Desjardins SocieTerra International Equity Fund



QUARTERLY COMMENTARY AS OF JUNE 30, 2021



PORTFOLIO MANAGER: Addenda Capital

INCEPTION DATE: September 5, 2018

CIFSC CATEGORY*: International Equity

Contributors to performance

- → Defensive sectors drove market performance in the second quarter with Health Care up 7.7%. Consumer confidence and spending gained momentum with Consumer Staples being the next best performer on an absolute basis with 6.9% return. This was a meaningful shift from the first quarter, where these sectors were the worst performers.
- → On a relative basis, Consumer Staples and Consumer Discretionary were amongst the sectors that contributed the most to relative positive performance through stock selection. Additionally, our overweight in Health Care added to performance mostly through stock allocation with the next largest relative performance for the quarter. Finally, the security selection in Information Technology, but also the lack of exposure to Communication Services and Utilities, contributed to the outperformance of the portfolio over the quarter.

Detractors from performance

→ The largest underperformer on a relative basis was displayed by Materials sector which detracted from performance through security selection. Industrial gas companies are the positions held in the Materials sectors. These companies operate in a near oligopoly and have, over the years, displayed a defensive and predictable earnings profile. They are also well positioned to benefit from the expected long-term growth in demand for a cleaner hydrogen.

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Major changes to portfolio in the period

→ In terms of transactions, we crystalized some gains on the back of rich valuations from Diageo (UK, Distillers and Vintners), Richemont (Switzerland, Apparel, Accessories and Luxury Goods), and LVMH (France, Apparel, Accessories and Luxury Goods) and added to the position in Qiagen (Germany, Life Science Tools and Services).

*CIFSC refers to Canadian Investment Funds Standards Committee. The CIFSC has the mandate to standardize the classification of mutual funds in Canada. http://www.cifsc.org/.

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