

# AI resurgence drives strong rally in global equities

- Semiconductor sector leads with exceptional returns in April
- Momentum and growth factors outperform amid market rebound
- Defensive portfolio with stable stocks at attractive valuation and yield levels

In April 2026, the Global SDG & Climate Conservative Equities strategy recorded a return of 2.47%, underperforming the MSCI AC World Index, which returned 8.22%. This resulted in an excess return of -5.75%.

**Table 1** - Performance of Robeco QI Global SDG & Climate Conservative Equities I-share ("Fund") (inception January 2017 - gross of fees)

Performance (EUR)	Apr/26	YTD	1 year	3 year	Since inception (January 2017)	Volatility since inception	Return/volatility since inception
Global SDG & Climate Conservative Equities	2.47%	3.51%	9.55%	12.23%	8.50%	11.13%	0.76
MSCI AC World Index	8.22%	6.77%	26.94%	17.44%	11.20%	13.38%	0.84
MSCI AC World Minimum Volatility Index (EUR optimized)	0.57%	1.70%	3.93%	7.73%	6.71%	9.82%	0.68
MSCI All Country World EU PAB Overlay Index	8.78%	5.47%	25.71%	16.97%	8.63%	12.23%	0.71

**Source:** Robeco Performance Measurement. All figures are gross of fees. In reality, costs such as management fees and other costs are charged. These have a negative effect on the returns shown. These figures are preliminary based on the most recent month's performance results. These numbers may deviate from the final performance figures. The value of your investment may fluctuate. Results obtained in the past are no guarantee of future performance.

## 1. Market developments

While the March sell-off was driven by the Iran conflict, April's rally shifted decisively back to the AI theme, lifting both developed and emerging equities. The semiconductor sector led the surge, delivering exceptional one-month returns across the board. The NYSE Semiconductor Index jumped an extraordinary 40%, supported by gains of 74% for Advanced Micro Devices, 35% for Broadcom, and a remarkable 114% rise in Intel, as investors fully embraced its turnaround story. The Magnificent Seven Index also rebounded strongly, advancing 15% after a difficult six-month period. Amazon (+27%) and Alphabet (+34%) were increasingly viewed as key beneficiaries of the AI arms race, while Microsoft (+10%) and Meta Platforms (+7%) have yet to fully regain investor confidence. Outside of technology, most large-cap stocks posted modest single-digit gains, while energy names saw some consolidation following strong performance in March. In factor terms, momentum and growth outperformed the broader market, whereas value, and particularly low-risk, lagged in the sharp rebound.

### PORTFOLIO MANAGER'S UPDATE - APRIL 2026

Marketing material for professional investors, not for onward distribution

From left to right: Pim van Vliet, Arlette van Ditshuizen, Maarten Polfiët, Jan Sytze Mosselaar, Arnoud Klep



Table 2 – Market dashboard

Market dashboard	1M	12M	USD return	1M	12M	USD sector returns	1M	12M	Factors (USD)	1M	12M
MSCI EM USD	14.7%	46.7%	South Korea	38.2%	193.1%	Information Technology	19.5%	56.4%	Momentum	21.5%	42.3%
MSCI EM Local	13.3%	48.2%	Taiwan	26.2%	113.9%	Communication Services	14.8%	41.3%	Growth	12.9%	32.9%
S&P 500 USD	10.5%	31.1%	United States	10.5%	30.3%	Industrials	9.9%	34.7%	Quality	10.5%	30.3%
MSCI ACWI USD	10.2%	31.0%	Japan	9.2%	30.6%	Consumer Discretionary	9.2%	14.8%	Market	10.2%	31.0%
MSCI World USD	9.6%	29.2%	Germany	8.6%	9.0%	Real Estate	8.6%	11.3%	Small caps	9.7%	36.8%
MSCI ACWI local	9.4%	30.8%	Australia	7.0%	22.0%	Financials	7.3%	20.4%	Equal-weighted	7.9%	26.9%
MSCI World local	8.9%	28.8%	Canada	7.0%	40.1%	Materials	4.4%	38.4%	Value	7.2%	35.0%
MSCI ACWI EUR	8.2%	26.9%	Switzerland	6.6%	16.7%	Utilities	3.7%	25.6%	High Dividend	3.6%	23.3%
MSCI World EUR	7.6%	25.2%	France	6.0%	12.9%	Consumer Staples	3.1%	5.4%	MinVol USD opt	1.9%	5.0%
MSCI World Equal USD	6.5%	22.3%	United Kingdom	5.2%	28.8%	Health Care	-0.1%	6.0%			
MSCI Europe EUR	5.2%	18.4%	China	3.6%	12.4%	Energy	-1.2%	52.9%			

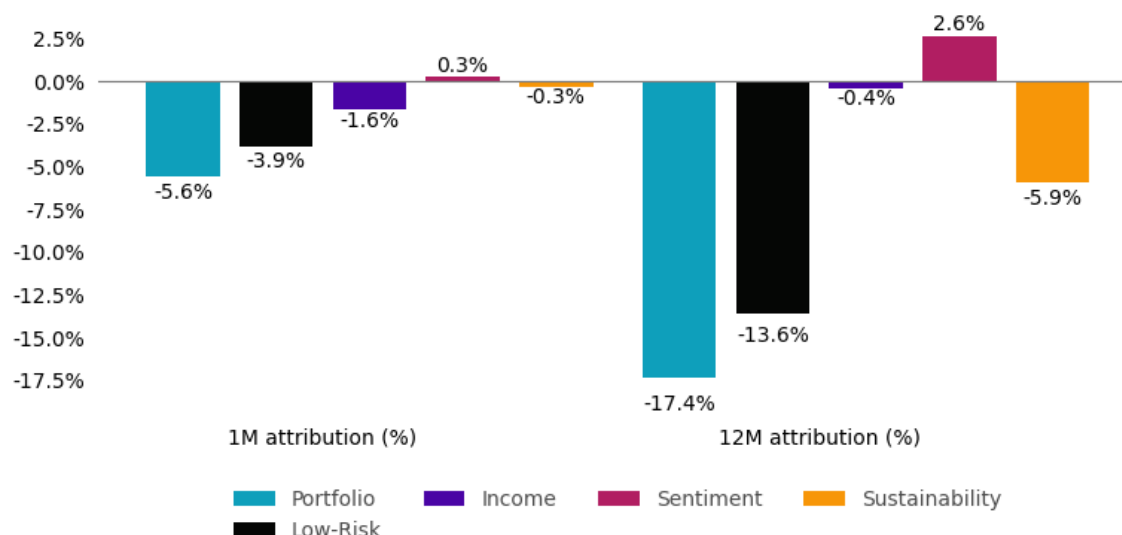
Source: Robeco, MSCI, Bloomberg.

## 2. Performance attribution

Last month, our portfolio underperformed the benchmark. The primary contributor was sentiment, while low-risk, income, and sustainability acted as detractors, with low-risk having the most significant negative impact.

Over the past 12 months, the portfolio also showed an overall underperformance. Sentiment was the largest positive contributor during this period, while low-risk, sustainability, and income were notable detractors, with low-risk having the most substantial negative effect.

Figure 1 – Factor attribution



Source: Robeco Performance Measurement. The figures show relative portfolio returns versus the index. The relative portfolio return is gross of fees and net of transaction costs and is the sum of the allocation effect and stock selection contribution, excluding cash & other. The relative portfolio return is entirely attributed to underlying Robeco factors. All stocks in the portfolio and index are ranked on Robeco factors and grouped into five market value-weighted quintiles. The portfolio factor exposures are averages over the previous month. The returns are over the whole period.

**Table 3 – Top contributors – Top detractors**

Name	Effect	Country	Sector	Active Weight	Return	Index Return
Analog Devices	0.17%	United States	Information Technology	1.15%	24.19%	24.19%
Exxon Mobil	0.15%	United States	Energy	-0.68%	0.00%	-10.65%
Johnson Johnson	0.10%	United States	Health Care	-0.60%	0.00%	-7.64%
Tesla	0.09%	United States	Consumer Discretionary	-1.10%	0.00%	0.83%
KLA	0.09%	United States	Information Technology	1.12%	16.76%	16.76%

Name	Effect	Country	Sector	Active Weight	Return	Index Return
Intel	-0.22%	United States	Information Technology	-0.30%	0.00%	110.29%
Advanced Micro Devices	-0.23%	United States	Information Technology	-0.45%	0.00%	71.16%
Amazoncom	-0.37%	United States	Consumer Discretionary	-2.40%	0.00%	25.01%
Broadcom	-0.37%	United States	Information Technology	-1.76%	0.00%	32.47%
Alphabet	-0.76%	United States	Communication Services	-3.62%	0.00%	31.44%

Source: Robeco Performance Measurement and MSCI.

### 3. Positioning

Robeco QI Global SDG & Climate Conservative Equities selects from an investable universe of around 4,000 stocks, buying securities with low-risk characteristics, such as low volatility, low market sensitivity, and low distress risk. Simultaneously, these low-risk stocks are characterized by attractive valuations, a high and stable dividend, positive price momentum, and favorable analyst revisions.

**Figure 2 – Sector and country positioning matrix**

	Singapore	Netherlands	Japan	Sweden	Finland	Canada	Taiwan	Germany	Switzerland	United Kingdom	United States	Total
<b>Positioning</b>												
Financials	1.6	1.1	-0.9	1.1	2.0	1.2		1.5	-0.4	-0.8	3.4	8.6
Health Care			0.7						1.0	0.7	3.7	5.1
Real Estate	1.3		3.5								-0.4	4.8
Communication Services	0.3	0.7		1.1			1.3				-4.2	2.5
Information Technology	0.5	1.0	0.8	0.7		0.3	-0.4	-0.3		0.7	0.3	1.8
Consumer Staples		0.6							-0.3	-0.5	1.5	0.4
Utilities						0.6					-1.5	-1.4
Materials						-0.5				-0.3	-1.3	-4.0
Energy						-0.6				-0.4	-2.3	-4.2
Industrials			-0.5	-0.4				-0.6	-0.3	-0.4	-3.2	-6.1
Consumer Discretionary			-0.5								-4.8	-7.5
<b>Total</b>	3.6	3.3	2.5	2.5	1.8	1.5	0.6			-1.3	-8.7	

Source: Robeco. Figures show relative portfolio positioning versus the index. Only the largest countries are shown. Sector totals include all countries. Only relative positions of >0.25%/<-0.25% are highlighted. Excludes cash positions.

The fund is characterized by a portfolio of low-risk stocks, offering high and stable dividends and a price-to-earnings ratio lower than the market. A comparison of various characteristics of the portfolio versus those of its benchmark – the MSCI All Country World – shows a consistent picture, where the strategy remains well-positioned towards the model factors.

Given these characteristics, we firmly believe the strategy is well-positioned to continue harvesting the model factor premiums in Global Markets.

Table 5 – Portfolio characteristics

March 2026	Portfolio	MSCI AC World	MSCI AC Paris Aligned	MSCI AC Minvol		Portfolio	MSCI AC World	MSCI AC Paris Aligned	MSCI AC Minvol
<b>Risk: Statistical &amp; Distress</b>					<b>Active Positioning</b>				
Volatility (holdings-based 3y)	22.2%	30.1%	30.0%	23.0%	Number of securities	161	2515	1293	422
Beta (holdings-based 3y)	0.7	1	1.1	0.5	Active share	81.9%	-	-	73.6%
Distance-to-default	6.4	4.8	4.8	6.1	Off benchmark	16.4%	-	-	-
					Expected Turnover	25.0%	-	-	20.0%
<b>Income &amp; Sentiment</b>					<b>Realized Turnover</b>				
Dividend yield	2.5%	1.7%	1.8%	2.3%		20.0%	5.0%	22.0%	22.0%
Net payout yield	3.8%	1.9%	2.2%	2.8%	<b>Sustainability</b>				
Price/Earnings	18.1	21.1	20.8	19.6	Sustainalytics ESG Risk Rating	16.2	19.1	17.6	19.8
Price momentum (12-1M)	32.3%	47.3%	45.5%	23.3%	GhG emissions (t CO2-eq/mUSD)	84.5	388.0	85.1	266.1
Earnings revisions (3M, % net positive)	72.9%	63.2%	65.8%	54.2%	Positive SDG exposure	89.7%	61.7%	67.9%	67.5%
<b>Market capitalization</b>					<b>Summary</b>				
>10 bn USD	83.4%	97.5%	95.4%	95.5%	Aims to offer lower absolute risk than market, similar absolute risk to MinVol index				
2-10 bn USD	14.0%	2.5%	4.6%	4.5%	Increased opportunity set with small/mid-caps and higher dividend yield than market				
<2 bn USD	2.6%	0.0%	0	0	Active portfolio with low turnover				

**Source:** Robeco, FactSet. The fund aims for a better sustainability profile compared to the benchmark by promoting certain sustainability characteristics within the meaning of Article 9 of the European Sustainable Finance Disclosure Regulation and integrating sustainability in the investment process. More specifically, the binding elements as per the prospectus and sustainability disclosure (SFDR disclosure) pertain to applying the Robeco Level 2 exclusion list, excluding stocks that have non-positive SDG scores according to our Robeco SDG Framework (companies with SDG scores of 0 are only excluded if they are not part of the MSCI EU PAB Overlay benchmark), targeting a Sustainalytics ESG risk rating that is 10% better than the benchmark (the Sustainalytics ESG risk rating offers insight into company-level ESG risk by measuring the size of an organization’s unmanaged ESG risk, a lower score refers to a better overall sustainability profile), and pursuing a better carbon footprint than the MSCI EU PAB Overlay benchmark ( as measured by greenhouse gas emissions) as well as 20% better waste and water footprints than the benchmark. Turnover figures are calculated one-way/annum since inception of the portfolio (based on full calendar years only).

Table 5 below shows the current main over- and underweights as a result of our bottom-up stock-selection process.

The portfolio's largest overweight positions were in Analog Devices at 1.15% and KLA at 1.12%. Conversely, the most underweighted securities included Alphabet with an active weight of -3.62% and NVIDIA at -3.04%.

**Table 5** – Main active over and underweights of the fund

Name	Sector	Country	Active Weight
Analog Devices	Information Technology	United States	1.15%
KLA	Information Technology	United States	1.12%
GSK plc	Health Care	United Kingdom	1.11%
ASML	Information Technology	Netherlands	1.08%
Cisco Systems	Information Technology	United States	1.07%
Chubb	Financials	United States	1.04%
Walmart	Consumer Staples	United States	1.00%
McKesson	Health Care	United States	1.00%
Bank of New York Mellon	Financials	United States	0.99%
Novartis	Health Care	Switzerland	0.98%

Name	Sector	Country	Active Weight
Alphabet	Communication Services	United States	-3.62%
NVIDIA	Information Technology	United States	-3.04%
Amazoncom	Consumer Discretionary	United States	-2.40%
Broadcom	Information Technology	United States	-1.76%
Meta Platforms	Communication Services	United States	-1.45%
Tesla	Consumer Discretionary	United States	-1.10%
Apple	Information Technology	United States	-1.02%
JPMorgan Chase	Financials	United States	-0.87%
Eli Lilly and Company	Health Care	United States	-0.77%
Samsung Electronics	Information Technology	Korea	-0.69%

**Source:** Robeco.

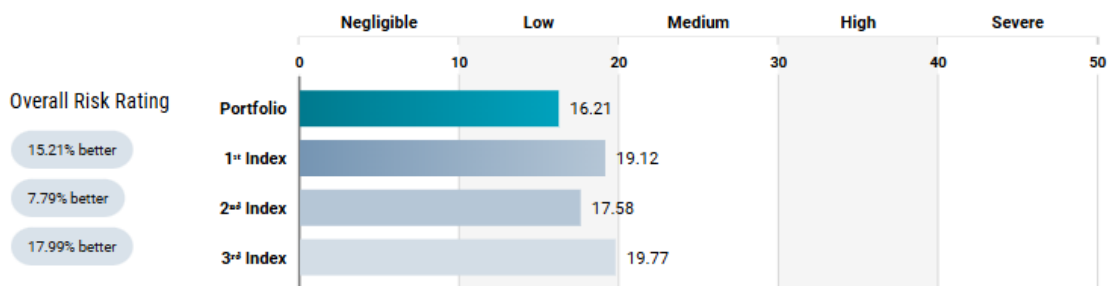
#### 4. Sustainability profile

The strategy aims to achieve a long-term full-cycle performance equal to or greater than the equity market with substantially lower downside risk and simultaneously deliver a better sustainability profile than the benchmark based on specific sustainability characteristics. We integrate sustainability across the investment process, including the binding elements that are discussed below as per the prospectus and sustainability disclosure (SFDR disclosure). The exception to this is within active ownership activities, where voting is a binding element and engagement is a non-binding element.

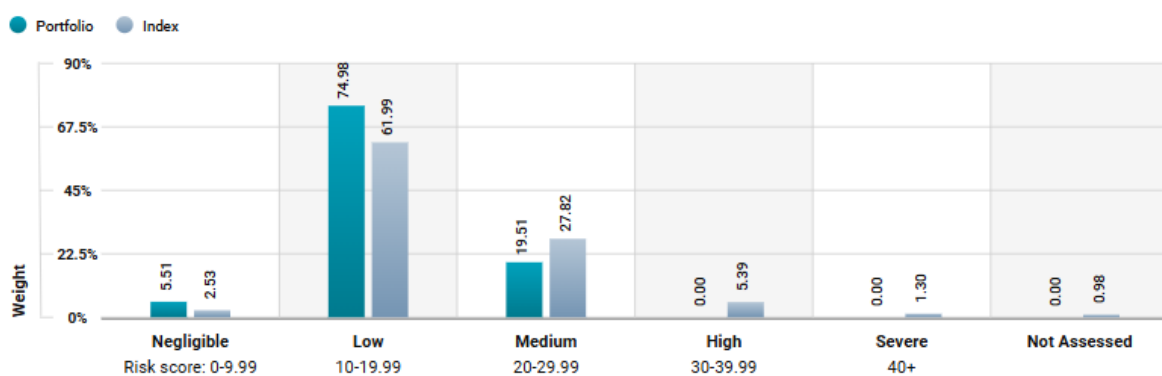
##### a. Better ESG risk profile

The Sustainalytics ESG risk rating of the portfolio is aimed to be at least 10% better than that of the index. The graph below shows how the portfolio and benchmark score on various levels of ESG risk. The sustainability integration applied in the investment process improves the sustainability profile of the portfolio versus the index.

Figure 3 – ESG risk rating



##### Distribution across Sustainalytics ESG Risk levels

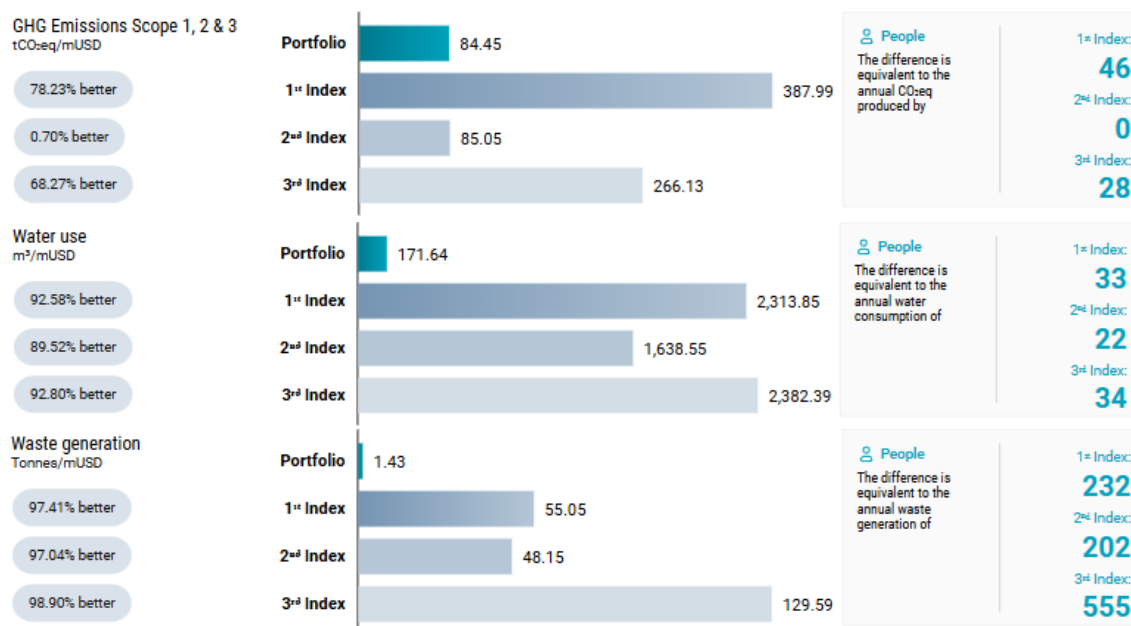


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##### b. Environmental footprint reduction

The greenhouse gas emissions footprint of the portfolio is aimed to be at least better than the MSCI EU PAB Overlay benchmark, while the water use, and waste generation footprints are aimed to be at least 20% better than the index. The graph below shows how the portfolio and benchmarks score across these environmental footprints.

Figure 4 – Environmental footprint



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**c. Active ownership: engagement and voting**

In addition to environmental footprint reduction, the fund participates in Robeco’s voting and engagement programs. Last year, Robeco’s Active Ownership team actively voted in 7,472 shareholder meetings. Engagement is exercising our shareholder’s rights to improve company behavior for the companies we invest in. The fund currently contains 19 stocks that are being engaged in Robeco’s active ownership efforts, accounting for 22.2% of the portfolio. Most of these stocks are under values-based engagement, focusing on financially material sustainability themes to improve their risk-return profile.

**d. Exclusions – avoiding controversial practices**

An extensive values-based exclusions list is implemented according to broad ethical norms. Criteria for exclusion are (controversial) weapons, military contracting, firearms, thermal coal, Arctic drilling, oil sands, palm oil, tobacco, breaches with international standards on responsible conduct, including International Labor Organization (ILO) standards, United Nations Guiding Principles (UNGPs), United Nations Global Compact (UNGC) Principles and the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises as well as failure to pass Robeco tests on climate standards, good governance, and money laundering and terrorism financing. 149 stocks in the index are excluded representing 5.5% of the MSCI All Country World Index.

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The funds have not been and will not be registered with the National Registry of Securities or maintained by the Mexican National Banking and Securities Commission and, as a result, may not be offered or sold publicly in Mexico. Robeco and any underwriter or purchaser may offer and sell the funds in Mexico on a private placement basis to Institutional and Accredited Investors, pursuant to Article 8 of the Mexican Securities Market Law.

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The Superintendencia del Mercado de Valores (SMV) does not exercise any supervision over this Fund and therefore the management of it. The information the Fund provides to its investors and the other services it provides to them are the sole responsibility of the Administrator. This Prospectus is not for public distribution.

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**Additional information for investors with residence or seat in Thailand**

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The sale of the Fund qualifies as a private placement pursuant to section 2 of Uruguayan law 18,627. The Fund must not be offered or sold to the public in Uruguay, except under circumstances which do not constitute a public offering or distribution under Uruguayan laws and regulations. The Fund is not and will not be registered with the Financial Services Superintendency of the Central Bank of Uruguay. The Fund corresponds to investment funds that are not investment funds regulated by Uruguayan law 16,774 dated 27 September 1996, as amended.