#### STONFHAGE FLEMING

## **GLOBAL BEST IDEAS EQUITY FUND**

**USD A SHARE CLASS** 31 MAY 2021

#### **OUR FOUR FUNDAMENTAL QUALITY PILLARS - IDENTIFYING GLOBAL BEST OF BREED BUSINESSES**



FLEMING









#### **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 of breed businesses for their quality, strategic competitive edge and value.

#### PERFORMANCE DISCLOSURE

Simulated past performance and 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.

### **FUND COMMENTARY**

Equity investors currently face an interesting conundrum. Apart from the usual 'Sell in May consideration, they currently also experience a combination of rising interest rates, sharply rising inflation, the threat of rising capital gains taxes and higher corporate tax rates as well as very high national debt levels, while all of these negatives are accompanied by record share prices. For many this dichotomy may not make logical sense. Voices are already being heard for the Federal Reserve to think about when to start a new tightening programme to control inflation.

Economic circumstances are never exactly the same as before, and one always has to rather consider the current circumstances and the outlook. We, nevertheless, have a lot from history to consider and learn. In this context, rising interest rate cycles have historically predominantly been associated with solid equity performances. Inflation levels between 1% and 3% have delivered the best equity ratings. The stock market has historically, on average, delivered solid returns for a year after the first Fed Rate hike. Increased capital gains tax levels have predominantly been followed by fair equity returns, whilst increased corporate tax levels have also tended to lead to positive equity returns in the following year.

US national debt levels have further increased sharply since the end of 2019, to a record level as a percentage of the US GDP. Whilst this frightens many, because of the changes in interest rate levels over time, interest payments as percentage of GDP have been relatively flat over the past fifteen years. They are currently close to the record low.

These results are quite counter-intuitive to some perceptions. Further to this, historically, the S&P 500 performance from May to August has on average delivered positive overall results, exceeding the traditional record of average monthly losses in September well. The first half of economic upswing periods (where we are currently), has on average delivered twice the performance over the second half.

Whilst history does not always repeat itself, we cannot conclude that current record share prices imply an irrational stock market.

#### **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) 160% 140% 120% -80% 60% 40% 20% Sep Dec Jun Dec Dec Jun Dec Jun Dec 2013 2014 2020 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 SF GBI Fund MSCI World All Countries \$ TR IA Global \$

CLASS A USD CUMULATIVE PERFORMANCE %							
		1m	YTD	1 Year	3 Year	5 Year	Since Inception
	Stonehage Fleming Global Best Ideas Equity	-0.5	6.2	31.9	61.9	102.0	153.0
	MSCI World All Countries \$ TR	1.6	10.8	41.8	47.6	94.0	121.4
	IA Global \$	1.6	10.7	43.3	47.2	90.2	107.4

CLASS A USD PERIODIC PERFORMANCE %								
	Calendar Year	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014
	Stonehage Fleming Global Best Ideas Equity	25.8	30.0	-6.8	29.3	-3.0	9.8	6.1
	MSCI World All Countries \$ TR	16.3	26.6	-9.4	24.0	7.9	-2.4	4.2
	IA Global \$	18.9	26.8	-11.2	24.8	3.4	-2.9	0.8

<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 Link, Bloomberg, Financial Express, MSCI and Stonehage Fleming Equity Management as at 31/05/2021. Third parties (including Bloomberg and Financial Express) whose data may be included in this document do not accept any liability for errors or omissions

#### **FUND RATINGS**









Source & Copyright. Morningstar and Morning star OBSR ratings © 2020 Morningstar. All Rights Reserved. Ratings are collected on the first business day of the month. Morningstar Sustainability Rating as of 31/05/21. 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. Sustainability Score. Sustainability Mandate information is derived from the fund prospectus. Morningstar cover all equity holdings as of 31/05/21. FE Crown Fund Ratings do not constitute investment advice offered by FE and should not be used as the sole basis for making any investment decision.

# **GLOBAL BEST IDEAS EQUITY FUND**

USD A SHARE CLASS 31 MAY 2021

SECTOR BREAKDOWN	% of Fund
Technology	26.5
Discretionary	19.6
Health Care	17.8
Communication	11.9
Staples	9.8
Financials	9.2
Industrials	2.1
Cash	3.1
Total	100.0

Source: Link Fund Administrators (Ireland) Limited and Stonehage Fleming Investment Management Limited.

<b>FUND N</b>	<b>1ANAGER</b>
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#### 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.

RE	GIONAL BREAKDOWN	% of Fund
	United States	79.1
	Continental Europe	10.4
	Asia Pacific	7.4
	UK	0.0
	Cash	3.1
Tot	al	100.0

PC	PORTFOLIO CHARACTERISTICS				
	Average Market Cap (Billions USD)	357.6			
	Number of Holdings	28			
	Operating Margin	26.7%			
	Return on Invested Capital	17.0%			
	Net Debt/EBITDA <sup>1</sup>	0.3			
	Expected 3 Year Revenue Growth (p.a.)	13.3%			
	Expected 3 Year EPS <sup>2</sup> Growth (p.a.)	20.3%			
	Expected 3 Year DPS <sup>3</sup> Growth (p.a.)	8.8%			
	Dividend Yield (gross) <sup>4,5</sup>	0.8%			
	Price/Earnings Ratio⁵	34.1			
	Free Cash Flow Yield <sup>5</sup>	2.9%			
	PEG Ratio <sup>6,7</sup>	2.7			

<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.

то	P TEN HOLDINGS	% of Fund
	PayPal	6.3
	Alphabet	5.8
	Microsoft	5.1
	Amazon	4.7
	Visa	4.6
	Nike	4.6
	Adobe	4.5
	Zoetis	4.3
	LVMH	4.2
	Accenture	3.8
Tot	al	48.0

ES	TIMATED REGIONAL REVENUES <sup>8</sup>	% of Fund
	North America	49.0
	Emerging Markets	29.8
	Continental Europe	16.5
	UK	4.6
Tot	al	100.0

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; Link Fund Administrators (Ireland) Limited. Due to rounding, values may not add up to 100%.

FUND INFORMATION	
Total Net Assets	\$2,144.4m
Comparative Index	MSCI World All Countries \$ TR
Lipper Sector	Lipper Global Equity Global
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 Dividends	N/A
Payment Date	N/A
Pricing	Daily by 23:00 Irish Time
Dealing	Daily by 12:00 Irish Time

FUND CHARACTERISTICS				
Active Share <sup>9</sup>	87.0%			
Ex Post Tracking Error	6.9%			
12 Month Turnover	4.2%			
BETA	0.85			

<sup>9</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.

USD A (ACCUMULATION) SHARE CLASS DETAILS	
Price	\$253.12
ISIN	IE00BCLYMB94
Synthetic Risk & Reward Indicator (SRRI) rating	5
Annual Management fee	1.25%
Total ongoing charge (OCF)	1.34%
Min initial investment (USD)	50,000
Registered for sale	UK, CH, SA

The OCF is the 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.

#### IMPORTANT INFORMATION

The Fund is a sub-fund of the Stonehage Fleming 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 Act 2014 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. The Fund is an approved Foreign Collective Investment Scheme in South Africa where it is registered with the Financial Sector Conduct Authority (South Africa). The Fund has been granted consent pursuant to the Control of Borrowing (Jersey) Order 1958, by the Jersey Financial Services Commission ("JFSC") to circulate an offer for subscription, sale or exchange of shares in Jersey. The JFSC is protected by the Control of Borrowing (Jersey) Law 1947, as amended, against liability arising from

the discharge of its functions under that Law. Link Fund Administrators (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.

The latest version of the Prospectus and the Key Investor Information documents are available in English and can be obtained by contacting the administrator at dublinta@linkgroup.ie.

The Fund has been classified as a product in accordance withArticle6ofSustainableFinanceDisclosureRegulations ("SFDR"). For further information please follow this link to our website: https://cdn.io.stonehagefleming.com/craft-cms/investmentManagement/Sustainability-Disclosure\_2021-03-12-172728.pdf

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Swiss Investors: The home jurisdiction of the fund is Ireland. The place of performance and jurisdiction, along with the place where the prospectus, memorandum and articles of association, key investor information documents and the annual and semiannual reports of the Fund can be obtained free of charge, is the registered office of the Fund's Swiss Representative - ARM Swiss Representatives SA, Route de Cité-Quest 2, 1196 Gland, Switzerland. Swiss Paying Agent: Banque Cantonale de Geneve of 17, Quai de l'Ile, 1204 Geneva, Switzerland.