

IFSL Blackfinch
NextGen Infrastructure

November 2024 Fund Factsheet



Investment Objective

The aim of the Fund is to increase the value of an investment over a minimum of 5 years. The Fund will do this through a combination of capital growth, which is profit on investments held, and income received by the Fund, which is money paid out of investments, such as dividends and interest.

Portfolio Information

Class A
Accumulation Share ISIN
GB00BQ2MXR31

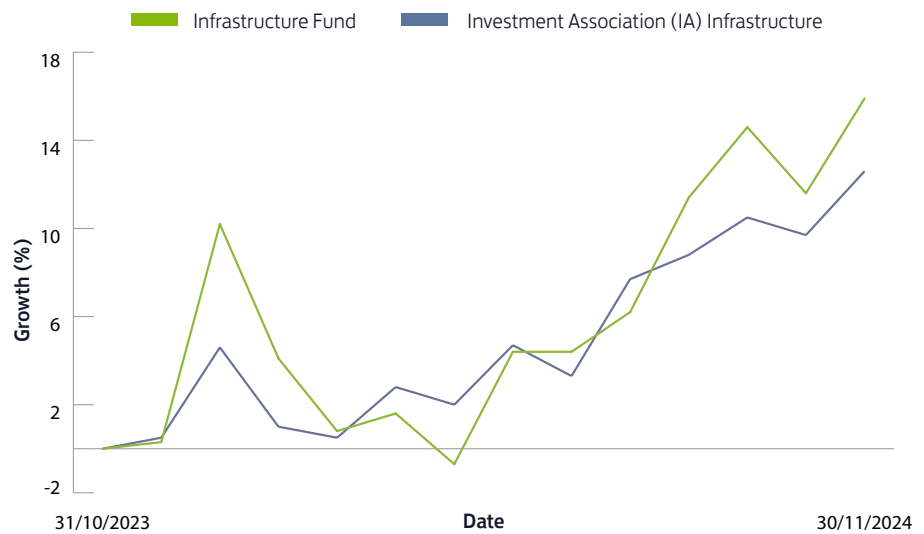
Class A Management Fee	Class A Underlying fund charges
0.75%	0.84%

Class B
Accumulation Share ISIN
GB00BQ2MXY08

Class B Management Fee	Class B Underlying fund charges
0.65%	0.74%

Estimated Annual Income Yield (Class B)	Number of holdings
2.51%	44

Performance Since Launch

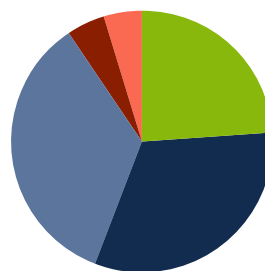


Cumulative Performance (%)

	1 Year	3 Year	5 Year	10 Year
Fund	15.6%	-	-	-
Sector	12.0%	-	-	-

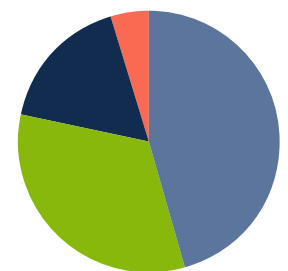
Discrete Performance (%) - to last month end

	11/23 - 11/24	11/22 - 11/23	11/21 - 11/22	11/20 - 11/21	11/19 - 11/20
Fund	15.6%	-	-	-	-



Thematic Allocation (as at 30/11/2024)

Energy Transition	24.12%
Sustainable Urbanisation	31.90%
Digitalisation	34.68%
Multi-Thematic	4.73%
Cash & Equivalent	4.57%



Regional Allocation¹ (as at 30/11/2024)

North America	45.68%
Europe	32.80%
Asia Pacific	16.95%
Cash & Equivalent	4.57%

Fund Managers

GEORGE NIKOLAOU

Lead Fund Manager



DR DAN APPLEBY

CIO & Support Fund Manager



George Nikolaou, Lead Fund Manager and Dr Dan Appleby, CIO and Support Fund Manager are responsible for managing the IFSL Blackfinch NextGen Infrastructure Fund. They bring expertise in the research of listed property, infrastructure and equity investment products, managing client portfolios and working closely with financial advisers and other professional clients. Each is a CFA® charterholder.

We invest with a **core focus** on the UN Global Compact Principles

Extensive due diligence across multiple factors to identify sound business fundamentals, accounting for the 10 UNGC principles, where possible

We take a forward-looking approach to investment selection using positive screening

We encourage 'engagement' with both 'leaders' and 'improvers' for positive outcomes

We're committed to transparency on our multi-factor screening process and reflect this in our investment approach

Signatory of:




In November, the IFSL Blackfinch NextGen Infrastructure Fund (B Accumulation share class) returned +3.85% after all fees and expenses. This compares to the IA Infrastructure Sector average return of +2.64%. Since inception, the Fund has returned +15.90% compared to the IA Infrastructure Sector average return of +12.60%. The investment team employs a multi-thematic growth-driven approach, therefore Fund returns will frequently diverge against peers, as evidenced by the wide disparity in relative performance since launch.

Global infrastructure stocks regained most of the ground lost in October, but trailed global broader equity indices. The rate of disinflation in the US has slowed in recent months, leaving investors uncertain on the timing and magnitude of future rate cuts, though most expected a 25 basis point cut in December. The yield on the 10-Year US Treasury declined to end November at 4.19%, which was supportive for overall sector returns. Despite that, the yield on the 10-Year Treasury rose nearly 60 basis points since the middle of September, while infrastructure indices traded sideways.

The Fund widely outperformed broader utility-dominated infrastructure indices primarily due to corporate activity across existing holdings and sectoral positioning. Positive performance was led by Digital Infrastructure, Waste Management & Recycling, and Healthcare REITs. The allocation to Renewable Energy detracted from performance on concerns the incoming Trump administration will undo subsidies and incentives to clean energy technologies created by the Inflation Reduction Act. North American and Asia Pacific stocks performed considerably better than Continental Europe and UK counterparts. The Fund significantly benefited from takeover activity, with two holdings receiving privatisation bids at high premiums to their prevailing prices, outlined below.

As at 29 November, the Fund held 44 individual holdings and was well-diversified across underlying themes, sectors and geographies. All thematic allocations but Energy Transition produced a positive return (estimated gross total returns: Digitalisation +6.0%, Sustainable Urbanisation +7.1%, Energy Transition -2.2% and Multi-Thematic +3.6%). The top three contributors were GFL Environmental, HKBN Ltd, and Renewi Plc. The top three detractors were Gore Street Energy Storage Fund, EDP Renováveis, and Greenergy.

Investor demand for growth-orientated NextGen infrastructure remains very strong. The energy transition, digital transformation and sustainable urbanisation, the NextGen growth trends which are reshaping the demand for infrastructure assets, continue to offer growth potential while current valuations remain very attractive by historic standards.




Sales Contact

For further information about the Fund, please contact:

 www.blackfinch.am

 **01452 717070**

 bfamsales@blackfinch.com

Date of inception: 24/11/2023.

'Based on the country of domicile.

IFSL Blackfinch OEIC Sub-Funds performance figures are quoted net of AMC and fund OCFs.

Investment Fund Services Limited (IFSL) acts as the Fund's Authorised Corporate Director (ACD). The Key Investor Information Documents and the Prospectuses for all funds are available, in English, free of charge and can be obtained directly using the contact details in the Sales Contact section. They can also be downloaded from www.ifsfunds.com.

All data as at 30/11/2024, unless specified otherwise.

Blackfinch Asset Management is an appointed representative of Blackfinch Investments Limited which is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority. Registered address: 1350–1360 Montpellier Court, Gloucester Business Park, Gloucester, GL3 4AH. Registered Company in England & Wales under No. 11639647. The IFSL Blackfinch OEIC Sub-Funds are actively managed by Blackfinch Investments Limited. Blackfinch Investments Limited act as the sponsor of the IFSL Blackfinch OEIC Sub-Funds. Capital at risk. All figures are correct at the time of compilation. Any decision to invest in this service should not be based solely on this factsheet but rather made in conjunction with the information contained in the brochure, and the terms and conditions. Prospective investors must rely on their own examination of the legal, taxation, financial and other consequences of investing and the risk involved. Prospective investors should not treat the contents of this factsheet as advice relating to legal, taxation or other matters. If in any doubt about the proposal discussed in this factsheet, its suitability, or what action should be taken, the investor should consult their own professional advisers. Percentage figures may not add up to 100 due to rounding. The expected yield is based upon the underlying holdings. This figure is for information purposes and will not be distributed as cash income.


Benelux-focused waste management firm Renewi (c. 2% portfolio weighting) reached agreement on a takeover with Australia-based asset manager Macquarie Asset Management. The final possible offer represents a premium of 57% to Renewi's undisturbed share price. The terms of the offer mean it will not be increased unless a third party makes a rival bid. Renewi's board of directors said it had "carefully balanced the likely value creation from the continued delivery of Renewi's strategic plan against the various risks faced", recommending Macquarie's offer as a result.

China Mobile, the world's largest wireless carrier by subscribers, said it had offered to acquire HKBN (c. 2.5% portfolio weighting), in a deal valuing the Hong Kong-based broadband company at HK\$ 6.86bn (\$882m), as it looks to counter an earlier offer from US-based private equity firm I Squared Capital for an undisclosed amount. Shares of HKBN have jumped about 13% since China Mobile first expressed interest in the company last month, and are also up about 40% for the year. China Mobile believes HKBN's acquisition will help expand its limited footprint outside its domestic market. According to media sources, discussions between HKBN and I Squared are ongoing, focusing on the proposal's terms, including the price, which could range from HK\$5 to HK\$6 per HKBN share, potentially exceeding the offer from China Mobile. Other interested parties are also closely monitoring the situation, according to the same sources.

In terms of trading activity, the Fund continued to gradually increase its North American allocation throughout November. Sector-wise, the allocation to Digital Infrastructure was further increased. There were no additions or disposals from the portfolio.

Top 10 Portfolio Holdings

(as at 30/11/2024)

 Equinix Inc	5.05%
 American Healthcare REIT Inc	4.85%
 GFL Environmental Inc	4.76%
 Clearway Energy Inc	3.60%
 HKBN Ltd	3.49%
 Cellnex Telecom SA	3.23%
 Renewi PLC	3.15%
 Brookfield Infrastructure Partners	2.90%
 NextEra Energy Partners LP	2.75%
 Clean Harbors Inc	2.74%