

The EQ Positive Impact Portfolios invest in companies that are making a positive impact on society and the environment by providing solutions to real world problems. We use the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals as a way to map the impact of their products and services.

Our quarterly updates feature examples of these companies and funds; here we will focus on three relating to goals 6 - Clean water and sanitation, 9 - Industry, innovation & infrastructure, and 3 - Good health & well-being.



## Creating a River Thames fit for our future

As London has grown in population size, its pre-existing Victorian sewage system has become strained and overloaded.

At least 50 times a year, the sewage spills into the tidal Thames putting the local wildlife and people at risk.

London's Victorian sewers were only designed to serve 4 million people, so it is no surprise that the system has come under pressure now the current London population is close to 9 million. Even a light drizzle of rain causes untreated sewage to spill into the River Thames.

With the London population expected to continue to grow, a new sewage system that can prevent further pollution to the Thames is crucial.

### COMPANY

#### Bazalgette Tunnel Limited



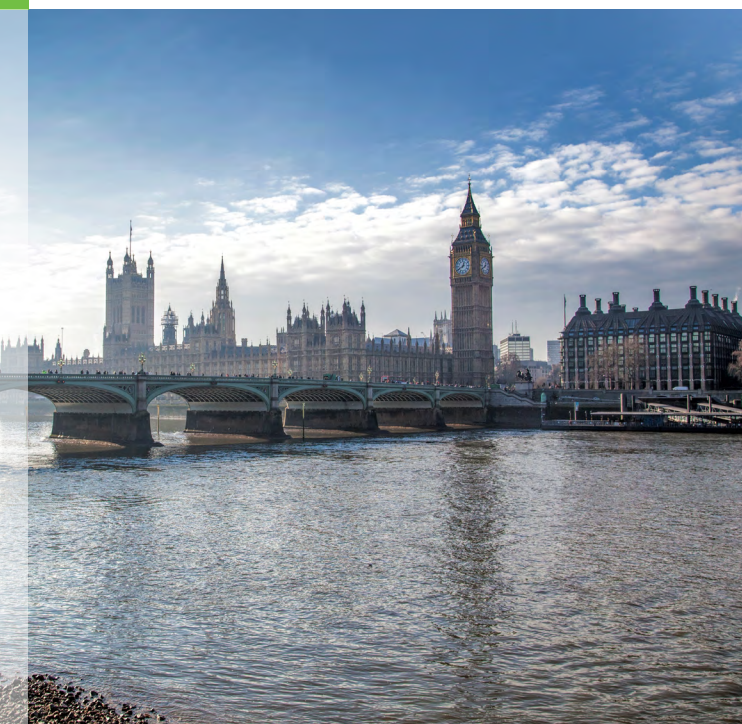
Bazalgette Tunnel Limited was set up to design, construct, and manage the Thames Tideway Tunnel. This is a 25km tunnel running underneath the River Thames through London, collecting sewage before it enters the river and ensuring it is properly treated, so that the river remains unpolluted, and the surrounding wildlife and inhabitant health is sustained. The tunnel will reduce the polluting discharges by approximately 16 million cubic metres a year, with the discharges being captured and treated. Cleaning up the Thames will increase the opportunity for recreational use of the river, such as swimming, kayaking, and rowing.

The tunnelling process commenced in 2018 and the tunnel is now constructed running from Acton in the West, across London to Beckton in the East. The project is expected to be completed by 2025 following secondary lining, connection, and testing works. Once completed, it will be expected to protect the river for at least another 100 years.

### FUND IN FOCUS

#### Allianz Green Bond Fund

Bazalgette received investments through the Allianz Green Bond Fund, which invests in bonds dedicated to having a positive impact on the environment. Proceeds from the green bonds are exclusively assigned to finance projects, assets and business activities labelled as green. Another bond in the fund was issued by Orsted, contributing to renewable energy, bioenergy, and energy storage projects.



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INDUSTRY, INNOVATION  
AND INFRASTRUCTURE

## Building resilience in the grid

All eyes turned to Sharm El-Sheikh for the COP27 meeting, aiming to tackle the climate crisis. With the current funding for climate

solutions still not at the levels required, investment in the energy transition needs to be scaled up so that targets set out in the Paris Agreement can be met.

Solar and wind-based electricity generation produces intermittent flows of power as wind speeds vary and sunlight changes through the day. With the continued adoption of these renewable energy technologies, grid operators will need to find ways to deal with the temporal separation of generation and consumption of electricity. Smart grids and energy storage systems will bring stability and flexibility to the grid.

### FUND IN FOCUS

**Regnan Global Equity Impact Solutions fund**

# Regnan

Alfen receives investment through the Regnan Global Equity Impact Solutions fund, which seeks to invest in global companies that create positive impacts through their core products and services. Another holding company involved in the low carbon transition is Hannon Armstrong Sustainable Infrastructure, a US company focused on financing environmental infrastructure.

### COMPANY

#### Alfen

Alfen is a company operating at the heart of the energy transition. Alfen's focus is on producing smart energy solutions looking to ensure reliability and sustainability of the grid. Its products include smart-grid solutions, energy storage systems and EV charging infrastructure.



In 2021, [Alfen invested €16 million into R&D](#) to continue innovating its smart grid solutions and EV charging infrastructure. 3,240 new substations were built, which are bits of essential infrastructure that connect new renewable energy projects to the main grid. Through this addition, Alfen contributes to improving clean energy access, with potentially 206,000 households gaining supply to renewable energy.

Alfen offers an array of electric vehicle charging equipment that can be used at home and in public locations. In 2021, [Alfen produced approximately 114,800 charge points](#) and made innovations in share point security, with the introduction of password protection connected to a smartphone app.

Alfen also contributed to the [third largest electrical energy storage facility in Finland](#), connecting to a wind farm owned by EPV Energy. The project will be completed in 2023 and bring a much-needed fast balancing capability to the power system.



### 3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING



## Improving early access to medicine around the world

The past decade has seen continued increase in innovation in healthcare. Despite this, the license approval for many of these promising medicines is both time consuming and costly. This remains a significant barrier in access to treatment, leading to serious negative impact on the patients' overall quality of life and well-being.

In the past, clinical trials were the only way for patients in many countries to access medicines still in development. However, not every patient was able to meet the criteria or lived in the country where the trial was recruiting. The result was a medicine supply available to meet the demand, but patients facing barriers to access the medicine they need.

#### COMPANY

#### Clinigen

## CLINIGEN

Clinigen's business model involves improving the logistics of medicine delivery by working with pharmaceutical companies, healthcare professionals and the patients themselves, so that individuals are receiving the right medicine as quickly as possible.

Clinigen has a specific early access programme (EAP), which has helped to alleviate this 'access gap' for medicine. Clinigen supplied to 128 countries over the last three years. Its supply chain and patient network allow the company to match patients with medicine that are highly suitable but not yet licensed in their region.

Clinigen also engages with members of the patient community to help inform how they can continue to innovate and improve patients access to medicine. [In 2021, Clinigen launched the Patient Advocate Fellowship](#) where patient group representatives can help shape early access for the benefit of their community, using its position as global leader to embed patient-centred thinking wherever they have influence.

#### FUND IN FOCUS

#### NinetyOne UK Sustainable Equity fund



Clinigen receives investment from the NinetyOne UK Sustainable Equity fund, which focuses on investing in companies that are contributing to and benefiting from sustainability themes. The fund holds several other companies involved in the healthcare space, such as Convatech and PureTech Health.



Want to learn more about the UN Goals, and why we use them? Take a look at our annual Impact Report and calculate the impact of your own portfolio online, at [eqinvestors.co.uk](http://eqinvestors.co.uk)

## SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



### Risk warning

Past performance is not a guide to future performance. The value of investments and the income derived from them may go down as well as up and investors may get back less than they originally invested. The Positive Impact Portfolios are available in seven different risk profiles.

EQ Investors Limited, Centennium House, 100 Lower Thames Street, London EC3R 6DL

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