



## Fund facts

**ISIN:** NO0008000445

**Launch date, share class:** 01.12.1993

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**Domicile:** NO

**NAV:** 429.71 EUR

**AUM:** 1,037 MEUR

**Benchmark index:** MSCI Nordic/MSCI AC ex. Nordic

**Minimum purchase:** 50 EUR

**Fixed management fee:** 1.00 %

**Performance fee:** 10.00 % (see prospectus for details)

**Ongoing charge:** 1.00 %

**Number of holdings:** 53

**SFDR:** Article 8



**Søren Milo Christensen**  
Managed fund since  
09 April 2018



**Sondre Solvoll  
Bakketun**  
Managed fund since  
08 November 2022

## Investment strategy

SKAGEN Vekst invests in companies that are attractively priced relative to expected profitability and growth. The majority of the fund is invested in the Nordic region and the remainder worldwide. The fund is suitable for investors with a minimum five-year investment horizon. Subscriptions are made in fund units and not directly in stocks or other securities. The benchmark reflects the fund's investment mandate. Since the fund is actively managed, the portfolio will deviate from the composition of the benchmark. Effective 01.01.2014, the fund's investment mandate changed from investing a minimum of 50% of its assets in Norway to investing a minimum of 50% of its assets in the Nordic countries. This means that returns prior to the change were achieved under different circumstances than they are today.

# SKAGEN Vekst A

RISK PROFILE



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YTD RETURN

11.85 %

31.12.2024

ANNUAL RETURN

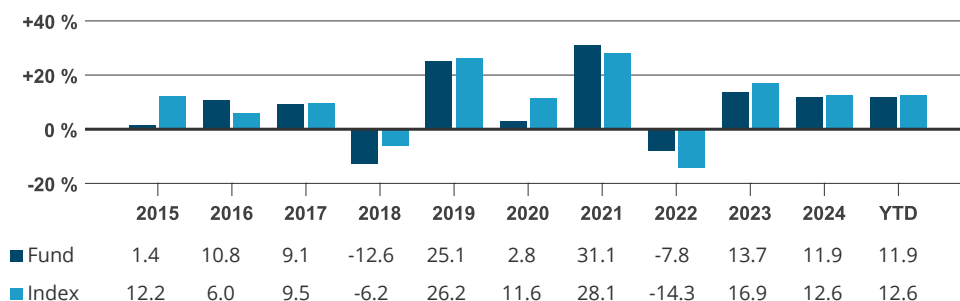
9.57 %

Average last 5 years

Monthly report for December as of 31.12.2024. All data in EUR unless otherwise stated.

Historical returns are no guarantee for future returns. Future returns will depend, inter alia, on market developments, the fund manager's skills, the fund's risk profile and subscription and management fees. The return may become negative as a result of negative price developments. The fund's Key Investor Information Document and prospectus are available on [www.skagenfunds.com](http://www.skagenfunds.com)

## Historical return in EUR (net of fees)



Prior to 01.01.2014, the benchmark index was an evenly composed benchmark index consisting of the Oslo Stock Exchange Benchmark Index (OSEBX) and the MSCI All Country World. The benchmark index prior to 01.01.2010 was the Oslo Stock Exchange Benchmark Index (OSEBX).

Period	Fund (%)	Index (%)	Key figures	1 year	3 years	5 years
Last month	-1.69	-2.35	Standard deviation	5.48	12.24	16.89
Year to date	11.85	12.63	Standard deviation index	7.92	14.23	15.90
Last 12 months	11.85	12.63	Tracking error	5.97	6.99	7.62
Last 3 years	5.43	4.11	Information ratio	-0.13	0.19	-0.03
Last 5 years	9.57	9.82	Active share: 82 %			
Last 10 years	7.77	9.42				
Since inception	12.21	9.74				

Returns over 12 months are annualised.

## Q4 commentary 2024

**Global stock markets ended the year on a weak note driven by higher interest rates in the US and weak economic data from the largest economies in Europe. SKAGEN Vekst also declined in December driven by weak performance from Novo Nordisk and our Korean Holdings. From a relative perspective, the fund outperformed the benchmark driven by very strong performance from Broadcom, Alphabet, and our Chinese holdings. The reelection of President Donald Trump had a major impact on global stock markets in Q4. The US market gained on the prospects of lower taxes and less regulation, while other markets had a more challenging time due to the threats of increased tariffs. This was also the main reason why SKAGEN Vekst had weak performance both in absolute terms and relative to the benchmark in the final three months of the year. For 2024 as whole, the fund delivered a very strong absolute return, driven by good performance from several of our US, Chinese, and Korean holdings. The fund marginally lagged the benchmark over the year due to a lower weighting in the US market that drove most of the gains for the global market in 2024.**

The US technology company Broadcom was by far the best performing stock, generating a return of almost 50% in December alone. This was driven by exceptionally strong guidance for its AI semiconductor business, where management sees accelerated growth from its large existing clients as well as increasing opportunities to gain new customers. While the company is well placed to benefit from increased CAPEX spending on AI, we see this increasingly reflected in the share price and used the strength to reduce our position. Alphabet, the parent company of Google, was also among the largest positive contributors in December. The company announced a major milestone in quantum computing



around its Willow quantum chip. While the commercial induction of quantum technology may still be years away, it increases the likelihood of Alphabet becoming a winner in the AI race. We have long argued that the stock market is mispricing the company's so-called moonshots – by including all the costs associated with these projects, but not accounting for any potential benefits. Given Alphabet's long track record of developing next-generation technologies with successful monetization, we continue to believe this is wrong. However, following the very strong share price development, we trimmed our position as the fundamental upside to our target price was reduced. The Chinese oil and gas company CNOOC was another strong performer. The stock was helped by a combination of a higher oil price and improved sentiment around the Chinese stock market, as political leaders intensified their efforts to stabilize the domestic economy – which also helped our other Chinese holdings including China Mobile and Ping An Insurance. CNOOC also announced the sale of its upstream oil and gas assets in the Gulf of Mexico at a higher valuation than its stock currently trades at. We continue to see upside in the stock, as it trades at a discount to international peers despite having a much better growth outlook. With improved capital allocation, we see solid returns from dividends and buy-backs alone.

The Danish pharma giant Novo Nordisk was the largest detractor to the fund's absolute return in December after the company's phase 3 trial for its obesity drug CagriSema disappointed investors, showing a 23% weight loss over 68 weeks, below market expectations of 25%. While this outperforms Novo's Wegovy, it aligns with Eli Lilly's Zepbound. The trial's flexible dosing design reduced discontinuation rates but limited efficacy, with only 57% of patients reaching the highest dose. This raised concerns about tolerability, contributing to the weak share price reaction. Novo plans a new trial without flexible dosing to optimize weight loss results. Notably, 40% of patients achieved 25% or greater weight loss, and FDA approval is still expected. We view CagriSema as competitive with Eli Lilly's product and increased our position following the share price drop.

On 3 December, South Korean President Yoon Suk Yeol surprised everyone by declared emergency martial law in the country. While he lifted the martial law hours later, bending to political pressure as lawmakers voted to reject military rule, this obviously had a negative impact on the stock market. We reduced most of our Korean holdings on the first trading day following the martial law, but were not able to avoid losses, as the political uncertainty continued to escalate throughout December. Thus, our largest Korean holdings KB Financial, Hana Financial, and Samsung Electronics were all among the largest detractors to the fund's absolute return in December. While the political uncertainty is clearly negative, Korean stocks already trade at a historically low valuation despite clear positive progress on corporate governance. We therefore feel comfortable with our current positioning in the country. In 2024, we significantly reduced our exposure to the US stock market, which we view as overvalued relative to both global markets and its own historical norms. Within the US, growth stocks, in particular, appear priced at levels that have historically resulted in poor future returns. By contrast, many markets outside the US trade near historical averages, offering compelling opportunities. We are especially optimistic about China and Korea, where depressed valuations contrast sharply with the potential for positive change. On a sector level, we reduced exposure to IT. While AI presents a remarkable opportunity, this is increasingly reflected in inflated share prices, largely driven by competitive pressures among major IT players. Sustained capital investment will eventually need to deliver tangible economic benefits to justify current valuations. We also see rising risks of the market questioning the key strengths of dominant IT companies, such as low-capital-intensive earnings growth. We continue to favour attractively valued companies in the financial, industrial, and energy sectors, which remain resilient to an environment where inflation does not revert to post-pandemic lows.

From a macroeconomic perspective, we believe the market underestimates the likelihood of persistently higher inflation and interest rates. This is particularly evident in the US, where factors such as substantial budget deficits, immigration restrictions, and increased tariffs on foreign goods make a meaningful decline in inflation unlikely. We have positioned the fund to offer strong downside protection should the US market's "Goldilocks" scenario – or similar expectations for the IT sector – fail to materialise. However, if consensus predictions of declining inflation, steady economic growth, and robust IT sector profits prove accurate, we anticipate the fund may underperform the broader market but still deliver solid absolute returns over the next 12 months.

## Contribution last month

 Largest contributors	Weight (%)	Contribution (%)	 Largest detractors	Weight (%)	Contribution (%)
Broadcom Inc	1.63	0.63	Novo Nordisk A/S	8.24	-1.45
Alphabet Inc	1.83	0.26	KB Financial Group Inc	2.99	-0.51
Cnooc Ltd	1.87	0.26	Hana Financial Group Inc	2.81	-0.33
UPM-Kymmene Oyj	3.11	0.22	Samsung Electronics Co Ltd	2.70	-0.18
China Mobile Ltd	2.11	0.18	Bonheur ASA	2.62	-0.14

Absolute contribution based on NOK returns at fund level.

## Portfolio information

Top 10 investments	Share (%)	Country exposure	Share (%)	Sector exposure	Share (%)
Novo Nordisk A/S	7.5	Denmark	20.4	Financials	23.2
DSV A/S	3.8	United States	14.3	Industrials	15.7
Nordea Bank Abp	3.6	Norway	11.1	Materials	9.9
Ping An Insurance Group Co of China Ltd	3.4	South Korea	11.0	Health care	9.8
Telenor ASA	3.4	Finland	10.4	Information technology	9.0
ISS A/S	3.2	Sweden	9.8	Communication Services	8.6
UPM-Kymmene Oyj	3.2	China	9.4	Consumer Staples	7.5
Citigroup Inc	3.1	Brazil	4.0	Energy	6.7
Essity AB	3.1	United Kingdom	2.5	Real estate	3.8
Boliden AB	3.0	Hong Kong SAR China	1.9	Consumer discretionary	2.6
<b>Total share</b>	<b>37.4 %</b>	<b>Total share</b>	<b>94.9 %</b>	<b>Total share</b>	<b>96.9 %</b>

## Sustainability

### SKAGEN's approach to sustainability

Our ESG approach is built on four pillars. In keeping with SKAGEN's active investment philosophy, our sustainability activities centre on active engagement with our holding companies, which is where we believe we can have the greatest impact. We recognise, however, that the full potential of a sustainable investment strategy is best realised when combining the following four pillars.

- ✓ Exclusion
- ✓ Enhanced due diligence
- ✓ ESG factsheet
- ✓ Active ownership

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION

This is a marketing communication. Except otherwise stated, the source of all information is Storebrand Asset Management AS. Statements reflect the portfolio managers viewpoint at a given time, and this viewpoint may be changed without notice.

Future fund performance is subject to taxation which depends on the personal situation of each investor, and which may change in the future.

The tax treatment of the gains and losses made by the investor and distributions received by the investor depend on the individual circumstances of each investor and may imply the payment of additional taxes. Before any investment is made in the Fund, investors are urged to consult with their tax advisor for a complete understanding of the tax regime, which is applicable to their individual case.

Storebrand Asset Management AS is a management company authorised by the Norwegian supervisory authority, Finanstilsynet, for the management of UCITS under the Norwegian Act on Securities Funds and has its registered office at Professor Kohts vei 9, 1366 Lysaker, Norway. Storebrand Asset management AS is part of the Storebrand Group and owned 100% by Storebrand ASA. Storebrand Group consists of all companies owned directly or indirectly by Storebrand ASA.

Following the merger of Storebrand Asset Management AS and SKAGEN AS, SKAGEN's portfolio team will continue to manage the funds' portfolios from the new separate legal entity, SKAGEN AS, while Storebrand Asset Management AS carries out the role of the management company.

No offer to purchase units can be made or accepted prior to receipt by the offeree of the Fund's prospectus and PRIIPS KID (for UK: KIID) and the completion of all appropriate documentation. You can download more information including subscription/redemption forms, full prospectus, PRIIPs KID (for UK: KIID), General Commercial Terms, Annual Reports and Monthly Reports in English language from SKAGEN's webpages.

Investors rights to complain and certain information on redress mechanisms are made available to investors pursuant to our complaints handling policy and procedure. The summary of investor rights in English is available here: [www.skagenfunds.com/contact/investor-rights/](http://www.skagenfunds.com/contact/investor-rights/) The investor rights summary is available in all languages of the countries where the fund is registered with the national Financial Services Authority. Please refer to SKAGEN's webpages and choose your respective country for this information.

Storebrand Asset Management AS may terminate arrangements for marketing under the Cross-border Distribution Directive denotification process.

For further information about sustainability-related aspects of the Fund, including the sustainability disclosure summary in English, please refer to: [www.skagenfunds.com/sustainability/sustainable-investing/](http://www.skagenfunds.com/sustainability/sustainable-investing/) The sustainability disclosure summary is available in all languages of the countries where the fund is registered with the national Financial Services Authority. Please refer to SKAGEN's webpages and choose your respective country for this information.

The decision to invest in the Fund should take into account all the characteristics or objectives of the Fund as described in its prospectus.

#### **Important information for UK Investors**

Storebrand Asset Management AS has established a subsidiary in the UK. Storebrand Asset Management UK Ltd is located at 15 Stratton Street, London, W1J 8LQ. Storebrand Asset Management UK Ltd is an Appointed Representative of Robert Quinn Advisory LLP, which is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority. Storebrand Asset Management UK Ltd is incorporated in England and the registered office is at 15 Stratton Street, London, England, W1J 8LQ. The investment products and services of Storebrand Asset Management UK Ltd are only available to professional clients and eligible counterparties. They are not available to retail clients. For more information, please contact Storebrand Asset management UK Ltd.'s team.

#### **Important Information for Luxembourg Investors**

For more information, please contact SKAGEN's Stavanger based International team: [international@skagenfunds.com](mailto:international@skagenfunds.com)  
For Facilities Services information please refer to our webpages.

#### **Important Information for Irish Investors**

For more information, please contact SKAGEN's Stavanger based International team: [international@skagenfunds.com](mailto:international@skagenfunds.com)  
For Facilities Services information please refer to our webpages.

#### **Important Information for Dutch Investors**

For more information, please contact SKAGEN's Stavanger based international team: [international@skagenfunds.com](mailto:international@skagenfunds.com)  
For Facilities Services information please refer to our webpages.

#### **Important Information for Icelandic Investors**

For more information, please contact SKAGEN's Stavanger based international team: [international@skagenfunds.com](mailto:international@skagenfunds.com)  
For Facilities Services information please refer to our webpages.