



# Artisan Sustainable Emerging Markets Fund

MONTHLY  
Commentary

Investor Class: ARTZX | Advisor Class: APDEX

As of 30 September 2022

## Commentary

While our portfolio held up better than the MSCI Emerging Markets Index in September, it trailed its benchmark in Q3. Emerging markets continued to face headwinds, including inflation pressures, economic growth concerns, tighter financial conditions and currency weakness. India and Brazil were the benchmark's top contributors in Q3, while China was the primary detractor.

Relative underperformance was driven by weakness among a few Chinese positions. Our largest relative detractors in Q3 included China Traditional Chinese Medicine and Sino Biopharmaceutical. China Traditional is China's largest manufacturer of granules—a subset of traditional Chinese medicine (TCM) that is experiencing increased government oversight. As the government works to standardize the formulas used to create each of the hundreds of granules used in TCM, granule manufacturers like China Traditional have come under pressure. However, we believe the heightened regulation will lead to industry consolidation, ultimately allowing China Traditional to increase market share and strengthen its competitive position.

Sino Biopharm is a Chinese diversified pharmaceutical company with leading positions for hepatitis B and other liver diseases, plus a strong pipeline of oncology drugs. Sino Biopharm has recently made a series of licensing and M&A deals, some of which have faced delays due to regulatory review. While the ramp-up for some of its new drug sales has therefore been slower than expected, we remain attracted to the company's impressive drug pipeline and subsequent sustainable, long-term earnings potential.

MercadoLibre and ICICI Bank were among our top relative contributors in Q3. MercadoLibre, Latin America's leading e-commerce platform, continues to show strong fundamentals while executing well across all its segments (i.e., logistics, data, advertising and lending). The company is performing in line with management's expectations, and we expect MercadoLibre to continue to deliver gradual but steady margin gains over the next few years.

ICICI, the largest private sector bank in India, is benefiting from increased loan activity at higher interest rates. We remain attracted to its healthy balance sheet and strong capital position. We also like that ICICI has been consolidating its loan book to increase focus on profitability and balance sheet growth.

Volatility is to be expected in emerging markets, and it can be extreme at times—a natural part of what we believe is a superior growth opportunity over longer periods. In this current bout of volatility, we are maintaining our disciplined process and closely monitoring positions—including engagement with management teams—to adjust valuations and position size as we believe appropriate.

## Portfolio Details

	ARTZX	APDEX
Net Asset Value (NAV)	\$12.48	\$12.47
Inception	2 Jun 2008	27 Apr 2022
Expense Ratios (% Gross/Net)		
Semi-Annual Report 31 Mar 2022 <sup>1,2,3</sup>	1.58/1.32 <sup>4</sup>	—/—
Prospectus 30 Sep 2021 <sup>1,3,5</sup>	1.60/1.15	—/—
Prospectus 27 Apr 2022 <sup>1,3,6</sup>	—/—	1.43/1.05

<sup>1</sup>Net expenses reflect a contractual expense limitation agreement in effect through 31 Jan 2024. <sup>2</sup>Unaudited, annualized for the six-month period. <sup>3</sup>See prospectus for further details. <sup>4</sup>Expense limit was lowered during the period, effective 1 Mar 2022. <sup>5</sup>Restated to reflect a reduction in management fees, effective as of 1 Mar 2022. <sup>6</sup>Includes estimated expenses for the current fiscal year.

## Top 10 Holdings (% of total portfolio)

Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Co Ltd (Taiwan)	8.9
Samsung Electronics Co Ltd (Korea)	6.4
E Ink Holdings Inc (Taiwan)	4.1
Alibaba Group Holding Ltd (China)	4.1
ICICI Bank Ltd (India)	4.0
Zhuzhou CRRR Times Electric Co Ltd (China)	3.8
Reliance Industries Ltd (India)	3.1
MercadoLibre Inc (Argentina)	2.7
Estun Automation Co Ltd (China)	2.7
MediaTek Inc (Taiwan)	2.6
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>42.4%</b>

Source: Artisan Partners. Portfolio country classifications are defined by the investment team.

## Sector Diversification (% of portfolio securities)

	Fund	MSCI EM <sup>1</sup>
Consumer Goods	8.5	8.3
Extractives & Minerals Processing	6.6	11.0
Financials	18.9	22.4
Food & Beverage	3.9	5.8
Health Care	6.4	4.2
Infrastructure	4.5	5.9
Renewable Resources & Alternative Energy	0.4	1.0
Resource Transformation	9.2	5.4
Services	3.3	1.1
Technology & Communications	37.3	29.8
Transportation	0.9	4.9
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Source: Artisan Partners/SASB/MSCI. Cash and cash equivalents represented 3.9% of the total portfolio. <sup>1</sup>MSCI Emerging Markets Index.

## Average Annual Total Returns

## Investment Results (%)

As of 30 September 2022	MTD	QTD	YTD	1 Yr	3 Yr	5 Yr	10 Yr	Inception
Investor Class: ARTZX	-11.43	-12.24	-35.34	-34.51	-4.99	-3.19	0.73	-1.39
Advisor Class: APDEX	-11.50	-12.31	-35.39	-34.56	-5.02	-3.21	0.72	-1.40
MSCI Emerging Markets Index	-11.72	-11.57	-27.16	-28.11	-2.07	-1.81	1.05	0.18

Source: Artisan Partners/MSCI. Returns for periods less than one year are not annualized. Class inception: Investor (2 June 2008); Advisor (27 April 2022). For the period prior to inception, Advisor Class performance is the Investor Class's return for that period ("Linked Performance"). Linked Performance has not been restated to reflect expenses of the Advisor Class and the share class's returns during that period would be different if such expenses were reflected.

Past performance does not guarantee and is not a reliable indicator of future results. Investment returns and principal values will fluctuate so that an investor's shares, when redeemed, may be worth more or less than their original cost. Current performance may be lower or higher than that shown. Call 800.344.1770 for current to most recent month-end performance. Performance may reflect agreements to limit a Fund's expenses, which would reduce performance if not in effect.

## Region/Country Allocation (% of portfolio securities)

REGION	Fund	MSCI EM <sup>1</sup>
<b>EMERGING ASIA</b>	<b>68.0</b>	<b>77.7</b>
China	22.8	31.3
Taiwan	17.6	13.8
India	11.5	15.3
Korea	10.7	10.7
Indonesia	2.5	2.2
Malaysia	1.5	1.5
Thailand	0.8	2.1
Vietnam	0.6	—
<b>LATIN AMERICA</b>	<b>18.7</b>	<b>9.0</b>
Brazil	7.5	5.8
Argentina	5.7	—
Mexico	2.3	2.2
Chile	1.7	0.6
Peru	1.4	0.2
<b>EUROPE, MIDDLE EAST AND AFRICA</b>	<b>7.9</b>	<b>13.3</b>
Greece	3.0	0.3
South Africa	2.9	3.5
Kazakhstan	2.0	—
Russia	0.0	—
<b>DEVELOPED MARKETS</b>	<b>5.5</b>	<b>—</b>
Netherlands	2.4	—
Hong Kong	1.9	—
Portugal	0.8	—
Singapore	0.4	—
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Source: Artisan Partners/MSCI. <sup>1</sup>MSCI Emerging Markets Index. Countries held in the index, but not held in the portfolio, are not listed. Portfolio country classifications are defined by the investment team and may differ substantially from MSCI classifications; index country classifications reflect MSCI methodology. For the portfolio's country breakdown according to MSCI methodology, refer to the Fund's most recent portfolio holdings at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov).

## Investment Team (Pictured left to right)



Portfolio Manager	Years of Investment Experience
Maria Negrete-Gruson, CFA	31
<b>Analysts</b>	
Meagan Nace, CFA	30
Chen Gu, CFA	34
Nicolas Rodriguez-Brizuela	23
Gurpreet Pal	18
Jessica Lin, CFA	17

Carefully consider the Fund's investment objective, risks and charges and expenses. This and other important information is contained in the Fund's prospectus and summary prospectus, which can be obtained by calling 800.344.1770. Read carefully before investing.

Current and future portfolio holdings are subject to risk. The value of portfolio securities selected by the investment team may rise or fall in response to company, market, economic, political, regulatory or other news, at times greater than the market or benchmark index. A portfolio's environmental, social and governance ("ESG") considerations may limit the investment opportunities available and, as a result, the portfolio may forgo certain investment opportunities and underperform portfolios that do not consider ESG factors. Investments in which the team has determined to have sustainable growth characteristics may underperform other securities and may not achieve their sustainable growth potential. Non-diversified portfolios may invest larger portions of assets in securities of a smaller number of issuers and performance of a single issuer may have a greater impact to the portfolio's returns. International investments involve special risks, including currency fluctuation, lower liquidity, different accounting methods and economic and political systems, and higher transaction costs. These risks typically are greater in emerging markets. Such risks include new and rapidly changing political and economic structures, which may cause instability; underdeveloped securities markets; and higher likelihood of high levels of inflation, deflation or currency devaluations. Securities of small- and medium-sized companies tend to have a shorter history of operations, be more volatile and less liquid and may have underperformed securities of large companies during some periods.

MSCI Emerging Markets Index measures the performance of emerging markets. The index(es) are unmanaged; include net reinvested dividends; do not reflect fees or expenses; and are not available for direct investment.

For the purpose of determining the Fund's holdings, securities of the same issuer are aggregated to determine the weight in the Fund. The discussion of portfolio holdings does not constitute a recommendation of any individual security. These holdings comprise the following percentages of the Fund's total net assets as of 30 Sep 2022: China Traditional Chinese Medicine Holdings Co Ltd 1.7%; Sino Biopharmaceutical Ltd 2.4%. As of 3 Mar 2022, Russian holdings are valued at zero. Securities named in the Commentary, but not listed as a Top Ten Holding or not listed here are not held in the Fund as of the date of this report. The portfolio managers' views and portfolio holdings are subject to change and the Fund disclaims any obligation to advise investors of such changes.

Unless otherwise indicated, all information in this report includes all classes of shares, except performance and expense ratio information, and is as of the date shown in the upper right hand corner. Totals may not sum due to rounding.

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Sector exposure percentages reflect sector designations as currently classified by SICS.

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