# SAFFRON GLOBAL ENHANCED INCOME FUND

## a sub-Fund of PRESCIENT GLOBAL FUNDS ICAV

CLASS A2

Minimum Disclosure Document (MDD) and General Investor Report 30 June 2023

## **Fund Performance**

Since launch cumulative performance graph

Performance will be displayed 12 months after the launch date

### Monthly %

Fund Benchmark

#### Yearly %

Fund Benchmark

Cumulative Return (%)
Fund Benchmark Fund Benchmark

1 Year
3 Years
5 Years
10 Years

# **Fund Holdings**

Treasuries 61.9%

Bonds 23.1%

Floating Rate Notes 9.6%

## Risk Statistics (1 Year Rolling)

Standard Deviation
Available 12 months post launch date
Sharpe Ratio
Available 12 months post launch date
Information Ratio
Available 12 months post launch date
Maximum Drawdown
Available 12 months post launch date

## **Highest and Lowest Annual Returns**

Time Period: Since Inception to 30/06/2023

Cash & Settlement 5 4%

Highest Annual % Available 12 months post launch date
Lowest Annual % Available 12 months post launch date

## Risk Profile

Low-Moderate Risk

The risk indicator is determined using historical data or, where historical data is not available, using simulated historical data. Historical data, such as is used in calculating the synthetic indicator, may not be a reliable indication of the future risk profile of the Fund. The risk category shown is not a target or a guarantee and may change over time. A category 1 fund is not risk free, the risk of loss is small but the chance of making gains may also be limited. With a category 7 fund, the risk of losing money is high but so also is the possibility of making gains. The risk indicator for the Fund is set at 3 as this reflects the market risk arising from proposed investments.



## **Fund Objective**

The Saffron Global Enhanced Income Fund is an actively managed global fixed income portfolio that seeks to generate a high level of income and capital appreciation over the medium to long term with a global focus.

#### **Investment Policy**

In order to achieve this objective, investments normally included in the portfolio will comprise a combination of assets in liquid form, bonds, inflation linked bonds, loan stock, notes, debentures, debenture bonds, convertible bonds, preference shares, listed property securities and property related securities, money market instruments, corporate debt, equity securities, convertible equities, other interest-bearing securities and non-equity securities. The portfolio may also invest in participatory interests and other forms of participation in portfolios of collective investment schemes. The portfolio may from time to time invest in listed and unlisted financial instruments. The manager may also include forward currency, interest rate and exchange rate swap transactions for efficient portfolio management purposes.

### **Fund Information**

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Fund Manager	Brandon Quinn, CFA
Assistant Fund Manager	Anina Swiegers, CFA
Launch Date	29 September 2022
Fund Size	USD 12.11 million
NAV Price (Fund Inception)	100.00 cents
NAV Price as at month end	10.47 cents
Bloomberg Code	PGSGEA2 ID
ISIN Number	IE00064OLFP1
Fund Classification	Global Bond UCITS
Units	1080.09
Benchmark	CME Term 3-Month SOFR +3%
Minimum Investment Amount	USD 5,000
Fee Class	A2
Valuation	Daily
Portfolio Valuation Time	17:00 (New York)
Transaction Cut Off Time	10:00 (Ireland Rep.)
Regulation 28 Compliant	N/A

# Distribution History (cents per unit)

Income Declaration Date Accumulating Class Income Payment Date N/A

Co	st	R	a	ti	o	s	*

TER:	TC:	TIC:
The % of the value of the Fund	The % of the value of the Fund	The % of the value of the Fund
was incurred as expenses relati	ng was incurred as costs relating to	was incurred as costs relating to
to the administration of the Fur	nd. the buying and selling of the	the investment of the Fund.
	assets underlying the Fund.	

## Fees (Incl. VAT)

Annual Service Fee	0.75
Initial Advisory Fee (Max)	-
Annual Advice Fee	-
Initial Fee	-
Performance Fee	N/A
Monthly Fixed Admin Fee	USD 625

\*Available 12 months post launch date



(%)

#### Glossary

Annualised Performance: Annualised performance shows longer term performance rescaled to a 1-year period. Annualised performance is the average return per year over the period.

Highest & Lowest Performance: For any 1 year over the period since inception have been shown.

NAV: The net asset value represents the assets of a Fund less its liabilities.

Current Yield: Annual income (interest or dividends) divided by the current price of the security.

Alpha: Denotes the outperformance of the fund over the benchmark.

Sharpe Ratio: Used to indicate the excess return the portfolio delivers over the risk-free rate per unit of risk adopted by the fund.

Standard Deviation: The deviation of the return stream relative to its own average.

Max Drawdown: The maximum peak to trough loss suffered by the Fund since inception.

Max Gain: Largest increase in any single month.

% Positive Month: The percentage of months since inception where the Fund has delivered positive return.

**Average Duration:** The weighted average duration of all the underlying interest-bearing instruments in the Fund.

**Total Expense Ratio (TER%):** The Total Expense Ratio (TER) is the percentage of the net asset value of the class of the Financial Product incurred as expenses relating to the administration of the Financial Product.

Transaction Costs (TC%): The Transaction Costs (TC) is the percentage of the net asset value of the Financial Product incurred as costs relating to the buying and selling of the assets underlying the Financial Product. Total Investment Charges TIC (%) = TER (%) + TC (TIC), the TER + the TC is the percentage of the net asset value of the class of the Financial Product incurred as costs relating to the investment of the that a TIC is the sum of two calculated ratios (TER+TC).

#### Disclaimer

Collective Investment Schemes in Securities (CIS) should be considered as medium to long-term investments. The value may go up as well as down and past performance is not necessarily a guide to future performance. CIS's are traded at the ruling price and can engage in scrip lending and borrowing. The collective investment scheme may borrow up to 10% of the market value of the portfolio to bridge insufficient liquidity. A schedule of fees, charges and maximum commissions is available on request from the Manager. There is no guarantee in respect of capital or returns in a portfolio. A CIS may be closed to new investors in order for it to be managed more efficiently in accordance with its mandate. CIS prices are calculated on a net asset basis, which is the total value of all the assets in the portfolio including any income accruals and less any permissible deductions (brokerage, STT, VAT, auditor's fees, bank charges, trustee and custodian fees and the annual management fee) from the portfolio divided by the number of participatory interests (units) in issue. Forward pricing is used. The Fund's Total Expense Ratio (TER) reflects the percentage of the average Net Asset Value (NAV) of the portfolio that was incurred as charges, levies and fees related to the management of the portfolio. A higher TER does not necessarily imply a poor return, nor does a low TER imply a good return. The current TER cannot be regarded as an indication of future TER's. During the phase in period TER's do not include information gathered over a full year. Transaction Costs (TC) is the percentage of the value of the Fund incurred as costs relating to the buying and selling of the Fund's underlying assets. Transaction costs are a necessary cost in administering the Fund and impacts Fund returns. It should not be considered in isolation as returns may be impacted by many other factors over time including market returns, the type of Fund, investment decisions of the investment manager and the TER. Where foreign securities are included in a portfolio there may be potential constraints on liquidity and the repatriation of funds. macroeconomic risks, political risks, foreign exchange risks, tax risks, settlement risks; and potential limitations on the availability of market information. The investor acknowledges the inherent risk associated with the selected investments and that there are no guarantees. Please note that all documents, notifications of deposit, investment, redemption and switch applications must be received by Prescient Fund Services (Ireland) Ltd by or before 10:00 (Irish time), to be transacted at the net asset value price for that day. Where all required documentation is not received before the stated cut off time Prescient Fund Services (Ireland) Ltd shall not be obliged to transact at the net asset value price as agreed to. Funds are priced at 17:00 (New York time) depending on the nature of the Fund. Performance has been calculated using net NAV to NAV numbers with income reinvested. The performance for each period shown reflects the return for investors who have been fully invested for that period. Individual investor performance may differ as a result of initial fees, the actual investment date, the date of reinvestments and dividend withholding tax. Full performance calculations are available from the manager on request.



#### Risk

**Default Risk:** The risk that the issuers of fixed income instruments may not be able to meet interest payments nor repay the money they have borrowed. The issuers credit quality is vital. The worse the credit quality, the greater the risk of default and therefore investment loss.

**Derivatives Risk:** The use could increase overall risk by magnifying the effect of both gains and losses in a Fund. As such, large changes in value and potentially large financial losses could result.

**Developing Market Risk:** Some of the countries invested in may have less developed legal, political, economic and/or other systems. These markets carry a higher risk of financial loss than those in countries generally regarded as being more developed.

Foreign Investment Risk: Foreign securities investments may be to risks pertaining to overseas Jurisdictions and markets. including (but not limited to) local liquidity, macroeconomic political, tax, settlement risks and currency fluctuations.

**Interest Rate Risk:** The value of fixed income investments tends to be inversely related to interest and inflation rates. Hence their value decreases when interest rates and/or inflation rises.

**Property Risk:** Investments in real estate securities can carry the same risks as investing directly in real estate itself. Real estate prices move in response to a variety of factors, including local, regional, and national economic and political conditions, interest rates and tax considerations.

**Currency Exchange Risk:** Changes in the relative values of individual currencies may adversely affect the value of investments and any related income.

**Geographic / Sector Risk:** For investments primarily concentrated in specific countries, geographical regions and/or industry sectors, their resulting value may decrease whilst portfolios more broadly invested might grow.

**Derivative Counterparty Risk:** A counterparty to a derivative transaction may experience a breakdown in meeting its obligations thereby leading to financial loss.

**Liquidity Risk:** If there are insufficient buyers or sellers of particular investments, the result may lead to delays in trading and being able to make settlements. and/or large fluctuations in value This may lead to larger financial losses than expected.

**Equity Investment Risk:** Value of equities (e.g. shares) and equity-related investments may vary according to company profits and future prospects as well as more general market factors. In the event of a company default (e.g. bankruptcy), the owners of their equity rank last in terms of any financial payment from that company.

The fund has adhered to its policy objective as stated in the supplement.

## **Investment Manager**

Saffron Wealth (Pty) Ltd (FSP) License No. 34638

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## **Management Company Information**

Prescient Global Funds ICAV

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## **Trustee / Depository Information**

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## **Representative Office**

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The Saffron Global Enhanced Income Fund is registered and approved under Section 65 of the Collective Investment Schemes Control Act 45 of 2002. For any additional information such as fund prices, brochures and application forms please go to www.prescient.co.za



#### Fund Manager Quarterly Comment - As at 30 June 2023

The second quarter of 2023 delivered heightened volatility in return on the back of a strong first quarter for financial assets. The Saffron Global Enhanced Income Fund returned 1.7% over the quarter, with its benchmark of 3-Month SOFR +3% (Secured Overnight Financing Rate) returning 1.99%. The composition of the fund changed slightly through the period to include higher allocations to bonds, floating rate notes and US T-bills, the funds AT1 exposure remained flat. As mentioned previously, the fund sought to deploy more cash into credit assets which resulted in a modest increase in duration to 0.48 yrs. The Fund ended the quarter with a gross running yield of 5.50%, up from 5.34% in Q1.

Through Q2, the US bond curve widened significantly as markets began pricing the new interest rate outlook. The US-2YR and US-10YR closed the quarter with yields of 4.90% and 3.84%, respectively. The largest movement was seen in short-term rates with the US-2YR lifting by circa 87 bps. Over the quarter, the 10v2s inversion widened significantly to -106 bps. The 10v2s inversion is widely seen as a leading indicator of an economic recession in the market. Value continues to be offered by US Treasuries with the 3-month US Treasury bill lifting by 56 bps to 5.31% over the quarter.

The Federal Reserve (FED) continued in its hiking policy, raising the upper bound of the FED funds rate by 25 bps to 5.25% before pausing in June. A key rate used to measure inflation, Core Personal Consumption Expenditures (PCE), rose just 0.3% in May when excluding food and energy as inflationary pressures eased slightly. Core PCE has increased 4.6% from one year ago, down 0.1% from April. When including food and energy, Core PCE was up 0.1% m/m and 3.8% y/y. In June, Fed officials indicated they expect the hiking cycle to continue with at least two more 25 bp interest rate hikes before year end.

Spreads on 5-YR USD sovereign credit default swaps (CDS) were extremely volatile during the quarter as fears of the US breaching its debt ceiling were raised, however the spreads returned to normalised levels and were stable during June following agreement on a new debt ceiling. Brazil spreads tightened by 52 bps for the quarter on the back of strong currency outperformance. Despite the elevated political turbulence experienced during the quarter, the 5-YR ZAR sovereign CDS ended the quarter circa 5 bps tighter than Q1. Similar gains in the CDS space were seen by both Turkey and Mexico. The broad-based tightening in sovereign CDS spreads indicates a pro-growth view on the back of approaching a perceived peak in US rates.

For the second consecutive quarter, AT1 bank bonds experienced heightened volatility following the events of Credit Suisse in Q1. Despite the increased volatility, the iBoxx CoCo Liquid Developed Europe AT1 Index ended the quarter 4.15% stronger.

The European Central Bank (ECB) remains committed to combating inflation and has indicated that it will continue to raise rates to ensure price and financial stability in the euro area. The ECB raised its main policy rate by a total of 50 bps over the quarter, bringing it to 4.00%. The Governing Council has indicated that future key rate decisions will ensure that key ECB rates are brought to levels that will achieve a timely return to the medium-term inflation target of 2%.

Chinese Premier Li Qiang recently stated China is on track to achieve their GDP growth target of circa 5.0% for 2023, as early indications are showing the Chinese economy has "clear momentum of rebound and improvement". However, China's June manufacturing Purchasing Managers Index (PMI) saw its third monthly contraction to 49.0 with China's June non-manufacturing PMI coming in at its weakest level year to date at 53.2 and pointing towards additional stimulus required.

On the back of a strong Q1, emerging market (EM) bonds strength continued in Q2 with the JP Morgan EMBI Plus Index returning a positive +1.43% for the quarter. The circa 30 bps reduction in the JP Morgan EMBI Spread was on the back of a more constructive view on EM debt. Additionally, in the EU, both the 3-year and 5-year Generic ITraxx Crossovers saw spreads tighten by 26 bps and 34 bps respectively, indicating an improvement in risk sentiment in the EU corporate credit market. The Global HY Index and US High Yield Index returned 2.02% and 1.63% for the quarter respectively.

Historically, the United States Dollar (USD) has been the safe haven asset in times of financial instability. This quarter saw the USD strengthen, as the Dollar Index (DXY index) increased by +0.4% after declining by -0.98% in Q1. However, when compared to other developed market currencies, the relative USD weakness continued into Q2. The USD lost -0.65% vs EUR over the quarter. The USD weakened significantly to GBP, weakening by -2.97% over the quarter. Brazil (BRL) gained 5.46% in Q2 on the back of strong carry metrics. The South African Rand (ZAR) weakened significantly versus USD, depreciating by 5.91% over the quarter. Further weakness came from the Japanese Yen and Chinese Renminbi which weakened significantly to the dollar by -8.62% and -5.53% respectively. The Australian Dollar showed slight gains of +0.32% to the dollar.

Looking ahead, geopolitical tensions are likely to persist, uncertainty in the US and EU banking sector have largely abated whilst US recession and inflation uncertainty will likely remain in the short to medium term. The fund will continue to redeploy US Treasury exposure into opportunities that offer superior risk adjusted returns.



Portfolio Manager Brandon Quinn BCom, CFA

Assistant Manager Anina Swiegers BCom (Hons), CFA

