

# KBIGI Global Resource Solutions Strategy

## Summary Details

Assets under Mgmt.	€373.3m
Inception Date	01 Mar 2015
Benchmark	S&P Global Natural Resources NR Index
Number of Stocks	128
Revenue Alignment SDG Score	73.3%

## Risk Characteristics

Beta (5 Yrs)	0.72
Information Ratio (5 Yrs)	0.70
Tracking Error (5 Yrs)	9.91

Portfolio Statistics	Strategy	Index
Current Dividend Yield	1.9%	3.8%
Price to Earnings (forward)	17.4x	10.4x
Price to Book	2.3x	1.6x
Weighted Avg Market Cap.	\$22.0bn	\$63.7bn

Source: KBI Global Investors as of 30/09/21. The risk characteristics are calculated independently by KBI Global Investors using monthly gross returns of the composite over a 5 year period relative to the Index as at the 30/09/21. Portfolio and Benchmark Statistics are from a representative account managed to the same strategy and the benchmark respectively. KBI Global Investors independently estimate these statistics for both the portfolio and the benchmark. The AUM listed above is Global Resource Solutions Strategy AUM. Weighted Avg. Mkt. Cap figures are in US Dollars. The Revenue Alignment SDG Score measures the portfolio contribution to the achievement of United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. Calculations are based on KBIGI's own methodology and are not independently verified as at 12/31/2020 (annually).

## Investment Thesis

There are compelling investment opportunities in companies providing solutions to resource scarcity across water, food and energy driven by five long term trends.

- Inadequate supply of water, cleaner energy and arable land for farming
- Increasing demand for resources, driven by population growth, industrialisation and urbanisation
- Increasing regulation and government support
- Increasing investment in infrastructure to address urgent global requirements
- Increasing investment in technology to create solutions and facilitate the more efficient use of resources

## Annualised Performance (€)

	3Mths	YTD	1Yr	3Yrs	5Yrs
Fund (Gross)	2.5	23.9	48.1	20.6	15.7
Benchmark	-0.6	22.5	43.0	4.0	8.2

Source: KBI Global Investors, Datastream, MSCI as of 30/09/21.

KBI calculate both composite returns and benchmark returns. Returns are gross of fees in EUR. Our firm claims GIPS compliance and is annually verified by an independent verification firm to be so. The verification report from our verifier and our GIPS composite presentation are available upon request. The performance record disclosed here is that of the firm's composite for this strategy. The Global Resource Solutions Strategy (GRS) is a long-only global equity strategy investing in securities across a broad range of companies providing value-added solutions to the increasingly challenging provision of vital natural resources. The opportunities are dominated by increasing investment in infrastructure and technological advancement across water, agribusiness and energy. The material risks associated with the composite include market risk and stock-specific event risk. Share prices can decline and there is a risk that the composite may under-perform its benchmark. The S&P Global Natural Resources index includes some of the largest publicly-traded companies in natural resources and commodities businesses that meet specific investability requirements. The benchmark offers a diversified and investable universe across three primary commodities-related sectors: agribusiness, energy, and metals & mining. The benchmark returns include the reinvestment of dividend income from these constituent companies represented in the index. See disclaimers for further information.

## Portfolio Positioning

Resource	%
Water	37.8
Clean Energy	32.8
Agribusiness	29.4

## Geographical Breakdown

Region	%
North America	49.0
Europe	36.9
Emerging Markets	10.4
Japan	2.2
Pacific Basin ex Japan	1.5

## Top 10 Holdings

Stock	Country	%
Veolia Environnement SA	France	2.6
Nutrien Limited	Canada	2.3
United Utilities Group Plc	UK	2.1
FMC Corporation	US	1.6
First Solar Inc	US	1.6
Essential Utilities Inc	US	1.6
Danaher Corporation	US	1.5
AG Growth International Inc	Canada	1.5
Adecoagro SA	Argentina	1.5
Bunge Limited	US	1.5

Source of all data: KBI Global Investors. Data as of 30/09/21

## Strategy Overview

The KBIGI Global Resource Solutions Strategy (GRS) is a long-only natural resources portfolio investing in securities across a broad range of companies providing value-added solutions to the increasingly challenging provision of vital natural resources. The opportunities are dominated by increasing investment in infrastructure and technological advancement across water, agribusiness and energy.

Our proprietary investment universe for the GRS strategy includes more than 500 stocks, worldwide, ranging across Water, Energy Solutions and Agribusiness. These stocks cover a far greater number of sectors than is typical for a natural resources strategy. GRS's differentiated equity holdings deliver the diversification that investors seek from a natural resource allocation.

GRS brings new sources of alpha to a global equity allocation. Specialist active management is the best way to capture this alpha, carefully qualifying a universe of stocks and then identifying companies with strong fundamentals and attractive valuations.

## Investment Process

We seek to precisely define and qualify the companies in our investment universe to assure that the opportunity set for investment is representative of the unique drivers of each of the Water, Agribusiness and Energy Solutions resources.

In order to qualify for inclusion, companies must meet one of the following revenue criteria:

- Pure Plays – Minimum 50% Revenue from the relevant resource
- Market Leaders – Minimum 10% of revenues from resources and a market leader in their sector/market/niche

We then apply specialist active management to add alpha through an interactive process of stock selection grounded in bottom-up fundamentals while taking into account top-down influences on individual companies and sectors. The objective is to identify securities and create a portfolio with a favourable risk/reward profile.

While we consider ourselves high conviction investors we believe strongly that investors benefit greatly from the diversification offered by the Global Resource Solutions strategy; not only by accessing the full breadth of our capabilities in the natural resources space, but also by the variety and balance of individual portfolio exposures within each underlying strategy.

## Investment Team

GRS Portfolio Management Team	Role	Investment Experience
Noel O'Halloran	Lead Portfolio Manager	34yrs
Andros Florides	Co Portfolio Manager	26yrs
Matt Sheldon	Co Portfolio Manager	19yrs
Investment Team	Title	Investment Experience
Treasa Ni Chonghaile	Senior Portfolio Manager	22yrs
Martin Conroy	Portfolio Manager	18yrs
Catherine Cahill	Senior Portfolio Manager	21yrs
Colm O'Connor	Senior Portfolio Manager	19yrs
Eoin Fahy	Head of Responsible Investing	33yrs
Ben Cooke	Investment Analyst	5yrs
Uitan O'Kane	Trader	16yrs

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## Overview

GRS invests in the key resources of water, food and energy. These resources are critical to how we live and there are no substitutes. GRS invests in companies that provide solutions to the problem of growing supply-demand imbalances across these scarce and essential resources, which are driven by a combination of significant demographic changes and significant supply constraints. We believe this is an attractive source of growth that underpins the investment thesis for GRS.

**Regulation and government policies** increasingly support the underlying drivers of GRS. Sustainable energy policies and energy independence is key to the growth in renewable energy. Adoption of wind and solar have been spurred by falling costs such that they are cheaper than fossil fuel alternatives in a growing number of countries. Added to this, we have increasingly seen corporates undertake a greening of their energy needs, sourcing energy from renewable sources under long term purchasing power agreements. The increasing drive by countries to work towards net zero emissions by 2050 is hugely supportive. For example, the introduction and evolution of the European Green Deal is hugely significant. Indeed, policy support has in fact come centre stage globally in light of the COVID-19 related recession, highlighting the economic (as costs have fallen sharply) and societal benefits of these moves.

**Ageing and insufficient infrastructure** across these essential resources needs addressing. Infrastructure in developed markets is generally aged and needs adaptation. Electricity grids in developed markets need to adapt to the growing share of intermittent renewable technologies. The building of 'smart' grids is essential for matching supply and demand of energy in this new world. Water leakage rates due to ageing infrastructure can be at unacceptable levels. Investment in agriculture infrastructure is needed to reduce the large wastage that occurs between production and consumption. Governments are increasingly recognising the need to invest in ageing infrastructure to stimulate the economy and to provide a social benefit. In developing markets, the problem is more likely to be a lack of infrastructure rather than the ageing infrastructure profile seen in developed countries.

**Advances in technology** offer the ability to improve supply, curtail demand, increase efficiency and reduce waste across food, energy and water. For example, the evolution of precision agriculture which uses the combination of data and data analysis along with technology and agronomy know how to improve crop yields, at the same enhancing the efficiency of inputs such as fertilisers and water use, thereby reducing costs and the environmental impact. Disruptive technologies such as electric vehicles and the electrification of vehicles are leading to change. Charging infrastructure for these vehicles needs to be rolled out to further enhancing adoption. Along with a fall in battery prices for electric vehicles, we see their adoption rising sharply in the years ahead.

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