



# FAM Millennium Equity Strategy

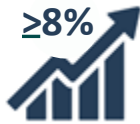
29 February 2024

## Our Strategy

Following the 2008 Global Financial Crisis and the 2020 Pandemic, the flood of unprecedented liquidity and low interest rates in markets propelled prices of nearly all assets to record highs. Today, it is increasingly challenging for investors to achieve above-market returns using the “winning formula” of the past decade. The FAM Millennium Equity (FME) strategy is designed for investors who are willing to avoid crowded markets and embrace volatility, to achieve above-market returns over the next decade.



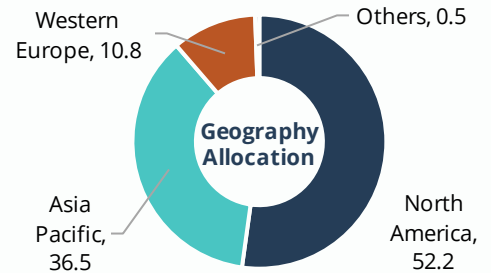
Invest Globally  
**No benchmark hugging**  
Maximize returns



Capital Appreciation  
**compounded at 8%**  
target return over  
longer term

**FVT**

Focus on **undervalued**  
**opportunities with good**  
**fundamentals** in  
sustainable trends



Others include Central Asia, Africa/Middle East, and South & Central America.

## Taking Advantage of the Market Cycle

Just as in nature, there are also seasons in financial markets. Sowing and harvesting in the wrong season can be detrimental to any investment. Rather than trying to accurately predict year-on-year movements, we believe that capturing long-term cycles and trends brings a much greater impact for investors. There have been two important seasons in the past 20 years:

### Emerging Market Season (2001 – 2010)

	EM	Asia	EM	EM	EM	Europe	EM	Japan	EM	EM
Best	13.8	-5.6	55.8	25.6	34.0	33.7	39.4	-29.2	78.5	18.9
	Asia	EM	Asia	Asia	Japan	Asia	Asia	US	Asia	Asia
	10.7	-6.2	47.7	22.2	25.5	32.4	36.5	-37.4	73.2	18.1
	US	Japan	Europe	Europe	Asia	EM	Europe	Europe	Europe	Japan
	3.5	-10.3	38.5	20.9	20.1	32.1	13.9	-46.4	35.8	15.4
	Europe	Europe	Japan	Japan	Europe	US	US	Asia	US	US
	0.0	-18.4	35.9	15.9	9.4	15.1	4.9	-51.9	25.6	14.4
Worst	Japan	US	US	US	US	Japan	Japan	EM	Japan	Europe
	-1.2	-22.5	28.0	10.2	4.3	6.2	-4.2	-53.3	6.3	3.9
	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010

In the first 10 years, EM topped the market 7 of 10 times, while the US was nearly always at the bottom.

Total Return: ■ EM: 337.02% ■ US: 8.63%

### US market Season (2011 – 2022)

	US	Asia	US	US	Japan	US	EM	US	US	Asia	US	Europe
Best	1.5	22.3	31.5	13.0	9.6	11.2	37.3	-4.9	30.7	22.4	28.2	-15.1
	Europe	Europe	Japan	Asia	US	EM	Asia	Japan	Europe	EM	Europe	Japan
	-11.1	19.1	27.2	2.8	0.7	11.2	37.0	-12.9	23.8	18.3	16.3	-16.6
	Japan	EM	Europe	EM	Europe	Asia	Europe	Asia	Japan	US	Japan	Asia
	-14.3	18.2	25.2	-2.2	-2.8	6.8	25.5	-13.9	19.6	17.8	1.7	-17.5
	Asia	US	Asia	Japan	Asia	Japan	Japan	EM	Asia	Japan	EM	US
	-15.6	15.2	3.4	-4.0	-9.4	2.4	24.0	-14.6	19.2	14.5	-2.5	-18.5
Worst	EM	Japan	EM	Europe	EM	Europe	US	Europe	EM	Europe	Asia	EM
	-18.4	8.2	-2.6	-6.2	-14.9	-0.4	21.1	-14.9	18.4	5.4	-2.9	-20.1
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022

In the subsequent 12 years, everything flipped. US became the best performing market 7 of 12 times.

Total Return: ■ EM: 11.22% ■ US: 260.29%

Source: Morningstar. EM: MSCI Emerging Market Index. US: S&P 500. Europe: MSCI Europe. Asia: MSCI AC Asia Pac Ex Japan Index. Japan: MSCI Japan Index.

By identifying investments with good fundamentals and investing in them when their valuations are low (sowing) and taking profit when the opportunities mature (harvesting), FME is designed to help investors avoid the possibility of “missing the season”, as the human tendency to chase past performance can prevent them from enjoying future strong returns.

## Historical Performance

### Calendar Return, %

Class	1Month	YTD	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	Total Returns, %
A SGD	4.41	-0.78	-2.41	-21.26	-	-	-	1919 - YTD
A USD	4.53	-0.43	-0.55	-20.24	-	-	-	-
Composite <sup>1</sup>	4.53	-0.43	-0.55	-20.24	9.36	23.37	24.61	32.79

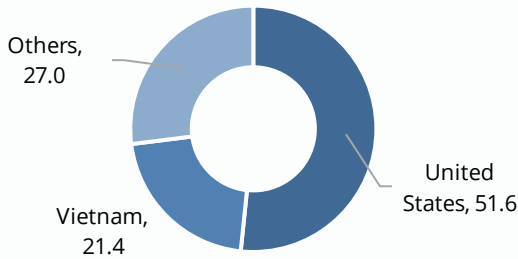
<sup>1</sup>Calculated from 1/8/2018 using a similarly managed composite portfolio fully invested net of estimated fees. Performance since 1/7/2021 is based on actual fund performance. Past performance is not an indication of future performance. The value of the investment can go down as well as up and is not guaranteed. Source: Finexis Asset Management. Share class performance is calculated using NAV of the share class with income reinvested and including ongoing charges, excluding any entry and exit fees.

Signatory of:

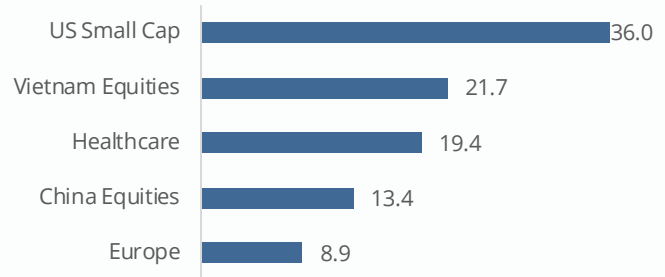


## Strategy Characteristics

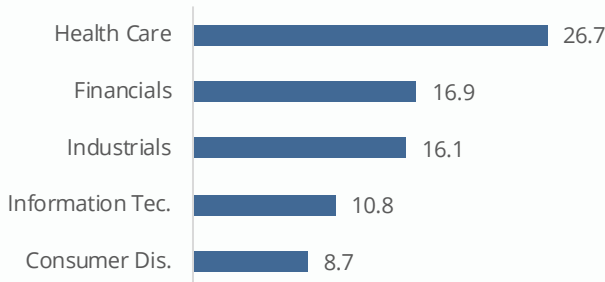
### Country Allocation, %



### Top 5 Market Allocation, %



### Top 5 Equity Sector Allocation, %



### Top 5 Fund Holdings, %



Source: Finexis Asset Management. Top 5 market allocation and fund holdings are at fund level. Geographical allocation and top 5 sector allocation are at portfolio look-through level. For illustrative purposes only and does not constitute to any recommendations to invest in the above-mentioned country/sector/security.

## Discerning The Signals From The Noise

A three-pronged research process to identify signals that point us to **sustainable trends** which are underappreciated by the market, which come with **good fundamentals** and **attractive valuation**, with a higher likelihood of outperforming over the long term.



### Fundamental

Study financial and economic data (e.g. GDP, unemployment rate, and inflation rate etc.) that may drive market movement to find opportunities with **good fundamentals** that are underappreciated.



### Valuation

Picking the right valuation metrics (e.g. price-to-earnings, price-to-book, EV/EBITDA etc.) to spot **undervalued opportunities** and avoid overpaying for any investment with only good stories.



### Trend

Seek inflection points in **sustainable trends** to capture overlooked opportunities and avoid less recognised risks (such as the end of a bond supercycle).

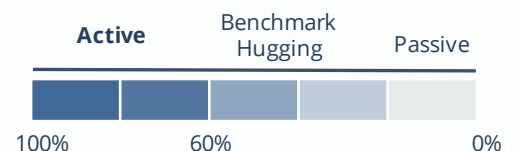
## High Level of Active Management

Many actively managed funds underperform because they have a low active share. This happens when a portfolio's holdings are very similar to the referenced benchmark, a practice commonly referred to as 'benchmark hugging'. In contrast, **funds with a high level of active management may have greater potential for outperformance in the long run**, as there is no way any fund can outperform the market if they are investing like the market.

By investing in areas where we have the greatest conviction and applying it to our whole portfolio, we aim to provide better returns over risk through a full market cycle.



Target active share > 80%



Signatory of:



## Market & Portfolio Developments

### Fund Commentary

February saw the resumption of the strong uptrend that started Q4 2023, and with that FME gained 4.53% in a month. **By most measures, the range of economic indicators continue to point towards a 'soft-landing' scenario and the good performance in February reflect as such.**

We continue to expect equities to benefit in the backdrop of controlled inflation and gradual rate cuts by the Fed. Economic activity remains resilient, and which has benefitted our recovery positions in small-caps. As reference, the small-cap Russell 2000 index is up 14% vs the 12% of the S&P 500 over the past 3 months despite negative headline news. This goes to show that even negative sentiment cannot prevent a market that has improving fundamentals and low valuations from going up.

At the same time, we are cautious about the high valuations facing passive broad-based markets, which may signal either low future returns or uncomfortable declines ahead. To mitigate such risks, we maintain powerful diversifiers into Emerging Opportunities in Vietnam; which is one of the best performing markets year-to-date and a meaningful contributor to our portfolio performance.

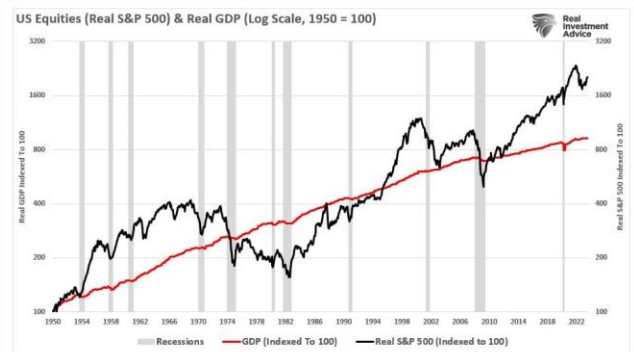
The recent performance landscape is a reminder for investors to focus on the key factors that drive asset returns in the long run: 1. fundamental, and 2. valuations. In the current market environment where inflation and growth expectations can impact fundamentals meaningfully, we pay close attention to any change in trends in the data that will guide us in our positioning for the FME strategy.

### Key Position Highlights

We highlight positions that reflect the strategy's tactical asset allocation view, backed by our study of market patterns and trends over time. As a result, our strategies can be highly differentiated from conventional benchmarks, with the aim of long-term investment success.

#### US Small-cap Equities to Position for Market Recovery

- The S&P 500 appears to be growing much faster than GDP, which indicates lower future returns for today's investors.

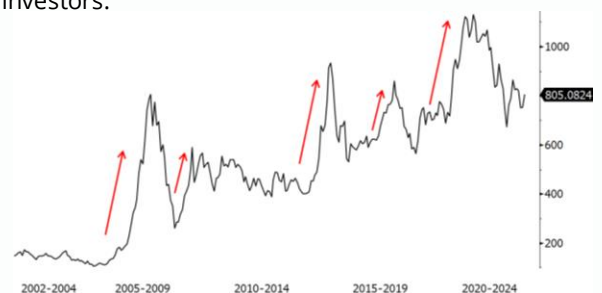


Source: RIA Advisors

- As shown in the above chart, every period of high or speculative returns in the past 70 years (S&P 500 in black), led to sharp declines as markets adjusted back down to their underlying fundamentals (GDP in red) without exception.
- **US Small-caps emerge as an attractive option.** With valuations at decade lows vs large-caps (S&P 500), small-caps are well positioned to 'catch the recovery' if the current optimism spreads across the whole market. They also provide a good margin-of-safety if the narrow recovery is not sustained.

#### Emerging Market & China Equities To Position For The Next Up-cycle

- After a challenging stretch of performance, Emerging Markets and China 'A' equities resemble a compressed coil that holds a lot of upside potential for long-term investors.



Source: Bloomberg. CSI 300

- Past recoveries have shown to be particularly strong in the beginning, causing investors to 'miss-the-boat'. Which is why we avoid timing so close to such inflection points, preferring to be patient with our medium-long term investment horizon.

## Fund Details

Item	Class A
Currency	SGD, USD
ISIN (SGD Class)	SGXZ58547654 (Distribution)
ISIN (USD Class)	SGXZ18072389 (Distribution)
Min. Subscription	SGD 1,500,000 USD 1,000,000
Account Opening Fee (One-time)	N/A
Min. Subsequent Subscription	SGD 15,000 USD 10,000
Max. Sales Charge	5%
Redemption Fees	
1st Year of Investment	-
2nd Year of Investment	-
3rd Year of Investment	-
4th Year Onwards	-
Management Fee	1.58%
Distribution <sup>1</sup>	4% p.a.
Fund Name	Millennium Equity Fund
Dealing Frequency	Daily
Base Currency	USD
Inception Date	18 Jun 2021 10 Jun 2021
Fund Focus	Global Equities
Fund Domicile	Singapore
Investment Manager	Finexis Asset Management
Fund Administrator	Standard Chartered Bank
Custodian	Standard Chartered Bank
Auditor	PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP
Trustee	Perpetual (Asia) Limited

<sup>1</sup>Please note that the distributions 4% p.a. (if any) may be declared semi-annually based on the Investment Manager's discretion. Distributions are not a forecast, indication, or projection of the future performance of the Fund.

## Highlight of Sub-Fund Managers

### Granahan Investment Management US Small Cap

Founded in 1985, Granahan (GIM) is an employee-owned investment boutique specializing in smaller cap equity investments for large institutions and wealthy individuals. The firm manages over \$3 billion in client assets.

GIM's goal is to uncover the next generation of disruptive and innovative companies that are creating new markets or shaking up old ones. Such **smaller dynamic companies provide excellent potential for superior long-term performance.**

The SMID Select strategy is grounded in the belief that a disciplined, fundamental, bottom-up research process can identify underappreciated growth potential in companies that may or may not have a history of strong growth. The resulting portfolio has the optimum combination of stocks with secular growth drivers, and stocks of well-positioned companies that are poised for positive earnings revisions or are benefiting from fundamental momentum. The portfolio focuses on stock selection, investing in those showing the best risk/reward.

**GIM'S SMID Select Strategy has delivered 15.9% annualised return since it was launched on 31st March 2015.** During the same period, S&P 500 delivered 10%.



**30+ years**  
Small cap  
experience



**>\$3 billion**  
AUM Worldwide



**Bottom-up**  
stock selection  
strategy



Small cap  
strategy  
outperformance

Signatory of:



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