

# CI GLOBAL EQUITY CORPORATE CLASS

## Q3-2024 Commentary



| FUND  | 1 YEAR | 3 YEAR | 5 YEAR | 10 YEAR | S.I. |
|---|--------|--------|--------|---------|------|
| CI Global Equity Corporate Class, Series F* | 27.5%  | 6.7%   | 9.3%   | 8.4%    | 8.4% |
| Benchmark: MSCI World Total Return Index    | 32.9%  | 12.0%  | 14.1%  | 12.8%   | 9.9% |

\* Inception date: December 31, 2007. Formerly Cambridge Global Equity Corporate Class, renamed effective July 29, 2021.  
Source: CI Global Asset Management, as at September 30, 2024.

### PERFORMANCE SUMMARY

- Over the third quarter of 2024, CI Global Equity Corporate Class, Series F (the Fund) returned 1.7% compared with its benchmark, the MSCI World Total Return Index, which returned 5.1% (in Canadian-dollar terms).
- The Fund underperformed the benchmark mostly due to stock selection, especially in the health care, energy and financials sectors. The Fund's cash allocation also detracted from performance.
- An overweight allocation to the real estate sector and underweight allocation to the information technology sector contributed to the Fund's performance.
- On country allocations, an out-of-benchmark allocation to China contributed to the Fund's performance as Chinese equities rebounded during the last week of September. Stock selection in Japan also contributed to the Fund's performance.

### CONTRIBUTORS TO PERFORMANCE

A position in Lowe's Cos. Inc. contributed to the Fund's performance. The company's shares rebounded as investors increased their expectations of a more aggressive first interest rate cut by the U.S. Federal Reserve Board (Fed). Many home improvement companies traded higher on the back of these revised interest rate expectations.

Another contributor to the Fund's performance was a holding in ASICS Corp. The Japanese athletic footwear company continued to grow and take market share despite being in a challenging market segment. Its overall growth is expected to exceed 20% during the next 12 months. In China alone, ASICS's growth exceeded 20% year over year in August. New product launches, controlling supply to wholesalers and a better management of discounts have resulted in better margins. We believe these changes will continue to benefit the company in the quarters ahead.

### DETRACTORS FROM PERFORMANCE

The Fund's overweight position in Alphabet Inc. detracted from performance. The company's stock declined amid rising costs of hiring skilled talent as part of the artificial intelligence (AI) race, concerns about margins amid higher depreciation, decelerating growth of its YouTube division and an anti-trust verdict against the company.

The rebound in commodities late in the period on the back of easing monetary policy in China was not enough to offset the quarterly drag from the copper miner Freeport-McMoRan Inc.

## **PORTFOLIO ACTIVITY**

We added a new Fund position in Anglo American PLC, a mining conglomerate known for its iron ore, copper, platinum group of metals and diamond holdings. It was added based on the company's strategy to unlock shareholder value by spinning off non-core assets and on our expectation that base metals should find better support as the Chinese economy regains momentum.

A holding in Mexican retailer Coca-Cola FEMSA SAB de CV was eliminated from the Fund as the political and economic backdrop in Mexico continued to worsen. Following a landslide victory by the ruling Morena party, new reforms, including judicial reforms, were introduced. Most of these reforms focus on social or nationalistic needs at the cost of free market principles.

## **MARKET OVERVIEW**

A number of near-term macroeconomic factors are key for the continuation of an equity rebound in an environment of an overvalued S&P 500 Index. High valuations are not enough to become overly defensive in our positioning, but they highlight the risk of a sharper correction if negative risks materialize.

We will monitor the U.S. labour market for weakness and slowing consumer spending, which became more evident in the third quarter of 2024. U.S. inflation continues to decline towards levels that are consistent with further interest rate cuts by the Fed. Globally, most other central banks are expected to follow or resume with their own monetary easing cycles. The central banks of Japan and Brazil are outliers, as both are expected to hike interest rates in the near future.

The U.S. presidential election is a clear event risk, and the outcome could have a binary impact on certain industries, such as energy and heavily regulated industries. A drawn-out process to declare a winner post the election poses an additional risk.

The war in the Middle East has escalated and needs close monitoring as Iran is coming under increased pressure to react to recent attacks on Hezbollah in Lebanon and the Houthis in Yemen.

We expect China to add more economic stimulus early in the fourth quarter of 2024, not only supporting the rebound in Chinese equities but also providing broader support to emerging market equities, global luxury companies and commodity producers.

Source: CI Global Asset Management

**For more information, please visit [ci.com](https://www.ci.com).**

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