# **PPS GLOBAL EQUITY FUND**

INVESTMENTS

Prescient

## **FUND DESCRIPTION**

As of 31/03/2021

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
 30 January 2020

 Sub-manager
 Capital Group

Benchmark MSCI All Country World Index (ACWI)

Trustee Northern Trust Fiduciary Services Limited

Risk profile Med-High

Investment manager PPS Multi Managers Proprietary Limited

## **PORTFOLIO DETAIL**

Top 10 Holdings	Allocation
Tesla Inc.	6.1%
Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing	3.0%
Microsoft Corp	2.9%
Facebook Inc.	2.8%
Amazon	2.7%
Alphabet Inc.	2.1%
JP Morgan Chase & Co.	1.7%
PayPal Holdings Inc.	1.6%
ASML Holdings	1.4%
Mastercard Inc.	1.3%

### MSCI SECTOR ALLOCATION

Top 5 MSCI Sector	Allocation
Information Technology	20.5%
Consumer Discretionary	18.0%
Financials	13.7%
Health Care	11.4%
Industrials	10.9%

## **RISK METRICS**

Metric	Fund	Benchmark
Annualised Standard Deviation	20.3%	17.7%
Maximum Drawdown	-10.5%	-9.4%
Percentage of Positive months	75.0%	75.0%
Information Ratio	-1.34	-
Sharpe Ratio	1.59	

## ASSET ALLOCATION

Asset	Allocation
International - Equity	95.2%
International - Cash	3.1%
International - Property	1.0%
SA - Equity	0.7%

# ANNUALISED PERFORMANCE^

	3 months	1 Year	3 Years	5 Years	7 Years	10 Years	Since Inception
PPS Global Equity A	1.79%	64.87%	_	_	_	_	28.51%
MSCI All Country World Index	4.68%	55.31%	12.66%	13.81%	9.98%	9.73%	20.21%

<sup>\*</sup>Please note the performance figures on the MDD as at 31 January 2021 for the PPS Global Equity Fund published on 18 February 2021 were incorrect. The January MDD has been amended to reflect the correct figures.

	YTD 2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
PPS Global Equity A	1.79%	_	_	_	_	_	
MSCI All Country World Index	4.68%	16.82%	27.30%	-8.93%	24.62%	8.48%	-1.84%

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

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%

60.7

24.5

12.2

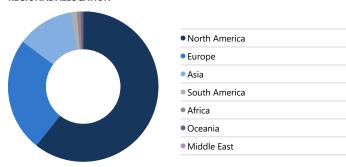
1.3

0.8

0.5

0.0

## REGIONAL ALLOCATION



## FEES (%)\*\*

Fees	1 Year
Management Fee	1.25
Other Fees*	0.42
Total Expense Ratio (TER)	1.67

## **FUND COMMENTARY**

A rotation into cyclical and value-oriented stocks drove equity markets higher, led by sectors that lagged in the prior year. Energy and financial stocks posted the largest gains as government stimulus measures and the widespread rollout of COVID-19 vaccinations combined to boost the global economic outlook. Value stocks outpaced growth stocks by a wide margin.

US equities continued to rally. President Joe Biden signed a US\$1.9 trillion coronavirus relief package and also unveiled plans for a US\$2 trillion infrastructure bill. The size of the stimulus measures raised expectations for a quicker economic recovery but also stoked concerns about rising inflation and government debt. The US Federal Reserve upgraded its GDP growth and inflation forecasts, but indicated that it does not expect to hike interest rates until at least 2023.

European stocks rose amid investor optimism for an economic recovery and enhanced stimulus measures from the European Central Bank (ECB). In response to rising global bond yields, ECB officials pledged to accelerate the bank's €1.85 trillion bond-buying programme to help ease borrowing costs.

Asia-Pacific stocks posted strong returns in local currency terms, particularly Singapore and Hong Kong. Japan's state of emergency weighed on activity, but equity markets generated strong returns in Japanese yen.

Emerging market stocks advanced, helped by signs of an economic recovery, strong semiconductor demand and rising commodity prices. Gains for Chinese stocks slowed after outsized returns in 2020. While China's economic recovery continued to show signs of strength, government authorities announced plans to withdraw some stimulus measures and voiced concern about debt excesses.

Areas that helped in Q1 include strong stock selection in information technology. Semiconductor-related stocks were key positive contributors on an absolute and relative basis. Semiconductor equipment maker ASML rose 30%, after it posted earnings above market estimates for Q4 and guided towards robust demand, driven by continued technological innovation across consumer and industrial markets. A relatively small position in Apple also helped on a relative basis as its share price fell 8%.

Select cyclical exposure including positions in JPMorgan Chase and DSV Panalpina were significant contributors, with their share prices up 20% and 22%, respectively. Bank shares were buoyed by higher Treasury yields, while logistics specialist DSV Panalpina benefited from growth in freight volumes as economies began tore-open.

Relatively low exposure to consumer staples also contributed positively to returns. As a sector, consumer staples were COVID-19 beneficiaries. However, amid expectations of an economic recovery, the sector lagged the index and the portfolio's low exposure added value on a relative basis.

After a strong start to 2021, which saw the share price trade as high as US\$900, Tesla shares gave back some gains, returning -5% for the quarter. Shares in MercadoLibre, which operates Latin-America's largest e-commerce and fintech platform, were also weaker in Q1, down 12%. Following strong revenue growth in 2020, the company reported a lower gross profit margin in its quarterly results due to an increase in costs.

Relatively light exposure to the financial sector and a position in London Stock Exchange Group (LSE) weighed on relative returns. Shares in LSE fell after it unveiled higher-than-expected expenses relating to the integration of data provider Refinitiv.

Health care stocks were weaker across the board. Shares in surgical robotics specialist Intuitive Surgical slid after it warned that the pandemic could continue to weigh on procedure volumes during the first quarter. Seagen (previously Seattle Genetics) shares also fell following lowered guidance for 2021.

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#### DISCLOSURES

Prescient

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.

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 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. Individual investor performance may differ as a result of initial fees, the actual investment date, the date of reinvestments and dividend withholding tax. Full performance calculations are available from the manager on request.

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