

Australian Ethical Emerging Companies Fund



FUND PROFILE - 31 DECEMBER 2020

Australian Ethical is one of Australia's leading ethical fund managers. By investing responsibly in well-managed ethical companies, we deliver competitive financial performance to our clients and positive change to society and the environment. Since our inception in 1986, our Ethical Charter has guided all investment decisions and underpinned our business practices. Every year 10 per cent of our profits* are distributed to charitable organisations and social impact initiatives through The Australian Ethical Foundation.

Investment objective

To provide long-term growth by investing in small capitalisation companies that meet the Australian Ethical Charter.

Price information

Pricing frequency: Daily

Buy/Sell spread: 0.20%/0.20%

Fund facts

Fund size: \$11.46m

Benchmark: S&P ASX Small Industrials

Asset class: Equity

Inception date: 30/06/2015

Minimum investment timeframe: 7 Years

Risk level: Very high

Identifiers

APIR code: AUG0026AU

Distributions

Frequency: 2

Dates: 30/06, 31/12

Fees

Management costs - PDS: 1.99%

Performance fee: 20%

Minimum initial investment: \$1,000
\$500 with a Regular investor plan

Additional transactional and operational costs: 0.00%

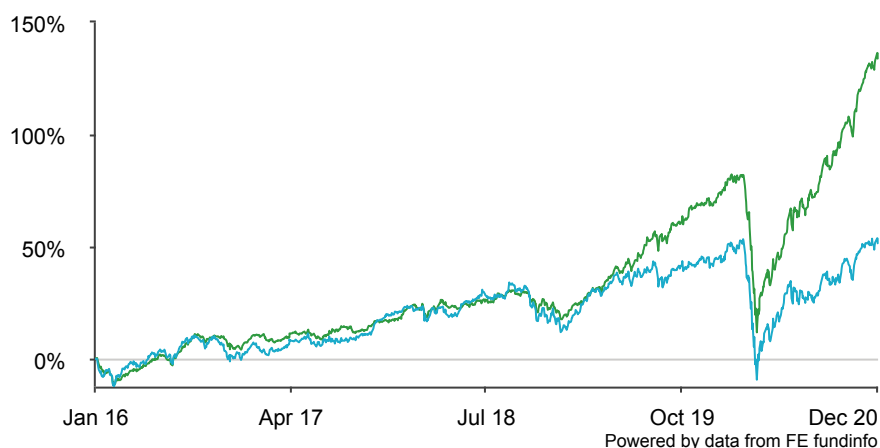
A full explanation of all the fees and costs that you may be charged for investing in the Fund is provided in the Fund's Product Disclosure Statements available from our website australianethical.com.au

*(after tax, before bonus expense)

Investment strategy

The opportunity to invest in a diversified portfolio of shares in small capitalisation companies on the basis of their social, environmental and financial credentials. The Fund utilises an active stock-picking management style with stocks selected for growth rather than income. All stocks are chosen on the basis of relative value where we deem the risks are being adequately priced.

Cumulative performance (as at 31/12/2020)



■ Australian Ethical Emerging Companies
■ Benchmark

Performance (as at 31/12/2020)

	1m	3m	6m	1y	3y	5y	10y	Since inception
Fund	3.8%	19.5%	41.3%	35.1%	24.0%	18.5%	-	20.0%
Benchmark	1.2%	12.2%	19.9%	5.9%	7.2%	8.7%	-	10.1%

Calendar Performance (as at end 2020)

	CY2020	CY2019	CY2018	CY2017	CY2016
Fund	35.1%	44.7%	-2.4%	11.4%	10.1%
Benchmark	5.9%	24.5%	-6.5%	15.7%	6.2%

Source: FE fundinfo.

Total returns are calculated using the sell (exit) price, net of management fees and gross of tax as if distributions of income have been reinvested at the actual distribution reinvestment price. The actual returns received by an investor will depend on the timing, buy and exit prices of individual transactions. Return of capital and the performance of your investment in the fund are not guaranteed. Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future performance. Figures showing a period of less than one year have not been adjusted to show an annual total return. Figures for periods of greater than one year are on a per annum compound basis. The current benchmark may not have been the benchmark over all periods shown in the above chart and tables. The calculation of the benchmark performance links the performance of previous benchmarks and the current benchmark over the relevant time periods.

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Top 10

MACH7 TECHNOLOGIES LTD	4.6%
COGSTATE LIMITED	3.6%
HEALIUS LTD	3.2%
GENWORTH MORTGAGE INSURANCE	3.0%
JANISON EDUCATION GROUP LTD	2.8%
MACQUARIE TELECOM GROUP LTD ORD F/ PD DS	2.8%
URBANISECOM LTD	2.7%
BIGTINCAN HOLDINGS LTD	2.5%
XREF LIMITED	2.4%
3P LEARNING LTD	2.4%

Ratings and awards

RIAA rating:



UNPRI signatory:



Why invest ethically?

Portfolio diversification: Diversify your portfolio by investing in companies and sectors not well covered by other fund managers and brokers.

Help build a better world: Invest in the new, low-carbon economy, fund medical and technology breakthroughs, efficient transport and more.

Promote human rights: We strive to avoid any investment in companies involved in the poor treatment of asylum seekers or the exploitation of workers through poor working conditions.

Need Help?

Contact us between 9:00am-5:00pm

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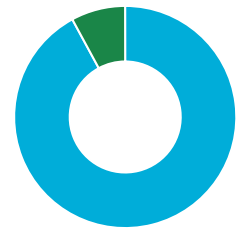
Sector allocation

Information Technology	29.9%
Health Care	22.2%
Financials	10.9%
Communication Services	9.5%
Utilities	7.0%
Consumer Discretionary	4.2%
Materials	3.4%
Consumer Staples	2.6%
Industrials	1.8%
Other	8.6%



Asset allocation

Australian & NZ Small Cap	92.1%
Cash	7.9%



Commentary

For the quarter, the Fund pleasingly achieved an absolute return of 19.5% (19.7% Wholesale Fund) against the fund's benchmark, the S&P/ASX Small Industrials Index, which advanced 12.2%. The Emerging Companies Fund's 12-month performance was +35.1% (35.9% Wholesale Fund) against 5.9% for the benchmark. We were very pleased with the relative outperformance of the fund over recent periods.

Over the quarter Healthcare, Information Technology, Materials and Utilities sectoral exposures drove the outperformance. The US general election win by Joe Biden is seen as a positive for climate change while the growth of ESG funds around the world saw the market chasing many renewable and adjacent assets. The Fund's renewable energy generators and retailers from New Zealand including Meridian Energy (+51.7%), Contact Energy (+35.6%) and Mercury Energy (+29.6%) were all among the leading contributors.

The strongest individual company contributor was mortgage insurer Genworth Mortgage Insurance Australia which appreciated 52.7%, benefiting from an improved outlook for residential property. On a similar note, Resimac – a mortgage provider which securitises its funding on global markets – appreciated 49% over the quarter. We were also pleased with contributors from pharmacy software company Corum (+92%), assessment software company Janison Education (+45.6%), job referencing technology company CV Check (+60.8%) and metals recycler Sims Metal (+77.4%). The Fund continues to be actively managed.

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