

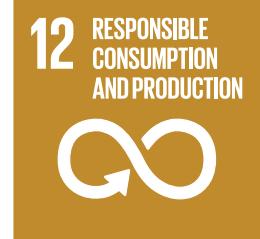
# EQ Positive Impact Portfolio

## H1 2026 UPDATE

The Positive Impact portfolios are managed with a dual mandate: to achieve long-term capital growth by investing in solutions that address the world's major social & environmental challenges



This update features examples of three companies with a focus on the following UN Sustainable Development Goals:





# The challenge: Improving efficiency in the transport sector

The world faces a major challenge from road vehicle emissions, which account for more than 20% of global greenhouse gases<sup>1</sup>.

# Improving efficiency in the transport sector

Despite rising demand for cleaner transport, many auto manufacturers still lag behind crucial targets to cut emissions, and global carbon dioxide levels from vehicles have climbed. While electric vehicles (EVs) are gaining ground (forecasted to make up 27.5% of new car sales globally in 2026) petrol and diesel cars are still common, and industry progress has been uneven. Bringing down these emissions quickly is essential to achieve climate goals and ensure cleaner air for future generations.

## Company: **onsemi**

ON Semiconductor helps the car industry cut emissions by supplying semiconductors (electronic chips) that make electric and hybrid cars work better. These tiny chips help manage the power going between the battery, motor, and charging components, so the car runs more efficiently and travels further without needing more electricity. For example, [ON Semiconductor's power management chips can charge electric vehicle batteries up to 10 times faster](#) and make sure the car's motor uses energy wisely, meaning less is wasted as heat.

The company's smart electronic switches don't just save energy; they also improve safety by letting car makers quickly detect faults. ON Semiconductor's products are also used in electric steering, climate control, and lighting, all of which use less energy thanks to efficient chip technology. By helping cars use less energy and more renewable electricity, these products support cleaner air and help reach lower carbon emissions targets in the UK and worldwide.

<https://www.onsemi.com/>

1: <https://theicct.org/publication/vision-2050-global-zev-transition-2024-jan25/>

The logo for onsemi, featuring the brand name in a white, lowercase, sans-serif font. The 'i' in 'onsemi' has a small triangle pointing upwards to its right. A thin orange line starts from the top right of the 'i' and extends diagonally down to the right, ending with a small orange diamond. The background of the logo is a dark blue gradient with a subtle circuit board pattern of white lines and diamonds.

## Fund in focus:

**Janus Henderson**  
INVESTORS

ON Semiconductor receives investment from the Janus Henderson US Sustainable Equity Fund, which seeks to invest in US listed companies whose products and/or services address environmental and/or social challenges. Other companies in the semiconductor industry the fund invests in include [TSMC](#) and [Nvidia](#).



# The challenge: Improving educational opportunities in Belgium

Belgium faces a pronounced challenge of educational inequality. One in five 15-year-olds fails to meet minimum standards in mathematics, reading, or science<sup>1</sup>.

The performance gap between advantaged and disadvantaged students in these domains stands at nearly 50 percentage points, exceeding the EU average<sup>2</sup>.

# Improving educational opportunities in Belgium

Grade repetition in Belgium is the highest in Europe and disproportionately affects socioeconomically disadvantaged students and those with migrant backgrounds. Early childhood education access also reveals disparities, only 33% of children in the poorest families are enrolled compared to 72% in the richest, a gap twice the OECD average. Over one-third of young adults with disabilities do not finish secondary education.

## Company:



KBC, a major European bank-insurer, issued a €750 million Social Bond in May 2023, with the proceeds supporting key education and healthcare projects in Belgium. A central example is the funding of the Egied Van Broeckhoven School in Brussels, a public secondary school that opened in 2023 as part of a broader Flemish government initiative to enhance educational infrastructure.

Run by the non-profit Jesuit group “Ignatius Schools in Motion,” the school offers programs focused on STEM and “Welfare and Society,” aiming to equip students from all backgrounds for future employment and to address local youth unemployment challenges. Starting with 100 students but designed to serve up to 860, the school emphasises inclusion for disadvantaged youth and contributes to social cohesion by providing its facilities for wider community activities.

This case illustrates how targeted sustainable finance can create tangible social impact and strengthen community bonds in diverse neighbourhoods.

<https://www.kbc.be/corporate/nl.html>

1: brusselstimes.com/228054/european-commission-highlights-inequities-in-belgian-schools

2: op.europa.eu/webpub/eac/education-and-training-monitor/en/country-reports/belgium.html



## Fund in focus:



KBC received investment in its social bond issue via the CT Global Social Bond Fund, which seeks to invest in bond issuances that use proceeds to tackle a social issue. Other bonds tackling inequality, supported by the fund, include a social bond issued by the Chilean government and a bond issued by the International Bank of Reconstruction and Development.



# The challenge: Driving decarbonisation in the industrial sector

Industrial emissions from manufacturing, steelmaking, chemicals, and construction make up more than half of global greenhouse gas output, with estimates for 2025 indicating these sectors are responsible for up to 57% of all carbon emissions worldwide.

# Driving decarbonisation in the industrial sector

Heavy industry relies on high temperatures, fossil fuels, and chemical reactions that produce vast amounts of carbon dioxide. Despite advances in energy efficiency and stricter emissions rules, many processes remain challenging to decarbonise, especially in developing economies and key sectors like cement and steel.

Transitioning to cleaner fuels, green hydrogen, and carbon capture is seen as essential to cut the annual emissions from these hard to abate sectors and move towards global climate targets.

## Company:

Linde's products and services help tackle global environmental challenges by supplying low-carbon industrial gases and clean technologies for a range of sectors. For example, Linde Green gases, which includes liquefied oxygen, nitrogen, argon, and CO<sub>2</sub>, are produced with 100% renewable electricity and delivered using renewable fuels, cutting the carbon footprint of these gases by up to 95% compared to conventional methods.

Additionally, Linde provides [hydrogen and CO<sub>2</sub> capture technologies](#) that support cleaner chemical, steel, and fuel production. Their gas applications have enabled industries to avoid more than [96 million metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub>e](#), more than double the emissions that Linde generated from its own operations.

Linde's products also help its customers optimise manufacturing, food processing, and water treatment to reduce pollutants.

<https://www.linde.com/>

1: <https://oneclicklca.com/en/resources/articles/global-emission>



## Fund in focus:

**IMPAX**<sup>Asset Management</sup>

Linde receives investment from the Impax Environmental Leaders Equity Fund, which seeks to invest in global companies whose products and/or services address environmental challenges. Other companies in the chemicals industry the fund invests in include [Air Liquide](#).

### 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.

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