# Prusik Asia Fund

# GROWTH INVESTING IN ASIA

# 31 May 2019

Monthly Fund Fact Sheet

# **Investment Objective**

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

# **Fund Facts**

Fund Size (USD)	131.9m		
Launch Date	7 October 2005		
Fund Manager	Heather Manners		
Fund Structure	UCITS III		
Domicile	Dublin		
Currencies	USD (base), GBP, SGD		
Index	MSCI Asia Pacific ex Japan Index		

### Performance (%)

		U (GBP)	Index (GBP)
1 Month		-3.52	-3.74
3 Month		-0.03	1.51
Year to Date		6.82	6.70
Since Launc	h	77.99	67.18
Annualised <sup>+</sup>		10.24	9.08

Source: Morningstar.

Launch Date: U: 01.07.13

<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.

# Fund Performance - Class U GBP (%)



PRUSIK

Source: Morningstar. Total return net of fees.

Performance since launch of Class U GBP share class - 01.07.13

#### **Fund Manager Commentary**

In May, the MSCI Asia ex Japan index fell 3.7%, led by declines in China and Hong Kong as the trade war escalated. The fund fell 3.5%, outperforming by 0.20%.

Until recently many wise thinkers were expecting the US posture on tariffs to soften and for a deal to emerge but, in May, it became fully clear that we are in a politics bear market as Trump ratcheted up his tariff threats to China, leaving the Chinese government no off-ramp to an agreement and no way to save face. This caused a sell-off in many risk assets, not least of all in China and Hong Kong, as well as the US. India escaped the worst as an impressive election victory came through for Modi and so that market rallied hard as the month ended. In many ways, therefore, our best and worst country contributors are self-explanatory, with Vietnam (benefitting from manufacturing re positioning away from China) and India leading and China bringing up the rear. At stock level, however, we saw our Aussie resources (**Rio**) and gold miners (**Newcrest Mining**) doing best.

On the last day of May, we saw Trump also put 5% tariffs on Mexican imports, despite Mexico having fully adhered to NAFTA. This puts the concept of making any type of an agreement with the US government into serious question and this will not be lost on China. We have, at the time of writing, also seen the Fed soften its stance considerably. India, however, has also just suffered the revelation of a further default in the non-bank finance sector, which will cause likely further weakness there.

This all adds up to a very confused and rapidly changing picture and our defence is to simply review our companies and be sure we have secure insight as to this year's earnings and potential to do well business-wise at least, regardless of the macroeconomic picture. We have slightly reduced our China exposure, driven by stock considerations (e.g. Baidu had very poor numbers), but are staying with our weightier position here vs India which remains expensive, especially after the election rally. Moreover, we are seeing signs of a real liquidity squeeze at corporate level in India which won't be helped by this new default.

It feels as though there is at least room for a technical rally in June for most of the region, however, especially if we now see the Fed inclined to move to cut rates again soon. The Prusik Asia Fund now also stands at a 60-basis point discount to the index PE, at 12.5x.



All data as at 31.05.19. Source: Prusik Investment Management LLP, unless otherwise stated.

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# Prusik Asia Fund

# Top 5 Holdings (%)

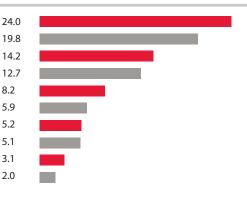
Li Ning Co Ltd	4.5
Ping An Insurance Group Co	3.8
Newcrest Mining Ltd	3.6
China State Construction Intl Holdings	3.3
Infosys Ltd	3.3
Total Number of Holdings	36
Portfolio Financial Ratios	
Predicted Price/Earnings Ratio	12.5x
Predicted Return on Equity (%)	14.7
Predicted Dividend Yield (%)	3.0
Diele Madeilan	

#### **Risk Metrics**

Tracking Error (% pa)	6.24
Beta	0.85
Alpha	1.15
Volatility (%)	17.21
Sharpe Ratio	0.63

# **Thematic Breakdown (%)**

Financialisation
Infrastructure/Logistics/Property
Energy/Energy Services/Resources
Local Brands
Vietnam
AI/Technology/Internet
Leisure/Tourism
Cash
Misc
Education



# **Geographical Breakdown (%)**

Hong Kong/China	40.7	
Australia	11.7	
Vietnam	8.2	
Indonesia	7.5	
Philippines	7.4	
India	6.4	
Korea	5.7	
Cash	5.1	
Singapore	5.0	
Thailand	2.5	

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### **Management Fees**

#### **Annual Management Fee**

Class U: 1% p.a. Paid monthly in arrears All Share Classes except Class U: 1.5% p.a. Paid monthly in arrears

#### Performance Fee

Class U: 10% of the net out-performance of the MSCI Asia Pacific ex-Japan Index, with a highwater mark paid quarterly All Share Classes except Class U: 10% NAV appreciation with a 6% hurdle annually

#### Dealing

Dealing Line	+353 1 603 6490
Administrator	Brown Brothers Harriman (Dublin)
Dealing Frequency	Daily
Min. Initial Subscription	USD 10,000
Subscription Notice	1 business day
Redemption Notice	1 business day

### **Share Class Details**

Share Class		Sedol	ISIN	Month-end NAV
A USD Unhedged	Non distributing	B0MDR72	IE00B0M9LK15	246.43
B USD Unhedged	Distributing	B0M9LL2	IE00B0M9LL22	246.58
C GBP Hedged	Distributing	B18RM25	IE00B18RM256	129.52
D SGD Hedged	Distributing	B3LYLK8	IE00B3LYLK86	335.22
Performance fee bas	ed on individual inve	stor's holding.		
U GBP Unhedged	Distributing	BBQ37S6	IE00BBQ37S60	177.99
Performance fee bas	ed on fund performa	nce as a whole.		

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