The indicator represents the risk profile presented in the PRIIPs Key Information Document. The indicator assumes you keep the product for 5 years otherwise the actual risk can vary significantly.

**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 America or in securities issued or guaranteed by the American government.

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							Since Incep.
	1 Month	QTD	YTD	1 Year	3 Years	5 Years	10 Years	
Fund	1.3	11.2	11.2	32.6	14.6	15.5	15.0	15.4
Index	3.4	13.0	13.0	29.9	14.1	15.3	15.1	15.3
Fund Volatility	--	--	--	12.3	16.0	16.8	16.2	15.6
Index Volatility	--	--	--	10.6	14.8	17.7	16.8	16.1

**CALENDAR YEAR PAST PERFORMANCE (%)**

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Fund	28.4	11.6	7.5	5.0	6.6	30.0	13.5	34.6	-16.3	28.1
Index	28.7	12.2	14.6	6.4	-0.2	33.1	8.0	37.9	-13.2	21.4

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

	1Q14	1Q15	1Q16	1Q17	1Q18	1Q19	1Q20	1Q21	1Q22	1Q23
	-1Q15	-1Q16	-1Q17	-1Q18	-1Q19	-1Q20	-1Q21	-1Q22	-1Q23	-1Q24
Fund	46.5	-6.8	18.6	-3.2	26.0	1.7	34.5	17.8	-3.8	32.7
Index	43.8	-4.7	24.0	-1.5	19.2	-5.4	45.2	21.6	-6.0	30.0

Performance data expressed in EUR. Returns may increase or decrease as a result of exchange rate fluctuations. Index: S&P 500 - 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)**

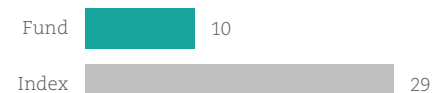
Morningstar Category:  
 EAA Fund US Large-Cap Growth Equity  
 (Number of funds in Category: 952)

**SFDR 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, tCO<sub>2</sub>e per USD m invested.

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

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

31 March 2024

## FUND COMMENTARY

The US equities market remains fixated on the pace of disinflation and hence the pace at which the Federal Reserve will cut discount rates. On a more fundamental economic level, 2024 is shaping up to be somewhat of a mirror image of 2023, with the Purchasing Managers indices showing a marked improvement in the industrial sector's order books while a deceleration seems to be underway among service companies.

Taking a step back, many green lights are flashing for 2024. US households are enjoying their second year of real (i.e. after inflation) wage gain, whilst the country's unemployment rate (below 4%) remains extremely low by historical standards.

Households are largely immune to the higher rates - as a reminder the US household sector debt is 80% on fixed long-term rates whilst interest expenses as a percentage of income remain comparable to 2019 levels.

These factors appear to bode well for spending in 2024.

Turning to more forward-looking indicators, financial conditions have eased while demand for loans both on the corporate and household side is increasing.

Around half of corporate debt consists of bank loans - primarily utilised by smaller companies - which have been repriced at higher rates. On the other hand, bond-financed large corporates will experience a moderate headwind from higher interest expenses as they gradually refinance their debt. In addition, a very low level of spreads between corporate and government bonds is a testament of ample supply of credit.

At a more micro level, the investment pouring into artificial intelligence (AI) opportunities is mind-boggling. Though impossible to assess the speed at which real applications will come to life, it is thought that AI should improve overall US productivity over time. Many of our investments are spearheading this wave of innovation.

Among the main contributors to portfolio performance this quarter were Eli Lilly, Meta Platforms and Oracle, whilst Apple, BioMarin and GXO Logistics detracted.

Eli Lilly reported outstanding Q4'23 earnings, with revenue up 28% and earnings per share (EPS) up 19%. Eli Lilly's GLP-1 franchise continues to drive growth, even while the company is in the launch phase of its superior anti-obesity drug.

Meta Platforms saw revenue grow 25% in Q4'23 and EPS treble. Advertising grew 21% with an impressive 7% growth in the number of users and the continued success of its short-form video format.

Oracle revenue grew 7% during its March quarter, with its cloud offering growing 49%. The company's backlog grew 23% from the previous quarter, giving us confidence in Oracle's ability to accelerate its top and bottom-line over the next three years.

Apple is currently in a perfect storm. Although benefitting from the hyper-growth Covid boom, consumer sentiment is softening in China. Regulators are looking at the strength of Apple's business in Europe and the US, including the company's search partnership with Google. There are also concerns that Apple is not a first mover in AI. We reduced our position in Apple during the quarter, however still believe that its growing user base of more than two billion devices bodes well for its future business strength.

GXO Logistics experienced revenue declines of 2% following weak activity within its apparel client base.

BioMarin also pulled back in Q1'24 after a very strong final quarter last year. The company's new management team is focused on leveraging its main asset Voxzogo - a treatment of short stature - beyond its current indication, while taking a hard look at the cost structure and the R&D pipeline.

In terms of Responsible Investing, we have identified a selection of six portfolio companies that are potentially exposed to one of the key ESG topics developed under our ESG policies: climate change, deforestation, biodiversity, etc. To encourage progress on these topics, we are initiating engagements with these companies during 2024.

During the quarter Paycom was reduced as we were unconvinced by the explanation given concerning the change in strategy of its human resources software provider. We exited our small position in GXO (outsourced warehouse management) for fundamental reasons including weak sales within the company's customer base. Our position in Apple was reduced over the quarter; while executing in a slow smartphone market, the company faces a few headwinds beyond its control. Lastly, Alphabet was increased. Recurring fears in the company's ability to compete in AI and maintain a dominant position in internet search led to a pull-back in Q1 which we used as a purchase opportunity. We believe that these fears are not warranted.

The US presidential and congressional election will be the focal point of attention for the rest of 2024. The portfolio has little to no exposure to the sectors that will most likely be impacted by a Trump presidency, such as energy or defence. Forecasting which candidate will win and whether they will have Congress on their side is best left to political pundits. The US remains a prime breeding ground for growth companies given its size, demographics, workforce productivity and deep pool of capital ready to bring promising ideas to fruition.

Beyond politics, the performance of the next quarters will largely be driven by the US Federal Reserve's monetary policy on which we have no edge. We therefore focus on what we can control, investing in high quality growth companies with outstanding visibility due to "high-moat" business models with strong ESG credentials.

**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.

31 March 2024

**PORTFOLIO CHARACTERISTICS**

Total Net Assets (all classes, m)	€958.9
Number of holdings	30
Average weighted market cap (bn)	€744.8
Weight of top 10 stocks	58.4%
Active share	72.3%
Holdings exclude cash and cash equivalents	

**SECTOR BREAKDOWN (%)**

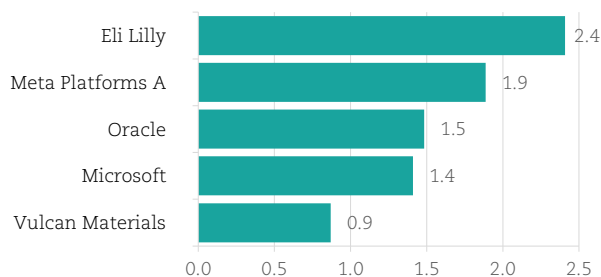
	Fund	Index
Information Technology	31.2	29.6
Health Care	16.9	12.4
Communication Services	13.8	8.9
Industrials	12.7	8.8
Materials	9.2	2.4
Consumer Discretionary	6.8	10.3
Financials	4.7	13.2
Consumer Staples	4.5	6.0
[Cash]	0.2	--
Energy	--	4.0
Real Estate	--	2.3
Utilities	--	2.2

Source: Comgest / GICS sector classification

**CURRENCY BREAKDOWN (%)**

	Fund	Index
USD	100.0	100.0

Breakdown based on currencies in which holdings are priced.

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

	Fund
Microsoft	9.6
Eli Lilly	7.4
Oracle	7.2
Meta Platforms A	5.9
Apple	5.0

Above holdings are provided for information only, are subject to change and are not a recommendation to buy or sell

**COUNTRY BREAKDOWN (%)**

	Fund	Index
United States	99.8	99.0
[Cash]	0.2	--
United Kingdom	--	0.5
Ireland	--	0.5

Source: Comgest / MSCI country classification

**BOTTOM 5 QTD CONTRIBUTORS (%)**

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\*

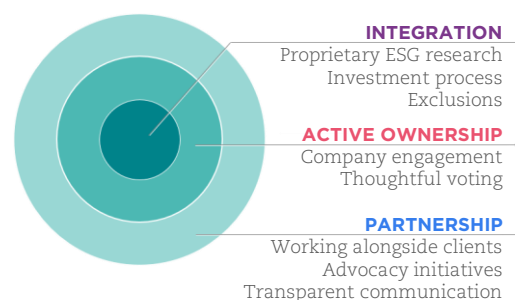
**Coal Exit Policy:** Coal-exposed electricity producers & thermal coal mines

**Tobacco:** Producers & distributors

**Weapons:** Conventional & controversial

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

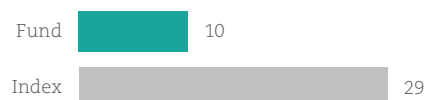
**Controversial Jurisdictions:** High-risk jurisdictions & sanctions regime



\* 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](http://www.comgest.com/en/our-business/esg)

## ENVIRONMENTAL

### CARBON FOOTPRINT



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

### ENVIRONMENTAL FOOTPRINT



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

### SCIENCE-BASED TARGETS INITIATIVE (SBTi) PORTFOLIO COVERAGE



Source: SBTi as at 31/12/2023 and Comgest as at 31/12/2023

## ALIGNMENT WITH SUSTAINABILITY PREFERENCES

Sustainable investments (SFDR):

- Fund exposure: 29.8% of the NAV
- Minimum commitment: 15.0% of the NAV

Consideration of Principal Adverse Impact Indicators: Yes

Source: Comgest as at 31/03/2024

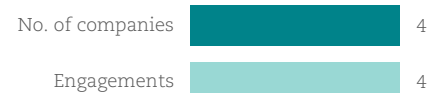
## VOTING & ENGAGEMENT

### VOTES



Source: ISS, for the 12 months to 31/12/2023

### ESG ENGAGEMENT STATISTICS



Source: Comgest, for the 12 months to 31/12/2023

### ESG ENGAGEMENT THEMES



Source: Comgest as at 31/12/2023

## SOCIAL & GOVERNANCE

### BOARD GENDER DIVERSITY



Source: MSCI Analytics as at 31/12/2023

### NON-VIOLATION OF UNGC PRINCIPLES



Source: MSCI Analytics as at 31/12/2023

### TAX RATE AVERAGE



Source: MSCI Analytics and The Tax Foundation as at 31/12/2023

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](mailto:info@comgest.com)

Source: CAMIL / FactSet financial data and analytics, unless otherwise stated.

31 March 2024

**FUND DETAILS****ISIN:** IE00B6X2JP23**Bloomberg:** CRMGECR ID**Domicile:** Ireland**Dividend Policy:** Accumulation**Fund Base Currency:** USD**Share Class Currency:** EUR**Inception Date:** 15/06/2012**Index (used for comparative purposes only):** S&P 500 - Net Return**Ongoing Charges:** 2.07% p.a of the NAV**Investment Manager's Fees (part of ongoing charges):** 2.00% 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 and the primary trading exchanges in the United States 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 America, 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 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](http://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](mailto:info@camil.com). Prospectus may be available in English, French or German and the PRIIPS KIDs in a language approved by the EU/EEA country of distribution.

- 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](http://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™** 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 USD 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:** S&P Dow Jones Indices LLC ("SPDJI"). The index is a product of S&P Dow Jones Indices LLC or its affiliates ("SPDJI") and has been licensed for use by Comgest. Standard & Poor's® and S&P® are registered trademarks of Standard & Poor's Financial Services LLC ("S&P"); Dow Jones® is a registered trademark of Dow Jones Trademark Holdings LLC ("Dow Jones"). The Company and the Funds are not sponsored, endorsed, sold or promoted by SPDJI, Dow Jones, S&P, their respective affiliates and none of such parties make any representation regarding the advisability of investing in such product(s) nor do they have any liability for any errors, omissions, or interruptions of the index.

For more detailed information on ESG integration please consult our website: [www.comgest.com/en/our-business/esg](http://www.comgest.com/en/our-business/esg)



**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 12-month 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 property, plants, buildings, technology, or 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 adding interest, tax, 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 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.

**PEG - Price/Earnings-To-Growth Ratio:** A 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.

**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 Regulation:** An EU regulation which aims to make the sustainability profile of funds more comparable and better understood by end-investors. The regulation requires firms to advise whether principal adverse impacts on sustainability factors are considered in their 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.

**tCO<sub>2</sub>e:** 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).