

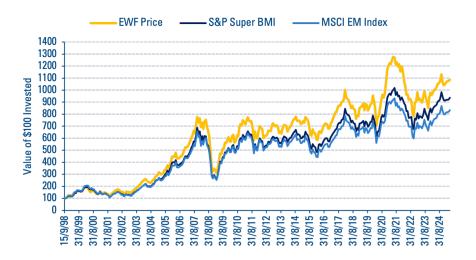
# The Emerging World Fund (Institutional)

**April 2025 Month-End Report** 

## **Summary**

During April, the share price of The Emerging World Fund (EWF) rose 0.5%, 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 1.46%. Additionally, and for comparative purposes only, the MSCI Emerging Markets Net Total Return Index (MSCI EM Index) rose 1.31% over the period. The discount movements and NAV performances of the Fund's underlying holdings, as well as country allocation versus the benchmark index, were all unfavourable. Since its inception in September 1998, the Fund has outperformed its benchmark index on an annualised basis by 0.6 of a percentage point and outperformed the MSCI EM Index on an annualised basis by 1.08 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)



<sup>\*</sup>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.

### **EWF Performance & Attribution Analysis (Gross)**

Performance (%)	Apr	May	Jun	QTD	YTD
EWF	+0.58			+0.58	+3.72
S&P Super BMI*	+1.46			+1.46	+2.78
Relative to S&P	-0.88			-0.88	+0.94
MSCI EM Index*	+1.31			+1.31	+4.28
Relative to MSCI	-0.73			-0.73	-0.56
Attributed to (%)**					
Country Allocation	-0.09			-0.09	+0.26
Portfolio Holding NAV	-0.49			-0.49	-1.49
Discount Movements	-0.30			-0.30	+2.17
Relative to S&P	-0.88			-0.88	+0.94

<sup>\*</sup>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 combonent months.

Past performance is no guarantee of future results.

#### Source: CLIM, S&P, MSCI

#### Performance Figures

	FINE* (HOD)	S&P Super	MSCI EM
	EWF* (USD)	BMI (USD)	Index (USD)
1 Month	+0.50%	+1.46%	+1.31%
3 Months	+2.02%	+1.79%	+2.45%
6 Months	+2.05%	-0.86%	+0.40%
1 Year	+7.50%	+7.73%	+9.02%
Since Inception	+984.30%	+836.78%	+732.76%
Inception (Annualised)	+9.37%	+8.77%	+8.29%
	EWF* (GBP)	S&P Super	MSCI EM
	EVVF (UDF)	BMI (GBP)	Index (GBP)
1 Month	-2.89%	-1.96%	-2.10%
3 Months	-5.09%	-5.31%	-4.70%
6 Months	-1.77%	-4.58%	-3.37%
1 Year	+0.78%	+0.99%	+2.20%
Since Inception	+1262.59%	+1077.20%	+946.49%
Inception (Annualised)	+10.31%	+9.70%	+9.22%
	EME* /Euro\	S&P Super	MSCI EM
	EWF* (Euro)	S&P Super BMI (Euro)	MSCI EM Index (Euro)
1 Month	EWF* (Euro) -4.50%		Index (Euro) -3.73%
1 Month 3 Months	. ,	BMI (Euro) -3.59% -6.92%	Index (Euro)
	-4.50%	BMI (Euro) -3.59% -6.92% -5.32%	Index (Euro) -3.73%
3 Months 6 Months 1 Year	-4.50% -6.70% -2.53% +1.12%	BMI (Euro) -3.59% -6.92% -5.32% +1.33%	Index (Euro) -3.73% -6.31% -4.12% +2.55%
3 Months 6 Months 1 Year Since Inception	-4.50% -6.70% -2.53% +1.12% +1006.96%	BMI (Euro) -3.59% -6.92% -5.32% +1.33% +856.35%	-3.73% -6.31% -4.12% +2.55% +750.16%
3 Months 6 Months 1 Year	-4.50% -6.70% -2.53% +1.12%	BMI (Euro) -3.59% -6.92% -5.32% +1.33%	Index (Euro) -3.73% -6.31% -4.12% +2.55%
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3 Months 6 Months 1 Year Since Inception	-4.50% -6.70% -2.53% +1.12% +1006.96%	BMI (Euro) -3.59% -6.92% -5.32% +1.33% +856.35% +8.85%	-3.73% -6.31% -4.12% +2.55% +750.16% +8.37%
3 Months 6 Months 1 Year Since Inception	-4.50% -6.70% -2.53% +1.12% +1006.96% +9.45%	BMI (Euro) -3.59% -6.92% -5.32% +1.33% +856.35% +8.85%  S&P Super	Index (Euro) -3.73% -6.31% -4.12% +2.55% +750.16% +8.37%  MSCI EM
3 Months 6 Months 1 Year Since Inception Inception (Annualised)	-4.50% -6.70% -2.53% +1.12% +1006.96% +9.45% EWF* (SGD)	BMI (Euro) -3.59% -6.92% -5.32% +1.33% +856.35% +8.85%  S&P Super BMI (SGD)	Index (Euro) -3.73% -6.31% -4.12% +2.55% +750.16% +8.37%  MSCI EM Index (SGD)
3 Months 6 Months 1 Year Since Inception Inception (Annualised)  1 Month 3 Months 6 Months	-4.50% -6.70% -2.53% +1.12% +1006.96% +9.45% EWF* (SGD) -2.37% -1.71% +0.74%	BMI (Euro) -3.59% -6.92% -5.32% +1.33% +856.35% +8.85%  S&P Super BMI (SGD) -1.44% -1.94% -2.15%	Index (Euro) -3.73% -6.31% -4.12% +2.55% +750.16% +8.37%  MSCI EM Index (SGD) -1.58% -1.30% -0.91%
3 Months 6 Months 1 Year Since Inception Inception (Annualised)  1 Month 3 Months 6 Months 1 Year	-4.50% -6.70% -2.53% +1.12% +1006.96% +9.45% EWF* (SGD) -2.37% -1.71% +0.74% +2.95%	BMI (Euro) -3.59% -6.92% -5.32% +1.33% +856.35% +8.85% S&P Super BMI (SGD) -1.44% -1.94% -2.15% +3.14%	Index (Euro) -3.73% -6.31% -4.12% +2.55% +750.16% +8.37%  MSCI EM Index (SGD) -1.58% -1.30% -0.91% +4.38%
3 Months 6 Months 1 Year Since Inception Inception (Annualised)  1 Month 3 Months 6 Months 1 Year Since Inception	-4.50% -6.70% -6.70% -2.53% +1.12% +1006.96% +9.45%  EWF* (SGD) -2.37% -1.71% +0.74% +2.95% +113.22%	BMI (Euro) -3.59% -6.92% -5.32% +1.33% +856.35% +8.85%  S&P Super BMI (SGD) -1.44% -1.94% -2.15% +3.14% +119.16%	Index (Euro) -3.73% -6.31% -4.12% +2.55% +750.16% +8.37%  MSCI EM Index (SGD) -1.58% -1.30% -0.91% +4.38% +100.30%
3 Months 6 Months 1 Year Since Inception Inception (Annualised)  1 Month 3 Months 6 Months 1 Year	-4.50% -6.70% -2.53% +1.12% +1006.96% +9.45% EWF* (SGD) -2.37% -1.71% +0.74% +2.95%	BMI (Euro) -3.59% -6.92% -5.32% +1.33% +856.35% +8.85% S&P Super BMI (SGD) -1.44% -1.94% -2.15% +3.14%	Index (Euro) -3.73% -6.31% -4.12% +2.55% +750.16% +8.37%  MSCI EM Index (SGD) -1.58% -1.30% -0.91% +4.38%

<sup>\*</sup>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	+9.08%	+9.23%	+10.15%
Inception	+20.03%	+20.01%	+20.93%

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

#### Price

Price	US\$108.43
	£81.19
	EUR095.39
	S\$141.47
Exchange Rate	£1 = US\$1.33570
	EURO 1 = US\$1.13675
	S\$1 =US\$0.76587
Yield	NIL
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<sup>\*\*</sup>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

## **Investment Commentary**

## Economic Overview\* (Macroeconomics)

Global markets sold off sharply following the announcement of higher than expected US reciprocal tariff rates on "Liberation Day" (April 2). Markets recouped most of their losses by the end of the month after US President Donald Trump paused the reciprocal tariffs for 90 days. However, the US tariff rate on China was hiked further to 145%, albeit with exemptions made for certain goods, such as electronic products. China responded by increasing its tariff rate on imports from the US to 125%. Despite concerns over the inflationary impact of US tariffs, the 2-year and 10-year US Treasury yields dropped by 28 bps and 4 bps, respectively, due to rising concerns about a US recession, which were compounded by the release of weak Q1 GDP data. The market is pricing in four rate cuts by end-2025, one more than was expected at the start of April.

Emerging market (EM) equities (as measured by the MSCI EM Net TR Index) rose by 1.3% in US dollar terms in April, outperforming developed market (DM) equities (as measured by the MSCI World Net TR Index) by 0.4 percentage points. The narrative of fading US exceptionalism took hold in April, with the US dollar (DXY Index) falling by 4.6% in the month. The MSCI EM Currency Index rose by 1.7%.

The strongest EM index was the MSCI Mexico Index, which gained 13% in US dollar terms. Mexico, along with Canada, was not included in the US' reciprocal tariff list and as such its existing 25% tariff rate was lower than those faced by some other EMs. Additionally, the exemption of USMCA-compliant goods from this tariff rate was extended. Other strong markets were Hungary (+9.9%), Thailand (+7.2%) and Colombia (+6.6%). Brazil (+5.1%) and Chile (+3.2%) also saw gains and Latin America outperformed the EM benchmark by 5.6 percentage points. In Asia, the MSCI India Index gained 4.8% in US dollar terms as optimism around a trade deal with the US grew.

In contrast, the MSCI Turkey Index fell by 6.8% in US dollar terms, making it the worst performing EM. The CBT hiked the policy rate

(one-week repo rate) by 350 bps at its April meeting, while consensus had expected a hold. Elsewhere, the MSCI China Index declined by 4.3% in US dollar terms against a backdrop of escalations in the trade war.

In commodities, the Bloomberg Commodity TR Index fell by 4.8% as the declines in energy (-16.2%) and industrial metals (-6.9%) more than offset the rises in precious metals (+3.1%) and agriculture (+1.2%). Projections for weaker global trade and an increase in OPEC+ output weighed on the price of Brent crude oil, which dropped by 15.5%.

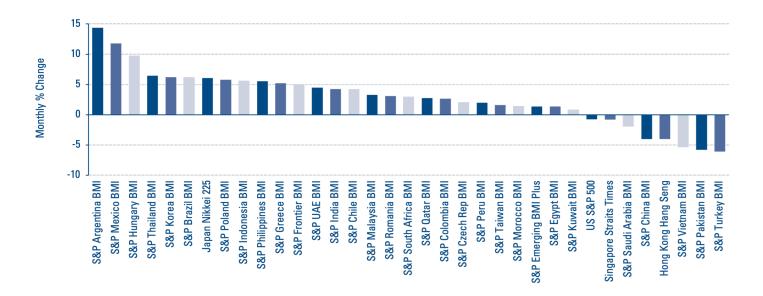
## Portfolio Commentary\* (Investment Management)

In April, emerging markets generalist exposure was adjusted as we sold shares of **abrdn Emerging Markets ex-China Fund Inc** at a 13% discount, while shares of **Fidelity Emerging Markets** and **JPMorgan Global Emerging Markets Income Trust** were purchased at discounts of 11% and 16%, respectively.

In Asia, generalist exposure was adjusted as shares of Pacific Horizon Investment Trust were purchased at an average discount of 12%, while shares of abrdn Asia Focus were sold at discounts as narrow as 11%. Exposure to China was increased as we purchased shares of Morgan Stanley China A-Share Fund Inc and JPMorgan China Growth & Income at discounts averaging 19.5% and 11%, respectively. Exposure to Taiwan was reduced as shares of Taiwan Fund Inc were sold into strength at a 16% discount. Exposure to Vietnam was increased as we purchased shares of VinaCapital Vietnam Opportunity Fund at a 31% discount.

In Latin America, Mexican exposure was increased as we purchased shares of **Mexico Fund Inc** at an average discount of 20.5%.

## Index Performances April 2025 (US\$)



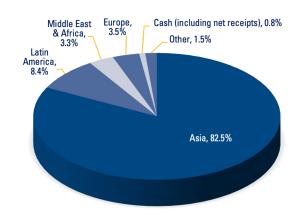
<sup>\*</sup>The countries and other indices included in this graph are not benchmarks for EWF, they are included to provide an indication as to how the underlying countries themselves have performed over the period.

<sup>\*</sup>The portfolio section includes major transactions undertaken 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	9.5	12.9
2 Invesco Asia Dragon Trust	7.1	10.2
3 JPMorgan Emerging Markets Investment Trust	6.1	11.7
4 Fidelity China Special Situations	5.5	9.6
5 Taiwan Fund Inc	4.7	18.6
6 Schroder AsiaPacific Fund	4.6	11.8
7 abrdn Asia Focus	4.4	14.4
8 JPMorgan Indian Investment Trust	4.3	13.6
9 Utilico Emerging Markets Trust	4.1	16.4
10 Fidelity Emerging Markets	3.8	10.6
	54.1	

<sup>\*</sup>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	\$89.72m
Number of Shares in Issue	841,668.499
Number of Portfolio Holdings	40
Size Weighted Portfolio Discount of closed-end funds	16.82%*
Size Weighted Average Life of Portfolio	1.72 years**

Excluding 43.30% 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

Source: CLIM, BNY Mellon

## **EWF and EM Indices Country Weightings**

		March 202	5		April 202	5
	Fund	S&P Super BMI*	MSCI EM Index*	Fund	S&P Super BMI*	MSCI EN 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	25.5	29.2	31.2	25.2	27.7	29.6
Hong Kong	3.3	0.0	0.0	2.9	0.0	0.0
India	14.4	18.7	18.5	15.3	19.3	19.2
Indonesia	1.6	1.4	1.2	1.7	1.4	1.3
Malaysia	1.2	1.7	1.3	1.1	1.7	1.4
Philippines	0.9	0.6	0.5	0.9	0.6	0.5
Singapore	1.2	0.0	0.0	1.2	0.0	0.0
South Korea	12.3	8.9	9.0	12.6	9.3	9.3
Sri Lanka	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0
Taiwan	15.8	16.1	16.8	15.0	16.2	17.1
Thailand	1.0	1.3	1.2	1.0	1.4	1.2
Vietnam	5.0	0.3	0.0	4.8	0.3	0.0
Other Asia	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.2	0.1	0.0
	82.9	78.4	79.7	82.5	78.1	79.6
Europe	02.0			00	70	70.0
Czech Republic	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.0	0.1	0.2
Greece	0.2	0.6	0.6	0.4	0.6	0.6
Hungary	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.3
Iceland	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0
Kazakhstan	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0
Poland	0.3	1.1	1.0	0.5	1.1	1.1
Romania	0.4	0.2		0.5	0.2	0.0
			0.0			
Slovenia	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0
Turkey	0.3	0.9	0.6	0.4	0.8	0.5
Other Europe	1.1	0.2	0.0	1.4	0.2	0.0
Latin America O Caribbaan	2.7	3.6	2.7	3.5	3.6	2.7
Latin America & Caribbean						
Argentina	0.3	1.2	0.0	0.3	1.3	0.0
Brazil	4.0	3.9	4.4	4.2	4.1	4.5
Chile	0.3	0.5	0.5	0.3	0.5	0.5
Colombia	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.1
Mexico	2.9	1.6	1.9	3.2	1.8	2.1
Panama	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0
Peru	0.1	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
	7.7	7.8	7.2	8.4	8.3	7.5
Middle East & Africa						
Egypt	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Kuwait	0.0	0.8	0.8	0.0	0.8	0.8
Morocco	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.3	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	0.7	3.5	4.1	0.7	3.4	3.9
South Africa	1.6	2.7	3.2	1.3	2.7	3.2
UAE	0.7	1.6	1.4	0.7	1.6	1.4
Other Middle East & Africa	0.1	0.4	0.0	0.5	0.3	0.0
	3.2	10.2	10.4	3.3	10.0	10.2
Other	2.2	0.0	0.0	1.5	0.0	0.0
Cash (including net receipts)	1.3	0.0	0.0	0.8	0.0	0.0

Source: CLIM, S&P, MSCI

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

#### **Country Allocation (-0.09%)**

(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 slightly negative, with underperformance stemming from an overweight position to Vietnam (which detracted 31 basis points from performance) as its index underperformed the composite index. An underweight position to Argentina (-11 bps) also detracted from performance as its index outperformed.

Conversely, some outperformance resulted from an underweight position to China  $(+23\ bps)$  as its index underperformed.

## Portfolio Holding NAV (-0.49%)

(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 **Fidelity China Special Situations** (-11 bps) and **Ocean Wilsons Holdings** (-9 bps) underperformed their indices by 1.9 and 5.4 percentage points, respectively. **Fidelity China Special Situations'** NAV underperformed due to negative stock selection, primarily within the industrials and financials sectors, as well as the use of gearing in a falling market. The NAV of **Ocean Wilsons Holdings** lagged the gains in Brazilian equities as the holding company awaits completion of the sale of its entire interest in Brazilian port and maritime logistics operator Wilson Sons, which is expected to occur in the second or third quarter of 2025.

Some outperformance stemmed from **abrdn Asia Focus** (+14 bps) as its NAV outperformed its index by 3.5 percentage points due to the outperformance of Asian small-cap stocks relative to large-cap stocks. Stock selection was also positive, notably HD Korea Shipbuilding & Offshore Engineering, Kfin Technologies and HD Hyundai Marine Solution.

## **Discount Movements (-0.30%)**

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

Discount movements were negative as the discounts of **Taiwan Fund Inc** (-36 bps) and **Fidelity China Special Situations** (-17 bps) widened by 4.7 and 2.3 percentage points, respectively.

Conversely, VinaCapital Vietnam Opportunity Fund (+12 bps) contributed outperformance as its discount narrowed by 3.6 percentage points.

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
- 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 30 April 2025 unless otherwise stated.

## **Fund Details**

The Emerging World Fund is a sub-fund of Th	e World Markets Umbrella Fund plc
Domicile	
Status	
Inception	
Income	·
Investment Management Charge	
Ongoing Charges including Investment Manager	
Minimum Investment	
Dealing	
	cleared funds and completed application form.
Valuation	Daily at 4:00 p.m. EST
Sedol	the state of the s
ISIN	IE0002930596
Bloomberg Ticker	WOREMUI ID (US\$), WOREMSI ID (£)



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#### Marketing Information

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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.

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