# CI GLOBAL INFRASTRUCTURE FUND

# Q3-2024 Commentary



FUND	1 YEAR	3 YEAR	5 YEAR	10 YEAR	S.I.
CI Global Infrastructure Fund, Series F*	21.0%	8.0%	6.4%	7.0%	10.7%
Benchmark: MSCI World Core Infrastructure Index	29.2%	8.8%	6.7%	9.4%	11.3%

<sup>\*</sup> Inception date: June 22, 2009. Formerly Signature Global Infrastructure Fund, renamed effective June 25, 2021. First Asset Utility Plus Fund merged into Signature Global Infrastructure Fund effective April 16, 2021, and this change may impact performance. Had these changes been in effect prior to this date, the performance of the Fund could have been different. Please refer to the disclosure documents of the CI Global Infrastructure Fund for more information on ci.com.

Source: CI Global Asset Management, as at September 30, 2024.

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#### **PERFORMANCE SUMMARY**

- Over the third quarter of 2024, CI Global Infrastructure Fund, Series F (the Fund) returned 10.5% compared with its benchmark, the MSCI World Core Infrastructure Index, which returned 12.9%.
- The Fund underperformed its benchmark primarily as a result of stock selection in the energy and telecommunications/REIT sector.

## **CONTRIBUTORS TO PERFORMANCE**

A holding in Entergy Corp. contributed to the Fund's performance. The company's stock rebounded on solid earnings and expectation that rate base growth would continue via industrial development and a generally favourable backdrop for the utilities sector.

A holding in TransAlta Corp. was another contributor to the Fund's performance. The company's share price rebounded from an extremely low valuation after the company posted strong second-quarter 2024 earnings, gaining further in the quarter on optimism around expansion opportunities.

#### **DETRACTORS FROM PERFORMANCE**

The Fund's holding in Tidewater Midstream and Infrastructure Ltd. detracted from performance amid a declining outlook for liquidity in a weak market for Low Carbon Fuel Standards.

A holding in CenterPoint Energy Inc. was another detractor from the Fund's performance after the company's rate case proposal was withdrawn due to an increase in tariffs tied to challenges from its hurricane resiliency proposal.

#### **PORTFOLIO ACTIVITY**

We added a new Fund position in Veolia Environnement SA, a French utility, given a strong growth runway associated with its water treatment services.

We eliminated the Fund's holding in Tidewater Midstream and Infrastructure Ltd. due to the declining outlook for liquidity amid a weak market for Low Carbon Fuel Standards.

#### **MARKET OVERVIEW**

We remain positive on global equity markets, believing that economies will likely experience an economic soft landing without severe downside. While recent challenges around inflation and interest rates have challenged economies, fiscal, economic and monetary supports are likely to continue.

The infrastructure sector, trading at a substantial relative discount to other major equity segments, seems particularly well suited to benefit from a "soft landing," while earnings growth for the companies' required services remains resilient and positive.

The Fund's utilities sector allocation was increased, with a preference for companies that offer greater exposure to power price increases. Between an increase in demand for electricity (transportation sector, artificial intelligence, data centres, industrial growth, carbon regulation) and a much higher incentive price needed for additional capacity to be built, our conviction is that electricity prices will be headed higher in the near term.

Energy infrastructure has provided excellent returns from earnings growth and valuation expansion and although we remain positive on this sector, valuation increases seem likely to moderate. As such, the Fund's overweight allocation to this sector has been reduced.

Source: CI Global Asset Management



# For more information, please visit ci.com.

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The comparison presented is intended to illustrate the Mutual Fund's historical performance as compared with the historical performance of widely quoted market indexes or a weighted blend of widely quoted market indexes. There are various important differences that may exist between the Mutual Fund and the stated indexes that may affect the performance of each. The objectives and strategies of the Mutual Fund result in holdings that do not necessarily reflect the constituents of and their weights within the comparable indexes. Indexes are unmanaged and their returns do not include any sales charges or fees. It is not possible to invest directly in market indexes.

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