

# eInvest Better Future Fund (Managed Fund) ASX: IMPO

# Monthly Report July 2023

	Month (%)	Quarter (%)	1 Year (%)	2 Years (% p.a.)	3 Years (% p.a.)	Since Inception^ (% p.a.)	Since Inception Cumulative^ (%)
elnvest Better Future Fund (Managed Fund)	1.1	0.8	3.6	-3.4	9.0	7.8	37.0
S&P/ASX Small Ordinaries Accumulation Index	3.5	0.2	0.8	-5.3	5.9	3.0	13.3
Value Added	-2.4	0.6	2.8	1.9	3.1	4.8	23.7

Anception date was 23 May 2019. Performance shown above are net of fees. Fund returns are calculated using net asset value per unit at the start and end of the specified period and do not reflect the brokerage or the bid ask spread that investors incur when buying and selling units on the ASX. Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future performance.

### Overview

The Fund was up 1.1% after fees during the month, underperforming the benchmark by 2.4%. The benchmark finished up 3.5% in July.

Positive held contributors to relative performance during July included Australian Ethical (+23.2%), SmartGroup (+14.1%), Genetic Signatures (+16.2%) and Bendigo and Adelaide Bank (+8.8%).

Negative contributors to relative performance during the month included Integral Diagnostics (-7.6%), Sims Ltd (-4.1%), AUB Group (-2.4%) and KMD Brands (-8.1%).

# Better Future Highlight

We have recently added Neuren Pharmaceuticals to the portfolio. Earlier in the year the pharmaceutical DAYBUE, which Neuren developed, achieved US Food & Drug Administration ("FDA") approval for the treatment of Rett Syndrome ("Rett's") in adult and paediatric patients. This is the only treatment currently approved for Rett's.

Rett's is a seriously debilitating neurodevelopment disease that occurs almost exclusively in females following apparently normal development for the first six months of life. Most patients require life-long medical care and DAYBUE has been shown to improve outcomes for patients.

Neuren has granted a worldwide licence of the drug to NASDAQ listed Acadia Pharmacuticals and will receive royalties for sales. Initial sales have been ahead of expectations and are expected to generate significant cashflows for Neuren in the form of royalties, sales milestones and other amounts payable by Arcadia.

Neuren is developing further products for neurodevelopmental diseases including Fragile-X syndrome, Phelan McDermid Syndrome and Pitt Hopkins Syndrome.

# eInvest Better Future Fund (Managed Fund)

The aim of IMPQ is to grow the value of your investment over the long term by investing in companies predominantly outside the S&P/ASX Top 50 Index that conduct business taking into account environmental, social and governance ("ESG") considerations and/or businesses that are making a positive contribution to creating a better future. IMPQ seeks to provide a total return (after fees) that exceeds the S&P/ASX Small Ordinaries Accumulation Index.

**IMPQ FUM** 

\$43 million

+ Performance fee

0.99% p.a. (incl of GST and RITC)

Fees

#### Portfolio Manager

Damian Cottier

#### **Distribution Frequency**

Annually (if any)

#### **Inception Date**

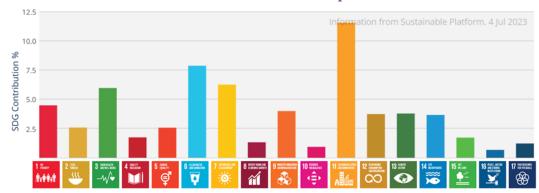
23 May 2019

# Growth of \$100,000 Since Inception



Performance shown net of fees with distributions reinvested. Does not take into account any taxes payable by an investor. Past performance is not a reliable indication of future performance.

### Portfolios Contribution to the UN Sustainable Development Goals



Source: Data provided by the Sustainable Platform 4 July 2023; based on company revenues

## Fund Review

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Australian Ethical delivered a better-than-expected quarterly update. Smartgroup, which provides novated leases as part of its remuneration packaging business, was higher after comments from a smaller competitor that 36% of all novated leases delivered in 3Q23 and 45% of all novated delivered in June were electric vehicles. Smartgroup is expected to benefit from similar trends following the introduction of government incentives for novated electric vehicles that was introduced in December 2022. Positively, for the nation's greenhouse gas emission footprint, this suggests that the proportion of new vehicle sales that are powered by internal combustion engines and fossil fuels should start to decline at a faster rate.

Genetic Signatures delivered a better-than-expected quarterly update and indicated that, following delays, it expects to lodge the application for approval of the company's next generation enteric (gastrointestinal) test during August.

Integral Diagnostics was weaker after Medicare data suggested that the recovery of diagnostic imaging volumes post-COVID continues to be softer-than-expected. Sims was weaker as global scrap metal prices were lower during the month and KMD announced a much weaker-than-expected trading update as a combination of a weaker consumer and warmer winter impacted sales.

At month end, the portfolio held 44 stocks and cash of 8.6%.

At July end, the weighted average Perennial-derived Environmental, Social, Governance and Engagement ("ESGE") Score of the Fund was 7.3 which is 29% higher than the benchmark ESGE Score of 5.7.

### **ESG** Activity

ESG activity during the month included:

- We had a dedicated ESG meeting with IDP Education to discuss employment practices, executive gender diversity, director independence, cyber security and Reconciliation efforts.
- Emilie attended the Oxford Sustainable Finance Summit to hear from practitioners, policymakers and regulators about ESG solutions and getting to net zero by 2050. Overall, we agree with the presenters on the importance of engagement with companies in improving outcomes, holding boards accountable for companies' transition plans and that more capital needs to be deployed with sustainable objectives.
- NIB appointed an additional female director to the board, Jill Watts. Ms Watts is a previous healthcare CEO at BMI Healthcare and Ramsay Healthcare and currently sits on the boards as a NED at St Vincent's Healthcare, Icon Cancer Group and IHH Healthcare Berhad. Her experience and expertise as a healthcare leader in the private sector, initiating government public policy change and in private research institutes across Australia, the UK, South Africa and SE Asia are highly relevant skills for the NIB board. NIB has 37.5% female directors on the board.
- We engaged further with Impedimed on ESG disclosures and met with the company to discuss corporate governance in the context of a shareholder requisition for the removal of directors.

Top 5 Portfolio Positions	IMPQ (%)	Index (%)
AUB Group Ltd	5.2	1.1
Meridian Energy Ltd	5.0	0.0
Sims Ltd	5.0	1.0
Chorus Ltd	4.0	1.5
Arena REIT	3.9	0.6



Emilie O'Neill (left), Damian Cottier (middle) and Madeleine Huynh (right)

### Contact us

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