

Northern Trust | The Growth Potential of the Natural Resources Market

Around the world populations and living standards are increasing. With more people demanding more goods, global markets are potentially in the early stages of what could be an extended period of demand expansion for natural resources-- the energy, food, metals, and other materials that drive flourishing economies. That's why Flex Shares designed the Global Upstream Natural Resources Index Fund.

This fund is designed to give investors a focused and convenient way to participate in this potential rising global demand for natural resources. Unlike some funds, we do this by focusing on the upstream segment of the resource supply chain. The upstream segment refers to the beginning of the supply chain when resources are extracted from the ground and sold to producers.

The producers of these goods are called the downstream component and historically have been negatively affected by rising resource prices. By adding focused exposure to the upstream market, however, we believe investors can minimize the risk of rising resource prices to their downstream investments. This fund is built by focusing on global companies in the key upstream sectors-- energy, metals, and agriculture-- balanced with core investments in the timber and water industries.

By taking a diversified approach, the fund seeks to prevent overexposure to any one area in the natural resources field. The fund is then continually rebalanced using our insightful rules-based methodology. As global prosperity and demand for natural resources rise, our upstream index fund provides a great way to build your exposure to the growth potential of the natural resources market. Flex Shares-- built by investors for investors.