



ASCENDERCAPITAL

FUND STRATEGY

The Fund seeks to invest in a balanced portfolio of high quality businesses across the Asian equity markets not accessible through passive and larger funds.

We focus exclusively on companies with a track record of profitability, capital efficiency and good corporate governance.

The Fund invests with a margin of safety by demanding attractive valuations and a strong financial position.

FUND OVERVIEW

Inception	December 1, 2021
Portfolio Manager	Edouard Mercier & Jean-Charles Tisserand
Management Fee	1.5%
Performance Fee	20% of net alpha vs. MSCI AC Asia Small Cap
Asset Classes	Equities & Cash
Minimum Investment	US\$1,000,000
Investing	Monthly Liquidity
Redemption	Monthly Liquidity Early redemption fee for first 3 years
Legal Entity	Open ended investment fund incorporated in Cayman Islands
Administrator	Bolder Group
Custodian	DBS
Auditors	Grant Thornton
Legal Advisors	Ogier Global

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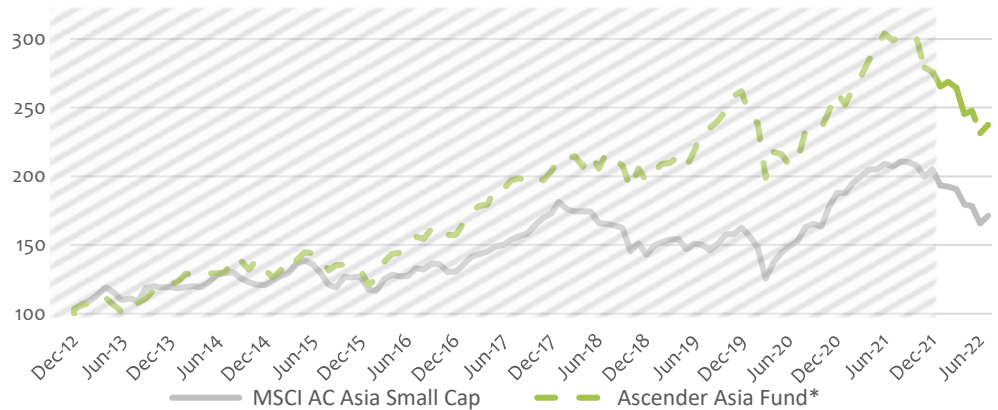
ASCENDER ASIA FUND

July 2022 FACTSHEET – NAV 85.91

PERFORMANCE AS OF 31 July 2022

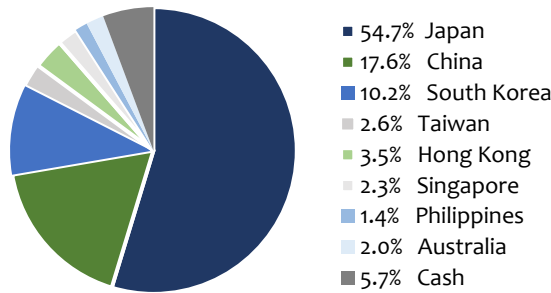
Class	1 month	YTD	1 Year	Annualized		
				3 Year	5 Year	Since Launch
Lead Series - Class A	2.7%	-13.9%	-20.6%*	0.8%*	3.8%*	9.4%*
MSCI Asia Small Cap	3.5%	-16.5%	-17.3%	4.5%	2.2%	5.7%

PERFORMANCE CHART (TOTAL NET RETURN)



*Note the shaded area and dotted line reflects AAF performance estimates, net of costs & fees. This has been calculated by removing cash and short positions from the Ascender Global Value Fund. Performance shown assumes investment of 95% and 5% in cash. Calculated after fund's costs and fees

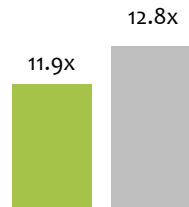
GEOGRAPHIC BREAKDOWN



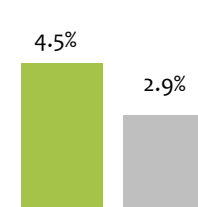
PORTFOLIO CHARACTERISTICS

P/E Ratio (TTM)	11.9x
EV/EBIT Ratio (TTM)	5.0x
Dividend Yield	4.5%
Return on Equity	14.4%
Net Cash to Mkt Cap	44.0%
7 Year EBIT Growth	12.0%
Median Mkt Cap	\$188m
# of Holdings	34
Gross Long	94.3%

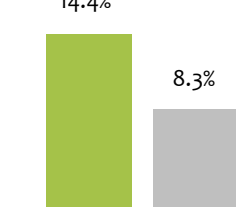
PRICE/EARNINGS



DIVIDEND YIELD



RETURN ON EQUITY



TOP 3 MONTHLY CONTRIBUTORS AND DETRACTORS FOR AAF EQUITY POSITIONS

Contributors	Contribution (bps)	Detractors	Contribution (bps)
Beenos	0.5%	JNBY	-0.7%
Gakujo	0.5%	Autohome	-0.5%
LG H&H	0.4%	ECOs	-0.3%



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MONTHLY COMMENTARY

Our investments in Japan contributed positively to performance this month. The job market is seeing increased activity and is back to its pre-COVID structural deficit between open jobs postings and applicants. **Gakujo** focuses on new graduates and young employees looking at changing jobs early in their career. Its offering is mainly digital but it also operates in-person job fairs which had to be cancelled during the lockdowns of the past 24 months. Its share price jumped 18% during the month.

Beenos saw a pick-up in its global ecommerce platform revenues which is benefiting from a weaker Yen. The service, which is used as a gateway for foreign buyers who want to access Japanese ecommerce web sites, is growing at 18% a year. In parallel, reduced shipping costs have increased its profitability. While we wait for the IPO proceeds of Indonesian super-app, Gojek Tokopedia, to be distributed to shareholders once the lock-up expires, the Board has rolled-out a generous incentives program for employees which should ensure positive alignment.

A study looking at the correlation between dividend payout ratio and valuation of companies listed in Japan that we carried out this month has yielded very positive results. The correlation is strong, persistent over multiple years and yields incremental uplifts in valuation as the payout ratio grows. We are going to start engaging our portfolio companies with the data. We have had success in the past in nudging companies to improve their capital allocation, but this study should make our points even more convincing. We think that about a third of their management teams may act on it. For the rest, our discussions will also tell us a lot about their true motivations and alignment with minority shareholders. Please let us know if you would like to receive a copy of our presentation.

It should be no surprise that the negative contributions this month came from our Chinese holdings. The fact that **JNBY**, a well-regarded Chinese fashion brand, grew its earnings 20% a year for the past 5 years and has an 80% dividend payout ratio was of no help. Its share price dropped 18% during the month as investors worry about the lockdown impacts in the first half of the year. Based on last year's earnings, which will be temporarily hit in the first half, the company trades a 5x PE and yields close to 20%.



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MONTHLY PERFORMANCE (%)*

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	FY
2022	-3.8	1.2	-1.5	-7.2	1.0	-5.7	2.7						-13.9
2021	-3.5	4.6	3.5	4.2	3.7	3.0	-1.6	0.9	0.4	-1.0	-7.1	-1.2*	5.4*
2020	7.0	-2.0	-16.7	9.5	-0.7	-3.8	1.6	10.1	1.4	-0.5	5.8	5.2	-0.2
2019	3.9	2.6	0.3	2.3	-3.5	5.5	6.3	1.3	2.2	3.0	4.4	1.3	33.6
2018	4.8	0.0	0.6	-3.6	4.5	-4.9	5.7	-2.3	-2.1	-8.1	7.8	-4.7	-3.6
2017	5.6	5.1	2.1	0.5	7.0	-0.6	3.4	0.8	-1.0	1.8	-1.6	3.3	29.3
2016	-8.6	3.6	10.1	4.2	0.7	2.7	5.1	-0.9	4.8	1.2	-4.0	0.0	19.1
2015	-4.3	4.5	-2.6	8.3	4.0	-0.6	-1.7	-7.2	3.1	0.1	-1.3	-1.2	0.1
2014	1.5	4.9	-0.5	1.8	-1.0	0.0	0.5	8.9	-2.0	-4.8	5.9	-5.6	8.8
2013	2.8	1.4	-1.5	4.9	-4.7	-4.5	8.3	-1.5	3.	5.1	2.9	0.8	17.3
2012												3.4	3.4

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DISCLAIMER

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The performance chart (net total return) does not include the current months' HFRI index data as that is only released after five business days of the month and then modified again after all participants share their data. Therefore, we use accurate all accurate HFRI data points until the month preceding the current factsheet.

The past performance information of the market, manager and investments and any forecasts on the economy, stock market, bond market or the economic trends of the markets which are targeted by the fund(s) are not indicative of future performance. The value of an investment in the Fund may go down or up. The Fund does not offer any performance or capital guarantee. The Prospectus should be read for further details including the risk factors. The Fund may invest in derivatives for hedging purpose only. Investment in derivatives is subject to additional risks, including credit risk of the issuer, liquidity risk, counterparty risk and valuation risk. In adverse situation, the Fund's use of derivatives may become ineffective in hedging and the Fund may suffer losses. Additional risk factors are described in the prospectus. Investors are advised to be aware of any new risks that may have emerged in the prevailing market circumstances before subscribing in the Fund.