

Global Sustainable Equities SMA Strategy Quarterly Commentary

Strategy Overview

The Calamos Global Sustainable Equities Strategy employs an integrated, fundamental and proprietary ESG screening process, benchmarked to the MSCI ACWI Index, to evaluate and select what we deem are the highest-quality, ESG-adherent growth opportunities throughout the world in developed and developing economies as well as across market capitalizations.

Market Overview

Global equities delivered a third straight quarter of positive returns, with the MSCI ACWI Index (Net) posting a 6.18% gain. Stock markets performed well globally despite interest rate hikes from many central banks during the period. Importantly, in the US, the Federal Reserve paused its rate hikes in June with signs of slowing inflation and resilient business data. In the eurozone, data during the quarter showed a second straight quarter of negative GDP growth (-0.1% each quarter). Japanese equities reached a 33-year high, UK stocks fell for the quarter, and emerging market stocks posted slight gains despite a difficult quarter for the Chinese market. Developed markets returned 7.00%, as measured by the MSCI World Index, led by US equities returning 8.74%, as reflected in the S&P 500 Index. Emerging markets also gained, but to a lesser degree, as the MSCI Emerging Markets Index returned 1.04%.

By sector within the MSCI ACWI Index (Net), information technology (+14.2%), consumer discretionary (+8.6%), communication services (+7.0%), industrials (+6.1%), financials (+4.9%), health care (+2.3%) and energy (+0.8%) each delivered positive returns. Consumer staples (-0.1%), utilities (-0.1%), real estate (-0.2%) and materials (-0.8%) lagged for the quarter.

Performance Review

For the quarter ended June 30, 2023, the portfolio had a positive return of 5.63% (gross of fees) and 5.30% (net of fees) but modestly trailed the MSCI ACWI Index (Net) return of 6.18%.

Positive Influences on Performance

Energy. The portfolio's lack of exposure to energy helped buoy relative performance.

Materials. Favorable security selection in materials added to the portfolio's performance. Specifically, a lack of exposure to the diversified metals & mining industry and fertilizers & agricultural chemicals bolstered results.

Negative Influences on Performance

Consumer Discretionary. Over the period, security selection and an average underweight stance within the consumer discretionary sector hindered performance. Our position in automobile manufacturers was a leading detractor, and our lack of representation in broadline retail detracted from relative results.

Financials. Security selection in financials lost ground on a relative basis, specifically names in the financial exchanges & data and life & health insurance industries.

Geographic Performance

Leading security selection and an average underweight allocation to Emerging Asia lifted relative performance, with holdings in China and Indonesia offering notable contributions. Also, leading security selection in Europe added value, with holdings in the United Kingdom and Spain notching gains.

Conversely, security selection and an average underweight position in the United States and selection in Japan set back performance.

Positioning and Portfolio Changes

The prospect for further outperformance in big-cap tech is becoming less likely given extended valuations and continued central bank hiking in developing markets. We believe that broader exposure to other economic sectors will pay off. As such, the portfolio is overweight quality stocks with reasonable valuations in the industrials, health care and consumer staples sectors. Quality, more broadly, should hold up given that interest rates are not likely to go down soon, global economic growth isn't rebounding, and 2023 earnings are flattish. Conversely, the portfolio is underweight energy, communication services and consumer discretionary. After several months of investor complacency, the "risk" part of the risk-and-return equation is likely to matter in the coming quarters, and the portfolio is positioned accordingly.

In terms of economic sectors, the largest allocations reside in information technology, industrials and financials on an absolute basis, whereas the smallest sector weight allocations with holdings are found within real estate and utilities. The portfolio had no exposure to the energy sector while holding securities in other cyclical areas that may benefit from manufacturing, modernization and infrastructure investment.

The information technology allocation increased during the period, while the weight to industrials also rose modestly. Allocations to real estate and financials decreased modestly with reduced weights in telecom tower REITs and financial exchanges & data.

The portfolio continues to hold an overweight to the United States, relative to the MSCI ACWI Index (Net), and remains underweight to emerging market countries, although our team does selectively find attractive opportunities in EM countries.

Outlook

Stock markets held up during the second quarter as investors piled into US large-cap technology stocks, despite aggressive central bank policy, fading fiscal support, lower levels of liquidity and growing worries about China's economy. The S&P 500 Index's rally was primarily attributable to a bull run in a handful of mega-cap stocks boosted by the exuberance over artificial intelligence.

It's not just big-cap technology stocks that have been hot as of late. Global temperatures in June hit the highest level on record for this time of the year, causing temperatures to exceed pre-industrial levels by more than 1.5°C for the first time. A heat wave smashed temperature records in China, and the country joins India, the UK and other nations in bracing for a scorching summer. Europe already had the

warmest summer on record last year, contributing to thousands of deaths, marine heat waves and extreme weather. The world's oceans were the warmest on record in April and May, a development that could mean more severe weather over the next few months and trigger a rise in sea levels. In the US, Texans' power prices surged 80% in a matter of hours amid shrinking spare electricity supplies in June as searing heat put the state's grid to the test.

Climate change is clearly taking a major human, economic and environmental toll. Putting a price on carbon is one of the strongest levers to tackle climate change. This is happening. Today, there are 70 carbon pricing initiatives globally, whether a carbon tax or emissions trading scheme, covering 23% of global emissions.

Companies that are already reducing their emission profiles—and future environmental liabilities—have a competitive advantage, and are better positioned to outperform over the long term. We continue to work diligently to identify the best investment opportunities in this regard.

CALAMOS GLOBAL SUSTAINABLE EQUITIES SMA STRATEGY RETURNS (%)

	QTR	1-YEAR	3-YEAR	SINCE INCEPTION (1/19)
Calamos Global Sustainable Equities SMA Composite				
Return Gross	5.63	17.39	12.40	13.50
Return Net of Fees	5.30	15.93	11.02	12.11
MSCI ACWI Index (Net)	6.18	16.53	10.99	11.35

Source: Calamos Advisors LLC

Past performance is no guarantee of future results.

Past performance does not guarantee or indicate future results. Current performance may be lower or higher than the performance quoted. Portfolios are managed according to their respective strategies which may differ significantly in terms of security holdings, industry weightings and asset allocation from those of the benchmark(s). Portfolio performance, characteristics and volatility may differ from the benchmark(s) shown.

The information portrayed is for the Calamos Global Sustainable Equities Strategy. Representative holdings and portfolio characteristics are specific only to the portfolio shown at that point in time. Other portfolios will vary in composition, characteristics, and will experience different investment results. The representative portfolio shown has been selected by the advisor based on account characteristics that the advisor feels accurately represents the investment strategy as a whole. The opinions referenced are as of the date of publication and are subject to change due to changes in the market or economic conditions and may not necessarily come to pass. Information contained herein is for informational purposes only and should not be considered investment advice.

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Returns or Risk/Rewards statistics presented reflect the **Calamos Global Sustainable Equities Composite II**, which is an actively managed, globally focused composite that seeks to achieve long-term capital appreciation. The Composite invests primarily in the common stock of companies around the world that excel at managing environmental risks and opportunities, societal impact and corporate governance (ESG) factors and exhibit attractive financial attributes and competitive advantages. On August 25, 2021 Calamos acquired Pearl Impact Capital LLC which has managed the strategy since its inception in 2019. Firm assets shown represent assets managed by Calamos Advisors and not assets managed by Pearl Impact Capital LLC. The Calamos Global Sustainable Equities Composite II was formerly named the PIC Global Opportunities Composite. This name change was effected August 25, 2021. The Composite was created August 31, 2021, calculated with an inception date of

January 1, 2019. Results include all fully discretionary advisory accounts, including those no longer with the Firm. Past performance is no guarantee of future results.

Foreign (Non-US) Securities Risks: Risks associated with investing in foreign (non-US) securities include fluctuations in the exchange rates of foreign currencies that may affect the US dollar value of a security, the possibility of substantial price volatility as a result of political and economic instability in the foreign country, less public information about issuers of securities, different securities regulation, different accounting, auditing and financial reporting standards and less liquidity than in US markets. **ESG Investing Risks:** When the investment process considers environmental, social and governance factors, the adviser may choose to avoid investments that might otherwise be considered, or sell investments due to changes in ESG risk factors as part of the overall investment decision process. The use of environmental, social and governance factors may impact investment exposure to issuers, industries, sectors, and countries, which may impact a portfolio's relative performance. **Equity Securities Risk:** The securities markets are volatile, and the market prices of the securities may decline generally. The price of equity securities fluctuates based on changes in a company's financial condition and overall market and economic conditions. If the market prices of the securities owned fall, the value of your investment will decline.

The Firm maintains performance composites by "institutional" and "advisory" account types. Institutional portfolios, which include the Firm's co-mingled funds, generally provide the investment manager with a relatively high level of flexibility in trade direction, security types and asset classes, while advisory portfolios, which include bundled fee (or WRAP) sponsored accounts, may impose restrictions on trade direction as well as certain security types and asset classes.

The **MSCI ACWI Index (Net)** is a free float-adjusted market-capitalization-weighted index designed to measure the equity market performance of developed markets and emerging markets. The index is calculated in both US dollars and local currencies.

The **MSCI World Index** is a free float-adjusted market capitalization weighted index that is designed to measure the equity market performance of developed markets.

The **MSCI Emerging Markets Index** is a free float-adjusted market capitalization index that is designed to measure equity market performance of emerging markets. The index is calculated on a total return basis, which includes reinvestment of gross dividends before deduction of withholding taxes.

Unmanaged index returns assume reinvestment of any and all distributions and, do not reflect fees, expenses or sales charges. Investors cannot invest directly in an index.

Fees include the investment advisory fee charge by Calamos Advisors LLC. Returns greater than 12 months are annualized. Chart Data Source: Calamos Advisors LLC.

Average annual total return measures net investment income and capital gain or loss from portfolio investments as an annualized average assuming reinvestment of dividends and capital gains distributions.

Calamos Advisors LLC is a federally registered investment advisor. Form ADV Part 2A, which provides background information about the firm and its business practices, is available upon written request to:

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