# A sub-fund of Ashoka WhiteOak ICAV, set up as a UCITS

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This is a marketing communication. Please refer to the Prospectus and KIID of the fund before making any final investment decisions.

#### **Investment Objective**

The Fund's objective is to seek long-term capital appreciation.

### Fund Facts

Fund Name:	Ashoka WhiteOak India Opportunities Fund
Fund Inception Date:	December 19, 2018
Class A Inception Date:	December 19, 2018
Firmwide AUM: <sup>4</sup>	\$ 6.69 billion
Fund AUM: <sup>4</sup>	\$ 2.03 billion
Manager:	Carne Global Fund Managers (Ireland) Limited
Investment Manager:	White Oak Capital Partners Pte. Ltd. (Singapore)
Investment Advisor:	White Oak Capital Management Consultants LLP (India) WhiteOak Capital Asset Management Limited
Class A Shares Expenses	
Management fees:	50bps
Other expenses:	9bps
Total Expense Ratio <sup>11</sup> :	59bps p.a
Reference Benchmark:	The fund is actively managed. The performance of the Fund is measured against MSCI India IMI Index (US\$)
Subscription:	Closed
Redemption:	Daily
Bloomberg Ticker:	AIOFAUS ID Equity
ISIN:	IE00BD3RLY95
NAV (US\$):	235.31

#### **Service Providers**

Administrator:	HSBC Securities Services Ireland DAC
Banker:	HSBC
Custodian:	HSBC Continental Europe, Ireland
Auditor & Tax:	Ernst & Young LLP

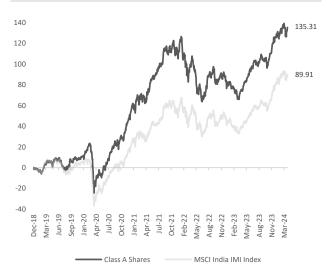
#### Investment Policy

The Fund will invest at least two thirds of its net assets in equity and related securities which provide exposure to companies that are domiciled in, or which derive a predominant proportion of their revenues or profits from India and may invest up to one third in equity and related securities in companies not domiciled in India, and up to 20% in fixed or floating rate government and corporate investment debt securities.

#### Investment Strategy

Seeks to build a long-only portfolio of ~75-150 businesses at attractive values through a bottom-up selection process.

#### Portfolio Performance, Net of Fees (AIOFAUS ID)<sup>1-8</sup>



Source: Bloomberg, Factset. Past performance does not predict future returns.

Performance (%) <sup>1-8</sup>	Mar 2024	YTD 2024	March		Calendar Year			Trailing, Annualised as at 31 March 2024				Since	
			2023 - 2024	2022 - 2023	2021 - 2022	2023	2022	2021	1 Year	2 Year	3 Year	Since Inception	Inception Cumulative
Class A Shares NAV (US\$)	-0.45	3.90	37.60	-15.32	19.64	24.86	-17.46	40.76	37.60	7.97	11.73	17.61	135.31
MSCI India IMI (US\$)	-0.23	4.90	39.55	-12.02	18.53	25.13	-9.07	30.37	39.55	10.84	13.35	12.92	89.91
Outperformance (bps)	-21	-100	-195	-330	+111	-27	-839	+1039	-195	-287	-162	+468	+4540

Source : Bloomberg, Factset. Note: Past performance does not predict future returns. More information in relation to risks in general may be found in the "Risk Factors" section of the prospectus. There is no guarantee that above stated investment objectives will be met.

## **Ratings and Awards**

Morningstar Rating<sup>™</sup>

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There is no guarantee that similar awards will be obtained by White Oak with respect to existing or future funds or transactions. \*Source and methodology: Fund Manager of the Year Awards 2022 - Methodology (fmya.com)

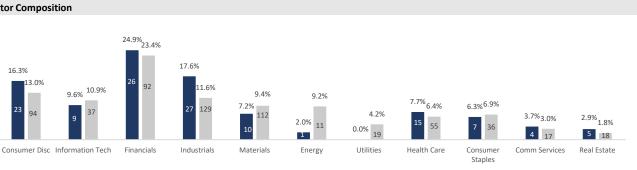
#### 1Q 2024: Key Contributors and Detractors

Key Contributors	Ending Weight (%)	Total Return (%)	Contribution to Alpha (bps)
Zomato	2.1	+46.9	+33
ABB India	1.3	+35.8	+23
Adani Ports & SEZ	2.3	+30.7	+23
CG Power & Industrial	2.1	+19.1	+23
Ambuja Cements	2.7	+17.3	+21

Key Detractors	Ending Weight (%)	Total Return (%)	Contribution to Alpha (bps)
Coforge	1.9	-12.2	-33
Vedant Fashions	0.6	-27.1	-26
Grindwell Norton	0.9	-18.6	-25
IIFL Finance	0.1	-42.9	-22
Cholamandalam Invest.	1.2	-8.3	-19

Source: Factset. Note: Past performance does not predict future returns. The performance calculation is based on US\$. Currency fluctuations will affect the value of an investment.

#### Sector Composition





Source: Bloomberg. Classification as per GICS. Allocations shown above are as of the date indicated and may not be representative of future investments. They may not represent all of the portfolio's investments. Future investments may or may not be profitable.

# **Performance Review**

The Fund was up 3.90% in 1Q 2024, underperforming the benchmark by 100bps. The key contributors include Zomato (+46.9%), ABB India (+35.8%), and Adani Ports & SEZ (+30.7%), whereas Coforge (-12.2%), Vedant Fashions (-27.1%), and IIFL Finance (-42.9%), were the key detractors.

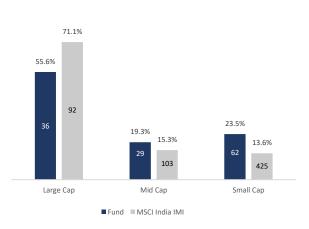
### Market Review

In 1Q 2024, the MSCI India IMI index was up 4.9%. It underperformed global indices like the US equities (S&P 500) and MSCI World, which were up 10.4% and 8.8%, respectively, but outperformed the MSCI EM index, which was up 2.1%.<sup>10</sup>

In Q1 2024, Foreign Institutional investors (FIIs) were net buyers to the tune of US\$1.1bn, while net buying by domestic institutional investors (DIIs) was US\$12.9bn. For the quarter, the Rupee depreciated by 0.3% while the 10-year G-Sec yields eased from 7.17% to 7.06%. Commodities were mixed, with Brent up 13.6% while the S&P GSCI Industrial Metals was flat.

For the quarter, Energy, Real Estate and Utilities outperformed, while Materials, Consumer Staples and Information Technology underperformed. Large caps have outperformed mid and small caps, while State-owned entities outperformed their private peers.

#### Market Cap Composition<sup>9</sup>



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Source: Bloomberg. Classification as per Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) guidelines. Allocations shown above are as of the date indicated and may not be representative of future investments. They may not represent all of the portfolio's investments. Future investments may or may not be profitable.

## Key Contributors

Zomato is the leading food delivery aggregator and quickcommerce player in India. Food delivery has now consolidated into a two-player market in India, with Zomato continuing to expand its market share leadership over Swiggy. Quickcommerce is the fastest growing e-commerce channel in India with Zomato's subsidiary Blinkit being the market leader; quick-commerce GMVs are growing in triple digits with the service finding strong consumer acceptance in the top few cities. Zomato has delivered strong operating performance in both the key businesses, with the food delivery business already in the positive-EBITDA zone and the quick-commerce business expected to break even soon. Zomato's strengths lie in its strong execution, tech stack, highly engaged consumer franchise and dynamic senior management team. Recent stock outperformance reflects (a) strong earnings delivery – tracking ahead of high expectations; the company has continued to surprise the Street positively on financials as well as key operating parameters, and (b) value discovery of the fastevolving quick-commerce business; unlike the rest of the world, guick-commerce appears to be shaping up as a valuable business in India.

**ABB India** is a subsidiary of ABB Limited, a global technology leader in electrification and automation. ABB India offers a wide range of products, digital solutions, and services having applications across industry verticals such as data centres, automotive, food & beverages, oil & gas, etc., thereby limiting exposure to downturns associated with a particular vertical. The company has transitioned from its earlier project-based business to a product- and service-based business. The stock has outperformed due to stronger-than-expected operating performance and strong order inflow growth in the last quarter.

Adani Ports and SEZ (APSEZ) is India's largest private port developer and operator, with strategically located ports and terminals over India's entire coastal line. APSEZ, accounting for almost 26% of the country's port volumes, has the capability to handle a significant amount of cargo from both coastal areas and the hinterland. The company has been consistently delivering strong volume growth and is also acquiring new ports and terminals in India and abroad. Historically, the equity IRR generated by the company has also been strong. APSEZ's volume growth in FY24 was better than consensus expectations, which could have led to the stock's outperformance.

#### **Key Detractors**

Coforge is a fast-growing, mid-sized IT services company, present across three major verticals - travel & transportation, insurance, and banking & financial services - which collectively account for ~72% of revenues. It has a niche positioning in both travel and insurance verticals. The company underwent a management change six years ago and, under the new leadership, has consistently demonstrated strong improvement across all KPIs, including order intake, number of million-dollar clients, large deal wins, digital business growth, and client diversification. The stock has underperformed due to the expectation of a weak demand environment in its key market of North America.

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Vedant Fashions (Vedant) is the leading wedding and ethnic wear player in India. Wedding/ethnic wear is a large and fastgrowing segment but has its own set of challenges, such as high seasonality, a long tail of SKUs, a strong base of smaller local players, a fragmented vendor ecosystem, and fastchanging consumer preferences. Vedant is the only large, successful organized pan-India player in this segment with robust historical growth rates and exceptional return ratios (best-in-class in the apparel sector). The company's strengths are its well-tuned playbook (design, merchandising, pricing, retail experience, asset-light franchisee model), rich consumer data, brand strength and a solid promoter-led management team. Recent operating performance has been impacted primarily by weak consumer sentiment, which is also reflected in the stock's underperformance. We continue to see Vedant as a solid company to be invested in - it remains one of the few remarkable retailers in the country.

**IIFL Finance** is a leading retail-focused, diversified non-banking financial services company (NBFC) offering gold, home, microfinance (MFI), and business loans. Despite the challenging macroeconomic environment, the company has displayed strong growth to emerge as one of the leading NBFCs in the country. It has also built a robust affordable housing & MFI loan portfolio. These segments present a long runway for growth. Recently, IIFL Finance received a notice from the RBI directing it to stop fresh disbursals of gold loans due to certain operational lapses. Gold loans form close to 33% of the loan book and being short tenor loans, will have an immediate impact on the company's growth. This reason may have contributed to the stocks's near-term underperformance.

Notes: (1) The performance numbers are net of expenses for Founder Class shares (Class A shares). (2) Fund performance in US\$ v/s MSCI India IMI (US\$) Net Index. (3) Performance prior to February 2020 is net of fees and realized and unrealized tax on capital gains calculated using Net NAV (US\$) of Ashoka WhiteOak India Opportunities Fund (Class A shares). Performance from February 2020 is net of fees and realized tax on capital gains calculated using Net NAV (US\$) of Ashoka WhiteOak India Opportunities Fund (Class A shares). (4) All data is as of 31 March 2024. Firmwide AUM data refers to aggregate assets under management or investment advisory for White Oak Group. (5) Returns for periods over one year are annualised. The past performance shown has been calculated using US\$-denominated figures. If the US\$ is not your local currency, the returns shown may increase or decrease when converted into your local currency (6) Inception performance shown here is for 19 December 2018 to 31 March 2024. (7) The MSCI India IMI Index is included merely for reference purposes only and is not intended to imply that the Ashoka WhiteOak India Opportunities Fund (the "Fund") would be comparable to the index either in composition or element of risk. The comparison of the performance of the Fund to the index may be inappropriate because the Fund differs in diversification and may be more or less volatile and may include securities which are substantially different than the securities in the index. Comparisons to returns of index should not be viewed as a representation that the Fund's portfolio is comparable to the securities that comprise any Indices. (8) Past performance does not predict future returns. (9) Index Futures are included in Large Cap. (10) All returns and % changes are in US\$ terms unless otherwise stated. The MSCI Emerging Markets Index captures large and mid cap representation across 27 Emerging Markets (EM) countries. The S&P 500, is a stock market index that measures the stock performance of 500 large companies listed on stock exchanges in the United States. The MSCI World Index captures large and mid cap representation across 23 Developed Markets (DM) countries. (11) Total Expense Ratio is for the month of February 2024.

#### Key risk factors:

Market and Selection Risk: Market risk is the risk that the market will go down in value, with the possibility that such changes will be sharp and unpredictable. Selection risk is the risk that the investments that a Fund's portfolio managers select will underperform the market or other funds with similar investment strategies.

**Geographical Risk:** The value of the Fund's securities may be affected by social, political and economic developments and laws relating to foreign investment in India. There is no guarantee that the rapid growth experienced by the Indian economy will continue. Investment in markets such as India may expose the Fund to more volatility than investment in more stable markets. Indian stock markets have experienced problems such as exchange closures, broker defaults, settlement delays, work stoppages and trading improprieties that, if they reoccurred, could have a negative impact on the liquidity and value of the Fund. Furthermore, accounting and auditing standards in India may be different and less stringent than in other countries.

**Currency Risk:** Many of the Fund's investments will be denominated in currencies other than the currency of the share class purchased by the investor which may be affected by adverse currency movements. The Fund will not attempt to hedge against currency fluctuations.

**Derivatives Risk**: The Fund may invest in FDIs to hedge against risk and/or to increase return. There is no guarantee that the Fund's use of derivatives for either purpose will be successful. Derivatives are subject to counterparty risk (including potential loss of instruments) and are highly sensitive to underlying price movements, interest rates and market volatility and therefore come with a greater risk.

**Operational Risk (including safekeeping of assets):** The Fund and its assets may experience material losses as a result of technology/system failures, cybersecurity breaches, human error, policy breaches, and/or incorrect valuation of units.

Liquidity Risk: The Fund may invest in securities which may, due to negative market conditions, become difficult to sell or may need to be sold at an unfavourable price. This may affect the overall value of the Fund.

Attention is drawn to the risk that the value of the principal invested in the Fund may fluctuate. For more information on risks, please see the section entitled "Investment Risks" in the Prospectus of the ICAV and Supplement of the Fund.

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