

Q1 2023 EUR

KBI Global Investors



KBIGI Global Sustainable Infrastructure Strategy

Summary Details

Assets under Mgmt.	€2.3bn
Inception Date	01 Oct 2017
Benchmark	S&P Global Infrastructure Index
Number of Stocks	50
Revenue Alignment SDG Score	75.6%

Risk Characteristics

Beta (5 Yrs)	0.78
Information Ratio (5 Yrs)	0.75
Tracking Error (5 Yrs)	8.17

Portfolio Statistics	Strategy	Index
Current Dividend Yield	3.4%	3.7%
Price to Earnings (forward)	16.0x	16.3x
Price to Book	1.9x	2.0x
Weighted Avg Market Cap.	\$31.1bn	\$38.2bn

Source: KBI Global Investors as of 31/03/23. 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 31/03/23. 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 Sustainable Infrastructure Strategy AUM excluding Assets under Advisement from Q1 2022. 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 12/31/2022 (annually).

Investment Thesis

There are compelling investment opportunities in infrastructure 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	2Yrs	3Yrs	5Yrs	Since Incep
Fund (Gross)	2.5	2.5	-1.2	8.8	19.7	14.2	11.6
Fund (Net)	2.3	2.3	-2.1	7.9	18.7	13.3	10.6
Benchmark	1.9	1.9	-1.9	9.5	15.1	7.6	5.3

Source: KBI Global Investors, Datastream, MSCI as of 31/03/23.

KBI calculate both composite returns and benchmark returns. Returns are gross of fees in EUR. Net returns assume an annual management charge of 0.85%. 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 Infrastructure strategy invests in sustainable publicly-traded infrastructure companies that deliver strong investment returns within a robust risk framework. The strategy delivers material and diverse exposure to water and clean energy infrastructure, food storage, transportation and farmland. Further, integrating ESG considerations is key to our investment process given our belief that companies with good governance and whose products and services enhance social or environmental goals are likely to have long, durable, sustainable business models. 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 benchmark is the S&P Global Infrastructure index, net of taxes on dividend income. The index is comprised of listed infrastructure securities from across the world. To create diversified exposure, the index provider includes three distinct infrastructure clusters within the index structure; energy, transportation and utilities. See disclaimers for further information.

Portfolio Positioning

Sector Breakdown

Sector	%
Utilities	50.1
Asset Owners	33.5
Infrastructure Capex	16.4

Geographical Breakdown

Region	%
North America	47.8
Europe	45.7
Emerging Markets	5.1
Japan	1.4

Top 10 Holdings

Stock	Country	%
ENEL SPA	Italy	5.5
Nextera Energy Inc	US	5.3
SBA Communications Corp	US	4.4
National Grid Plc	UK	3.9
Hydro One Ltd	Canada	3.7
RWE AG	Germany	3.7
Equinix Inc	US	3.6
Orsted A/S	Denmark	3.5
Veolia Environnement SA	France	3.5
E.ON SE	Germany	3.4

Source of all data: KBI Global Investors. Data as of 31/03/23

Strategy Overview

The KBI Global Sustainable Infrastructure Strategy is a global portfolio of 30-60 sustainable publicly traded infrastructure companies. The composition of our portfolio is demonstrative of where we believe we have a core competency, but more importantly where we believe a significant proportion of future infrastructure will occur, and where we believe investors lack exposure. Many commentators continue to highlight the vast amounts of money required to be spent on water infrastructure, clean energy infrastructure and the infrastructure necessary for the storage and transportation of food as a direct result of:

- Ageing and depleted assets in dire need of rehabilitation/replacement
- Population growth
- Rapidly expanding cities
- Societal and economic demand

The strategy provides exposure to companies that demonstrate strong infrastructure investment characteristics:

- High regulatory support
- Predictable and stable cash flow
- Long-term contractual businesses
- Low volatility of earnings
- Quality of assets and management

The strategy offers new sources of alpha to investors in the infrastructure asset class, and seeks to provide protection from long-term inflation. It is demonstrative of future investment and displays strong ESG credentials as well as providing investors with differentiation and diversification in what is an efficient asset class.

Investment Process

Our investment process is designed to use our specialist skills to precisely define each theme, construct a proprietary investment universe and then build a concentrated, high conviction portfolio designed to outperform the benchmark.

Identification of sustainable companies as either:

- **Pure plays** (>50% of sales from either Water, Agri or Clean Energy) or
- **Market leaders** (>10% sales and also be a global leader)

Identification of infrastructure companies as either:

- Owners or operators of sustainable infrastructure assets or
- Beneficiaries of sustainable infrastructure investment

Weighting Sector

- Focus on bottom up fundamentals and valuation with an overlay of top down influences

Stock Selection

- Focus on asset-intensive (often monopolistic) businesses with long-duration contracts (often with strong regulatory or government backing) producing stable cash flow generation with inflation protection.
- Emphasis on companies with predictive and stable dividend yields, strong fundamentals, stable management and attractive valuations.

Investment Team

Infrastructure Portfolio Management Team	Role	Investment Experience
Colm O'Connor	Lead Portfolio Manager	20yrs
Noel O'Halloran	Co Portfolio Manger	35yrs
Martin Conroy	Co Portfolio Manager	19yrs
Investment Team	Title	Investment Experience
Treasa Ni Chonghaile	Senior Portfolio Manager	24yrs
Catherine Cahill	Senior Portfolio Manager	23yrs
Matt Sheldon	Senior Portfolio Manager	21yrs
Andros Florides	Senior Portfolio Manager	28yrs
Eoin Fahy	Head of Responsible Investing	35yrs
Ben Cooke	Investment Analyst	7Yrs
Ultan O'Kane	Trader	17yrs

Contact Details

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Overview

The Global Sustainable Infrastructure invests in companies which own and operate long duration assets within Water, Clean Energy, Agribusiness, waste as well as social and digital infrastructure. The strategy looks to invest in long-term infrastructure assets which are producing predictable cash flows (often inflation linked). When building the portfolio, we aim to provide exposure to stable regulatory environments.

There is an urgent need to upgrade our ageing infrastructure in developed markets; much of the water supply and wastewater systems for instance was designed when cities were less congested and are now in major need of overhaul. Government pledges to achieve net zero emissions by 2050 will result in a transformation of our energy infrastructure assets. Decarbonisation and digitisation of the electric grid will drive huge investment spend in clean energy infrastructure over the coming years. Investment in agri infrastructure will be more focused on emerging markets where increased use of storage equipment and grain handling assets, will be needed to reduce the large wastage that occurs between production and consumption. Following several years of under investment, governments are increasingly recognising the need to invest in ageing infrastructure both as a way of stimulating the global economy and as a way of providing a social benefit to taxpayers.

There are three key drivers supporting increased growth in sustainable infrastructure. Significant demographic changes (such as population growth, emerging market middle class growth and urbanisation etc) are set to raise demand for infrastructure sharply over coming decades. Secondly, concern over rising emissions has prompted governments to prioritize climate change objectives when enacting fiscal incentives schemes that support infrastructure end markets. Finally, advances in technology across renewable energy end markets is accelerating the energy transition while trends such as 5G, IOT and edge computing are driving increased demand for high speed internet access. The overhaul of both the electric grid driven by decarbonization and communications infrastructure will ultimately lead to trillions of dollars to be allocated across new digital infrastructure end markets.

Disclaimer

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