

## **Our Strategy**

For investors who believe in the Asia growth story but are worried about a potential United States (US) market crisis affecting it, the **Meranti Asia Fund (MAF)** offers a solution. MAF invests in a basket of Asia companies demonstrating strong potential to maximize returns for shareholders in the next five years, with a proven track record of resilience in past economic downturns and positioning to capture future trends in a drastically changing world. With a fixed budget to hedge against a potential US market crash, investors can be assured of capturing the opportunities of the next decade without worrying about the big "reset".

## Who is this suitable for

The strategy is suitable for clients looking for Asia Equity strategy with US market crash protection



Equity holding to maximize returns



**Capital Appreciation** 

compounded at 8%

target return



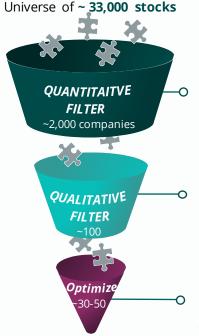
Dynamic Risk Management (DRM) - unique loss cost protection

# Asia: embracing volatility in a continent rich with opportunities

Asia offers investors access to a wealth of investment opportunities with its 33,000 listed companies. However, uncovering hidden gems takes more than just data. While data serves as an essential filter through which stocks are assessed, the manager's depth and breadth of understanding of Asia companies, alongside the experience of seeing the companies through different cycles, are essential skill to construct an effective portfolio.

# Winning formula to uncover hidden gems in Asia

Illustration of how we select stocks within pockets of growth in Asia:



Quantitative filter: Apply a combination of fundamental metrics and rules to the universe of stocks and continuously assess and filter out interesting opportunities which form the foundation for our stock selection and analysis.

Qualitative filter: On the selected names, we assess the company's business strategy and financial data to identify companies that have strong economic moats to ward off competition and the ability to innovate to overcome challenges and drive growth.

Optimizer: We view the portfolio holdings as a whole, continuously optimized with names that are well positioned in respect of the current trends and the economic environment, to optimize the risk-adjusted return.

#### Calendar Return, %

2024	Feb	Mar	Apr	Since Strategy Launch @ Feb '24
USD B	6.33	1.22 <sup>1</sup>	1.41 <sup>1</sup>	9.14 <sup>1</sup>
SGD A	6.04	1.22 <sup>1</sup>	1.26 <sup>1</sup>	8.69 <sup>1</sup>
USD A	6.17	1.22 <sup>1</sup>	1.26 <sup>1</sup>	8.82 <sup>1</sup>

How does Dynamic Risk Mitigation (DRM) Help?

Black swan events are unexpected and potentially catastrophic for an investment portfolio i.e. 2008 Great Financial Crisis where the price of global equity markets declined sharply by -60%.

DRM addresses the urge of investors to exit the market in anticipation of market crashes so that investors can stay invested for the long-term. Through the use of a series of option positions, investors are shielded against such extreme market dedines, enjoying lower drawdowns and faster portfolio recovery.



		Without DRM	With DRM
Largest Drawdown	2008 FC	-62.09%	-40.53%
	Covid-19	-20.71%	-5.34%
Months to Recover	2008 FC	63	7
	Covid-19	4	2
Total Return		85.97%	175.59%

For illustration purposes only for the period from August 2007 to February 2022. The reference benchmark is the MSCI AC Asia Ex Japan Index.





# **Strategy Characteristics**

# Geography Allocation, % Others, 15.5 Indonesia, 7.8 Taiwan, 9.0 India, 6.0

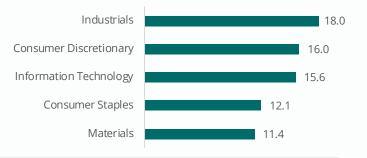
# Portfolio Statistics

	Portfolio	Benchmark
Free Cash Flow Yield	8.41	3.76
Sales Growth	6.37	1.47
Return on Equity	12.11	9.16
Operating Margin	12.66	10.22
Net Debt/equity	8.13	13.01

Reference benchmark is the MSCI AC Asia Ex Japan Index. Holdings are subject to change. Fund holdings and allocations shown are subject to change and may not be representative of current or future investment. Holdings shown should not be deemed as a recommendation to buy to sell securities.

# **Discerning The Signals From The Noise**

# Top 5 Sector Allocation, %



#### **Position Highlights**

China Oilfield Services	Integrated oilfield services company covering all stages of offshore oil and gas exploration, development, and production.
Sungrow Power Supply	One of the largest manufacturers and providers of solar inverter and energy storage systems worldwide, accounting for 16% of the global market share.
Midea Group	One of the largest manufacturers of household electrical appliances, compressors, and components, maintaining Fortune 500 company status
Wuliangye Yibin	China's second-largest baijiu (white spirit) producer by revenue, manufacturing and marketing the Wuliangye series of liquors.
China Resources Beer	A major player in the global beer industry and the maker of one of the world's bestselling beers by volume, Snow.

A three-pronged research process to identify signals that point us to **sustainable trends** which are underappreciated by the market, which come with **good fundamentals** and **attractive valuation**, with a higher likelihood of outperforming over the long term.



# **High Level of Active Management**

Many actively managed funds underperform because they have a low active share. This happens when a portfolio's holdings are very similar to the referenced benchmark, a practice commonly referred to as 'benchmark hugging'. In contrast, **funds with a high level of active management may have greater potential for outperformance in the long run**, as there is no way any fund can outperform the market if they are investing like the market.

By investing	in areas	where	we	have	the
greatest convid	tion and a	applying	it to	our w	hole
portfolio, we aim to provide better returns over					
risk through a full market cycle.					

Target active share > 80%







## **Fund Details**

ltem	Class A	Class B	
Currency	SGD,	USD	
ISIN (SGD Class)	SGXZ64383987 (Distribution)	SGXZ78636883 (Accumulation)	
ISIN (USD Class)	SGXZ99381758 (Distribution)	SGXZ76017904 (Accumulation)	
Projected Distribution <sup>2</sup>	4% p.a.	-	
Min. Subscription	SGD 500,000 USD 400,000	SGD 50,000 USD 40,000	
Account Opening Fee <sup>3</sup> (One-time)	SGD 4,000 USD 3,000	SGD 4,000 USD 3,000	
Min. Subsequent Subscription	SGD 15,000 USD 10,000	SGD 15,000 USD 10,000	
<b>Redemption Fees</b>			
1st Year of Investment	-	3%	
2nd Year of Investment	-	2%	
3rd Year of Investment	-	1%	
4th Year Onwards	-	0%	
Management Fee	1.78%	0%	
Performance Fee <sup>4</sup>	0%	20%	
Fund Name	Meranti Capital VCCAsia Fund		
Dealing Frequency	Monthly		
Base Currency	USD		
Strategy Change Date	1 February 2024		
Fund Domicile	Singapore		
Investment Manager	Finexis Asset Management		
Fund Administrator	ASCENT Fund Services (Singapore)		
Custodian	Standard Chartered Bank		
Auditor	KPMGLLP		
Broker	Goldman Sachs (Asia) L.L.C.		
Legal Advisors	BTPLaw LLC		

# **Market & Portfolio Developments**

### **Fund Commentary**

The S&P 500 and Nasdaq were down more than 4% in April as stronger than expected inflation data created renewed jitters among investors. In contrast, MAF stood out with gains of 1.26%, demonstrating how differentiated and helpful Asian investments are to investors.

From a country perspective, the fund's gains were driven by positions in China, in particular names within the technology and healthcare sector. In our March update, we mentioned initiating a position in Mindray, a healthcare company that is the dominant supplier for life support, ultrasound, vitro diagnostic, anesthesia delivery systems, not only in China but also in various emerging countries. The stock has been trading sideways for the better part of the last two years but it rallied over 8% in April and it looks like markets are finally starting to recognize the company's potential.

Midea, one of the China's largest manufacturers of household electrical appliances, stands out as a unique contributor this year. While the China 'A' share market sold off more than 6% in January, Midea was up 6%, and the stock has continued to rally since. While it is well known that Midea is a Chinese company, what is less known is that only just over half of its revenue is domestic. Midea is in fact a leading global player, which is part of the fund's strategy to invest in companies that are not dependent on the Chinese domestic economy to do well.

STE, Singapore's leading technology and engineering group in aerospace, defense, public security and smart cities, is another position we initiated earlier this year. The stock closed April pretty much flat, but there is significant upside on the back of a rising backlog of orders that markets have yet to price in. The fact that the stock did not rise in April suits us just fine; we would rather have different return engines in the portfolio kicking in at different times.

In April, we initiated a position in MrDIY, a leading home improvement retailer that started in Malaysia which now has over 1000 outlets across Asia. After consolidating for a while, the stock started rising in April and has rallied even further so far in May, benefitting our investors.

Investors in MAF should expect to own 30-50 long-term compounders across various industries, well positioned to various pockets of growth in Asian economies. In the upcoming months, we expect to continue to take advantage of market volatility to invest in good businesses at the right price. About FAM: Finexis Asset Management is a Capital Markets Services (CMS) licensed fund management company established in Singapore, focusing on bringing institutional capabilities to private clients. The boutique set-up ensures that we are flexible, responsive and proactive. We embrace the latest technology and constantly improve our processes to complement our investment solutions. Constant evolution to fulfil our investor's needs is ingrained in our beliefs.

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