# Q3 2021 CAD KBI Global Investors KBIGI Emerging Markets Equity Strategy



Source: KBI Global Investors as of 09/30/21. The risk characteristics are calculated independently by KBI Global Investors using monthly gross returns of the composite over a 10 year period relative to the Index as at the 09/30/21. Portfolio and Benchmark Statistics are from a representative account managed to the same strategy and the benchmark respectively. KBI Global Investors independently estimate these statistics for both the portfolio and the benchmark. The AUM listed above is Global Equity Emerging Markets AUM. Weighted Avg. Mkt. Cap figures are in US Dollars. KBI calculate the Weighted Average Carbon Intensity figure for the portfolio (representative account managed to the same strategy) quarterly. Index carbon intensity data is sourced from MSCI ESG Research. KBI calculate the ESG scores for the portfolio (representative account managed to the same strategy) quarterly. Index ESG ratings are sourced from MSCI ESG Research.

#### **Investment Philosophy**

We are "total return" investors.

Our conviction is that companies with the financial strength and discipline to maintain and grow their dividend commitments outperform.

Uniquely, we find such companies across all capitalisations, and in every sector and every region, even ones where dividends are low and not typically used as a method of analysis. By "looking where others don't look" we consistently find and exploit mispriced stocks.

The main reasons for outperformance are:

- Quality of information
- Better governance
- Plentiful positive earnings surprises
- Capital efficiency and financial discipline
- Lower volatility
- Better valuations

#### Annualised Performance (C\$)

	3Mths	YTD	1Yr	3Yrs	5Yrs	Since Incep
Fund (Gross)	-4.9	2.3	15.9	6.1	6.6	6.2
Benchmark	-6.0	-1.8	12.1	7.9	8.4	6.5
Benchmark	-6.0	-1.8	12.1	7.9	8.4	6.5

Source: KBI Global Investors, Datastream, MSCI Emerging Markets Index as of 09/30/21

KBI calculate both composite returns and benchmark returns. Returns are gross of fees in CAD. Our firm claims GIPS compliance and is annually verified by an independent verification firm to be so. The verification report from our verifier and our GIPS composite presentation are available upon request. The performance record disclosed here is that of the firm's composite for this strategy. The Emerging Markets Equity composite is a well-diversified, all cap, strategy that invests across all 24 industry sub classifications of the global emerging markets as defined within the MSCI Emerging Markets benchmark. No active currency management is undertaken. The strategy invests purely in those companies that pay above average dividends relative to their industry peer group and is managed by a dedicated, specialist team of investment professionals in Dublin, Ireland. The material risks associated with the composite include market risk and stock-specific event risk. Share prices can decline and there is a risk that the composite may under-perform its benchmark. The benchmark is the MSCI Emerging Markets Index, inclusive of net income. The net index provides a better comparator for potential investors given the tax treatment on dividend income. The benchmark is designed to measure the equity market performance of emerging market countries. The benchmark is market-cap weighted. Sources of foreign exchange rates may differ between the composite and the benchmark, but not materially so. See disclaimer for further information.

#### **Investment Process**

We summarise our process into three steps

- Step 1
  Create regional group segments from MSCI Index.
  - Eliminate stocks below segment average yield.
- Lower yield stocks, countries, industries will qualify.
- Step 2
- Eliminate stocks and segments that fail sustainability, quality and growth criteria.

Step 3

• Rank remaining stocks.

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• Create portfolio preferred financial criteria and highest ranked stocks.

#### **Current Emerging Markets Portfolio Characteristics**

Mkt. Cap \$bn	Strategy	MSCI EM Index	+/- %
<3 (small)	7.4	2.8	4.6
3-5 (mid-small)	15.4	5.6	9.8
5-10 (mid)	16.1	14.0	2.1
10-25 (mid-large)	24.5	21.2	3.3
>25 (large)	36.5	56.4	-19.9

Source: KBI Global Investors as of 09/30/21. Market Cap figures are based on a representative account relative to the Index. Market Cap figures are in US Dollars.



### **Strategy Overview**

Objective	Consistency. Downside protection. Lower risk.
Style	Relative value. High quality. Multi cap. Diversified.
Products	Global, EAFE, Emerging Markets, North America, ACWI, Eurozone.

## **Investment Team**

Key People	Title	Investment Experience		
CIO				
Noel O'Halloran	Chief Investment Officer	34yrs		
Port	folio Management T	eam		
Gareth Maher	Head of Portfolio Management	34yrs		
David Hogarty	Head of Strategy Development	30yrs		
lan Madden	Senior Portfolio Manager	21yrs		
James Collery	Senior Portfolio Manager	21yrs		
John Looby	Senior Portfolio Manager	31ys		
Massimiliano Tondi	Senior Portfolio Manager	18yrs		
Jeanne Chow Collins	ESG & Engagement Analyst	21yrs		
Trading				
Ultan O'Kane	Trader	16yrs		

## **Contact Details**

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#### Portfolio Positioning Sector Breakdown

Sector	%	Sector	%		
Information Technology	22.7	Industrials	4.6		
Financials	21.5	Health Care	4.5		
Consumer Discretionary	14.0	Consumer Staples	4.4		
Communications	9.9	Utilities	3.1		
Materials	7.5	Real Estate	2.7		
Energy	5.1				

## Geographical Breakdown

Region	%
Emerging Asia	78.6
Emerging EMEA	14.0
Emerging Latin America	7.4

#### **Top 10 Holdings**

Stock	Country	%
Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing	Taiwan	7.3
Samsung Electronics Company Limited	South Korea	5.1
NetEase Inc ADR	China	2.6
China Construction Bank	China	2.4
Home Product Center PCL	Thailand	2.2
Chailease Holding Company Limited	Taiwan	2.2
Zhongsheng Group Holdings Ltd	China	1.9
Fubon Financial Holding Company Limited	Taiwan	1.8
Sberbank of Russia PJSC	Russia	1.8
Infosys Technologies Ltd	India	1.8

Source of all data: KBI Global Investors. Data as of 09/30/21

### Overview

Emerging market equity investors experienced a difficult quarter, with the imposition of additional regulatory tightening measures in China and Korea, and the continued interest rate hiking spree. Korea, Brazil, Chile, Mexico, Peru, the Czech Republic and Hungary all raised rates to contain inflationary pressures. Should inflation or upward pressure on yields persist, that would bode well for a continuation of the rotation trade and stocks with strong dividend growth and value characteristics should benefit.

Thanks to a decade of quantitative easing (QE), stocks whose performance is negatively correlated to yields are now trading at substantial premiums, while those with performance that is positively correlated are trading on substantial discounts. Should inflation persist, investors would do well to avoid stocks on high valuation multiples.

This more volatile and negative environment is a more favourable backdrop for the relative performance of our Emerging Market Equity strategy. It delivered a positive relative performance during the quarter, meaning the strategy continues to out-perform over the year to date.

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