

# Fund Manager's Strategy & Outlook

The month of October was a very volatile one for both global and regional markets. The first half the month witnessed a sharp decline in U.S. and world markets triggered by several factors including a global growth scare based on weak economic indicators as well the first reported Ebola cases on U.S. soil. Regional markets suffered from the sharp correction in oil prices which was exacerbated by increased U.S. production and a rising US dollar. Brent prices fell from just under USD 100 / bbl to approximately USD 86 / bbl by the end of the month. After the correction across the board regional bourses took cues from global markets and a bounce back began in mid-October. Positive performance across the board is being led by Q3 earnings surprises, a recovery in global indices, and positive growth numbers from the U.S. and a surprise stimulus in Japan

The Turkish market, to which the Fund strategically added exposure to at the start of the month, was the only positive performer amongst regional bourses having recorded a gain of 6.1%. The Qatari Index was the strongest performer in the GCC having lost 2.6%. The Kuwaiti, Abu Dhabi, Saudi and Omani markets lost 3.8%, 4.1%, 5.2% and 5.9% respectively. The Dubai bourse shed 7.5% and the Egyptian market was the worst performing having lost 11.6% over the course of the month after recording a 4% gain over September. The correction in the markets provided an opportunity for the Fund to add exposure in names that remain fundamentally attractive investments

National Commercial Bank in Saudi concluded its IPO which was the second largest global IPO this year. The bank surprised markets by being able to raise approximately USD 83.0bn against a USD 3.6bn retail offering which saw weak interest over most of the offer period due to concerns voiced by Islamic scholars. Refunds from the subscriptions are expected in the second week of November with a large part of that liquidity expected to find its way back on to the local bourse. IPO market activity has picked up substantially in 2014 across the region driven by bullish market sentiment. Aamant Holdings in the U.A.E. fully covered its USD 374mn offering within the first week, Meeras Holding which is a real estate developer is planning to list on the Dubai exchange and Emaar Misr is set to list in Egypt during 2015 after the successful listing of Emaar Malls Group. Along with new upcoming investment opportunities there remain names in the market that provide earnings growth potential at attractive relative valuations



As of October 27, 2014

Sherif El Haddad, Fund Manager **EFG-Hermes Asset Management** 

Tel: 9714-363 4047 / Fax: 9714-362 1171 e-mail: AMsales@efg-hermes.com

# **Objective**

Long-term capital appreciation through investing in Middle East and North African equities and equity related securities.

## **Fund Performance**

	MEDA Fund Class A	S&P Pan Arab*	Difference
MTD**	-1.3%	-4.9%	3.6%
YTD	29.3%	19.1%	10.2%
2013	45.1%	26.3%	18.8%
2012	14.3%	6.8%	7.5%
2011	-31.4%	-9.4%	-22.0%
2010	11.7%	16.1%	-4.4%
2009	8.7%	18.4%	-9.7%
2008	-42.1%	-50.6%	8.5%
2007	50.5%	41.1%	9.4%
2006	6.2%	-33.9%	40.1%

<sup>\*</sup>Figures reflect performance since inception of S&P Pan Arab Composite Large/Mid Cap Net TR Index in Dec 2004 as of the relevant Valuation Days of the MEDA Fund
\*\*MTD figures reflect performance between September 29, 2014 and October 27, 2014

#### **Fund Characteristics**

No. of Holdings	26	
Weighted Market Cap	USD 8.2 billion	
Average Dividend Yield*	3.1%	
P/E Ratio 2014	15.0x	

<sup>\*</sup>Figure reflects the weighted average yield of a dividend-bearing security in the portfolio

#### Fund Metrics\*

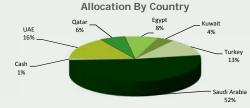
Alpha	12.9%
Beta	1.0
Volatility	11.9%
Information Ratio	2.6

<sup>\*</sup>Calculated vs. S&P Pan Arab Composite Large/Mid Cap Net TR USD since 29th December 2011

# **Top Five Holdings**

Holding	Country	% of NAV*
SABB	Saudi Arabia	7.0%
Fawaz Al -Hokair	Saudi Arabia	6.9%
DAMAC REAL ESTATE	United Arab Emirates	6.8%
Rabigh Refining and Transport Services	Saudi Arabia	5.9%
Eastern Tobacco	Egypt	5.7%

<sup>\*</sup>Figures as of October 27, 2014



## **Allocation By Sector**



## **Fund Data**

NAV per Share (Class A)	USD 37.42
Launch Date	July 1999
Management Fee	1.4%
Incentive Fee	15% over 10%
Expense Ratio	2.5%
Minimum Subscription	USD 10,000
Subscription / Redemption	Weekly

## **Fund Identifiers**

ISIN (Class A shares)	BMG294041030
Bloomberg Ticker	EFGMEAF BH
Merrill Lynch Code	EFGAT