

STONEHAGE FLEMING  
**GLOBAL BEST IDEAS EQUITY FUND**

OUR FOUR  
FUNDAMENTAL  
QUALITY PILLARS -  
IDENTIFYING  
GLOBAL BEST IN  
CLASS BUSINESSES



**INVESTMENT OBJECTIVE**

To achieve long-term growth in capital and income in a focused portfolio of high quality listed businesses from around the world.

**INVESTMENT PHILOSOPHY**

We invest in best in class businesses for their quality, strategic competitive edge and value.

**FUND COMMENTARY**

April was the first negative month this year, with the S&P 500 Index and the MSCI ACTR Index returning -4.0% and -3.2% respectively (in \$ terms). This is largely due to macro-economic factors, and has little to do with company specifics.

The third successive increase in inflation this year, along with a healthy US economy, has brought investors to the conclusion that the Federal Reserve's stance of continued high interest rates through 2024 is a firm reality. The 10-year US Treasury Yield increased from 4.2% to 4.7% over the month, triggering a drop in risk appetite and a devaluation of equities. This is particularly the case for higher valuation multiple stocks (e.g. some in Technology), despite their firm growth potential and a strong overall earnings season thus far (an earnings surprise of +9.4% for the S&P 500 Index).

Many of our companies have announced stellar results thus far. This is particularly the case for Alphabet, firing on all of its business cylinders, and unexpectedly announcing their maiden dividend. Its performance has taken it into the largest position in the portfolio. Microsoft continues its strong performance, delivering especially well from AI in its Azure cloud business. Amazon announced an excellent result from continued ecommerce margin expansion, accelerating AWS growth (from AI) and a sharp increase in free cash flow. Colgate-Palmolive announced strong +9% organic growth, with its share one of the few Staples now at a record level, despite the weak market. The minor disappointments in terms of operational results have been Cadence Design Systems with a -1% top-line, as well as Nestle (our smallest holding) and McDonalds with organic growth of +1.4% and +1.9% respectively.

In terms of portfolio performance, Alphabet and Colgate-Palmolive delivered positive contributions. Despite its longer term strong outlook, Cadence Design Systems was the largest detractor, followed by Accenture (a stagnant order book) and Microsoft (a valuation de-rating).

Data sourced from Bloomberg.

Opinions expressed represent the view of SFIM at the time of preparation. They are subject to change and should not be interpreted as investment advice.

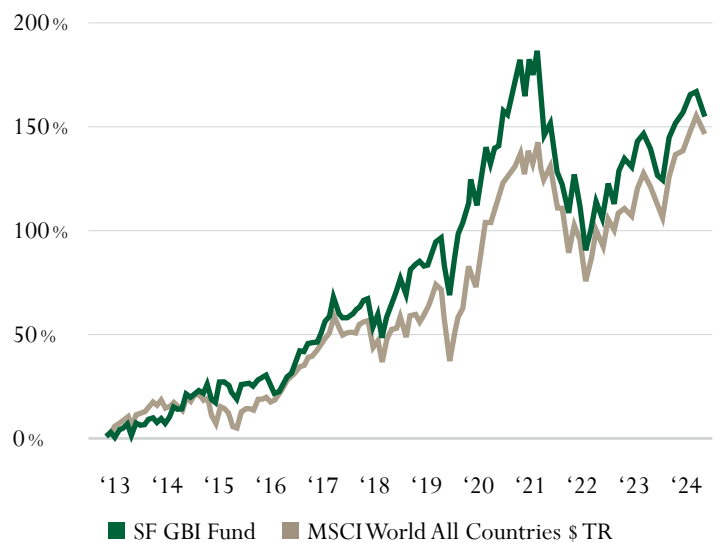
**RISK DISCLOSURE**

Past performance is not a guide to future performance. The value of investments can fall. Investors may not get back the amount invested. Income from investments may vary and is not guaranteed. The return may increase or decrease due to currency fluctuations. Performance figures are net of fees and charges. The Fund may hold a relatively small number of stocks as compared to many other funds. This may make the Fund's performance more volatile than would be the case if it had a more diversified investment portfolio. For a full list of risks applicable to this fund, please refer to the Prospectus.

**INVESTMENT STRATEGY**

- Invest for sustainable growth
- Fundamental research driven
- Particular focus on quality of management, balance sheet strength, return on invested capital, free cash flow, ability to grow dividends each year
- Bottom-up approach to identify exceptional businesses
- Global orientation, with emerging market exposure
- High conviction concentrated portfolio
- Predominantly larger capitalisation businesses, also consider exceptional medium-sized ones
- Buy to hold and disciplined selling
- No benchmark orientation, no active trading, no leverage, no hedging

**CUMULATIVE PERFORMANCE<sup>1</sup> (CLASS A USD)**



**CLASS A USD CUMULATIVE PERFORMANCE %**

	1m	YTD	1yr	3yr	5yr	10yr	Since inception
SF GBI Equity	-4.8	0.9	8.0	-0.8	45.8	137.0	152.2
Annualised	-	-	-	-0.3	7.8	9.0	9.0
MSCI AC \$ TR	-3.2	4.6	17.5	13.4	57.0	119.8	147.1
Annualised	-	-	-	4.3	9.4	8.2	8.8

**CLASS A USD PERIODIC PERFORMANCE %**

	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018
SF GBI Equity	21.9	-27.6	19.0	25.8	30.0	-6.8
MSCI AC \$ TR	22.2	-18.4	18.5	16.3	26.6	-9.4

<sup>1</sup> Performance prior to 23 August 2013 is simulated using the performance of the B share class. Fund Inception Date: 16 August 2013. Source for all performance is Northern Trust, Bloomberg, MSCI and Stonehage Fleming Investment Management Limited as at 30/04/24. Third parties (including Bloomberg) whose data may be included in this document do not accept any liability for errors or omissions.

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**TOP TEN HOLDINGS (% OF FUND)**

Alphabet	7.9
Microsoft	7.0
Amazon	5.5
Cadence	5.2
ASML	4.2
EssilorLuxottica	4.1
Accenture	4.1
Edwards Lifesciences	3.9
Visa	3.8
S&P Global	3.7
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>49.5</b>

**SECTOR BREAKDOWN (% OF FUND)**

Technology	26.1
Health Care	21.4
Discretionary	13.1
Financials	12.5
Staples	8.4
Communication	7.9
Materials	3.6
Industrials	3.0
Cash	3.9
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**PORTFOLIO MANAGER**



**GERRIT SMIT**

Gerrit Smit is Head of the Equity Management team. He has overall responsibility for its Portfolio Management and Equity Research functions. The team invests for sustainable growth with a particular focus on quality of management, balance sheet strength, cash flow generation and the ability to grow dividends each year.

**REGIONAL BREAKDOWN (% OF FUND)**

United States	72.7
Continental Europe	20.2
Asia Pacific	3.2
Cash	3.9
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**ESTIMATED REGIONAL REVENUES<sup>8</sup> (% OF FUND)**

North America	48.4
Emerging Markets	22.8
Continental Europe	21.9
Japan	3.0
Other	4.0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**PORTFOLIO CHARACTERISTICS**

Average Market Cap (Billions USD)	412.6
Number of Holdings	28
Operating Margin	30.0%
Return on Invested Capital	20.7%
Net Debt/EBITDA <sup>1</sup>	0.6
Expected 3 Year Revenue Growth (p.a.) <sup>*</sup>	9.4%
Expected 3 Year EPS <sup>2</sup> Growth (p.a.) <sup>*</sup>	13.9%
Expected 3 Year DPS <sup>3</sup> Growth (p.a.) <sup>*</sup>	8.9%
Dividend Yield (Gross) <sup>4,5</sup>	1.0%
Price/Earnings Ratio <sup>5</sup>	28.4
Free Cash Flow Yield <sup>5</sup>	3.5%
PEG Ratio <sup>6,7</sup>	2.7

**FUND RATINGS<sup>1</sup>**



**SECTOR BREAKDOWN**

Source: Northern Trust International Fund Administration Services (Ireland) Limited and Stonehage Fleming Investment Management Limited.

**PORTFOLIO CHARACTERISTICS**

<sup>\*</sup> Such forecasts are not a reliable indicator of future performance.

<sup>1</sup> Earnings Before Interest, Taxes, Depreciation and Amortisation. <sup>2</sup> Earnings Per Share. <sup>3</sup> Dividend Per Share. <sup>4</sup> Of underlying holdings, and stated gross of withholding taxes and costs. <sup>5</sup> Estimated 12 months forward. <sup>6</sup> Price / Earnings to Growth Ratio. <sup>7</sup> Weighted portfolio Trailing P/E Ratio and EPS projections applied.

Source: Stonehage Fleming Investment Management Limited, Bloomberg.

**ESTIMATED REGIONAL REVENUES**

<sup>8</sup> Source: Based on where underlying companies in the Stonehage Fleming Global Best Ideas Equity Fund derive their revenues.

Source: Bloomberg; Stonehage Fleming Investment Management Limited; Northern Trust International Fund Administration Services (Ireland) Limited. Due to rounding, values may not add up to 100%.

**FUND RATINGS**

Source & Copyright. Morningstar and Morning star OBSR ratings © 2024 Morningstar. All Rights Reserved. Ratings are collected on the first business day of the month. Morningstar Sustainability Rating as of 30/04/24. Morningstar ratings refer to the B class rating for all USD denominated share classes and to the D class rating for all GBP denominated share classes. Sustainalytics provides company-level analysis used in the calculation of Morningstar's Sustainability Score. Sustainability Mandate information is derived from the fund prospectus. Morningstar Carbon Metrics cover all equity holdings as of 30/04/24. The information contained herein: (1) is proprietary to Morningstar and/or its content providers; (2) may not be copied or distributed; and (3) is not warranted to be accurate, complete or timely. Neither Morningstar nor its content providers are responsible for any damages or losses arising from any use of this information. Past performance is no guarantee of future results.

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**OUTCOME OF FAIR VALUE ASSESSMENTS (2023)**

Our assessment confirms:

- The fund meets the needs of the target market.
- The intended distribution strategy remains appropriate.
- The fund provides fair value to customers.

**INVESTOR PROFILE**

The fund is appropriate for all investor types, including those with only a basic knowledge of funds. It is compatible with investors who do not need a capital guarantee (investors must be prepared to accept fluctuations in the value of capital, including the ability to bear 100% capital loss) and are seeking capital growth. Due to the volatility of markets, investors should be willing to accept price fluctuations in exchange for the opportunity of potentially higher returns. This is a long term investment and investors should have an investment time horizon of at least 5 years. The recommended holding period does not provide any guarantee that the objective will be achieved. This product is eligible for all distribution channels (e.g. investment advice, portfolio management, non-advised sales and pure execution services).

The fund is unlikely to be appropriate for those who:

- Are looking for full capital protection or full repayment of the amount invested, and those who want a guaranteed return
- Have no risk tolerance
- Who are unwilling to accept price fluctuations (volatility) in the value of the fund
- Do not intend to invest for the long term

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

This is a marketing communication. Please refer to the prospectus and the KIID of the UCITS before making any final investment decisions. All investments risk the loss of capital. No guarantee or representation is made that the funds will achieve their investment objective. Derivatives may be used for efficient portfolio management. The fund invests in assets which are denominated in other currencies; hence changes in the relevant exchange rate will affect the value of the investment.

The distribution or possession of this document in jurisdictions outside the United Kingdom may be restricted by law or other regulatory requirements. The Fund has been classified by the Manager, working in conjunction with the Investment Manager, as a product in accordance with Article 6 of SFDR, for further information please follow this link to our website: [https://cdn.io.stonehagefleming.com/craft-cms/investmentManagement/Sustainability-Disclosure\\_2021-10-20-124901\\_fcnr.pdf](https://cdn.io.stonehagefleming.com/craft-cms/investmentManagement/Sustainability-Disclosure_2021-10-20-124901_fcnr.pdf).

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**FUND INFORMATION**

Total Net Assets	\$2,567.6m
Comparative Index	MSCI World All Countries \$ TR
Fund Type	UCITS
Fund Domicile	Ireland
Base Currency	USD
Currencies Available	GBP, USD, EUR, CHF
Inception Date	16 Aug 2013
Range of Holdings	20-30 stocks
Income Paid	N/A
Type of Payment	N/A
Ex Dividend	N/A
Payment Date	N/A
Pricing	Daily by 11pm (IRE)
Dealing	Daily by 12pm (IRE)

**FUND CHARACTERISTICS**

Active Share <sup>1</sup>	84.9%
Ex Post Tracking Error	6.9%
12 Month Turnover	10.4%
Beta	0.94

**USD A (ACCUMULATION) SHARE CLASS DETAILS**

Price	\$252.36
ISIN	IE00BCLYMB94
Synthetic Risk & Reward Indicator (SRRI) rating	6
Annual Management Fee	1.25%
Total Ongoing Charge (OCF <sup>2</sup> )	1.31%
Min Initial Investment (USD)	50,000
Registered For Sale	UK, CH, SA

<sup>1</sup> Active Share measures how much the portfolio holdings differ from the benchmark index (MSCI World) ie. a portfolio that is identical to the benchmark would have 0% active share. <sup>2</sup>The OCF is the Annual Management Fee plus additional fund expenses as a percentage of the assets of the fund. This gives an indication of annual expenses. This figure may vary over time. It excludes portfolio transaction costs.

Pooled Investments (Ireland) Plc, (the "Company"), an open-ended umbrella investment company with variable capital and segregated liability between Funds incorporated with limited liability in Ireland under the Companies Acts 1963 with registration number 525228. It qualifies, and is authorised in Ireland by the Central Bank of Ireland as an Undertaking for Collective Investment in Transferable Securities ("UCITS"). The Company is recognised as a section 264 scheme by the Financial Conduct Authority in the United Kingdom. Carne Global Fund Managers (Ireland) Limited has been appointed as the manager (the "Manager") of the Company and Stonehage Fleming Investment Management Limited has been appointed as the investment manager (the "Investment Manager") of the Company. Before you invest you should read the Key Investor Information Document (KIID) and the Prospectus which contain detailed information. The latest version of the Prospectus and the Key Investor Information documents, Articles and reports [and accounts] for the Fund are available in English and can be obtained free of charge from the Stonehage Fleming Website: <https://www.stonehagefleming.com/gbi/documents-and-prices>. The Manager has the right to terminate the arrangements made for the marketing of funds in accordance with the UCITS Directive. A summary of investor rights can be found here: <https://www.carnegroup.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/Carne-Group-Summary-of-Investor-Rights-1.pdf>

Swiss Investors: The home jurisdiction of the fund is Ireland. The representative in Switzerland is FundRock Switzerland SA, Route de Cité-Quest 2, 1196 Gland, Switzerland. The place of performance and jurisdiction is the registered office of the representative in Switzerland. Swiss Paying Agent: Banque Cantonale de Geneve of 17, Quai de l'Île, 1204 Geneva, Switzerland. In countries where the Fund is not registered for sale or in any other circumstances where its distribution is not authorised or is unlawful, the Fund should not be distributed to resident Retail Clients.

NOTE: THIS INVESTMENT IS NOT FOR SALE TO U.S. PERSONS.

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**CONTACT FOR DEALING OR APPLICATION FORM**

**Administrator:** Northern Trust International Fund Administration Services (Ireland) Limited t: +353 1 434 5074 e: [Stonehage\\_TA@ntrs.com](mailto:Stonehage_TA@ntrs.com)

**Investment Manager:** Stonehage Fleming Investment Management Limited e: [GBI@stonehagefleming.com](mailto:GBI@stonehagefleming.com) [www.stonehagefleming.com/gbi](http://www.stonehagefleming.com/gbi)