

LION-OCBC SECURITIES

Do good. For your portfolio and our planet.

Quarterly Newsletter Q4 2023

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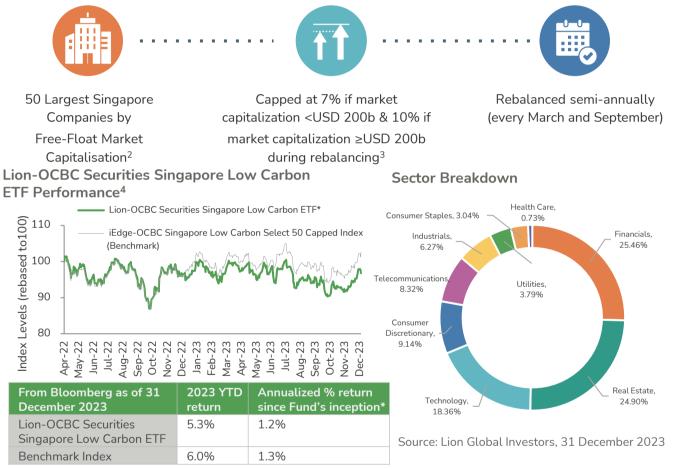
INTRODUCTION

- The Lion-OCBC Securities Singapore Low Carbon ETF was listed on the Singapore stock market on 28 April 2022.
- This ETF is Singapore's first low carbon ETF and pays semi-annual distributions¹.
- It is a 21st century and greener version of the Straits Times Index (STI), being Singapore centric and with a stronger focus on low carbon.
- The ETF is passively managed to fully replicate the iEdge-OCBC Singapore Low Carbon Select 50 Capped Index.

KEY FACTS

- Trading currencies: SGD and USD
- Total Assets Under Management (AUM): SGD 57.4 million as of 31 December 2023
- Management fee: 0.40% p.a.
- SGX tickers: ESG (SGD), ESU (USD)

KEY FEATURES



* Returns are based on NAV-NAV basis in SGD and assuming all dividends are reinvested net of all charges payable upon reinvestment. The Lion-OCBC Securities Singapore Low Carbon ETF was listed on 28 April 2022. Opinions and estimates constitute our judgment and along with other portfolio data, are subject to change without notice. Past performance, as well as any prediction, projection, or forecast are not necessarily indicative of future or likely performance

¹ Semi-annual distributions are paid at the discretion of the Fund Manager. Distributions are not guaranteed and may fluctuate. Past distributions are not necessarily indicative of future payments. Distribution payouts and its frequency might be changed at the Manager's discretion and can be made out of income, capital or both. Any payment of distributions by the fund may result in an immediate reduction of the net asset value per share/unit. Please refer to LGI website for more information on the income disclosures.

² Based on the underlying Index Securities of the iEdge-OCBC Singapore Low Carbon Select 50 Capped Index.

³ Weightage of individual stocks within the index will be reviewed and rebalanced semi-annually by the index provider (Singapore Exchange Limited). The weights of each Index Security might fluctuate above 7% and 10% respectively due to market movements in between the rebalancing period

⁴ Source: Bloomberg, Lion Global Investors, Singapore Exchange Limited, 31 December 2023 Lion Global Investors

WHY INVEST IN SINGAPORE NOW?

During the December 2023 Federal Reserve meeting, the US Federal Reserve left interest rates unchanged as expected but indicated that the next move will be lower. The projection for the Fed funds rate implied no more rate hikes and 75 basis points of rate cuts in 2024, which represents a notable shift to market expectations towards a pivot to lower interest rates⁵.

We remain upbeat on Singapore's status as a tourism and hospitality hub with continuing momentum driven by a slew of large- scale events and the return of Chinese tourists. Singapore's manufacturing sector, which has been in the doldrums in 2023, is set to see gradual recovery. Green shoots in the global electronics industry are tailwinds for Singapore's manufacturing sector. Emerging stronger from the pandemic, Singapore corporates' strong balance sheets justifies high dividend yields with reasonable certainty of stable or growing dividends. Singapore market's 5% dividend yield screens relatively attractive among developed markets.

A Fed pivot, the resilience of the services sector and a revival of the manufacturing sector position Singapore well in the year ahead. We believe Singapore remains one of the more resilient markets and Singapore equities present an attractive entry point given attractive valuations.

	12-month Forward P/E ratio			Earnings growth (%)	
Market	Current	10-year average	Premium	2023	2024F
US	19.8	17.8	11%	1.5	10.8
Europe	12.8	14.4	-11%	-0.8	6.0
Singapore	10.2	12.7	-20%	17.5	2.7
China	8.7	11.4	-24%	13.8	14.9
Asia Pacific ex Japan	12.7	13.2	-4%	-1.6	17.4
Japan	13.4	13.9	-4%	2.9	14.0

Figure 1: Valuation and consensus earnings forecast

Source: Thomson Reuters, as of January 2024

Note: F – Consensus Forecast, ex – excluding, P/E – Price to Earnings

Greater volatility is expected to unfold in the coming months. Against the volatile macro backdrop, investors should stay defensive and diversified, while taking into consideration their risk appetite and time horizon.

The Lion-OCBC Securities Singapore Low Carbon ETF provides easy access to 50 leading Singapore companies with lower carbon footprint. It is suitable for investors who wish to stay defensive and diversified, while also supporting a lower carbon Singapore economy.

⁵ Source: JP Morgan, as of December 2023

All data are sourced from Lion Global Investors and Bloomberg as of 31 December 2023 unless otherwise stated

HOW DOES THIS ETF COMPARE WITH OTHER SINGAPORE-FOCUSED ETFS?

The Lion-OCBC Securities Singapore Low Carbon ETF tracks the iEdge-OCBC Singapore Low Carbon Select 50 Capped Index ("the Index"), which aims to track performance of the top 50 companies by free-float market capitalisation that are representative of Singapore's real and financial economy, with a focus on index decarbonisation through reduction of the Index's Weighted Average Carbon Intensity (WACI). As shown in Figure 2, the Index has a much lower WACI compared with other Singapore benchmarks.

Between 28 April 2022 (ETF's listing date) and 31 December 2023, the Lion-OCBC Securities Singapore Low Carbon ETF demonstrated comparable performance⁶ (Figure 3) with other Singapore-focused ETFs such as the SPDR STI ETF and Nikko AM Singapore STI ETF, while cumulatively outperforming⁷ the Xtrackers MSCI Singapore UCITS ETF as of 31 December 2023.

Between 1 January 2023 and 31 December 2023, the ETF's inclusion of US-listed constituents such as Flex Ltd helped boost its performance compared to Singapore-focused ETFs such as the SPDR STI ETF and Nikko AM Singapore STI ETF (Figure 4). Through greater geographical and sector diversification, the Lion-OCBC Securities Singapore Low Carbon ETF offers investors comparable performance but with a much lower carbon footprint. Do good. For your portfolio and our planet.

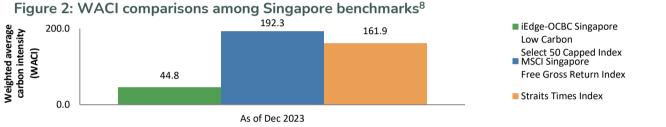


Figure 3: Performance relative to other Singapore-focused ETFs⁹



From Bloomberg as of 31 December 2023	2023 return	Annualized % return since Fund's inception*
Lion-OCBC Securities Singapore Low Carbon ETF	5.3%	1.2%
SPDR Straits Times Index ETF	4.4%	2.4%
Nikko AM STI ETF	4.9%	2.6%
Xtrackers MSCI Singapore UCITS ETF	3.5%	-2.3%

Figure 4: Performance of the ETF's top constituents¹⁰

Constituent	In the Straits Times Index?	Country of listing	% weight in ETF portfolio	2023 return
Sea Ltd	No	US	7.2%	-25.0%
Singapore Telecommunications Ltd	Yes	Singapore	7.1%	2.2%
Oversea-Chinese Banking Corp Ltd	Yes	Singapore	7.1%	13.2%
Flex Ltd	No	US	7.0%	38.6%
DBS Group Holdings Ltd	Yes	Singapore	6.9%	5.8%
United Overseas Bank Ltd	Yes	Singapore	6.9%	-2.1%

^{6, 7} Source: Bloomberg, as of 31 December 2023.

⁸ Source: SGX Index Edge, as of 31 December 2023.

⁹ Source: Bloomberg, as of 31 December 2023. Securities referenced are not intended as recommendations to buy or sell securities. * Returns are based on NAV-NAV basis in SGD and assuming all dividends are reinvested net of all charges payable upon reinvestment. The Lion-OCBC Securities Singapore Low Carbon ETF was listed on 28 April 2022. Past performance, as well as any prediction, projection, or forecast are not necessarily indicative of future or likely performance. Opinions and estimates constitute our judgment and along with other portfolio data, are subject to change without notice. Each ETF currently adopts a direct replication strategy in tracking their respective indices. The SPDR Straits Times Index ETF and Nikko AM Singapore STI ETF track the Straits Times Index while the Xtrackers MSCI Singapore UCITS ETF tracks the MSCI Singapore Investable Market Total Return Net Index. ¹⁰ Source: Bloomberg, as of 31 December 2023.

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Singapore Exchange Limited

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