

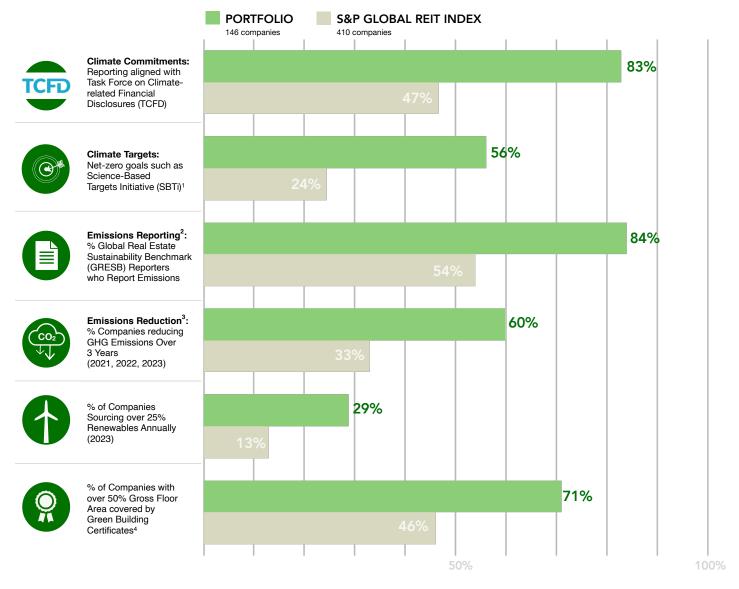
# Vert Global Sustainable Real Estate ETF

## ESG LEADERSHIP

The Vert Global Sustainable Real Estate ETF seeks to buy and hold only the publicly listed Real Estate Investment Trusts that are truly committed to sustainability.

The 146 companies in the ETF demonstrate leadership in one important environmental, social, and governance metrics. The portfolio holds more companies succeeding on these metrics than the benchmark.

\*More information on the portfolio construction criteria is available in our strategy paper at "Investing for Sustainability: Real Estate" https://www.vertasset.com/sustainable-real-estate/



# LOW ESG RISKS

We **disqualify** companies in specific business lines, that have significant controversies, and/or are inadequately prepared for climate risk.

















<sup>1</sup> Science-based targets are emissions reductions targets that companies are setting to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in their corporate operations and supply chain.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> GRESB reporters represent 84% of the holdings that publicly report.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Emissions reductions are calculated as the total change in company reported like-for-like Scope 1 (direct) + Scope 2 (indirect) greenhouse gas emissions in carbon dioxide equivalents (CO2e) between the 2024 and 2023 reporting years. This methodology is subject to change with data developments or other findings.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> A green building certification is a process that evaluates and validates a building's design, construction, and operation against specific sustainability and environmental standards.

# **Engagement at Vert Asset Management**

#### We take an expansive view of engagement.

Investing for sustainability doesn't stop with investing in companies that are already doing this. For us, it includes encouraging companies through ongoing dialogue, advocating for ESG within financial services, and embedding these practices in our own business.

### **Investment Stewardship**

We dialogue with 100% of the companies in the ETF each year through our umbrella campaigns to integrate sustainability in corporate strategy.

Our 2024 Engagement Campaign communicated with 146 REITs on economic value creation relative to their climate targets. This supports our investment thesis that sustainability is about mitigating risk, creating resilience, and developing innovative solutions.

The majority of the companies we speak with are mid cap and small cap companies. We don't limit our engagement to only the largest global REITs.

We also work with GREEN (the Global Real Estate Engagement Network) representing global asset owners. Together we engage REITs on net-zero strategies from a broader perspective.

### **Industry Advocacy**

We are a signatory to the UN PRI (Principles for Responsible Investing), a member of US SIF (Forum for Sustainable and Responsible Investment), and the Finance Pledge for Biodiversity. Through these organizations we can leverage our investor voice, build capacity for ESG in the capital markets, and support public policy and legislation.

We are a member of the property working group at the Institutional Investors Group on Climate Change (IIGCC).

We work with real estate industry groups such as the Urban Land Institute (ULI) on developing resources for corporate teams.

We work with data providers such as CDP (formerly the Carbon Disclosure Project) to encourage companies to report stakeholder information on climate, water, and forestry to CDP.

#### **Business For Good**

We build our business practices to high standards. We are a Certified B Corp to signal to our clients and others that we are dedicated to managing and operating our business in an ethical and sustainable way. We are leading by doing and demonstrating that it is possible to run a financial services business as well as do good within our sphere of influence.

We measure and work to reduce our company's Scope 1 (owned energy), Scope 2 (purchased electricity) and Scope 3 (employee travel) emissions.

We like to lead by example so we published our company's first TCFD (Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures) report in 2020.

We are a member of 1% For The Planet where corporations pledge 1% of their before-tax revenue to a network of charities working on climate change issues.





















#### **DISCLOSURES**

The Vert Global Sustainable Real Estate Fund's investment objectives, risks, charges, and expenses must be considered carefully before investing. The statutory, and if available summary prospectuses contain this and other important information about the investment company, and may be obtained by calling 1-844-740-VERT or visiting www.vertasset.com. Read carefully before investing.

Investing involves risk. Principal loss is possible. Investors should be aware of the risks involved with investing in a fund concentrating in REITs and real estate securities, such as declines in the value of real estate and increased susceptibility to adverse economic or regulatory developments. Investments in foreign securities involve political, economic and currency risks, greater volatility and differences in accounting methods. A REIT's share price may decline because of adverse developments affecting the real estate industry. REITs may be subject to special tax rules and may not qualify for favorable federal tax treatment which could have adverse tax consequences. The Fund's focus on sustainability may limit the number of investment opportunities available to the fund and at time the fund may underperform funds that are not subject to similar investment considerations. Diversification does not assure a profit or protect against loss in a declining market.

The S&P Global REIT Index is drawn from constituents in the S&P Global Property Index. Constituents must conform to the legal structures that define a real estate investment trust in the U.S., or similar guidelines in the country of their domicile. The REITs in the index are primarily companies that invest in buildings, which are human occupied or used for storage. The REIT indices specifically exclude timber REITs, mortgage REITs and mortgage-backed REITs. One cannot invest directly in an index.

B Corp Certification is a legal commitment. To qualify, an entity is required to amend its articles of organization to address accountability and outline a financial purpose that includes environmental and social contributions on par with the financial return generated by the company. B Corp requires the qualifying entity to assess their environmental management, supply chain, employee and well-being policies and governance policies.

Vert Asset Management is the Adviser to the Vert Global Sustainable Real Estate ETF is distributed by Quasar Distributors, LLC.

