Quarterly Commentary
All data as of 09/30/2025



## **Performance**

Portfolio returns moved higher during the third quarter but underperformed its primary benchmark, the MSCI ACWI index. Outperformance from the largest names in the cap-weighted index combined with enthusiasm for momentum and 'hypergrowth' stocks proved to be a challenging environment for the strategy. The Materials and Industrials sectors were the primary detractors in relative terms. Underwhelming quarterly results, weaker demand trends and lower guidance led to share price de-ratings among certain stocks, such as natural ingredients, heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) and water infrastructure holdings. The broad market rotation away from defensive stocks and towards 'growth' led to underperformance from the portfolio's more durable holdings, such as waste management and recycling as well as industrial gas holdings. The portfolio's Information Technology exposure was a primary contributor to the portfolio's absolute performance, as robust earnings delivery, coupled with AI fervour, catalysed returns for Efficient IT and Cloud Computing holdings. The Consumer Discretionary sector was also a bright spot during the quarter with the portfolio benefitting from a recovery in Aptiv, as growth in bookings and margin expansion led to a re-rating in the automotive technology company's share price.

### Market overview

- Global equities posted strong gains in Q3 2025, supported by resilient macroeconomic conditions, improving corporate earnings, fiscal stimulus and deregulation in the banking sector. However, market dynamics favouring hypergrowth, cyclical and value stocks have created headwinds for investors focused on quality, and market concentration increased over the period.
- The passage of the One Big Beautiful Bill (OBBB) in the US was a key catalyst early in the quarter, providing short-term stimulus through extended tax cuts and incentives for domestic reshoring. While concerns linger over its longer-term impact on the US fiscal deficit and inflation, the OBBB helped lift investor sentiment, particularly in large-cap and technology stocks. The US Federal Reserve's September interest rate cut also helped to support share prices and extend the risk-on rally in equities.
- Emerging markets also performed well, buoyed by a weaker US dollar and supportive policy measures in China, which included new renewable energy standards targeting high-emission industries and support for the technology sector.
- As we end Q3, US regulatory uncertainty has eased for Health Care stocks with the announcement of a deal between President
  Trump and drug company Pfizer to lower prescription drug prices for the government-funded Medicaid programme. In the short
  term, the US government shutdown may weigh on investor sentiment but historically these shutdowns have been resolved with little
  impact on equity markets.
- Despite elevated valuations and increased market concentration, the investment team believe opportunities exist in stocks that
  have been de-rated despite strong earnings momentum and among companies demonstrating strong secular growth. The
  investment team remains focused on identifying businesses with durable growth drivers, sound management and attractive relative
  valuations.

Performance (%)	Total return			Average annual return				
	1M	3M	YTD	<b>1</b> Y	3Y	5Y	10Y	SI¹
Insitutional Class	1.79	4.55	15.70	6.53	18.03	9.01	10.68	7.52
Investor Class	1.81	4.53	15.53	6.27	17.74	8.74	10.41	7.25
Class A (Load-waived)	1.77	4.49	15.52	6.29	17.72	8.74	10.40	7.23
MSCI ACWI	3.62	7.62	18.44	17.27	23.12	13.54	11.91	7.94

## Performance after sales charge

Performance (%)	Total return				Average	annual return		
	1M	3M	YTD	1Y	3Y	5Y	10Y	SI <sup>1</sup>
Class A (max. 5.5% sales charge)	-3.84	-1.26	9.16	0.45	15.52	7.52	9.78	6.89

Performance data quoted represent past performance, which does not guarantee future results. Investment return and principal value of an investment will fluctuate so that an investor's shares, when redeemed, may be worth more or less than their original cost. Current performance may be lower or higher than the performance data quoted. For most recent month-end performance information, visit www.impaxam.com. Figures include reinvested dividends, capital gains distribution, and changes in principal value.

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<sup>1</sup>First full month since inception. The inception date for Impax Global Environmental Markets Fund Institutional Class is 03/27/2008 and Investor Class is 03/27/2008, and Class A is 05/01/2013. As of 05/01/2025 prospectus, total annual Impax Global Environmental Markets Fund operating expenses, gross of any fee waivers or reimbursements (excluding Acquired Fund fees and expenses), for Institutional Class, Investors Class, and Class A shares are 0.89%, 1.14% and 1.14%, respectively.

The performance information shown for Class A represents the performance of the Investor Class shares for the period prior to Class A inception. Expenses have not been adjusted to reflect the expenses allocable to Class A shares. Class A inception date return since May 1, 2013, is 9.19% (annualized). A 1.00% CDSC (contingent deferred sales charge) may be charged on any shares sold within 18 months of purchase over \$1 million. POP (public offering price) reflects the maximum sales load for the Fund's Class A shares of 5.50%.



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# **Contributors (absolute basis)**

- Delta Electronics (Cloud Computing, Taiwan) outperformed during the period after reporting positive quarterly earnings driven by robust Al-related cooling and power component demand, resulting in significant margin expansion.
- Aptiv (Advanced Road Vehicles & Devices, US) advanced higher during the period, a function of yet another strong quarterly
  release with top and bottom-line results exceeding expectations. While tariff headwinds have negatively impacted automotive
  original equipment manufacturers, automotive suppliers such as Aptiv have delivered margin and volume growth.
- TE Connectivity (Advanced Road Vehicles & Devices, US) generated strong performance in Q3, as faster-than-expected data centre and energy utility revenue growth, as well as margin expansion from their Industrial Solutions segment, facilitated very strong quarterly results.

# **Detractors (absolute basis)**

- Kerry Group (Sustainable Agriculture, Ireland) declined after first-half results missed expectations, with volume growth below
  consensus and full-year guidance revised downward. Despite maintaining its profit growth target, the food group's
  performance was pressured by pricing and currency headwinds, leading to a sharp market reaction and a notable share price
  drop.
- Carrier Global (Buildings Energy Efficiency, US) sold off in Q3 as weaker US residential heating, ventilation and air
  conditioning (HVAC) volumes led to a material guidance cut. Despite a softer demand outlook, the team believes that Carrier
  remains an attractively priced business positioned to benefit from improved end-market demand nearing cyclical lows.
- DSM-Firmenich (Sustainable Agriculture, Netherlands) suffered a de-rating during the quarter over adverse foreign exchange headwinds and investor concerns over its volume trajectory into the second half. The company also failed to dispose of its animal nutrition business during the period as promised, which is also weighing on the shares.

# **Outlook**

• The investment team believes that, over the longer term, the environment remains supportive of opportunities across a wide range of sustainable solutions. While markets entered 2025 with the view that President Trump's pro-growth policies would provide a tailwind for US equities, investors are now grappling with increased uncertainty and weaker consumer and corporate confidence associated with tariffs and geopolitical tensions, despite the recent market rebound. Given elevated levels of market volatility, the team continues to maintain exposure to high-quality operationally defensive businesses that provide a ballast for the portfolio in highly resilient areas like waste & recycling and industrial gases. These sectors tend to be oligopolies that benefit from durable demand and attractive pricing power. The portfolio also remains positioned for a rerating in sectors that have suffered from temporary destocking issues where the long-term thesis remains intact, such as in its exposure to Environmental Testing & Monitoring stocks. Over the long-term, themes like energy efficiency, grid upgrades, policy tailwinds (re-shoring) and Al-related opportunities remain attractive secular growth opportunities for a number of portfolio holdings. The strategy seeks to capitalise on long-term structural growth trends, such as demographic change, technological innovation and greater consumption. These are durable and sustainable, regardless of who is in the White House. The focus remains on high quality companies with resilient operational business profiles, demonstrable pricing power and above average earnings growth, underpinned by the secular drivers of environmental markets.



Quarterly Commentary I All data as of 09/30/2025

# Fund overview Impax Global Environmental Markets Fund is a long-only, all-cap global equities strategy investing in Environmental Markets. Portfolio managers David Winborne, Siddharth Jha, Luciano Lilloy

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Portfolio characteristics	As of 09/30/2025				
Market cap (weighted average) <sup>f</sup>					
<u>Fund</u> US\$468BN	Benchmark US\$907BN				
Forward price earnings <sup>~</sup>					
<u>Fund</u> 20.7x	Benchmark 19.1x				
ROE°					
<u>Fund</u> 22.2%	Benchmark 21.7%				
Beta <sup>∞</sup>					
<u>Fund</u> 0.97	Benchmark -				
Number of securities					
Fund 42	Benchmark 2,509				

Performance attribution as of 09/30/2025			
Sector: Average active weights (%)			
Energy	-3.54		
Financials	-14.94		
Health Care	-0.52		
Industrials	22.32		
Information Technology	5.40		
Materials	9.08		
Real Estate	-1.93		
Utilities	0.35		
Cash	1.88		

Total relative contribution (%)	
Energy	0.09
Financials	0.48
Health Care	0.11
Industrials	-1.52
Information Technology	0.07
Materials	-1.83
Real Estate	0.11
Utilities	-0.29
Cash	-0.20
Total	-2.86

# **Definitions**

- f Weighted Average is an average in which each quantity to be averaged is assigned a weight. These weightings determine the relative importance of each quantity on the average.
- ~ Forward Price-Earnings Ratio or P/E FY1 ratio is a ratio for valuing a company that measures its current share price relative to its per-share earnings over the next 12 months.
- Return on Equity: The amount of net income returned as a percentage of shareholders' equity. Return on equity measures a corporations' profitability by revealing how much profit a company generates with the money shareholders have invested.
- The Ex-Ante Beta is calculated using a multi-factor risk model. Beta explains common variations in stock returns due to different stock sensitivities to the market relative to its underlying benchmark for the current period, not historical. A beta for a benchmark is 1.00: A beta greater than 1.00 indicates above average volatility and risk.

Performance data quoted represent past performance, which does not guarantee future results. Investment return and principal value of an investment will fluctuate so that an investor's shares, when redeemed, may be worth more or less than their original cost. Current performance may be lower or higher than the performance data quoted. For most recent month-end performance information, visit www.impaxam.com. Figures include reinvested dividends, capital gains distribution, and changes in principal value.



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Top 10 holdings as of 09/30/2025 Holdings subject to change.

Stocks	Weighting (%)
MICROSOFT CORP	6.1%
LINDE PLC	4.9%
AGILENT TECHNOLOGIES INC	4.5%
AIR LIQUIDE SA	4.0%
TAIWAN SEMICONDUCTOR MANUFAC	3.8%
UNION PACIFIC CORP	3.1%
SCHNEIDER ELECTRIC SE	3.1%
VEOLIA ENVIRONNEMENT	3.0%
APTIV PLC	2.9%
WASTE MANAGEMENT INC	2.9%

### **Definitions and disclosures**

The MSCI All Country World Index is a free float-adjusted market capitalization weighted index that is designed to measure the equity market performance of developed and emerging markets. It covers 23 developed and 24 emerging market country indexes. The index is displayed in USD.

One cannot invest directly in an index.

RISK: Equity investments are subject to market fluctuations, the fund's share price can fall because of weakness in the broad market, a particular industry, or specific holdings. Emerging market and international investments involve risk of capital loss from unfavorable fluctuations in currency values, differences in generally accepted accounting principles, economic or political instability in other nations or increased volatility and lower trading volume. The Fund is actively managed. The investment techniques and decisions of the investment adviser and the Fund's portfolio manager(s), including the investment adviser's assessment of a company's ESG (Environmental, Social and Governance) profile when selecting investments for the Fund, may not produce the desired results and may adversely impact the Fund's performance, including relative to other Funds that do not consider ESG factors or come to different conclusions regarding such factors.

Environmental, social, and governance (ESG) criteria are a set of standards for a company's operations that socially conscious investors use to screen potential investments. Environmental criteria consider how a company performs as a steward of nature. Social criteria examine how it manages relationships with employees, suppliers, customers, and the communities where it operates. Governance deals with a company's leadership, executive pay, audits, internal controls, and shareholder rights.

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# **Impax Asset Management**

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