

QUARTERLY INVESTMENT REVIEW

Climate Change Select Investment Fund EUR Class A

Performance returns (EUR)

ANNUALIZED RETURNS (QUARTER-END)	Quarter-End	YTD	1-Year	3-Year	5-Year	10-Year	Since Inception
Climate Change Select Investment Fund EUR Class A (net)	-14.51	-21.33	-21.33	-	-	-	-15.31
Climate Change Select Investment Fund EUR Class A (gross)	-14.31	-20.65	-20.65	-	-	-	-14.57
MSCI ACWI	6.71	25.33	25.33	-	-	-	10.90
Value Add	-21.22	-46.67	-46.67	-	-	-	-26.21

MAJOR PERFORMANCE DRIVERS

The fourth quarter was dominated by changing political winds. Markets rushed to price the potential policy shift after the re-election of Donald Trump to U.S. President and the Republican clean sweep of Congress. The incoming president's focus on deglobalization (higher tariffs, less immigration, increased pressure on China) and deregulation (lower taxes, establishment of the Department for Government Efficiency, legitimizing crypto) are likely to be inflationary and "risk-on." Bond yields went higher, and the U.S. dollar continued to show strength. The climate change sector saw an even greater reaction as campaign rhetoric (at times anti clean energy) was translated into a death knell for the sector. We watched this reaction with some curiosity as it's far from clear that the incoming administration will be bad news, particularly not to the extent markets have confidently priced in. The Climate Change Select portfolio was down for the quarter, marking its worst quarter of the year.

This quarter, Clean Energy was the largest relative detractor by some margin. Within Clean Energy, sentiment took a nosedive, and valuations post-election indicated the market thought the Inflation Reduction Act would be repealed in full. This reaction appears to misinterpret the reality of Trump/the Republican party's support for some clean energy technologies. Moreover, many of these companies still have significant upside even under a full repeal scenario. Looking past sentiment, fundamentals for many of these Clean Energy companies are continuing to improve. The inventory glut has ended for some of the solar companies we hold and demand for further rollout continues. Growth in the sustainable aviation fuel (SAF) market, particularly due to mandated demand in Europe, is likely to be a tailwind for our biggest biofuel names (Darling Ingredients, Neste). Even our biggest name in the particularly politically unpopular wind sector – Vestas – surprised the market with the strength of its fourth quarter order book. After sorting between the rhetoric and the reality of the fourth quarter, we broadly added to our Clean Energy names including to those involved in lithium-ion battery construction (like LG Chem and Samsung SDI). It's increasingly clear that stationary storage solutions – like li-ion batteries – will see explosive growth as solar & wind rollouts continue.

Inception Date: 23-Mar-22

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QUARTERLY INVESTMENT REVIEW

MAJOR PERFORMANCE DRIVERS CONT.

Outside of Clean Energy, the Copper and Electric Grid segments were also down after a strong run during the year. Energy Efficiency was overall a detractor, but parts – like Diversified Efficiency – saw strong performance. Finally, Agriculture and Timber were the strongest contributors after strong earnings performance at companies like Deere & Co.

Looking forward, growth in this sector is expected to pick up considerably. According to Bloomberg consensus estimates, our portfolio is expected to produce earnings growth of around 17% per annum over the next couple of years. This strong expected earnings growth for stocks trading at depressed levels leads to the portfolio trading at around 13 times this year's estimated earnings and 11 times next year's earnings.

As the world makes the transition to clean energy and economies grapple with adapting to climate change, we continue to believe this portfolio is well positioned to benefit. The Climate Change portfolio continues to trade at a significant discount to broader global equities, a discount almost as large as it has ever been, indicating substantial upside to come for patient capital.

Portfolio weights, as a percent of equity, for the positions mentioned were: Darling Ingredients (4.4%), Neste (2.5%), LG Chem (4.4%), Samsung SDI (1.9%), Vestas (1.5%), Deere & Co (0.5%).

More insight on the Inflation Reduction Act can be found here: https://www.gmo.com/americas/research-library/the-future-of-the-inflation-reduction-act_insights/



QUARTERLY INVESTMENT REVIEW

PRODUCT OVERVIEW

The GMO Climate Change Select Investment Fund seeks to generate high total return. The Fund measures its performance against the MSCI All Country World Index for performance comparison purposes. GMO's Focused Equity team believes that climate change is having a dramatic impact on the world and significant investments are (and will be) needed to head off its effects. Using a disciplined, value-oriented approach, the Fund seeks to invest in companies that are positioned to benefit from climate change mitigation or adaptation efforts.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Comparator Index(es): The MSCI ACWI (All Country World) Index (MSCI Standard Index Series, net of withholding tax) is an independently maintained and widely published index comprised of global developed and emerging markets. MSCI data may not be reproduced or used for any other purpose. MSCI provides no warranties, has not prepared or approved this report, and has no liability hereunder. Please visit https://www.qmo.com/americas/benchmark-disclaimers/ to review the complete benchmark disclaimer notice.

An investor should consider the fund's investment objectives, risks, charges and expenses before investing. This and other important information can be found in the funds prospectus. To obtain a prospectus please visit www.gmo.com. Read the prospectus carefully before investing.

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Investors and potential investors can also obtain the prospectus and key investor information, in English and other languages, and a summary of investor rights and information on access to collective redress mechanisms at the following website: https://www.gmo.com/europe/product-index-page/equities/climate-change-strategy/climate-change-select-investment-fund/

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ABOUT GMO

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