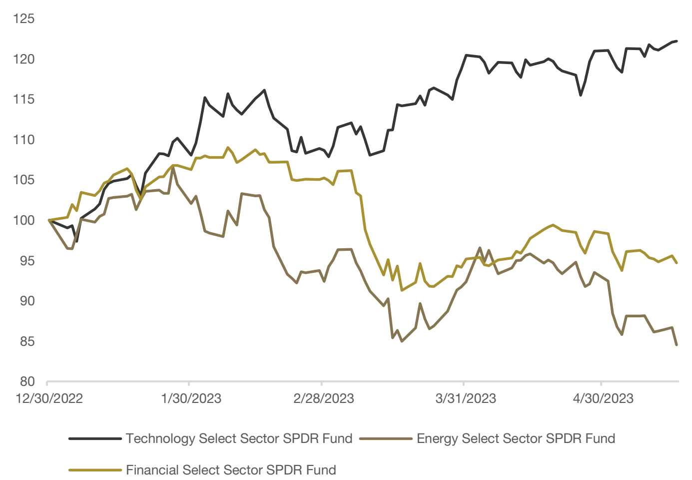
Sustainable Funds Update

May 2023

ECONOMY AND MARKETS

- On the surface, it would seem that not much has happened in markets over the last three months, with global equity markets up ~0-2% and long-term interest rates fairly stable. However, below the surface, it has been anything but calm.
- Sector disparity has been immense, with large-cap Technology continuing its year-to-date dominance, while US regional bank failures have hammered cyclical areas such as Financials, and the Energy and Materials sectors follow commodity prices down on a deteriorating economic outlook.
- Offsetting these headwinds has been strong consumer data, including employment and retail sales, which remain robust while the Q1 2023 corporate earnings season has come in largely ahead of expectations. With inflation appearing to be on a downward trend and central banks at the end of their hiking cycles, it remains to be seen how these conflicting factors will net off as we enter the second half of the year. Our view is to remain cautious yet engaged.

Have questions about the U.S. debt ceiling? Please read our recent report "Hitting the Ceiling".

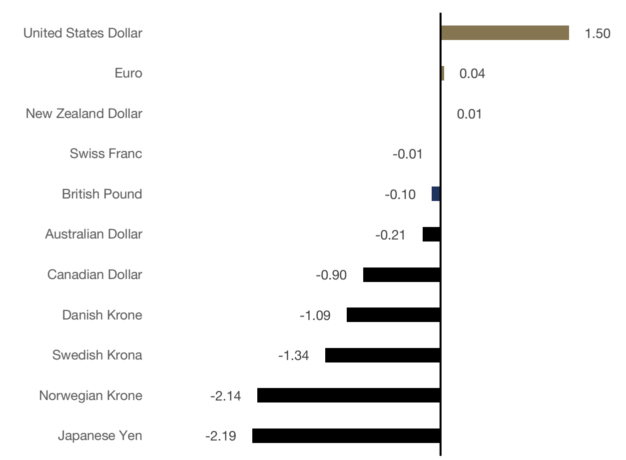


Source: Guardian Capital based on data from Bloomberg to May 16, 2023

RECENT PORTFOLIO CHANGES

- Within fixed income allocations we switched our Canadian government exposure from XGB to ZFM but held our overall neutral duration positioning and bias to high-quality investment-grade credit.
- Within the Sustainable Funds' equity allocations, where applicable, the Manager tactically reduced the Europe overweight, after a period of strong outperformance and declining conviction due to elevated inflation and an aggressive European Central Bank.
- Proceeds were invested in high-quality US equities, which typically outperform in challenging economic environments, as well as in Japanese equities, where the earnings outlook remains relatively strong, corporate governance trends are driving long-term structural improvements and the prospects of an exit from Yield Curve Control (YCC) could help propel an undervalued Yen.

Visit our website for the latest positioning and fund details.



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RESPONSIBLE INVESTING UPDATE

- Guardian Capital LP's Responsible Investing Report for 2022, as well as a new report outlining our approach to stewardship, have been released.
- This most recent update provides great information and new examples of how Guardian Capital LP incorporates and applies Responsible Investing principles within our investment strategies.
- Highlights include our engagement activities and case studies involving many well-known and highly-relatable companies such as Nike, Telus and, Ozempic-maker Novo Nordisk, as well as a detailed report on our proxy voting (over 5,000 proposals voted on!).

Access the Guardian Capital LP's Responsible Investing Report Stewardship Approach here.

GUARDIAN CAPITAL™

Disclaimers

This document is intended as a general source of information. It is not intended to provide specific individual advice including, without limitation, investment, financial, legal, accounting or tax, or a recommendation to buy, sell or hold a security and should not be relied upon in that regard. Individuals should seek the advice of professionals, as appropriate, regarding any particular investment.

Guardian's Sustainable Funds have ESG-related investment objectives, while other Guardian Mutual Funds and ETFs do not have ESG-related investment objectives. All Guardian Funds integrate ESG considerations into the investment analysis of all holdings within their respective portfolio. A Fund's ESG characteristics and performance may change from time to time. Please review the Fund's prospectus for details on how the Fund's investment strategy incorporates responsible investing considerations and the associated risks and consult your financial professional prior to investing.

Guardian Capital LP is a signatory of the United Nations-supported Principles of Responsible Investment (UN PRI). The UN PRI does not prescribe the exclusion of any particular type of company or industry; rather it requires that, as the Manager, we are informed on the ESG issues, and that we are comfortable with the activities and practices of the companies that we invest in. Guardian's approach to responsible investing is consistent with the framework provided by the UN PRI. Our Responsible Investing policies are publicly available on our website at https://www.guardiancapital.com/investmentsolutions/responsible-investing.

Responsible investing is an approach to investing that incorporates ESG considerations into investment decisions. This approach may incorporate considerations beyond traditional financial information into the investment selection process, which could result in investment performance deviating from other products with comparable objectives or from broad market benchmarks.

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Please read the prospectus before investing. Important information about each Guardian Capital mutual fund is contained in its respective prospectus. Commissions, trailing commissions, management fees and expenses all may be associated with investments in mutual funds a Except as noted otherwise, the indicated rates of return are the historical annual compounded total returns including changes in unit value and reinvestment of all distributions and do not take into account sales, redemptions, distribution or optional charges or income taxes payable by any security holder that would have reduced returns. Performance is calculated net of fees. Mutual funds are not guaranteed, their values change frequently, and past performance may not be repeated.

Guardian Capital LP is the Manager of the Sustainable Funds.

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