

Asia Pacific Leaders Strategy



Risk factors

Sustainable investment labels help investors find products that have a specific sustainability goal. This product does not have a UK sustainable investment label as it does not have a non-financial sustainability objective. Its objective is to achieve long-term capital growth by following its investment policy and strategy.

This document is a financial promotion for the Asia Pacific Leaders Strategy intended for **professional client in the UK, and for professional clients only in Switzerland, the EEA and elsewhere where lawful.**

Investing involves certain risks including:

- > **The value of investments and any income from them may go down as well as up and are not guaranteed. Investors may get back significantly less than the original amount invested.**
- > **Emerging market risk:** Emerging markets tend to be more sensitive to economic and political conditions than developed markets. Other factors include greater liquidity risk, restrictions on investment or transfer of assets, failed/delayed settlement and difficulties valuing securities.
- > **Currency risk:** the strategy invests in assets which are denominated in other currencies; changes in exchange rates will affect the value of the strategy and could create losses. Currency control decisions made by governments could affect the value of the strategy's investments and could cause the strategy to defer or suspend redemptions of its shares.
- > **Specific region risk:** investing in a specific region may be riskier than investing in a number of different countries or regions. Investing in a larger number of countries or regions helps spread risk.

Where featured, specific securities or companies are intended as an illustration of investment strategy only, and should not be construed as investment advice or a recommendation to buy or sell any security.

All information included in this material has been sourced by Stewart Investors and is displayed as at 31 December 2024 unless otherwise specified and to the best of our knowledge is an accurate reflection as at this date.

If you are in any doubt as to the suitability of our strategies for your investment needs, please seek investment advice.

About Stewart Investors

We are an active, long-only equity investment business with stewardship and sustainability at the heart of our investment philosophy and culture since 1988. As a team, we have been managing explicit sustainability portfolios since 2005.

Investment aim

To generate long-term, risk-adjusted returns for our clients by investing in the shares of high-quality companies that are particularly well positioned to contribute to, and benefit from, sustainable development.

Key facts

Strategy launch	December 2003
Strategy size	GBP 7.2 bn
Lead portfolio manager	David Gait
Investment team	13 analysts
Number of companies	40
Active share	87%
Investment horizon	5-10+ years
Name turnover (10 years)	13%
Market capitalisation	> USD1 billion
Comparator benchmark	MSCI AC Asia Pacific ex Japan Net Index
Annual management charge	Standard fee: 0.80%
Estimated ongoing charge figure (OCF)	Standard fee: 0.84% (maximum capped)
Currencies available	GBP, USD, EUR

Investment philosophy

- > **We are stewards.** Our role is to allocate society's capital to productive uses, in accordance with our [Hippocratic Oath](#).
- > **We are long term.** Our time horizon is measured in years, not weeks, and we value companies accordingly.
- > **We invest only in companies contributing to a more sustainable future.** We engage constructively as owners to help companies on their sustainability journeys.
- > **We invest only in high-quality companies.** We invest in companies with exceptional cultures, strong franchises and resilient financials.
- > **We believe capital preservation is important for capital growth.** We define risk as the possibility of the permanent loss of client capital.

This philosophy is proven across strategies and business cycles for nearly four decades.

Data shown for a representative Stewart Investors Asia Pacific Leaders account.

Since launch date for turnover: 01 December 2003. Parameters shown are guidelines only and not hard risk limits. This information is provided for illustrative purposes to demonstrate Stewart Investors' activity within the strategy for the period shown. It is not a recommendation or solicitation to purchase or invest in any fund. Differences between the representative account-specific constraints, currency or fees and those of a similarly managed fund or mandate would affect results.

How we think of sustainability

We seek to invest in high-quality companies that produce necessary products and services in a responsible manner. We believe that incorporating [sustainability](#) considerations into our stock picking helps us in two ways.

- > Developing countries will not be able to follow the same resource-intensive and consumption-driven model of development taken by today's developed countries. We are looking for companies that are well positioned to meet the challenge of sustainable development. We have strong conviction that such companies face fewer risks and are better placed to deliver positive, long-term returns to shareholders.
- > Sustainability is a particularly useful approach to gauge the quality of companies. We believe managers and owners who treat their employees, the environment and society at large well are more likely to allow minority shareholders to participate in the success of the business; in contrast, we believe those who are willing to cut corners are likely to act in unscrupulous ways if given the opportunity. Incorporating sustainability in this way aids our bottom-up stock picking process. In emerging markets, insisting on robust governance is crucial to risk mitigation since corporate governance standards are often poor.

While we don't carry out negative screening, the output of our bottom-up approach means that we do not invest in companies with material exposure to harmful products, including weapons, tobacco, alcohol, gambling and fossil fuels. Nor do we believe we need to invest in such companies to deliver the long-term, sustainable returns our clients expect. Visit our [website](#) to view our position on harmful and controversial products and services, and our climate change statement.

Top 10 holdings - high conviction

We have a bottom-up approach and aim to invest only in well-stewarded, high-quality companies with sustainability at the heart of all investment considerations. Our portfolios are high conviction (top 10 holdings typically 30%-50%) and are completely benchmark agnostic.

Company	Country	Sector	Portfolio (%)	Index (%)
Mahindra & Mahindra	India	Consumer Discretionary	8.8	0.4
Oversea-Chinese Banking Corporation	Singapore	Financials	5.6	0.5
HDFC Bank	India	Financials	5.5	1.5
Hoya Corporation	Japan	Health Care	5.2	–
Taiwan Semiconductor (TSMC)	Taiwan	Information Technology	4.4	10.1
Tata Consultancy Serv. Ltd	India	Information Technology	4.0	0.5
Dr. Reddy's Laboratories Ltd	India	Health Care	3.9	0.1
Samsung Electronics Co., Ltd.	South Korea	Information Technology	3.5	2.2
Tech Mahindra Limited	India	Information Technology	3.5	0.1
Midea Group	China	Consumer Discretionary	3.4	0.0
			47.8	15.4

Data shown is for a representative Stewart Investors Asia Pacific Leaders account and the MSCI AC Asia Pacific ex-Japan Index. Any stocks held/listed in non-index countries have economic activity >50% from Asia Pacific economies. This information is provided for illustrative purposes to demonstrate Stewart Investors' activity within the strategy for the period shown. It is not a recommendation or solicitation to purchase or invest in any fund. Differences between the representative account-specific constraints and those of a similarly managed fund or mandate would affect results. Numbers may not add to totals due to rounding.

Our [Portfolio Explorer](#) tool allows you to explore strategies, companies, countries and sustainability issues of interest in four views – map, Sustainable Development Goals, climate solutions and human development pillars.



For more information please contact:
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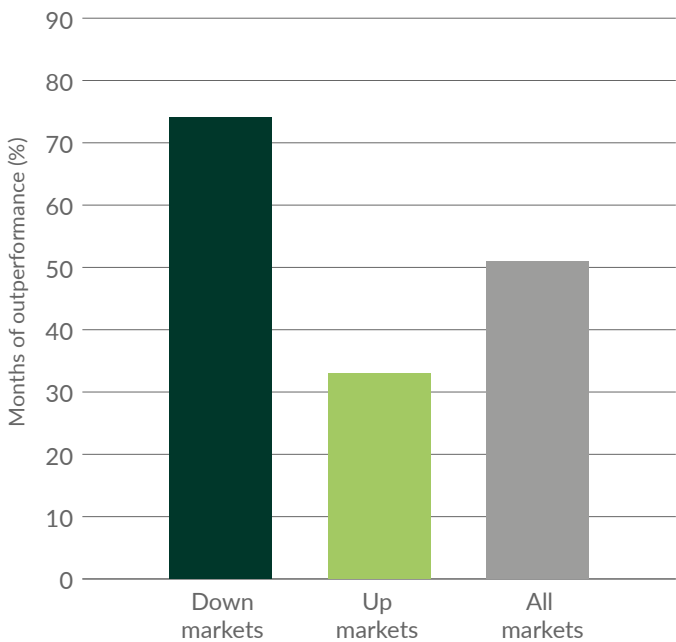
Performance review

Our investment philosophy focuses on delivering strong absolute returns over cycles. This focus means that we define risk as the loss of clients' capital rather than in terms of deviation from any benchmark index. As a result, our performance is likely to lag steeply rising markets, but deliver better results in falling markets. We believe this approach has served clients well over time and over cycles.

Discrete annual performance USD – composite performance %	12 months to 31-Dec-20	12 months to 31-Dec-21	12 months to 31-Dec-22	12 months to 31-Dec-23	12 months to 31-Dec-24
Stewart Investors Asia Pacific Leaders (Gross of fees)	30.1	13.1	-18.3	10.1	6.2
Stewart Investors Asia Pacific Leaders (Net of fees)	29.1	12.2	-18.9	9.2	5.3
MSCI Asia Pacific ex Japan Index (Gross)	22.8	-2.7	-17.2	7.7	10.6

Annualised performance over periods USD – composite performance %	Since launch	10 years	5 years	3 years	1 year
Stewart Investors Asia Pacific Leaders (Gross of fees)	11.1	6.6	7.1	-1.5	6.2
Stewart Investors Asia Pacific Leaders (Net of fees)	10.2	5.7	6.2	-2.3	5.3
MSCI Asia Pacific ex Japan Index (Gross)	7.8	5.0	3.3	-0.5	10.6

Asia Pacific All Cap Leaders
Investment style - downside protection
Composite outperformance (USD net of fees)



These figures refer to the past. Past performance is not indicative of future performance. For investors based in countries with currencies other than USD, the return may increase or decrease as a result of currency fluctuations.

Source: Stewart Investors. Data shown for the Stewart Investors Asia Pacific Leaders Composite and MSCI AC Asia Pacific ex-Japan Index. Composite performance is shown on a gross and net of fees basis. Gross performance figures do not reflect the deduction of investment fees and expenses. A client's return will be reduced by the effect of investment fees and expenses. Net performance figures are calculated by subtracting a model annual management fee of 0.80% from the gross performance figures for the Asia Pacific Leaders Composite. No other expenses or costs have been taken into account when calculating the net performance. Outperformance shown versus the MSCI AC Asia Pacific ex-Japan Index. Source for index: FactSet. Index returns are shown on a total return basis and gross of tax. Since launch relates to inception of the composites on 1 January 2004.

Important information

As of end of 2024, please note that Stewart Investors strategies and the Funds within the UK First Sentier Investors ICVC and First Sentier Investors Global Umbrella Fund plc (Irish VCC) have been renamed. Please refer to [this note for further information](#).

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