

PPS GLOBAL EQUITY FUND

A sub-fund of the Prescient Global Funds Plc



INVESTMENTS

Fund data as at 31 March 2020

FUND DESCRIPTION

The PPS Global Equity Fund is an actively managed, global equity fund that aims to provide investors with long-term capital growth. It takes advantage of investment opportunities in listed equities of companies in both developed and emerging market economies, utilizing a bottom-up and research driven approach.

The Fund’s primary investment objective is to outperform the MSCI All Country World Index (or an equivalent index) after fees. Income is a secondary objective for this fund and is achieved by investing in companies with a strong potential to pay dividends in the future.

FUND OVERVIEW

Fund type	UCITS
Class	A (USD)
Portfolio category	Global Equity
Launch date	22 November 2019
Sub-manager	Capital Group
Benchmark	MSCI All Country World Index (ACWI)
Income distribution	No distributions
Investment horizon	Long-term
Portfolio size	US\$ 88 013 352.22
Market value (NAV price per unit)	8034.70 cents
ISIN code	IE00BJXT2G67
Minimum investment	US\$ 10 000
Asset management fee	1.25%
Trustee	Northern Trust Fiduciary Services Limited
Risk profile	Med-High
Investment Manager	PPS Multi-Managers Proprietary Limited

PORTFOLIO DETAIL

Top 10 holdings	Allocation
Amazon	4.0%
Microsoft Corp	3.0%
Facebook Inc	3.0%
Tesla Inc	2.2%
Alphabet Inc	2.0%
Mastercard Inc	1.8%
Netflix Inc	1.7%
Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing	1.5%
Intuitive Surgical	1.4%
VISA Inc	1.4%
As a % of total	22.3%

TOP 5 MSCI SECTOR ALLOCATION

Top 5 MSCI Sector	Allocation
Information Technology	19.9%
Health Care	14.9%
Consumer Discretionary Financials	14.2%
Financials	14.0%
Industrials	8.8%

ASSET ALLOCATION

Asset	Allocation
Equity	100%

ANNUALISED PERFORMANCE ^

	YTD	1 Year	3 Years	5 Years	10 Years	Since inception
PPS Global Equity Fund	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
MSCI All Country World Index	-21.26%	-10.76%	2.05%	3.41%	6.45%	-18.45%

	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014
PPS Global Equity Fund	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
MSCI All Country World Index	27.30%	-8.93%	24.62%	8.48%	-1.84%	4.71%

^Performance is not available due to the short lifespan of the fund. Annualised performance will be available after 1 year.

REGIONAL ALLOCATION #

Region	Allocation
North America	66.7%
Europe	22.6%
Asia	9.9%
Africa	0.6%
South America	0.2%

# Based on currencies

FEES\*

Fees	1 Year	3 Years
Total expense ratio (TER)	n/a	n/a
Transaction costs (TC)	n/a	n/a
Total investment charge (TER+TC)	n/a	n/a

\*The TER and Transaction Costs cannot be determined accurately because of the short life span of the Financial Product.



## Fund Commentary

Global stocks fell sharply and volatility rose as the COVID-19 pandemic fuelled concerns of a severe economic slowdown. Despite emergency monetary and fiscal measures, even safe-haven assets such as investment-grade bonds came under pressure. Energy stocks were very weak after Saudi Arabia initiated a price war with Russia. Brent crude fell below US\$23 per barrel, a year-to-date loss of 67%. Most sectors declined by more than 10%, but health care and consumer staples held up better than the wider market. US equities entered a bear market for the first time in 11 years. The Federal Reserve cut its policy rate to near zero and reinstated a massive bond-buying programme. A US \$2.2 trillion stimulus package was announced. US weekly jobless claims surged to a record high. European stocks declined the most among major developed markets as the COVID-19 outbreak hit Italy and Spain particularly hard. Central banks and national leaders responded with massive new monetary and fiscal stimulus measures. The European Central Bank launched a €750 billion bond-buying programme but kept short-term interest rates on hold. Japanese stocks fell sharply as manufacturing disruptions in China, its largest trading partner, fed concerns about the economy. The Tokyo Summer Olympics were postponed, a fresh blow to an economy that contracted by an annualised 7.1% in Q4 2019 as a consumption tax hike in October weighed on household spending. Emerging market stocks tumbled as key supply chains in China were jolted by the coronavirus pandemic, commodity prices plunged, and the US dollar surged. Chinese stocks declined the least among emerging markets as the number of new COVID-19 cases slowed and some people began to return to work. The government employed limited stimulus measures, including cutting key borrowing rates and providing liquidity to small and medium-sized enterprises.

The fund returned -18.4% for Q1 2020, outpacing the MSCI ACWI, which returned -21.2%, by 2.8%. The fund generated positive relative returns across regions and sectors, with seven of the 11 sectors delivering positive relative results. Among the largest positive relative contributors were companies experiencing tailwinds from the stay-at-home policies adopted in many countries. The fund's largest holding, Amazon, rose 6% as it benefitted from a rise in online consumer spending. The company also announced that it plans to hire up to 100,000 extra fulfilment workers to help meet orders. On-demand streaming giant Netflix also saw strong returns, gaining 16% after unprecedented demand for its streaming services. Companies experiencing tailwinds from the stay-at-home policies adopted in many countries. Tesla also added to relative gains after its shares rose sharply in the first half of the quarter on positive earnings data and record deliveries in Q4 2019. However, the stock fell in the second half of Q1 as concerns grew that the electric vehicle innovator could experience liquidity issues as a result of the ongoing pandemic. At a sector level, low exposure to financials, particularly US banks, was beneficial as the low interest rate environment put pressure on margins. Strong stock selection also aided returns, with holdings in financial exchanges CME Group and London Stock Exchange Group, and Hong Kong-based insurance group AIA, holding up better than the broader market.

Weighing on returns were travel-related holdings. Four of the portfolio's five largest detractors were impacted by the sharp drop in global travel resulting from travel bans due to the COVID-19 outbreak. Aircraft manufacturer Airbus suffered on concerns about short-term order deferrals, and some medium-term cancellations, as a result of the challenges facing the airline industry. However, given the firm's strategic importance and strong liquidity, managers maintain a favourable long-term view. A similar long-term view is held on Safran, the aero-engine and equipment maker, which was negatively affected as short-term maintenance declined and aircraft retirements increased. A position in Norwegian Cruise Lines detracted, as did a holding in MGM Mirage, as cruises and conventions were cancelled in a bid to slow the spread of COVID-19.

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## Glossary Summary

**Annualised performance:** Annualised performance shows longer term performance rescaled to a 1-year period. Annualised performance is the average return per year over the period. Actual annual figures are available to the investor on request.

**Highest & Lowest return:** The highest and lowest returns for any 1 year over the period since inception have been shown.

**NAV:** The net asset value represents the assets of a Fund less its liabilities.

**Alpha:** Denoted the outperformance of the fund over the benchmark.

**Sharpe Ratio:** The Sharpe ratio is used to indicate the excess return the portfolio delivers over the risk free rate per unit of risk adopted by the fund.

**General market risk** is the risk of a broad market movement unrelated to any specific securities.

**Company risk** is the financial uncertainty faced by an investor who holds securities in a specific firm. It's also called company-specific risk, unsystematic risk, and diversifiable risk.

A **credit risk** is the risk of default on a debt that may arise from a borrower failing to make required payments.

**Counterparty risk** is the likelihood or probability that one of those involved in a transaction might default on its contractual obligation. Counterparty risk can exist in credit, investment, and trading transactions.

**Operational risk** is the risk of loss resulting from inadequate or failed internal processes, people, and systems or from external events. Third-party relationships often integrate the internal processes of other organizations with the bank's processes and can increase the overall operational complexity.

**Guidance of Risk Profile:** A risk profile is an evaluation of an individual's willingness and ability to take risks. A risk profile is important for determining a proper investment asset allocation for a portfolio. Med – High refers to the risk associated with investing in high equity portfolio as opposed to other asset classes.

## DISCLOSURES

The PPS Global Equity Fund is a sub-fund of the Prescient Global Funds plc an open-ended umbrella type investment company, with segregated liability between its sub-funds, authorised by the Central Bank of Ireland, as an undertaking for collective investment in transferable securities under the European Communities (UCITS) Regulation, 2011 as amended (the Regulations). It is managed by Prescient Fund Services (Ireland) Limited which is authorised by the Central Bank of Ireland, as a UCITS IV Management Company. The Prescient Global Funds plc full prospectus and the Fund's KIID are available free of charge from the Manager in English or by visiting [www.prescient.ie](http://www.prescient.ie).

Collective Investment Schemes in Securities (CIS) are generally medium-to long-term investments. The value of participatory interests (units) may go down as well as up, and past performance is not necessarily a guide to future performance. The Manager has the right to close any Portfolios to new investors to manage them more efficiently in accordance with their mandates. CIS are traded at ruling prices and can engage in borrowing up to 10% of the market value of the portfolio to bridge insufficient liquidity. The manager does not provide any guarantee either in respect of the capital or the return of a portfolio. Total Expense Ratio (TER) is a measure that can be used by investors and advisers to determine how much of a Financial Product's underlying assets are relinquished as payment for services rendered in the administration of the Financial Product. Transaction Costs (TC) is a measure of the total costs incurred in buying and selling assets underlying the CIS are a necessary cost in administering the CIS and impact CIS's returns. It should not be considered in isolation as returns may be impacted by many other factors over time including market returns, the type of CIS, the investment decisions of the investment manager and the TER. TER's and TC's are expressed as a percentage of the daily net asset value of the CIS calculated over a period of three years on an annualised basis. A higher TER does not necessarily imply a poor return, nor does a low TER imply a good return. The current TER may not necessarily be an accurate indication of future TER's. Total Investment Charges (TIC) is a measure of total cost relating to the investment. The TER and TC disclosed are estimates based on our best estimate of the underlying costs. A schedule of fees, charges and maximum commissions are available on request. Performance figures are from PPS Multi-Managers and Morningstar. These performance figures are for lump sum investments. All PPS Multi-Managers performance figures and values are quoted after the deduction of costs and applicable taxes incurred within the Fund. Performance is calculated for the portfolio and the individual investor performance may differ based on the initial fees applicable, the actual investment date and dividend withholding tax. Please note that performance over periods greater than one year is annualised. Annualised performance is the average return earned on an investment each year over a given time period.

This fund is exposed to foreign securities and as such, it may be subject to the macroeconomic, settlement risks and political risks brought about by this exposure. It may also be subject to currency risk, which means the underlying investments of the fund could depreciate or appreciate against the reporting currency of the investor. Because these securities are listed on other exchanges, it may be subject to the relevant regulatory authority, and thus the tax implications and legislative changes of that particular entity. There may also be delays in realizing investments, due to system or liquidity issues experienced by the respective exchange. In addition, market and investment value fluctuations may occur. Overall, please be advised that, as indicated by the risk profile and potentially influenced by asset allocation, risks may be associated with this fund such as general market risk, company risk, credit risk, counterparty risk and third party operational risk.

Unit Trust prices are calculated on a Net Asset Value basis, which is the total market value of all assets in the portfolio including any income accruals and less any deductible expenses from the Fund divided by the number of units in issue. Portfolio valuations occur at 5 pm (New York time) daily. Prices are published daily and are available via [www.prescient.ie](http://www.prescient.ie). Transactions must be received by Prescient Fund Services (Ireland) Limited before 10:00 (Irish time) to receive the net asset value price for that day.

Performance has been calculated using net NAV to NAV numbers with income reinvested. The performance for each period shown reflects the return for investors who have been fully invested for that period.

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