

# WisdomTree European thematic monthly update

September 2023

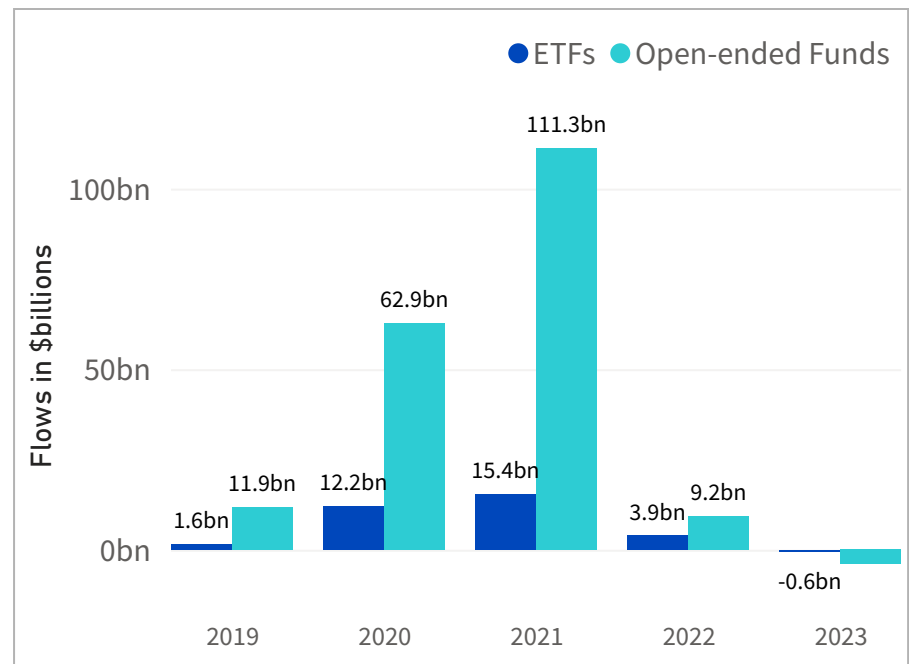
## Thematic universe overview

+ AUM in thematic Exchange Traded Funds (“ETFs”) and open-ended funds in Europe continued to shrink in September dropping by more than 6.5% to \$296 billion. The decrease was mostly driven by negative performance across themes. The end of September AUM is around 2.7% higher than at the end of December 2022, mostly due to positive performance across themes as flows continue to be negative at -\$4.6 billion year-to-date. ETFs’ market share remained steady at around 13%, with a total AUM of \$38.9 billion.

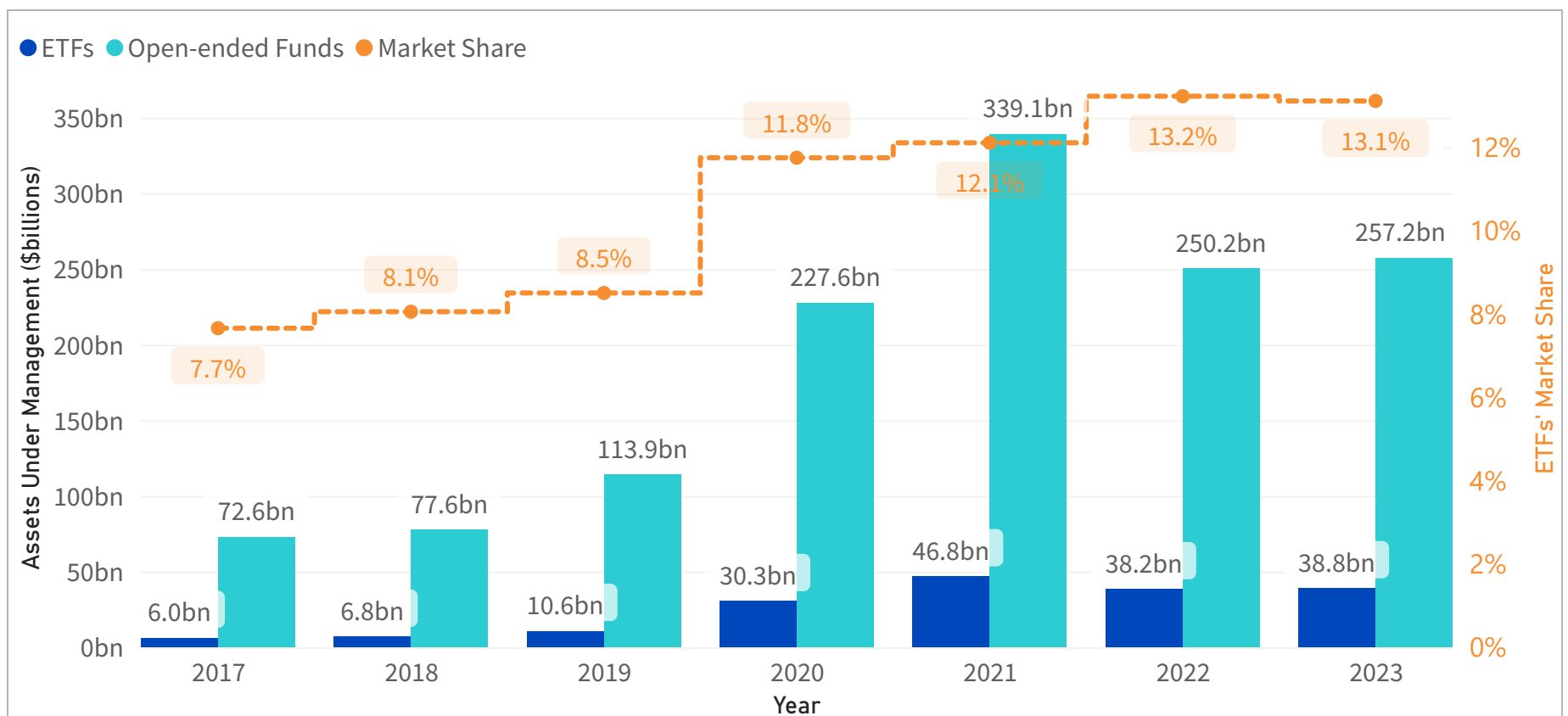
+ Performance in September was negative across all themes, with only 7 themes beating the MSCI ACWI. Year-to-date, 11 themes have outperformed the global equity benchmark, with the top 8 being all tech-related and led by "Semiconductors", "Blockchain" and "AI & Big Data".

+ Year-to-date flows are negative across both wrappers, but open-ended funds are responsible for 88% of the total outflows, predominantly within the "Environmental Pressures" and "Demographic & Social Shifts" clusters.

## Recent yearly flows in Europe



## Europe-domiciled thematic AUM evolution and ETFs’ market share



Source: WisdomTree, Morningstar, Bloomberg. All data as of 30/09/2023 and based on WisdomTree's internal classification of thematic funds. Performance is based on monthly returns from Bloomberg and Morningstar. More information on the WisdomTree Thematic classification can be found in the Appendix. **Historical performance is not an indication of future performance, and any investments may go down in value.**

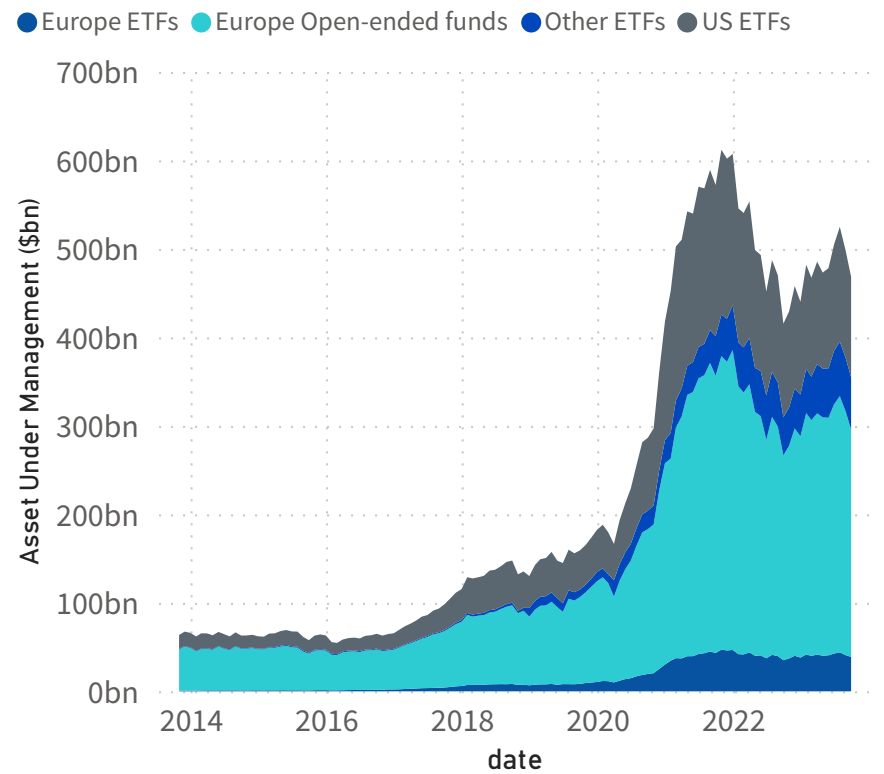
## Thematic universe overview (continued)

+ Joint AUM in global thematic ETFs and open-ended funds in Europe have dropped in September by 6% to \$468 billion but are still up \$28 billion compared to the end of last year. The drop in September was driven by the performance across tech-focused and green themes, while the outflows were mostly concentrated in green and socio-demographic themes.

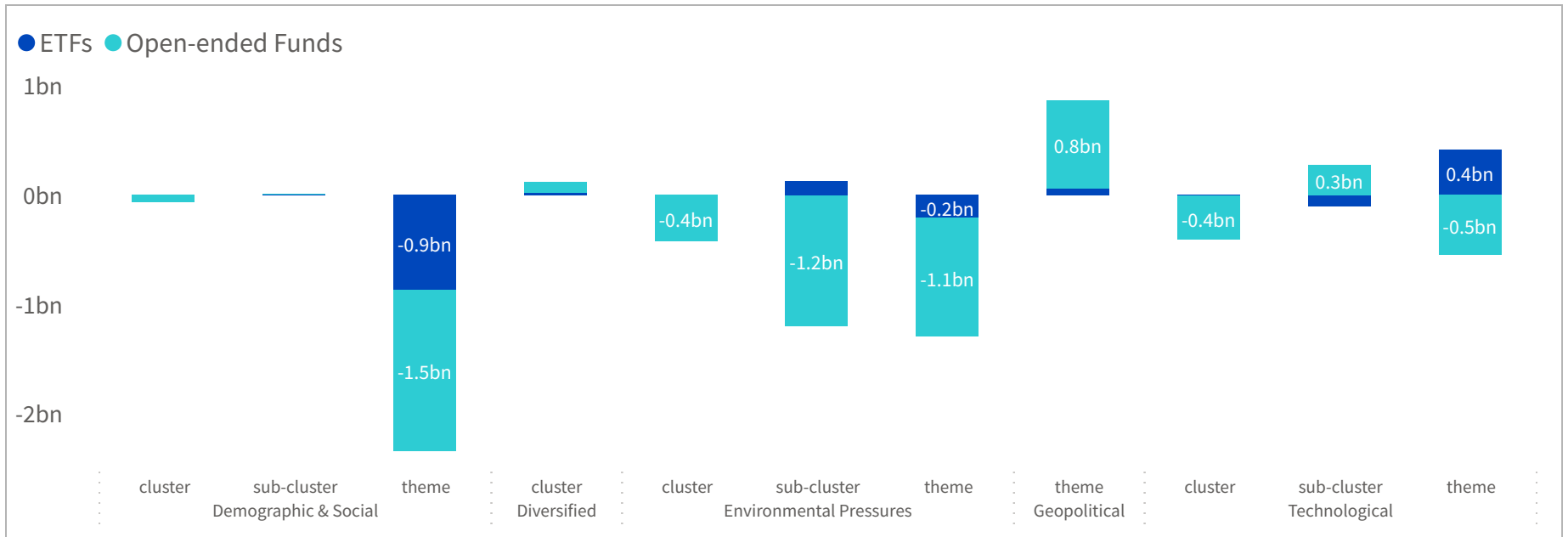
+ Year-to-date, European open-ended funds continued to gather most flows in the "Geopolitical Shifts" cluster and such themes as "China's Rise" and "Near/Reshoring". In turn, ETFs have seen the most flows in the "Technological Shifts" cluster with \$308 year-to-date inflows and strong flows specifically into "AI & Big Data" that outweighed redemptions in "Cybersecurity".

+ Year-to-date outflows in "Environmental Pressures" cluster have been mostly driven by redemptions in open-ended funds at the sub-cluster and theme level dominated by the outflows in food-related themes. Positive flows across the energy transition themes led by "Sustainable Energy Production" did not compensate the outflows. "Equality, Inclusion & Diversity" with -\$1.96 billion across both wrappers largely contributed to the outflows in the "Demographic and Social Shifts", while "Rise of the Middle Class", on the contrary, was the second best-gathering theme.

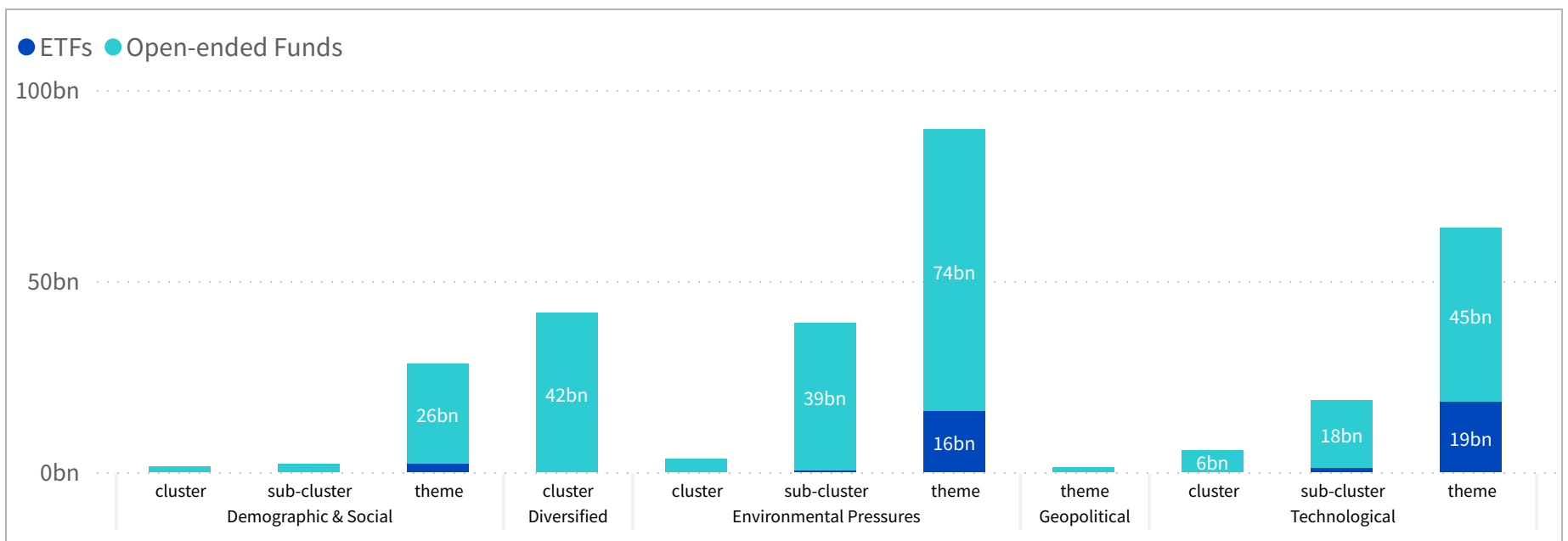
## AuM in Thematics by region (Last 10Y)



## YTD flows in Europe by wrapper in cluster, sub-cluster and focused themes



## AuM in Europe by wrapper in cluster, sub-cluster and focused themes



Source: WisdomTree, Morningstar, Bloomberg. All data as of 30/09/2023 and based on WisdomTree's internal classification of thematic funds. Performance is based on monthly returns from Bloomberg and Morningstar More information on the WisdomTree Thematic classification can be found in the Appendix. **Historical performance is not an indication of future performance, and any investments may go down in value.**

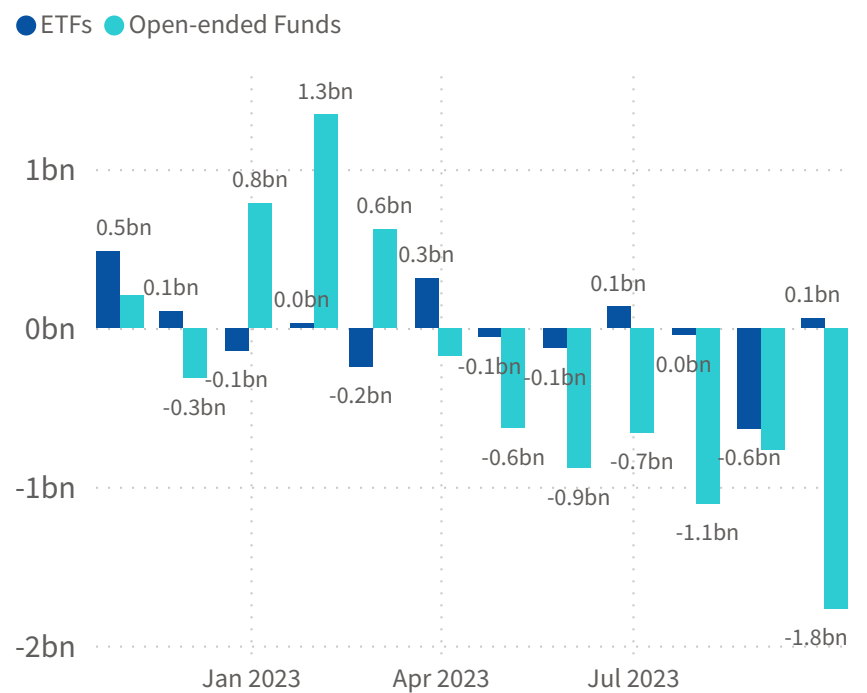
## Thematic flows in Europe

+ In 2023, September has been the worst month for flows into open-ended funds with investors redeeming around \$1.8 billion. At the same time, September marked fourth month in 2023 of net positive flows for ETFs with around \$60 million in. However, year-to-date flows are negative for both wrappers, with around \$0.6 billion and \$4 billion outflows respectively.

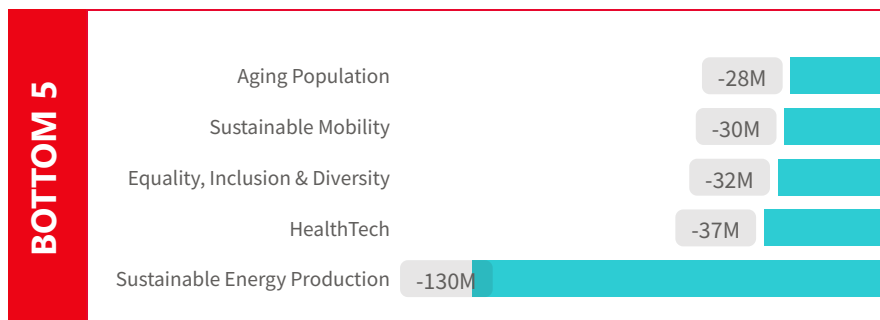
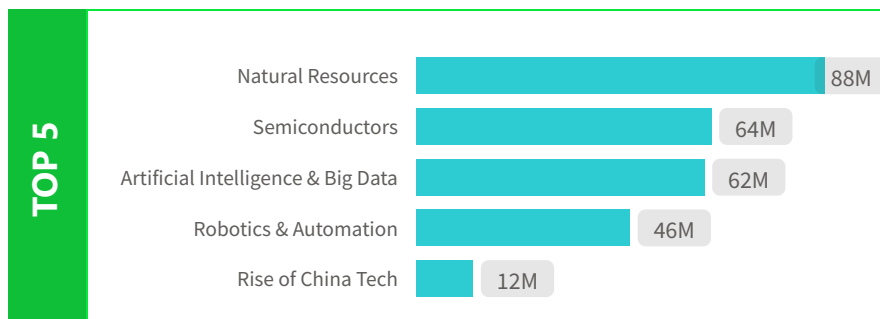
+ In September, "AI & Big Data" gathered most flows with the contribution from both wrappers and \$157 million of inflows. "Metaverse" followed with \$116 million and inflows from open-ended funds exclusively. Two other themes, "Semiconductors" and "Natural Resources" raised more than \$50 million. At the same time, the bottom 5 themes all lost more than \$100 million led by outflows in "Sustainable Energy Production" (-\$371) and "HealthTech" (-\$189m).

+ Year-to-date, "AI & Big Data" has climbed to the top spot having raised \$1.4 billion so far. "Rise of the Middle Class" and "Sustainable Energy Production" followed with \$0.8 billion and \$0.7 billion respectively. On the other end of the spectrum, "Equality, Inclusion & Diversity" and food-related themes are dominating the year-to-date outflows.

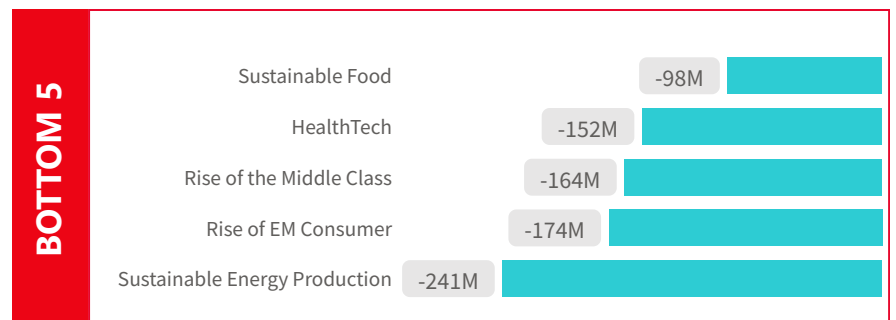
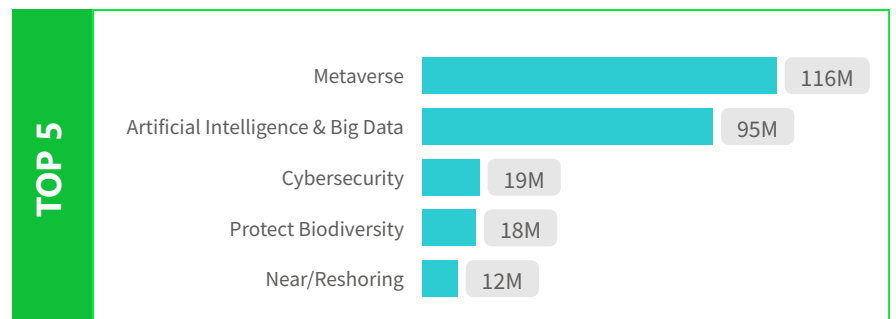
## Month-on-month thematic flows



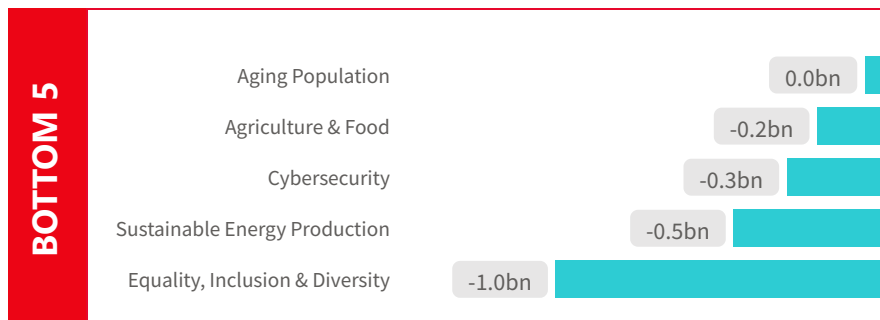
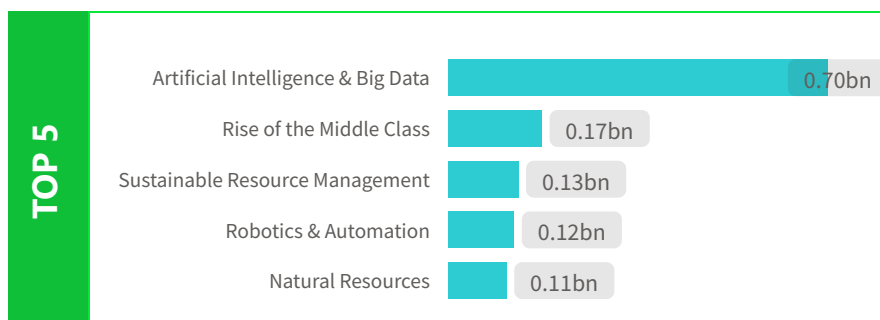
## September Top/Bottom flows in Europe ETFs



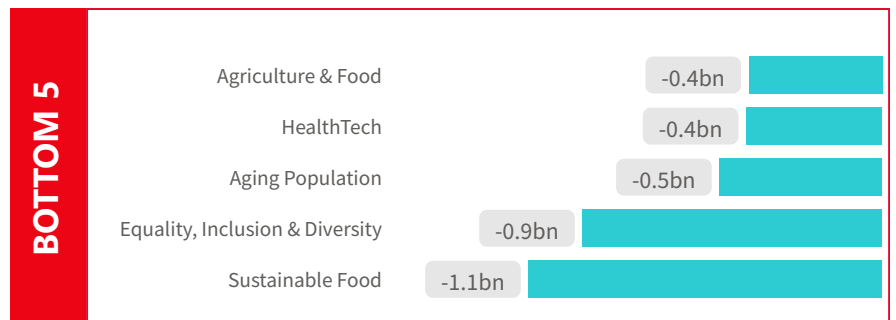
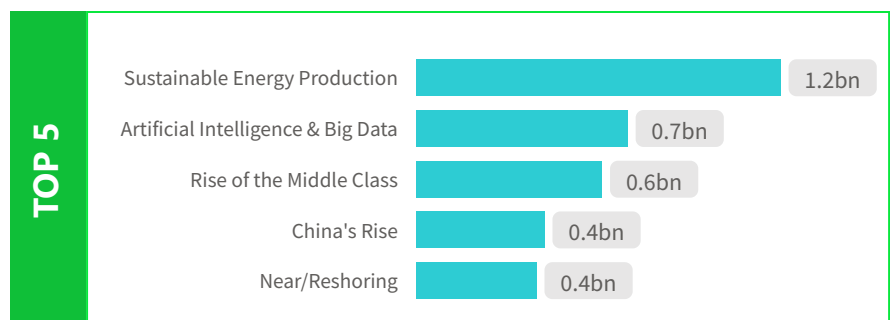
## September Top/Bottom flows in Mutual Funds



## YTD Top/Bottom flows in Europe ETFs



## YTD Top/Bottom flows in Mutual Funds



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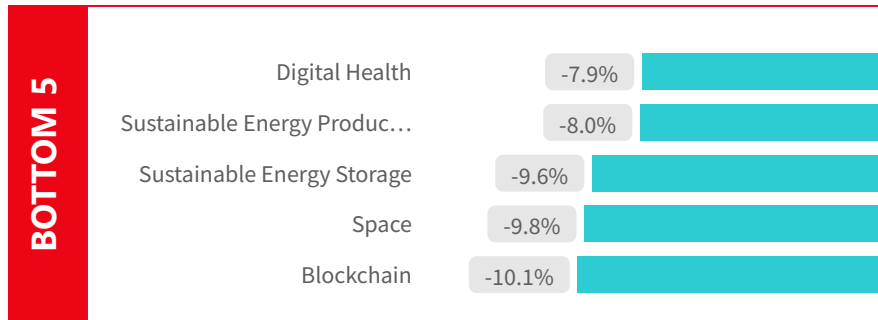
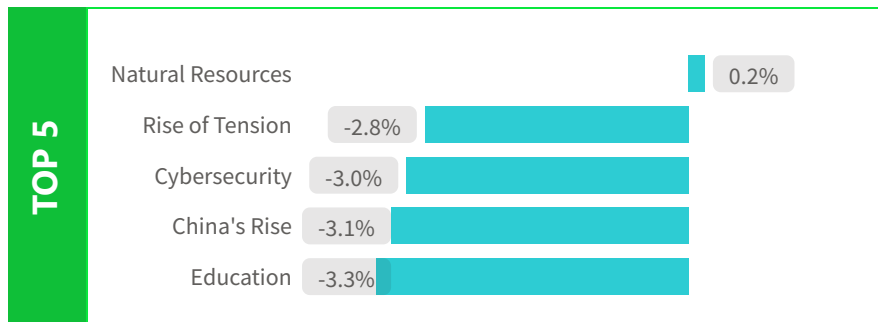
## Thematic performance and launches in Europe

+ Year-to-date, technology-focused thematics continue to occupy the top 5 themes by performance. "Semiconductors" together with "AI & Big Data", "Metaverse" and "Cybersecurity" have been propelled by the enthusiasm in generative AI applications. At the same time, "Blockchain" theme has been driven by renewed interest in bitcoin and related bitcoin miners and an expectation that a spot bitcoin ETF could be approved in the US. In turn, Chinese equities and energy transition related themes are dominating the bottom 5 themes. Notably, "Sustainable Energy Production", the worst-performing theme year-to-date, also saw a turn in investor sentiment and topped September outflows across themes.

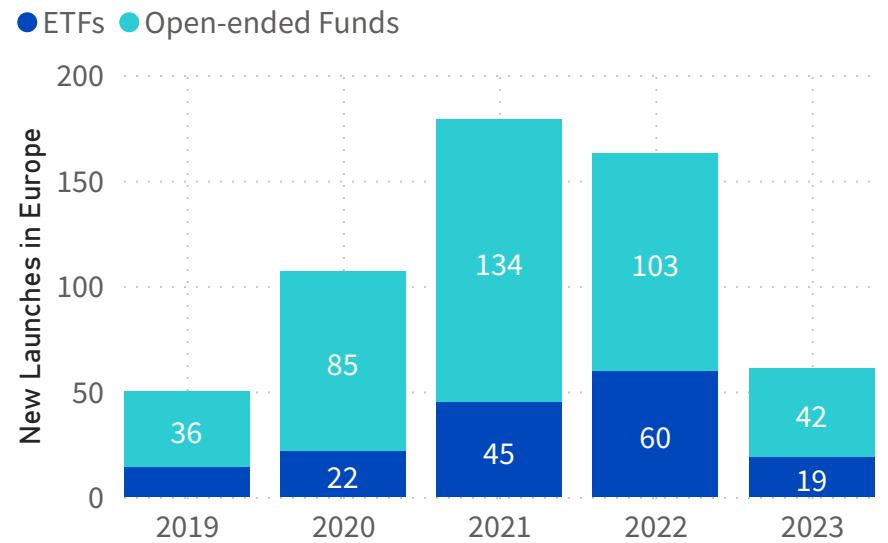
+ In September, all themes but one posted negative returns. However, 7 themes in total still beat MSCI ACWI. "Cybersecurity" was the only tech theme in the best top 5 where themes came from all four clusters in the WisdomTree Thematic classification. Tech and green themes dominated the bottom 5.

+ Year-to-date, thematic launches are by far behind the pace seen in 2022.

### Top 5/Bottom 5 by performance in September

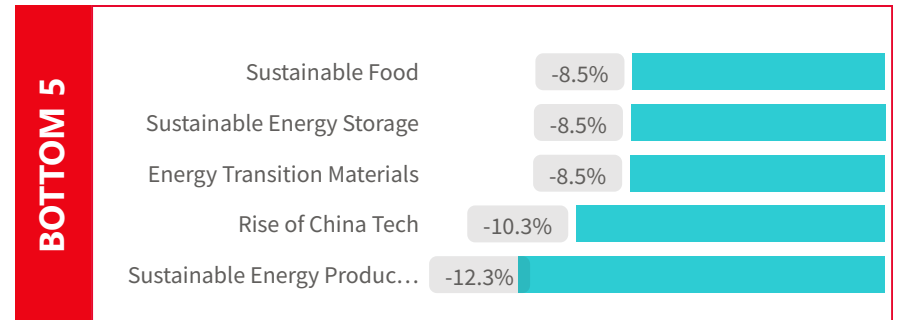
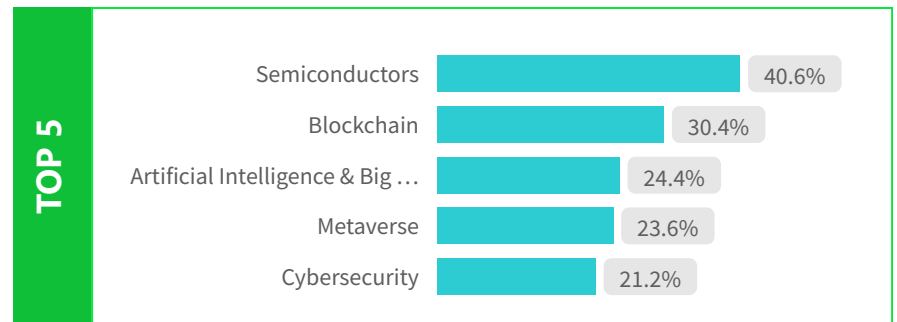


## Yearly thematic launches in Europe\*

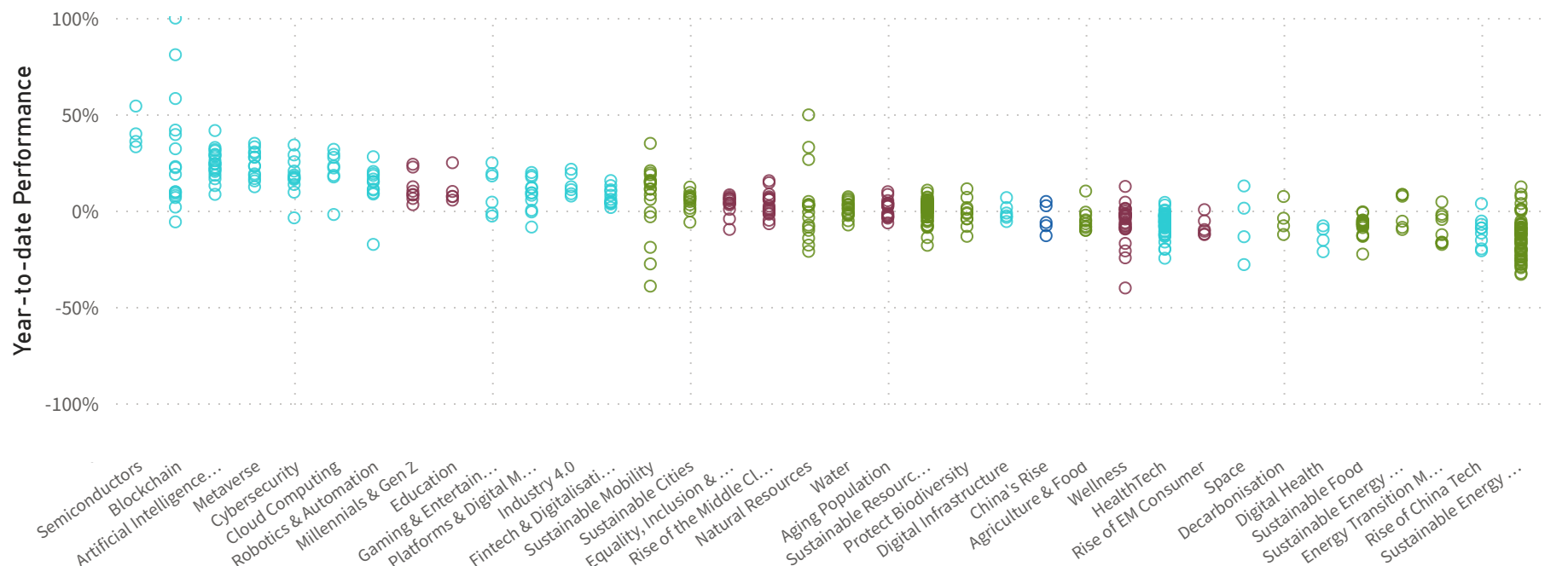


\* New launches are updated quarterly

### Top 5/Bottom 5 by YTD performance

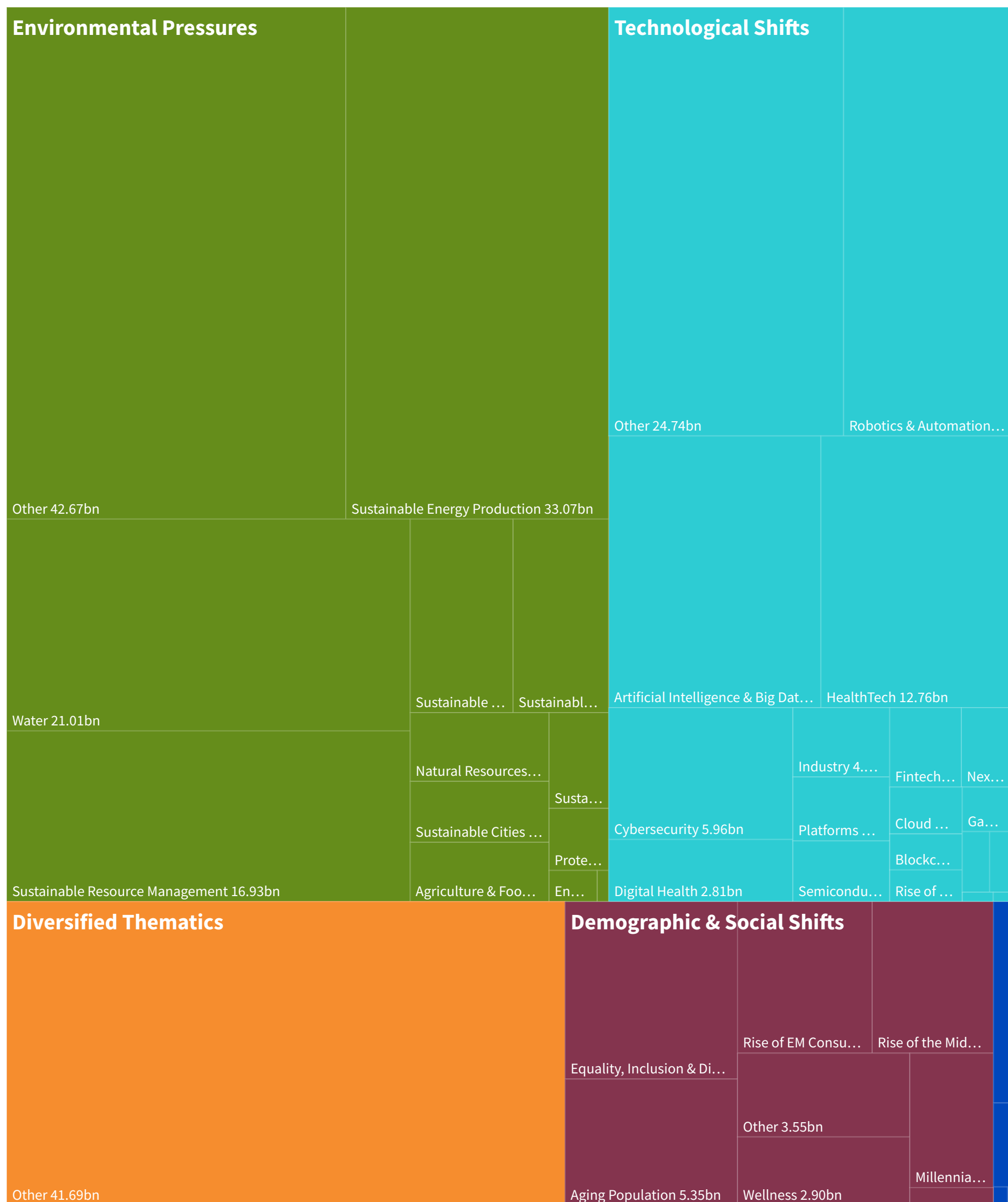


## Dispersion of YTD performance of all ETFs and mutual funds by themes in Europe



Source: WisdomTree, Morningstar, Bloomberg. All data as of 30/09/2023 and based on WisdomTree's internal classification of thematic funds. Performance is based on monthly returns from Bloomberg and Morningstar. More information on the WisdomTree Thematic classification can be found in the Appendix. **Historical performance is not an indication of future performance, and any investments may go down in value.**

## AUM per theme in ETFs and open-ended funds domiciled in Europe (\$billions)



Source: WisdomTree, Morningstar, Bloomberg. All data as of 30/09/2023 and based on WisdomTree's internal classification of thematic funds. Performance is based on monthly returns from Bloomberg and Morningstar More information on the WisdomTree Thematic classification can be found in the Appendix. **Historical performance is not an indication of future performance, and any investments may go down in value.**

## Appendix - Multi themes & diversified thematic ETFs and Open-ended funds

Cluster	Sub-Cluster	AuM (\$)	Flows Last Month (\$)	Flows YTD (\$)
Technological Shifts		5,824.75M	-12.30M	-406.64M
Technological Shifts	Disruptive Technologies	12,920.41M	-42.00M	87.45M
Technological Shifts	HyperConnectivity & Digitalisation	5,998.25M	-23.25M	84.51M
Environmental Pressures		3,547.04M	-0.72M	-420.49M
Environmental Pressures	Climate Change & Sustainability	39,115.06M	-434.83M	-1,065.28M
Environmental Pressures	Limited Resources	10.32M	-0.11M	-1.65M
Diversified Thematics		41,691.54M	-78.12M	117.30M
Demographic & Social Shifts		1,337.43M	-11.89M	-66.75M
Demographic & Social Shifts	Demographic Shifts	2,182.13M	1.60M	9.52M
Demographic & Social Shifts	Social Shifts	26.93M	-2.14M	0.12M

## Appendix - Theme focused ETFs and Open-ended funds

Theme Name	AuM (\$)	Flows Last Month (\$)	Flows YTD (\$)	Performance Last Month	Performance YTD
Artificial Intelligence & Big Data	14,171.27M	156.96M	1,384.42M	-4.9%	24.4%
Rise of the Middle Class	4,517.19M	-159.43M	771.78M	-7.8%	3.7%
Sustainable Energy Production	33,072.15M	-370.90M	708.42M	-8.0%	-12.3%
China's Rise	914.63M	-9.56M	411.10M	-3.1%	-2.8%
Near/Reshoring	381.06M	11.60M	387.46M	-3.9%	-2.5%
Metaverse	332.48M	115.58M	172.08M	-5.4%	23.6%
Protect Biodiversity	910.52M	17.58M	168.45M	-5.7%	0.2%
Energy Transition Materials	368.86M	-4.26M	122.10M	-4.8%	-8.5%
Internet of Things	406.88M	6.93M	98.92M	-4.9%	6.9%
Sustainable Mobility	4,551.95M	-74.84M	82.71M	-6.9%	5.1%
Industry 4.0	1,648.58M	8.43M	81.75M	-5.1%	8.5%
Rise of Tension	64.82M	4.40M	64.39M	-2.8%	13.8%
Semiconductors	1,443.02M	63.60M	50.15M	-7.3%	40.6%
Sustainable Energy Storage	1,403.93M	7.18M	34.36M	-9.6%	-8.5%
Cloud Computing	834.77M	6.05M	27.93M	-6.0%	21.1%
Rise of China Tech	564.91M	7.98M	18.50M	-5.0%	-10.3%
Space	42.89M	1.72M	16.12M	-9.8%	-6.3%
Global Logistics	18.83M	0.17M	3.02M	-5.6%	4.4%
Sustainable Resource Management	16,931.32M	-58.63M	-6.33M	-6.3%	1.1%
Blockchain	642.35M	-16.91M	-7.76M	-10.1%	30.4%
Decarbonisation	88.01M	-0.38M	-10.92M	-7.0%	-6.3%
Gaming & Entertainment	542.80M	-5.61M	-35.89M	-5.6%	9.7%
Platforms & Digital Markets	1,521.34M	-23.46M	-42.26M	-5.7%	9.2%
Digital Infrastructure	71.28M	-2.64M	-50.69M	-7.6%	-0.7%
Rise of EM Consumer	5,018.99M	-167.72M	-66.45M	-3.8%	-6.2%
Education	364.64M	-6.54M	-84.25M	-3.3%	11.1%
Millennials & Gen Z	2,763.44M	-21.61M	-138.83M	-5.8%	11.7%
Robotics & Automation	17,734.01M	37.77M	-167.90M	-6.1%	13.9%
Water	21,006.72M	-73.10M	-187.89M	-6.5%	1.4%
NextGen Communications	985.55M	-16.38M	-196.38M	-4.7%	16.9%
Natural Resources	2,341.89M	77.22M	-227.78M	0.2%	2.7%
Sustainable Cities	2,079.19M	-5.26M	-229.05M	-5.3%	5.0%
Cybersecurity	5,960.79M	30.19M	-246.21M	-3.0%	21.2%
Wellness	2,895.63M	-40.95M	-309.50M	-5.7%	-5.7%
Fintech & Digitalisation of Finance	1,398.81M	-28.33M	-374.78M	-6.3%	8.4%
Digital Health	2,811.06M	-61.56M	-390.71M	-7.9%	-7.3%
HealthTech	12,756.81M	-189.21M	-462.32M	-5.8%	-6.2%
Aging Population	5,347.91M	-88.31M	-552.24M	-5.5%	1.3%
Agriculture & Food	2,022.09M	-34.04M	-612.74M	-5.2%	-5.1%
Sustainable Food	4,892.31M	-102.65M	-1,138.43M	-6.2%	-8.5%
Equality, Inclusion & Diversity	7,517.94M	-92.77M	-1,961.22M	-4.9%	4.0%

Source: WisdomTree, Morningstar, Bloomberg. All data as of 30/09/2023 and based on WisdomTree's internal classification of thematic funds. Performance is based on monthly returns from Bloomberg and Morningstar. More information on the WisdomTree Thematic classification can be found in the Appendix. **Historical performance is not an indication of future performance, and any investments may go down in value.**

## Appendix - Definitions

The WisdomTree Thematic classification is built around 4 main thematic clusters

### Technological Shifts

This cluster focuses on the different themes that originate from the introduction of new technologies and innovation. It incorporates disruptive and emerging technologies as well as their impact on societies and economies, such as the increasing digitalisation and connectivity of the world.

### Demographic and Social Shifts

This cluster focuses on the themes that originate from changes in population and societies alike. For example, it incorporates changes in the world's pyramid of age, the impact of the growing, younger, wealthier populations in emerging markets, as well as changes to societal values and lifestyles.

### Environmental Pressures

Focusing on the environment and, more importantly, on the impact of human activities on the planet, this cluster incorporates changes driven by sustainability issues, the increasing scarcity of resources and the need to address global warming and climate change.

### Geopolitical Shifts

This cluster focuses on the themes driven by the globalisation and the changes in the global geopolitical order with the rise of new geopolitical powers like China. It also taps into the increasing polarisation of modern societies as a counterforce to globalisation.

All thematic ETFs and open-ended funds in the WisdomTree Thematic classification are classified into

- **Diversified thematics**, if they try to harness a large number of megatrends in one go. Those funds tend to have a very diluted focus, which could mean that it might be harder to find sources of potential differentiation against a broad market benchmark.
- **A specific cluster**, if they try to harness multiple themes across sub-clusters but within one particular cluster. For example, a fund investing in Artificial Intelligence, Robotics, Cloud, and Cybersecurity would be classified as a 'Technological Shifts' fund.
- **A particular sub cluster**, if a strategy aims to invest in most of the themes within that sub-cluster. For example, a fund investing in Cloud Computing, Platforms, Cybersecurity, and Fintech would be classified as a 'Hyperconnectivity & Digitalisation' fund.
- **A theme**, if the investment strategy is focused on a specific, clear theme.

**YTD** stands for Year to Date

**MTD** stands for Month to Date

For all of our calculations, we use the WisdomTree Thematic Classification that we have previously introduced here and can be found in the next page.

**Performance of a theme.** For any given theme, we consider each month all the ETFs and open-ended funds classified in that specific theme that have published a monthly return for that month in Morningstar. We then calculate the average of all those monthly returns to compute the average monthly return for that theme. So, the monthly return for January 2020 for the theme may include 19 funds, while the February 2020 return may comprise 21 funds (if two funds classified in that theme have been launched in the meantime). By collating monthly returns for the theme, we get the theme's average historical performance. Therefore, the theme's average historical performance incorporates every ETF, and open-ended fund focused on this theme. The theme's average historical performance is not biased towards surviving funds or successful funds. Every fund alive in a given month is included irrespective of its future survival or success. Investments that try to focus on multiple themes and, therefore, classified either at Cluster or Sub-Cluster Level are not included.

# The WisdomTree Thematic Classification

DIVERSIFIED THEMATICS							
TECHNOLOGICAL SHIFTS		DEMOGRAPHIC AND SOCIAL SHIFTS		GEOPOLITICAL SHIFTS		ENVIRONMENTAL PRESSURES	
DISRUPTIVE TECHNOLOGIES	HYPER CONNECTIVITY & DIGITALISATION	DEMOGRAPHIC SHIFTS	SOCIAL SHIFTS	GLOBALISATION	MULTI-POLARITY	CLIMATE CHANGE & SUSTAINABILITY	LIMITED RESOURCES
Artificial Intelligence & Big Data	Cloud Computing	Aging Population	Education	Global Logistics	China's Rise	Decarbonisation	Agriculture & Food
Rise of China Tech		Millennials & Gen Z	Equality, Inclusion & Diversity		Political Polarisation	Protect Biodiversity	Natural Resources
Blockchain	Cybersecurity		Rise of the Middle Class		Rise of Tension	Sustainable Mobility	Water
HealthTech	Digital Health		Rise of EM Consumer		Near/Reshoring	Sustainable Energy Production	
Industry 4.0	Digital Infrastructure		Wellness			Sustainable Energy Storage	
Next Gen Communications	Fintech & Digitalisation of Finance					Sustainable Food	
Robotics & Automation	Gaming & Entertainment					Sustainable Cities	
Semiconductors	Internet of Things					Sustainable Resource Management	
Smart Materials & Nano Tech	Metaverse					Extreme Events	
Space	Platforms & Digital Markets					Energy Transition Materials	
	Social Media & Media						

Source: WisdomTree, as of 30/06/2023

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