Annual overview | Investment companies

15 April 2019

Jupiter Emerging & Frontier Income

Income objective exceeded

Jupiter Emerging & Frontier Income (JEFI) has outperformed the average of competing listed emerging markets funds since launch (see page 14). In 2018, JEFI's exposure to smaller and medium-sized companies and frontier markets acted as a drag on performance, relative to the MSCI Emerging Markets Index (the index that JEFI uses as a performance comparator).

With US interest rate rises no longer on the table for 2019, investors' interest in emerging and frontier markets may be rekindled. JEFI's focus on companies benefitting from positive change, and the managers' willingness to follow their conviction rather than hugging a benchmark, could provide a platform for outperformance. In addition, JEFI has comfortably exceeded the dividend objectives that were set at launch, putting it on an attractive yield, the highest of any fund in its listed peer group.

Long-term capital and income growth

JEFI aims to generate capital growth and income over the long term, through investment predominantly in companies exposed directly or indirectly to emerging markets and frontier markets worldwide.

Year ended	Share price total return (%)	NAV total return (%)	MSCI Emerging Markets TR (%)	MSCI Frontier Markets TR (%)	MSCI World total return (%)
31/03/18*	10.4	12.9	9.5	12.7	1.9
31/03/19	(6.4)	(5.4)	(0.3)	(8.5)	12.0

Source: Morningstar, Marten & Co. * period from launch on 15 May 2017

Sector	Global emerging
Ticker	JEFI LN
Base currency	GBP
Price	99.2p
NAV	101.0p
Premium/(discount)	(1.8%)
Yield	4.5%*

annualising the 6.2p total dividends declared since launch

Share price and discount Time period 15/05/2017 to 11/04/2019



Source: Morningstar, Marten & Co

Performance over five years



Source: Morningstar, Marten & Co

Domicile	UK
Inception date	15 May 2017
Manager	Ross Teverson Charles Sunnucks
Market cap	93.3m
Shares outstanding	94.044m
Daily vol. (1-yr. avg.)	80k shares
Net gearing	(12.0%)

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Benefitting from positive change

Fund profile

Jupiter Emerging & Frontier Income Trust (JEFI) launched in May 2017. It invests globally in stocks that provide exposure to emerging and frontier markets (any country that is not classified as developed or emerging). The aim is to generate both capital growth and income over the long term, using an investment approach that pays no attention to the composition of any benchmark index, is unconstrained and is focused on identifying positive change.

Investment managers

You can access the fund's website at

www.jupiteram.com/jefi

JEFI's portfolio is managed by Ross Teverson and Charles Sunnucks (together, the managers), both of Jupiter Asset Management (Jupiter), who subcontract the job of managing the portfolio from the AIFM, Jupiter Unit Trust Managers Limited. More information on the eight-strong emerging markets team is provided on page 18. The emerging markets team had £2.1bn under management at the end of March 2019. The managers can also draw on the expertise of Jupiter's wider pool of asset managers and analysts.

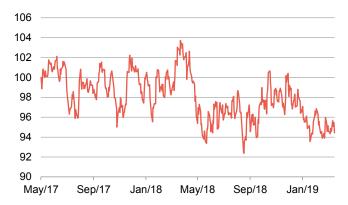
A more benign environment?

US interest rate rises stalled

In general, markets were weak at the end of 2018, as concerns started to build that Chinese growth was faltering. Part of the blame for that was laid at the ongoing trade tariff dispute between China and the US. The US Federal Reserve (the US central bank), which had been quite hawkish (ready to raise interest rates and clamp down on bank lending as a way of dampening inflation pressures), reversed its position and said that US interest rates are unlikely to rise further in 2019. This could weaken the US dollar, which would be beneficial for emerging markets. However, investors will also have an eye on Chinese economic data. In this regard, an uptick in China's March Purchasing Managers Index (PMI) to 50.5 (indicating economic expansion) may be encouraging.

Frontier markets and smaller companies underperforming

Figure 1: MSCI Frontier Markets relative to MSCI Emerging Markets (since JEFI launch)



Source: Morningstar, Marten & Co

Figure 2: MSCI Emerging Markets Small Cap relative to MSCI Emerging Markets (since JEFI launch)

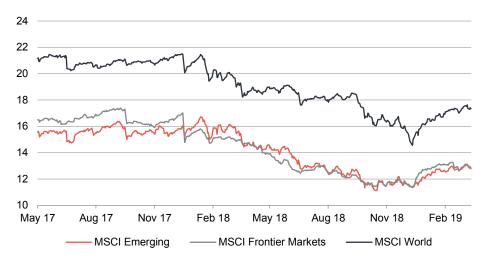


Source: Morningstar, Marten & Co



As is clear from Figures 1 and 2, which show relative performance for a couple of indices, frontier markets and smaller companies have been underperforming the MSCI Emerging Markets Index since JEFI was launched. Given that, JEFI, which has exposure to both, has done well to more or less hold its own, relative to the MSCI Emerging Markets Index (see Figure 15 on page 12).

Figure 3: Price/earnings ratios (based on historic earnings) of three MSCI Indices

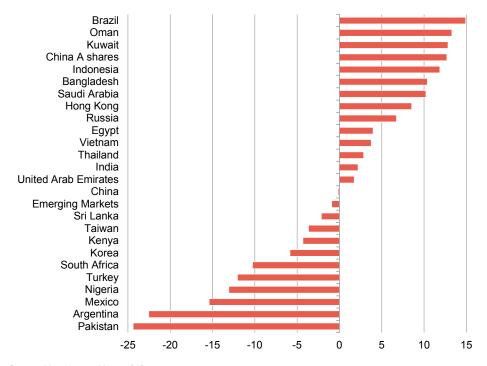


Source: Bloomberg, Marten & Co

Valuations are more attractive now than when JEFI was launched A combination of weak markets and reasonable earnings growth has meant that price/earnings multiples have fallen since JEFI was launched.

Figure 4 shows the performance of a selection of emerging and frontier indices. There has been quite a wide dispersion of returns since 31 July 2018 (the data used in our last note on JEFI).

Figure 4: Performance of selected MSCI Indices 31 July 2018 to 31 March 2019 (in sterling)



Source: Morningstar, Marten & Co



Brazil boosted by election of business-friendly president

Benchmark index distorted by rebalancing of Chinese weighting

technology index) indices within the MSCI Emerging Markets Index (the inclusion factor will rise from 5% to 20% by November 2019). In the run-up to elections, MSCI India has been fairly flat, putting the disruptive events of demonetisation (when the government abruptly retired most of the bank notes in circulation) and the introduction of a Goods and Services Tax behind it, but mid and small-cap stocks have underperformed larger ones.

The domestic Chinese market has been particularly strong so far in 2019, on news that

MSCI would accelerate the inclusion of stocks in the China A and ChiNext (a Chinese

Dubai and within Dubai Malls (Fashion Avenue was expanded in March 2018).

Brazil rose after the election of President Jair Bolsonaro, seen as the business-friendly

candidate. The gulf countries of the Middle East did well generally, buoyed by a

recovering oil price and the possibility that Saudi Arabia would be upgraded to the MSCI Emerging Markets Index. The UAE has been underperforming other gulf markets. The managers note, for example, that port owner and operator DP World is trading at a discount to peers and Emirates Bank has been underperforming Saudi competitors such as Al Rajhi Bank. JEFI's exposure to the gulf countries comes through holdings in Emaar Malls, the UAE company that owns Dubai Malls. The managers say that the market is not giving credit for this asset's world-class location. The company offers a 6% yield from revenue that is largely dollar-denominated/linked. They think there is scope for positive rent reviews and the addition of new retail space, both elsewhere in

At the other end of the table, Pakistan's stock market ran up in advance of its promotion to the MSCI Emerging Markets Index but has fallen sharply since, in part as an International Monetary Fund (IMF) bailout looms. Charles, one of the managers, made a visit to the country in 2018 and sees potential there. In our last note, we discussed the managers' purchase of United Bank (UBL), a leading Pakistani bank.

One of the big themes in JEFI's portfolio is increasing financial inclusion within

emerging and frontier economies (more people having more access to financial services products). JEFI offers a much more diverse set of exposures than its

benchmark. Instead of buying the Chinese banks that dominate benchmark indices, the managers have been looking elsewhere for stocks that will benefit from greater financial inclusion. These may provide insurance, savings and pension products, as well as

Financial inclusion

banking services and may include fintech companies.

JEFI offers a more diverse set of exposures than its benchmark

Chinese banks face a number of challenges

JEFI owns a range of banks that could benefit from increased penetration of financial services

The Chinese banks may offer high dividends, but also come with low growth and potential asset problems (loans that may not be repaid). The Chinese banking sector is fairly heavily regulated, but some banks have been circumventing the rules by dressing up loans as asset management products. The regulator is clamping down on this, increasing scrutiny of the shadow banking sector and reining in lending to stateowned enterprises. The managers think China can work its way through the problems that have arisen from the rapid growth of debt within its economy. However, it will be hard for the financial sector to make progress against this backdrop. The Chinese economy is still dependent on property prices and consumer sentiment. The managers see credit card lending as an emerging problem in China. A recent uptick in

By contrast, the stocks that JEFI owns, such as UBL in Pakistan, KCB in Kenya, Guaranty Trust in Nigeria and Bank of Georgia, are relatively inexpensive, have better growth prospects and are operating in markets with low levels of penetration of financial products. This is even true of Grupo Financiero Banorte, the Mexican banking and financial services group, a recent addition to JEFI's portfolio. Just one third of the adult Mexican population have bank accounts.

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unemployment may exacerbate this.



Many of these banks have simple business models

The managers say that many of these banks have simple business models. Assets are relatively low-risk, with revenue being derived from corporate lending and government bond holdings. A high proportion of current accounts means that the cost of financing is low.

Investment process

Outperformance through the cycle

The managers' investment approach for JEFI is clearly differentiated from that of its peer group. It can be summed up as 'change-based investing'. It involves identifying a change or an improvement in a business that is not already reflected in its share price, but where the managers can pinpoint a catalyst for a re-rating.

The managers acknowledge that the approach, which combines both value and growth elements, and is not dependent on any style, makes the fund hard to pigeonhole. That means, though, that the performance of the portfolio should not be dependent on where we are in the economic cycle.

Stock selection is paramount

Three types of change -

wide and structural

company specific, industry-

The process revolves around stock selection. The managers do not formulate views on economics or politics or incorporate them into portfolio construction. The only 'top-down' element to portfolio construction (that is to say, the only part that is not driven by the managers' stock choices) is in ensuring adequate risk diversification.

Types of change

 Company-specific change: the most common type of change that the managers identify is that which is within the power of company management. Examples would include the launch of new products and services, or changes to capital structure.

- Industry change: typically about improving competitive structure within an industry.
 The managers cite the example of the IT hardware sector, where a fragmented industry has become an oligopoly with just a handful of players, with greater pricing discipline.
- Structural change: which tends to be very long-term.

The managers have no target in mind for allocations to each 'bucket', but want a reasonable spread of the different types of change within the portfolio.

Catalysts

There are many catalysts for a rerating but the managers cite examples such as the publication of sales data; earnings announcements; investor roadshows; and announcements of returns of capital.

Selecting stocks

Proprietary quant model highlights opportunities

A numbers-based model that they have devised themselves, which scores stocks on factors such as earnings growth and valuation metrics, is used to highlight opportunities. This provides approximately a quarter of ideas for the portfolio. The model includes a liquidity threshold of stock turnover of \$1m but the managers say that JEFI's closed-end structure allows them to hold stocks that are less liquid than those in the equivalent open-ended funds and they can include stocks in the JEFI portfolio that don't meet the threshold.



Benefit from the breadth and depth of Jupiter's investment expertise

Talk to management

Validate investment thesis with independent sources

Other ideas come from a variety of sources, notably from the breadth of investment management and analytical support offered by the rest of Jupiter's team (each manager specialises in research into specific sectors). For example, Jupiter's UK small-cap manager has some holdings in common with the fund by virtue of companies operating within emerging or frontier markets but having a listing in London.

The managers ensure they talk to company management before they make an investment. They will meet them when they can - they travel extensively. The team has around 1,000 face-to-face or telephone meetings with companies in a typical year.

The managers also try to find independent evidence that supports their investment thesis for each stock. For example, interviewing both local and international competitors and customers before investing.

Income

The managers say that the companies that the fund owns will often have strong balance sheets (about half of the portfolio has net cash). Companies will also tend to have high income visibility and above-average levels of dividend growth. Notionally, the managers allocate stocks to one of three dividend 'buckets'.

Low yielding but growing companies can fit the portfolio

Positive change supports dividend growth

About 10% of the fund will be in stocks with future income potential. Typically, these will have a yield between 0% and 2%. The managers feel that it is important not to have a minimum yield threshold for the inclusion of stocks within the portfolio. They do not mind buying some low-yielding companies with the prospect of above-average dividend growth.

About 50% of the fund can be classified as income growth stocks. These have a yield between 2% and 6%, have an established track record of paying dividends, and demonstrate positive change that supports dividend growth.

The balance of the portfolio, about 40% of the fund, is classified by the managers as 'high income visibility' stocks. These will typically have yields in excess of 6%, predictable dividend streams and may have some associated dividend growth from gradual structural change.

Portfolio construction

Stocks should make meaningful contribution but not dominate performance

Position sizes in the portfolio will vary between 1% and 5%. The managers want each stock to make a meaningful contribution to performance; this helps set the minimum position size. The maximum position size helps avoid a situation where an individual stock becomes the main driver of portfolio performance and a concentration risk.

New position sizes depend on largely on the strength of the managers' conviction, but are also influenced by liquidity and the extent that the position will diversify fund factor risk (so the portfolio is not over-exposed to any single risk factor, the oil price for example). The portfolio should comprise, therefore, about 40-45 stocks and the managers aim to operate a 'one in, one out' policy.

There are no explicit risk limits, apart from having a maximum 25% exposure to frontier

Quarterly risk review

Jupiter's standalone risk team reviews the portfolio on a quarterly basis. It seeks to identify the sources of risk within the portfolio, including currency exposures and the like. Index benchmark weights are not taken into consideration. The managers believe the MSCI Emerging Markets Index is a flawed measure of returns/component of risk analysis in that it has a significant and expanding exposure to China. By contrast, the



managers say that there is a greater diversification of country exposures in JEFI's portfolio.

Sell discipline

For each holding there is a review price, and if that is reached, the managers will revisit the investment case. A stock reaching its review price is not an automatic trigger to sell, but it does prompt a re-evaluation of what is changing for the company and whether that change has now been priced in by the market.

No 'hope stocks'

If a position drops below 1% of the trust, it is automatically put up for review, and the covering analyst is expected to conclude if the investment case is still attractive and the position should be added to, or if the investment case is broken and it should be removed from the trust. This discipline avoids having a long-tail of 'hope stocks' which the managers might hope will turnaround but have no supporting evidence that this will happen.

Risk controls

The managers operate with the following risk controls which were outlined within the prospectus:

- up to 30% of the fund can be invested in developed markets;
- the maximum exposure to frontier markets is 25%;
- up to 5% of the fund can be invested in unquoted companies;
- no more than 10% can be invested in any single holding at the time of investment;
- no limits on geographic exposures;
- hedging, using index futures, options and forward currency contracts is permitted;
 and
- contracts for difference are permitted as is the use of bonds, warrants and equityrelated securities including participation notes.

In addition, the managers work within the following parameters:

- maximum and minimum position sizes of 5% and 1%;
- while hedging is permitted, they are very unlikely to hedge currencies in practice, preferring instead to maintain diversified currency exposures;
- derivatives may only be used if direct market access is an issue; and
- while the portfolio may include a number of less liquid companies (benefitting from its closed-end structure), the managers will not buy illiquid companies (i.e. no stocks that can go for multi-day periods without trading).

Currency hedging unlikely

JEFI does not intend to use derivatives or other financial instruments to take short positions, nor to increase gearing in excess of the limit set out in the company's borrowing policy (see page 17). Currency exposures will not be hedged routinely.

Asset allocation

No exposure to China's technology 'giants'

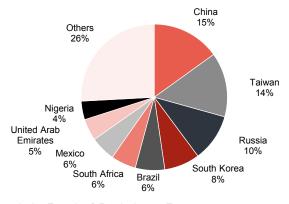
JEFI's portfolio is very different to most other funds in its peer group. The company has no exposure to Alibaba and Tencent, the two dominant stocks within the MSCI Emerging Markets Index (9.2% of the index at the end of February 2019). This gives JEFI a high active share versus its benchmark. The only major benchmark constituents



that feature in JEFI's portfolio are Samsung (4.2%) and semiconductor company, TSMC (c3%).

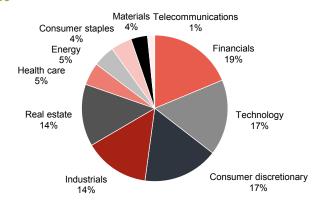
In addition, the free-ranging, stock-picking style favoured by the managers means that there are significant differences in the geographic and sector makeup of JEFI's portfolio, relative to the benchmark index. For example, China's weighting in the benchmark was 32% at the end of February 2019 while, as Figure 5 shows, it was 15% of JEFI's portfolio.

Figure 5: Asset allocation by country as at 28 February 2019



Source: Jupiter Emerging & Frontier Income Trust

Figure 6: Asset allocation by sector as at 28 February 2019



Source: Jupiter Emerging & Frontier Income Trust

Top 10 holdings

Figure 7: Top 10 holdings as at 28 February 2019

	Country/Region	Sector	% of gross assets 28/02/19	% of gross assets 31/07/18	% change
Corp Inmobiliaria Vesta	Mexico	Real estate	4.4	3.8	+0.6
Wilson, Sons	Brazil	Industrials	4.3	3.8	+0.5
Samsung Electronics	Korea	IT	4.2	3.0	+1.2
MMC Norilsk Nickel	Russia	Materials	4.1	2.8	1.3
KCB	Kenya	Financials	3.8	3.3	+0.5
NagaCorp	Cambodia	Consumer services	3.6	3.4	+0.2
Sberbank	Russia	Financials	3.4	3.2	+0.2
Grit Real Estate	Africa ex South Africa	Real estate	3.4	3.1	+0.3
Hindustan Petroleum	India	Energy	3.3	0.0	+3.3
Ginko International	Taiwan	Consumer goods	3.2	3.2	-
Total of top 10			37.7	33.1	+4.6

Source: Jupiter Emerging and Frontier Income, Bloomberg, Marten & Co

Many of these stocks were discussed in our last note. Wilson & Sons has been a beneficiary of the rally in the Brazilian market following elections in that country. The managers are attracted to the stock because they feel its port assets are both undervalued and underutilised, relative to global competitors.

Quoted Data

Figure 8: MMC Norilsk Nickel share price



Source: Bloomberg, Marten & Co

MMC Norilsk Nickel (4.1%)

MMC Norilsk Nickel (www.nornickel.com) is a leading producer of nickel, palladium, platinum (and other platinum group metals) and copper. Its results for 2018 show strong improvements in revenue and earnings before interest, tax, depreciation and amortisation (EBITDA). Debt has been cut by reducing the company's stockpile of palladium, and the company is paying significant levels of dividend. Nickel demand is growing, driven by its use in batteries aimed at the electric vehicle market, but there is a long way to go in this regard.

MMC Norilsk Nickel has published estimates of the demand for its metals in various types of vehicle, which we have reproduced below. Clearly, as the market evolves, demand for its products could rise significantly.

Figure 9: Metal contribution to various types of light vehicle

	Petrol	Diesel	Hybrid	Battery powered EV	Fuel cell powered EV
Nickel	2-4kg	2-4kg	5-15kg	30-110kg	2-3kg
Copper	20-25kg	20-25kg	45-50kg	75-80kg	70-75kg
Platinum group	2-5g	3-6g	2-6g	none	25-35g
(Pt/Pd ratio)	1:4	8:1	1:4	n/a	
Metal value per vehicle	\$260-480	\$220-380	\$460-770	up to \$1,800	up to \$1,400

Source: MMC Norilsk Nickel

Figure 10: Grit Real Estate



Source: Bloomberg, Marten & Co

Grit Real Estate (3.4%)

Grit Real Estate (www.grit.group) occupies an interesting niche within the African property market. At the end of 2018, it held 25 assets in seven countries (Mozambique, Mauritius, Morocco, Zambia, Ghana, Kenya and Botswana). The fund began to build its portfolio in 2014, and in July 2018 it raised an additional \$132m and listed in London. The IPO proceeds were used to pay down debt and expand its portfolio. Its tenants are predominantly 'blue chip' and multinational. These customers are prepared to pay a bit more for peace of mind and for turnkey solutions in these countries. The one area of weakness in the portfolio is in its retail investments. A redevelopment is underway at its AnfaPlace shopping centre in Morocco. Once this is complete, Grit's retail vacancy rate should fall and the company sees "significant upside potential" in the valuation of this asset. The shares trade close to NAV and offer more than an 8% yield.

Figure 11: Hindustan Petroleum share price



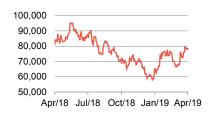
Source: Bloomberg, Marten & Co

Hindustan Petroleum (3.3%)

Hindustan Petroleum (www.hindustanpetroleum.com) was JEFI's first Indian acquisition. The company has a network of petrol stations across India, the second largest, and there is an opportunity for the company to build upon its associated retail offering. At the other end of the scale, it is engaging in more complex refining activities, which can attract higher margins. The Indian market has been a laggard and this is especially true of its mid- and small-cap companies. As the country prepares for elections, the government has been ramping up the rhetoric. In October 2018, it suggested that petroleum distributors give up some of their margin to cushion the blow of rising oil prices on Indian consumers. This bit of electioneering triggered falls in share prices and gave the managers an opportunity to build the position. The yield on Hindustan Petroleum is now about 6%.



Figure 12: SK Hynix share price



Source: Bloomberg, Marten & Co

Figure 13: John Keells share price



Source: Bloomberg, Marten & Co

Profits booked on Saudi Telecom, Chroma Ate and Itau Unibanco

Outside of the top 10 – SK Hynix

Korean chipmaker (one of the world's largest) SK Hynix (www.skhynix.com) was a recent addition to the portfolio. It had been a holding within their non-income-focused mandates, but the stock delivered dividend growth that made it worthy of inclusion in JEFI's portfolio. SK Hynix offers a 2.5% yield, a growing pay-out ratio and considerable cash on its balance sheet, and the managers feel that there is the prospect of industry consolidation. The company has announced long-term plans to invest over \$100bn to maintain its competitive advantage. Demand for chips has been slowing as smartphone sales plateau; this was a factor in Samsung Electronics reporting a sharp fall in quarterly operating profits on 5 April. Investors seem to be looking beyond this cycle, however. SK's new production facilities are thought to be aimed at 5G telecoms and artificial intelligence.

John Keells

JEFI now has a stake in Sri Lankan conglomerate, John Keels (www.keells.com). Its business is diversified across more than 70 companies. The conglomerate's share price was weak last summer. Its consumer business was hit by a sugar tax on fizzy drinks that was introduced in November 2017 and which triggered nearly 40% price hikes for its products. Penetration of these products is much lower in Sri Lanka than in moredeveloped Asia countries.

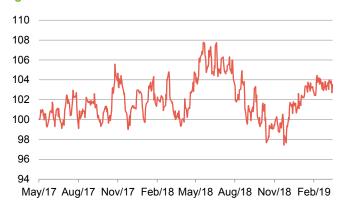
A significant property development, Cinnamon Life, is underway in Colombo. Due for completion in 2020, the project includes a hotel, conference facilities, retail, offices and residential (one of a number of residential projects in and around Colombo that John Keells is planning). The company's existing leisure assets include a number of hotels in Sri Lanka and the Maldives. More are planned and the company is predicting that occupancy rates will rise from current low levels as the country attracts more tourists. John Keells is also optimistic on the growth prospects for its ports operations, and its financial services businesses are seeing strong profit growth.

Positions that have been reduced/eliminated include Saudi Telecom, whose shares rose strongly, in part on rumours of an upgrade of Saudi Arabia to an emerging market within the MSCI family of indices. The managers have also reduced the positions in Chroma Ate, at one point JEFI's largest holding, and Itau Unibanco (see page 12/13).



Performance

Figure 14: NAV TR relative to MSCI Frontier Markets



Source: Morningstar, Marten & Co

Figure 15: NAV TR relative to MSCI Emerging Markets



Source: Morningstar, Marten & Co

Figures 14, 15 and 16 demonstrate the fund's outperformance of the MSCI Frontier Markets Index and narrow underperformance of the MSCI Emerging Markets Index from launch to the end of March 2019.

As Figure 16 shows, emerging and frontier markets have lagged developed markets (as represented by the MSCI World Index) since JEFI's launch. As we discussed on page 3, small-cap stocks and frontier markets stocks – areas to which JEFI has an overweight exposure to relative to the benchmark index – have both lagged the MSCI Emerging Markets Index.

Figure 16: Total return performance over periods ending 31 March 2019

	1 month (%)	3 months (%)	6 months (%)	1 year (%)	since launch (%)
JEFI Price	(2.8)	7.0	0.8	(6.4)	3.4
JEFI NAV	2.7	6.6	2.7	(5.4)	6.7
MSCI Frontier Markets Index	3.3	4.5	2.3	(8.5)	3.1
MSCI Emerging Markets Index	2.9	7.4	1.8	(0.3)	9.2
MSCI World Index	3.4	9.9	(2.5)	12.0	14.1

Source: Morningstar, Marten & Co

From launch to the end of 2018, strong positive contributions to performance have come from Norilsk Nickel, Chroma Ate, Naga Corp, Itau Unibanco and Salmones Camachaca. On the downside, the stocks that have held back returns from launch to the end of 2018 were Ascendis Health (discussed in our last note), LSR Group (a Russian housebuilder whose shares fell along with those of competitors when the government banned the pre-sale of uncompleted apartments), UBL, Bank of Georgia and Almacenes Exito (South America's largest retailer).

Figure 17: Chroma Ate share price



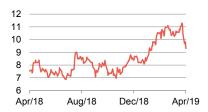
Source: Bloomberg, Marten & Co

Chroma Ate

Based in Taiwan, Chroma Ate (www.chromaate.com) describes itself as a world-leading supplier of precision test and measurement instrumentation, automated test systems, intelligent manufacturing systems and turnkey solutions. The share price doubled between May 2017 and August 2018 and the managers took some profits. For 2018, Chroma Ate's revenues rose by 14% but were weak in the fourth quarter of 2018 (down 17% year-on-year). Its gross margin slipped in 2018 and the company reduced its dividend.

QuotedData

Figure 18: Naga Corp share price



Source: Bloomberg, Marten & Co

Figure 19: Itau Unibanco share price



Source: Bloomberg, Marten & Co

Figure 20: Salmones Camachaca share price



Source: Bloomberg, Marten & Co

Naga

We discussed Naga (www.nagacorp.com) in our last note. The Cambodian gaming company's new extension, Naga 2, has been ramping up its operations. The managers note that, even though the share price has risen, the valuation multiple is not expanding, reflecting earnings growth. Chinese tourism firms are working with the company, helping to drive an increase in Chinese guests to its hotel and casino.

Itau Unibanco

Brazilian bank Itau Unibanco (www.itau.com) is a stock that JEFI has owned since launch. In common with many other Brazilian stocks, Itau's share price had a strong run on the back of the election of Jair Bolsonaro as Brazil's president. The managers decided to take profits and reinvest some of the proceeds in Mexico's Banorte. That stock had de-rated on what the managers thought were unreasonable concerns about the impact of the new Mexican administration under Andrés Manuel López Obrador.

Salmones Camanchaca

Salmones Camanchaca (www.camanchaca.cl/en) was discussed in our last note. The managers note that it is still undervalued relative to rival salmon producers based in Norway. This is despite Salmones having better access to more immature markets, notably the US and China. The managers have sold some of the position but say that they are still very comfortable with JEFI's remaining holding.



Peer group

Up-to-date information on JEFI and its peer group is available on the QuotedData website

JEFI sits within the AIC's global emerging market sector. Only one other London-listed investment company has a policy of investing across both emerging and frontier markets (Mobius Investment Trust) and only one other company (JPMorgan Global Emerging Markets Income Trust) invests in a portfolio of predominantly above-average yielding equities. Other trusts in the sector that pay a high dividend yield manufacture a significant part of this by distributing capital.

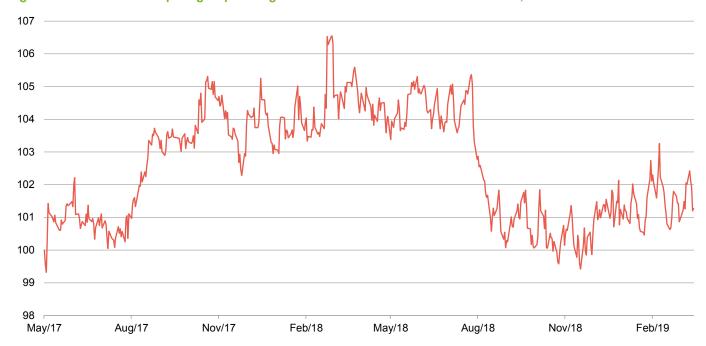
Figure 21: Peer group comparison as at 11 April 2019

	Market cap (£m)	Premium/ (Discount) (%)	Yield (%)	Ongoing charge (%)
Jupiter Emerging & Frontier Markets Income	93	(1.8)	4.5	1.27
Aberdeen Emerging Markets	263	(13.7)	3.7	1.02
Aberdeen Frontier Markets	35	(8.2)	3.1	2.70
BlackRock Frontiers	327	(0.0)	4.2	1.96
Fundsmith Emerging Equities	330	0.7	0.2	1.75
Genesis Emerging Markets	992	(11.8)	2.0	1.49
JPMorgan Emerging Markets	1,163	(8.9)	1.3	1.02
JPMorgan Global Emerging Markets Income	398	(2.0)	3.7	1.26
Mobius Investment Trust	102	1.7	-	-
Templeton Emerging Markets	1,962	(9.5)	1.9	1.09
Peer group average	619	(5.7)	2.5	1.54

Source: Morningstar

JEFI trades fairly close to asset value (see page 16) and this might allow the fund to grow. JEFI has expanded a little since launch, but is still at the smaller end of this group of competing funds. This impacts on its ongoing charges ratio somewhat (as fixed costs are spread over a smaller base), but this is still lower than the peer group average. JEFI's yield (which we have based on a 4.5p annualised dividend rather than the 6.2p paid since launch – see page 15) is the highest of the peer group.

Figure 22: JEFI relative to peer group average - NAV total returns since JEFI's launch, rebased to 100



Source: Morningstar, Marten & Co



JEFI has outperformed the average of the peer group since launch.

Figure 23: NAV total returns over periods ending 31 March 2019

	1 month (%)	3 months (%)	6 months (%)	1 year (%)	Since launch (%)
Jupiter Emerging & Frontier Markets Income	2.7	6.6	2.7	(5.4)	6.7
Aberdeen Emerging Markets	2.4	8.6	2.6	(2.5)	5.4
Aberdeen Frontier Markets	0.1	1.9	(4.7)	(17.4)	(19.2)
BlackRock Frontiers	1.1	3.7	2.0	(10.1)	0.8
Fundsmith Emerging Equities	5.2	1.5	5.9	3.5	10.1
Genesis Emerging Markets	4.1	12.9	6.7	3.6	12.2
JPMorgan Emerging Markets	4.6	8.6	6.0	6.0	15.9
JPMorgan Global Emerging Markets Income	3.2	10.3	3.3	2.0	10.7
Mobius Investment Trust	(8.0)	0.1	n/a	n/a	n/a
Templeton Emerging Markets	2.1	8.7	3.4	2.1	10.5

Source: Morningstar, Marten & Co

JEFI's frontier market exposure may have acted as a drag on returns. Figure 23 shows that, since launch, JEFI has outperformed the funds focused on frontier markets but has lagged most emerging markets-focused funds.

Dividend

In its initial prospectus, JEFI was targeting a dividend of 5.5p for the period from launch until 30 September 2018; 4p for the period to 31 May 2018 and 1.5p for the period from end May to end September 2018. The prospectus said that, for the financial period ending 30 September 2019, the company intended to pay three interim dividends, declared in December 2018, June 2019 and December 2019 and paid in January 2019, July 2019 and January 2020. Thereafter, all dividends would be made semi-annually, payable in January and July.

In its interim accounts, the board said that the third dividend would be at least 2p, making a total of 6p for the period from launch to 30 September 2018.

6.2p paid versus initial 5.5p target

In the event, JEFI declared dividends totalling 6.2p, which were covered by earnings of 6.54p. These dividends and earnings relate solely to the period ended 30 September 2018.

Figure 24: JEFI dividends declared since launch

Pay date	Rate per share (pence)
January 2018	2.0
June 2018	2.0
January 2019	2.2
Total	6.2

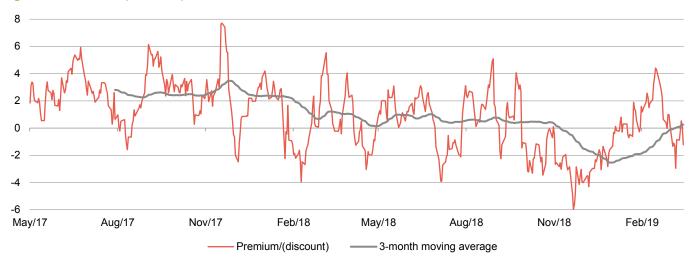
Source: JEFI, Marten & Co

The board made no comment about future dividends in JEFI's annual report, beyond reiterating that the target was for a minimum annualised dividend of 4% at launch. However, extrapolating from the company's revenue generation in its first accounting period might suggest that JEFI could pay 5p in dividends for the year ending 30 September 2019 in two dividends payable in July 2019 and January 2020.



Premium/(Discount)

Figure 25: Premium/(discount) since launch



Source: Morningstar, Marten & Co.

Over the year to the end of March 2019, JEFI traded within a range of -5.9% to 5.1% and an average of 0.1%. At 11 April 2019, JEFI was trading on a discount of 1.8%.

JEFI's discount widened temporarily at the end of 2018, in-line with many other trusts, but the shares have now moved back to trading at a small premium. The discount control mechanism (see below) should help reinforce this, as should the attractive yield and the growing dividend.

Annual redemption facility

Each year, JEFI plans to offer shareholders a chance to redeem their shares

JEFI has an annual redemption facility that acts as a discount control mechanism and allows shareholders to request that the company redeems all or part of their shareholding. The operation of the redemption facility and the number of shares that will be redeemed are at the discretion of the board.

At the date of the first redemption opportunity in June 2018, redemption requests were made in respect of 176,173 shares. All of these were sold onto other buyers and JEFI did not have to repurchase any shares.

Fees and costs

Annual management charge of 0.75% and no performance fee

Jupiter Unit Trust Managers Limited, a subsidiary of Jupiter Investment Group Limited, is JEFI's Alternative Investment Funds Manager (AIFM). It is entitled to a management fee of 0.75% of NAV, payable quarterly in arrears. Any investment by JEFI in other funds managed or advised by any part of Jupiter Investment Group Limited (would be excluded from the calculation of the NAV for the purposes of calculating the management fee. There is no performance fee. The investment management agreement can be terminated on 12 months' written notice from either party.

25% of the management fee is charged against JEFI's revenue account and the balance against capital.



JPMorgan Europe is the depositary. It earns a fee of 0.015% of NAV per annum, which falls to 0.01% of NAV in excess of £250m. JPMorgan Chase acts as custodian and administrator and earns an additional fee for this service.

Ongoing charges of 1.35%

For the period ended 30 September 2018, JEFI's ongoing charges ratio was 1.35%. If the company can continue to expand, this should fall, as fixed costs are spread over a larger base.

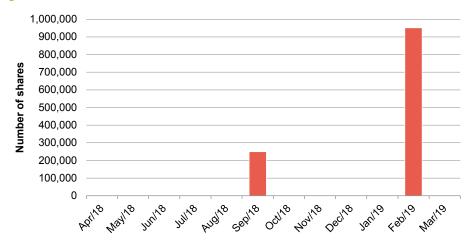
Capital structure and life

Simple capital structure

There are 94,044,240 ordinary shares in issue and no other classes of share capital. JEFI has issued 1.2m shares since we last wrote on the trust.

At the last AGM, shareholders granted the company permission to issue up to 10% of the issued share capital at any time up to the conclusion of the 2020 AGM. Permission was also granted for the repurchase of up to 14.99% of the issued share capital. Repurchased shares may be held in treasury.

Figure 26: JEFI share issues



Source: JEFI, Marten & Co

Maximum 20% gearing

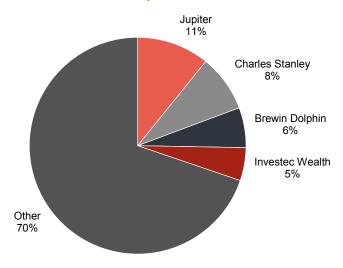
Gearing (borrowing) is permitted up to 20% of NAV, at the time of borrowing. This could be via derivatives as well as bank borrowings. As at the end of February 2019, JEFI had gearing of 12%, courtesy of a loan facility provided by Scotiabank (Europe) Designated Activity Company. This allows JEFI to borrow up to £20m. Over JEFI's life it has been drawing down short-term loans of \$15m under this facility. The last disclosed matured on 28 December 2018, but it is likely that this has been renewed.

JEFI's year end is 30 September and its first AGM was held in February 2019.



Major shareholders

Figure 27: Major shareholders as at 30 September 2018



Source: Bloomberg, Marten & Co

The management team

Ross Teverson

Ross Teverson has been managing an unconstrained emerging markets portfolio since 2012. He joined Jupiter in 2014 as head of strategy, Global Emerging Markets. Prior to joining Jupiter, Ross worked for 15 years at Standard Life Investments, where he managed a global emerging markets equity fund. Ross spent seven years in Standard Life Investments' Hong Kong office, where he managed an Asian equity fund, and was a director of the business. Ross is a graduate of Oxford University and is a CFA charterholder.

Ross is also manager of Jupiter Global Emerging Markets Fund, an open-ended fund with a similar strategy to JEFI but without the same focus on income.

Charles Sunnucks

Charles Sunnucks joined Jupiter in 2010 as an analyst. He specialises in financials, internet and utilities stocks. Experience within the financial sector includes time spent on secondment at a local Chinese brokerage. Charles graduated from university in Beijing, where he studied Economics and Trade in Chinese. He is a fluent Mandarin speaker.



Board

Directors investing first two year's net earnings in shares

JEFI has four directors, all of whom are non-executive and independent of the manager. All the directors acquired shares at launch and have topped up their holdings since. The directors committed to investing all of their first two years' net earnings in JEFI shares, and have exceeded that commitment. The directors offered themselves for reelection at the AGM in February 2019.

Figure 28: The board

Director	Position	Appointed	Length of service (years)	Annual fee (GBP)	Shareholding*
John Scott	Chairman	15/05/17	1.9	37,500	55,802
Mark Dampier	Director	15/05/17	1.9	25,000	85,466
Audrey McNair	Chairman of the audit committee	15/05/17	1.9	30,000	54,086
Nicholas Moakes	Director	15/05/17	1.9	25,000	60,061

Source: JEFI, Marten & Co

John Scott is a former international investment banker. John was appointed a director of Scottish Mortgage Trust Plc in 2001 and became chairman at the end of 2009. He is a former executive director of Lazard Brothers & Co., Limited. During his 20 years with Lazard, he was involved with the merchant bank's corporate advisory activities and its Asian businesses. He is currently chairman of Impax Environmental Markets Plc and Alpha Insurance Analysts Limited, as well as being a director of various companies, including Bluefield Solar Income Fund Limited and CC Japan Income & Growth Trust Plc.

Mark Dampier is head of investment research at Hargreaves Lansdown, a position he has held since 1998; a director of Hargreaves Lansdown Asset Management Limited; and a member of Hargreaves Lansdown Plc's Executive Management Committee. He has over 30 years' experience in the fund management industry, including managing and marketing investment trusts and unit trusts, has published a book on effective investing, and is a leading commentator on the investment sector. He was appointed to the board of Invesco Income Growth Trust Plc in March 2016.

Audrey McNair has been a non-executive director of Earl Shilton Building Society since February 2015 (and is currently chair of its audit, compliance and risk committee) and a non-executive director of British Friendly Society since April 2016 (and is currently chair of its risk committee). In her executive career across the buy and sell side in the City of London, she has gained extensive knowledge of regulatory governance and investment management processes and products. Her experience includes having worked at Aberdeen Asset Management Plc from May 2008 to March 2016, starting as head of internal audit (EMEA) and becoming global head of Business Risk (including Operational, IT and strategic risk) and responsible for the Group's Risk Management Framework and Internal Adequacy Capital Assessment.

Nicholas Moakes is chief investment officer of The Wellcome Trust, one of the world's largest charitable foundations. He is on the board of the Investor Forum, an investor-led organisation established for the purpose of improving long-term investment returns through collective shareholder engagement. He also chairs the Imperial College Endowment Fund and was appointed to the board of Foreign & Colonial Investment Trust Plc in March 2011. Nick has nearly 30 years' experience in Asia and 25 years' experience in global equity markets. He started his career in the diplomatic service, where he specialised in Hong Kong and China. Before joining Wellcome in 2007, he was head of the Asia Pacific investment team and co-head of emerging markets at BlackRock Investment Management.



Previous publications

Readers may wish to read our initiation note, <u>A very successful fundraise</u>, published on 28 November 2017 and our update note, <u>Off to a great start</u>, published on 29 August 2018. You can read the notes by clicking on the link above or by visiting our website.



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