

**EQUITIES** 

# Ashmore Emerging Markets Frontier Equity Fund

Share class: Class I

### Reporting period

012025



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#### **Contact Information**

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<sup>\*</sup>The Definitions page details certain risks and terms that may or may not be stated in each Quarterly Investment Review. Please refer to the Definitions page for additional information.

### 1. Performance summary

#### **Fund facts**

BenchmarkOperating expensesSymbolTotalNetMSCI FM + Select EMClass IEFEIX2.031.55

Ashmore has contractually agreed to waive or reimburse certain fees and expenses until February 28, 2026. The expense limitation arrangement may only be terminated prior to that date by the Board of Trustees.

Nov 05, 2013

Portfolio size Dividend frequency

USD 95.4 million Quarterly

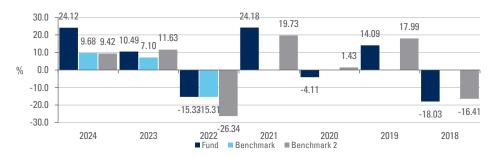
#### Fund objective and strategy

The Fund seeks long-term capital appreciation. Investing primarily in frontier market equity and equity related securities. The Fund adopts a disciplined and an index unconstrained approach that has been honed over a decade of investing in frontier markets. The structured investment process is primarily bottom up and fundamentally driven with top down analysis an additional source of performance and risk control. The result is a high conviction stock portfolio of best ideas.

#### Period performance - Class I as of 03/31/2025

Net returns %	3M	YTD	1 year	3 years	5 years	10 years	SI
Fund	2.00	2.00	12.68	5.53	14.52	5.57	5.20
Benchmark	6.39	6.39	12.36	0.45	-	-	-
Secondary Index	7.93	7.93	12.21	1.78	9.94	3.35	3.59

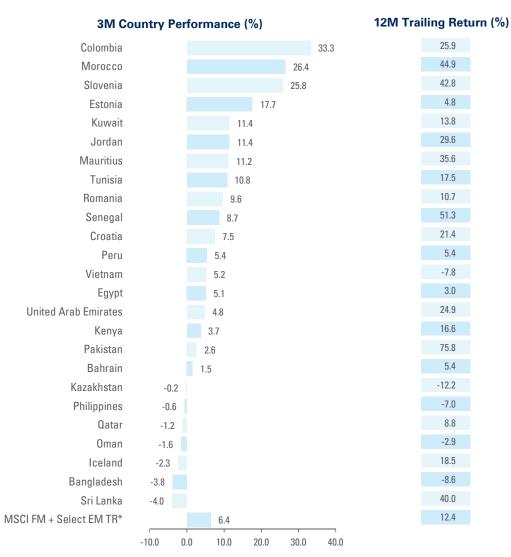
#### Calendar year performance - Class I as of 03/31/2025



'The benchmark was changed to the MSCI Frontier + Select Emerging Markets Countries Capped Index Net TR from inception. Source: MSCI. The MSCI data is comprised of a custom index calculated by MSCI; and as requested by, Ashmore. The MSCI data is for internal use only and may not be redistributed or used in connection with creating or offering any securities, financial products or indices. Neither MSCI nor any other third party involved in or related to compiling, computing or creating the MSCI data (the "MSCI Parties) makes any express or implied warranties or representations with respect to such data or the results to be obtained by the use thereof), and the MSCI Parties hereby expressly disclaim all warranties of originality, accuracy, completeness, merchantability or fitness for a particular purpose with respect to such data. Without limiting any of the foregoing, in no event shall any of the MSCI Parties have any liability for any direct, indirect, special, punitive, consequential or any other damages (including lost profits,) even if notified of the possibility of such damages. The MSCI Frontier + Select Emerging Markets Countries Capped Index is a customised benchmark that is designed to measure equity market performance of constituent companies in each of the MSCI Frontiers Market Index (50%) and emerging markets crossover markets (50%), which are the Philippines, Qatar, United Arab Emirates, Peru, Colombia, Argentina, Egypt, Pakistan and Kuwait, together with a country cap of 15%. You cannot invest directly in an index.

Past performance does not guarantee future results. The performance data quoted represents past performance and current returns may be lower or higher. The investment return and net asset value will fluctuate so that shares, when redeemed, may be worth more or less than the original cost. To obtain performance current to the most recent month-end, please call 1-866-876-8294. Periods greater than one year are annualized. Returns are calculated as the movement in net price over the specified performance period, assuming full dividend reinvestment. Changes in rates of exchange between currencies may cause the value of investments to decrease or increase. The information above shows only the performance of the Fund's Institutional Class Shares. Although Class A and Class C shares would have similar annual returns (because all the Fund's shares represent interests in the same portfolio of securities), Class A and Class C performance would be lower than Institutional Class performance because of the lower expenses paid by Institutional Class shares of the Fund. The information above does not reflect any sales loads applicable to Class A or Class C shares. The performance shown above would be lower if it reflected sales charges applicable to Class A and Class C shares.

### 2. Performance analysis



3Month country performance data has been provided for constituents in the MSCI EM Index.

Source: MSCI Frontier + Select Emerging Markets Countries Capped Index Net TR, as at 31 March 2025.

## 2. Performance analysis

### **3M Stock attribution**

	Weig	Attribution %	
Stock	Fund	Benchmark	Total
Top 10			
Halyk Savings Bank of Kazakhstan JSC	3.25	0.79	0.40
Piraeus Financial Holdings SA	1.42	-	0.39
Vinhomes JSC	2.14	0.78	0.21
Anglogold Ashanti Plc	-	-	0.21
NAC Kazatomprom JSC	-	0.80	0.18
Nova Ljubljanska Banka dd	2.69	0.81	0.18
Akdital Holding	1.99	0.28	0.17
Attijariwafa Bank	3.14	1.48	0.15
Abu Dhabi Islamic Bank PJSC	2.10	0.82	0.14
Qatar Islamic Bank QPSC	-	1.73	0.13
Bottom 10			
FPT Corp	4.23	-	-1.41
Globant SA	0.78	-	-0.72
Bank Mandiri Persero Tbk PT	-	-	-0.36
Cameco Corp	1.14	-	-0.35
Kaspi.KZ JSC	5.75	2.11	-0.33
Systems Ltd	1.50	0.09	-0.30
Bancolombia SA	-	1.28	-0.30
Krka dd Novo mesto	-	1.61	-0.27
Itissalat Al-Maghrib	-	0.85	-0.27
Phu Nhuan Jewelry JSC	1.08	-	-0.26

Attributions are subject to change at any time and does not guarantee future results. The value of an investment in the Fund may fall as well as rise and investors may not get back the amount originally invested. Source: Ashmore, as at 31 March 2025. Attribution compared to MSCI Frontier + Select Emerging Markets Countries Capped Index Net TR based on month end holdings.

## 2. Performance analysis

### **3M Country attribution**

	Fund and benchmark weights %		Total retur	Total return analysis %		Relative return attribution analysis %		
Country	Fund weight	Benchmark weight	Active weight	Fund return	Benchmark return	Asset allocation	Security selection	Total
Top 10 contributors								
Qatar	6.96	10.70	-3.74	1.02	-1.16	0.27	0.17	0.44
Greece	1.42	-	1.42	37.70	-	0.39	-	0.39
South Africa	-	0.17	-0.17	33.46	-20.52	0.02	0.24	0.26
Kazakhstan	9.00	3.70	5.30	7.11	-0.17	-0.35	0.61	0.26
Oman	0.54	2.22	-1.69	-2.84	-1.59	0.13	-0.01	0.12
Cambodia	1.71	-	1.71	17.03	-	0.10	-	0.10
Bangladesh	-	0.97	-0.97	-	-3.75	0.10	-	0.10
Serbia	-	0.02	-0.02	-	-100.00	0.06	-	0.06
Sri Lanka	-	0.52	-0.52	-	-3.98	0.06	-	0.06
Bahrain	-	1.12	-1.12	-	1.51	0.06	-	0.06
Top 10 detractors								
Vietnam	16.59	12.30	4.29	-5.97	5.17	-0.18	-1.94	-2.12
Argentina	0.78	-	0.78	-45.10	-	-0.72	-	-0.72
Morocco	5.13	7.33	-2.20	28.52	26.43	-0.55	0.06	-0.49
Indonesia	-	-	-	-24.66	-	-0.37	-	-0.37
Pakistan	2.89	2.64	0.25	-9.82	2.59	-0.02	-0.34	-0.35
Colombia	-	1.63	-1.63	-	33.27	-0.34	-	-0.34
Slovenia	2.69	3.37	-0.68	17.78	25.78	-0.12	-0.16	-0.28
Peru	2.23	4.03	-1.80	-2.92	5.38	0.01	-0.22	-0.21
Kuwait	7.55	11.00	-3.45	12.59	11.38	-0.18	0.03	-0.15
Saudi Arabia	5.01	-	5.01	4.27	-	-0.11	-	-0.11
			Fund	2.00	6.39	-2.51	-1.48	-4.00

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## 2. Performance analysis

### 1Y Stock attribution

	Wei	Attribution %	
Stock	Fund	Benchmark	Total
Top 10			
DigiPlus Interactive Corp	0.71	-	2.47
Halyk Savings Bank of Kazakhstan JSC	3.25	0.79	0.89
Searle Co Ltd/The	1.39	0.03	0.57
Emaar Properties PJSC	3.81	3.10	0.47
FPT Corp	4.23	-	0.46
Aldar Properties PJSC	2.24	1.13	0.39
Salik Co PJSC	-	-	0.37
Emirates Telecommunications Group Co PJSC	-	2.06	0.37
Nova Ljubljanska Banka dd	2.69	0.81	0.37
Doha Bank QPSC	3.15	-	0.36
Bottom 10			
Kaspi.KZ JSC	5.75	2.11	-1.06
Globant SA	0.78	-	-0.63
Nam Long Investment Corp	0.96	-	-0.53
Bank Mandiri Persero Tbk PT	-	-	-0.48
Societe d'Exploitation des Ports	-	0.65	-0.39
Hudbay Minerals Inc	0.95	-	-0.39
Phu Nhuan Jewelry JSC	1.08	-	-0.37
Gemadept Corp	-	-	-0.36
Burjeel Holdings PLC	-	-	-0.34
Krka dd Novo mesto	-	1.61	-0.32

Attributions are subject to change at any time and does not guarantee future results. The value of an investment in the Fund may fall as well as rise and investors may not get back the amount originally invested. Source: Ashmore, as at 31 March 2025. Attribution compared to MSCI Frontier + Select Emerging Markets Countries Capped Index Net TR based on month end holdings.

## 2. Performance analysis

### **1Y Country attribution**

	Fund and benchmark weights %		Total return	analysis %	Relative return attribution analysis %		ınalysis %	
Country	Fund weight	Benchmark weight	Active weight	Fund return	Benchmark return	Asset allocation	Security selection	Total
Top 10 contributors							·	
Philippines	7.96	6.67	1.29	10.71	-7.03	0.18	2.21	2.39
United Arab Emirates	12.95	14.21	-1.25	41.58	24.89	-0.28	1.68	1.40
Qatar	6.96	10.70	-3.74	27.33	8.77	-0.01	0.84	0.84
Romania	6.44	5.81	0.63	17.27	10.67	0.05	0.42	0.47
Vietnam	16.59	12.30	4.29	-0.92	-7.80	-1.79	2.16	0.36
Greece	1.42	-	1.42	32.90	-	0.25	-	0.25
Bangladesh	-	0.97	-0.97	-	-8.60	0.23	-	0.23
Oman	0.54	2.22	-1.69	-14.17	-2.94	0.22	-0.05	0.17
Egypt	-	0.93	-0.93	4.90	2.96	0.09	0.07	0.16
Bahrain	-	1.12	-1.12	-	5.44	0.07	-	0.07
Top 10 detractors								
Morocco	5.13	7.33	-2.20	37.53	44.86	-0.84	-0.09	-0.93
Argentina	0.78	-	0.78	-41.83	-	-0.63	-	-0.63
Indonesia	-	-	-	-32.09	-	-0.48	-	-0.48
Saudi Arabia	5.01	-	5.01	6.56	-	-0.23	-	-0.23
Pakistan	2.89	2.64	0.25	57.20	75.83	0.15	-0.37	-0.23
Slovenia	2.69	3.37	-0.68	38.42	42.76	-0.13	-0.08	-0.20
Colombia	-	1.63	-1.63	-	25.87	-0.18	-	-0.18
Peru	2.23	4.03	-1.80	4.77	5.38	-0.02	-0.13	-0.15
Jordan	-	1.12	-1.12	-	29.60	-0.15	-	-0.15
Georgia	-	-	-	-17.30	-	-0.14	-	-0.14
			Fund	12.68	12.36	-5.64	7.67	2.03

Attributions are subject to change at any time and does not guarantee future results. The value of an investment in the Fund may fall as well as rise and investors may not get back the amount originally invested. Source: Ashmore, as at 31 March 2025. Attribution compared to MSCI Frontier + Select Emerging Markets Countries Capped Index Net TR based on month end holdings.

## 3. Portfolio Positioning versus benchmark

## **Country positions**

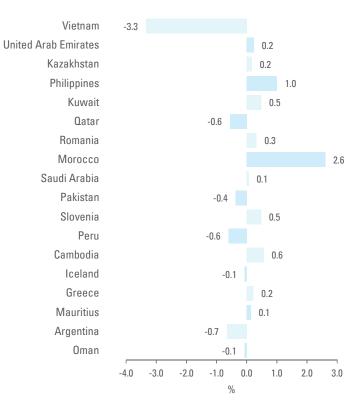
Country	Fund %	Benchmark %	Active weight %
Vietnam	16.6	12.3	4.3
United Arab Emirates	13.0	14.2	-1.3
Kazakhstan	9.0	3.7	5.3
Philippines	8.0	6.7	1.3
Kuwait	7.6	11.0	-3.4
Qatar	7.0	10.7	-3.7
Romania	6.4	5.8	0.6
Morocco	5.1	7.3	-2.2
Saudi Arabia	5.0	0.0	5.0
Pakistan	2.9	2.6	0.3
Slovenia	2.7	3.4	-0.7
Peru	2.2	4.0	-1.8
Cambodia	1.7	0.0	1.7
Iceland	1.5	3.0	-1.5
Greece	1.4	0.0	1.4
Mauritius	1.4	1.0	0.4
Argentina	8.0	0.0	0.8
Oman	0.5	2.2	-1.7
Total number of countries	18	29	

## 3. Fund positioning versus benchmark

### **Quarterly changes to country exposure**

			Weight %		
Country	Mar-24	Jun-24	Sep-24	Dec-24	Mar-25
Vietnam	23.9	21.4	18.6	19.9	16.6
United Arab Emirates	11.9	15.0	13.3	12.7	13.0
Kazakhstan	11.3	10.2	8.1	8.8	9.0
Philippines	9.5	11.7	12.0	7.0	8.0
Kuwait	3.0	3.5	5.9	7.1	7.6
Qatar	3.9	4.2	5.8	7.5	7.0
Romania	8.3	8.4	7.6	6.1	6.4
Morocco	1.9	1.9	1.7	2.5	5.1
Saudi Arabia	6.4	5.3	4.7	4.9	5.0
Pakistan	1.2	1.9	2.1	3.3	2.9
Slovenia	3.0	2.8	2.3	2.2	2.7
Peru	0.8	0.8	2.2	2.8	2.2
Cambodia	1.3	1.4	1.2	1.1	1.7
Iceland	1.5	1.3	1.4	1.5	1.5
Greece	-	1.1	1.3	1.2	1.4
Mauritius	1.1	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.4
Argentina	0.8	1.1	1.2	1.4	0.8
Oman	-	-	-	0.6	0.5

#### Quarterly absolute weight change (%)



Source: Ashmore, as at 31 March 2025.

Position changes are based on month end holdings

## 3. Fund positioning versus benchmark

## Stock exposure by NAV

Top 10 Stock	Country	Sector	Fund %	Benchmark %	Active weight %
Kaspi.KZ JSC	Kazakhstan	Financials	5.7	2.1	3.6
Banca Transilvania SA	Romania	Financials	4.4	1.7	2.7
National Bank of Kuwait SAKP	Kuwait	Financials	4.3	4.6	-0.3
FPT Corp	Vietnam	Information Technology	4.2	-	4.2
Emaar Properties PJSC	United Arab Emirates	Real Estate	3.8	3.1	0.7
Halyk Savings Bank of Kazakhstan JSC	Kazakhstan	Financials	3.3	0.8	2.5
Gulf Bank KSCP	Kuwait	Financials	3.2	0.4	2.9
Doha Bank QPSC	Qatar	Financials	3.2	-	3.2
Attijariwafa Bank	Morocco	Financials	3.1	1.5	1.7
BDO Unibank Inc	Philippines	Financials	3.1	1.1	2.0
Total number of holdings			50	275	

## **Key position changes**

Changes in positioning	Country	Sector	
New holdings			
Adnoc Gas PLC	United Arab Emirates	Energy	
Emaar Development PJSC	United Arab Emirates	Real Estate	
DigiPlus Interactive Corp	Philippines	Consumer Discretionary	
Holdings exited			
Gemadept Corp	Vietnam	Industrials	
IDICO Corp JSC	Vietnam	Industrials	
Bank Mandiri Persero Tbk PT	Indonesia	Financials	

Source: Ashmore, as at 31 March 2025.

Benchmark: MSCI Frontier + Select Emerging Markets Countries Capped Index Net TR

Ashmore Emerging Markets Frontier Equity Fund

# **Ashmore**

## 3. Fund positioning versus benchmark

### **Fund statistics**

Statistics	Fund	Benchmark	Definition
Price/earnings forward	9.3x	9.6x	The ratio of share price to next 12 months estimated earnings per share.
Price/earnings	10.0x	10.6x	The ratio of share price to last 12 months earnings per share.
Return on equity	17.0%	16.0%	A profitability ratio calculated as net income divided by average shareholders' equity.

### **Fund characteristics**

Characteristics	Fund	Benchmark	Definition
Weighted average market cap	\$14.0bn	\$14.5bn	The average market capitalisation of the fund weighted by the size of each position and its corresponding market capitalisation.
Number of holdings	50	275	Number of issuers the fund holds.
Standard deviation	12.8	12.3	A statistical measure of distribution around an average which depicts how widely returns varied over a certain period of time.
Tracking error	5.3	-	The annualised standard deviation of the fund's returns relative to the benchmark. A measure of active risk.
Beta	1.0	-	Measure of the historical fund sensitivity to the systematic risk represented by the fund's benchmark.
Active share	66.7	-	The difference in weight of fund holdings versus benchmark holdings including cash.

Source: Ashmore, as at 31 March 2025.

Data based on Bloomberg consensus estimates

Benchmark: MSCI Frontier + Select Emerging Markets Countries Capped Index Net TR

Where shown, Standard Deviation, Tracking Error and Beta are for 3 year period, or 1 year if 3 years of data are not available.

### 4. Ashmore group review

Ashmore is a dedicated Emerging Markets (EM) investment manager. We focus on a number of investment themes including external debt, local currencies and local currency debt, corporate debt, blended debt, equities, alternatives (incorporating distressed debt, private equity, infrastructure and real estate), multi-asset and overlay/liquidity. We manage pooled funds, segregated accounts and white label products for a range of global institutional clients including central banks and sovereign wealth funds, government and corporate pension plans, banks, insurance companies and non-profit organisations as well as distributors and high net worth individuals.

- Ashmore Group plc, parent company, listed on the London Stock Exchange
- 275 staff employed globally
- Team based investment process, unchanged since 1992
- 99 member global investment team
- 29 dedicated in-house legal and compliance professionals
- 34-strong business development and client servicing team
- USD 46.2 billion\* in assets under management as at 31 March 2025.
- \*Estimated figure only

## **AUM theme split - by primary Fund theme**



There can be no guarantee that any strategy (risk management or otherwise) will be successful. All investing involves risk, including potential loss of principal.

### 5. Definitions

### **Definitions**

**Fund Weight:** The percentage of fund net assets represented by the position.

Benchmark: A financial index against which the performance of a fund or investment strategy can be measured.

Benchmark Weight: The percentage of the benchmark represented by the position.

Active Weight: The difference between the fund weight and the benchmark weight in the position.

#### Attribution analysis:

Asset Allocation: refers to the contribution to fund performance relative to the benchmark that is derived from differences in country exposure between the fund and the benchmark.

Security Selection: refers to the contribution to fund performance relative to the benchmark that is derived from the selection of individual securities.

Total: is the total attribution for the fund and combines Asset allocation and Security selection decisions.

Stock Attribution Total: refers to the contribution to fund performance resulting from stock exposure relative to the performance of the local country market in the benchmark.

#### 6. Investment considerations

#### **Investment considerations**

The Fund holdings will change and the information provided should not be considered as a recommendation to purchase or sell a particular security. There is no assurance that the securities mentioned remain in the Fund's portfolio or that securities sold have not been repurchased. There can be no guarantee that any strategy will be successful. All investing involves risk, including the potential loss of principal. Certain risks related to an investment in the Funds are summarized below:

Foreign Investment and Emerging Markets Risk: Foreign investments can be riskier than U.S. investments. Potential risks include adverse political and legal developments affecting issuers located and/or doing business in foreign countries, currency risk that may result from unfavourable exchange rates, liquidity risk if decreased demand for a security makes it difficult to sell at the desired price, and risks that stem from substantially lower trading volume on foreign markets. These risks are generally greater for investments in emerging markets, which are also subject to greater price volatility, and custodial and regulatory risks.

Foreign Markets: Investments in foreign markets entail special risks such as currency, political, economic, and market risks. The risks of investing in emerging-market countries are greater than the risks generally associated with foreign investments. Frontier market countries generally have smaller economies and even less developed capital markets or legal and political systems than traditional emerging market countries. As a result, the risks of investing in emerging market countries are magnified in frontier market countries.

Bond Funds will tend to experience smaller fluctuations in value than stock funds. However, investors in any bond fund should anticipate fluctuations in price, especially for longer-term issues and in environments of rising interest rates. Interest rate risk is the risk that the values of the debt securities and other instruments in a fund's portfolio will decline because of increases in interest rates, which can adversely affect the fund's performance.

Non-Diversified Risk: The fund is non-diversified, so it may be more exposed to the risks associated with individual issuers than a diversified fund.

**Derivatives Risk:** Investments in derivatives can be volatile. Potential risks include currency risk, leverage risk (the risk that small market movements may result in large changes in the value of an investment), liquidity risk, index risk, pricing risk, and counterparty risk (the risk that the counterparty may be unwilling or unable to honor its obligations).

Ashmore Investment Management (US) Corp., a broker-dealer registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission, is the principal underwriter and distributor of the Funds' shares.

This material must be preceded or accompanied by a prospectus. An investor should consider the fund's investment objectives, risks, and charges and expenses before investing or sending money. This and other important information about the Ashmore Funds can be found in the fund's prospectus. To obtain more information, please call 1-866-876-8294 or visit www.ashmoregroup.com. Please read the prospectus carefully before investing.