## Digital Economy

- What makes the internet economy so important?
- How the value chain extends to billions of everyday connections
- Why Al-driven investing in digital economy could help future proof your portfolio

Cache is king





# Preparing for change



**Smart Cities** 



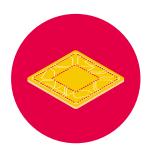
**Digital Economy** 

Our world is changing. Technological breakthroughs, evolutionary economic forces and the climate emergency are reshaping reality for billions of people. The question is: will your portfolio keep up?

At Lyxor, we have identified a series of investment themes we believe will be at the forefront of this new revolution. To access these most powerful of megatrends, we've partnered with data powerhouse MSCI and a board of leading industry experts to build an innovative range of thematic ETFs:







**Disruptive Technology** 



Millennials

Each of these ETFs combines human insight, cutting edge data science and Artificial Intelligence techniques in a unique way to identify the companies that matter most, and ensure your portfolio stays one step ahead. We use low cost indexing to help maximise your return. And we screen our holdings based on their ESG impact on the world around them.

As a pioneering ETF provider with a history of innovation, we've gone the extra mile to build some truly state-of-the-art funds for a new state of mind. We're incredibly excited about this range and hope you can join us in preparing portfolios for change.





Global e-commerce alone is a fast-growing trillion dollar market, but the full value chain of the digital economy also includes online payments, fintech, cybersecurity, digital advertising and the sharing economy.

Chanchal Samadder Head of Equities, Lyxor ETF

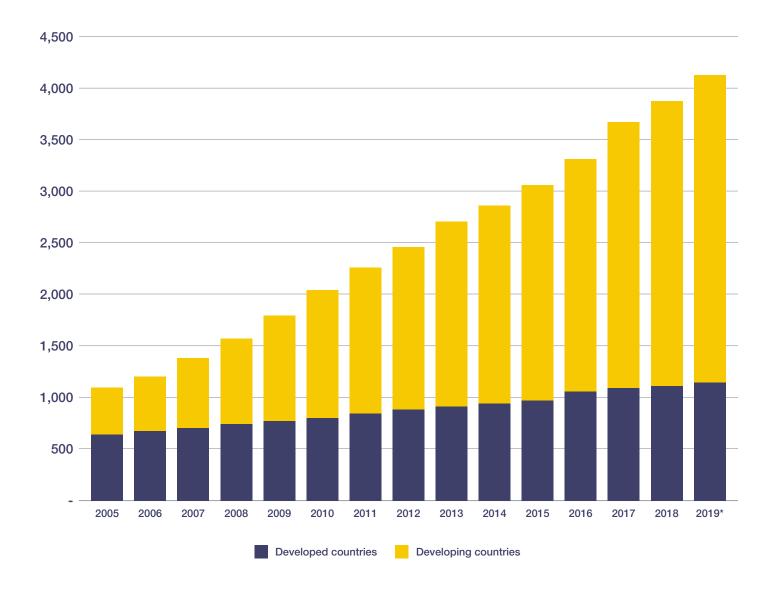
## The dawn of the digital age

The digital economy is a broad term for the economic activity that results from online connections between businesses, devices and people. It includes established areas such as e-commerce, online payments and digital advertising, as well as rapidly developing fields such as cybersecurity, financial technology (fintech) and the sharing economy.

Of the different themes captured by our range of thematic ETFs, the digital economy is the one that has already done the most to reshape our world over the past three decades. Almost everything we do has been touched by digitalisation in one way or another: the fact that investors can use online brokers to trade listed securities in a few clicks is a great example of how entire industries have changed since the internet arrived.

Despite that, this revolution is still in its early stages. Almost half the world's population is not yet using the internet<sup>1</sup>, most of them living in emerging markets. As these countries become wealthier and their infrastructure improves, the number of internet users is rising rapidly: the total number of users from developing economies has already soared from 400 million in 2005 to more than 3 billion today, with billions more potential users still to join.<sup>2</sup>

#### Individuals using the internet<sup>2</sup>



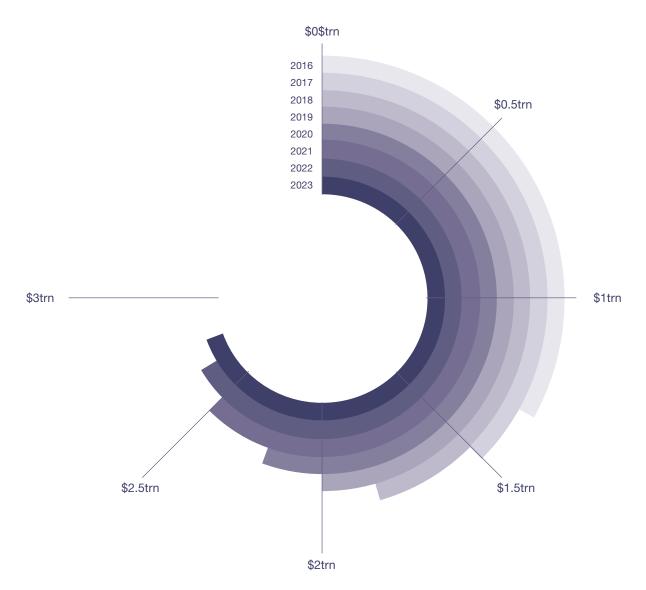
<sup>1</sup>International Telecommunication Union, https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Statistics/Pages/stat/default.aspx <sup>2</sup>International Telecommunication Union, https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Statistics/Pages/stat/default.aspx Date range from 2005 to 2019. \*2019 was an estimate as at time of publication of ITU data in 2019.

### Out with the old

However, it's not just the number of people online that makes the digital economy so exciting – it's how it's upending the way businesses operate and consumers spend money. Time and time again, the internet is destroying old business models and creating new ones, forcing existing companies to change or be swept away.

The most high-profile example of this is online retail. E-commerce is probably the most mature part of the digital economy – and yet even here, there is still plenty of room to grow. The global e-commerce market was worth around \$1.8trn last year, and is forecast to grow to \$2.8trn by 2023.<sup>3</sup>

#### Global e-commerce revenue forecast (\$trn)3

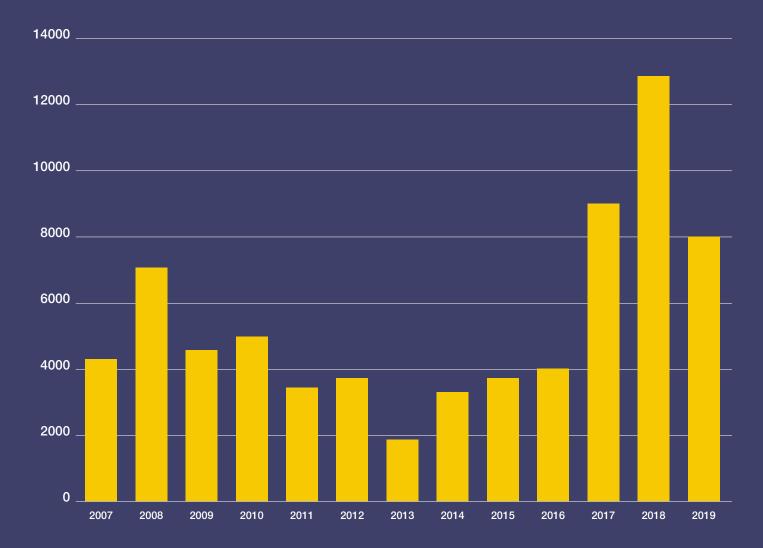


Yet the success of firms such as Amazon and eBay has come at a cost for traditional retailers. Many long-established firms are being driven out of business by their failure to adapt to this new world. More than 12,000 major retail stores closed in the US alone in 2018.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>3</sup>Statista, July 2019, Digital Economy Compass 2019

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup>Statista, March 2018, Digital Economy Compass 2018

#### Past and forecast major US chain store closures4



Other parts of the digital economy are set to grow even faster. Annual revenue from online ticketing is forecast to grow from \$65bn in 2018 to \$105bn by 2023. Over the same period, projected revenue from online food delivery could reach \$134bn, up from \$82bn.<sup>5</sup> Much of this growth is happening in emerging markets such as China and India – where 77% and 66% of users order meals online, compared to just 38% in the UK.<sup>4</sup> Digital payments was already a \$3.6trn business in 2018 – but is forecast to grow to more than \$6.7trn in the same time. Again, China is leading the way, making up around 35% of the total.<sup>6</sup>

## The power of platforms

The key characteristic of e-commerce and of many other fast-growing digital services is the power of platforms. A digital platform is simply a mechanism for bringing together two or more parties to interact online. This can be an online shopping or auction site bringing together buyers and sellers, a social media site connecting friends or business contacts, or a sharing service linking up drivers with car users or property owners with renters.

The more users who connect to these services, the better they typically work. That's because there is a greater chance that any user will be able to connect with somebody who is selling what they want.

This is known as the 'network effect' and means that the most successful platforms often dominate their field and earn an outsized share of the potential rewards. The immense scale that the winners can achieve is one reason why six of the ten largest listed companies by market cap operate platforms that play a key part in driving the development of the digital economy.\*



\*FXSSI, January 20th 2020, https://fxssi.com/top-10-most-valuable-companies-in-the-world

## A complete digital economy in one app

We see the network effect at work in many of the stocks that are held by our digital economy ETF – none more obvious than Chinese internet giant Tencent.

This company could be described as China's equivalent of Facebook, but that doesn't convey quite how prominent a role it occupies in many users' lives - it's more accurate to say that its WeChat app is what Facebook would like to become.

Tencent has successfully expanded its services far beyond social media and messaging to include payments, online gaming and more – you can book a taxi or arrange a food delivery without ever leaving WeChat. This makes Tencent an outstanding example of how dominant platform companies can use their position to expand into different areas and find new opportunities for long-term growth.

#### Profiting all the way down the value chain

Many of the biggest beneficiaries of digitalisation are firms that don't directly deal with consumers and may have a lower profile. The more sophisticated digital services become, the more powerful computer processors have to be to deliver a good user experience.

This has meant rapid growth for Nvidia, which designs some of the key processors that go into smartphones, tablets and gaming devices. Perhaps more importantly for its future prospects, Nvidia's chips are also used

in data centres - the huge collections of computer systems used to store and process the data that the digital economy generates.

This market is likely to grow rapidly in the years ahead, not least due to anticipated breakthroughs in many artificial intelligence (Al) applications such as image and speech recognition. These will greatly increase demand, potentially almost doubling the size of the broader digital economy from \$12.9trn in 2017 to \$23trn by 2025.7

#### Seeking out big winners before they get big

Not all the firms that could capitalise on the growth of the digital economy are as large as Tencent or Nvidia yet. Many are smaller firms - and this is where the approach used by our digital economy ETF may offer different opportunities to other funds that are biased towards larger tech firms.

The fund invests in many lesser-known companies, such as The Trade Desk, whose platform lets buyers of online advertising manage their spending more effectively by ensuring their ads are shown to the right audiences, and Shopify, which makes it simpler for small merchants to set up online stores, handle payments and manage marketing. More than 60% of the portfolio is invested in mid-sized and smaller stocks, meaning that investors will be exposed to these firms when they are still at an earlier stage of their potential growth.8

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup>Huawei, May 2018, Global Connectivity Index 2018

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup>Lyxor International Asset Management, as at 28/02/2020.



# Investing for digital growth

The internet has already transformed the way that the global economy works, but we are still in the early stages of the digital revolution. Established online platforms in e-commerce, social media and technology are set to grow still larger, while nascent trends such as the Internet of Things and the real-world applications of artificial intelligence will create entirely new market opportunities.

To adapt to this ever-changing age of information, our digital economy fund is designed to invest in a wide range of key platforms and technologies shaping how individuals spend money, and how companies do business. It strikes a balance between firms that have already followed these trends to success and those that could grow to be the stars of the next decade.

To achieve this, we partnered with data powerhouse MSCI. We use cutting-edge artificial intelligence techniques combined with advice from experts in the field to identify companies that are in a prime position to exploit these trends. We also include an ESG filter to build a more responsible exposure.

Our unique investment process helps us identify the companies that can change the world, and make obsolescence a thing of the past. When it comes to making sure your investments keep up with the economy of the future, our ETF could be an ideal solution.

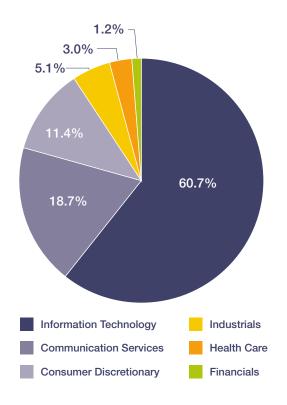
## **A look** inside the basket



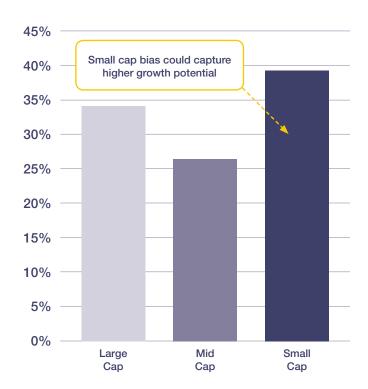
#### Related concepts, products and services

- Robotics
- Digital Payments
- E-commerce
- Sharing Economy
- Social Media
- Cloud Computing
- Cybersecurity

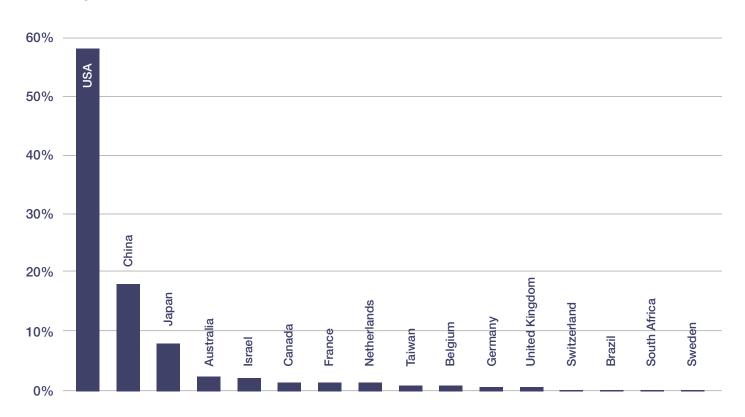
#### Sector breakdown



#### Market cap breakdown



#### Country breakdown



Source for all data: Lyxor International Asset Management, MSCI, as at 28/02/2020.

#### Top 10 holdings

Security name	GICS Sector	Country	Weight
TRADE DESK A	Information Technology	USA	1.90%
ALTERYX A	Information Technology	USA	1.70%
SHOPIFY A	Information Technology	Canada	1.64%
FACEBOOK A	Communication Services	USA	1.59%
KINGSOFT	Information Technology	China	1.53%
SQUARE	Information Technology	USA	1.46%
ZSCALER	Information Technology	USA	1.46%
ADYEN NV	Information Technology	Netherlands	1.45%
YONYOU NETWORK A (HK-C)	Information Technology	China	1.37%
WUHU SANQI A (HK-C)	Communication Services	China	1.37%
Total			15.48%

ETF name	Replication type	Bloomberg tickers	ISIN	Current temporary TER	Target TER
Lyxor MSCI Digital Economy ESG Filtered (DR) UCITS ETF	Physical	EBUY, DIGE	LU2023678878	0.15% <sup>-</sup>	0.45% <sup>*</sup>

Source for top 10 holdings data: Lyxor International Asset Management, MSCI, as at 28/02/2020.

Discover the rest of our range covering Future Mobility, Smart Cities, Millennials, and Disruptive Technology at lyxoretf.com

#### A note on investing in megatrends

#### Time horizons are long, and portfolios may be concentrated



Megatrends take time to shape the world; your investment horizon should be long term



- Thematic indices are more narrow than traditional cap weighted indices
- As a result of this increased concentration, volatility may be higher



Unconstrained by traditional allocations based on countries and sectors, thematic ETFs could be used as 'satellites' to strengthen the core of your equity portfolio

This document is for informative purposes only, and should not be taken as investment advice. Lyxor ETF does not in any way endorse or promote the companies mentioned in this document.

<sup>\*</sup>Source: Lyxor International Asset Management, as at 10/03/2020. Target TER is 0.45% but has temporarily been decreased to 0.15% until September 2021.

#### Knowing your risk

It is important for potential investors to evaluate the risks described below and in the fund prospectus on our website www.lyxoretf.com

#### Capital at risk

ETFs are tracking instruments: Their risk profile is similar to a direct investment in the Underlying index. Investors' capital is fully at risk and investors may not get back the amount originally invested.

#### Replication risk

The fund objectives might not be reached due to unexpected events on the underlying markets which will impact the index calculation and the efficient fund replication.

#### Counterparty risk

With synthetic ETFs, investors are exposed to risks resulting from the use of an OTC swap with Société Générale. In-line with UCITS guidelines, the exposure to Société Générale cannot exceed 10% of the total fund assets. Physically replicated ETFs may have counterparty risk if they use a securities lending programme.

#### **Underlying risk**

The Underlying index of a Lyxor ETF may be complex and volatile. For example, when investing in commodities, the Underlying index is calculated with reference to commodity futures contracts exposing the investor to a liquidity risk linked to costs such as cost of carry and transportation. ETFs exposed to Emerging Markets carry a greater risk of potential loss than investment in Developed Markets as they are exposed to a wide range of unpredictable Emerging Market risks.

#### Concentration risk

Thematic ETFs select stocks or bonds for their portfolio from the original benchmark index. Where selection rules are extensive it can lead to a more concentrated portfolio where risk is spread over fewer stocks than the original benchmark.

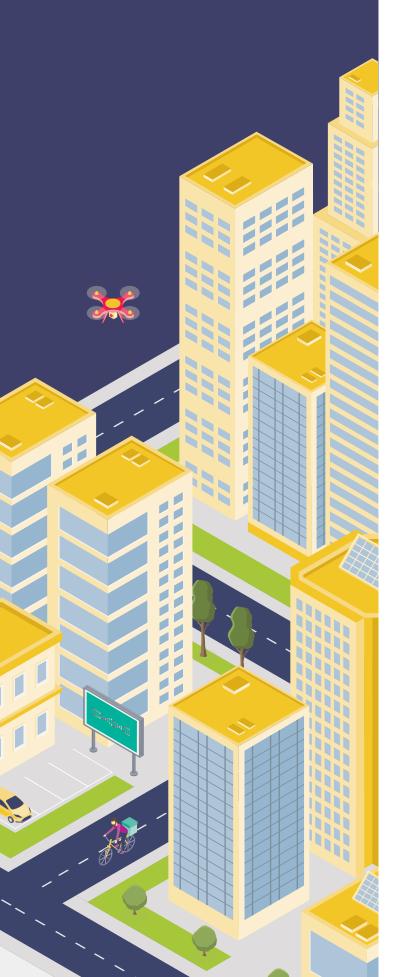
#### Currency risk

ETFs may be exposed to currency risk if the ETF is denominated in a currency different to that of the Underlying index they are tracking. This means that exchange rate fluctuations could have a negative or positive effect on returns.

#### Liquidity risk

Liquidity is provided by registered market-makers on the respective stock exchange where the ETF is listed, including Société Générale. On exchange, liquidity may be limited as a result of a suspension in the underlying market represented by the Underlying index tracked by the ETF; a failure in the systems of one of the relevant stock exchanges, or other market-maker systems; or an abnormal trading situation or event.

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