# **Strategy Description**

Meranti Asia Fund 'MAF' seeks long-term high growth of the portfolio by investing across Asia Padific ex. Japan equity markets, while looking to mitigate risks during significant downturns. Instead of investing in flavour of the day concepts, the strategy focuses on structural characteristics that make sense and are backed by empirical research.

# **Key Features**

# **Dynamic Risk Mitigation**

Financial crises are infrequent but inevitable. By managing risks in significant downtums, the strategy is designed to help investors endure systemic market shocks and continue to invest with confidence.

# **Asia Equities**

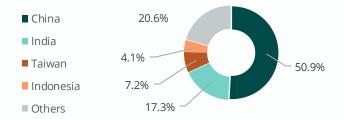
Invest into secular opportunities arising from the global shift of economic power to Asia.

# **Active Strategy**

Index funds tend to focus on less than 5% of the 33,000+ listed companies in Asia. By investing across the universe using Fundamental, Valuation, and Technical principles; the ability to be different provides outperformance potential.

# Asia Equities Fertile ground for investing into compelling growth opportunities Dynamic Risk Mitigation Risk management to mitigate risk of negative compounding

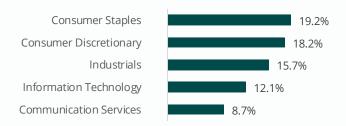
# Geographical Breakdown



# **Top Equity Holdings**

Tencent	World-leading internet and technology company offering
Holdings	high-quality digital content and services.
Alibaba	China's biggest e-commerce company for online and
Group	mobile marketplaces in retail and wholesale trade.
Ping An	World-leading retail financial services provider for
Insurance	integrated finance and healthcare.
China Tower	$China's \ largest \ telecommunications \ in frastructure \ service$
	provider.
TSMC	World's largest contract manufacturer of semiconductors.

# Sector Allocation



Port	folio Statistics*	Portfolio	Benchmark		
Price-	Earnings (P/E) Ratio	11.33	11.91		
Earnir	ngs-Per-Share (EPS) Growth	24.96	20.70		

\*Price-Earnings (P/E) ratio and Earnings-Per-Share (EPS) Growth figures retrieved from Bloomberg. Reference benchmark is the MSCI AC Asia Ex Japan Index.

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# **Market & Portfolio Developments**

We discussed last month how Global equities have outperformed Asian equities by >90% since 2009, which coincided with the beginning of the era of easy money. Prior to that, Asian equities outperformed global equities by 160% over a multi-year period. These changes in performance leadership have coincided with regime shifts. As the world transitions out of the era of easy money, investment returns will be less driven by low and lowering interest rates and more driven by underlying structural growth and profitability. Under this new regime, Asia equity should be well positioned to regain its performance leadership, supported by its low base, higher real economy growth, and more reasonable valuation. The chart below shows that Asia equities valuation looks attractive relative to the other regions, particularly considering the better earnings growth.

To capitalize on this new regime, we are working more on specific stocks to add idiosyncratic engines to the portfolio, which should help compound the returns over time. We focus on quality companies with sustainable earnings power in growth industries, such as the global leading producer of the critical component for solar electrical systems, China's dominant supplier of smart grid equipment, and the dominant logistics operator in South East Asia. Meanwhile, we also see great bargains in certain mature industries, such as the top medical device provider in China yielding >10% free cash flow to market cap, and water supply and treatment utilities offering 8-12% dividend yield.

Why now? As counter-intuitive as it may seem, for equity investing, the best time to invest is when one feels the worst. After the pace of recovery disappointed significantly in 2023, investors have practically given up hope, particularly on China. Therein lies the opportunity for the forward-looking investor to capture the next multi-year compounders at good prices in



## **Fund Details**

ltem	Class A	Class B				
Currency	SGD,	USD				
ISIN (SGD Class)	SGXZ64383987 (Distribution)	SGXZ78636883 (Accumulation)				
ISIN (USD Class)	SGXZ99381758 (Distribution)	SGXZ76017904 (Accumulation)				
Projected Distribution <sup>2</sup>	4% p.a.	-				
Min. Subscription	SGD 500,000 USD 400,000	SGD 50,000 USD 40,000				
Account Opening Fee <sup>3</sup> (One-time)	SGD 4,000 USD 3,000	SGD 4,000 USD 3,000				
Min. Subsequent Subscription	SGD 15,000 USD 10,000	SGD 15,000 USD 10,000				
Redemption Fees						
1st Year of Investment	-	3%				
2nd Year of Investment	-	2%				
3rd Year of Investment	-	1%				
4th Year Onwards	-	0%				
Management Fee	1.78%	0%				
Performance Fee <sup>4</sup>	0%	20%				
Fund Name	Meranti Capital VCC Asia Fund					
Dealing Frequency	Monthly					
Base Currency	USD					
Inception Date	2 November 2020					
Fund Domicile	Singapore					
Investment Manager	Finexis Asset Management					
Fund Administrator	ASCENT Fund Services (Singapore)					
Custodian	Standard Chartered Bank					
Auditor	KPMG LLP					
Broker	Goldman Sachs (Asia) L.L.C.					
Legal Advisors	BTPLaw LLC					
<sup>2</sup> Please note that the distributions (if any) may be declared semi-annually based of						

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Please note that the distributions (if any) may be declared semi-annually based on the Investment Manager's discretion. If distributions are made, such distributions are not a forecast, indication or projection of the future performance of the Fund. <sup>3</sup> Waiver of account opening fees for investors through the platforms. <sup>4</sup> Charged on high water mark basis, with zero hurdle rate.

**About Meranti**: The Meranti fund series is named after the Meranti tree, which is native to Singapore and the region. It is a canopy and emergent tree; providing shade from its place at the top layer of a rainforest where sunlight is plentiful. To reach such great heights, the trees have a strong and wide system of roots to help provide stability while also gathering more nutrients. Likewise, Meranti funds were developed around a Dynamic Risk Mitigation process so that investors can invest with confidence and harvest the full potential of capital growth through market cycles.

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# **Share Class Performance History**

### Monthly Return, %

USD B <sup>1</sup>	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	YTD
2020	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8.15	3.38	11.81 <sup>2</sup>
2021	2.40	0.94	-1.34	2.05	0.08	0.02	-5.55	3.13	-4.36	1.81	-3.76	-1.84	-6.65
2022	-4.57	-0.74	-2.00	-1.84	-1.88	-4.04	-2.76	0.20	-11.43	-10.21	19.68	1.11	-19.55
2023	8.69	-8.48	4.05	-2.86	-4.10	3.60	7.36	-8.37	-2.94	-4.40	4.89	1.90	-2.54
2024	-8.675												-8.67 <sup>5</sup>
SGD A	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	YTD
2021	-	-	-	-	0.45	-0.29	-5.71	3.00	-4.63	1.51	-3.90	-2.10	-11.40 <sup>3</sup>
2022	-4.70	-0.93	-2.21	-1.99	-2.04	-4.31	-2.95	0.03	-11.98	-10.20	18.85	0.81	-22.03
2023	8.29	-9.00	3.68	-3.08	-4.45	3.19	7.00	-8.78	-3.28	-4.72	4.70	1.58	-6.60
2024	-8.52 <sup>5</sup>												-8.52 <sup>5</sup>
USD A	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	YTD
2021	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2.98	-4.50	1.66	-3.90	-1.99	-5.83 <sup>4</sup>
2022	-4.71	-0.89	-2.14	-1.99	-2.02	-4.18	-2.95	0.05	-11.56	-10.34	19.50	0.96	-21.00
2023	8.53	-8.61	3.89	-3.00	-4.24	3.44	7.20	-8.51	-3.09	-4.54	4.73	1.75	-4.27
2024	-8.675												-8.675

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Performance based on the Lead Series. <sup>2</sup> Since inception of 2 Nov 2020. <sup>3</sup> Since inception of 3 May 2021. <sup>4</sup> Since inception of 2 August 2021. <sup>5</sup> Manager's estimated return. Actual return will be updated in the following month.

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