

Q4 2024 GBP

KBI Global Investors

KBIGI Water Strategy



Summary Details

Assets under Mgmt.	£2.7bn
Inception Date	04 Mar 2006
Benchmark	MSCI ACWI Index NR
Number of Stocks	46
Revenue Alignment SDG Score	75.6%

Risk Characteristics

Beta (10 Yrs)	1.01
Information Ratio (10 Yrs)	-0.06

Portfolio Statistics	Strategy	Index
Current Dividend Yield	2.4%	1.8%
Price to Earnings (forward)	16.7x	18.4x
Price to Book	2.6x	3.4x
Weighted Avg Market Cap.	\$14.1bn	\$713.5bn

Source: KBI Global Investors as of 31/12/24. The risk characteristics are calculated independently by KBI Global Investors using monthly gross returns of the composite over a 10 year period relative to the Index as at the 31/12/24. Portfolio and Benchmark Statistics are from a representative account managed to the same strategy and the benchmark respectively. KBI Global Investors independently estimate these statistics for both the portfolio and the benchmark. The AUM listed above is Water Strategy AUM excluding Assets under Advisement from Q1 2022. Weighted Avg. Mkt. Cap figures are in US Dollars. The Revenue Alignment SDG Score measures the portfolio contribution to the achievement of United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. Calculations are based on KBIGI's own methodology and are not independently verified as at 09/30/2024 (quarterly).

Investment Thesis

There are compelling investment opportunities in companies providing solutions to resource scarcity across water, food and energy driven by five long term trends.

- Inadequate supply of water, cleaner energy and arable land for farming
- Increasing demand for resources, driven by population growth, industrialisation and urbanisation
- Increasing regulation and government support
- Increasing investment in infrastructure to address urgent global requirements
- Increasing investment in technology to create solutions and facilitate the more efficient use of resources

Annualised Performance (£)

	3Mths	YTD	1Yr	3Yrs	5Yrs	10Yrs
Fund (Gross)	-2.3	6.7	6.7	5.4	11.2	11.2
Benchmark	6.0	19.6	19.6	8.2	11.3	11.7

Source: KBI Global Investors, Datastream as of 31/12/24. KBI calculate both composite returns and benchmark returns. Returns are gross of fees in GBP. Our firm claims GIPS compliance and is annually verified by an independent verification firm to be so. The verification report from our verifier and our GIPS composite presentation are available upon request. The performance record disclosed here is that of the firm's composite for this strategy. The Water strategy gives investors the opportunity to invest in companies whose revenues are closely linked to the water industry. The strategy invests in circa 30 to 60 internationally diversified companies active across the water cycle - the range of activities needed to provide clean water to the end user (human, industrial, agricultural) and return it to nature. The firm invests across all parts of the cycle including: Water and Wastewater Treatment, Water Testing, Infrastructure, Filtration, Engineering/Consulting Services and Pumps/Valves. The investment team evaluates and integrates ESG into the analysis conducted to determine the fundamental value of the companies it invests in. The strategy is managed by a dedicated, specialist team of investment professionals in Boston, USA and Dublin, Ireland. The material risks associated with the composite include market risk and stock-specific event risk. Share prices can decline and there is a risk that the composite may under-perform its benchmark. The benchmark is the MSCI AC World Index, inclusive of net income. The benchmark is designed to measure the equity market performance of developed and emerging market countries from where the strategy draws its securities. The benchmark is market-cap weighted. Sources of foreign exchange rates may be different between the composite and the benchmark; but not materially so. See disclaimers for further information.

Portfolio Positioning Segment Breakdown

Sector	%
Infrastructure	36.6
Utilities	32.2
Water Technologies	31.2

Geographical Breakdown

Region	%
North America	54.0
Europe	31.6
Emerging Markets	7.6
Japan	6.8

Top 10 Holdings

Stock	Country	%
Veolia Environnement SA	France	6.6
Xylem Inc	US	5.0
United Utilities Group Plc	UK	4.1
Kurita Water Industries Limited	Japan	3.9
Essential Utilities Inc	US	3.8
American Water Works Company Inc	US	3.8
Fortune Brands Innovations Inc	US	3.3
Weir Group Plc	UK	3.1
Roper Technologies Inc	US	3.0
Ilex Corp	US	2.9

Source of all data: KBI Global Investors. Data as of 31/12/24

Strategy Overview

The KBI Global Investors' Water Strategy is a long-only, high-conviction global equity portfolio investing in 30-60 global companies providing solutions to water scarcity. The strategy has been investing in companies active across all parts of the water cycle including Water and Wastewater Utilities, Water Infrastructure and Water Technology since 2000.

The Water Strategy provides exposure to a number of dominant and persistent themes:

- Global growth
- Natural resource scarcity
- Infrastructure spending
- Emerging market growth
- Mergers and acquisitions

Water brings new sources of alpha to a global equity allocation. Specialist active management is the best way to capture this alpha, carefully qualifying a universe of stocks to ensure exposure to the water theme and then identifying companies with strong fundamentals, leading products, and attractive valuations.

Investment Process

Our investment process is designed to use our specialist skills to precisely define each theme, construct a proprietary investment universe and then build a concentrated, high conviction portfolio designed to outperform the broad market and passive alternatives

Investment Universe Definition

- Precisely defined opportunity set for investment to ensure exposure to drivers of resource scarcity
- Companies for inclusion: Pure Plays and Market Leaders

Weighting Sector

- Focus on bottom up fundamentals and valuation with an overlay of top down influences

Stock Selection

- Focus on stocks with exposure to key themes driving earnings growth, strong fundamentals, competitive advantages, strong management and attractive valuation

Investment Team

Water Portfolio Management Team	Role	Industry Experience
Catherine Cahill	Lead Portfolio Manager	24yrs
Matt Sheldon	Lead Portfolio Manager	23yrs
Martin Conroy	Co Portfolio Manager	21yrs
Noel O'Halloran	Chief Investment Officer	37yrs
Colm O'Connor	Head of Portfolio Management NR Team	22yrs
Treasa Ni Chonghaile	Senior Portfolio Manager	26yrs
Andros Florides	Senior Portfolio Manager	29yrs
Craig Bonthron	Senior Portfolio Manager	23yrs
Eoin Fahy	Head of Responsible Investing	36yrs
Ben Cooke	Portfolio Manager	8yrs
Jeanne Chow Collins	ESG & Engagement Analyst	24yrs
Robert Fullam	Investment Analyst	10yrs

Contact Details

Address: KBI Global Investors Ltd.
3rd Floor, 2 Harbourmaster Place
IFSC
Dublin 1
Ireland

Phone: +353 1 438 4400 Email: info@kbigi.com

Web: www.kbiglobalinvestors.com

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Please see link to the website for the five year composite returns: <https://www.kbiglobalinvestors.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/NR-Composite-Annual-returns-USD.pdf>