# Prusik Asian Smaller Companies Fund

# PRUSIK

#### LONG ONLY ABSOLUTE RETURN INVESTING IN ASIA

## 28 February 2017

Monthly Fund Fact Sheet

### **Investment Objective**

To preserve capital and generate absolute returns over a full economic cycle by investing primarily in Small Cap companies in Asia Pacific ex-Japan, whilst maintaining portfolio volatility significantly below the peer group.

#### **Fund Facts**

Fund size (USD) 47.7m

Launch date 8 February 2008

Fund Manager Heather Manners

Fund Structure UCITS III

Domicile Dublin

Currencies USD (base), GBP, SGD

#### Performance (%)

	A USD	C GBP	D SGD
1 Month	4.55	4.52	4.49
3 Month	4.93	4.73	4.81
Year to Date	8.22	8.06	8.07
Since Launch	61.41	70.82	19.01
Annualised <sup>†</sup>	5.43	6.18	2.47

Source: Morningstar.

Launch Date: A: 08.02.08, C: 25.03.08, D: 15.01.10

<sup>†</sup>Since Launch Performance

#### **Investment Process**

With anomalies as a start point, the investment process seeks to identify and invest in key 'themes' in the Pacific region. Our themes are driven by factors outside of the normal economic cycle and are not yet discounted by the market. Companies are identified and chosen via rigorous bottom-up analysis with emphasis on traditional value and high ROCE. Cash and Index Futures are used when opportunities are few and to reduce portfolio volatility.

#### **Dividend Dates**

Dividends paid twice annually (January and July)

#### Fund Performance - Class A USD (%)



Source: Morningstar. Total return net of fees.

#### **Fund Manager Commentary**

In February the fund rose 4.6% outperforming the M2APJ index by 1.1%. By geography the strongest contributors were Vietnam, Taiwan and India, whilst contributions from Malaysia, Pakistan and the Philippines lagged the index. At the stock level the top performers included **Hoa Binh Construction** in Vietnam and **Bank Danamom** in Indonesia. Malaysian Shariah insurance company, **Syarikat Takaful**, Pakistan Toyota franchise holder, **Indus Motor**, and convenience store operator **Philippine Seven Corp** underperformed the index.

During February the index continued to soar, only pausing just before the month-end to correct materially for the first time since December. We expect this correction to endure for a while longer after such a breathless run and whilst markets further digest the prospect of rising rates in the US. We do, however, see increasing signs of economic recovery everywhere and expect that stock markets can continue to make further headway this year after an appropriate correction and pause. We have raised some cash during the month from stocks which have done especially well and look forward to reinvesting this at more attractive levels over the coming days. In particular, we have sold **Hoa Binh Construction** in Vietnam which had risen sharply since our purchase in 2015, and in a parabolic surge more recently, nearly doubling in three months. The company has been benefitting from the construction boom taking place in Vietnam but this has taken a toll on the company's now quite stretched balance sheet. We have also taken some profits in **Takaful Malaysia** (Shariah insurance) and **Wistron Neweb** (Internet of Things and 'the connected car').

We added two new positions in February. **Crompton Consumer** is a strong brand in India for household electronics with a pan-Indian presence and a leading market share in fans and pumps as well as a fast-growing lighting business. Not only do we find the company's investments in its brand and after sales service very attractive but so is management's focus on growing the bottom line as well as the top line. India is at the take-off stage for consumer goods and ripe for the deep establishment of national brand names as the modern retail segment gets going.

**Best World International** is a \$400 million market cap company with a strong direct sales network in premium skincare under the Dr Secret brand. It has been hugely successful in Taiwan and is now starting to grow in China. It is much more attractively valued than other regional cosmetics brands trading on just 14x 2017 P/E with the equivalent of 8% of its market cap in net cash and a dividend yield of 2.5%. We expect the company to grow its earnings in the region of 25% per annum in the next 2-3 years.

Overall, we would urge investors to consider adding to the Prusik Asian Smaller Companies fund during this correction. We have just returned from a week in Asia and the Middle-East visiting companies from Vietnam and Pakistan. Both these markets are dominated by local investors and both are cheap on regional and global comparisons, whilst the countries are growing dramatically faster. Moreover, regional investors are turning up in droves. We expect Vietnam, in particular, to attract significant investment from Thailand in the coming months, whilst the Shanghai Stock Exchange has recently bought 40% of the Pakistan Stock Exchange, paving the way for expansion and more sophisticated products. The fund has c.26% invested in Vietnam and Pakistan.

All data as at 28.02.17. Source: Prusik Investment Management LLP, unless otherwise stated.

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#### Top 5 Holdings (%)

Philippine Seven Corporation	6.8
Mobile World Investment Corporation	5.6
Cotec Construction JSC	5.1
Li Ning Co	4.3
Max's Group	3.9
Total Number of Holdings	32

#### **Portfolio Financial Ratios**

Predicted Price/Earnings Ratio	12.5x
Predicted Return on Equity (%)	24.0
Predicted Dividend Yield (%)	2.7

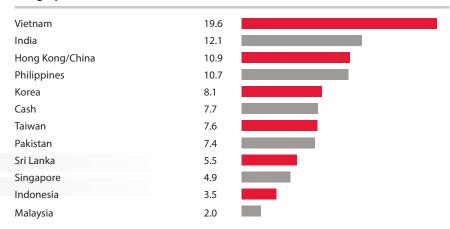
#### **Risk Metrics**

Tracking Error (% pa)	13.77
Beta	0.58
Alpha	3.46
Volatility (%)	16.03
Sharpe ratio	0.54
% of the portfolio which could be	
sold in 2 business days	70.35

#### Thematic Breakdown (%)

Local Brands	31.6
Vietnam	19.6
Infrastructure	13.1
Leisure/Tourism	8.1
Sensors	7.7
Cash	7.7
Financialisation	5.5
Clean Energy	4.8
Smart Textiles	2.0

#### Geographical Breakdown (%)



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## **Management Fees**

#### **Annual Management Fee**

1.5% p.a. Paid monthly in arrears

#### **Performance Fee**

**Redemption Notice** 

All Classes except Class U: 10% NAV appreciation with a 6% hurdle annually Class U: 10% NAV appreciation with a 1.5% hurdle,

Class U: 10% NAV appreciation with a 1.5% hurdle quarterly

#### **Dealing**

Dealing Line		+353 1 603 6490
Administrator		Brown Brothers Harriman (Dublin)
Dealing Freque	ency	Weekly, Friday
Min. Initial Sub	scription	USD 10,000
Subscription N	otice	2 business days

2 business days

#### **Share Class Details**

Share Class		Sedol	ISIN	Month-end NAV
A USD Unhedged	Non distributing	B2PKN21	IE00B2PKN210	161.41
B USD Unhedged	Distributing	B2PKN32	IE00B2PKN327	158.74
C GBP Hedged	Distributing	B2PKN43	IE00B2PKN434	83.53
D SGD Hedged	Distributing	B3M3HJ5	IE00B3M3HJ55	219.18
Performance fee bas	sed on individual inves	stor's holding.		
U GBP Unhedged	Distributing	BBQ37T7	IE00BBQ37T77	114.40
Performance fee bas	sed on fund performa	nce as a whole.		

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