

The enclosed information constitutes regulated information as defined in the Royal Decree of 14 November 2007 regarding the duties of issuers of financial instruments which have been admitted for trading on a regulated market

MANAGER'S
REPORT

VALUATION QUEST FOR GROWTH

	Net asset value/share	Stock Price	Discount
30/09/2024	7.37 EUR	4.45 EUR	39.6%
30/06/2024	7.41 EUR	4.45 EUR	40.0%
31/10/2023	7.51 EUR	5.00 EUR	33.4%

Results

Quest for Growth closed the first nine months of the financial year with a net loss of € 2.7 million. Return on equity was -1.92%. Quest for Growth shares saw their share price fall by 11.0% over the first nine months of the year to a closing price of € 4.45 on 30 September 2024. The discount of the share price to net asset value increased to 39.6% at the end of the third quarter from 33.4% at the end of 2023.

Market Environment

The European stock market index STOXX Europe 600 Net Return rose almost 12% over the first nine months of 2024. The STOXX Europe Small 200 Net Return increased almost 9% over the same period. The underlying drivers and trends for the stock markets remained more or less the same. From a thematic perspective, AI continues to support stock prices. In contrast, companies with exposure to the Cleantech theme continue to lag behind the overall positive stock market trend.

Stocks with a higher market capitalisation continue to outperform smaller listed companies. Since mid-2021, the difference has been very significant: over a three-year period, the STOXX Europe Small 200 Net Return index achieved just short of a positive return, while the broad European market rose by more than 25%!

Investments in quoted equities

The estimated gross performance of the portfolio listed equities was around 5% over the past nine months. The outperformer in the portfolio so far this year has been Tubize, the monoholding above Belgian biopharma company UCB, with a return of more than 84%. UCB benefited from the successful US launch of Bimzelx, a drug for psoriasis. Like UCB, Tubize also saw its share price rise to new record levels during the first half of the year. Tubize is not only the stock with the best price performance this year but also Quest for Growth's largest position. As the position repeatedly exceeded the limit of more than 5% of NAV, a small part of the stake in Tubize was regularly sold during this financial year.

Furthermore, Jensen Group and the new position in Harvia contributed positively to the return of the listed portfolio with increases of 26% and 45% respectively. Jensen Group, a manufacturer of industrial washing machines, saw revenues for the first half of 2024 increase by 10% and new orders increased by as much as 55% to an absolute record amount. Earnings per share increased 17% compared to the same period last year. Despite these great results, Jensen Group remains one of the cheapest stocks in our listed portfolio.

The main downturn in the portfolio was Swiss LEM (-31%), which is experiencing difficulties in the important Chinese market. Melexis also saw its share price fall almost 12%, while its results remained good.

In February this year, Quest for Growth parted ways with French IT services company SII. At the end of 2023, SII's main family shareholder made an offer at € 70 per share, thereby delisting the company. Quest for Growth also chose to sell its shares in response to this bid. Consequently, in about one year the fund realised a nice capital gain of more than 30% on its investment in SII.

Last summer Quest for Growth sold all shares of the Austrian company Mayr-Melnhof, a producer of recycled board and cardboard packaging. The sector has been struggling with declining demand for some time, resulting in overcapacity and falling prices. Both effects saw the company virtually halve its profitability, and its debt ratio also increased further due to an overly hasty and ill-timed acquisition strategy in 2020.

Stratec, a German manufacturer of machines for medical diagnostics, was also removed from the portfolio. Stratec is experiencing declining demand following the loss of lucrative corona tests.

Quest for Growth added three new investments to its portfolio. The Finnish company Harvia is a market leader in products for saunas. Harvia generates high margins and is growing strongly thanks to increasing demand outside its Scandinavian home market, particularly the United States and Japan. These two markets with huge potential and low sauna penetration are ready for a phase of growth. In addition, the health benefits of sauna are becoming more widely known and promoted. Recently, Harvia increased its revenue growth targets, which further supported the share price.

In the month of August, Quest for Growth bought shares of French family-owned Virbac, a specialist in animal medicines. Virbac has a broadly diversified portfolio, with limited risks of patent expiry. Virbac's portfolio is strongly oriented towards pet products and growth countries, two extremely interesting growth areas. Over time, Virbac aims to further increase its operating profit margin to 20% by 2030, mainly through economies of scale and improved productivity. Finally, even after two acquisitions in Japan and India, the balance sheet leaves ample room for external growth.

Finally, Quest for Growth invested in the Austrian company Andritz, the world leader in hydropower plant construction and also active in other clean technologies such as water treatment, biofuels, air purification and green hydrogen. A solid balance sheet, significant service revenues and a high order book contribute to the company's stability. Andritz has enjoyed average earnings growth of around 15% a year over the past five years, while its valuation remains low.

Investments in venture and growth capital

Quest for Growth made a new investment in the Dutch company Gradyent in the first quarter of 2024, a co-investment with the Capricorn Digital Growth Fund. Gradyent offers a solution to optimise the management of district heating networks using digital twins and artificial intelligence. Such networks are responsible for heating residential and industrial properties, using renewable energy sources or heat recovered from industrial processes, renewable energy or waste treatment. District heating networks are rapidly gaining popularity in many countries with consequently a growing need to manage their increasing complexity - both in terms of heat sources and customer needs - in a smart and sustainable way.

The shares of FRX Innovation, the latest co-investment with the Capricorn Cleantech Fund, were disposed of at a token price during the first quarter of 2024.

In the third quarter, Quest for Growth made a new investment in the Belgian company Confo Therapeutics, a co-investment with the Capricorn Healthtech Fund. Confo Therapeutics is a Ghent-based company that has designed a platform for drug development targeting G protein-coupled receptors (GPCRs). Quest for Growth joined a new € 60m funding round with a direct investment of € 1m. The proceeds will be used to advance two in-house developments through phase I clinical trials and to advance two additional programmes to IND approval, including molecules targeting GPR75 to fight obesity. Confo will expand its portfolio of GPCR-targeted small molecules and therapeutic antibodies, with a focus on agonist antibodies.

Investments in venture and growth funds

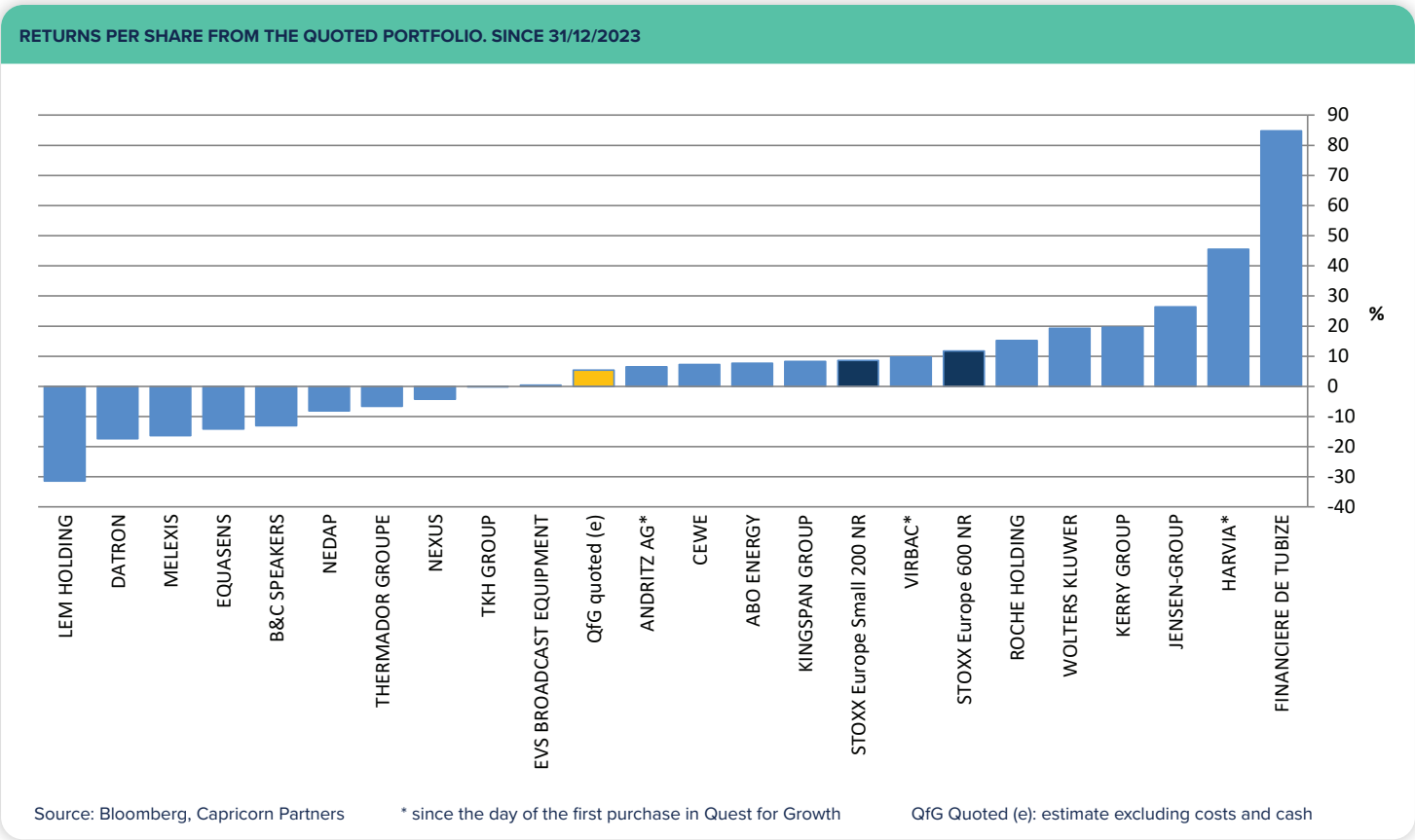
Related to the sale of Ogeda to Astellas Pharma in 2017, Capricorn Healthtech Fund received the final milestone payment in the second quarter of 2024. The fund subsequently proceeded with a capital reduction.

Following the sale of the last stake in FRX Innovation, the closure of the liquidation of the Capricorn Cleantech Fund is being prepared for the end of 2024.

In the third quarter Capricorn Digital Growth Fund made a new investment in the German company Thryve, a specialised B2B health data integration and analytics company. Thryve announced the successful completion of a Series A funding round of € 4 million. Their unified API allows health services around the world to map and understand an individual's health status 24/7 through hundreds of health trackers, providing a critical piece of infrastructure to deliver preventive, automated care anytime, anywhere.

Also in the third quarter there was the sale of Belgian company FEops (investment of Capricorn ICT Arkiv) to Materialise, a world leader in 3D printing software and services. FEops develops AI-driven simulation technology to improve the efficiency of procedures and clinical outcomes for structural cardiac interventions. The acquisition allows Materialise to expand its cardiovascular solutions with predictive simulation capabilities, promoting personalised treatment of patients with heart disease. The increased mass personalisation enabled by 3D technologies improves healthcare by enabling tailored treatment plans and interventions that respond to the unique anatomy of individual patients, resulting in improved outcomes and patient satisfaction.

Furthermore, follow-on investments in the form of internal funding rounds were achieved at several portfolio companies in the venture and growth capital funds.



FINANCIAL ASSETS BREAKDOWN AT 30 SEPTEMBER 2024

QUOTED EQUITIES

Equity	Sector / Market	Number of shares	Change in number since 30/06/2024	Currency	Share Price	Valuation in EUR	In % of Net Asset Value
Cleantech						22,918,145	
ABO ENERGY	Deutsche Börse (Xetra)	40,306		EUR	43.80	1,765,403	1.28%
ANDRITZ	Wiener Börse	44,000	44,000	EUR	63.65	2,800,600	2.03%
JENSEN GROUP	Euronext Brussels	150,876		EUR	41.20	6,216,091	4.50%
KINGSPAN	Euronext Dublin	50,000		EUR	84.35	4,217,500	3.06%
KERRY GROUP	Euronext Dublin	50,750		EUR	93.15	4,727,363	3.42%
THERMADOR	Euronext Paris	41,444		EUR	77.00	3,191,188	2.31%
Digital						34,076,328	
B&C SPEAKERS	Borsa Italiana	165,004		EUR	15.30	2,524,561	1.83%
CEWE STIFTUNG	Deutsche Börse (Xetra)	60,977	5,668	EUR	106.00	6,463,562	4.68%
DATRON	Deutsche Börse (Xetra)	119,000		EUR	8.25	981,750	0.71%
EVS	Euronext Brussels	223,327	18,000	EUR	28.40	6,342,487	4.59%
LEM HOLDING	SWX Swiss Exchange	1,446		CHF	1,374.00	2,104,888	1.52%
MELEXIS	Euronext Brussels	71,789		EUR	74.15	5,323,154	3.86%
NEDAP	Euronext Amsterdam	78,148		EUR	56.00	4,376,288	3.17%
TKH GROUP	Euronext Amsterdam	89,570	-35,000	EUR	37.82	3,387,537	2.45%
WOLTERS KLUWER	Euronext Amsterdam	17,000	-5,000	EUR	151.30	2,572,100	1.86%
Health						27,469,755	
EQUASENS	Euronext Paris	92,759		EUR	51.20	4,749,261	3.44%
HARVIA	OMX Helsinki	87,052	6,500	EUR	47.05	4,095,797	2.97%
NEXUS	Deutsche Börse (Xetra)	75,225	10,000	EUR	55.50	4,174,988	3.02%
ROCHE	SWX Swiss Exchange	16,000		CHF	270.60	4,586,927	3.32%
TUBIZE	Euronext Brussels	51,820	-10,268	EUR	131.20	6,798,784	4.92%
VIRBAC	Euronext Paris	8,000	8,000	EUR	383.00	3,064,000	2.22%
						84,464,228	61.18%

VENTURE AND GROWTH CAPITAL

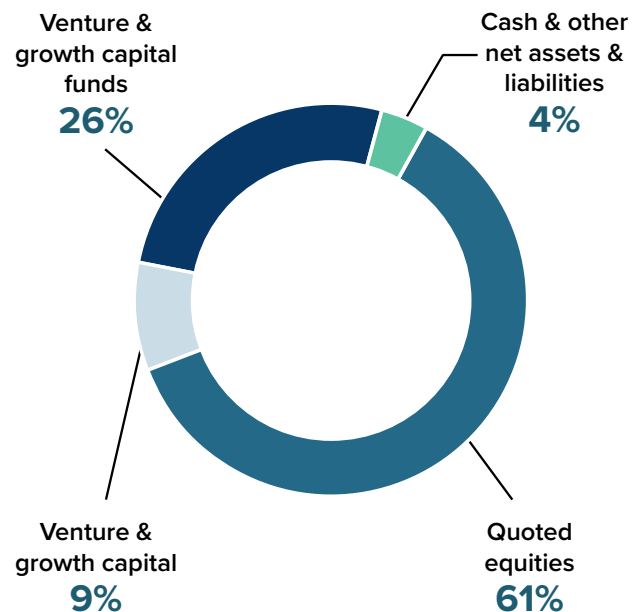
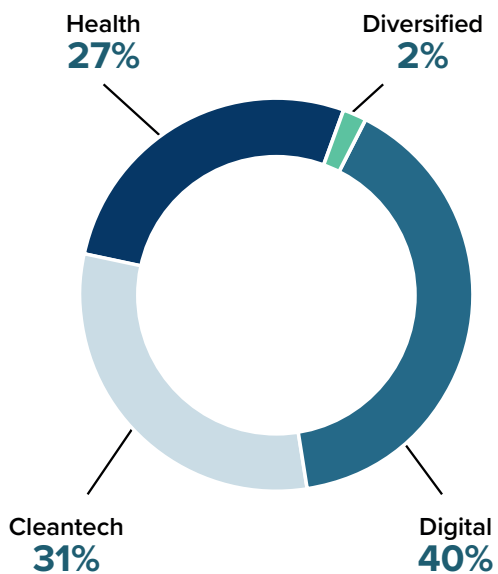
Participations	Sector	Change since 30/06/2024	Currency	Valuation in base currency	Valuation in EUR	In % of Net Asset Value
CONFO THERAPEUTICS	Health	EUR 500,000	EUR	500,000	500,000	0.36%
DMC	Cleantech		USD	1,612,499	1,440,246	1.04%
ECLECTICIQ	Digital		EUR	480,909	480,909	0.35%
FINQUEST	Digital		USD	0	0	0.00%
FRUITCORE ROBOTICS	Digital		EUR	1,302,007	1,302,007	0.94%
GRADYENT	Digital		EUR	299,960	299,960	0.22%
NGDATA	Digital		EUR	580,904	580,904	0.42%
QPINCH	Cleantech		EUR	3,565,450	3,565,450	2.58%
REIN4CED	Cleantech		EUR	287,891	287,891	0.21%
SENSOLUS	Digital	EUR 37,501	EUR	2,691,331	2,691,331	1.95%
					11,148,699	8.08%
Debt	Sector					
FINQUEST	Digital		USD	99,819	89,156	0.06%
REIN4CED	Cleantech	EUR 354,482	EUR	701,036	701,036	0.51%
					790,192	0.57%

VENTURE AND GROWTH FUNDS

		Last valuation date	Change since 30/06/2024	Currency	Valuation in base currency	Valuation in EUR	In % of Net Asset Value
Capricorn Partners							
CAPRICORN CLEANTECH FUND	Cleantech	30/09/2024		EUR	28,119	28,119	0.02%
CAPRICORN DIGITAL GROWTH FUND	Digital	30/09/2024		EUR	8,161,464	8,161,464	5.91%
CAPRICORN FUSION CHINA FUND	Diversified	30/09/2024	EUR 459,966	EUR	2,645,412	2,645,412	1.92%
CAPRICORN HEALTH-TECH FUND	Health	30/09/2024		EUR	7,426,230	7,426,230	5.38%
CAPRICORN ICT ARKIV	Digital	30/09/2024		EUR	4,827,680	4,827,680	3.50%
CAPRICORN SUSTAINABLE CHEMISTRY FUND	Cleantech	30/09/2024		EUR	12,228,073	12,228,073	8.86%
Other funds							
CARLYLE EUROPE TECHNOLOGY PARTNERS II	Diversified	30/06/2024		EUR	6,950	6,950	0.01%
LIFE SCIENCES PARTNERS III	Health	30/06/2024		EUR	148,000	148,000	0.11%
LIFE SCIENCES PARTNERS IV	Health	30/06/2024		EUR	466,000	466,000	0.34%
						35,937,928	26.03%

PORTFOLIO OVERVIEW

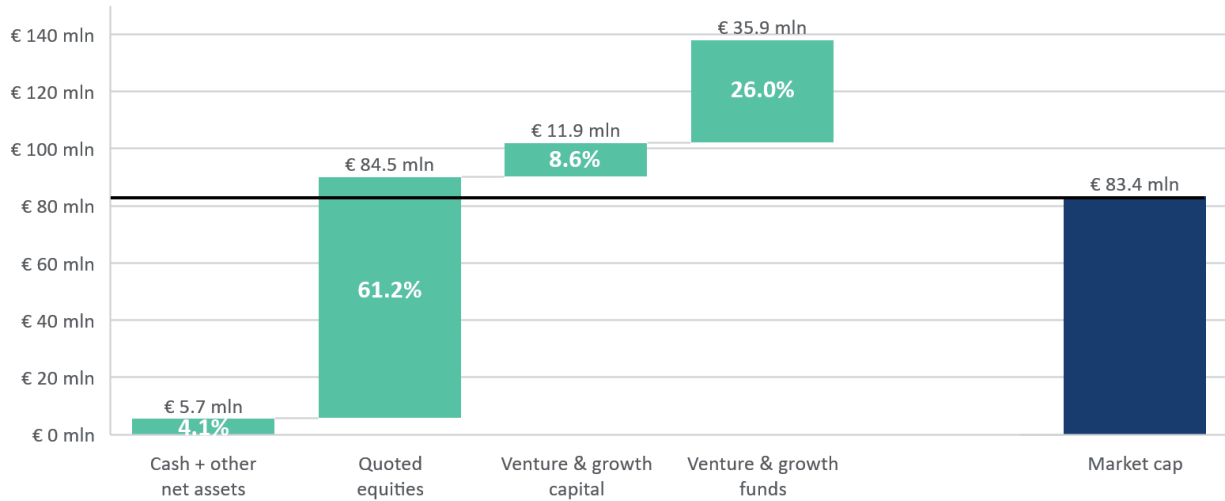
Quoted equities				EUR		84,464,228	61.88%
Venture & growth capital				EUR		11,938,891	8.65%
Venture & growth funds				EUR		35,937,928	26.03%
Change in valuation venture & growth capital				EUR		0	0.00%
Financial assets				EUR		132,341,047	95.87%
Cash				EUR		5,042,245	3.65%
Other net assets & liabilities				EUR		665,696	0.48%
Net asset value				EUR		138,048,988	100.00%
Net asset value per share				EUR		7.37	
Share price				EUR		4.45	
Discount %						39.61%	



Total return (%) for shareholders compared to benchmarks (30/09/2014 – 30/09/2024)



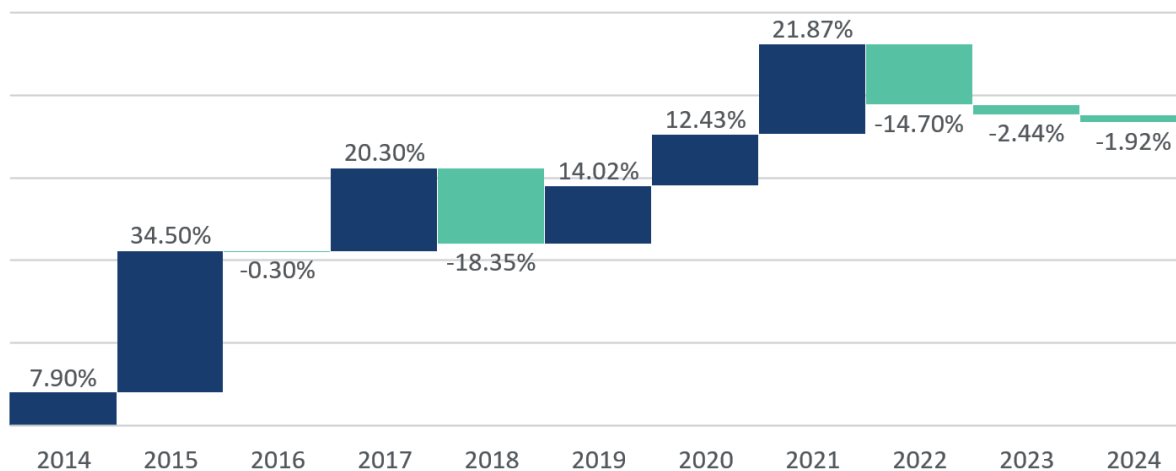
Portfolio composition and market capitalisation at 30/09/2024



Discount of the share price compared to the net asset value (30/09/2014 – 30/09/2024)



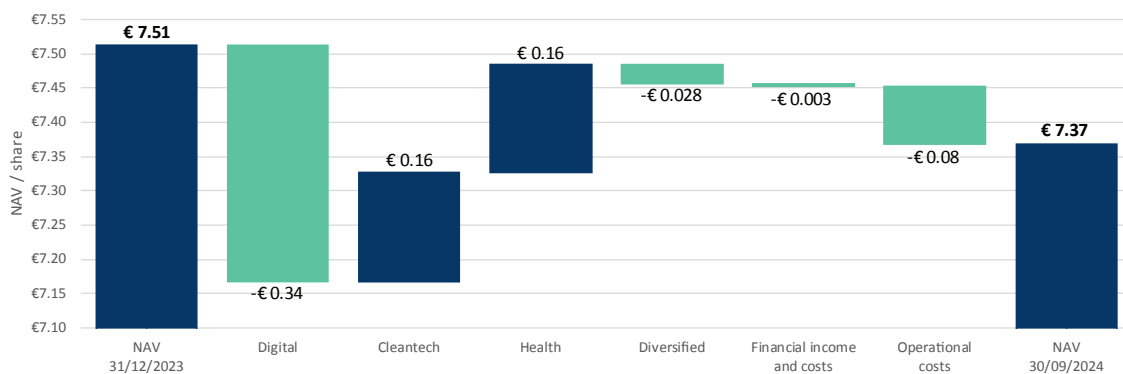
Return on equity from 01/01/2014 to 30/09/2024 (*)



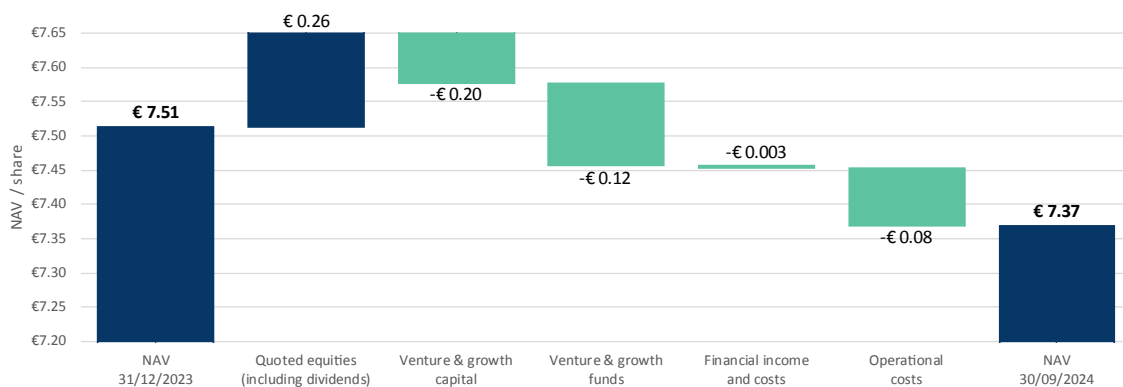
(*)Result compared to equity at the start of the financial year, taking into account dividends and/or capital increases.

Added value per share (January – September 2024)

Added value per sector per share



Added value per segment per share



Condensed interim financial statements

CONDENSED BALANCE SHEET

In EUR

ASSETS

	30 September 2024	31 December 2023
Cash and cash equivalents	5,041,774	6,800,567
Trade and other receivables	318,693	474,757
Dividends receivable	405,885	385,020
Financial assets		
Financial assets at FVTPL – equity securities	131,550,855	132,804,660
Financial assets at FVTPL – debt securities	790,192	312,613
Other current assets	11,705	7,191
Total assets	138,119,103	140,784,807

LIABILITIES AND EQUITY

Share capital	147,072,900	147,072,900
Unavailable reserves	0	0
Accumulated result	-6,328,208	-2,803,948
Net result for the period	-2,695,704	-3,524,260
Total equity attributable to shareholders	138,048,988	140,744,692

Accruals and deferred income	0	0
Current tax payable	0	0
Other liabilities	70,115	40,115
Total liabilities	70,115	40,115
Total equity and liabilities	138,119,103	140,784,807

Condensed interim financial statements

CONDENSED STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS BY SEGMENT

In EUR	Situation at: (for fiscal year starting on 1 January)	
	30 September 2024	30 September 2023
Net realised gains / (losses) on financial assets	-2,863,888	-3,110,159
Net unrealised gains / (losses) on financial assets	6,242,208	1,170,266
Dividends income	1,910,595	1,952,552
Segment income from investments in quoted equities	5,288,915	12,659
Net realised gains / (losses) on financial assets	-248,735	-3,561,915
Net unrealised gains / (losses) on financial assets	-3,477,080	1,493,196
Dividends income	0	0
Segment income from investments in venture & growth capital	-3,725,815	-2,068,718
Net realised gains / (losses) on financial assets	0	254,943
Net unrealised gains / (losses) on financial assets	-2,273,085	-2,639,517
Dividends income	0	0
Segment income from investments in venture & growth funds	-2,273,085	-2,384,574
Net interest income / (expenses)	106,875	33,505
Net realised foreign exchange gains / (losses)	-1,969	-2,535
Net unrealised foreign exchange gains / (losses)	0	4,431
Total income from investments	-605,079	-4,405,232
Other operating income / (losses)	-165,000	927,078
Total operating income / (losses)	-770,079	-3,478,154
Management company fees	-1,110,216	-1,109,195
Other management costs	-432,466	-600,783
Profit / (loss) from operating activities	-2,312,761	-5,188,132
Net finance expenses	-1,709	-943
Profit / (loss) before taxes	-2,314,470	-5,189,076
Withholding tax on dividend income	-349,085	-316,085
Other income taxes	-32,149	-28,550
Profit / (loss) for the period	-2,695,704	-5,533,710

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

Registered office	Lei 19 box 3, 3000 Leuven, Belgium
Company registration number	0463.541.422
Website	www.questforgrowth.com
Board of directors	Ms Lieve Creten , chairman and independent director Mr Jos Clijsters , independent director, chairman of the nomination and remuneration committee Mr Paul Van Dun , independent director, chairman of the audit and risk committee and member of the nomination and remuneration committee Ms Véronique Léonard , independent director, member of the audit and risk committee Mr Philippe de Vicq de Cumplich , director Dr Prof. Regine Slagmulder , director, member of the audit and risk committee Dr Jos B. Peeters , director Ms Sabine Vermassen , director
Executive officers	Mr Philippe de Vicq de Cumplich Ms Sabine Vermassen
Management company	Capricorn Partners NV, Lei 19 box 1, 3000 Leuven
Statutory auditor	PwC Bedrijfsrevisoren LTD, represented by Mr Gregory Joos, Culliganlaan 5, 1831 Diegem
Depository bank	Belfius Bank België, Karel Rogierplein 11, 1000 Brussels
Supervisor	Financial Services and Market Authority (FSMA), Congresstraat 12-14, 1000 Brussels
Legislation	Closed-end private equity fund, submitted to the Royal Decree of 10 July 2016 on alternative institutions for collective investment in unquoted and growth companies
Incorporation	9 June 1998
Official listing	23 September 1998 on Euronext Brussel
Financial year	from 1 January to 31 December
Security number	ISIN : BE0003730448
Stock price	Bloomberg : QFG BB Equity Reuters : QUFG.BR Telekurs : 950524
Company reports	quarterly
Estimated net asset value	published every first Thursday of the month
General meeting	last Thursday of the month of March at 11am

Profile

Quest for Growth is a privak/pricaf, a public alternative investment fund (AIF) with fixed capital under Belgian law, managed by Capricorn Partners NV. The diversified portfolio of Quest for Growth is mostly invested in growth companies listed on European stock exchanges, in venture & growth capital and in venture & growth funds. Quest for Growth focuses on innovative companies in areas such as digital, health and clean technologies. We have been listed on Euronext Brussels since 23 September 1998.

Investment rules

At least 25% of assets must be invested in venture and growth capital.

At least 70% of the assets must be invested in:

- venture and growth capital;
- listed growth companies with a market capitalization of less than € 1.5 billion;
- other alternative investment funds with a similar investment policy as the privak.

A maximum of 20% of the portfolio may be invested in one company.

A maximum of 30% of the portfolio may be held in cash or cash equivalents.