

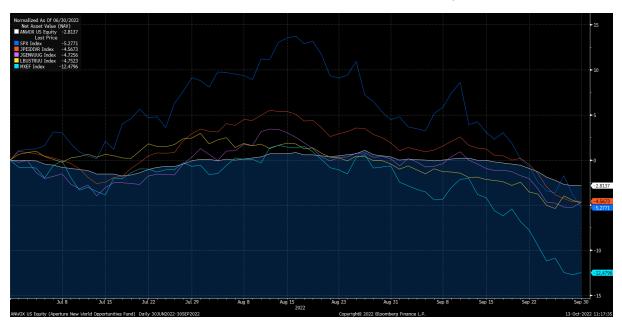
Performance and Q3 Market Review

RETURNS AS OF SEPTEMBER 30, 2022 (%, net of fees)								
	July	Aug	Sept	Q3	YTD	2021	2020	Since
	July							Inception
Fund ¹	-0.24	0.70	-3.37	-2.93	-13.36	-3.36	7.90	-6.49
Benchmark ²	0.26	0.42	-2.70	-2.04	-12.40	-1.37	4.53	-5.85
Relative Performance	-0.50	0.28	-0.68	-0.89	-0.95	-1.99	3.37	-0.64

Déjà Vu, All Over Again

At the risk of sounding like a broken record, global financial markets – both in advanced and emerging economies – continued to melt down further in 3Q, which is the story of 2022.

As we noted in prior reviews, EM assets are a derivative of the global economy. Valuations are driven by relative strength in US dollar, China's domestic economy, and global trade. All three have been negative headwinds for EM assets in 2022, which continued this summer. The big driver, of course, has been interest rates with the 10-year US Treasury moving from a low of 1.51% to 3.83% in 2022, including an 82bps backup during the third quarter. There were few places to hide in 3Q. The S&P 500 fell 5.27% and the US Bond Aggregate slipped another 4.75%. EMs were hit harder with the equity index down 12.47%, EM local bonds off 4.72%, and the most-followed EM hard currency bond index down another 4.56%.



Source: Bloomberg

¹ The Fund = The Aperture New World Opportunities Fund (ticker APNWIXU LX)

² Benchmark = the Fund's Benchmark, Bloomberg EM USD Agg 1-5 Year Unhedged TR Index (Ticker: BEM5TRUU)



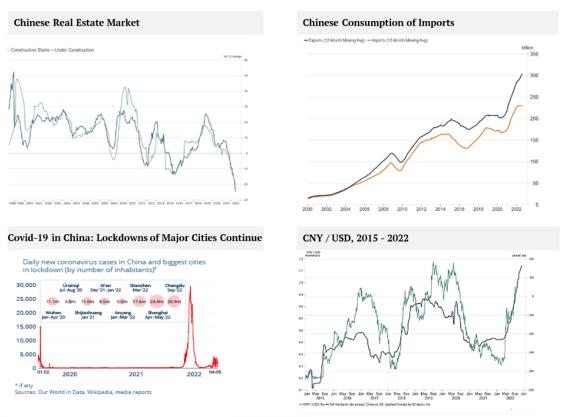
While our fund was not immune to losses, our unique, low duration EM strategy held in considerably better than global indices, down roughly 2.93% in the UCITS fund for the quarter. As mentioned in our last review, duration has been slowly increasing as spreads and yields have widened to tactically increase overall portfolio yield, often setting-up capital gain potential if both rates and spreads overshoot and normalize, as they often do. It is difficult to predict when this turn will occur, but history has shown us that these turns often are sharp and happen when investors least expect it.

Average portfolio credit quality was slightly higher than our benchmark at BBB, and this has seen a barbell effect with a modest short-end US Treasury position and some longer duration, higher spread EM bonds. Our large underweight country continues to be China, less than 1/3 of the benchmark weighting of 33%. We continue our other 2022 underweights in the most distressed sovereign names including Sri Lanka, El Salvador, Ghana, as well as Turkey. We also maintained our large overweight to higher-yielding corporates vs. sovereigns in the benchmark.

Looking Forward

There is no getting around the fact that EM has been held hostage to rising US interest rates, but China's decelerating economy and weak imports have also hurt EM economies. This has been aggravated by President Xi's Zero-Covid policy which still mandates strict lockdowns.

Figure 1. China's Economy Still Weak



Sources: Macrobond, Bloomberg, Statista, Aperture Investors, National Bureau of Statistics



The Chinese Communist Party's 6th plenum will take place in late October. This gathering includes members of the party leadership, senior generals, and the executives of state-owned conglomerates. It may provide some clues as to how the government will deal with the weakening economy. Local Chinese stocks are down more than 17% this year, and the currency has weakened to its Covid low against the US Dollar. We also expect the Fed to hike another 75bps this quarter, particularly if US inflation data does not fall. This hike seems priced by the market, but more high inflation prints might mean that market-expected Fed cuts in 2023 could be delayed for a quarter or two. This would likely lead to additional pressure on risk assets like Emerging Markets.

Heading into the 4th Quarter, our focus is to maintain a core bond portfolio with better return potential than our benchmark without taking excessive volatility or drawdown risk. Should you have further questions, feel free to contact us.

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Peter Marber

Portfolio Manager, CIO of New World Opportunities



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For its services to the Sub-fund, the Investment Manager is entitled to a variable management fee ("VMF"), which is calculated and accrued daily, at a rate of 1.525% (the "VMF Midpoint"). The VMF Minimum portion of the VMF will be calculated and accrued daily based on the Sub-fund's NAV. The rest of the VMF amount, if any, will be calculated and accrued daily based on the Sub-fund's daily Modified Net Assets, adjusted upward or downward by a performance adjustment (the "Performance Adjustment") that depends on whether, and to what extent, the performance of the Sub-fund exceeds, or is exceeded by, the performance of the Benchmark plus 3.75% (375 basis points) (the "VMF Midpoint Hurdle") over the Performance Period. For a full description of the VMF please see the applicable section in Appendix A contained in the Prospectus.

Net performance assumes reinvestment of dividends and capital gains. For the avoidance of doubt, the Investment Manager may receive a performance fee even in the case of negative performance. The investment return and principal value of an investment will fluctuate so that an investor's shares, when redeemed, may be worth more or less than their original cost and current performance may be lower or higher than the performance shown. A fund's performance for very short time periods may not be indicative of future performance. Indices are unmanaged and do not include the effect of fees or expenses. One cannot invest directly in an index. The performance returns represent past performance. Past performance does not guarantee future results. Past performance does not guarantee future results.

Investors should note the specific risk warnings:

<u>Credit Risk</u> – The risk that the issuer of a security or the counterparty to a contract will default or otherwise become unable to honor a financial obligation.

<u>Emerging Markets/Foreign Investment Risk</u> – The risk that non-U.S. securities may be subject to additional risks due to, among other things, political, social, and economic developments abroad, currency movements and different legal, regulatory and tax environments. These additional risks may be heightened with respect to emerging market countries because political turmoil and rapid changes in economic conditions are more likely to occur in these countries. The strategy's exposure to these risks is heightened as a result of the strategy investing primarily in emerging market countries.

<u>Fixed Income Market Risk</u> – The prices of the strategy's fixed income securities respond to economic developments, particularly interest rate changes, as well as to perceptions about the creditworthiness of individual issuers, including governments and their agencies. Generally, the strategy's fixed income securities will decrease in value if interest rates rise and vice versa. In a low interest rate environment, risks associated with rising rates are heightened. Declines in dealer market-making capacity as a result of structural or regulatory changes could decrease liquidity and/or increase volatility in the fixed income markets. In the case of foreign securities, price fluctuations will reflect international economic and political events, as well as changes in currency valuations relative to the U.S. dollar. In response to these events, the strategy's value may fluctuate and/or the strategy may experience increased redemptions from shareholders, which may impact the strategy's liquidity or force the strategy to sell securities into a declining or illiquid market.

Foreign Sovereign Debt Securities Risk – The risks that (i) the governmental entity that controls the repayment of sovereign debt may not be willing or able to repay the principal and/or interest when it becomes due because of factors such as debt service burden, political constraints, cash flow problems and other national economic factors; (ii) governments may default on their debt securities, which may require holders of such securities to participate in debt rescheduling or additional lending to defaulting governments; and (iii) there is no bankruptcy proceeding by which defaulted sovereign debt may be collected in whole or in part. These risks are typically heightened with respect to emerging market countries.

Below Investment Grade Securities (Junk Bonds) Risk – Fixed income securities rated below investment grade (junk bonds) involve greater risks of default or downgrade and are generally more volatile than investment grade securities because the prospect for repayment of principal and interest of many of these securities is speculative. Because these securities typically offer a higher rate of return to compensate investors for these risks, they are sometimes referred to as "high yield bonds," but there is no guarantee that an investment in these securities will result in a high rate of return.

<u>Corporate Fixed Income Securities Risk</u> – Corporate fixed income securities respond to economic developments, especially changes in interest rates, as well as perceptions of the creditworthiness and business prospects of individual issuers.

<u>Duration Risk</u> – The longer-term securities in which the strategy may invest tend to be more volatile than shorter-term securities. A portfolio with a longer average portfolio duration is more sensitive to changes in interest rates than a portfolio with a shorter average portfolio duration.

<u>Extension Risk</u> – The risk that rising interest rates may extend the duration of a fixed income security, typically reducing the security's value.

Rule 144A and Regulation S Risk – SEC Rule 144A provides a safe harbor exemption from the registration requirements of the US Securities Act of 1933 for resale of restricted securities to qualified institutional buyers, as defined in the rule. Regulation S provides an exclusion from registration requirements of the US Securities Act of 1933 for offerings made outside the United States by both US and foreign issuers. A securities offering, whether private or public, made by an issuer outside of the United States in reliance on Regulation S need not be registered. The advantage for investors may be higher returns due to lower administration charges. However, dissemination of secondary market transactions is limited and might increase the volatility of the security prices and, in extreme conditions, decrease the liquidity of a particular security.

For further information on risks and costs, please read the Prospectus and KIIDs, available free of charge in English (KIID also available in Italian) from Generali Investments Luxembourg S.A., 4 Rue Jean Monnet, L-2180 Luxembourg, Grand Duchy of Luxembourg or at the following e-mail address: GILfundInfo@generali-invest.com.



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