

# Q1 2024 CAD

KBI Global Investors

## KBIGI Emerging Markets Equity Strategy



### Summary Details

Assets under Mgmt.	C\$589.1m
Inception Date	01 Aug 2010
Benchmark	MSCI Emerging Markets Net Return Index
Number of Stocks	105

### Risk Characteristics

Beta (10 Yrs)	0.92
Information Ratio (10 Yrs)	-0.15
Volatility	13.10

### Portfolio Statistics

	Strategy	Index
Dividend Yield	4.4%	2.7%
Dividend Payout	46.7%	38.9%
Dividend Growth	18.5%	15.1%
Total Payout Yield	4.5%	2.6%
Price to Earnings (forward)	8.8x	12.6x
Price to Book	1.3x	1.8x
Weighted Avg Mkt Cap.	\$74.5bn	\$120.0bn
ESG Score	6.1	5.8
Wtd Avg Carbon Intensity	99.2	317.2

Source: KBI Global Investors as of 03/31/24. The risk characteristics are calculated independently by KBI Global Investors using monthly gross returns of the composite over a 10 year period relative to the Index as at the 03/31/24. Portfolio and Benchmark Statistics are from a representative account managed to the same strategy and the benchmark respectively. KBI Global Investors independently estimate these statistics for both the portfolio and the benchmark. The AUM listed above is Global Equity Emerging Markets AUM excluding Assets under Advisement from Q1 2022. Weighted Avg. Mkt. Cap figures are in US Dollars. KBI calculate the Weighted Average Carbon Intensity figure for the portfolio (representative account managed to the same strategy) quarterly. Index carbon intensity data is sourced from MSCI ESG Research. KBI calculate the ESG scores for the portfolio (representative account managed to the same strategy) quarterly. Index ESG ratings are sourced from MSCI ESG Research.

### Investment Philosophy

We are "total return" investors.

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

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

The main reasons for outperformance are:

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

### Annualised Performance (C\$)

	3Mths	YTD	1Yr	3Yrs	5Yrs	Since Incep
Fund (Gross)	4.4	4.4	6.3	-1.6	2.3	4.7
Benchmark	5.1	5.1	8.1	-2.7	2.5	4.9

Source: KBI Global Investors, Datastream, MSCI Emerging Markets Index as of 03/31/24  
KBI calculate both composite returns and benchmark returns. Returns are gross of fees in CAD. Our firm claims GIPS compliance and is annually verified by an independent verification firm to be so. The verification report from our verifier and our GIPS composite presentation are available upon request. The performance record disclosed here is that of the firm's composite for this strategy. The Emerging Markets Equity composite is a well-diversified, all cap, strategy that invests across all 24 industry sub classifications of the global emerging markets as defined within the MSCI Emerging Markets benchmark. No active currency management is undertaken. The strategy invests purely in those companies that pay above average dividends relative to their industry peer group and is managed by a dedicated, specialist team of investment professionals in Dublin, Ireland. The material risks associated with the composite include market risk and stock-specific event risk. Share prices can decline and there is a risk that the composite may under-perform its benchmark. The benchmark is the MSCI Emerging Markets Index, inclusive of net income. The net index provides a better comparator for potential investors given the tax treatment on dividend income. The benchmark is designed to measure the equity market performance of emerging market countries. The benchmark is market-cap weighted. Sources of foreign exchange rates may differ between the composite and the benchmark, but not materially so. See disclaimer for further information.

### Investment Process

We summarise our process into three steps

#### Step 1

- Create regional group segments from MSCI Index.
- Eliminate stocks below segment average yield.
- Lower yield stocks, countries, industries will qualify.

#### Step 2

- Eliminate stocks and segments that fail sustainability, quality and growth criteria.
- Rank remaining stocks.

#### Step 3

- Create portfolio preferred financial criteria and highest ranked stocks.

### Current Emerging Markets Portfolio Characteristics

Mkt. Cap \$bn	Strategy	MSCI EM Index	+/- %
<3 (small)	5.3	2.0	3.3
3-5 (mid-small)	17.8	7.1	10.7
5-10 (mid)	15.7	14.3	1.4
10-25 (mid-large)	25.3	22.9	2.4
>25 (large)	35.9	53.8	-17.9

Source: KBI Global Investors as of 03/31/24. Market Cap figures are based on a representative account relative to the Index. Market Cap figures are in US Dollars.

## Strategy Overview

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

## Investment Team

Key People	Title	Industry Experience
CIO		
Noel O'Halloran	Chief Investment Officer	36yrs
Portfolio Management Team		
Gareth Maher	Head of Portfolio Management GES Team	37yrs
David Hogarty	Head of Strategy Development	33yrs
Ian Madden	Senior Portfolio Manager	23yrs
James Collery	Senior Portfolio Manager	23yrs
John Looby	Senior Portfolio Manager	34yrs
Massimiliano Tondi	Senior Portfolio Manager	20yrs
Jeanne Chow Collins	ESG & Engagement Analyst	23yrs
Eoin Fahy	Head of Responsible Investing	36yrs

## Contact Details

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## Portfolio Positioning

### Sector Breakdown

Sector	%	Sector	%
Information Technology	23.3	Materials	6.4
Financials	22.6	Consumer Staples	4.8
Consumer Discretionary	12.6	Utilities	3.5
Communication Services	8.6	Health Care	3.1
Industrials	7.2	Real Estate	1.5
Energy	6.4		

### Geographical Breakdown

Region	%
Emerging Asia	78.3
Emerging EMEA	12.9
Emerging Latin America	8.8

### Top 10 Holdings

Stock	Country	%
Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing	Taiwan	7.7
Netease Inc	China	2.7
Hero Motocorp Limited	India	2.5
Industrial & Commercial Bank Of China	China	2.1
Banco Do Brasil SA	Brazil	2.0
Power Grid Corporation Of India Limited	India	2.0
China Construction Bank	China	1.9
Lenovo Group Limited	China	1.8
Agricultural Bank Of China Limited	China	1.8
LG Uplus Corporation	South Korea	1.8

Source of all data: KBI Global Investors. Data as of 03/31/24

## Overview

On the total return front, we remain focussed on investing in companies that have demonstrated an ability to grow their dividend over time but also have the potential to grow that dividend into the future. After slowing in 2023, dividend growth in general plateaued in Q1 2024 but remains at solid double-digit levels while dividend sustainability rates, based off our proprietary screens, have also improved over the quarter. Given this improvement we were able to increase our exposure to higher dividend growth relative to the index over the period.

Our relative valuation, across most measures of value, continues to be our largest style exposure relative to the market. We often focus on our relative biases within the strategy, and this remains a primary emphasis, but recently we have been conscious of the absolute level of valuation. For example, metrics such as our forward price/earnings of 8.8 times and price to sales of 0.8 times look attractive given the other fundamental characteristics we can achieve and the valuation discount continues to run at between 30-40% depending on which valuation measure is used.

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