

Ausbil Global Essential Infrastructure Fund – Unhedged

Quarterly performance update

December 2025

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Performance

Returns as at 31 December 2025

Period	1 month	3 months	6 months	1 year	2 years pa	3 years pa	4 years pa	5 years pa	7 years pa	Since Inception pa ⁴
Fund return ¹ (%)	-3.17	0.06	2.87	8.19	12.84	9.03	6.80	9.43	9.18	9.01
OECD G7 CPI Index plus 5.5% pa ² (%)	0.71	2.01	4.07	8.24	8.34	9.07	10.03	9.77	8.91	8.90
Out/under performance (%)	-3.88	-1.95	-1.20	-0.04	4.51	-0.04	-3.23	-0.34	0.27	0.11
FTSE Developed Core Infrastructure 50/50 Net Tax Total Return Index (AUD) ³ (%)	-3.64	-0.56	2.41	6.26	13.12	9.14	7.05	9.90	8.42	8.25
Out/under performance (%)	0.47	0.62	0.46	1.94	-0.27	-0.11	-0.25	-0.47	0.76	0.75

‘Beyond their defensive qualities, infrastructure businesses are increasingly positioned to benefit from long-term growth trends’

Performance Review

Fund performance for the quarter ending December 2025 was +0.06% (net of fees) versus the benchmark return of +2.01%, as measured by the OECD G7 CPI Index plus 5.5% pa, and the reference index return of -0.56% as measured by the FTSE Developed Core Infrastructure 50/50 Net Tax Total Return Index in AUD.

In our view, the outcome reflects a constructive period for Essential Infrastructure assets as investors continued to favour stable, cash generative businesses amid an evolving global macroeconomic backdrop.

Equity markets moved higher during the quarter, although volatility remained elevated. Investor sentiment was influenced by several factors, including a prolonged US government shutdown, softer employment data, and ongoing debate around elevated AI related valuations. Central banks played an important role in shaping market conditions. The US Federal Reserve reduced interest rates for the third consecutive meeting, cutting the policy range by 25 basis points in December to 3.5 to 3.75 percent. Other major central banks, including the Bank of England, and the Bank of Canada, also implemented rate cuts, albeit cautiously given mixed economic signals. For infrastructure assets, this shift in monetary policy was supportive, helping to improve financing conditions and investor sentiment.

Corporate fundamentals across the Fund were generally solid. Approximately 65 percent of holdings exceeded analyst earnings expectations during the period, providing an important underpinning for performance and reinforcing the quality of the businesses held.

At the individual security level, Italgas was a notable contributor, rising more than 20 percent during the quarter. The company delivered strong third quarter results and outlined an updated 2025 to 2031 strategy, targeting €3.8 billion in revenue by 2031, which was well received by the market and supported a move to record share price levels. Ferrovial advanced nearly 14 percent following the announcement of an €800 million share buyback program and its inclusion in the Nasdaq 100 Index. NextEra Energy, the Portfolio's largest US utility holding, rose more than 6 percent as investors continued to recognise the long term value of its clean energy platform, including approximately 2.5 gigawatts of contracted capacity with Meta and Google, the acquisition of Symmetry Energy Solutions, and management's long term earnings growth guidance of more than 8 percent through 2035.

These gains were partly offset by weaker performance within energy infrastructure. Cheniere Energy declined 18 percent as short term gas supply disruptions weighed on sentiment despite progress on major projects. Eversource Energy fell 5 percent following the rejection of a proposed \$2.4 billion asset sale and subsequent analyst downgrades. While disappointing in the short term, these developments do not materially alter our long-term assessment of the underlying assets.

Top 10 Stock Holdings

Name	Fund %
NextEra Energy	5.43
CSX	4.93
Norfolk Southern	3.96
SSE	3.82
Italgas	3.60
Entergy	3.39
Cheniere Energy	3.36
Eversource Energy	3.33
Ferrovial	3.29
Williams Cos	3.26

Sector Allocation

Sector	Fund %
Communications Infrastructure	2.58
Energy Infrastructure	15.33
Transportation	29.34
Utilities	51.98
Cash	0.77
Total	100.00

Region Allocation

Region	Fund %
Asia Pacific	2.51
Europe	22.30
North America	66.12
United Kingdom	8.30
Cash	0.77
Total	100.00

1. Fund returns are net of fees, before taxes and assume reinvestment of distributions.
2. The benchmark is the OECD G7 CPI Index plus 5.5% per annum, which is an accumulation index maintained by Ausbil.
3. The Fund's reference index is the FTSE Developed Core Infrastructure 50/50 Net Tax Total Return Index (AUD). Although the Fund is not managed to this reference index, Ausbil believe the reference index a more widely recognised global listed infrastructure index for investors and so is more useful for comparison and reference purposes.
4. Since Inception December 2018.

Fund Outlook

Looking ahead, we believe the fundamental case for Essential Infrastructure remains intact. Valuations across the asset class are reasonable, and the combination of lower interest rates, macroeconomic uncertainty, and geopolitical risk continues to highlight the defensive and income-oriented characteristics of infrastructure assets.

Beyond their defensive qualities, infrastructure businesses are increasingly positioned to benefit from long term growth trends. Electricity demand is rising, driven by data centres, artificial intelligence, and the broader electrification of the economy. At the same time, the energy transition and the need for ongoing investment in grid reliability and resiliency remain powerful, multi-year themes.

The Fund continues to be positioned with overweights in utilities and selected transportation assets, with an emphasis on regulated networks and contracted cash flows. This positioning is intended to balance capital preservation with the opportunity to participate in structural growth, while maintaining resilience through different phases of the economic cycle.

Infra-know

Nuclear power continues to attract renewed attention in the United States. Alongside proposed restarts such as Three Mile Island and Palisades, the US Department of Energy announced a \$2.7 billion initiative in December 2025 aimed at rebuilding domestic uranium enrichment capacity over the coming decade. The program will support three US companies in expanding enrichment services, reducing reliance on foreign supply, and meeting rising demand from advanced reactors and power intensive data centre infrastructure.

For utilities such as NextEra Energy, which has referenced the potential restart of the Duane Arnold facility, these developments underscore nuclear power's growing role as a reliable, carbon free source of baseload electricity. In a system increasingly shaped by intermittent generation and rising demand, nuclear is once again being viewed as a practical part of the long-term energy mix.



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More information on the OECD G7 CPI Index plus 5.5% pa benchmark

The OECD G7 CPI Index is published on a monthly basis (five weeks after the end of the period) and represents the weighted average changes in the prices of consumer goods and services purchased by households for the Group of 7 countries in the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). The Group of 7 countries are Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, United Kingdom and United States. Ausbil maintains an accumulation index calculated by converting the movement in OECD G7 CPI Index reported, plus 5.5 per annum into a daily return. As the OECD usually publishes the OECD G7 CPI Index around five weeks after the end of the period, eg the 31 December data will generally not be released by the OECD until the first week of February, the performance return for the benchmark in the table provided is estimated using the previous months OECD G7 CPI Index. As the OECD G7 CPI Index calculation methodology allows for historical revision of the index (such as when an included country revises their national accounts), at a minimum we will update any material revisions to reported OECD data first published during the previous six months when presenting performance data in Fund reports. However, we do not republish previously released reports due to OECD data revisions. The OECD G7 CPI Index is published on the OECD website at: <https://www.oecd.org/en.html>