

Aberdeen Emerging Markets

A reversal of fortune

In 2018, Aberdeen Emerging Markets (AEMC) gave up the gains it made in 2017; this left its shares trading on a 3.9% dividend yield (one of the highest in its peer group) and a wider discount to its net asset value, currently 15.0%. The shift was largely one of sentiment, investors were worried about the potential effects of rising US interest rates and a US trade war with China on emerging markets. Emerging market currencies weakened and funds focused on the sector experienced significant outflows. The underlying companies now trade on much lower valuations and AEMC's managers believe that emerging markets have overshot on the downside. The potential is there for a reversal of fortune in 2019.

Aims for consistent outperformance of MSCI Emerging Markets Index

AEMC invests in a carefully selected portfolio of both closed- and open-ended funds, providing a diversified exposure to emerging economies. It aims to achieve consistent returns for its shareholders in excess of the MSCI Emerging Markets Net Total Return Index in sterling terms.

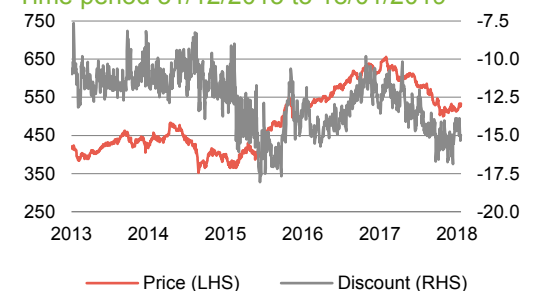
Year ended	Share price total return (%)	NAV total return (%)	MSCI Emerging Markets TR. (%)	MSCI World total return (%)
31/12/14	0.8	1.8	3.9	11.5
31/12/15	(5.5)	(5.0)	(10.0)	4.9
31/12/16	28.0	29.3	32.6	28.2
31/12/17	22.9	22.7	25.4	11.8
31/12/18	(13.4)	(12.5)	(9.3)	(3.0)

Source: Morningstar, Marten & Co

Sector	Global emerging
Ticker	AEMC LN
Base currency	GBP
Price	534.0p
NAV	628.1p
Premium/(discount)	(15.0%)
Yield	3.9%

Share price and discount

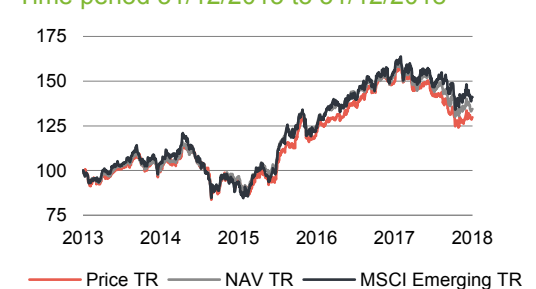
Time period 31/12/2013 to 18/01/2019



Source: Morningstar, Marten & Co

Performance over five years

Time period 31/12/2013 to 31/12/2018



Source: Morningstar, Marten & Co

Domicile	Guernsey
Inception date	22 June 1998
Manager	Andrew Lister and Bernard Moody
Market cap (GBPm)	245.9m
Shares outstanding	46.0m
Daily vol. (1-yr. avg.)	73,428 shares
Net gearing	7.2%

[Click here for QuotedData's last note](#)

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Fund profile

Best-of-breed managers investing in dynamic and fast-growing countries

Attractive yield of 3.9%

Access the manager's website at www.aberdeeenemergingmarkets.co.uk

Aberdeen Emerging Markets Investment Company (AEMC) offers its shareholders access to a range of 'best-of-breed' managers, many of whom are inaccessible for most UK-based investors. These managers are investing in some of the most dynamic and fast-growing countries in the world. Investments are made through both closed-end funds such as investment trusts and open-ended funds such as [OEICs](#) and [UCITS](#) funds, blending the extra [liquidity](#) and access to a wider range of managers provided by [open-ended funds](#) with the opportunity to add value by buying [closed-ended](#) funds on wide discounts and selling them on tighter discounts.

While benchmarked against the MSCI Emerging Markets Index, AEMC's [asset allocation](#) may differ markedly from the benchmark and is one source of alpha (investment jargon for the added value generated by the manager relative to investing in an index tracker). Manager selection is also key to the success of the fund and AEMC is fortunate to have investments in a number of funds that the average investor might struggle to access. The ability to add value from narrowing discounts and corporate actions in the closed-end fund holdings is another source of alpha. The fund also offers a yield of 3.9% which is paid from a combination of income and capital (see page 12).

AEMC's AIFM (alternative investment fund manager) is Aberdeen Standard Fund Managers Limited (Aberdeen Standard) and it has delegated the investment management of the company to Aberdeen Asset Managers Limited (AAML). Both companies are wholly owned subsidiaries of Standard Life Aberdeen Plc.

Andrew Lister and Bernard Moody (the managers) have been the lead managers of the fund since 30 June 2014. They have been involved with the management of the fund since October 2000 and August 2006, respectively. They are assisted by Viktor Broczko and Samir Shah (collectively, the team). All of the team members have personal investments in the fund. Aberdeen Standard has considerable depth of investment management and analytical resource, in both emerging market equity and debt, which is available to the team.

'Overshooting on the downside'

MSCI Emerging Markets Index was trading at around 17x in February 2018 and now the figure is in the region of 10.5x

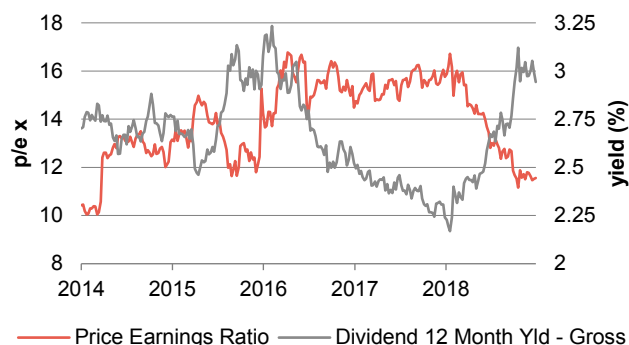
US interest rate rises, and a tit-for-tat tariff war between China and the US, unnerved investors in emerging markets in 2018. The managers feel that emerging markets appear to have overshoot on the downside. The MSCI Emerging Markets Index was trading at around 17x price/earnings (p/e) in February 2018 and now this figure is closer to 10.5x. Their belief is that stocks look attractive at these levels.

Figure 1: MSCI EM Index 2013-2018



Source: Bloomberg, Marten & Co

Figure 2: MSCI EM trailing p/e and yield 2013-18



Source: Bloomberg, Marten & Co

The managers are also optimistic on the prospects for emerging market currencies. They are of the view that emerging market currencies are clearly undervalued on a real effective exchange rate basis (worked out by measuring the value of each currency against a group of several other currencies and adjusting for the effects of inflation).

In 2019, a slowing US economy could be good news for investors in emerging markets

Impending US slowdown?

An outright recession in the US would not be good news for emerging markets. However, a moderation in expectations for future interest rate rises and the reversal of quantitative easing, which could be a response to a slowing US economy, would be clear positives. One reason why many emerging market investors are enthusiastic about the prospects for 2019 is that they expect the US to become a relatively less attractive place to invest and investors will, once again, look to emerging markets for their higher growth potential.

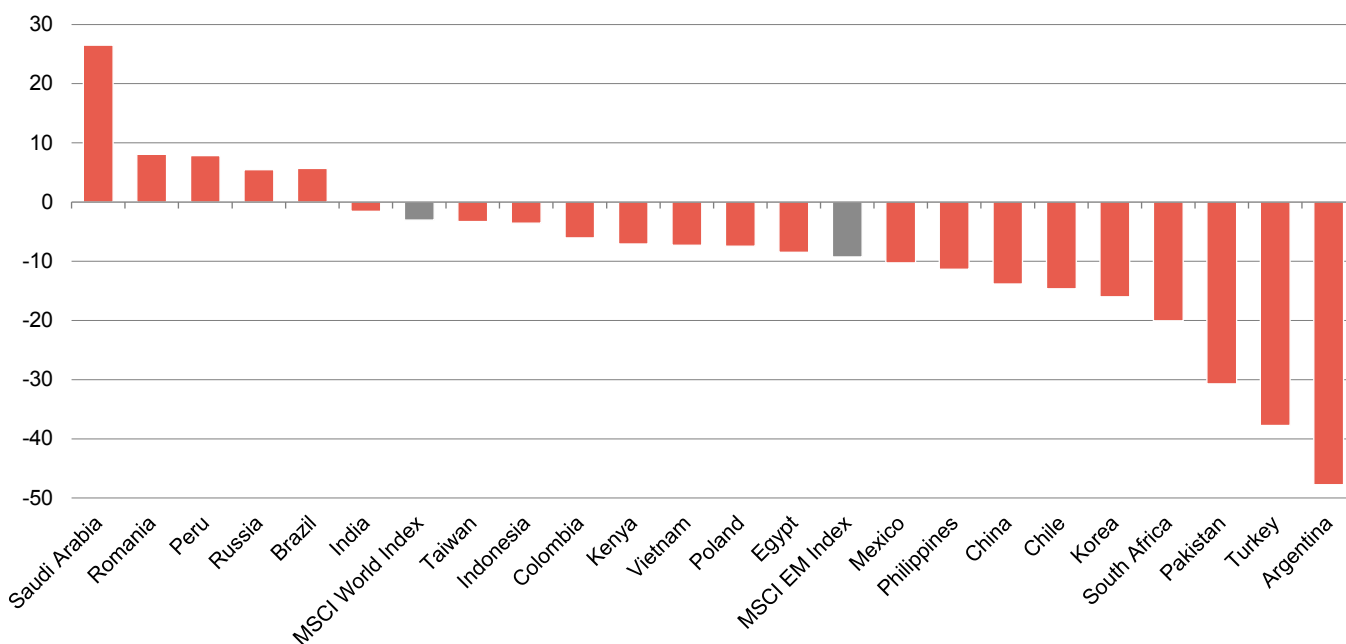
Managers picking up bargains while they can

In 2018, US companies and consumers benefitted from the sizeable tax cuts introduced by President Trump at the end of 2017. Fresh stimulus on this scale is unlikely to be forthcoming now that the Democrats control the House of Representatives. In addition, the chairman of the Federal Reserve, Jerome Powell, has indicated that US interest rates may not need to rise much further. This might help reverse sentiment towards emerging markets and it would also help to strengthen emerging market currencies. AEMC's managers believe that concerns are already dissipating in this area.

The trade war rhetoric that unnerved investors in China appears to be easing. It is possible that we will see some deal between President Trump and China's leader, President Xi. Given that backdrop, 2019 could turn out to be a good year. The managers are keen to take advantage of current volatility and, as usual, are directing their efforts towards identifying suitable out-of-favour investments.

Wide dispersion of returns in 2018

Figure 3: Performance of various MSCI Indices over 2018 (in sterling)



Source: Morningstar, Marten & Co

Saudi Arabia's rise may have been driven by index inclusion expectations

There was significant variation of returns during 2018. Saudi Arabia is thought to be a possible candidate for an upgrade to Emerging Markets status by MSCI (having already been promoted in the FTSE Russell family of indices). This has encouraged inflows to that market, as some investors seek to front-run index-tracking funds. Saudi Arabia was, for a large part of 2018, also a beneficiary of a rising oil price and a significant domestic reform programme. Higher energy prices were also a factor in Russia's strong showing for the year.

AEMC's managers believe the Indian equity market looks expensive

The counterpart of this was pressure on oil-importing countries such as India. The sharp reversal in the oil price in the latter part of 2018 has helped sentiment towards India and encouraged a rally in its stock market. However, AEMC's managers still believe the market looks expensive, especially in the run-up to elections later this year. In Brazil, the election of right-wing candidate, Jair Bolsonaro, helped boost the stock market but its neighbour, Argentina, was the laggard in 2018, as runaway inflation and a currency crisis forced another IMF bailout.

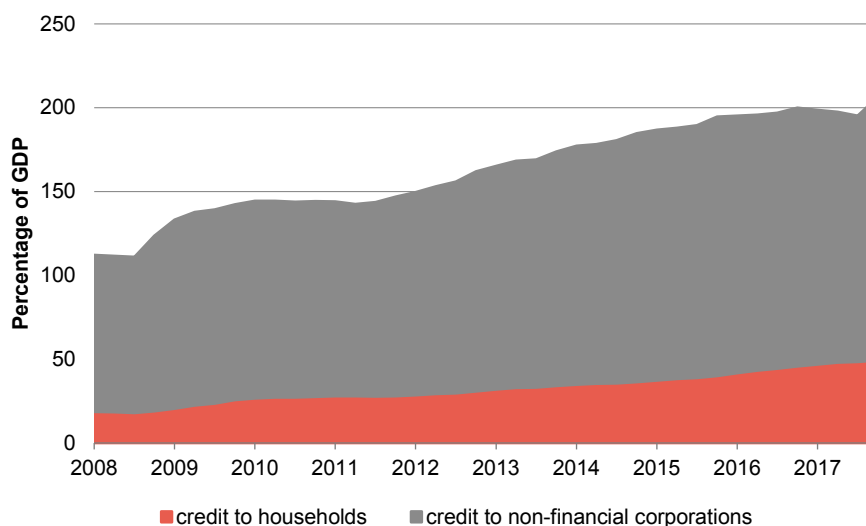
China's private sector debt has soared in recent years

China needs to regain momentum

The introduction of tariffs has had some impact on China, accelerating a trend of manufacturing moving elsewhere in Asia, especially to lower-cost countries such as Vietnam and Bangladesh.

China is also dealing with problems of its own making, notably its rapidly expanding private sector debt (lending to households and non-financial companies). The authorities have been clamping down on the shadow banking sector (non-bank financial companies that provide services that are similar to traditional banks) and on local government financing vehicles. However, nervous of the potential for a credit crunch, China has also been easing reserve requirements for official banks (giving them the opportunity to increase their loan books).

Figure 4: Chinese private sector debt as a percentage of GDP



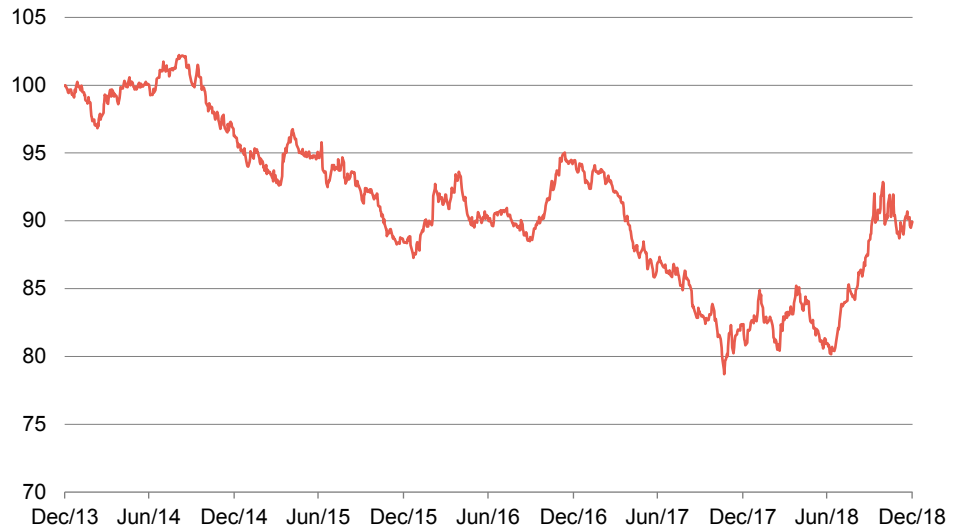
Source: BIS total credit statistics. Quarterly data 10 years to end Q1 2018

Growth style overextended

As the next section describes (see page 7), the managers' investment approach is value-based. For some time, investors have been favouring fast growing companies and stocks with strong share price momentum. Figure 5 shows that 'Value' had a better

time of it in the second half of 2018, but there is some way to go before value makes up all the ground it lost against 'Growth'.

Figure 5: MSCI EM Value versus MSCI EM Growth



Source: Bloomberg, Marten & Co

Small caps underperform

The majority of funds in which AEMC invests typically have a bias to smaller companies. The management teams of the underlying funds believe they can add greater value through researching less well know stocks to uncover hidden 'gems'. However, in recent years, the performance of the emerging market index has been driven by a small number of very large stocks. This has worked against AEMC's more diversified approach.

Figure 6: MSCI EM smaller companies versus larger companies



Source: Bloomberg, Marten & Co

Investment process

Asset allocation is a source of added value

AEMC's managers seek to construct a portfolio of both closed- and open-ended funds that give a diversified exposure to emerging markets. Outperformance of the benchmark can come from asset allocation decisions, fund selection and, in the closed-ended fund part of the portfolio, value can be added through discount contraction and corporate activity.

The managers believe that value-based, active investing can deliver outperformance of market indices over the long term. They say that closed-ended structures have some structural advantages over open-ended structures. However, the inclusion of open-ended funds within the portfolio gives access to talented management teams that might not be available via closed-ended funds, allows for improved liquidity and offers protection against the possibility of discount widening.

Asset allocation – a contrarian approach

Benefitting from Aberdeen Standard's depth of expertise in emerging markets

Asset allocation is seen as an important potential way of beating the benchmark index and therefore the distribution of the portfolio may differ markedly from the benchmark index.

Asset allocation decisions are based on a detailed assessment of prospects for different regions and the opportunities available. The underlying managers, experts in their fields, are a valuable source of information. The managers can benefit from the expertise of Aberdeen Standard's global strategy team as well as the portfolio managers for the various regional and country-specific portfolios. In addition, the managers use a multi-factor quantitative (numbers-driven) model to help check their assumptions. Essentially, the approach is a contrarian one, going against the herd and favouring markets that are undervalued relative to their peers and cheap relative to history. The board has not imposed any prescriptive limits on the geographic breakdown of the portfolio.

Fund selection – looking for best-of-breed

400-500 manager meetings a year

The managers conduct extensive due diligence on prospective investments, including a comprehensive assessment of operational issues by the eight-strong operational due diligence team at Aberdeen Standard Investments. When selecting the underlying funds, the managers' focus is on the 'four Ps' – people, process, portfolio and performance. The team conducts between 400 and 500 meetings with managers each year. They want to identify underlying managers with strong stock-picking skills and relevant experience, who are prepared to engage in an ongoing dialogue with the team, and whose interests are aligned with those of investors, often through significant personal investments in their own funds.

The investment process should be understandable, repeatable and consistently applied. The team is looking for evidence that the underlying managers are carrying out extensive research on their investments. The team will analyse the underlying portfolios and determine their risk and return characteristics. They will interpret the portfolio's performance track record in the light of this analysis.

Driving down underlying fees

Fees charged on the underlying funds must be competitive. The managers are often able to secure terms not available to other investors.

Catalyst for a rerating

Discount narrowing

The managers can switch the balance of the fund from open- to closed-ended and vice versa depending on the availability of discount narrowing opportunities. The inclusion of listed closed-ended funds within the portfolio allows the manager to seek to add value through discount narrowing. In these situations, the preference is for funds where they can identify a catalyst for a rerating. They will engage actively with boards, managers, shareholders and brokers.

Diversification without 'hugging' the benchmark

Diversification

The principal that asset allocation should make a meaningful contribution to returns ensures that the portfolio differs significantly from the make-up of the benchmark. The only formal constraint imposed on portfolio construction is that no holding will exceed more than 15% by value of net assets at the time of investment. The managers believe the portfolio should demonstrate the conviction that they have in their manager selection and aim to have around 30 holdings in the fund. The managers take the degree of diversification within investee funds into account when selecting funds, so that AEMC's exposure to any one underlying company should never be excessive. In practice, the underlying portfolio will be much more diversified than that of most other funds in the peer group, which should help reduce the volatility of AEMC's returns.

Asset allocation

Figure 7: AEMC asset allocation by country

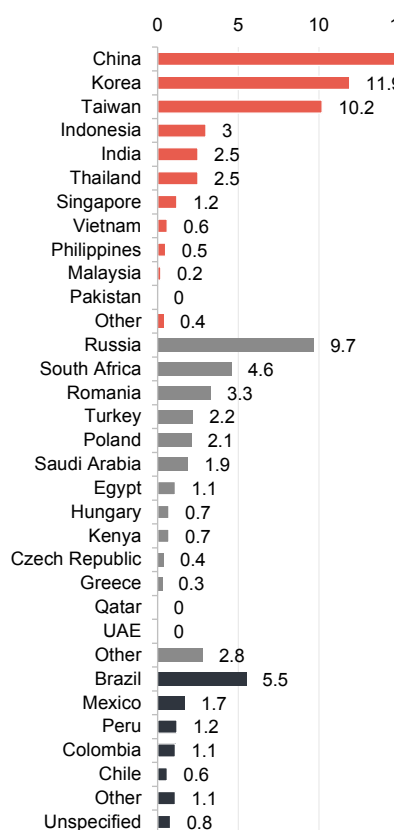
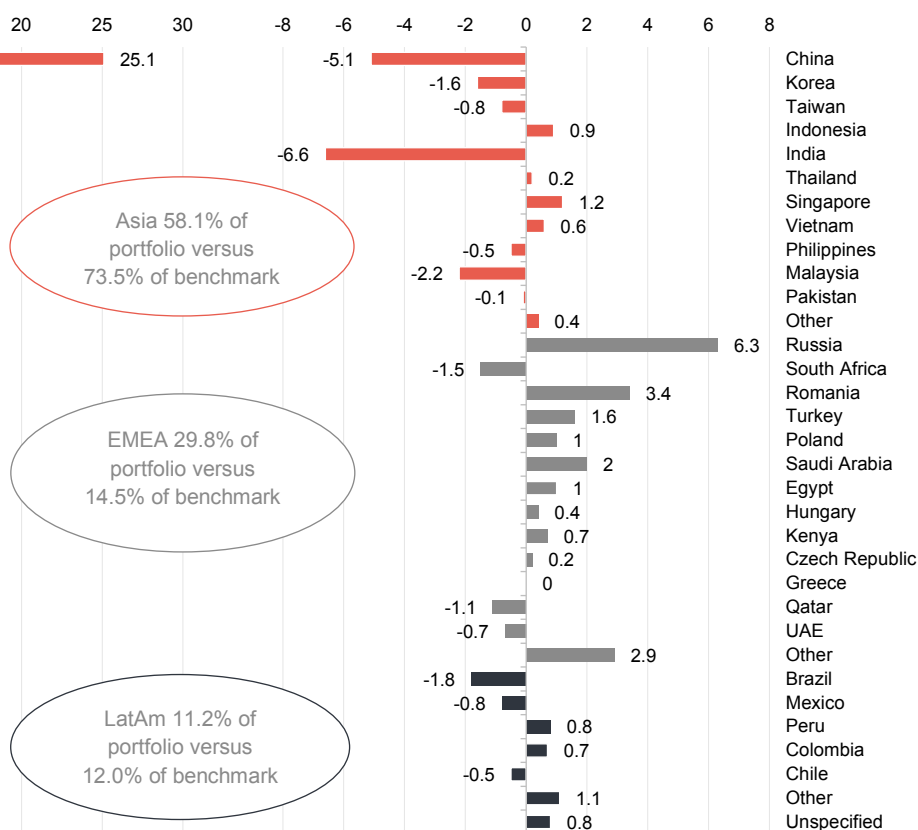


Figure 8: AEMC asset allocation versus benchmark



Source: Aberdeen Emerging Markets, Marten & Co

Source: Aberdeen Emerging Markets, Marten & Co

The proportion invested in open-ended funds has risen at the expense of the closed-ended portfolio. Discounts have been fairly stable despite the adverse sentiment toward emerging markets.

Largest holdings

Figure 9: 10 largest holdings as at 30 November 2018

Stock	% of total assets 30/11/18	% of total assets 31/05/18	Change (%)	Fund structure	Discount as at 31/12/18	Country or region
NB China Equity	9.3	9.9	(0.6)	Open	n/a	China
Schroder Taiwan Equity	7.4	7.0	0.4	Open	n/a	Taiwan
Schroder Asia Pacific	7.2	7.3	(0.1)	Closed		Asia Pacific
BlackRock Emerging Europe	6.6	6.0	0.6	Closed		Europe
Weiss Korea Opportunity	6.5	6.9	(0.4)	Closed		Korea
Brown Advisory Latin America	6.5	5.8	0.7	Open	n/a	Latin America
Fidelity China Special Situations	5.7	6.7	(1.0)	Closed		China
Avaron Emerging Europe	5.2	4.8	0.4	Open	n/a	Europe
SCM South Africa	3.9	3.8	0.1	Open	n/a	South Africa
Laurium Limpopo	3.6	3.6	0.0	Open	n/a	Africa
Total of top 10	61.8					

Source: Aberdeen Standard, Marten & Co

Whilst the constituents remain the same, Figure 9 shows how the disposition of the top 10 holdings has changed since QuotedData's last note was published on AEMC, using data as at 31 May 2018.

Reduction to Chinese exposure

Over the second half of 2018, the most significant change to AEMC's asset allocation was a reduction in the portfolio's exposure to China and an increase in the exposure to Russia and EMEA (Europe, Middle East and Africa). This reflects:

- trimming of positions in NB China Equity and Fidelity China Special Situations (around the time of the tender offer - see page 13);
- an increase in the holding of BlackRock Emerging Europe ahead of its winding up; and
- the relative performance of the various markets as shown in Figure 3 on page 4.

Fully invested in anticipation of a recovery

The managers are fully invested and the portfolio is modestly geared (7%) in anticipation of a potential recovery in emerging markets.

Since the end of November 2018, a sizeable amount of cash has been released by the liquidation of BlackRock Emerging Europe (which was AEMC's fourth largest holding). AEMC's managers opted to receive cash rather than rolling over some or all of their holding into BlackRock Frontier Markets (AEMC already had around 10% exposure to frontier markets and the managers felt that this was sufficient). The managers are working to deploy this cash.

Relative to other emerging market funds, perhaps the strongest stance is the fund's underweight exposure to India – which the team thinks still looks expensive. AEMC's holding in India Capital Growth has been sold.

The managers remain committed to following their contrarian instincts with exposure to funds such as Laurium Limpopo which invests in sub-Saharan Africa ex South Africa (discussed in our last note). This is an area that other investors appear to be steering clear of. The AEMC team believes that the managers of this fund have a genuine long-term approach and are operating within sensible capacity limits (about \$250m).

Performance

AEMC has lagged the MSCI Emerging Markets Index by 6.8% over the five years ended 31 December 2018.

Figure 10: AEMC NAV TR relative to MSCI Emerging Markets over five years to 31 December 2018



Source: Morningstar, Marten & Co

The peer-group used in Figure 11 comprises the average performance of Fundsmith Emerging Equities, Genesis Emerging Markets, JPMorgan Emerging Markets, Mobius Investment Trust and Templeton Emerging Markets. These funds' investment objectives closely resemble those of AEMC.

Figure 11: Cumulative performance over periods ending 31 December 2018

	3 months	6 months	1 year	3 years	Since 30 June 2014*	5 years
	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)
Aberdeen Emerging NAV (TR)	(5.5)	(7.6)	(12.5)	38.9	31.4	34.3
MSCI Emerging (TR)	(5.3)	(5.1)	(9.3)	50.9	37.3	41.1
MSCI World Index (TR)	(11.3)	(5.8)	(3.0)	39.0	58.0	62.5
Peer group avg. NAV (TR)	(2.8)	(3.8)	(7.5)	51.5	32.8	39.4

Source: Morningstar, Marten & Co. * date that Andrew Lister and Bernard Moody took control of the portfolio

An underweight exposure to China and the technology sector account for most of AEMC's underperformance relative to the benchmark over 2016 and 2017. Over 2018, the overweight exposure to Russia was a positive as was the exposure to Romania (through Fondul Proprietatea). The team has been trimming the latter position. However, BlackRock Emerging Europe's eventual liquidation value was lower than its share price at the start of 2018. It was dragged down by its exposure to Turkey (the second worst performing market after Argentina).

The underweight exposure to India was unhelpful in the latter quarter of 2018 as its market rallied on the collapse of the oil price.

Schroder Asia Pacific had a bad year relative to history and its peer group. However, it bought a few shares back in December and its discount has since been on a narrowing trend.

Brown Advisory Latin American (formerly Findlay Park), which is managed by Rupert Brandt (who used to manage F&C Latin America) had a poor year (20% behind its benchmark index). Rupert runs the fund with a concentrated portfolio of stocks and a focus on companies delivering a high return on invested capital. Overall, the fund's small and mid-cap exposure was unhelpful. Not holding Petrobras was also a negative as that stock soared on the recovering oil price (it has given up some of its gains over the last couple of months).

Peer group comparison

You can access up-to-date information on AEMC and its peers on the **QuotedData** website

The constituents of the peer group identified above are highlighted in pink in Figure 12. The wider peer group shown in Figure 12 comprises all the funds in the AIC's global emerging markets sector excluding Africa Opportunity, which as the name suggests is not a global fund, and Ashmore Global Opportunities and Terra Capital, which are in the process of liquidating their portfolios.

Figure 12: Global emerging market subsector comparison table (data as at 18 January 2019 except performance)

	Market cap (GBPm)	Discount (%)	Yield (%)	Ongoing charge (%)	NAV total return performance to 31 December 2018		
					1 year (%)	3 years (%)	5 years (%)
Aberdeen Emerging Markets	246	(15.0)	3.9	1.02 ¹	(12.5)	38.9	34.3
Aberdeen Frontier Markets	34	(12.5)	3.2	2.54	(19.9)	2.3	(5.8)
BlackRock Frontiers	282	2.1	4.2	1.83	(10.0)	38.8	41.5
Fundsmith Emerging Eq	327	1.7	0.0	1.85	(3.0)	31.7	n/a
Genesis Emerging Markets	918	(9.6)	2.2	1.43	(10.6)	43.9	33.9
JPMorgan Emerging Mkts	1,086	(9.9)	1.4	1.07	(4.7)	58.3	61.9
JPMorgan Gbl Emg Mkt Inc	378	(1.7)	4.0	1.26	(7.1)	54.3	35.5
Jupiter Emerging & Frontier	89	(0.4)	6.7	n/a	(12.6)	n/a	n/a
Mobius Investment Trust	97	(1.0)	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Templeton Emerging Mkts	1,861	(9.0)	2.8	1.09	(11.5)	72.6	42.0
Utilico Emerging Markets	499	(12.4)	3.4	1.14	(5.8)	34.5	39.1
Direct peer group average	858	(5.6)	1.6	1.36	(7.5)	51.5	39.4
Peer group average	557	(5.3)	3.1	1.53	(9.2)	41.0	34.7

Source: Morningstar, Marten & Co. Note 1) Manager's estimate for year ended 31 October 2018

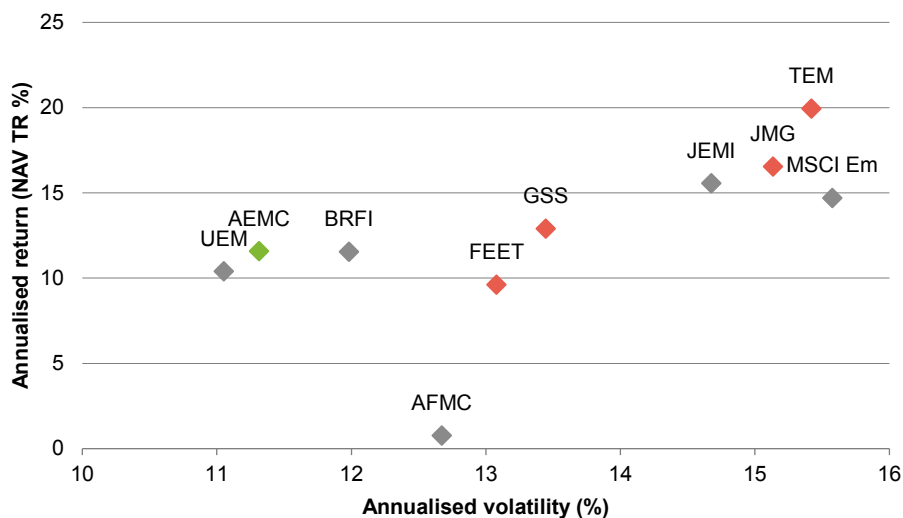
AEMC's discount is the widest of the funds in Figure 12. AEMC's yield is one of the highest of its peers, reflecting its policy of paying an enhanced yield (see below). A focus on keeping fees low means that AEMC's ongoing charges are the lowest of the peer group. The reversal in performance in recent months has dragged down AEMC's long-term returns, relative to the direct peer group in particular.

A lower volatility approach

Figure 13 compares AEMC to the wider peer group on a risk (annualised standard deviation of NAV returns over three years to 31 December 2018) versus return (annualised NAV total returns over three years to 31 December 2018) basis.

AEMC's volatility is significantly lower than its direct peers, which reflects the diversification inherent in its portfolio.

Figure 13: Risk versus returns for selected global emerging funds



Source: Morningstar, Marten & Co

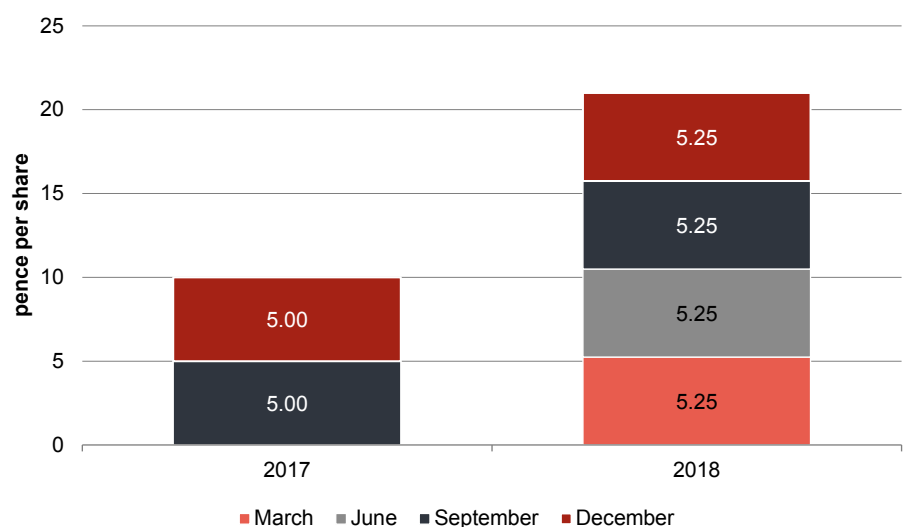
Dividend

In July 2017, AEMC’s board decided to implement a new dividend policy. It believed that investors were placing an increased emphasis on the income available from investing in emerging markets, yet, having built up substantial revenue losses, AEMC had not declared a dividend since 2009.

The board decided to pay quarterly dividends totalling 21p for the year ended 31 October 2018, topping up any revenue available for dividends with payments from capital, if necessary.

The board says that it is mindful that investors would like to see growth in the absolute level of the dividend over time.

Figure 14: AEMC dividends since July 2017

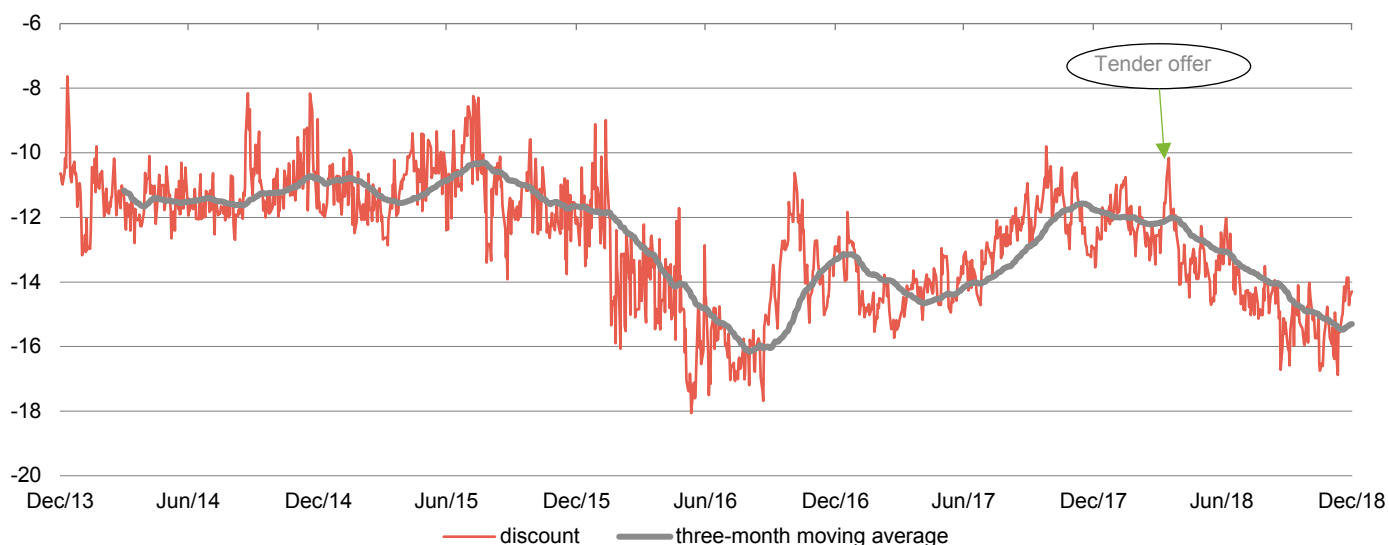


Source: Aberdeen Standard, Marten & Co

Discount

A tender offer that was announced in February 2018 and concluded in April resulted in the repurchase of 5,119,633 shares or 10% of AEMC’s issued share capital at a price equivalent to a 3.5% discount to the then-prevailing NAV. Following the tender, which was oversubscribed, there are 46,047,096 shares in issue and a further 8,571,411 shares held in treasury (see below). The discount widened over the course of 2018 but in recent weeks it has started to narrow again. Over 2018, it moved within a range of 16.9% and 10.2% and, at 18 January 2019 the discount was 15.0%.

Figure 15: AEMC discount over the five years ended 31 December 2018



Source: Morningstar, Marten & Co

The board believes that the principal purpose of share repurchases is to enhance net asset value for remaining shareholders, although it may also assist in addressing the imbalance between the supply and demand and so reduce the scale and volatility of the discount. The board says that considers it desirable that AEMC’s discount is at level that is similar to that of AEMC’s direct peer group. The board asks shareholders annually for the authority to buy back shares.

Shares repurchased may be held in treasury and reissued at a later date. Sales of treasury shares will only be made at a price which is equivalent to a premium to net asset value.

Fees and costs

No performance fee, lowest ongoing charges ratio in its peer group

With effect from 1 November 2017, the management fee decreased to an annualised rate of 0.8% of net assets and the performance fee was removed. For the purposes of the calculation of the management fee, any investments in funds managed by Aberdeen Standard are excluded from net assets. The investment management agreement can be terminated on six months’ written notice by either party.

Vistra Fund Services (Guernsey) Limited is the administrator and secretary to the company. It receives a fee of £40,000 per annum plus certain additional fees. PraxisIFM Fund Services (UK) Limited acts as administration agent in the UK. It receives a monthly fee equal to one-twelfth of 0.1% of NAV but this was capped at £138,360 for

the year ended 31 October 2017 and the cap is increased annually in line with the UK Retail Price Index.

Northern Trust (Guernsey) Limited, receives fees for depositary services calculated at the rate of 2.95 basis points per annum, subject to a minimum annual fee of £60,000 plus fees for custody services.

The manager's estimate that AEMC's ongoing charges for the financial year ended 31 October 2018 were 1.02% (2017: 1.07%).

Capital structure and life

There are 46,047,096 ordinary shares in issue as at the date of the publication of this note and no other classes of shares. There are also 8,571,411 ordinary shares held in treasury.

The company is permitted to borrow, at the point of drawdown, up to 15% of its net assets. In March 2017, the company entered into an unsecured multi-currency revolving loan facility with The Royal Bank of Scotland, for an amount of £25m and termination date of 29 March 2019. Gearing was 7.2% at 30 November 2018.

Regular continuation votes

The company's year-end is 31 October and, typically, AGMs are held in April. AEMC does not have a fixed life but does hold regular continuation votes. At the 2018 AGM, shareholders approved the continuation of the company. Another vote will be put to shareholders at the AGM to be held in 2023 and every fifth annual general meeting thereafter.

Major shareholders

QuotedData believes that City of London Asset Management remains the largest investor in AEMC (it held 29.1% of AEMC's share capital at 31 October 2017). Lazard Asset Management has cut its stake in AEMC, reporting holding 15.8% of the company as at 19 September 2018. Wells Capital Management has been increasing its stake and held 15.5% after a purchase of 7 January 2019.

Board

Following the resignation of Mark Barker in October 2018 due to an increase in his other commitments, the board comprises four directors, all of whom are considered to be independent of the manager.

Figure 16: The Board

Director	Position	Appointed	Length of service (years)	Annual fee (GBP)	Shareholding
M Hadsley-Chaplin	Chairman	26/04/12	6.7	33,000	25,000
J Hawkins	Deputy chairman	16/09/09	9.3	25,000	10,000
W Collins	Senior independent director	14/06/12	6.6	25,000	12,000
H Green	Chair of the audit committee	01/07/16	2.5	28,000	-

Source: Aberdeen Emerging Markets, Marten & Co

Mark Hadsley-Chaplin founded RWC Partners Ltd (formerly known as MPC Investors), a London-based fund management firm, in 2000 and was its CEO until 2006 and chairman until 2010. Prior to this he was vice chairman of UBS Securities (East Asia) Ltd, based in Singapore and responsible for the management and development of the bank's Asian equity business worldwide.

John Hawkins is a Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of England and Wales. He was formerly executive vice president and a member of the Corporate Office of The Bank of Bermuda Limited. He was with The Bank of Bermuda for 25 years, of which approximately 15 years were based in Hong Kong. He is also a director of The Prospect Japan Fund Limited and Raffles Asia Investment Company Limited.

William Collins, a Guernsey resident, has over 40 years' experience in banking and investment. From September 2007, he was employed by Bank J Safra Sarasin (formerly Bank Sarasin) in Guernsey as director – private clients, retiring at the end of 2014. Prior to that, he worked for Barings in Guernsey for over 18 years. In 1995, he was appointed a director and from 2003 until August 2007 was managing director of Baring Asset Management (CI) Ltd.

Helen Green, a Guernsey resident, is a chartered accountant and has been employed by Saffery Champness, a top 20 firm of chartered accountants, since 1984. She qualified as a chartered accountant in 1988 and became a partner in the London office in 1998. Since 2000, she has been based in the Guernsey office, where she is client liaison director responsible for trust and company administration. She serves as a non-executive director on the boards of a number of companies in various jurisdictions. Mrs Green holds other public company directorships in UK Mortgages Limited, Landore Resources Limited, City Natural Resources High Yield Trust Plc and Acorn Income Fund Limited, of which she is chairman.

Previous publications

Readers may be interested to know that QuotedData published an initiation note on AEMC on 28 September 2017 entitled [*Access to a wealth of talent*](#). This note has more background information on the structure of the fund, the investment process and the portfolio. This was followed in June 2018 with an update note [*10.6% a year for 20 years*](#).

QuotedData

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