

# Japan Value Equity SRI

November 2025

## Strategy

SRI Strategy invests in Japanese equities which meet the criteria of ESG (Environmental, Social, Governance) management and investment value, and aims to achieve above benchmark return in the mid- to long-term. Our equity investment takes a bottom-up approach in which the Japanese equity research team analyzes intrinsic value of individual stocks and compares it with market price in order to identify undervalued stocks. ESG research is conducted by Sompo Risk Management, which is a leading company in domestic ESG research.

## Market Review

The Japanese market remained firm in November, despite alarm over the high prices of AI and data centre stocks putting downward pressure on prices as expectations for a rate cut by the Fed in December supported sentiment. The mining and real estate sectors saw growth because of strong Jul-Sep earnings and the announcement of bolstered shareholder returns. The info & Comms sector fell because of heightened concerns of increased competition in the AI space. In the first half of the month, fears of an economic slowdown receded following the end of the US government shutdown. The Japanese market rose on the back of strong Jul-Sep earnings results. Share prices then fell as investors stood back in anticipation of results announcements from US semiconductor majors and top US finance professionals began to sound the alarm on stretched valuations. The market then bounced back upwards through the end of the month as expectations for a rate cut grew on comments from top Fed officials that they will support a cut at the December FOMC meeting. Long-term rates rose in Japan because of increased concerns over government finances caused by the Takaichi cabinet's economic support measures. Subsequent JPY depreciation focused investors buying activity mainly on exporters, leading to growth in the Japanese market.

### Composite Performance (%) Excess Return\*



	Nov	QTD	YTD	1Y	3Y	5Y	7Y	10Y	SI
<b>Composite</b>	4.86	7.05	23.33	26.82	19.34	17.09	11.10	8.74	7.84
<b>Benchmark</b>	1.42	7.71	24.18	29.17	22.33	16.78	13.34	10.46	7.49

### Composite Summary

<b>Composite Name</b>	Sompo Japan SRI Mother Fund	
<b>Benchmark</b>	TOPIX Total Return**	
<b>Inception Date</b>	January 2005	
<b>Number of Holdings</b>	40	
<b>Bloomberg Code</b>	SNAMSRI	
<b>Assets Under Management</b>	Strategy Total	JPY 2.3B (USD 15M)

Top Ten Holdings	%
MURATA MANUFACTURING CO LTD	4.62
MITSUBISHI ESTATE CO LTD	4.12
KUBOTA CORP	3.96
KIRIN HOLDINGS CO LTD	3.92
NTT INC	3.82
SAN-IN GODO BANK LTD/THE	3.72
SUMITOMO MITSUI TRUST GROUP	3.61
TAIKISHA LTD	3.61
KAO CORP	3.53
OMRON CORP	3.52
<b>Total</b>	<b>38.46</b>

### Characteristics

	Portfolio	Benchmark
P/E	15.17x	15.57x
P/B	1.15x	1.58x
ROE	7.55%	10.12%
Dividend Yield	2.85%	2.37%

### Market Cap

	Portfolio	Benchmark
Large	51.7%	67.8%
Mid	34.2%	25.0%
Small	12.6%	7.2%
Others	0.0%	-

\* Excess return figures are annualized for three years and longer.

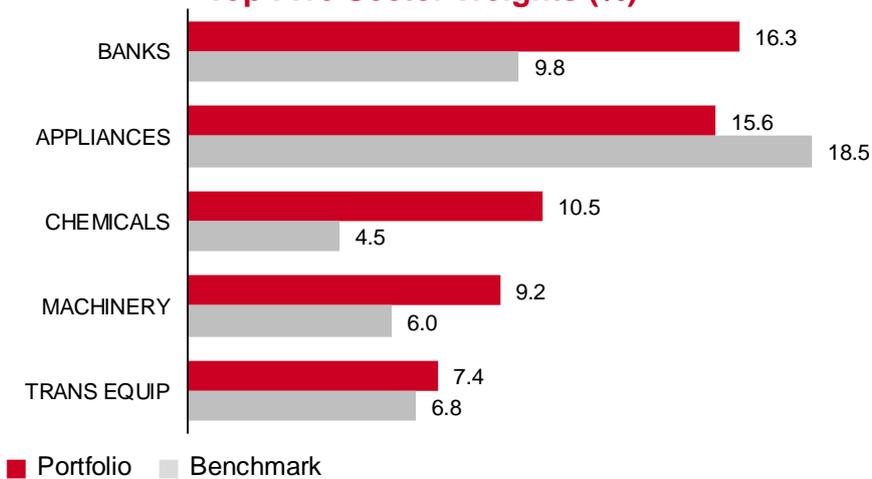
\*\* TOPIX Total Return Index includes the dividends paid by the index constituents.

The data shown is of a representative account. Past performance is not a guarantee of future returns.

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## Top Five Sector Weights (%)



**Masako Chikuma, CMA, CFA**  
 Senior Portfolio Manager  
 22 years investment experience  
 11 years at Sompo AM

## Attribution Analysis

Both sector allocation and stock selection contributed to performance. In sector allocation, overweighting (OW) of Banks and Real Estate and underweighting (UW) of Info & Comm contributed to performance, while UW of Wholesale and Retail and OW of Machinery detracted. In stock selection, UW of SoftBank Group and OW of Isuzu Motors and Astellas Pharma contributed to performance, while OW of Sumco, Omron, and Murata Manufacturing detracted. Last month we increased holdings of Sumco, Socionext, and NTT and decreased holdings of Obayashi, Isuzu Motors, and Astellas Pharma.

## Outlook

We urge caution over the near term given that despite the recent market correction centring on some overvalued AI stocks, valuation metrics like forward P/E are still not at undervalued levels given continued expectations around further rate cuts in the US and increased investment in AI. However, corporate earnings forecasts have been recovering since the Japan and the US came to an agreement on tariffs and we expect further improvements as companies revise their conservative assumptions. We do not foresee any large fall in the Japanese market as there is strong equity demand from a high level of large-scale share buybacks and the BoJ has relatively accommodative monetary policy compared to the US and Europe. We believe it will still take some time before we see serious fundamentals-driven market growth but given forecasts for earnings growth next year and beyond, we believe we are currently in the midst of a medium to long-term growth period.

## Contact Information

Daniel Robbins  
 +81 3 5290 3414

Group email: [global@sompo-am.co.jp](mailto:global@sompo-am.co.jp)

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