

FP Foresight Global Real Infrastructure Fund (Lux)

Fund Commentary

Foresight

31 October 2024

The Fund invests in developed market “real infrastructure” companies that own or operate critical infrastructure assets which ensure the smooth functioning of economies, and that provide a net social or environmental benefit. The Manager takes an active approach to investing in infrastructure companies with high quality, predictable and often inflation linked cash flows from strong counterparties. The Fund seeks to grow, over any 5-year period, by more than 3% per annum above the rate of UK inflation (as measured by the UK Consumer Prices Index).

(4.37)%

Monthly Performance

(20.83)%

Total Return Since Inception*

€21.79m

Fund Size as at 31/10/2024

Class A Acc (EUR). Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future results. Target yield is not guaranteed. *The fund's inception date is 29 October 2021.

Market Update

- The US economy delivered 2.8% annualised GDP growth in the third quarter of 2024 supported by resilient consumer spending. Inflation continues to show signs of moderation in the US, with CPI falling to 2.4% in September from 2.5% in August, but remains buoyed by lingering services pressures. In Europe, GDP surprised to the upside at 0.4% for the quarter, and inflation fell to 1.7% in September, supporting the ECB's decision to cut interest rates by 25bps during the month.
- Political developments added to market volatility this month, with key events in both the UK and US. In the UK, budget discussions prompted renewed focus on fiscal policy, while the US election cycle brought additional market fluctuations as investors assessed potential policy changes. These factors, alongside economic indicators, continue to shape market sentiment as we progress through the quarter.

Portfolio News

- Cordiant Digital Infrastructure (CORD), a UK-based investor in digital infrastructure, has announced agreements to acquire a 47.5% stake in the combined entity of Belgian data centre provider DCU Invest NV and the data centre business of Proximus Group. The total equity consideration for this stake is €92.3m, and the acquisition involves CORD partnering with TINC NV and another Cordiant-managed fund. TINC will retain a 47.5% stake and Friso Haringsma (CEO of DCU) will hold the remaining 5%. The combined group will consist of 13 data centres, with pro forma revenues of €40.3m and EBITDA of €15.1m in 2023, with potential for further capacity expansion with the existing asset base. This acquisition provides Cordiant with a strong position in Belgium's data centre market, further enhancing its portfolio diversification. By leveraging its expertise in data centres, CORD aims to capitalise on synergies and economies of scale with TINC, ultimately driving improved performance and reinforcing its leadership in the digital infrastructure space across Europe.
- Assura (AGR), owner of primary healthcare real estate in the UK, has successfully completed the sale of 12 assets, generating £25m in cash proceeds. This sale will allow for a partial repayment of the Group's revolving credit facility. The company is actively negotiating additional asset disposals worth approximately £110m and has identified a further pipeline of 27 assets, valued at around £90m, with preliminary work on their potential disposal already underway. The disposal strategy plays a critical role in achieving the company's financial goals following the £500m private hospital portfolio acquisition, particularly in reducing its leverage ratio. This disciplined approach to deleveraging strengthens the company's balance sheet and positions it for greater financial flexibility and long-term growth.



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- Equinix (EQIX), a global owner and operator of data centres, has recently announced a JV partnership with GIC and CPP Investments that will raise over \$15bn in debt and equity capital to deploy in hyperscale data centres. Under the terms of the agreement, Equinix will own a 25% equity interest, with the balance evenly split between the remaining two partners. This JV is expected to add more than 1.5GW of new capacity for hyperscale customers, and provide attractive returns in the range of 8-12% (~17% levered returns). This JV highlights the growing demand for critical infrastructure, such as data centers, driven by the increasing consumption from individuals and hyperscalers. While the project's returns exceed Equinix's cost of capital, a rapid rise in capital expenditure could lead to dilution during the build phase, making JV structures the most effective approach to meet market demand while managing costs.
- Cellnex (CLNX), a Spanish-listed operator of mobile phone towers, recently announced that management is considering advancing its dividend distribution plan by one year, with the first payout expected in 2025. In March, CLNX outlined its commitment to distributing a minimum of €3bn between 2026 and 2030, with an initial payout of at least €500m in 2026. Following several years of aggressive M&A activity, the company has undertaken a strategic divestment process aimed at reducing debt such as with its Austrian and Irish assets. The decision to accelerate its dividend policy by one year is a clear signal that CLNX is now in a much stronger financial position. This move reinforces the company's confidence in its ability to generate sustainable cash flow and its commitment to long-term growth.

Portfolio Changes

- No significant portfolio changes during the month.

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- A summary of investor rights in connection with your investment; and
- Further information about the sustainability-related aspects of the sub-fund.

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