

**VanEck Geared Australian Equal Weight Fund
(Hedge Fund)
(ASX Code: GMVW)**

ARSN 665 297 281

Interim report

For the half-year ended 31 December 2024

VanEck Geared Australian Equal Weight Fund (Hedge Fund) (ASX Code: GMVW)

ARSN 665 297 281

Interim report For the half-year ended 31 December 2024

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This interim report does not include all the notes of the type normally included in an annual report. Accordingly, this interim report is to be read in conjunction with the annual report for the period ended 30 June 2024 and any public announcements made in respect of VanEck Geared Australian Equal Weight Fund (Hedge Fund) during the interim reporting period in accordance with the continuous disclosure requirements of the *Corporations Act 2001*.

Directors' report

VanEck Investments Limited (ACN 146 596 116) is the responsible entity of the VanEck Geared Australian Equal Weight Fund (Hedge Fund) ('Responsible Entity').

The Responsible Entity board of directors ('Directors') of the VanEck Geared Australian Equal Weight Fund (Hedge Fund) (the 'Fund'), present their report together with the financial statements of the Fund for the half-year ended 31 December 2024.

Fund information

The Fund is an Australian registered managed investment scheme.

The Responsible Entity's registered office is located at Level 47, Suite 2, 25 Martin Place, Sydney, NSW, Australia, 2000.

Principal activities

The Fund is traded on the Australian Securities Exchange ('ASX') as an exchange traded fund. The Fund is managed by the Responsible Entity in accordance with the Fund's scheme constitution ('Constitution') and product disclosure statement ('PDS').

The Fund generally invests in a portfolio of the largest and most liquid ASX-listed companies, all equally weighted, via holding VanEck Australian Equal Weight ETF (ASX Code: MVW) units, and are partially funded by secured borrowings.

The Fund did not have any employees during the half-year.

There were no significant changes in the nature of the Fund's activities during the half-year.

Directors

The following persons held office as Directors of the Responsible Entity during the half-year ended 31 December 2024 and up to the date of this report:

Jan van Eck
Arian Neiron
Michael Brown
Jonathan Simon
Lee Rappaport

Review and results of operations

The Fund invested in accordance with the Fund's PDS and the provisions of the Fund's Constitution.

The Fund generally invests in a portfolio of the largest and most liquid ASX-listed companies and aims to give investors geared exposure to the MVW. During the half-year ended 31 December 2024, the Fund primarily achieved its investment objective by holding units in the VanEck Geared Australian Equal Weight (Hedged) ETF (ASX code: GMVW) in accordance with the Fund's PDS and Constitution. VanEck Investments is the Responsible Entity of GMVW.

Directors' report (continued)

Review and results of operations (continued)

Results

The performance of the Fund, as represented by the results of its operations, was as follows:

	Half-year ended 31 December 2024
Profit/(loss) attributable to unitholders (\$'000)	1,028
Distribution to unitholders (\$'000)	123
Distribution (cents per unit - CPU)	35.00

Distribution (cents per unit - CPU) in the above table includes distributions paid during the financial half-year ended and the distribution that was payable as at 31 December 2024. Refer to the Notes to the financial statements 6 for further information.

Significant changes in the state of affairs

In the opinion of the Directors, there were no significant changes in the state of affairs of the Fund that occurred during the financial half-year.

Matters subsequent to the end of the financial half-year

The Fund declared a distribution per unit on 31 December 2024 and which was paid to entitled unitholders on 21 January 2025.

This subsequently paid distribution is set out in *Review and results of operations* section under the Director's report and under the *Distributions to unitholders* section in the Notes to the financial statements.

Except as disclosed above, no other matter or circumstance has arisen since 31 December 2024 that has significantly affected, or may significantly affect:

- (i) the operations of the Fund in future financial years;
- (ii) the results of those operations in future financial years; or
- (iii) the state of affairs of the Fund in future financial years.

Rounding of amounts to the nearest thousand dollars

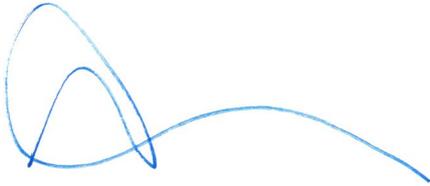
The Fund is an entity of a kind referred to in ASIC Corporations (Rounding in Financial/Directors' Reports) Instrument 2016/191 issued by the Australian Securities and Investments Commission ('ASIC') relating to the 'rounding off' of amounts in the Directors' report. Amounts in the Directors' report have been rounded to the nearest thousand dollars in accordance with that ASIC Corporations Instrument, unless otherwise indicated.

Directors' report (continued)

Auditor's independence declaration

A copy of the Auditor's independence declaration as required under section 307C of the *Corporations Act 2001* is set out on page 5.

This report is made in accordance with a resolution of the Directors.



Michael Brown
Director

Sydney
4 March 2025



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Auditor's independence declaration to the directors of VanEck Investments Limited, as Responsible Entity for VanEck Geared Australian Equal Weight Fund (Hedge Fund)

As lead auditor for the review of the interim financial report of VanEck Geared Australian Equal Weight Fund (Hedge Fund) for the half-year ended 31 December 2024, I declare to the best of my knowledge and belief, there have been:

- a. No contraventions of the auditor independence requirements of the *Corporations Act 2001* in relation to the review;
- b. No contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the review; and
- c. No non-audit services provided that contravene any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the review.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ernst & Young".

Ernst & Young

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rita Da Silva".

Rita Da Silva
Partner
Sydney
4 March 2025

Statement of comprehensive income

	Half-year ended 31 December 2024 \$'000
Investment income	
Distribution income	515
Net gains on financial instruments at fair value through profit or loss	901
Total investment income	1,416
Expenses	
Interest expense	388
Total operating expenses	388
Profit for the half-year	1,028
Other comprehensive income for the half-year	-
Total comprehensive income for the half-year	1,028

The above Statement of comprehensive income should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Statement of financial position

		As at	
		31 December 2024	30 June 2024
	Notes	\$'000	\$'000
Assets			
Cash and cash equivalents		20	-
Due from brokers - receivable for securities sold		-	1,925
Receivables		-	1,785
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	3, 4	<u>29,491</u>	<u>19,761</u>
Total assets		<u>29,511</u>	<u>23,471</u>
Liabilities			
Loan		15,782	10,743
Due to brokers - payable for securities purchased		-	3,710
Interest payable		384	112
Payables		20	-
Distributions payable	6	<u>123</u>	<u>380</u>
Total liabilities		<u>16,309</u>	<u>14,945</u>
Net assets attributable to unitholders - Equity		<u>13,202</u>	<u>8,526</u>

The above Statement of financial position should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Statement of changes in equity

	Notes	Half-year ended 31 December 2024 \$'000
Total equity at the beginning of the half-year		8,526
Issue of redeemable participating units		3,760
Units issued upon reinvestment of distributions		11
Comprehensive income for the half-year		1,028
Distributions	6	<u>(123)</u>
Total equity at the end of the half-year		<u>13,202</u>

Movement in units issued are disclosed in Note 5 to the financial statements.

The above Statement of changes in equity should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Statement of cash flows

	Half-year ended 31 December 2024 \$'000
Cash flows from operating activities	
Proceeds from sale of financial instruments at fair value through profit or loss	1,992
Purchase of financial instruments at fair value through profit or loss	(14,531)
Distributions received (net of withholding tax)	515
Interest paid	(116)
Other income received	20
Net cash outflow from operating activities	(12,120)
Cash flows from financing activities	
Proceeds from applications by unitholders	5,545
Distributions paid	(369)
Proceeds from loan	6,964
Net cash inflow from financing activities	12,140
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents	20
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the half-year	-
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the half-year	20

The above Statement of cash flows should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Contents of the notes to the financial statements

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1 General information

These financial statements for the half-year ended 31 December 2024 cover the VanEck Geared Australian Equal Weight Fund (Hedge Fund) (the 'Fund') as an individual entity. The Fund was registered on 7 February 2023 and started trading on ASX on 29 February 2024. The Fund will terminate in accordance with the provisions of the Fund's Constitution.

VanEck Investments Limited (ACN 146 596 116) is the responsible entity of the Fund ('Responsible Entity'). The Responsible Entity's registered office is Level 47, Suite 2, 25 Martin Place, Sydney, NSW, Australia, 2000.

These financial statements are presented in Australian dollars, which is the Fund's functional and presentation currency.

The Fund generally invests in a portfolio of the largest and most liquid ASX-listed companies, all equally weighted, via holding VanEck Australian Equal Weight ETF (ASX Code: MVW) units, and are partially funded by secured borrowings in accordance with the provisions of the Fund's Constitution and Product Disclosure Statement ('PDS').

The financial statements were authorised for issue by the Directors on 4 March 2025. The Directors of the Responsible Entity have the power to amend and reissue the financial statements.

State Street Australia Limited ('State Street') is administrator of the Fund. State Street provides certain fund administration services, such as fund accounting and unit pricing, for the Fund. HSBC Bank Australia Limited ('HSBC Australia') is the Fund's custodian ('Custodian'). Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited is the lender to the Fund. HSBC Australia is a related body corporate of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited. In this report, 'Custodian' also refers to the lender. MUFG Corporate Markets (formerly known as Link Market Services Limited) is the registrar to maintain the Fund's register of unitholders.

2 Basis of preparation of interim report

These interim financial statements for the half-year ended 31 December 2024 have been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards AASB 134 *Interim Financial Reporting* and Interpretations issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board ('AASB') and the *Corporations Act 2001* in Australia. Compliance with AASB 134 ensures compliance with International Financial Reporting Standards IAS 34 *Interim Financial Reporting*.

The interim financial statements do not include all the notes of the type normally included in annual financial statements. Accordingly, these condensed financial statements are to be read in conjunction with the annual financial statements for the period ended 30 June 2024 and any public announcements made in respect of the Fund during the interim reporting period in accordance with the continuous disclosure requirements of the *Corporations Act 2001*.

The Fund is a for-profit fund for the purpose of preparing the financial statements.

The financial statements are prepared on the basis of fair value measurement of assets and liabilities except where otherwise stated.

The Statement of financial position is presented on a liquidity basis.

Assets and liabilities are presented in decreasing order of liquidity and are not distinguished between current and non-current. All balances are expected to be recovered or settled within twelve months, except for investments in financial assets at fair value through profit or loss and net assets attributable to unitholders.

The Fund manages financial assets at fair value through profit or loss based on the economic circumstances at any given point in time, as well as to meet any liquidity requirements. As such, it is expected that a portion of the portfolio will be realised within twelve months, however, an estimate of that amount cannot be determined as at reporting date.

In the case of net assets attributable to unitholders, the units are redeemable on demand at the unitholders' option. However, holders of these instruments typically retain them for the medium to long term. As such, the amount expected to be settled within twelve months cannot be reliably determined.

(a) Material accounting policies

The material accounting policies adopted in the preparation of these financial statements are consistent with those applied in the preparation of the Fund's financial statements for the period ended 30 June 2024.

2 Basis of preparation of interim report (continued)

(b) New and amended standards adopted

There are no other standards, interpretations or amendments to existing standards that are effective for the first time for the half-year beginning 1 July 2024 that have a material impact on the amounts recognised in the prior periods or will affect the current or future periods.

(c) New standards and interpretations not yet adopted

The following new and revised Australian Accounting Standard, Interpretation and amendment that has been issued but not yet effective is in the process of assessment:

- AASB 18 *Presentation and Disclosure in Financial Statements* which will be effective 1 January 2027

(d) Revised applicable standards and interpretations

Other new standards, amendments to standards and interpretations are not yet effective for the half-year beginning 1 July 2024 and have not been early adopted in preparing these interim financial statements. None of these are expected to have material effect on the interim financial statements of the Fund.

(e) Interim measurement

The nature of the Fund's operations is such that income and expenses are incurred in a manner which is not impacted by any form of seasonality.

This interim report is prepared based upon an accrual concept, which requires income and expenses to be recorded as earned or incurred and not as received or paid throughout the period.

There have been no changes in the risk management policies and processes of the Fund since year end.

3 Fair value measurement

The Fund measures and recognises the following assets and liabilities at fair value on a recurring basis:

- Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss (see Note 4)

The Fund has no assets or liabilities measured at fair value on a non-recurring basis in the current reporting period.

AASB 13 requires disclosure of fair value measurements by level of the following fair value hierarchy:

- quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets or liabilities (level 1);
- inputs other than quoted prices included within level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly or indirectly (level 2); and
- inputs for the asset or liability that are not based on observable market data (unobservable inputs) (level 3).

(i) Fair value in an active market (level 1)

The fair value of financial assets and liabilities traded in active markets is based on their quoted market prices at the end of the reporting period without any deduction for estimated future selling costs.

The Fund values its investments in accordance with the accounting policies set out in Note 2 to the annual financial statements.

The quoted market price used for financial assets held by the Fund is the last traded price; the appropriate quoted market price for financial liabilities is the last traded price. When the Fund holds derivatives with offsetting market risks, it uses mid-market prices as a basis for establishing fair values for the offsetting risk positions and applies this last traded price to the net open position, as appropriate.

3 Fair value measurement (continued)

(i) Fair value in an active market (level 1) (continued)

A financial instrument is regarded as quoted in an active market if quoted prices are readily and regularly available from an exchange, dealer, broker, industry group, pricing service, or regulatory agency, and those prices represent actual and regularly occurring market transactions on an arm's length basis.

(ii) Valuation techniques used to derive level 2 and level 3 fair value

The fair value of financial assets and liabilities that are not traded in an active market is determined using valuation techniques. These include the use of recent arm's length market transactions, reference to the current fair value of a substantially similar other instrument, discounted cash flow techniques, option pricing models or any other valuation technique that provides a reliable estimate of prices obtained in actual market transactions.

Where discounted cash flow techniques are used, estimated future cash flows are based on management's best estimates and the discount rate used is a market rate at the end of the reporting period applicable for an instrument with similar terms and conditions.

For other pricing models, inputs are based on market data at the end of the reporting period. Fair values for unquoted equity investments are estimated, if possible, using applicable price/earnings ratios for similar listed companies adjusted to reflect the specific circumstances of the issuer.

The fair value of derivatives that are not exchange traded is estimated at the amount that the Fund would receive or pay to terminate the contract at the end of the reporting period taking into account current market conditions (volatility and appropriate yield curve) and the current creditworthiness of the counterparties. The fair value of a forward contract is determined as a net present value of estimated future cash flows, discounted at appropriate market rates as at the valuation date.

Some of the inputs to these models may not be market observable and are therefore estimated based on assumptions.

The output of a model is always an estimate or approximation of a value that cannot be determined with certainty, and valuation techniques employed may not fully reflect all factors relevant to the positions the Fund holds. Valuations are therefore adjusted, where appropriate, to allow for additional factors including liquidity risk and counterparty risk.

The Fund primarily holds units in the VanEck Australian Equal Weight ETF (ASX code: 'MVW'). Daily valuation of investments in the Fund is based on the net asset value ('NAV') of MVW being the closing prices of the securities in MVW's portfolio for that day.

Recognised fair value measurements

The tables below present the Fund's financial assets measured at fair value according to the fair value hierarchy as at 31 December 2024 and 30 June 2024.

As at 31 December 2024	Level 1 \$'000	Level 2 \$'000	Level 3 \$'000	Total \$'000
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss				
Listed unit trusts	29,491	-	-	29,491
Total	29,491	-	-	29,491

3 Fair value measurement (continued)

Recognised fair value measurements (continued)

As at 30 June 2024	Level 1 \$'000	Level 2 \$'000	Level 3 \$'000	Total \$'000
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss				
Listed unit trusts	<u>19,761</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>19,761</u>
Total	<u>19,761</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>19,761</u>

The Fund's policy is to recognise transfers into and transfers out of fair value hierarchy levels as at the end of the reporting period.

(i) Transfers between levels

There were no transfers between the levels in the fair value hierarchy for the half-year ended 31 December 2024 and period ended 30 June 2024. There were also no changes made to any of the valuation techniques applied as at 31 December 2024.

(ii) Fair value measurements using significant unobservable inputs (level 3)

The Fund did not hold any financial instruments with fair value measurements using significant unobservable inputs during the half-year ended 31 December 2024 and period ended 30 June 2024.

(iii) Fair values of other financial instruments

Due to their short-term nature, the carrying amounts of receivables and payables are assumed to approximate fair value.

4 Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss

	As at	
	31 December 2024 \$'000	30 June 2024 \$'000
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss		
Listed unit trusts	<u>29,491</u>	<u>19,761</u>
Total financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	<u>29,491</u>	<u>19,761</u>

5 Units issued

Movements in the number of units during the half-year were as follows:

	Half-year ended 31 December 2024 No.'000
Opening balance	250
Applications	100
Units issued upon reinvestment of distributions	-
Closing balance	350

As stipulated within the Fund's Constitution, a unit confers an equal undivided, vested, and indefeasible interest in the assets as a whole, subject to the liabilities. There are no separate classes of units and each unit has the same rights attaching to it as all other units of the Fund.

Capital risk management

The amount of net assets attributable to unitholders can change significantly on a daily basis as the Fund is subject to daily applications and redemptions at the discretion of the Authorised Participants, a person who is a trading participant or has engaged a trading participant to act on its behalf to acquire and dispose of interests in a Fund.

Daily applications and redemptions are reviewed relative to the liquidity of the Fund's underlying assets on a daily basis by the Responsible Entity. Under the terms of the Fund's Constitution, the Responsible Entity has the discretion to reject an application for units and to defer or adjust a redemption of units if the exercise of such discretion is in the best interests of unitholders.

6 Distributions to unitholders

The distributions during the half-year were as follows:

	Half-year ended 31 December 2024 \$'000	Half-year ended 31 December 2024 CPU
Distributions payable	123	35.00
Total distributions	123	35.00

7 Events occurring after the reporting period

No significant events have occurred since the end of the reporting period which would impact on the financial position of the Fund disclosed in the Statement of financial position as at 31 December 2024 or on the results and cash flows of the Fund for the half-year ended on that date.

8 Contingent assets and liabilities and commitments

There are no outstanding contingent assets, liabilities or commitments as at 31 December 2024 and 30 June 2024.

Directors' declaration

In the opinion of the Directors of the Responsible Entity:

- (a) there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Fund will be able to pay its debts as and when these debts become due and payable; and
- (b) the interim financial statements and notes are in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001* and compliance with relevant accounting standards and therefore give a true and fair view of the financial position and performance of the Fund.

This declaration is made in accordance with a resolution of the Directors.



Michael Brown
Director

Sydney
4 March 2025



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Independent auditor's review report to the Unitholders of VanEck Geared Australian Equal Weight Fund (Hedge Fund)

Conclusion

We have reviewed the accompanying half-year financial report of VanEck Geared Australian Equal Weight Fund (Hedge Fund) (the "Fund"), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 31 December 2024, the statement of comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the half-year ended on that date, explanatory notes and the directors' declaration.

Based on our review, which is not an audit, we have not become aware of any matter that makes us believe that the half-year financial report of the Fund does not comply with the *Corporations Act 2001*, including:

- a. Giving a true and fair view of the Fund's financial position as at 31 December 2024 and of its financial performance for the half-year ended on that date; and
- b. Complying with Accounting Standard AASB 134 *Interim Financial Reporting* and the *Corporations Regulations 2001*.

Basis for conclusion

We conducted our review in accordance with ASRE 2410 *Review of a Financial Report Performed by the Independent Auditor of the Entity* (ASRE 2410). Our responsibilities are further described in the *Auditor's responsibilities for the review of the half-year financial report* section of our report. We are independent of the Fund in accordance with the auditor independence requirements of the *Corporations Act 2001* and the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards)* (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the annual financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

Directors' responsibilities for the half-year financial report

The directors of the Responsible Entity of the Fund are responsible for the preparation of the half-year financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and the *Corporations Act 2001* and for such internal control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the half-year financial report that gives a true and fair view and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's responsibilities for the review of the half-year financial report

Our responsibility is to express a conclusion on the half-year financial report based on our review. ASRE 2410 requires us to conclude whether we have become aware of any matter that makes us believe that the half-year financial report is not in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001* including giving a true and fair view of the Fund's financial position as at 31 December 2024 and its performance for the half-year ended on that date, and complying with Accounting Standard AASB 134 *Interim Financial Reporting* and the *Corporations Regulations 2001*.



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A review of a half-year financial report consists of making enquiries, primarily of persons responsible for financial and accounting matters, and applying analytical and other review procedures. A review is substantially less in scope than an audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards and consequently does not enable us to obtain assurance that we would become aware of all significant matters that might be identified in an audit. Accordingly, we do not express an audit opinion.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Ernst & Young' in a cursive script.

Ernst & Young

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Rita Da Silva' in a cursive script.

Rita Da Silva
Partner
Sydney
4 March 2025