# \*fdp

# **Annual Management Report of Fund Performance**

# December 2023

This annual management report of fund performance contains financial highlights but does not contain the complete annual financial statements of the investment fund. You can request a copy of the annual financial statements, at no cost, by calling 514-350-5050 or toll free 1-888-377-7337 or by writing to us at 2 Complexe Desjardins, East Tower, 31st Floor, P. O. Box 1116, Montréal, Québec H5B 1C2, or by visiting our website at fdpgp.ca/en or SEDAR+'s website at www.sedarplus.ca.

You may also contact us using one of these methods to request a copy of the Portfolio's proxy voting policies and procedures, proxy voting disclosure records and quarterly portfolio disclosure.

# **Performance Analysis**

#### **Investment Objective and Strategies**

The Portfolio seeks to achieve long-term capital growth through investment diversification. The Portfolio invests primarily in equity securities of issuers worldwide, including Canada and emerging countries, and is not subject to any specific requirement compelling geographic diversification. The Portfolio Manager favours a global approach as opposed to an aggregate of independent regional strategies. A world-level sector approach is favoured over a traditional country-by-country approach. The bottom-up management process implies that analysis of selected securities is key to the creation of the portfolio. The Portfolio invests almost entirely in foreign shares in the United States. Europe and Asia, but it could also include securities of Canadian corporations, with experienced directors at the helm, which demonstrate a mix of promising commercial potential and attractive growth in income and profit.

#### Risk

The Portfolio invests primarily in equities of foreign issuers. Derivatives may also be used for hedging purposes or to establish market positions. The risks related to investments in the Portfolio remain as set out in the Simplified Prospectus. The risks associated with the Portfolio and its holdings are as follows: stock market risk, credit risk, sector risk, foreign securities risk, large transactions risk, specific issuer risk, currency risk, derivatives risk, securities lending risk, emerging markets risk, exchange-traded funds risk, interest rate risk, multi-series risk, short selling risk, loss restrictions risk, cybersecurity risk and liquidity risk.

#### **Operating Results**

The FDP Global Equity Portfolio, Series A posted a net return of 15.1% for 2023, versus -9.5% for 2022. The FDP Global Equity Portfolio, Series I posted a net return of 16.5% for 2023.

The global stock market, as measured by the MSCI World Index, posted a 20.5% return in Canadian dollars for 2023, which offset most of the losses suffered in 2022. The Canadian dollar appreciated about 2.1% against the U.S. dollar, which impeded returns for Canadian investors. Slower key interest rate increases and the increased likelihood that inflation will ease while the economy achieves a soft landing caused growth-style equities to outperform their value-style counterparts. These conditions especially favoured Information Technology companies.

The U.S. stock market, as measured by the S&P 500 Index, posted a net return of 22.9% in Canadian dollars in 2023. As was the case in the MSCI World Index, growth-style stocks (especially those of the Magnificent Seven, the seven largest U.S. technology companies) contributed the most to performance during the year.

All eurozone markets (MSCI Europe) yielded negative returns of 17.4%, while Asian markets (MSCI AC Asia Pacific) gained 8.1% and emerging markets (iShares MSCI Emerging Markets ETF) 5.6% in Canadian dollars.

The portfolio's underperformance during the year was mainly due to its value-style holdings, which underperformed the MSCI World Index by 658 basis points (bps) while the portfolio's growth-style holdings underperformed the index by 160 bps.

As was the case in 2022, inflation, the labour shortage and interest rate increases (which were not as steep as the previous year) continued to weigh on stock markets worldwide. However, central bank measures to curb inflation seem to have been successful, and investors experienced renewed optimism.

#### **Recent Developments**

There are no events to report for 2023.

#### **Description of the Benchmark Index**

The MSCI World Index is a broad global equity index that measures equity market performance across economically developed countries. It represents large and mid-cap company equity performance across 23 countries, covering approximately 85% of the free float-adjusted market capitalization in each country and does not offer exposure to emerging markets.

#### **Related Party Transactions**

The Manager of the FDP Global Equity Portfolio is Professionals' Financial – Mutual Funds Inc. The Manager is in charge of the portfolio's research, analyses, selections and transactions. The Investment Committee of Professionals' Financial – Mutual Funds Inc. supervises the execution of the mandates entrusted to the internal managers and to other external managers, as the case may be. With regard to the management of the Portfolio, any transaction between related parties must receive the Independent Review Committee's (IRC) positive recommendation or approval beforehand.

Monthly management fees, calculated daily at an annual percentage of the Portfolio's net assets after deducting the value of interfund investments, are paid to the Manager.

## **Financial Highlights**

The following tables illustrate key financial data concerning the Portfolio. Their purpose is to help you understand its financial results for the past five years.

This information comes from the December 31, 2023 audited annual financial statements of the Portfolio. You can obtain the financial statements on the website at fdpgp.ca/en.

#### Portfolio's Distributions and Net Assets per Unit (in dollars)

2023	Years en 2022	ded Decem 2021		
	2022	2021		
00.041	-	2021	2020	2019
23.241	26.240	22.994	21.339	17.791
0.456	0.418	0.381	0.342	0.394
(0.387)	(0.357)	(0.384)	(0.331)	(0.310)
1.059	0.839	1.483	1.191	0.772
2.405	(3.403)	2.375	1.256	3.313
3.533	(2.503)	3.855	2.458	4.169
0.054	0.024	0.012	0.022	0.076
0.002	0.001	0.001	0.001	0.003
-	0.469	0.598	0.765	0.547
-	-	-	-	-
0.056	0.494	0.611	0.788	0.626
26.685	23.241	26.240	22.994	21.339
	(0.387) 1.059 2.405 3.533 0.054 0.002 - - 0.056	0.456 0.418 (0.387) (0.357) 1.059 0.839 2.405 (3.403) 3.533 (2.503) 0.054 0.024 0.002 0.001 - 0.469  0.056 0.494	0.456      0.418      0.381        (0.387)      (0.357)      (0.384)        1.059      0.839      1.483        2.405      (3.403)      2.375        3.533      (2.503)      3.855        0.054      0.024      0.012        0.002      0.001      0.001        -      0.469      0.598        -      -      -        0.056      0.494      0.611	0.456      0.418      0.381      0.342        (0.387)      (0.357)      (0.384)      (0.331)        1.059      0.839      1.483      1.191        2.405      (3.403)      2.375      1.256        3.533      (2.503)      3.855      2.458        0.054      0.024      0.012      0.022        0.002      0.001      0.001      0.001        -      0.469      0.598      0.765        -      -      -      -        0.056      0.494      0.611      0.788

# FDP Global Equity Portfolio, Series A and I (continued)

	Years ended December 31					
Series I (created in 2014)	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	
Net assets, beginning of year	19.023	21.412	18.647	17.088	13.881	
Increase (decrease) from operations:						
Total revenue	0.375	0.341	0.311	0.276	0.308	
Total expenses	(0.065)	(0.066)	(0.065)	(0.054)	(0.054)	
Realized gains (losses)	0.875	0.680	1.202	0.893	0.608	
Unrealized gains (losses)	1.911	(2.612)	1.937	1.361	2.533	
Total increase (decrease) from operations <sup>(1)</sup>	3.096	(1.657)	3.385	2.476	3.395	
Distributions:						
from income	0.268	0.233	0.186	0.175	0.227	
from dividends	0.009	0.007	0.005	0.009	0.010	
from capital gains	-	0.328	0.425	0.430	0.005	
from capital returns	_	_	-	-	-	
Total distributions (2)	0.277	0.568	0.616	0.614	0.242	
Net assets at the end of the year	21.863	19.023	21.412	18.647	17.088	

 <sup>(1)</sup> Net assets and distributions are based on the actual number of units outstanding at the relevant time. The increase or decrease from operations is based on the weighted average number of units outstanding over the financial period.
 <sup>(2)</sup> Distributions were reinvested in additional units of the Portfolio.

#### **Ratios and Supplemental Data**

	Years ended December 31				
Series A (created in 2005)	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
Net asset value (in thousands of dollars) <sup>(1)</sup>	205,377	192,208	224,396	197,998	176,300
Number of units outstanding (thousands) (1)	7,696	8,270	8,552	8,611	8,262
Management expense ratio (%) (2)	1.562	1.548	1.570	1.600	1.617
Management expense ratio before waivers and absorptions (%)	1.562	1.548	1.570	1.600	1.617
Portfolio turnover rate (%) (3)	38.98	26.67	34.17	59.72	24.07
Trading expense ratio (%) (4)	0.04	0.02	0.04	0.09	0.04
Net asset value per unit	26.685	23.241	26.240	22.994	21.339

	Years ended December 31					
Series I (created in 2014)	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	
Net asset value (in thousands of dollars) (1)	1,264,277	1,044,858	1,021,928	754,402	368,952	
Number of units outstanding (thousands) (1)	57,828	54,927	47,728	40,457	21,592	
Management expense ratio (%) (2)	0.333	0.368	0.351	0.362	0.412	
Management expense ratio before waivers and absorptions (%)	0.333	0.368	0.351	0.362	0.412	
Portfolio turnover rate (%) (3)	38.98	26.67	34.17	59.72	24.07	
Trading expense ratio (%) <sup>(4)</sup>	0.04	0.02	0.04	0.09	0.04	
Net asset value per unit	21.863	19.023	21.412	18.647	17.088	

<sup>(1)</sup> The information is derived from audited annual financial statements in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS). In compliance with these Standards, net assets per unit presented in the financial statements generally equal the net asset value calculated to establish unit prices.

<sup>(2)</sup> Management expense ratio includes management fees and operating expenses. It excludes income tax withheld on dividend income and transaction costs, and is expressed as a percentage of the daily average annualized net asset value during the fiscal year.

<sup>(3)</sup> The Portfolio's portfolio turnover rate indicates how actively the Portfolio's portfolio manager manages its portfolio investments. A portfolio turnover rate of 100% is equivalent to the Portfolio buying and selling all of the securities in its portfolio once in the course of the year. The higher a Portfolio's portfolio turnover rate in a year, the greater the trading costs payable by the Portfolio in the year, and the greater the chance of an investor receiving taxable capital gains in the year. There is not necessarily a relationship between a high turnover rate and the performance of a Portfolio.

<sup>(4)</sup> The trading expense ratio represents total commissions and other portfolio transaction costs expressed as an annualized percentage of daily average net asset value of each series during the year.

#### Management Fees

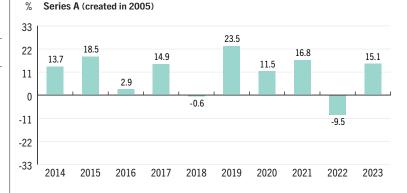
Series A and Series I units pay management fees to the Manager, Professionals' Financial – Mutual Funds Inc., for service rendered to the unitholders, and investment management and administration services. Series A units' annual management fees of 1.25% and 0.20% for Series I are calculated daily according to the net assets and paid monthly after deducting the value of interfund investments. For 2023, Series A units paid \$2,863,000 and \$2,762,000 for Series I to the Manager.

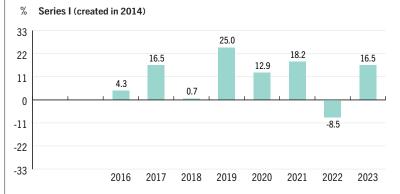
#### **Past Performance**

Information on performance presupposes that the Portfolio's distributions during the years presented have been totally reinvested in additional units of the same series. The returns do not include deductions for sales, transfer, redemption or other optional fees (because there are none) or income taxes payable, and would be lower if they included such items. The Portfolio's past performance is not necessarily indicative of future performance.

#### Annual Performance

The following bar graphs indicate the Portfolio's annual returns for each year. They show the year-to-year variation in the Portfolio's return. The graphs present, in percentage form, what would have been the upward or downward variation, on the last day of the year, of an investment made on the first day of that year.





#### **Annual Compound Returns**

The following table indicates the Portfolio's annual composite returns and highlights Portfolio performance fluctuations from one fiscal year to the next, ending on December 31, for each year, as well as those of the Portfolio's benchmark index.

	1 yr %	3 yrs %	5 yrs %	10 yrs %	From its creation if <10 years %
FDP Global Equity Portfolio. Series A	15.08	6.72	10.85	10.26	
FDP Global Equity Portfolio. Series I	16.49	8.02	12.20	-	11.45
MSCI World	20.47	8.51	12.01	10.97	

# **Overview of Portfolio**

## **Portfolio Mix**



- 56.8% North America
  29.8% Europe
  11.1% Asia
- 1.7% Cash and Cash Equivalents
  - 0.6% Latin America

## **Top 25 Portfolio Holdings**

	% of net asset value
SPDR S&P 500 ETF Trust	6.4
Microsoft Corporation	3.8
iShares Core MSCI EAFE ETF	2.3
Alphabet Inc., Cl. A	1.9
Accenture PLC, Cl. A	1.9
Cash and Cash Equivalents	1.7
Visa Inc., Cl. A	1.6
Schneider Electric SE	1.5
Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Company Limited Sponsored ADR	1.5
Aon PLC, Cl. A	1.5
The Charles Schwab Corporation	1.5
Eaton Corporation PLC	1.3
UBS Group AG Registered Shares	1.3
Apple Inc.	1.2
Canadian Pacific Kansas City Limited	1.1
Icon Public Limited Company	1.1
Fiserv, Inc.	1.1
Becton, Dickinson and Company	1.0
Analog Devices, Inc.	1.0
Comcast Corporation, Cl. A	1.0
The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc.	1.0
Agilent Technologies, Inc.	1.0
Amphenol Corporation, Cl. A	1.0
Tencent Holdings Limited	1.0
Aptiv PLC	0.9

This portfolio may change due to continual trading in the Portfolio. An update of this data is available every quarter on our website at fdpgp.ca/en.