



ESG indices rise sharply in December to end 2021 on a strong note

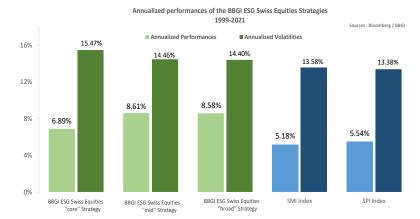
	Dec	YTD
BBGI ESG Index - Core	+5.44%	+25.50%
BBGI ESG Index – Mid	+6.22%	+24.03%
BBGI ESG Index – Broad	+5.99%	+22.27%

Developments in the indices:

The Swiss economy ended the year on a very bullish note. The performance indices of the Swiss markets ended December with an increase of +5.89% for the SMI, which reached its highest level ever, and +5.87% for the SPI. The leading indicators are also in the green for this last month of the year 2021 despite the restrictions related to the Omicron variant which obviously did not have much impact on the Swiss economy. As a matter of fact, the manufacturing PMI was up last month, rising from 62.5 to 62.7 points and exceeding the expectations (61 points There were also increases in both the order backlog (+1.7 to 62.6 points) and the manufacturing output indicator (+4.5 to 57 points). The PMI services indicator was also up and more significantly so (+1.3 to 59.3 points). As for the unemployment rate, it rose very slightly from its lowest point of the last two years which was 2.5% to 2.6% in December. The annual inflation rate remained stable in Switzerland at the end of the year, unchanged at +1.5% but still at its highest level since 2008. The KOF economic barometer has remained globally stable at the end of 2021 (-0.5 points at 107).

The BBGI ESG Swiss Equities indices performed similarly. The BBGI ESG Core index, which groups the 20 stocks of the SMI by their weightings based on their ESG ratings, registered a performance of +5.44%. The Mid index, which includes the 40 largest Swiss stock market capitalizations, achieved the best performance of the month, climbing by +6.22%. The Broad index, which comprises the 60 largest market capitalizations on the Swiss stock market, also jumped by +5.99% in December. Over the year 2021, the three BBGI Swiss Equities ESG strategies have cumulatively made very significant positive gains ranging from +22.27% to +25.50% while the SMI and SPI have appreciated by +20.29% and +23.38% over the same period.

The ESG segment is attracting more and more capital, in fact 2021 was a record year, during which 649 billion dollars were invested in this theme around the world. This is well above the 542 and 285 billion invested in 2020 and 2019, ESG funds now represent 10% of global assets.







The systemically diversified strategies of the BBGI ESG Swiss Equities Indices have generated annualized returns ranging from +6.89% to +8.58% since 1999 to date.

The composition of our indices is available upon request