



# ECHIQUIER ENTREPRENEURS A

APRIL 2024 (data as of 04/30/2024)



Echiquier Entrepreneurs is a stock-picking fund which invests, with no sectorial constraints, in small and medium cap European stocks. Please pay attention to the new fund subscription conditions.



303 M€  
Net assets



238.91 €  
NAV

Recommended investment horizon

5 years

## Fund Managers

Philbert Veissières, Stéphanie Bobtcheff, José Berros

## Characteristics

Type	Sicav (subfund)
Sicav	Echiquier
Creation of the Sicav	12/04/2012
Lifetime	Indefinite
Creation of the subfund	10/18/2013
Date of 1st NAV	10/18/2013
ISIN	FR0011558246
Bloomberg code	ECHENTR FP
Base currency	EUR
Income allocation	Accumulation
Ref. Indic.	MSCI EUROPE EX UK SMALL CAP NR EUR
SFDR classification	Article 8

## Financial information

Entry charge	3% max. not acquired by the subfund
Exit charge	None
Management fees	2.25% incl. taxes
Performance fee	Yes*
Swing pricing	No
Min. subscription	None

### Fees as of 03/31/2023

Management fees and other administrative and operating expenses	2.25%
Transaction costs	0.54%
Outperformance fees	No

## Operational information

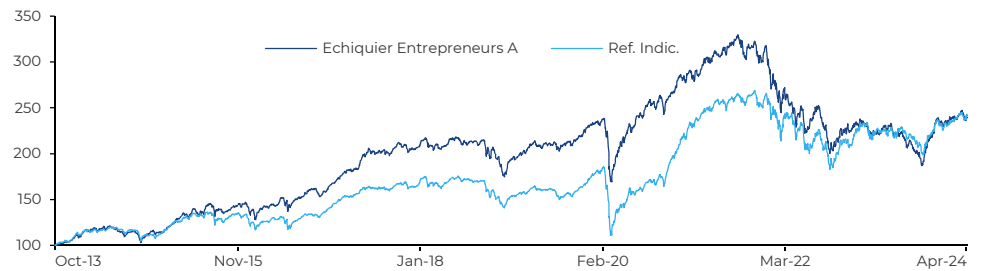
Valorisation frequency	Daily
Cut off	Noon
Settlement	D+2
Fund administrator	Société Générale
Custodian	BNP Paribas SA
Decimalisation	Thousandths

## Fund Manager comments

Echiquier Entrepreneurs A turned in a negative monthly performance of -2.08% and of -0.13% year-to-date.

A slightly weaker-than-expected earnings season and the postponement of rate cuts in the United States led to profit-taking. The value style outperformed by more than 3 points in the wake of stronger-than-expected inflation figures in the US and a rebound in macro indicators in Europe. Quarterly publications were satisfactory overall, helping to limit the negative factorial impact: MUNTERS (+16%) reassured the market with a large order intake and very high profitability in its Data Centre segment. ROBERTET (+11%) and TREATT (+14%) reported good figures, benefiting from the improving fundamentals of the ingredients sector. There were also strong contributions from NEOEN (+10%). The group is reportedly in advanced discussions to sell 30% of its Australian subsidiary at very attractive multiples. This would avoid the need for a capital increase in 2025. BYGGFAKTA (+12%) has benefited from an increase in the price of its takeover bid. Among the disappointments, OVH lost 30% (contribution -41bp) as growth slowed again. We have decided to exit the stock. BUFAB (-19%) is disappointed by its margin and is adopting a cautious tone for 2024. Finally, BE SEMI (-12%) is guiding on Q2 sales well below market expectations.

## Evolution of the performance of the fund and its reference indicator since inception (base 100)

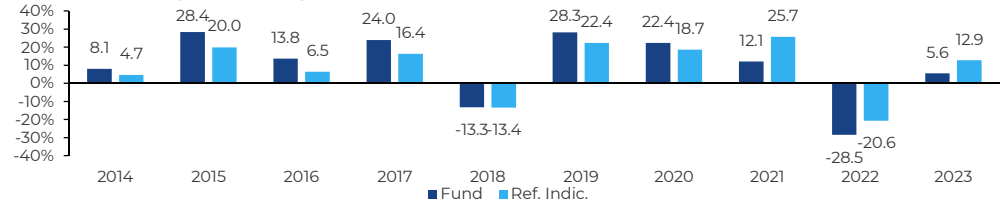


Ref. Indic.: source Bloomberg

## Perf. (%)

	Annualised						Since inception
	1 month	YTD	1 year	3 Years	5 Years	10 years	
Fund	-2.1	-0.1	+7.1	-7.7	+2.3	+7.3	+8.6
Ref. Indic.	-1.0	+2.4	+7.0	-1.1	+8.0	+7.5	+8.7

## Performance by calendar year (%)



Until the 12/31/2021, the reference index was MSCI EUROPE MICRO CAP NR. And since the 01/01/2022, MSCI EUROPE EX UK SMALL CAP NR EUR.

## Other risk indicators

(based on weekly figures)

	1 year	3 Years	5 Years	10 years	Since inception
Fund volatility	14.7	16.0	17.1	14.8	14.6
Ref. indicator volatility	13.5	16.4	19.4	15.7	15.4
Sharpe ratio	0.3	Neg	0.2	0.6	0.7
Beta	1.0	0.9	0.8	0.8	0.8
Correlation	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9
Information ratio	0.1	-0.8	-0.7	-0.1	0
Tracking error	7.2	8.2	8.5	7.5	7.4
Max. drawdown of the fund	-19.7	-43.2	-43.2	-43.2	-43.2
Max. drawdown of the benchmark	-13.3	-32.0	-40.4	-40.4	-40.4
Time to recovery (business days)	38.0	-	-	-	-

## Risk indicator



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.

Important risk(s) for the fund not taken into account in this indicator: credit risk, liquidity risk, counterparty risk, guarantees. The risk category associated with this fund is not guaranteed and may change over time. The performance of the Fund, net of fixed management fees, compared to the performance of its benchmark index, provided that the Fund's performance is positive and the underperformance of the last 5 years has been fully offset. Settlement date: 31st March.

## Fund Profile

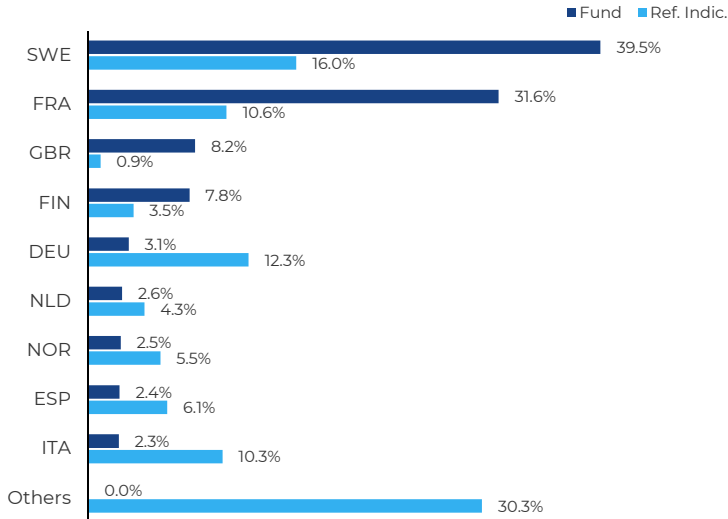
EV/Sales 2024	3.9
PER 2024	29.0
Yield	1.7%
Active share	96.9%

Cash (% of the net assets)	4.1%
Number of positions	38
Average market capitalization (M€)	1,777
Median market capitalization (M€)	1,159

Source: LFDE

## Geographic breakdown

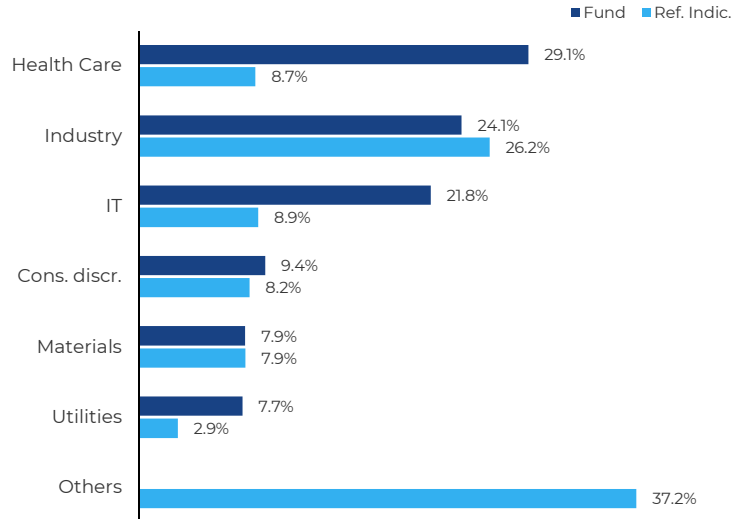
(% of the net assets without cash)



Source: LFDE

## Sector breakdown (GICS)

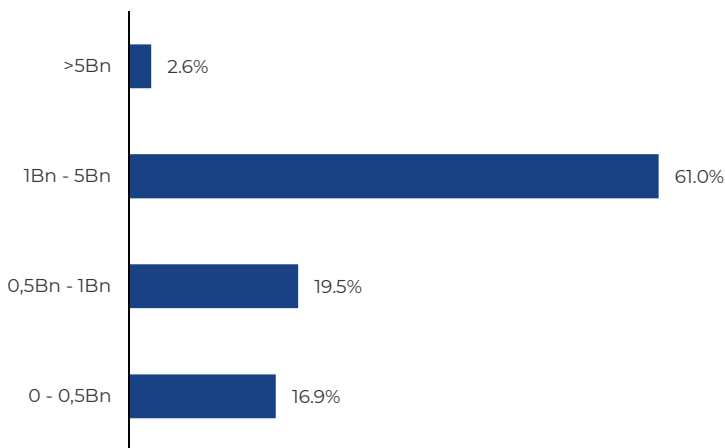
(% of the net assets without cash)



Source: Bloomberg

## Capitalization breakdown (€)

(% of the net assets without cash)



Source: LFDE

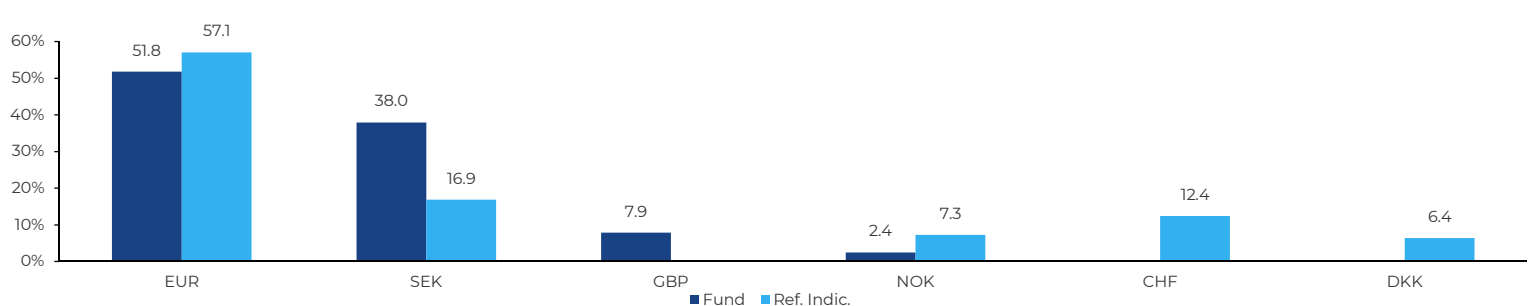
## Top holdings

Holdings	Country	Sector	% of the net assets
Raysearch Lab.	SWE	Health Care	6.8
Virbac	FRA	Health Care	5.5
Neoen	FRA	Utilities	5.5
Byggfakta	SWE	IT	4.0
Robertet	FRA	Materials	3.4
Esker	FRA	IT	3.4
Lindab	SWE	Industry	3.3
Vaisala	FIN	IT	3.2
Porvair	GBR	Industry	3.0
Nexus	DEU	Health Care	3.0

Total weight of the top 10 holdings: **41.1%**

Source: LFDE

## Currency breakdown



Source: LFDE

## Performance analysis (monthly)

Top 3 contributors		
Holdings	Performance	Contribution
Neoen	9.6	0.5
Munters	13.6	0.4
Byggfakta	9.7	0.3
Weight of the 3 contributors: <b>12.2%</b>		

Flop 3 contributors		
Holdings	Performance	Contribution
Bufab	-19.9	-0.6
OVH Groupe	-31.0	-0.4
Boozt	-11.9	-0.3
Weight of the 3 contributors: <b>6.5%</b>		

Source: LFDE

## ESG Data

ESG Data		Fund 94%		Universe 32%	
Coverage rates for ESG analysis*					
Weighted average scores		E	S	G	ESG
<b>Fund</b>		<b>5.8</b>	<b>5.9</b>	<b>6.9</b>	<b>6.5</b>
<b>Universe</b>		5.5	4.9	6.6	6.0

\*Percentage of net assets covered by ESG analysis.

Source: LFDE, MSCI ESG Research

The Governance score accounts for around 60% of the ESG rating. The coverage rates for ESG analysis vary from fund to fund and may change over time.

## Intensity of induced emissions

(in tons of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent per million euro of enterprise value)

Fund	92.3
Ref. Indic.	246.7

$$\text{Carbon intensity of the portfolio} = \sum_{i=1}^n \left( \frac{\text{Investment Value}_i}{\text{Fund Net Asset Value}} \times \frac{\text{Carbon Emissions Scope 1, 2 \& 3}}{\text{Enterprise Value}_i} \right)$$

Source: Carbon4 Finance

## Methodologies

### Extra-financial objective of the fund

The fund's extra-financial objective includes consideration of environmental, social and governance (ESG) criteria. When constructing the portfolio, the management team systematically incorporates an extra-financial approach, although this is not a determining factor in investment decisions.

The fund's extra-financial objective complies with the provisions of article 8 of the SFDR Regulation.

The initial investment universe is made up of a combination of assets represented by the three market indices that make up the fund's benchmark index. 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 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 \$FUND.ESG\_Rating\_%.

This ESG rating constitutes a minimum ESG exclusion filter to ensure that the riskiest companies from an ESG point of view cannot be invested in. This filter was added to the management of UCIs subject to ESG integration at the beginning of 2021 as part of the strengthening of our approach, following the application of AMF Doctrine 2020 03 on the application of extra-financial criteria.

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 90 % 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 4.0/10 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/to-find-out-more/](http://www.lfde.com/en/responsible-investment/to-find-out-more/).

## Glossary

### Lexicon of risk indicators

<b>Volatility</b>	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.
<b>Sharpe ratio</b>	Indicator of the (marginal) return obtained per unit of risk taken. If the ratio is negative: less profitability than the benchmark. If the ratio is between 0 and 1: outperformance with "too much" risk taken.
<b>Bêta</b>	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.
<b>Information ratio</b>	Synthetic indicator of the effectiveness of the risk/return trade-off. A high indicator means that the fund regularly outperforms its benchmark index.
<b>Tracking error</b>	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.
<b>Max. drawdown</b>	Max drawdown measures the biggest fall in the value of a portfolio.
<b>Time to recovery (business days)</b>	Recovery time, which corresponds to the time needed for the portfolio to return to its highest level (before the "max drawdown").
<b>Sensitivity</b>	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

<b>EV/Sales</b>	Enterprise valuation ratio: enterprise value/sales.
<b>PER</b>	Company valuation ratio: Price Earning Ratio = market capitalisation/net profit.
<b>Consumer discretionary</b>	In contrast to basic consumption, it represents all goods and services considered non-essential.
<b>Basic consumption</b>	As opposed to discretionary consumption, it represents goods and services considered essential.
<b>Communication Services</b>	This sector includes telecoms network operators and providers of communications and data transmission services.
<b>Emerging countries</b>	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.
<b>Commodities</b>	A natural resource used in the production of semi-finished or finished products, or as a source of energy.

### Lexicon of credit analysis

<b>Investment grade bond</b>	A bond is said to be "investment grade", i.e. if its financial rating by the rating agencies is higher than BB+.
<b>High yield bond</b>	A high-yield bond is one rated below BBB- by the rating agencies.
<b>Duration</b>	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.
<b>Yield to worst</b>	The worst return a bond can achieve without the issuer defaulting.
<b>Yield (all calls exercised)</b>	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

<b>Selectivity rate</b>	Selectivity rate: percentage of the initial universe excluded for ESG reasons.
<b>Investment universe</b>	Investment universe ("investible universe") meeting the constraints of the prospectus.
<b>Controversy score</b>	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 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.
<b>Carbon data</b>	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).
<b>Carbon Impact Ratio (CIR)</b>	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 <sub>2</sub> 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 1 means that the activity avoids more greenhouse gas emissions than it induces.
<b>Weighted average carbon intensity (WACI)</b>	Carbon intensity is the weighted average of our UCIs (compared with their benchmark index) using Carbon4 Finance's WACI (Weighted Average Carbon Intensity) methodology. The calculation formula is given in the ESG methodology insert.

### For more information

The SICAV was created on December 4, 2012 for an indefinite period. The subfund was launched on October 18, 2013.

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](http://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 management company's website [www.lfde.com](http://www.lfde.com) or directly via the link below:  
<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 country or in English on the Regulatory Information page of the management company's website [www.lfde.com](http://www.lfde.com) or directly via the link below:  
<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 schemes in accordance with Article 93a of Directive 2009/65/EC and Article 32a of Directive 2011/61/EU.