

5th floor, 1C Ngo Quyen Street, Hoan Kiem District, Hanoi, Vietnam **Tel:** (+84) 24 3936 6321 **Email:** ssiam@ssi.com.vn

### SSI SUSTAINABLE COMPETITIVE ADVANTAGE FUND (SSI-SCA)

May, 2025

### **FUND INFORMATION**

Name of the Fund	SSI Sustainable Competitive Advantage Fund	
Fund code	SSI-SCA	
Туре	Open-Ended Fund	
Inception date	26/09/2014	
Fund Management	SSI Asset Management Co., Ltd	
Company	https://www.ssiam.com.vn	
Custodian & Supervisory Bank	Standard Chartered Bank (Vietnam)	
Transfer Agent	Viet Nam Securities Depository And Clearing Corporation (VSDC)	
Distributor	SSIAM, SSI, VCBS, BVSC, MBS, HSC, FINCO, MAS, TVS	
Redemption gate per trading period	10%/ Net Asset Value	
Minimum subscription amount	VND 10,000 (ten thousand dong)	
Fund size	VND 887.2 billion VND (~ USD 34.3 million)	

### **INVESTMENT OBJECTIVES & STRATEGY**

The Fund pursues long-term capital appreciation and regular return through investment in companies with sustainable competitive advantages and fixed income assets.

The Fund shall apply active investment strategy, focusing on listed securities of companies with sustainable competitive advantages, high market share, good corporate governance, healthy financial conditions, good capabilities of operation in disadvantageous market conditions and attractive valuation compared with the potential growth in the future of the company.

The Fund shall also invest in fixed income securities with high credit rating to preserve capital and bring stable income for the Fund.

### FUND PERFORMANCE

Period	Date	1 month	3 months	YTD	Since incention
Date	31/05/2025	30/04/2025	28/02/2025	31/12/2024	Since inception
NAV/unit	39,166.98	6.45%	-5.63%	-4.05%	291.67%
VN-Index	1,332.60	8.67%	2.09%	5.20%	120.27%
VN30-Index	1,423.68	8.70%	4.96%	5.87%	119.15%



### FEES

Subscription Fee	
From VND 10,000	Free
Redemption Fee/ Switching fee	
Holding period within 6 months	2.5%
From 6 months to 12 months	2.0%
From 12 months to 24 months	1.5%
From 24 months	Free
Transfer fee	Free

#### **FUND MANAGERS**

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### MACRO UPDATES – MAY 2025

#### The manufacturing sector maintained robust momentum

The manufacturing sector outperformed expectations in May and was the main driver of economic growth. The Index of Industrial Production (IIP) showed a significant increase of 9.4% year-on-year (YoY) in May and 8.8% YoY for the first five months of 2025 with manufacturing up 10.8% YoY (2024: 7.3% YoY). This growth was primarily fueled by robust performance in sectors such as automobiles (+34.3% YoY), leather products (+16.8%), rubber and plastic products (+16.1%). The Manufacturing Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) posted below the no-change mark for the second consecutive month in May but rose to 49.8 from 45.6 to signal a near-stabilization. Output returned to growth as thanks to easing trade tensions. Exports continued to grow at a solid pace of 17% YoY in May'25 and 14% YoY in 5M25, mainly attributable to front-loading activities. Computers and electrical devices exports soared +39.7% YoY while textile and garments also grew +12% YoY in 5M25. Notably, the trade deficit recorded in the first half of May was reversed in the second half, resulting in an estimated trade surplus of nearly USD 3 billion for the latter period. This brings the year-to-date trade surplus to USD 4.67 bn.

**Retail sales also saw an upward trend in May**, largely fueled by resilient consumer spending. Retail sales surged by 10.2% YoY for the month, sustaining the double-digit growth seen in April and contributing to an 9.7% YoY growth for the first five months of 2025. Real retail sales grew 7.4% YoY in 5M25. Data from the Ministry of Finance revealed a 55% YoY increase in tax revenue from e-commerce and other digital economic activities in the first five months of 2025, totaling VND 74.4 tn (approximately USD 2.86 bn). This surge reflects not only strong consumption but also enhanced government efforts in tax collection. International arrivals rose 21.3% YoY to 9.2 mn in 5M25 (126.1% of the pre-pandemic level), of which China tourists recovered 47.2% YoY.



**Investment momentum strengthens further**. FDI disbursements rose by 9.8% YoY in May, reaching USD 2.16 bn for the month and USD 8.9 billion in the first five months of 2025, an increase of 7.9% compared to the same period last year. Total FDI commitment soaring by around 154% YoY in May to USD 4.57 bn and USD 18.39 bn YTD (+55.1% YoY). While some of this growth reflects large-scale property investments recorded during the month, the broader trend underscores sustained investor confidence in Vietnam, even amid the global environment of reciprocal tariffs and trade tensions. On the public investment side, disbursements continued to accelerate in May (USD 7.7 bn YTD, +38.8% YoY) reaffirming the government's strong political commitment to fully executing its ambitious public investment agenda for 2025.

**Inflation remained subdued in May**, with headline inflation increasing by 0.16% month-on-month (MoM) or 3.21% YoY. Food and foodstuff prices slightly increased +0.03% MoM driven by out-of-home consumption +0.28% MoM, while accommodation and construction materials continued to increase +0.73% MoM due to higher material prices (+1.2%), higher rent (+0.64%) and electricity prices (+0.84%). However, gasoline (-1.2%) and diesel prices (-2.33% MoM) experienced declines, thus dragging the transportation sub-index to decline -0.42% MoM. Core inflation increased +0.33% MoM to reach 3.33% YoY in May, instilling confidence that the government can maintain inflation within the target range of 4.0% to 4.5% YoY for the year.







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### MACRO UPDATES – MAY 2025

The Vietnamese Dong (VND) remained under pressure during the month, posting a depreciation of 0.1% MoM and 2.2% YTD, despite the DXY declining 8.4% YTD. The USDVND exchange rate continued to diverge from regional currency trends amid uncertainty surrounding tariff policy. Additionally, the State Treasury registered purchases of USD 250 million during the month. We believe that a favorable outcome in ongoing trade negotiations, coupled with a weakening USD following the recent downgrade of U.S. credit ratings, may support the stability of the VND. In May 2025, the State Bank of Vietnam (SBV) conducted net withdrawals totaling 21.4 trillion VND through open market operations (OMO). The overnight VND lending rate on the interbank market remained relatively stable, averaging 3.9% per annum within a narrow trading range.



**The VN-Index rebounded strongly in May**, gaining 8.6% MOM and 5.2% YTD, largely driven by the rallies of Vingroup-related stocks (VIC +28.7pts, VHM +19.5pts and VPL +9.1pts) and easing US-China trade tensions. Throughout the month, foreign investors returned to the market as net buyers, totaling approximately USD 37mn in net purchase, reducing the YTD net outflows to USD 1.6bn. Both retail and institutional investors appear largely cautious, remaining on the sidelines despite the index's upward drift by the Vingroup stocks due to unpredictability of Trump's trade policies. Liquidity dipped 7.5% MOM to VND 21.7tn or USD 855mn.

In May, most sectors recorded positive returns, with the exception of the consumer staples sector, which posted a slight decline of 0.1%. The real estate sector notably performed the best, surging by 28.9%, followed by industrials (+10.8%) and consumer discretionary (+7.9%).

The VN-Index is currently trading with a trailing P/E ratio of 12.3x, much lower than its average P/E ratio over the past three years, which stands at 14.6x. We maintain a positive outlook on Vietnam's stock market for the remainder of the year, supported by (i) positive development in trade negotiation, (ii) the government's strong commitment to reforms and achieving targeted growth of 8% and (iii) ongoing progress in stock market upgrade. In the near term, investors may pay close attention to the upcoming US-Vietnam trade discussion in June after having reported positive progress in the second round. The General Secretary emphasized tasks centered around four Politburo resolutions – No. 57, 59, 66, 68. These resolutions focus on completing a coherent legal and institutional framework, breakthroughs in science and technology, accelerating comprehensive international integration and developing the private sector to be one of the important driving forces of the economy. In light of Vietnam's ongoing market upgrade developments, the successful implementation of the new KRX core trading system and the streamlined account opening process mark significant milestones.

As of 30 May 2025	1M	3M	YTD	2024	VNI End Weight	TTM P/E	Current P/B	ROE	BETA
Communication Services	4.8%	-17.2%	-12.8%	43.4%	0.1%	15.2	1.2	8.3	0.7
Consumer Discretionary	7.9%	-10.0%	-3.3%	29.5%	6.0%	18.5	2.3	13.2	1.1
Consumer Staples	-0.1%	-5.7%	-8.0%	-2.0%	6.8%	17.4	2.3	14.6	0.9
Energy	5.0%	-18.6%	-15.3%	3.2%	2.1%	22.6	1.0	3.8	1.1
Financials	3.6%	-4.7%	0.1%	18.6%	41.2%	8.8	1.4	17.1	1.0
Health Care	5.3%	-7.7%	-2.8%	15.4%	0.7%	17.7	2.0	12.2	0.7
Industrials	10.8%	-0.4%	10.3%	10.0%	9.1%	15.2	1.8	9.4	1.0
Information Technology	6.3%	-28.2%	-23.5%	73.4%	3.3%	19.3	4.4	24.8	1.0
Materials	6.8%	-10.0%	-6.4%	14.5%	7.4%	15.0	1.4	9.7	1.2
Real Estate	28.9%	24.8%	58.1%	-5.9%	18.3%	16.3	1.3	8.9	1.0
Utilities	7.4%	-7.6%	-1.7%	-2.7%	5.0%	15.7	1.7	11.0	0.7
VN-Index	8.7%	2.1%	5.2%	12.1%	100%	12.3	1.5	13.1	1.0
VN30	8.7%	5.0%	5.9%	18.9%		9.9	1.5	16.1	



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## FUND PERFORMANCE COMMENTARY

### Fund statistics (12-months)

	SSI – SCA	VN-Index
Volatility (Std)	17.19%	17.32%
Sharpe Ratio	0.11%	0.26%
P/E Ratio TTM	10.94x	13.55x
P/B Ratio Current	1.61x	1.65x
Beta	0.96	1.00



### Fund Investment Allocation by Market Cap (% NAV)



### **TOP HOLDINGS (% NAV)**

Ticker	Company Name	Sector	% NAV	Mkt Cap (USD m)	P/E	Current P/B	ROE (%)
ТСВ	Vietnam Technological & Commercial Joint	Financials	7.37	8,267.03	10.11	1.42	14.76
СТБ	VietinBank	Financials	6.68	7,903.72	7.97	1.34	18.26
MBB	Military Commercial Joint Stock Bank	Financials	6.38	5,710.18	6.01	1.25	22.86
FPT	FPT Corp	Information Technology	5.77	6,631.89	20.74	5.34	27.95
ACB	Asia Commercial Bank	Financials	5.39	4,165.07	6.54	1.24	20.46

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## FUND PERFORMANCE COMMENTARY

The SCA fund increased by 6.45% in May 2025, compared to +8.67% for the VN-Index. In 5M2025, the SCA fund decreased by 4.05% compared to +5.20% for the VN-Index. At the end of May 2025, our top five holdings were TCB (7.4%), CTG (6.7%), MBB (6.4%), FPT (5.8%), and ACB (5.4%).

Notable stocks that contribute positively to the SCA Fund's total return:

- **TCB**: TCB's stock price increased in May due to (1) the positive recovery of the real estate sector, (2) expected net profit growth of +14% YoY in 2025, and (3) an attractive PB valuation multiple supported by long-term growth prospects.
- **STB**: STB's stock price increased in May due to (1) positive 1Q2025 business results, supported by efforts to restructure the business model, and (2) expectation that STB will complete its share auction in 2025.
- **GMD**: GMD's stock price increased in May due to (1) price plunge in Apr as being hit by the US's reciprocal tariff and (2) sustainable core business thanks to front-loading export event.
- NLG: NLG's stock price grew due to (1) the recovery of the real estate sector, (2) the acceleration of new project launches, and (3) strong expected business performance in 2025.
- **REE**: REE's stock price was positive in May due to (1) anticipated improvement in 2025 business results, supported by the recovery in hydropower output, and (2) strengthened long-term prospects of the renewable energy sector.



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## DISCLAIMER

Investors should carefully read the Prospectus, Fund Charter and relevant documents before making investment decisions and pay attention to fees when trading fund certificates.

Fund certificates are not certificates of deposits, negotiable instruments or valuable papers as prescribed in the banking sector, fixed income assets or guaranteed investment income assets.

The price of fund certificates may fluctuate according to market movements and investors may incur losses on their initial investment given unfavorable market conditions. This document should not be used for the purpose of accounting and tax recording or to make investment decisions. Please note that the past performance of investments is not necessarily indicative of future performance. The NAV per unit and the Fund's income can increase or decrease and could not be guaranteed by SSIAM. Investors should do their own research and/or consult experts' advice to make appropriate investment decisions.

VLGF is an absolute return fund and therefore, does not have any benchmark. VN-Index and VN30 performance in the factsheet is only used as a point of reference to provide information for investors.

### AWARDS



ALPHA SOUTHEAST ASIA THE ASSET		ASIANINVESTOR	ASIA ASSET MANAGEMENT		
<ul> <li>"Best Overall Asset &amp; Fund Manager" in 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024.</li> <li>"Best Fund Manager for Insurance, ILP Mandates &amp; Private Retirement Schemes" in 2020, 2021, 2023, 2024.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>"Asset Management Company of the Year - Vietnam" in 2012, 2014, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024.</li> <li>"Fund Management Company of the Year (Onshore)" in 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>"Best Asset Management Company in Vietnam" in 2010</li> <li>"Best Asset Management Company" in 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018</li> <li>"Best Business Development" in 2022</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>"Best Fund House in Vietnam" in 2012, 2013, 2016</li> <li>"CEO of the Year" for Ms. Le Thi Le Hang in 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2020, 2022</li> <li>"CIO of the Year" in 2013,</li> </ul>		
<ul> <li>"Best Fund Manager (Balanced Fund)" in 2021</li> <li>"Best online &amp; Mobile Platform (Asset Manager)" in 2024</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>"ETF Provider of the Year" in 2021</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>"Asset Management Market Awards – Vietnam" in 2024</li> </ul>	2014, 2015 • <b>"Fund Launch of the</b> Year" in 2020		

## **CONTACT INFORMATION**

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