

# Goldman Sachs Global Growth Share Portfolio Fund

January 2026

## Global Market Review

Global Markets started the year strong by posting a gain of 2.3% (MSCI World, USD) in the month of January. Key themes influencing the market included evolving economic conditions, trade policy risks and ongoing geopolitical tensions. Persistent inflation in major economies reduced expectations for near-term interest rate cuts. This led central banks to maintain a cautious "higher for longer" interest rate policy, despite signs of slowing growth which impacted equity markets.

In the U.S., inflation held steady at 2.7% in December 2025, unchanged from November suggesting that price increases for goods and services have levelled off. Given this backdrop, the Fed left the policy rate unchanged at 3.50–3.75% at its January meeting which was widely anticipated by the markets following three consecutive rate cuts in the previous year. The unemployment rate in the U.S. dipped to 4.4% in December 2025, down from a revised 4.5% in November, remaining elevated compared to previous years.

In Europe, the inflation rate eased down to 1.9 % in December 2025, down from 2.1% in November. GDP growth expanded to 0.3% in the fourth quarter of 2025 over the previous quarter reflecting modest economic improvement. In the United Kingdom, inflation rate rose to 3.4% in December 2025 from November's 3.2% reinforcing concerns about the Bank of England's ability to bring back inflation back towards its official target

In Japan, inflation eased to 2.1% in December 2025 from 2.9% in the prior month, the lowest since March 2022. The Bank of Japan kept its key short-term interest rate unchanged at 0.75% at its first policy meeting of 2026, maintaining borrowing costs on the higher side.

Value stocks outperformed growth stocks in January due to concerns over high-growth valuations. The Energy sector led market performance during the month due to strong demand from AI data centers, severe winter weather increasing heating demand in the U.S., and geopolitical risks to supply, whereas the Information Technology sector lagged market performance.

Overall, investor sentiment in January remained cautiously optimistic but highly sensitive to policy signals and geopolitical headlines. This environment saw major global financial assets deliver mixed but generally positive momentum, influenced by ongoing macroeconomic recalibration, recent earnings reports, and broader geopolitical factors.

## Performance Overview

In January 2026, the I Acc share class of the Goldman Sachs Global Equity Partners ESG Portfolio returned 0.7% on a net basis, underperforming the benchmark MSCI World Index by 154 bps. Since inception, the portfolio has delivered 8.1%, underperforming the benchmark by 255 bps on an annualized net of fees basis.

During the month, stock selection in **Consumer Discretionary** and **Information Technology** sectors supported portfolio returns, while our stock selection in **Communication Services** and no allocation to **Energy** sectors detracted the most from relative returns. From a



country perspective, our stock selection in **Netherlands** and allocation in **Taiwan** supported performance while our stock selection in the **United States** and **Sweden** detracted the most from relative returns.

## Performance Commentary

Top Contributors	Ending Weight (%)	Relative Contribution (bps)	Top Detractors	Ending Weight (%)	Relative Contribution (bps)
ASML	3.5	+66	Spotify	2.2	-39
Ferguson	2.1	+21	Salesforce	1.6	-38
National Grid	2.5	+17	Microsoft	5.7	-31
Eaton	2.3	+16	Blackstone	2.2	-23
BBVA	2.7	+14	JPMorgan	3.0	-14

### Top contributors to portfolio performance

**ASML**, one of the market leaders in lithography tools, was the biggest contributor to relative returns during the month. The performance was supported primarily due to its exceptional Q4 2025 order intake of EUR 13.2bn, significantly beating expectations and driven by strong EUV (Extreme Ultraviolet) demand, coupled with an optimistic Q1 2026 and full-year 2026 outlook that exceeded consensus forecasts, and positive progress on its High NA (Numerical Aperture) technology for EUV. Further, a new share buyback program of up to EUR 12bn (2.5% of market cap) was announced, signaling confidence in future performance. We remain positive on the stock on account of its future outlook.

**Ferguson**, the world's biggest supplier of plumbing and heating products, was another key contributor to relative returns during the month. The performance was supported by tailwinds particularly from large scale mega projects like AI data centers. Investor confidence was further bolstered by the company's 7% dividend increase and the strategic acquisition of Moore Supply Company, which expanded its HVAC footprint in the Chicago. We continue to see opportunity in the name owing to its scale and ability to gain market share despite a mixed macro environment, supported by momentum in large capital projects an area central to our investment thesis.

### Top Detractors to portfolio performance

**Spotify**, the Swedish music streaming company, was another key detractor from relative returns during the period. The stock declined during the month due to increasing AI competition from platforms like Klay, Suno, and Udio, which have secured licensing deals with record labels. Additionally, investor sentiment was negatively impacted by an anticipated increase in wholesale music pricing, expected to affect Spotify's gross margins in Q1 2026. However, we continue to like the stock as it continues to deliver on KPIs like engagement, member growth and pricing power which matter more for our investment case.

**Salesforce**, the American cloud-based software company, was the other key detractor from relative returns during the period. The stock underperformed due to increasing competition from AI labs pushing into enterprise solutions. Specifically, OpenAI's Frontier agent orchestration tool posed a threat to traditional "system of records" providers like Salesforce, as it suggested a framework where these systems might see a narrowed scope of data availability and reduced importance within agent-based architectures. However, we continue to remain invested in the name as we are positive on the company's execution of its Gen-AI product roadmap with the release of Agentforce 2dx. We highlight that these enhancements—empowered by Salesforce's unique static and dynamic data within Data Cloud and Zero Copy architecture—can accelerate time-to-value for customers and expand the breadth of use-cases beyond traditional CRM.

## Portfolio Activity – Key Buys and Sells

During the month, we had two new initiations and two eliminations.



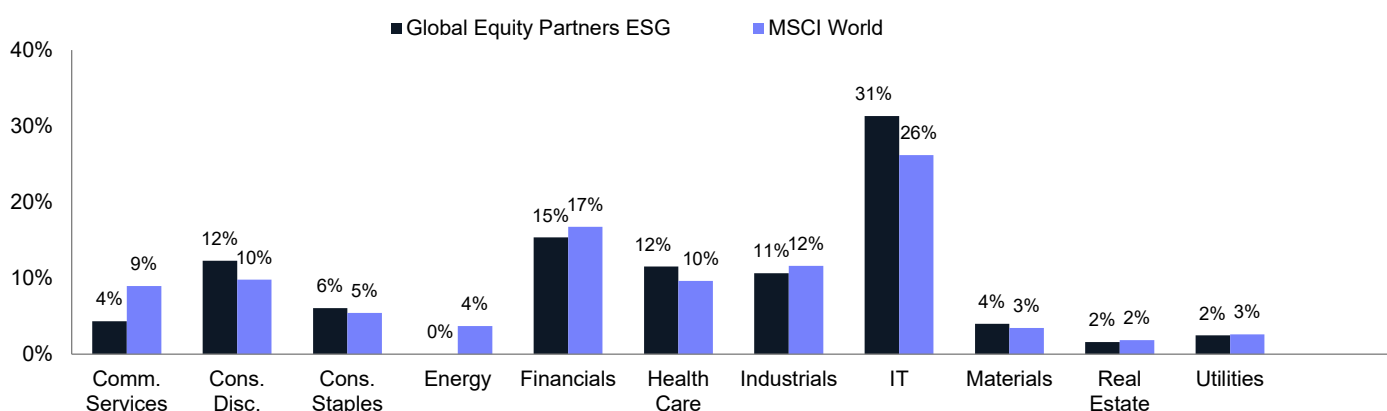
We initiated a position in **Datadog** for our portfolio because it is a leading observability and monitoring platform, benefiting from strong secular trends like cloud migration and AI adoption, and acting as a "cloud and AI arms dealer" by monitoring the full AI stack for a growing base of AI-native customers. The company exhibits durable growth potential with significant cross-sell opportunities, possesses a strong competitive moat due to network effects and high switching costs, and operates a sticky consumption-based business model. Furthermore, the current timing is opportune, with non-AI growth re-accelerating, security annual recurring revenue inflecting, and a recent large AI-native customer expansion, all while the stock offers an attractive entry point following a 40% pullback from its November 2025 peak.

We also initiated a position in **L'Oréal**, the global leader in beauty with a uniquely diversified portfolio across skincare, cosmetics, haircare and fragrances, and exposure to the most attractive categories within staples. The beauty sector continues to compound at a structurally high 4-5% growth rate, supported by premiumization, rising emerging-market incomes, aging demographics driving skincare demand, and increased fragrance usage among younger consumers. L'Oréal remains exceptionally well-positioned to benefit from these trends, with a portfolio skewed toward the premium segment and a long history of outperformance. The company's scale, R&D leadership and deep innovation capabilities underpin a wide competitive moat and support continued margin expansion. Strong balance sheet discipline, well-covered dividends and a highly capable management team further reinforce the long-term investment case. We are increasingly constructive as we expect topline growth to inflect positively into 2026, supported by reaccelerating demand in the US and China and a robust pipeline of new product launches across core categories. With innovation-led momentum building into 4Q25, we see an attractive setup for sustained earnings acceleration.

Moving to exits, we exited our position **GE Vernova (GEV)**, initiated in late 2024, after a period in which all core pillars of our original investment thesis played out meaningfully better than expected. Within the Power segment, demand for gas turbines materially exceeded industry capacity, driving strong orders and exceptional pricing supported by electrification and datacenter-driven load growth. The Electrification segment similarly outperformed, benefiting from tight high-voltage equipment markets, new capacity additions, and robust price realization. Management execution also surpassed expectations, with focused operational improvements delivering substantial margin expansion. Over the past year, earnings revisions have risen by ~65%, validating our above-market outlook and underpinning the stock's strong performance. While we remain constructive on the structural drivers and believe the operating backdrop is still healthy, the market now better appreciates the story, compressing the gap between our estimates and consensus. With valuations offering a narrower margin of safety and the cycle approaching a more mature phase, we see relatively more attractive opportunities elsewhere to redeploy capital.

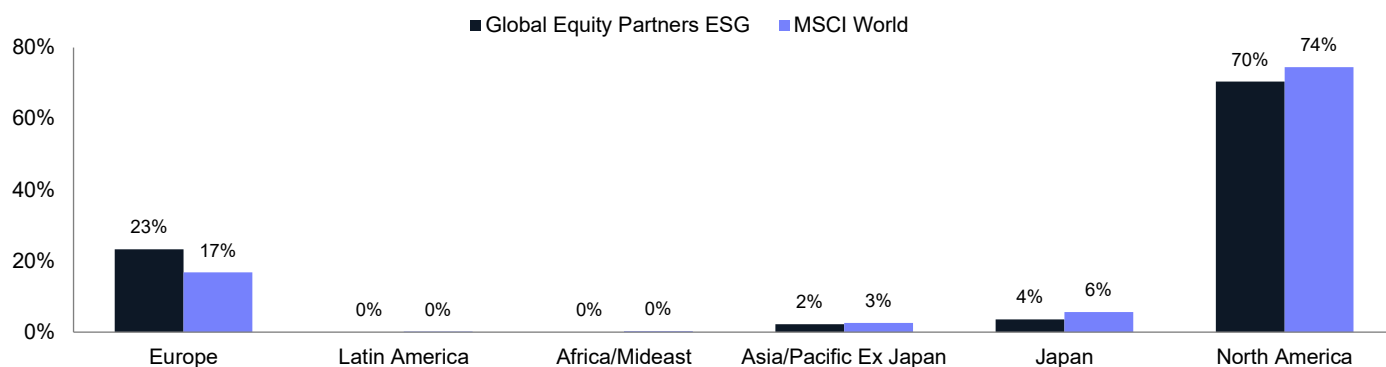
We also exited out of our position in **Marsh & McLennan** as we expect organic growth to stay muted for the insurance brokers due to the softening in commercial and reinsurance pricing, which we expect to prevail for the foreseeable future. With organic growth being the key driver of share-price performance, we see limited near-term catalysts for the stock. We, however, still see Marsh & McLennan as a high quality operator and would potentially revisit our thesis in the future after the easing of headwinds.

## SECTORAL POSITIONING





## REGIONAL POSITIONING



## COUNTRY POSITIONING

Country	Portfolio (%)	MSCI World (%)	Active (%)
Netherlands	5.2	1.4	3.8
France	5.9	2.6	3.3
Taiwan	2.2	--	2.2
United Kingdom	6.0	3.8	2.2
Spain	2.7	1.0	1.7
Sweden	2.2	1.0	1.2
United States	70.5	71.1	-0.6
Germany	1.3	2.4	-1.1
Japan	3.6	5.7	-2.1

Source: Source: FactSet, MSCI as of October 2025. Goldman Sachs Asset Management, January 2026

## TOP 10 HOLDINGS

Company Name	Portfolio (%)	MSCI World (%)	Active (%)
NVIDIA	6.9	5.5	1.4
Apple	6.2	4.5	1.6
Microsoft	5.7	3.6	2.1
Amazon	5.4	2.7	2.7
ASML	3.5	0.7	2.8
Eli Lilly	3.2	1.0	2.2
JPMorgan	3.0	1.0	2.0
S&P Global	2.8	0.2	2.7
Morgan Stanley	2.8	0.3	2.5
Home Depot	2.7	0.4	2.3



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