

Nov
2019

Global Smaller Companies Fund

Aberdeen Standard
Investments

30 November 2019

The fund aims to provide long term growth by investing predominately in the shares of smaller companies listed on the global stock markets. The fund typically holds a concentrated portfolio of stocks and is actively managed by our investment team, who will select stocks to try to take advantage of opportunities they have identified. Due to the nature of the companies in which the fund invests, investors must be willing to accept a relatively high degree of stock specific risk.

The value of investments within the fund can fall as well as rise and is not guaranteed - you may get back less than you pay in. The fund may use derivatives for the purposes of efficient portfolio management, reduction of risk or to meet its investment objective if this is permitted and appropriate. The value of assets held within the fund may rise and fall as a result of exchange rate fluctuations.

SICAV Fund

Equity Fund

Monthly

Fund Manager	Alan Rowsell
Launch Date	10 Jan 2018
Fund Currency	USD
Benchmark	MSCI AC World Small Cap
Current Fund Size	\$92.4m

This document is intended for use by individuals who are familiar with investment terminology. To help you understand this fund and for a full explanation of specific risks and the overall risk profile of this fund and the shareclasses within it, please refer to the Key Investor Information Documents and Prospectus which are available on our website – www.aberdeenstandard.com.

Aberdeen Standard Investments has not considered the suitability of investment against your individual needs and risk tolerance. If you are in any doubt as to whether this fund is suitable for you, you should seek advice. An adviser is likely to charge for advice. We are unable to provide investment advice.

Fund Information *

Composition by Country

	Fund %		Fund %
USA	40.6	Brazil	1.7
UK	12.0	Poland	1.5
Japan	10.8	Germany	1.4
Australia	8.1	Spain	1.2
Taiwan	6.3	Indonesia	1.1
Italy	5.2	Korea	1.0
France	4.4	Cash and Other	1.0
China	3.7		

Composition by Sector

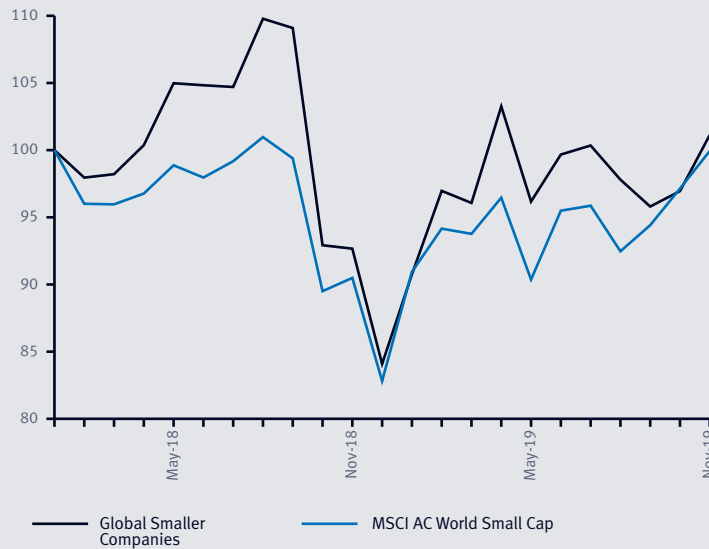
	Fund %
Industrials	30.7
Information Technology	24.8
Consumer Discretionary	16.2
Health Care	14.1
Financials	7.5
Consumer Staples	4.6
Communication Services	1.1
Cash and Other	1.0

Top Ten Holdings

Stocks	Fund %
Teleperformance	4.4
Insulet	3.7
Nihon M&A Center	3.2
RWS Holdings	3.1
Paylocity Holding	3.0
Mani	3.0
Axon Enterprise	2.8
HMS	2.6
JD Sports Fashion	2.5
Kornit Digital	2.5
Assets in top ten holdings	30.8

Fund Performance *

Price Indexed



Performance has been calculated over the stated period on the share price performance basis, based on the institutional shareclass and net of fees. For your relevant charges please contact your Aberdeen Standard Investments Sales Representative.

Source: Aberdeen Standard Investments (Fund) and Thomson Reuters DataStream (Benchmark)

Cumulative Performance

Source: Aberdeen Standard Investments (Fund) and Thomson Reuters DataStream (Benchmark)

	YTD (%)	1 month (%)	3 months (%)	6 months (%)	1 year (%)
Retail Fund Performance	19.3	4.2	3.2	4.7	8.1
Institutional Fund Performance	20.3	4.3	3.4	5.2	9.1
MSCI AC World Small Cap	20.7	2.9	8.1	10.6	10.4

	Since launch (%)
Retail Fund Performance	3.5
Institutional Fund Performance	5.3
MSCI AC World Small Cap	1.7

Year on Year Performance

Source: Aberdeen Standard Investments (Fund) and Thomson Reuters DataStream (Benchmark)

	Year to 30/11/2019 (%)	Year to 30/11/2018 (%)	Year to 30/11/2017 (%)	Year to 30/11/2016 (%)	Year to 30/11/2015 (%)
Retail Fund Performance	8.1	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Institutional Fund Performance	9.1	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
MSCI AC World Small Cap	10.4	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

Note: Performance has been calculated over the stated period on the share price performance basis, based on the given shareclass and net of fees.

Past Performance is not a guide to future performance. The price of shares and the income from them may go down as well as up and cannot be guaranteed; an investor may receive back less than their original investment.

For full details of the fund's objective, policy, investment and borrowing powers and details of the risks investors need to be aware of, please refer to the prospectus.

The fund does not have an index-tracking objective.

Definitions

Cash and Other - may include bank and building society deposits, other money market instruments such as Certificates of Deposits (CDs), Floating Rate Notes (FRNs) including Asset Backed Securities (ABSs), Money Market Funds and allowances for tax, dividends and interest due if appropriate.

Investment Review and Outlook

Market Review

Small caps advance

Global small-cap equities advanced in November and outperformed larger companies. Risk-on sentiment continued thanks to accommodative monetary and fiscal policies, US-China trade deal progress and resilient third-quarter corporate earnings.

In the small cap universe, healthcare stocks were the best performers, especially US biotech shares. This was thanks to Elizabeth Warren losing ground in the race to be the Democrat presidential nominee. As she has been campaigning for greater government control of US drug prices, her decline is seen as a positive for drug companies. The software sector also rebounded, recovering from recent profit-taking. Meanwhile, energy stocks continued to underperform with the sector being the worst performer this month. Despite higher oil prices, energy companies continue to struggle from poor returns on capital and environmental concerns.

Activity

Looking to the Future

We bought a new position in the UK magazine publisher Future Plc. The business is transforming print titles into profitable digital ecommerce products. We see strong growth ahead as the company takes the content from these magazines to drive strong online revenue. We decided to keep our position in ServiceMaster after reviewing its potential liability to termite damage claims. Our research into the issue revealed that the US

pest control company's liability was likely to be much less than investors think. In our view, the problem is isolated to only one US city, while the rest of the business continues to perform well.

Performance

Good results drive outperformance

The Fund made positive gains and outperformed the benchmark thanks to better-than-expected results from our holdings.

Insulet delivered earnings well ahead of investor expectations. The driver was accelerating sales of Omnipod, the company's insulin delivery system, as it benefited from an upgrade and better distribution. Axon Enterprise's results exceeded forecasts on all fronts. The US law-enforcement technology company is seeing good growth in its new Taser device, body cams and cloud software products. This moves the firm closer to its mission of making the bullet obsolete, and building a safer and better world. Chegg was another strong performer. The US online education company delivered impressive growth as more college students subscribed to its online study tools. We expect growth to continue as the company expands into professional skills training for graduates.

By contrast, interactive home security company Alarm.com's results and profit guidance were disappointing. The US market leader's plans for overseas expansion and move into the commercial security market needs investment. The uncertainty surrounding when this pays off has

frustrated investors. As a result, we are also reviewing our position. The ticketless transit systems and defence communication networks company Cubic Corporation weighed on relative returns. Its shares fell on the back of its recent earnings report and lowering of its profit forecast for 2020. This was due to higher R&D spending and programme start-up costs. Our view is that the company's long-term growth prospects remain on track. Lastly, HMS Holdings was another holding whose profits fell short of expectations. This was, in the main, a timing issue in the company's healthcare payments auditing business. As we expect the business to bounce back next quarter, the holding has been retained.

Outlook & Strategy

Uptrend favours risk assets

The equity market is in an uptrend as progress is made on US-China trade and Brexit. Corporate earnings have been resilient and economic data is showing some signs of bottoming. Almost every central bank is now easing monetary policy. In addition, governments are joining in with increased public spending. Equity market corrections in 2011, 2015 and 2018 have all been caused by attempts to tighten monetary policy, which is not the case now. It is rare to see both monetary and fiscal policies easing at this stage in the business cycle, when unemployment and inflation are at such low levels – these are unusual times! However, such stimulus is nearly always a good thing for risk assets and we expect small-cap companies to do well in this environment.

Other Fund Information

	Retail Acc	Retail Dist	Institutional Acc	Institutional Dist	Currency
Bloomberg	SLGAUUAU LX	-	SLGDUUAU LX	-	USD
ISIN	LU1741498957	-	LU1741499419	-	USD
WKN	N/A	-	n/a	-	USD

Domicile	Luxembourg
Custodian Name	The Bank of New York Mellon SA/NV, Luxembourg Branch, 2-4 Rue Eugene Ruppert, L-2453 Luxembourg, Grand Duchy of Luxembourg
Auditor Name	KPMG Luxembourg, 39, Avenue John F. Kennedy, L-1855 Luxembourg, Grand Duchy of Luxembourg

	Interim	Annual
Reporting Dates	30 Jun	31 Dec
Settlement Time	T+3	
Email	LUXMB-ASI-TA@bnymellon.com	
Telephone	+352 24 525 716	
Share Price Calculation Time	15:00 (Luxembourg time)	
Dealing Cut Off Time	13:00 (Luxembourg time)	

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Additional Information for Switzerland : The prospectus, the key investor information documents, the articles of incorporation, the annual and semi-annual report in German, and further information can be obtained free of charge from the representative in Switzerland: Carnegie Fund Services S.A., 11, rue du Général-Dufour, CH-1204 Geneva, Switzerland, web: www.carnegie-fund-services.ch. The Swiss paying agent is: Banque Cantonale de Genève, 17, quai de l'Île, CH-1204 Geneva. The last share prices can be found on www.fundinfo.com.

To find out more about our fund range, visit our website or alternatively speak to your usual contact at Aberdeen Standard Investments.

www.aberdeenstandard.com