



**CITY OF LONDON**  
Investment Management Company Limited

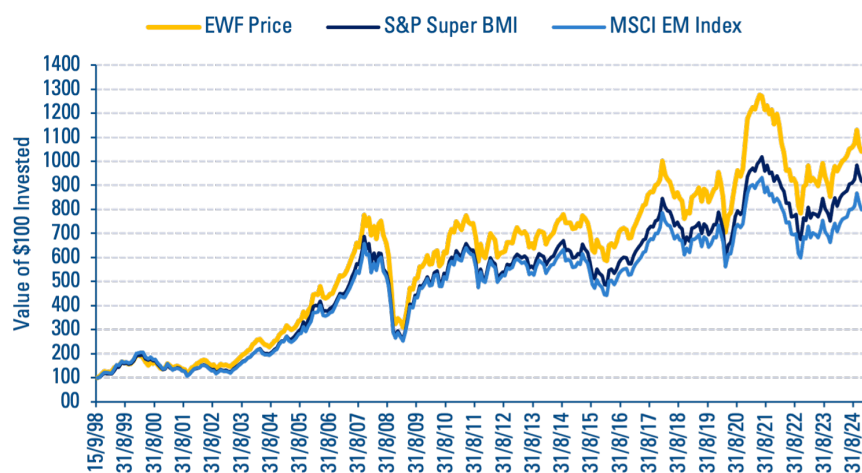
# The Emerging World Fund (Institutional)

January 2025 Month-End Report

## Summary

During January, the share price of The Emerging World Fund (EWF) rose 1.34%, net of fees, whilst its benchmark index, the dollar-adjusted S&P Emerging Frontier Super Composite Net Total Return Broad Market Index (S&P Super BMI), rose 0.98%. Additionally, and for comparative purposes only, the MSCI Emerging Markets Net Total Return Index (MSCI EM Index) rose 1.79% over the period. The discount movements of the Fund's underlying holdings were favourable, whilst the NAV performances were unfavourable and country allocation versus the benchmark index was neutral. Since its inception in September 1998, the Fund has outperformed its benchmark index on an annualised basis by 0.59 of a percentage point and outperformed the MSCI EM Index on an annualised basis by 1.1 percentage points, net of fees. Please note attribution in the table below is shown gross of fees, whilst performance reported in the narrative above and chart below is net of fees.

## EWF Performance\* Compared to the S&P Super Composite Net Total Return BMI\*\* and MSCI EM Index (US\$) Since Inception (Rebased from inception, where 15th September 1998 = 100)



\*Performance figures are net returns. Historical figures are based on an investment management fee of 1% per annum; as of 7 February 2022, the IM Fee is 0.95% per annum.

\*\*The benchmark was changed from the S&P Emerging BMI Plus on January 1, 2009 to better reflect the investment strategy of the Fund. The S&P Emerging BMI Plus was the successor index to the S&P/IFC Global Composite Index, the benchmark for the Fund prior to September 1, 2008, which has been discontinued. Benchmark changes have not been applied retroactively and therefore historical benchmark performance is a blend of the BMI and IFC indices. The MSCI Emerging Markets Net Total Return Index (MSCI EM Index) is shown for comparative purposes. Past performance is no guarantee of future results.

Source: BNY Mellon, S&P, MSCI

## EWF Performance & Attribution Analysis (Gross)

Performance (%)	Jan	Feb	Mar	QTD	YTD
EWF	+1.42			+1.42	+1.42
S&P Super BMI*	+0.98			+0.98	+0.98
Relative to S&P	+0.44			+0.44	+0.44
MSCI EM Index*	+1.79			+1.79	+1.79
Relative to MSCI	-0.37			-0.37	-0.37
Attributed to (%)**					
Country Allocation	+0.00			+0.00	+0.00
Portfolio Holding NAV	-0.40			-0.40	-0.40
Discount Movements	+0.84			+0.84	+0.84
Relative to S&P	+0.44			+0.44	+0.44

\*Index returns subject to change due to restatements by index vendors in the historical index levels.

\*\*CLIM estimates.

The above returns have been rounded and are presented as gross of fees performance figures, which do not reflect the deduction of investment management fees. Please see Prospectus for information regarding fees and expenses. The actual return is reduced by the investment management fees and any other expenses the Fund may incur in the management of the account. Performances for the Quarter and Year to Date are compounded and therefore will not always equal the sum of the individual component months.

Past performance is no guarantee of future results.

Source: CLIM, S&P, MSCI

## Performance Figures

	EWF* (USD)	S&P Super BMI (USD)	MSCI EM Index (USD)
1 Month	+1.34%	+0.98%	+1.79%
3 Months	+0.03%	-2.60%	-2.00%
6 Months	+0.38%	+1.28%	+1.50%
1 Year	+10.83%	+13.24%	+14.75%
Since Inception	+962.82%	+820.34%	+712.85%
Inception (Annualised)	+9.37%	+8.78%	+8.27%

	EWF* (GBP)	S&P Super BMI (GBP)	MSCI EM Index (GBP)
1 Month	+2.14%	+1.78%	+2.59%
3 Months	+3.50%	+0.78%	+1.39%
6 Months	+3.77%	+4.70%	+4.93%
1 Year	+13.58%	+16.06%	+17.61%
Since Inception	+1335.71%	+1143.24%	+998.05%
Inception (Annualised)	+10.63%	+10.03%	+9.51%

	EWF* (Euro)	S&P Super BMI (Euro)	MSCI EM Index (Euro)
1 Month	+0.95%	+0.58%	+1.39%
3 Months	+4.47%	+1.72%	+2.34%
6 Months	+4.49%	+5.43%	+5.66%
1 Year	+15.81%	+18.33%	+19.91%
Since Inception	+1086.47%	+927.42%	+807.43%
Inception (Annualised)	+9.83%	+9.23%	+8.72%

	EWF* (SGD)	S&P Super BMI (SGD)	MSCI EM Index (SGD)
1 Month	+0.68%	+0.32%	+1.12%
3 Months	+2.49%	-0.22%	+0.40%
6 Months	+1.72%	+2.62%	+2.85%
1 Year	+12.41%	+14.85%	+16.38%
Since Inception	+116.92%	+123.49%	+102.94%
Inception (Annualised)	+5.11%	+5.31%	+4.66%

\*Historical figures are based on an investment management fee of 1% per annum; as of 7 February 2022, the IM Fee is 0.95% per annum. Returns are quoted in GBP, EUR and S\$ for the convenience of shareholders, however the base currency of the Fund is USD. Past performance is no guarantee of future results.

## Volatility\*

	EWF Price (USD)	S&P Super BMI	MSCI EM Index
12 Months	+9.35%	+9.88%	+10.94%
Inception	+20.12%	+20.11%	+21.03%

\*Annualised standard deviation of monthly returns over the period (US\$).

## Price

Price	US\$106.28
	£85.54
	EUR0102.24
	S\$143.93
Exchange Rate	£1 = US\$1.24255
	EURO 1 = US\$1.03955
	S\$1 = US\$0.73784
Yield	NIL

Source: CLIM, BNY Mellon, S&P, MSCI

# Investment Commentary

## Economic Overview\* (Macroeconomics)

Global equities gained in January as President Trump’s return to the White House ushered in a new period of policy uncertainty. President Trump’s pledge to go ahead with 25% tariffs on Mexico and Canada as well as 10% on China weighed on sentiment at month end. Following the US FOMC’s decision to leave rates on hold, Chair Powell noted that the Fed would wait for more information on the new administration’s trade and immigration policies before assessing their likely impact. Chair Powell also stressed that the Fed was in no rush to cut rates. The market is pricing in just under two cuts this year. The two-year and 10-year US Treasury yield dropped by 4 bps and 3 bps, respectively, as CPI data released in the month revealed further signs of disinflation. Meanwhile, the release from Chinese artificial intelligence (AI) company DeepSeek of a generative AI model at a fraction of the cost of current models challenged the dominance of US technology firms, weighing on share prices, in particular Nvidia. This prompted some concern over the scale and feasibility of US firms’ AI investment plans.

Emerging market (EM) equities (MSCI EM Net TR Index) rose by 1.8% in US dollar terms during January, underperforming developed market (DM) equities (MSCI World Net TR Index) by 1.7 percentage points, as the risk of tariffs weighed disproportionately on EM. EM underperformed despite the 0.8% gain in the MSCI EM Currency Index and flat US dollar (DXY) performance (-0.1%).

The strongest EM MSCI indices in January were Colombia (+21.2%), Poland (+13.6%) and Brazil (+12.4%). Colombia was in the headlines after President Trump announced 25% tariffs in addition to trade restrictions in response to Colombia’s refusal to receive deportees. The two countries reached a truce within hours of the threat, sparing Colombia. Elsewhere in Latin America, the Brazilian real appreciated by 5.7%, making it one of the best performing EM currencies. The Banco Central do Brasil (BCB) hiked rates by 100 bps at their January meeting as widely expected in response to building inflationary pressures. Latin America outperformed the wider EM benchmark by 7.7 percentage points.

In contrast, the weakest markets were the Philippines (-9.8%), Malaysia (-4.7%) and India (-3.6%). Philippine stocks entered a bear market in January on growth concerns following soft fourth quarter GDP data, which were compounded by the uncertainty of US tariff and immigration policies. The US accounts for around 40% of the Philippine’s overall cash remittances. The MSCI China Index rose by 0.9% in US dollar terms amid the ratcheting up of US-China tensions. The addition of Tencent Holdings and

CATL to the US Secretary of Defence’s list of Chinese Military Companies triggered a correction in the market.

Within the commodity complex there was broad-based gains, with the Bloomberg Commodity TR Index up by 4%. Precious metals (+7.6%) were the best performing commodities, followed by agriculture (+4.8%), energy (+1.8%) and industrial metals (+1.4%). Brent crude oil prices rose by 2.8% on the back of tighter sanctions on Russia.

## Portfolio Commentary\* (Investment Management)

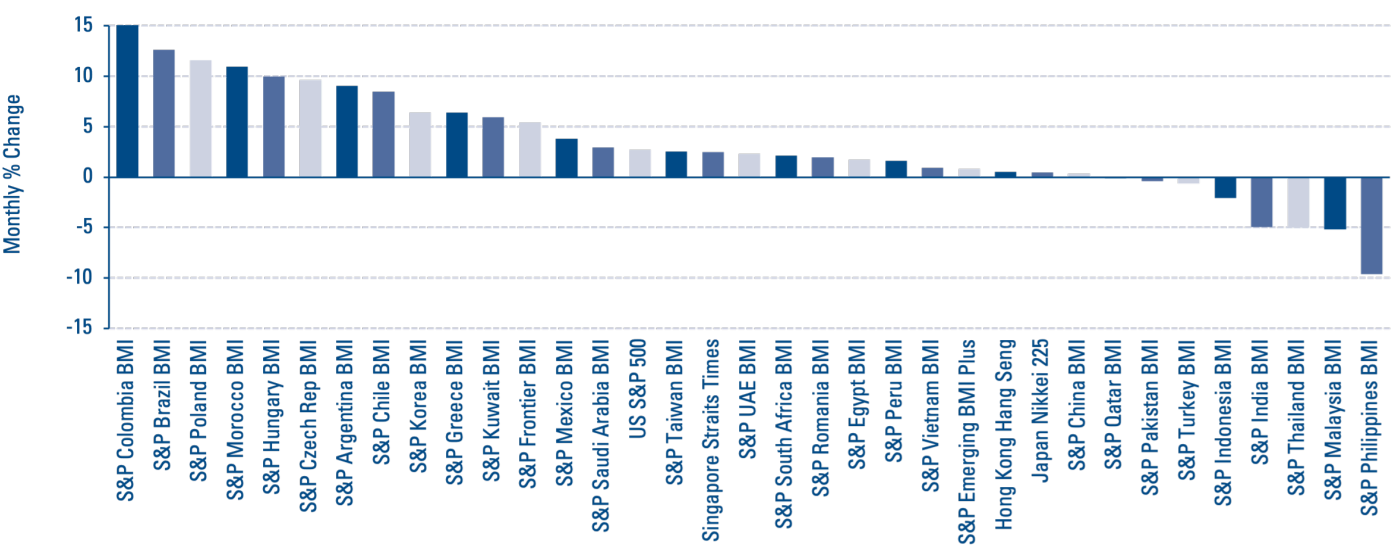
In January, emerging markets generalist exposure was adjusted as we purchased shares of **abrdn Emerging Markets Equity Income Fund Inc**, **JPMorgan Global Emerging Markets Income Trust** and **Templeton Emerging Markets Fund** at discounts between 13% and 15.5%. Shares of **abrdn Emerging Markets Equity Income Fund Inc** were later sold as the discount narrowed to 11.5% upon commencement of the fund’s upcoming tender offer for 20% of its outstanding shares. Shares of **Mobius Investment Trust**, which offers a redemption facility every three years, were purchased at an average discount of 8.5%. Exposure to emerging and frontier markets was increased as shares of **BlackRock Frontiers Investment Trust**, which offers a redemption opportunity every five years, were purchased at a 9% discount.

In Asia, generalist exposure was reduced as shares of **abrdn Asian Income Fund** were sold as the discount narrowed to 10% following the announcement of an enhanced dividend policy and introduction of a continuation vote every three years. Exposure to China was increased as shares of **Templeton Dragon Fund Inc** were purchased at an 18% discount. Exposure to South Korea was increased as we purchased shares of **Korea Fund Inc** at a 15.5% discount. Exposure to Taiwan was reduced as shares of **Taiwan Fund Inc** were sold at an average discount of 14.5%. Exposure to India was increased as shares of **abrdn New India Investment Trust** were purchased at a 19.5% discount. Exposure to Vietnam was increased as we sold shares of **VinaCapital Vietnam Opportunity Fund** at a 22% discount following strong NAV performance.

In Latin America, Mexican exposure was increased as we purchased shares of **Grupo Mexico SAB de CV** at a 51% discount.

\*The portfolio section includes major transactions undertaken over the period.

## Index Performances During January 2025 (US\$)

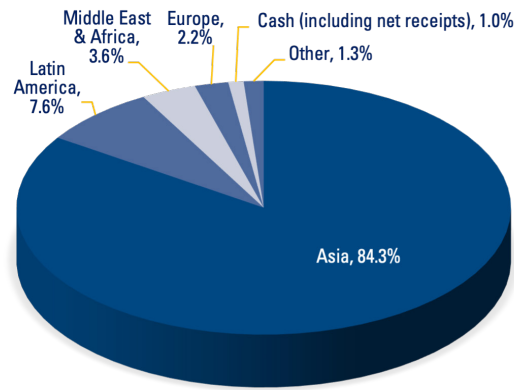


\*The countries and other indices included in this graph are not benchmarks for EWF, they are included to provide an indication as to how the underlying countries themselves have performed over the period.

# Fund Objective & Background

The objective of The Emerging World Fund (EWF) is to invest for capital growth in a portfolio of closed-end funds whose investment policy is directed mainly towards emerging markets. This approach allows great flexibility in asset allocation, a wider diversification of investments, participation in the performances of high quality fund managers and potentially enhanced performance when the discounts to net asset value at which closed-end funds tend to trade narrows. EWF is a sub-fund of The World Markets Umbrella Fund plc. ♦

## Portfolio Breakdown (%)



Source: CLIM

## Fund Portfolio

Top Holdings	Fund (%)	Discount* (%)
1 Templeton Emerging Markets Investment Trust	8.9	13.8
2 Asia Dragon Trust	7.0	8.0
3 JPMorgan Emerging Markets Investment Trust	6.0	11.9
4 Taiwan Fund Inc	5.7	16.6
5 abrdn Emerging Markets Equity Income Fund Inc	5.6	11.9
6 Fidelity China Special Situations	5.0	10.2
7 Schroder AsiaPacific Fund	4.5	12.5
8 abrdn Asia Focus	4.4	14.8
9 JPMorgan Indian Investment Trust	4.0	15.7
10 Utilico Emerging Markets Trust	3.7	19.8
	54.8	

\*Based upon NAV estimate.  
This is provided for information purposes only and should not be construed as investment advice to buy or sell any securities.

Source: CLIM

## Portfolio Data

Fund Size	\$91.33m
Number of Shares in Issue	873,578.337
Number of Portfolio Holdings	41
Size Weighted Portfolio Discount of closed-end funds	17.18%*
Size Weighted Average Life of Portfolio	2.00 years**

Excluding 46.42% of the portfolio with unlimited life.

\*Size Weighted Portfolio Discount represents the see-through discount of the underlying closed-end funds. It is calculated by multiplying the percentage position sizes of the underlying closed-end funds by their respective discounts. These calculations are then added together to determine the size weighted portfolio discount for the portfolio. The size weighted portfolio discount is a measure of value within the portfolio, with a higher value representing wider discounts, and accordingly more value within the portfolio.

\*\*Some of the closed-end funds have either fixed maturities or continuation votes that allow shareholders to vote on a restructuring of the underlying closed-end fund. The size weighted portfolio life is calculated by taking the percentage position sizes of the relevant holdings on the portfolio and multiplying them by their respective time periods remaining to the corporate event. These calculations are then added together to determine the minimum size weighted portfolio life for the portfolio. A lower size weighted portfolio life is beneficial for the portfolio as it may equate to potentially more corporate activity in the near term.

Source: CLIM, BNY Mellon

## EWF and EM Indices Country Weightings

	December 2024			January 2025		
	Fund	S&P Super BMI*	MSCI EM Index*	Fund	S&P Super BMI*	MSCI EM Index*
Asia						
Australia	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.0	0.0
Bangladesh	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0
China	23.6	26.2	27.8	23.9	26.0	27.6
Hong Kong	2.8	0.0	0.0	3.1	0.0	0.0
India	16.0	20.1	19.5	16.3	18.9	18.4
Indonesia	1.9	1.7	1.5	1.8	1.6	1.4
Malaysia	1.3	1.9	1.5	1.2	1.8	1.4
Philippines	0.9	0.6	0.5	0.9	0.5	0.5
Singapore	1.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	0.0
South Korea	11.2	8.7	9.0	11.6	9.2	9.4
Sri Lanka	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0
Taiwan	16.6	18.5	19.7	17.7	18.8	20.0
Thailand	1.0	1.6	1.4	0.9	1.5	1.4
Vietnam	5.6	0.3	0.0	5.2	0.3	0.0
Other Asia	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.0
	82.7	79.8	80.9	84.3	78.8	80.1
Europe						
Czech Republic	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1
Greece	0.2	0.5	0.5	0.2	0.5	0.5
Hungary	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.4	0.2	0.3
Iceland	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0
Kazakhstan	0.3	0.1	0.0	0.3	0.1	0.0
Poland	0.4	0.8	0.8	0.4	0.9	0.9
Romania	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.0
Slovenia	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0
Turkey	0.4	1.0	0.7	0.3	1.0	0.7
Other Europe	0.7	0.2	0.0	0.5	0.2	0.0
	2.4	3.2	2.3	2.2	3.3	2.5
Latin America & Caribbean						
Argentina	0.4	1.1	0.0	0.4	1.2	0.0
Brazil	3.7	3.5	4.1	3.7	3.9	4.5
Chile	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.4
Colombia	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1
Mexico	2.6	1.5	1.8	2.9	1.6	1.8
Panama	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0
Peru	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.3
Other Lat Am	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0
	7.2	7.0	6.7	7.6	7.7	7.1
Middle East & Africa						
Egypt	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Kuwait	0.0	0.8	0.7	0.0	0.8	0.8
Morocco	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0
Oman	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0
Qatar	0.0	0.7	0.8	0.0	0.7	0.8
Saudi Arabia	1.2	3.6	4.2	1.0	3.7	4.2
South Africa	1.5	2.6	2.9	1.5	2.6	3.0
UAE	0.6	1.6	1.4	0.7	1.6	1.4
Other Middle East & Africa	0.2	0.3	0.0	0.3	0.4	0.0
	3.6	10.0	10.1	3.6	10.2	10.3
Other	1.3	0.0	0.0	1.3	0.0	0.0
Cash (including net receipts)	2.8	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	0.0

Values as at month-end  
\*Index allocation may not add to 100% due to rounding.

Source: CLIM, S&P, MSCI

Country Allocation (+0.00%)

(Relative performance is in US dollar terms and references the country's S&P Super BMI component or an appropriate market index versus the S&P Super BMI composite index)

Country allocation was neutral, with outperformance stemming from an underweight position to India (which contributed 24 basis points to performance) as its index underperformed; an overweight position to South Korea (+13 bps) was also positive as its index outperformed.

Conversely, some underperformance resulted from exposure to Hong Kong (-10 bps) as its index underperformed. An underweight position to Argentina (-6 bps) was also unfavourable as its index outperformed over the month.

Portfolio Holding NAV (-0.40%)

(Performances are quoted in US dollar terms against their respective S&P Super BMI component, or for out-of-benchmark exposure, against a comparable country or regional index)

NAV performances were negative as the NAVs of Taiwan Fund Inc (-24 bps) and abrdn Asia Focus (-16 bps) underperformed their indices by 4.4 and 3.5 percentage points, respectively. The NAV of Taiwan Fund Inc underperformed as unfavourable stock selection within the information technology sector was the main detractor, particularly positions in Jentech Precision Industrial, Asia Vital Components and Quanta Computer; additionally, the Taiwan market was closed from 23-31 January 2025, resulting in the index remaining flat over that period whilst the fund's NAV fell. The NAV of abrdn Asia Focus underperformed as unfavourable stock selection within India was the main detractor, particularly positions in Aegis Logistics, KFin Technologies and Affle India.

Some outperformance stemmed from Templeton Emerging Markets Investment Trust (+12 bps) as its NAV outperformed its index by 1.4 percentage points due to an underweight position to India and an overweight position to South Korea as well as good stock selection in Hong Kong.

Discount Movements (+0.84%)

(Performances are quoted in US dollar terms unless specified otherwise)

Discount movements were positive as the discounts of abrdn Asia Focus (+25 bps), Fidelity China Special Situations (+15 bps), and Asia Dragon Trust (+14 bps) narrowed by 4.6, 2.7, and 1.7 percentage points, respectively. The discount of abrdn Asia Focus narrowed as the Board stepped up a share repurchase programme. The discount of Fidelity China Special Situations narrowed with investors more bullish on China after the release of DeepSeek, a Chinese low-cost AI model. The discount of Asia Dragon Trust narrowed ahead of a 25% tender offer and subsequent merger into another emerging markets Asian fund.

Conversely, Utilico Emerging Markets Trust (-11 bps) contributed underperformance as its discount widened by 2.4 on price weakness.

Source: Bloomberg, S&P, CLIM

Risk Profile

- There is no capital guarantee or protection on the value of the Fund. Investors can lose all capital invested in the Fund.
- Some emerging markets in which the Fund invests may have less developed political, economic and legal systems. Such markets may carry a higher than average risk to investment and may lead to large fluctuations in the value of the Fund.
- The Investment Manager does not engage in currency hedging. Changes in currency exchange rates may therefore adversely affect the value of your investment.
- During difficult market conditions, some of the Fund's assets may become difficult to accurately value or to sell at a desired price.
- The Fund may invest in warrants. Warrants carry a degree of risk significantly higher than the underlying company shares due to their leveraged nature and therefore have higher volatility.

Past performance is not a guide to future performance. The value of investments and any income is not guaranteed and can go down as well as up and may be affected by exchange rate fluctuations. This means that an investor may not get back the amount invested. Index returns assume reinvestment of dividends and capital gains and unlike fund returns do not reflect fees or expenses. The indices are unmanaged and cannot be invested directly. All information expressed in USD. All data: Bloomberg, BNY Mellon, CLIM, S&P, MSCI.

All values and calculations in this report are as at 31 January 2025 unless otherwise stated.

Fund Details

The Emerging World Fund is a sub-fund of The World Markets Umbrella Fund plc	
Domicile .....	Dublin
Status .....	UCITS
Inception .....	15th September 1998
Income .....	Reporting status
Investment Management Charge .....	0.95%
Ongoing Charges including Investment Management Charge .....	1.31%
Minimum Investment .....	US\$10,000, additions US\$750
Dealing .....	Daily (Excl. Bank Holidays in UK and Ireland)
Shares are allocated only on receipt of cleared funds and completed application form.	
Valuation .....	Daily at 4:00 p.m. EST
Sedol .....	0293059
ISIN .....	IE0002930596
Bloomberg Ticker .....	WOREMUI ID (US\$), WOREMSI ID (€)
Reuters .....	COLIM



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Important Notice

Before subscribing, investors should read the most recent Prospectus, financial reports and the Key Investor Information Document (KIID) for each fund in which they want to invest. Before making any investment (new or continuous), please consult a professional and/or investment adviser as to its suitability.

The Emerging World Fund is a sub-fund of The World Markets Umbrella Fund plc, an open-ended investment company with variable capital (ICVC), with segregated liability between sub-funds. Incorporated with limited liability under the laws of Ireland and authorised by the Central Bank of Ireland as a UCITS fund. Registered address: 55 Charlemont Place, Dublin D02 F985, Ireland.

The Emerging World Fund is registered in Ireland, Italy and the UK. Shares in the Fund may not be offered to the public in any other country and this document must not be issued, circulated or distributed other than in circumstances which do not constitute an offer to the public and are in accordance with applicable local legislation. In particular, the Fund has not been registered under the United States Securities Act of 1933. Accordingly, shares may not be offered or sold in the US or to US persons (as defined in the Prospectus) except pursuant to an exemption from, or in a transaction not subject to the regulatory requirements of, the 1933 Act and any applicable state securities laws.

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Past performance is no guarantee of future results. The value of investments can fall as well as rise and investors might not get back the sum originally invested. Please refer to the 'Risk Factors' section of the Prospectus for all risks applicable to investing in any fund and specifically this Fund.

Subscriptions to the Fund may only be made on the basis of the current Prospectus and the KIID, as well as the latest annual or interim reports, all of which are prepared for the Company as a whole and which are available in English free of charge from the Company's administrator, BNY Mellon Fund Services (Ireland) Designated Activity Company (the "Administrator"), whose offices are located at Guild House, Guild Street, IFSC, Dublin 1, Ireland and from the Investment Manager's website at <http://www.citlon.com/UCITS/overview.php>.

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