Asian Companies Fund



31 MAY 2021

# **Monthly Update**

## **Fund commentary**

- Resource holdings were mixed despite the upward momentum seen in commodity prices.
- Recent selloff in high growth companies impacts Frontier Digital Ventures despite its attractive valuation.

Commodity prices sustained their upwards momentum during May, albeit with increasing volatility, providing a positive backdrop for resource companies. Freeport was once again the standout contributing positively to performance while MMG Limited detracted as investors contemplate the likelihood of higher taxes at its Las Bambas mine. MMG also announced a private placement priced at an 8% discount to its last close, the proceeds of which will be used to fund future expansion projects.

Frontier Digital Ventures was the largest single detractor to performance over the period despite a lack of any company specific news flow. Rather, Frontier has been caught up in the selloff being experienced more broadly by high growth companies, not just in Australia where it

is listed, but globally. We continue to maintain a positive view on Frontier believing that the long term earnings outlook in its core markets remains underestimated by the investment community.

We established a new position in China Construction Bank during the month. Large cap Chinese 'value stocks' - financials included amongst this - is one area of the market which has not participated in the broad market re-rating experienced over the past 12 months and we increasingly we see value emerging here.

We also increased our effective Australian Dollar position via options during the month, viewing the currency as becoming increasingly dislocated from the underlying commodity price environment which is supporting strong domestic economy.

Fund performance <sup>1</sup> (net of fees)	Inception Date	Exit Price (\$.cum)	1 Month	3 Months	6 Months	1 Year	3 Years pa	5 Years pa	7 Years pa	10 Years pa	Since Inception pa
Asian Companies Fund	07-2008	1.7826	-0.7%	-1.1%	8.2%	27.8%	<b>1.2</b> %	<b>6.7</b> %	6.9%	8.5%	12.3%
MSCI AC Asia ex Japan Net Total Return Index			1.0%	1.1%	8.3%	29.9%	9.6%	13.6%	12.0%	10.3%	9.1%
Outperformance by the Fund			-1.7%	-2.2%	-0.1%	-2.1%	-8.4%	-6.9%	-5.1%	-1.8%	3.2%

Portfolio investments	Weighting		
Gaming	13.9%		
Online Classifieds & Ecommerce	13.7%		
Financials	12.8%		
Materials (Copper)	12.7%		
Infrastructure	11.5%		
Consumer	7.5%		
Technology	6.8%		
Energy	4.6%		
Other	5.9%		
Long Equities Position	89.4%		
Net invested position	89.4%		

Total holdings	24
* Stated at effective value	

Current stock example				
MGM China Holdings Ltd				
iCar Asia				
Shinhan Financial				
Freeport-McMoRan Copper				
Sinopec Kantons				
SABECO				
Travelsky				
CNOOC				
China Mobile				
Currency exposure*				
USD	48.8%			
AUD	31.3%			
KRW	7.1%			

6.1%

67%

INR

Other

## Domicile of listing^



^ 'Domicile of Listing' represents the location of stock exchange listing of each entities' head office, whereas 'Domicile of Business' represents the location of the predominant business of those entities



M Capital

PM Capital Limited, founded in 1998, is a globally-focussed fund manager that invests money on behalf of private clients, the clients of financial advisers and institutions. PM Capital's goal is to build long term wealth by investing in global markets with patience and conviction.

## Investment philosophy

We aim to build long term wealth together with our co-investors by finding and exploiting investment anomalies. Using a focused, patient and considered approach to finding simple investment ideas produces the best environment for creating that long term wealth.

Our experience has shown us that while the market is largely efficient, it can, and regularly does, misprice a small proportion of companies. This mispricing can arise as a result of any number of reasons, but is most often associated with disruptive or cyclical change, new information which is misunderstood by the market as having a permanent impact when it is in fact transitory, or just because they are operating in a sector out of favour with investors.

Our unique process is based on scanning the world for those companies (hence the radar in our logo), discovering the associated valuation anomalies and extracting value from them. We buy good businesses at a good price; businesses that we believe are being valued differently to their long term intrinsic value, but will return to their correct value over time.

## Who manages the investment?

Kevin Bertoli is the Portfolio Manager, who has over 15 years' industry experience and has managed the Fund since its inception. Kevin is supported by a team of experienced investment analysts. The investment team is led by founder and CIO Paul Moore. We believe in being a patient investor, one that has conviction, one that sees opportunities where others only see risk. We only invest in what we know, deeply, via our fundamental research.

# Why the Asian Companies Fund?

Asia-specific: The Fund focuses on companies listed or operating in Asia (ex-Japan), giving unrestricted exposure to the world's fastest growing region.

**Established:** The Fund's process has been shown to be effective, based on a philosophy developed by Paul Moore, over 35 years. This has produced attractive long term capital growth.

Unrestricted: We have an authentic investment process where our exposure to countries, industry sectors or market capitalisation is determined solely by our conviction in the risk/ reward opportunities that we identify in individual stocks. No conviction at the stock level = no investment.

**Opportunistic and focused**: The Fund is not built around a general market benchmark or index - it is highly focused based on our fundamental, bottom-up investment process. As a guide, the Fund holds around 15 - 35 deeply researched stocks that we believe give the best opportunity to produce strong long term returns.

**Co-investment:** Our co-investors receive access to a unique subset of opportunities to which they may otherwise find difficult to access. The management team have significant investments in the Fund – they invest for and with you.

Outperformance: The Fund has outperformed the relevant market index by 140% since inception.<sup>1</sup> The Fund is managed from an Australian investor's perspective with consideration for tax and currency outcomes.

## **Further Information**

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# **Key Fund Details**

Fund category Asian equities

Investment style Fundamental, bottom-up research intensive approach

Inception date

Fund size \$22.8 Million

Strategy size \$87.3 Million

Number of stocks As a guide, 15-35 stocks

Minimum direct investment \$20,000

Recommended investment time
Seven years plus

Fees (pa) Management fee: 1.40%

Buy / sell spread

#### Investor profile

The Fund may be appropriate for investors seeking capital appreciation over a seven plus year investment horizon through a concentrated portfolio of Asian Equities (ex- Japan).

## **Important Notice**

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 Returns are calculated from exit price to exit price assuming the reinvestment of distributions for the period as stated and represent the combined income and capital return. The Index is the MSCI All Country Asia ex Japan Net Total Return Index in Australian dollars, net dividends reinvested. See www.msci.com for further information on the Index.

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