





# SUSTAINABLE PLUS — CERTIFIED BY RIAA —

# ACADIAN GLOBAL EQUITY FUND

# DECEMBER 2024

The Acadian Global Equity Fund seeks to maximise risk-adjusted, long term active returns from a diversified portfolio of global securities while actively incorporating a range of Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) investment criteria and reducing exposure to carbon intensive companies relative to the benchmark. The option aims to outperform the MSCI World (ex Australia) Index over rolling four year periods before fees and taxes. The portfolio may still invest in companies with relatively high GHG emissions provided the portfolio level carbon exposure reduction and exclusion criteria described on this page is met.

#### **PERFORMANCE**

	FUND (GROSS)	FUND (NAV)	BENCHMARK	VALUE-ADDED VS. BENCHMARK
One-Month Return	2.7	2.6	2.6	0.0
Three-Month Return	14.7	14.4	12.1	2.3
Year-to-Date Return	37.1	35.7	31.2	4.6
One Year Annualized Return	37.1	35.7	31.2	4.6
Three Year Annualized Return	15.1	14.0	12.2	1.8
Five Year Annualized Return	17.5	16.4	14.1	2.2
Ten Year Annualized Return	14.0	12.8	13.1	-0.4
SINCE INCEPTION ANNUALIZED RETURN	10.1	8.9	9.4	-0.5

**FUND** 

APIR Code FSF0710AU Inception Date 31 May 2005 Management Cost 0.98%

Buy / Sell spread 0.05%
Exit Unit Price 4.1798
Product Size \$268 million

Benchmark MSCI World ex-Australia Index

# PARAMETERS Typical Portfolio

Carbon Reduction

80% BM

Tracking Error

3 - 4%

Max Active Position

2.25%

Number of Holdings

200 - 400

Exclusions:

No exposure to Tobacco (or tobacco alternatives) production & Controversial Weapons (including

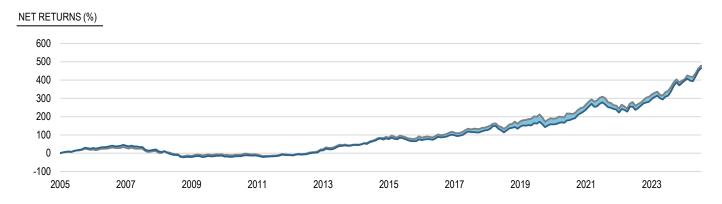
nuclear)

Fossil Fuel Companies considered to be climate transition laggards and UN Global Compact violators

(>5% revenue)

Production of Alcohol, Gambling, Adult Entertainment, Conventional Weapons, Thermal Coal Mining and Unconventional Oil & Gas

#### **CUMULATIVE PERFORMANCE\***



MSCI WORLD (NET)

RIAA's Certification Symbol signifies that Acadian Asset Management LLC offers responsible investment products; has undertaken continuing professional development on responsible investment; and conducts inquiries regarding client concerns about environmental, social, governance or ethical issues. The Symbol also signifies that Acadian Asset Management LLC has adopted the operational and disclosure practices required under the Responsible Investment Certification Program for the category of Investment Management Service. Acadian Asset Management LLC is assessed against Responsible Investment Standard and Assessment Note- Sustainability Classifications. The classification signifies the degree to which sustainability is a consideration and binding investment criteria. There may be material differences between the definition and methodology of RIAA's classification system and the way the terms 'Responsible'/Sustainable'/Sustainable Plus' are used by the product. Detailed information about RIAA, the Symbol and Acadian Asset Management LLC can be found at <a href="https://www.responsiblereturns.com.au">www.responsiblereturns.com.au</a> and in RIAA's Financial Services Guide, together with details about other responsible investment products and services certified by RIAA. The Responsible Investment Certification Program provides general advice only and does not take into account any person's objectives, financial situation, or needs. Neither the Certification Symbol nor RIAA recommends to any person that any financial product is a suitable investment or that returns are guaranteed. Because of this, you should consider your own objectives, financial situation and if the advice relates to the acquisition, or possible acquisition, of a particular financial product. Certifications are current for 24 months and subject to change at any time. This strategy is accessible through a fund. Colonial First State Investments Limited is the responsible entity for this fund, ABN 98 002 348 352 AFS Licence 232468. Please refer to the

\*Returns that include the most recent month are preliminary. All returns are calculated on an annualised basis using exit price to exit price to exit price with distributions reinvested, net of management costs, transaction costs. All return calculations exclude any individual taxes payable by the investor and all other fees and rebates disclosed in the relevant product disclosure statements available on our website or by calling us. The 'distribution' component is the amount paid by the way of distribution, which may include net realised capital gains. Portfolio holdings are subject to change and should not be considered a recommendation to buy or sell individual securities. Reference to the benchmark is for comparative purposes only and is not intended to indicate that the Fund will contain the same investments as the benchmark. Investors have the opportunity for losses as well as profits. Past performance is no guarantee of future results. Index Source: MSCI Copyright MSCI 2025. All Rights Reserved. Unpublished. PROPRIETARY TO MSCI.

#### **FUND CHARACTERISTICS**

	GLOBAL EQUTY FUND	MSCI WORLD
VALUATION		
Price/Earnings	24.6	23.1
Price/Book	3.3	3.6
Price/Sales	1.8	2.4
Price/Cash Earnings	15.6	14.9
Yield	1.4%	1.7%
MARKET CAP		
Large > A\$80.8B	68.8%	75.9%
Med/Large A\$32.3-A\$80.8	8.0%	15.9%
Medium A\$16.2-A\$32.3	6.8%	6.0%
Med/Small A\$4.8-A\$16.2	10.9%	2.2%
Small < A\$4.8	5.0%	0.0%
WEIGHTED AVERAGE (B)	1317.0	1335.5
MEDIAN (B)	7.7	35.1
ACTIVE SHARE OF PORTFOLIO (%)	71.9	

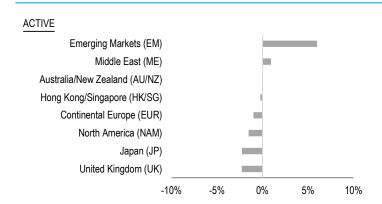
#### **TOP TEN HOLDINGS**

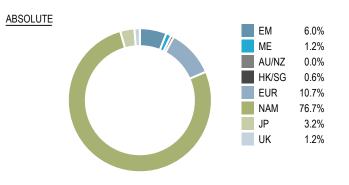
	% OF PORTFOLIO
APPLE INC	6.9
NVIDIA CORP	5.4
ALPHABET INC	5.3
AMAZON.COM INC	3.4
BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY INC	2.5
CITIGROUP INC	2.5
BOOKING HOLDINGS INC	2.4
MICROSOFT CORP	2.4
COSTCO WHOLESALE CORP	2.3
EQUITABLE HOLDINGS INC	2.2
NUMBER OF SECURITIES	254
% OF PORTFOLIO FOR TOP 20 CURRENT HOLDINGS	52.3
% OF NON-BENCHMARK PORTFOLIO HOLDINGS	20.7

# **ALLOCATION TO SUSTAINABLE INVESTMENTS\***

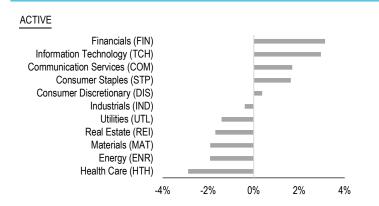
SUSTAINABLE GLOBAL EQUITY	55.52%
MSCIWORLD	49.72%

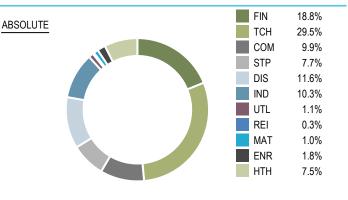
# **CURRENT POSITIONING - REGION**





#### **CURRENT POSITIONING - SECTOR**





<sup>\*</sup>Companies that derive more than 20% revenue from products and services that align with the UN SDGs. Portfolio holdings are subject to change and should not be considered a recommendation to buy or sell individual securities. The data presented here is for a representative portfolio and is supplemental to the composite performance disclosure page attached. Reference to the benchmark is for comparative purposes only and is not intended to indicate that the composite will contain the same investments as the benchmark. Investors have the opportunity for losses as well as profits. Past performance is no guarantee of future returns.

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# **ESG CONSIDERATIONS (DETAILED)**

No exposure to companies that are producers or manufacturers of tobacco (or tobacco alternatives) and controversial weapons (including nuclear) as defined by third party providers.

#### Alcohol, Gambling, Conventional Weapons, Adult Entertainment, Thermal Coal Mining and Unconventional Oil & Gas

Restrict companies with more than 5% of revenue from the production of related products.

#### Fossil Fuel Companies considered to be Climate Transition Laggards

Restrict companies with more than 10% of revenue from the extraction and production of oil & gas or power generation associated with fossil fuels that appear (using a proprietary classification model) unwilling or unable to transition to a low carbon economy.

#### Companies that violate the UN Global Compact

Restrict companies, considered by third-party providers, to have business practices that violate the UN Global Compact, for example, those involved in very severe ESG controversies such as human rights abuses or corruption.

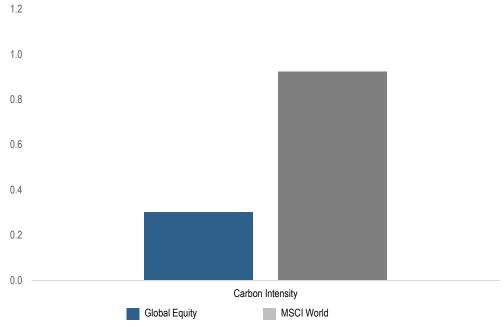
#### Carbon Exposure Reduction

Restrict the portfolio's active carbon (scope 1 + 2) emissions exposure by limiting the total portfolio weighted average carbon intensity (WACI) to a maximum of 80% relative to the MSCI World Ex Australia Index. The portfolio will also reduce the maximum allowable WACI exposure systematically over time. This involves an upfront WACI reduction relative to the benchmark such that it is no more than 80% of the WACI of the benchmark at 31st December 2020 and an annual absolute WACI reduction of 7% p.a.

#### Positive Environmental & Social Exposure

Positive (at least 1.1x exposure of the index using a proprietary model) active exposure to companies that contribute to environmental objectives (such as water use, clean energy, climate action) and social objectives (such as alleviation of poverty and hunger, good health and wellbeing, promotion of education, gender equality). Contribution to these objectives is measured via an issuer's revenue alignment to UN SDGs (United Nations Sustainable Development Goals)

#### **CARBON EXPOSURES**



Scope 1: Direct emissions through the consumption of fossil fuels, includes industrial use, power generation and aircraft

Scope 2: Indirect emissions through consumption of purchased electricity

Carbon Intensity: (Scope 1 + Scope 2 /Sales)

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# RESTRICTION LIST

Top 10 Benchmark Names Excluded Under ESG Considerations	Benchmark Weight
PHILIP MORRIS INTERNATIONAL INC	0.3%
BOEING CO	0.2%
LOCKHEED MARTIN CORP	0.2%
AIRBUS SE	0.1%
ALTRIA GROUP INC	0.1%
BRITISH AMERICAN TOBACCO PLC	0.1%
DIAGEO PLC	0.1%
CANADIAN NATURAL RESOURCES LTD	0.1%
FLUTTER ENTERTAINMENT PLC	0.1%
SUNCOR ENERGY INC	0.1%



# ACADIAN GLOBAL EQUITY FUND

# QUARTERLY REVIEW

#### Market Review

Global markets added to their 2024 positive performance run in the fourth quarter, rising 1.9%. Gains were supported by falling inflation and the ensuing rate cuts by major central banks. Both the U.S. Federal Reserve (Fed) and the European Central Bank (ECB) reduced rates twice during the quarter. However, uncertainties around the incoming Trump administration's trade policies weighed on markets, paring back some of those gains. Developed markets outperformed emerging markets as U.S. equities strengthened amid prospects of deregulation in the country following the elections. At the same time, emerging markets suffered due to anticipation of more protectionist policies in the U.S., with China and India leading these losses. Japanese stocks were a standout, outperforming all the major economies in the period. The Bank of Japan (BoJ), however, decided to tread cautiously on rate hikes amid uncertainty around Trump's future economic policies.

#### **Fund Performance and Activity**

The portfolio outperformed its benchmark¹ by 2.3% for the quarter ending December 31, 2024. Contributing returns from stock selection were joined by positive payoffs from country allocation. Key sources of positive active return included stock selection in the United States and Sweden, and an underweight position in the Netherlands. Leading advances within these markets respectively included positions in Reddit, Spotify Technology, and a lack of exposure to ASML Holding. Detractors included a combination of stock selection and an overweight position in Finland, stock selection in Germany, and an overweight position in Switzerland. Leading declines within these markets in turn included holdings in Wartsila, Evonik Industries and Roche Holding.\*

#### Key Holdings<sup>2</sup>

#### Positive

Our off-benchmark exposure to Reddit, a company that operates a social platform was rewarded with 43 basis points of active return as share prices rallied more than 100% during the quarter. The main catalysts behind the stock's performance have been its Al content licensing deals and strong digital advertising spending. Reddit's new feature that helps translate English posts into French, Spanish, Portuguese, Italian, and German using artificial intelligence has been pivotal in increasing its user base.

#### Negative

Our underweight to Tesla Inc., cost the portfolio 55 basis points of active return as share prices surged almost 81% in the period. Tesla's shares continue to gain from its lower-priced EV models that have been driving top-line growth. Its long-term growth prospects remain strong, supported by the momentum in its Energy Generation & Storage business segment, as well as the progress Tesla has been making with the autonomous-driving software know as Full Self Driving.

# **Outlook and Strategy**

The global economy ended the last quarter of 2024 on a high note. Lower inflation and declining wages led central banks to continue cutting interest rates. However, markets also grappled with uncertainty around the incoming Trump administration's trade policies. The Fed reduced rates twice during the period, lowering the federal funds rate to between 4.25% and 4.5%. In Asia, the Bank of Japan (BoJ) decided to tread cautiously on rate hikes amid uncertainty around U.S. President-elect Donald Trump's future economic policies. While the Chinese markets suffered somewhat due to concerns over potential U.S. tariffs on Chinese goods, anticipation of fresh stimulus measures from the Chinese government reversed some of the losses at the end of the quarter.

The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) believes the global economy will remain resilient in the face of macroeconomic challenges in 2025. Economic growth is likely to stabilize. Concerns over interest rates decreased with central banks cutting rates amid falling inflation, which is now back to central-bank targets in most major economies. Labor markets have also eased, although unemployment rates remain near historical lows. The OECD raised its growth outlook for the global economy recently, estimating growth of 3.2% in 2024 and expecting the global economy to grow 3.3% year-over-year both in 2025 and 2026.

Meanwhile, inflation in the OECD economies is expected to ease further, to 3.8% in 2025 and 3.0% in 2026 from 5.4% in 2024, as monetary policies remain restrictive in most economies. Headline inflation is likely to continue falling, led by significant declines in food, energy, and goods price inflation.

The US Energy Information Agency (EIA) expects global oil production to increase by 1.6 million barrels per day in 2025, close to 90% of which is expected to be from non-OPEC+ countries. This is due to the continued production restraint announced by OPEC+. At its December 5 meeting, the body announced it would delay production increases until April 2025. The EIA expects the Brent crude oil spot price to average \$74/b in 2025 as oil markets are anticipated to remain balanced. However, persistent geopolitical tensions, particularly in the Middle East, remain a potential risk.

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# If you are a Financial Adviser or Wholesale Client:

Please contact Mark Mukundan, SVP, Director, Wholesale Markets – 0411 615 685 or contact Acadian on (02) 9093 1000 or email us at australiaclientservice@acadian-asset.com

#### If you are a Personal Investor or Retail Client:

Speak with your Financial Adviser about the suitability of our products, in light of your investment needs, objectives and financial situation. Please read the product disclosure statement (PDS) and Target Market Determination (TMD) document for the Fund issued by Colonial First State Investments Limited (ABN 98 002 348 352, AFSL 232468) before making an investment decision. You can download the PDS and TMD from

https://www3.colonialfirststate.com.au/personal/resources/pds.html or contact Colonial on 13 18 36 (8am to 7pm Sydney time)

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