

# Prusik Asia Emerging Opportunities Fund



GROWTH INVESTING IN ASIA

30 November 2020

Monthly Fund Fact Sheet

## Investment Objective

The fund aims to achieve capital growth by investing in companies operating in the Asian and Australasian ex Japan region, with a specific focus on the demographic growth markets.

## Fund Facts

Fund Size (USD)	36.7m
Launch date	8 February 2008
Fund Managers	Heather Manners Anna Gallagher
Fund Structure	UCITS III
Domicile	Dublin
Currencies	USD (base), GBP, SGD

## Performance (%)

	A USD	C GBP	D SGD
1 Month	11.73	11.65	11.67
3 Month	13.03	12.82	12.88
Year to Date	12.19	9.55	11.15
2019	12.28	10.28	11.44
Since Launch	77.23	74.12	26.38
Annualised <sup>†</sup>	4.57	4.47	2.18

Source: Morningstar.

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

<sup>†</sup>Since Launch Performance

## Investment Process

The starting point for the fund is an exclusive focus on the demographic growth markets in Asia, namely those with large, young and growing populations. Over the next few decades these countries are due to benefit from their demographic dividend, leading to GDP growth roughly double that of Asia's more economically mature nations. This backdrop provides a fertile hunting ground for companies which are able to compound their earnings over the long term. The fund combines a thematic approach with stock picking that favours market leaders with a clear, sustainable competitive edge, which helps drive above average earnings growth and ROEs over the long term.

## Dividend Dates

Dividends paid twice annually (January and July)

## Fund Performance - Class A USD (%)



Source: Morningstar. Total return net of fees.

## Fund Manager Commentary

Equity markets were strong across all regions in November. Asia and, in extension, the Prusik Asia Emerging Opportunities Fund, was no exception to this trend with the fund returning 11.7% in the month. While the fund is not measured against a benchmark, to put this in context, this was 2.6% ahead of the MSCI AC Asia Ex-Japan Index return of 9.1% and 1.0% shy of the MSCI AC Asia Ex-Japan Smaller Companies Index which rose 12.7% in the month. November's performance takes the year to date return for the Prusik Asia Emerging Opportunities Fund to 12.2%.

By geography, the fund saw strong absolute and relative returns in India, Indonesia, Vietnam and the Philippines which, together, comprise close to 90% of the fund. Returns were particularly strong in India with our India portfolio rising by 15.4%. This was led by our leading consumer finance franchise, **Bajaj Finance Ltd**, which rose 48.4% in November following news that the company will be awarded a banking license – a development we have been waiting for since 2012! Two holdings which sit within our Emerging Technology theme, **Info Edge India Ltd**, the Deliveroo of India, and **MakeMyTrip Ltd**, the leading online platform for hotel and travel booking, were also key contributors. Finally, it is worth highlighting that, overall, our cyclical exposures saw excellent returns in the month. We have around half the portfolio invested in quality cyclicals. These exposures span consumer orientated financials, residential property, auto OEMs, 'reopening retail' and the stocks which sit within our Leisure & Tourism theme.

We have been flagging for several months now that the polarisation within Asia, in terms of North Asian index returns far exceeding South and South East Asia index returns, has become too extreme. Our belief has been that this, combined with attractive valuations in South and South East Asia, plus the fact that positive vaccine developments would have a disproportionately positive impact on our invested countries, boded extremely well for the fund. We saw a hint of this dynamic in September but the shift we have been anticipating really came to the fore in November and, at the time of writing, is continuing well into December too. To be specific, from 30<sup>th</sup> October to 14<sup>th</sup> December, the Prusik Asia Emerging Opportunities Fund, which is focused on Asia's demographic growth markets in South and South East Asia, has returned 18.1% versus the MSCI China Index return of 1.8%. We believe this trend is set to continue and underscores the value of diversifying and investing away from the index in Asia, especially in highly differentiated funds such as the Prusik Asia Emerging Opportunities Fund.

# Prusik Asia Emerging Opportunities Fund



## Top 5 Holdings (%)

Sea Ltd - ADR	7.5
Mobile World Investment Corporation	7.1
FPT Corporation	6.9
Info Edge India Ltd	3.7
Reliance Industries Ltd	3.5
Total Number of Holdings	39

## Portfolio Financial Ratios

Price/Earnings Ratio	21.4x
Predicted Return on Equity (%)	20.1
Predicted Dividend Yield (%)	1.6

## Risk Metrics

Tracking Error (% pa)	13.81
Beta	0.66
Alpha	1.23
Volatility (%)	16.44
Sharpe Ratio	0.42

## Thematic Breakdown (%)

Emerging Technology	27.5	
Modern Retail	24.7	
Local Brands	22.9	
Infrastructure	12.2	
Financialisation	6.3	
Leisure/Tourism	5.9	
Cash	0.5	

## Geographical Breakdown (%)

India	31.6	
Vietnam	26.6	
Indonesia	17.3	
Philippines	14.2	
Singapore	7.5	
Pakistan	2.3	
Cash	0.5	

All data as at 30.11.20. Source: Prusik Investment Management LLP, unless otherwise stated.

## Management Fees

### Annual Management Fee

Class A, B, C, D, U - 1.2% p.a. Paid monthly in arrears.

### Performance Fee

No performance fee.

## 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	B2PKN21	IE00B2PKN210	177.23
B USD Unhedged Distributing	B2PKN32	IE00B2PKN327	163.78
C GBP Hedged Distributing	B2PKN43	IE00B2PKN434	79.91
D SGD Hedged Distributing	B3M3HJ5	IE00B3M3HJ55	218.60
U GBP Unhedged Distributing	BBQ37T7	IE00BBQ37T77	110.47

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