# The Emerging World Fund (Retail)

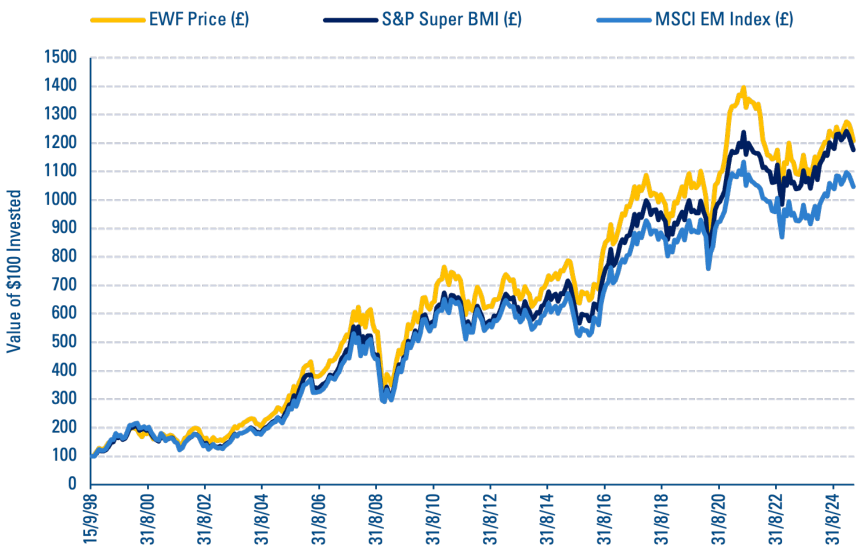
**April 2025 Month-End Report**

CITY OF LONDON
Investment Management Company Limited

## Summary

During April, the share price of The Emerging World Fund (EWF) fell 2.93%, net of fees, compared to a 1.96% fall in its benchmark index, the sterling-adjusted S&P Emerging Frontier Super Composite Net Total Return Broad Market Index (S&P Super BMI). Additionally, and for comparative purposes only, the sterling-adjusted MSCI Emerging Markets Net Total Return Index (MSCI EM Index) fell 2.1% over the month. Since its inception in September 1998, the Fund has outperformed its benchmark index on an annualised basis by 0.11 of a percentage point and outperformed the MSCI EM Index on an annualised basis by 0.59 of a percentage point, net of fees.

## EWF Performance* Compared to the S&P Super BMI** and MSCI EM Index (£) Since Inception **(Rebased from inception, where 15th September 1998 = 100)**




**Historical net of fees performance is based on an investment management fee of 1.5% per annum; as of 7 February 2022, the investment management fee is 1.45%. Returns are quoted in GBP for the convenience of shareholders, however the base currency of the Fund is USD.*
***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*

## Portfolio Data

| | |
|---|---|
| Fund Size | £67.17m |
| 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 near term.*

*Source: CLIM, BNY Mellon*

## Performance Figures (£)

| | EWF* | S&P Super BMI | MSCI EM Index |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 Month | -2.93% | -1.96% | -2.10% |
| 3 Months | -5.21% | -5.31% | -4.70% |
| 6 Months | -2.01% | -4.58% | -3.37% |
| 12 Months | +0.27% | +0.99% | +2.20% |
| Since Inception | +1108.09% | +1077.20% | +946.49% |
| Inception (Annualised) | +9.81% | +9.70% | +9.22% |

** Historical net of fees performance is based on an investment management fee of 1.5% per annum; as of 7 February 2022, the investment management fee is 1.45%. Returns are quoted in GBP 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 | S&P Super BMI | MSCI EM Index |
|---|---|---|---|
| 12 Months | +7.18% | +7.66% | +8.65% |
| Inception | +18.11% | +18.37% | +19.23% |

**Annualised standard deviation of monthly returns over the period (£).*

## Price

| | |
|---|---|
| Price | US$96.13 |
| | £71.97 |
| | EURO 84.57 |
| Exchange Rate | £1 = US$1.33570 |
| | EURO 1 = US$1.13675 |
| Yield | NIL |

*Source: CLIM, 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)*

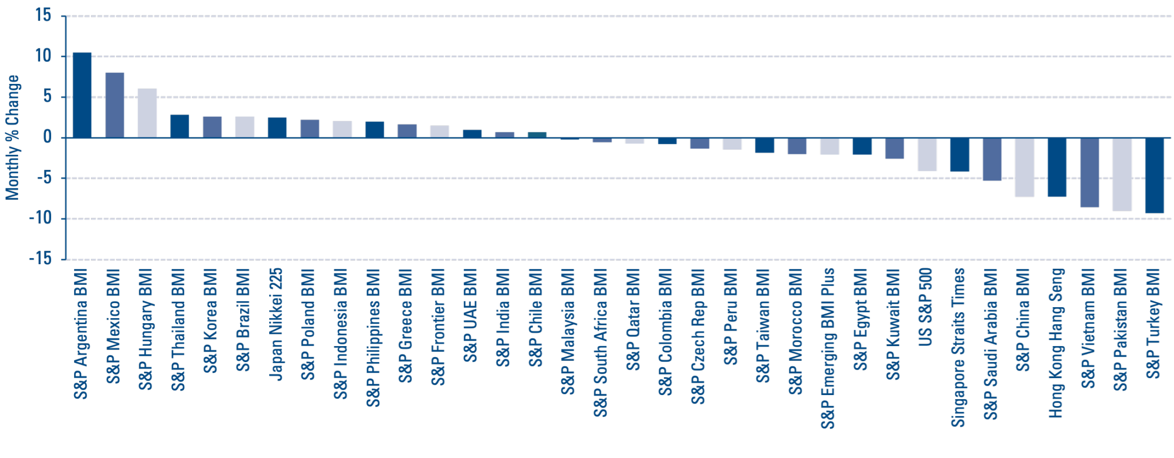
In April, emerging markets generalist exposure was adjusted as we sold shares of **abrdn Emerging Markets Ex-China Fund Inc** at a 13% discount, while shares of **Fidelity Emerging Markets** and **JPMorgan Global Emerging Markets Income Trust** were purchased at discounts of 11% and 16%, respectively.

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** 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%.

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

## Index Performances During April 2025 (£)



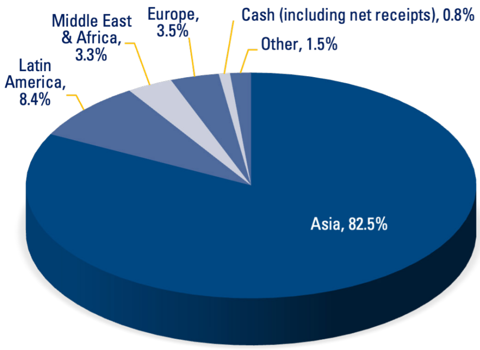

*The countries and other indices included in this graph are not benchmarks for EWF, they are included to provide an indication as to how the underlying countries themselves have performed over the period.*

*Source: Bloomberg, S&P*

# 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** | |

**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*

## EWF and EM Indices Country Weightings

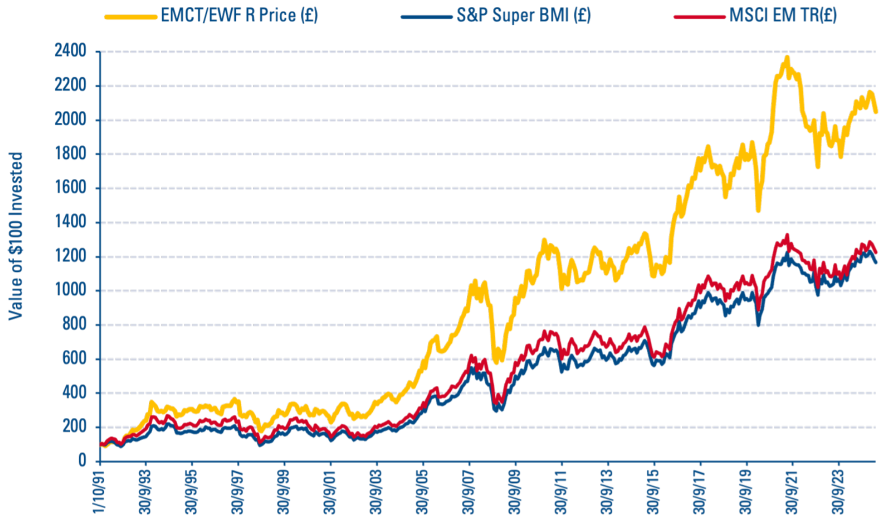
| | March 2025 | | | April 2025 | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Fund | S&P Super BMI* | MSCI EM Index* | Fund | S&P Super BMI* | MSCI EM Index* |
| **Asia** | | | | | | |
| Australia | 0.5 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.5 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Bangladesh | 0.0 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.1 | 0.0 |
| China | 25.5 | 29.2 | 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** | | | | | | |
| 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 | 0.3 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 0.3 | 0.1 | 0.0 |
| Poland | 0.4 | 1.1 | 1.0 | 0.5 | 1.1 | 1.1 |
| Romania | 0.1 | 0.2 | 0.0 | 0.1 | 0.2 | 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 |
| | **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 |

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

*Source: CLIM, S&P, MSCI*

## EWF Performance (EMCT Transfer) Compared to the S&P Super BMI and MSCI EM Index (£)

**Rebased from where 1 October 1991 = 100**

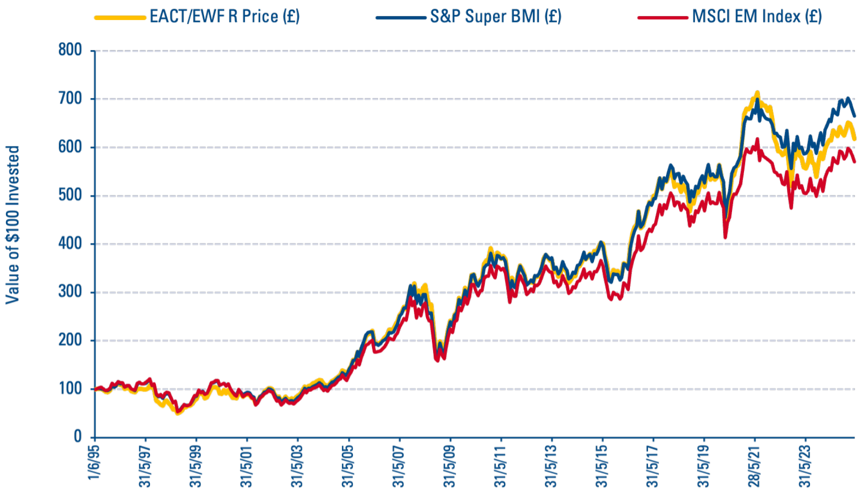



*Past performance is no guarantee of future results.*

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

## EWF Performance (EACT Transfer) Compared to the S&P Super BMI and MSCI EM Index (£)

**Rebased from where 1 June 1995 = 100**




*Past performance is no guarantee of future results.*

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

### 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 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 The World Markets Umbrella Fund plc

| | |
|---|---|
| Domicile | Dublin |
| Status | UCITS |
| Inception | 15th September 1998 |
| Income | Reporting status |
| Investment Management Charge | 1.45% |
| Ongoing Charges including Investment Management Charge | 1.81% |
| Dealing | Daily (Excl. Bank Holidays in UK and Ireland) |
| Valuation | Daily at 4:00 p.m. EST |
| Sedol | 0903916 |
| ISIN | IE0009039169 |
| Bloomberg Ticker | WOREMDR ID (US$), WOREMSR ID (£) |
| Reuters | COLIM |

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**www.citlon.co.uk**


**Important Notice**

Before subscribing, investors should read the most recent Prospectus, financial reports and 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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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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