

# ECHIQUIER AGENOR SRI MID CAP EUROPE G

MAY 2024 (data as of 05/31/2024)



Echiquier Agenor SRI Mid Cap Europe is a bottom up stock-picking fund. It invests in European small and mid-cap growth stocks that are selected mainly for the quality of their Management.





1,671 M€ Net assets



493.44€ NAV

Recommended investment horizon



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#### Characteristics

**Fund Managers** 

Sicav (subfund) Type Echiquiei Creation of the Sicav 12/04/2012 Lifetime Indefinite Creation of the subfund 02/22/2008 Date of 1st NAV 02/22/2008 FR0010581710 Bloomberg code ECHAGEG EP Base currency Income allocation Accumulation

MSCI EUROPE MID CAP NET Ref. Indic. RETURN EUR

SFDR classification Article 8

### **Financial information**

3% max. not acquired by the Entry charge subfund

Exit charge None

Management fees 135% incl taxes

No Performance fee Swing pricing No Min. subscription None

### Fees as of 03/31/2024

Management fees and other administrative

1.38%

and operating expenses 0.34% Transaction costs

Outperformance fees

### Operational information

Valorisation frequency Daily Cut off Settlement D+2

Fund administrator Société Générale Custodian **BNP Paribas SA** Decimalisation Thousandths

#### **Fund Manager comments**

Echiquier Agenor SRI Mid Cap Europe G turned in a positive monthly performance of 5.50% and of 5.74% year-to-date

Equity markets rebounded in May, with small and mid caps outperforming large caps for the 2nd month running. Despite the continued outperformance of discounted stocks, particularly banks, the fund outperformed its index thanks to a strong selection effect, notably the takeover bid for Neoen (+32% +167bp). At the end of May, the Brookfield investment fund announced that it had entered into exclusive negotiations with the majority shareholder for a takeover of the company. The price of €39.85 represents a premium of 27%. Since its IPO at the end of 2018, Neoen has delivered an annualised return of 20%. Diploma (+13%, +65bp) continues its excellent track record with a further increase in its annual guidance. The fund's performance was impacted by the underperformance of ZEISS (-15%) and SARTORIUS (-10%) as the operating momentum of these two medtech companies continues to deteriorate. We believe that the upturn in macroeconomic indicators in Europe, coupled with the arrival of the first interest rate cuts in Europe, should continue to drive growth in the mid-cap

# Evolution of the performance of the fund and its reference indicator since inception



Ref. Indic.: source Bloomberg

**Perf.** (%)

	1 month	YTD	1 year	3 Years	5 Years	10 years	Since inception
Fund	+5.5	+5.7	+7.6	-3.2	+4.5	+7.7	+6.8
Ref. Indic.	+4.5	+8.3	+16.3	+2.1	+8.6	+7.7	+6.9



Until the 12/31/2012, the reference index was FTSE GLOBAL SMALL CAP EUROPE. Then until the 12/31/2021 MSCI EUROPE SM CAP NR. And since the

Other risk indicators (based on weekly figures)	1 year	3 Years	5 Years	10 years	Since inception
Fund volatility	14.8	17.7	17.9	15.4	16.5
Ref. indicator volatility	13.2	15.9	20.4	17.6	19.3
Sharpe ratio	0.5	Neg	0.3	0.6	0.5
Beta	1.0	1.0	0.8	0.8	0.8
Correlation	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9
Information ratio	-1.2	-0.6	-0.5	0	-0.1
Tracking error	6.1	7.8	10.0	8.2	8.1
Max. drawdown of the fund	-16.5	-36.4	-36.4	-36.4	-52.1
Max. drawdown of the benchmark	-11.9	-29.8	-41.4	-41.4	-55.6
Time to recovery (business days)	71.0	-	-	-	288.0

## Risk indicator



Important risk(s) for the fund not taken into account in this indicator: credit risk, liquidity risk, counterparty guarantees. The risk category associated with this fund is not guaranteed and may change over time.

The synthetic risk indicator shows the level of risk of this product compared with others. It indicates the probability that this product will incur losses in the event of market movements or if we are unable to pay you. We have classified the product in risk class 4 out of 7, which is a low to medium risk class. In other words, the potential losses associated with the future performance of the product are low to medium and, if the situation were to deteriorate on the financial markets, it is unlikely that our ability to pay you would be affected.

This indicator represents the risk profile shown in the KID. The risk indicator assumes that you hold the share for 5 years. Warning: the real risk may be very different if you opt to exit before that time, and you may get less in return

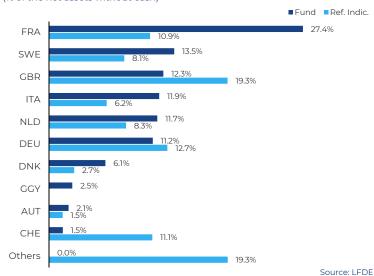
#### **Fund Profile**

EV/Sales 2024	5.2
PER 2024	27.1
Yield	1.7%
Active share	89.1%

Cash (% of the net assets)	6.1%
Number of positions	37
Average market capitalization (M€)	8,136
Median market capitalization (M€)	7,579
	Source: LEDE

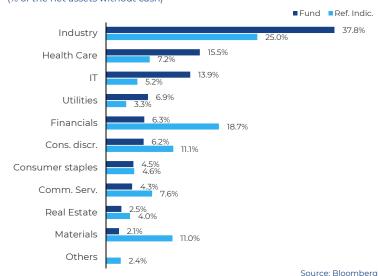
## Geographic breakdown

(% of the net assets without cash)



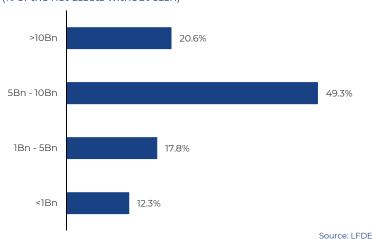
## Sector breakdown (GICS)

(% of the net assets without cash)



## Capitalization breakdown (€)

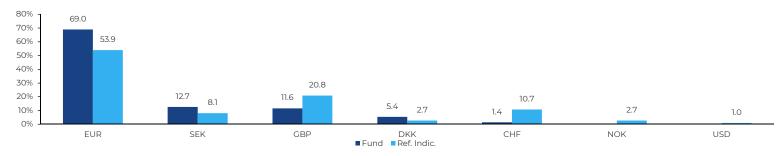
(% of the net assets without cash)



## **Top holdings**

Holdings	Country	Sector	% of the net assets
Neoen	FRA	Utilities	6.5
Diploma	GBR	Industry	5.2
Spie	FRA	Industry	4.4
Euronext	FRA	Financials	4.3
Recordati	ITA	Health Care	4.3
AAK	SWE	Consumer s	4.2
Scout24	DEU	Comm. Serv.	4.0
Beijer Ref B	SWE	Industry	3.4
Elis	FRA	Industry	3.2
ASM International	NLD	IT	3.0
Total weight	t of the top 10	holdings: <b>42.5</b> %	
			Source: LEDE

## **Currency breakdown**



Source: LFDE

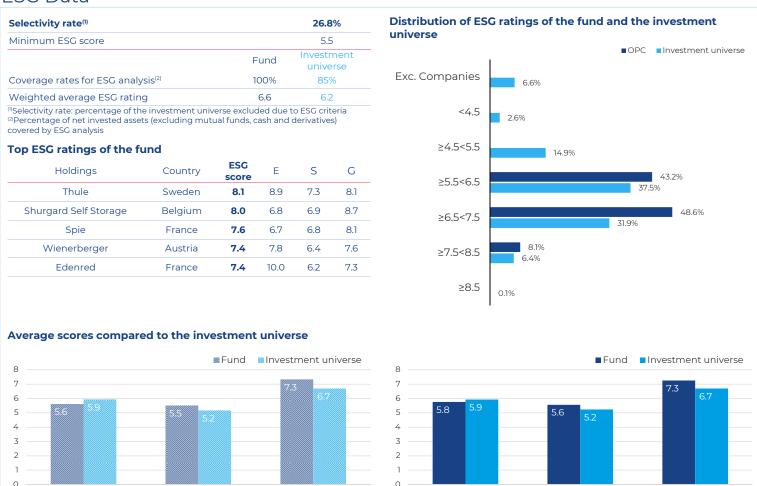
## Performance analysis (monthly)

Top 3 contributors						
Holdings	Performance	Contribution				
Neoen	32.3	1.7				
Diploma	13.6	0.6				
Spie	12.9	0.5				
Weight of the 3 contributors: 14.4%						

Flop 3 contributors							
Holdings	Performance	Contribution					
Carl Zeiss Med.	-14.6	-0.3					
Sartorius Sted. Bio.	-10.0	-0.2					
Biomerieux	-2.9	-0.1					
Weight of the 3 contributors: 5.7%							

Source: LFDE

## **ESG Data**



G

## Source: La Financière de l'Echiquier and MSCI ESG Research

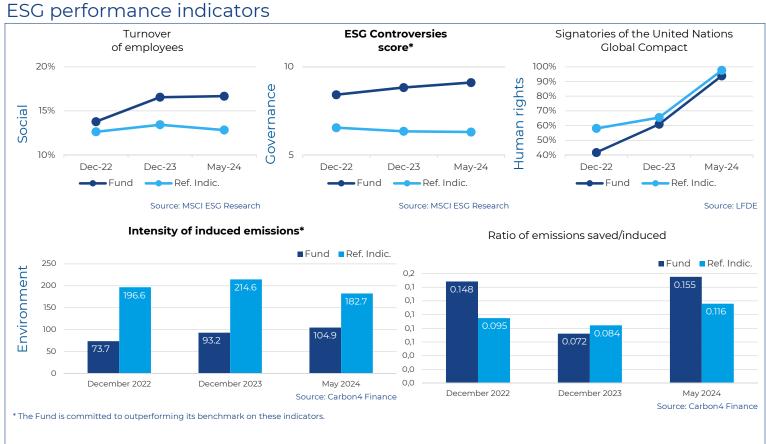
S

May 2024

G

December 2023

F



# Methodologies and coverage rate

		12/30/2022	12/29/2023	05/31/2024			12/30/2022	12/29/2023	05/31/2024
Turnover	Portfolio	79.3%	82.4%	74.4%	ESG Controversyscore	Portfolio	97.7%	100.0%	100.0%
of employees	Ref. indicator	78.5%	78.8%	80.0%		Ref. indicator	100.0%	99.6%	99.2%
					Controversy score of the portfolio = $\sum_{i=1}^{n} (Controversy Score_i \times Stock Weighting_i)$				
		12/30/2022	12/29/2023	05/31/2024			12/30/2022	12/29/2023	05/31/2024
Signatories of the United Nations	Portfolio	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	Carbon	Portfolio	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Global Compact	Ref. indicator	89.8%	98.9%	99.5%	data	Ref. indicator	95.2%	96.3%	95.2%
					$ \text{Carbon intensity of the portfolio} = \sum\nolimits_{i=1}^{n} \left( \frac{\text{Investment Value}_{i}}{\text{Fund Net Asset Value}} \right. \\ \times \frac{\text{Carbon Emissions Scope 1,2 e 3}}{\text{Enterprise Value}_{i}} \right) $				
					$\textit{Ratio avoided emissions on induced emissions} \ \text{C(IR)} = \sum_{i=1}^{n_i} \frac{\text{Sum of CO2 emissions saving} s_i}{\text{Sum of CO2 induced emissions}_i} \times \ \text{Stock weighting 1 in the portfolio}$				

We have not encountered any difficulties in measuring these ESG performance indicators.

ESG: Environmental, Social and Governance criteria. At La Financière de l'Echiquier, the Governance score accounts for around 60% of the ESG score. For further information related to the methodologies used to calculate ESG indicators above and on our approach as a responsible investor, please refer to our transparency code and other documents available on La Financière de l'Echiquier's website at the following link: www.lfde.com/en/responsible-investment/to-find-out-more/

Sources: La Financière de l'Echiquier, The United Nations Global Compact, Carbon 4 Finance, MSCI ESG Research



The French government SRI label is valid for a limited period and is subject to re-evaluation. Furthermore, the fact that a sub-fund has been awarded the label does not mean that it meets your own sustainability objectives or that the label meets the requirements of future national or European rules

## Extra-financial objective of the fund

The fund's management objective is combined with an extra-financial approach that takes account of environmental, social and governance (ESG) criteria, such as the issuer's environmental policy, employee protection and the skills of the management team, using a dual "best in universe" and "best effort" ESG approach.

This SRI fund systematically integrates environmental, social and governance criteria into its financial management. This has an impact on the selection of securities in the portfolio.

The following are examples of indicators for each of the E. S and G criteria:

- Environmental indicators: environmental policy and actions, results of action plans put in place by the company, exposure of suppliers to environmental risks, positive or negative impact of products on the environment.
- Social indicators: attractiveness of employer brand, employee retention, anti-discrimination, employee protection, supplier exposure to social risks, relations with civil society.
- Governance indicators: competence of the management team, checks and balances, respect for minority shareholders, business ethics.

The fund seeks to select the issuers with the best extra-financial ratings in their investment universe ("best in universe" approach). The fund also seeks to invest in companies that are at the start of their CSR process and are in the process of improving their ESG practices ("best effort" approach). The fund applies two extra-financial filters to its stock selection: after excluding controversial sectors and practices, companies must meet a minimum ESG rating.

The ESG rating is out of 10 and is awarded to each issuer. The ESG rating of issuers in the portfolio must always be higher than 100%.

This rating is determined by a methodology internal to the management company and is composed as follows:

- **Governance**: the Governance rating represents approximately 60% of the overall ESG rating. This is a historical bias of La Financière de l'Echiquier, which has attached particular importance to this subject since its creation.
- Environment and Social: social and environmental criteria are combined into a Responsibility score. The calculation of this takes account of the type of company concerned: for industrial stocks: social and environmental criteria are equally weighted within the Responsibility score.
- for service values: the "Social" score contributes 2/3 to the "Responsibility" score while the "Environment" score accounts for 1/3 of the "Responsibility" score.

The methodological limitations of the ESG approach mainly concern the reliability of the extra-financial data published by the issuers and the subjective nature of the ratings used by the management company.

La Financière de l'Echiquier carries out ESG ratings on at least 100 % of the securities in its portfolio, with particular attention paid internally to corporate governance and the support of MSCI ESG Research on environmental and social issues.

The E and S ratings are derived from an MSCI ESG Research database. The G rating is an internal rating. A minimum ESG rating of 5.5/10 is required to integrate ESG-managed UCIs. In addition, these funds undertake to ensure that their weighted average ESG rating is higher than that of their investment universe at all times. The securities making up the benchmark index are not selected on the basis of their environmental or social characteristics. The index is not adapted to the social or environmental characteristics promoted by the UCI.

The data on which our various exclusions are based (excluding thermal coal) comes from MSCI ESG Research and is updated monthly

For further information related to the methodologies used to calculate ESG indicators, please refer to our transparency code available on www.lfde.com/en/responsible-investment/tofind-out-more/

## Glossary

#### **Lexicon of risk indicators**

Volatility Measure of the amplitude of variations in the price of a share, a market or a fund. It is calculated over a given period and is used to assess the regularity of the

performance of a share, market or fund.

Indicator of the (marginal) return obtained per unit of risk taken. Sharpe ratio If the ratio is negative: less profitability than the benchmark

If the ratio is between 0 and 1: outperformance with too much" risk taken.

Bêta If the ratio is greater than 1: outperformance that does not come at the cost of "too much" risk."Indicator which corresponds to the fund's sensitivity in relation to

its benchmark index

For a beta of less than 1, the fund is likely to fall less than its index; if the beta is greater than 1, the fund is likely to fall more than its index.

Information ratio Synthetic indicator of the effectiveness of the risk/return trade-off. A high indicator means that the fund regularly outperforms its benchmark index.

Tracking error An indicator that compares the fund's volatility with that of its benchmark index. The higher the tracking error, the further the fund's average performance is

from its benchmark index

Max drawdown measures the biggest fall in the value of a portfolio. Max. drawdown

Time to recovery (business days)

Sensitivity

Recovery time, which corresponds to the time needed for the portfolio to return to its highest level (before the "max drawdown")

Variation in the value of an asset when another factor varies at the same time. For example, the interest-rate sensitivity of a bond corresponds to the variation in its price caused by a rise or fall in interest rates of one basis point (0.01%).

Lexicon of financial analysis

FV/Sales Enterprise valuation ratio: enterprise value/sales

PFR Company valuation ratio: Price Earning Ratio = market capitalisation/net profit.

Consumer discretionary In contrast to basic consumption, it represents all goods and services considered non-essential **Basic consumption** As opposed to discretionary consumption, it represents goods and services considered essential.

**Communication Services** This sector includes telecoms network operators and providers of communications and data transmission services.

**Emerging countries** Emerging countries are countries whose economic situation is in the process of development. This growth is calculated on the basis of GDP, new businesses

and infrastructure, and the standard of living and quality of life of the inhabitants.

Commodities A natural resource used in the production of semi-finished or finished products, or as a source of energy

Lexicon of credit analysis

Investment grade bond A bond is said to be "investment grade", i.e. if its financial rating by the rating agencies is higher than BB+.

High yield bond A high-yield bond is one rated below BBB- by the rating agencies.

**Duration** The average life of its cash flows weighted by their present value. All other things being equal, the higher the duration, the greater the risk.

Yield to worst The worst return a bond can achieve without the issuer defaulting.

Yield (all calls exercised) The yield on a bond includes any call dates incorporated into the bond. These "call" dates correspond to intermediate maturities which give the possibility of

redeeming the bond before its final maturity date

Non-financial analysis lexicon

Selectivity rate Selectivity rate: percentage of the initial universe excluded for ESG reasons.

Investment universe Investment universe ("investible universe") meeting the constraints of the prospectus.

This controversy score ranging from 0 to 10 (0 being the worst) is provided to us by MSCI ESG Research. We want to measure whether the companies invested Controversy score in our UCIs are better than those in their benchmark index in terms of management and occurrence of ESG controversies on themes such as the environment,

consumer rights, human rights, labour rights, supplier management as well as governance.

A set of raw data (source Carbon4 Finance) used to calculate the various ratios linked to the fund's carbon footprint:

Carbon impact ratio: CO<sub>2</sub> emissions saved and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions induced.

Carbon intensity: Scope 1, 2 and 3 carbon emissions (scope 1 represents direct emissions, 2 indirect energy-related emissions, 3 all other indirect emissions)

Carbon Impact Ratio (CIR) Emissions saved to emissions induced ratio calculated by Carbon4 Finance, which corresponds to the ratio between GHG emissions avoided and GHG emissions induced by a company (in tonnes of  $CO_2$  equivalent), known as the CIR. The higher the CIR, the more relevant the company is to the transition to a low-carbon economy. This indicator enables us to assess the relevance of a company's activity to the challenges of combating climate change. For a given company, a CIR

greater than I means that the activity avoids more greenhouse gas emissions than it induces Carbon intensity is the weighted average of our UCIs (compared with their benchmark index) using Carbon4 Finance's WACI (Weighted Average Carbon

Weighted average carbon intensity (WACI) Intensity) methodology. The calculation formula is given in the ESG methodology insert.

Carbon data

For more information The SICAV was created on December 4, 2012 for an indefinite period. The subfund was launched on February 22, 2008.

This document, which is of a commercial nature, is above all a monthly report on the management and risks of the sub-fund. It is also intended to provide you with simplified information on the characteristics of the sub-fund.

For further information on the characteristics and costs of this sub-fund, we invite you to read the regulatory documents (prospectus available in English and French and DIC in the official languages of your country) available free of charge on our website www.lfde.com.

Investors or potential investors are informed that they can obtain a summary of their rights in the official language of their country or in English on the Regulatory Information page of the company's www.lfde.com directly https://cdn.lfde.com/upload/partner/Droitsdelinvestisseur.pdf

Information on withholding tax rates: for distribution units, dividends paid are taxed at 30%. For capitalization units of funds investing more than 10% of their net assets in debt securities, taxation at 30% on income derived directly or indirectly from the yield on debt securities.

Investors or potential investors may also file a claim in accordance with the procedure laid down by the management company. This information is available in the official language of the the management company's website Regulatory Information page www.lfde.com or directly https://cdn.lfde.com/upload/partner/Droitsdelinvestisseur.pdf

Finally, the investor's attention is drawn to the fact that the manager or the management company may decide to terminate the marketing agreements for its collective investment s in accordance with Article 93a of Directive 2009/65/EC and Article 32a of Directive 2011/61/EU