## HUOB Asset Management

# Chart through Asia's wealth of opportunities

## **United Asia Fund**

Invest in companies with a focus on Asia to achieve long-term capital growth.



uobam.com.sg/uaf



Outstanding Achiever for Asia Pacific ex-Japan Equity



# About the United Asia Fund

The United Asia Fund (the "Fund") aims to achieve long-term capital growth by investing mainly in companies based in Asia (excluding Japan). These companies are either directly Asia-based or have a significant portion of their business in the region.

# Why invest in Asia?

## 1 Investors can no longer ignore Asia



## Growing presence:

By 2050, 4 of the world's 6 largest economies will be in Asia<sup>1</sup>



## Expanding digital economy:

Southeast Asia's digital economy has grown to \$263 billion in 2024, a 15% year-on-year increase<sup>3</sup>



## Favourable demographics:

By 2030, Asia is projected to account for two-thirds of the global middle class population<sup>2</sup>



## Critical Environmental, Social, & Governance (ESG) player:

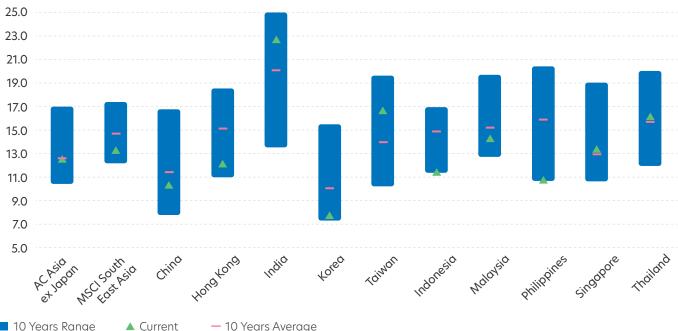
Market size for green businesses in Asia is expected to reach between \$4-5 trillion by 2030<sup>4</sup>

- <sup>1</sup> Visual Capitalist, Ranked: The Top Economies in the World (1980-2075), July 2023.
- <sup>2</sup> Futures Platform, How Asia's growing middle class is reshaping global consumption, September 2023. Middle class is defined as households with per capita incomes between US\$11 and US\$110 per person per day in 2011 Purchasing Power Parity (PPP) terms.
- <sup>3</sup> Google, e-Conomy SEA 2024 report, November 2024.
- <sup>4</sup> McKinsey & Company, Green Growth: Capturing Asia's \$5 trillion green business opportunity, September 2022.

## 2 Good time to enter Asian markets

## **Attractive valuations**

Major Asian markets, including China, Hong Kong and ASEAN are attractively priced. Current price-toearnings (P/E) valuations of most Asian markets are still lower than their 10-year average.<sup>5</sup>



### MSCI AC Asia ex Japan - 12M Forward P/E

10 Years Range
Current
10 Years Average
Source: UOBAM, Factset, December 2024

## Resilience despite global challenges

Asia continues to show economic resilience with healthy real gross domestic product (GDP) levels net of inflation, compared to the rest of the world.

#### Market under-representation

Even though over half of the world's stocks are listed in Asia, Asian markets comprise less than 15% of global indices<sup>8</sup>. Institutional investors will likely have to increase their Asia holdings in the coming years.

Region	Real GDP		
	FY2024 (Projection)	FY2025 (Projection)	
Asia	4.6	4.4	
ASEAN-5 <sup>6</sup>	4.5	4.5	
Emerging Asia <sup>7</sup>	5.4	5.1	
North America	2.5	2.1	
Europe	1.7	1.7	
World	3.2	3.2	

Source: International Monetary Fund, World Economic Outlook, October 2024

<sup>5</sup> Source: UOBAM, Factset, as of December 2024.

<sup>7</sup> Emerging Asia comprises China, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Thailand, and Vietnam.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> ASEAN-5 comprises Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, and Thailand.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Source: MSCI, as of 31 December 2024. Asia countries represent 6.21% of the MSCI World Index, and 13.58% of the MSCI All Country World Index.

# Why invest in the United Asia Fund?

# **1** Strong long-term outperformance

The Fund has delivered returns above its industry peers over the long term.

	1 Year	3 Years	5 Years
United Asia Fund performance	8.4%	-2.5%	4.5%
Peers performance	13.1%	-4.0%	1.5%
Outperformance vs peers	-4.7%	+1.5%	+3.0%

Source: Morningstar, as of 31 December 2024 | Peers category: Asia ex Japan Equity, Index: Morningstar Asia ex Japan SGD | Fund performance is calculated on a NAV to NAV basis. Performance figures for 1 month till 1 year show the per cent change, while performance figures above 1 year show the average annual compounded returns. Past performance is not necessarily indicative of future performance.

## 2 Extensive presence in Asia

Headquartered in Singapore, UOBAM has an extensive local presence across Asia. By investing in the Fund, investors can leverage UOBAM's on-the-ground insights for opportunities in the region.

China

Ping An Fund Management Company Limited (Joint Venture)

#### Japan

UOB Asset Management (Japan) Ltd

#### Taiwan

UOB Asset Management (Taiwan) Co., Ltd

#### Vietnam

UOB Asset Management (Vietnam) Fund Management Joint Stock Company

#### Brunei

UOB Asset Management (B) Sdn Bhd

#### Malaysia

UOB Asset Management (Malaysia) Berhad UOB Islamic Asset Management Sdn Bhd

**Thailand** UOB Asset Management (Thailand) Co., Ltd

Singapore UOB Asset Management Ltd (Headquarters)

#### . . .

Indonesia PT UOB Asset Management Indonesia

## 3 Powered by AI-Augmentation@UOBAM

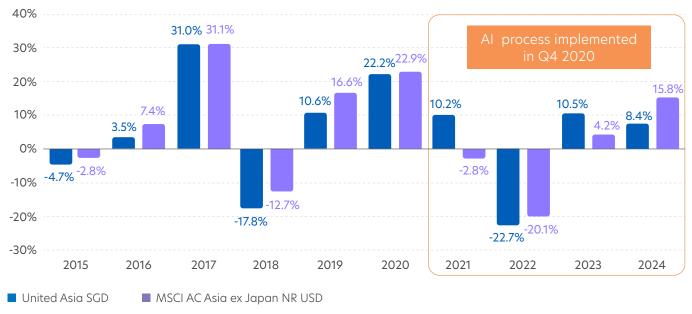
The Fund applies UOBAM's proprietary artificial intelligence (AI)-Augmentation capabilities. AI can enhance investment returns, but even more so in highly diverse and data-rich Asian markets. In 2020, the United Asia Fund became one of the first funds in UOBAM to apply the firm's AI-Augmentation investment framework.

The framework seamlessly merges AI techniques with analyst processes, enabling the integration of AI-driven insights and human expertise.

## The power of AI-Augmentation@UOBAM



Since the implementation of the AI-Augmentation investment framework, the Fund has frequently outperformed its benchmark, achieving a significant excess return. This performance underscores the effectiveness of our strategic approach in the investment landscape.



## Performance of United Asia Fund vs Benchmark

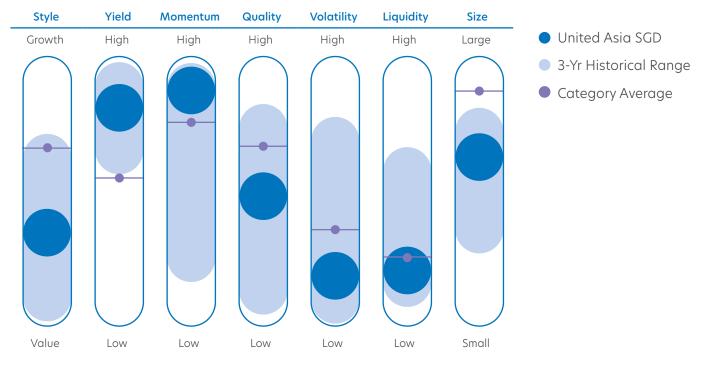
Source: UOBAM, Morningstar, as of 31 December 2024.

## 4 Flexibility to adjust according to market conditions

UOBAM's proprietary AI-Augmentation capabilities allow the Fund to dynamically allocate across investment factors based on market conditions, to mitigate risks while maximising returns.

In the past 3 years, the Fund had dynamically allocated across the factor profiles as depicted by the light blue shaded areas.

Considering the Size factor as an example, the Fund's flexibility allowed for a smaller allocation to large-cap companies like Alibaba and Tencent that did not perform well after Covid-19, unlike its peers who continued to invest in them.



Source: Morningstar, as of 31 December 2024. United Asia Fund data as of 31 October 2024. Category: Asia ex-Japan Equity, as of 31 October 2024.

## 5 Award-winning and highly rated<sup>9</sup>



Received the Outstanding Achiever for Asia Pacific ex-Japan Equity award at Benchmark Fund of the Year 2023 awards.



Given a four-star rating by Morningstar in the category of EAA Fund Asia ex-Japan Equity as of 31 December 2024.

Compared to its peers, the Fund gives above average returns at below average risk<sup>10</sup> in the past 3 years.



## **Fund details**

Fund Name	United Asia Fund
Investment Objective	To achieve long term capital growth mainly through investing in the securities of corporations in, or corporations listed or traded on stock exchanges in, or corporations which derive a significant proportion of their revenue or profits from or have a significant proportion of their assets in, Asia (excluding Japan).
Fund Classes Available <sup>11</sup>	Class SGD
Subscription Mode <sup>11</sup>	Cash & SRS
Minimum Subscription <sup>11</sup>	\$\$1,000/US\$1,000 (initial); \$\$500/US\$500 (subsequent)
Subscription Fee <sup>11</sup>	Currently up to 5%, maximum 5%
Management Fee <sup>11</sup>	Currently 1.25% p.a., maximum 1.25% p.a.
Fund Classification for Retail Investors	Units of the Fund are Excluded Investment Products (EIP).
Dealing Frequency & Deadline <sup>12</sup>	Generally every business day, on a forward pricing basis till 3pm (Singapore time).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Please refer to <u>uobam.com.sg/awards</u> for the latest list of UOBAM awards.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Source: Morningstar, as of 31 December 2024. Category: Asia ex-Japan Equity. Rankings are out of 1313 investments

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> Investors should refer to the Fund's prospectus for more details on the different classes available. Please check with our distributors on the availability of the Fund classes.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> Please check with the distributor(s) or refer to the Fund's prospectus for more details.

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This advertisement has not been reviewed by the Monetary Authority of Singapore.

UOB Asset Management Ltd Co. Reg. No.198600120Z

February 2025