### **Emerging Markets Equity**

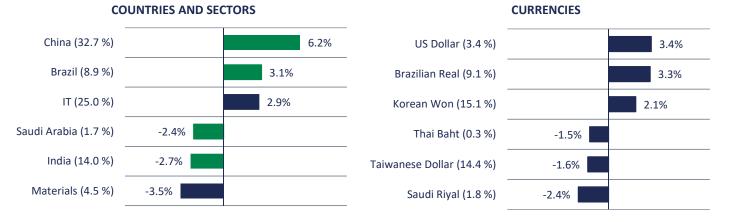
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### Performance (CAD)

Annualized (%)	3 months	;	YTD	1 year	3 years	5 ye	ears	10 years	Since in	nception
Hexavest Emerging Markets Composite	2.98	3	2.65	2.65	-6.35	-	1.11	3.45		2.90
MSCI Emerging Markets (net)	5.20	)	6.88	6.88	-3.98	Ĩ	2.96	4.90		3.98
VALUE ADDED	-2.22		4.23	-4.23	-2.37		L.85	-1.45		-1.08
Ten last years (%)	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Hexavest Emerging Markets Composite	3.94	1.87	3.71	24.61	-2.89	7.86	19.29	-5.11	-15.69	2.65
MSCI Emerging Markets (net)	6.63	2.04	7.34	28.26	-6.88	12.45	16.23	-3.37	-14.28	6.88
VALUE ADDED	-2.69	-0.17	-3.63	-3.65	3.99	-4.59	3.06	-1.74	-1.41	-4.23

#### Positioning (vs MSCI Emerging Markets)



Country Sector

Market Outlook		
MACROECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT	VALUATION	SENTIMENT
+	Neutral	Neutral

Emerging market earnings forecasts for the next 12 months have been revised significantly upward for the first time in almost two years. This development was required for us to raise our rating on the macroeconomic environment.

The emerging market equity valuation deteriorated somewhat in the fourth quarter, rising from the 45th to the 57th percentile of its historical distribution. In terms of regions, emerging market equities are still very attractive relative to U.S. equities but have a valuation similar to those of European and Asia-Pacific equities.

After negative returns in 2021 and 2022, EM shares posted a solid gain of 9.8% in 2023. EM currencies performed less well, given the hawkish tone of the U.S. Federal Reserve for much of the year and high U.S. bond yields. The year-end stock market rally lifted our inhouse investor sentiment index into the neutral zone after more than two years in pessimistic territory. The Fed's more dovish tone toward the end of the year definitely helped. Institutional investors gradually increased their exposure to emerging market equities in 2023 but continued to underweight this asset class.

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**Desjardins** Global Asset Management

### **Emerging Markets Equity**

#### Summary

Benchmark Exclusions	MSCI Emerging Markets (net) Tobacco, coal production and controversial weapons				
Value added objective	2% (4-year rolling periods)				
Active risk	2% to 4%				
Number of holdings	130 to 170				
Currency management	Active				
DEVIATIONS VS. BENCHMARK					
Regions:	+/- 15%				
Countries:	+/- 15%				
<u> </u>	1 4 50/				

# Currencies: +/- 15% Sectors: +/- 10%

#### **Investment Process**

TOP-DOWN DECISIONS



#### Initial universe CURRENCIES REGIONS ~ 1,400 stocks SECTORS INDUSTRIES Top-down decisions **Optimized** Portfolio ESG exclusions VECTORS OF ANALYSIS and monitoring ---/+++ Macro Currency overlay - 4 and derivatives Valuation ---/+++ Final portfolio Sentiment ≈ 150 stocks

#### Responsible Investment

#### **Christian Felx**

Manager and Head of Responsible investment

 We have a team of 10 specialists dedicated exclusively to responsible investment.

#### Investment Team

Jean-Benoit Leblanc, M.Sc., CFA Senior Portfolio Manager Experience: 24 years Team member since 2009

Julien Tousignant, M.Sc., CFA Portfolio Manager Experience: 10 years Team member since 2013 Jean-Pierre Couture, M.Sc. Economist and Senior Portfolio Manager Experience: 28 years Team member since 2010

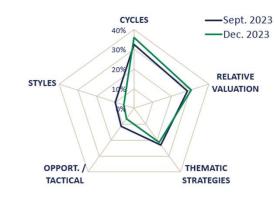
Hao Feng, MBA, CFA Portfolio Manager Expérience: 12 years Team member since 2021

#### Investment Approach

- Capture long term investment opportunities as well as benefit from short term dislocations
- Top-down approach
- Diversified sources of alpha: regions, countries, currencies, sectors, industries, and stocks
- Proprietary ESG process, tailored to emerging markets

#### **Investment Themes**

#### As a % of total portfolio



Source: DGAM, December 31, 2023

Combine investments and RI expertise to offer high-performance strategies

 Development of a simple RI process that can be easily integrated into any mandate

 Ongoing exchanges between portfolio managers and the RI team increasing the efficiency of the investment process

#### **Contact Us**

#### clientexperience.dgia@desjardins.com

Sources: MSCI, DGAM, as of December 31, 2023.

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The performance shown is that of a composite of emerging markets equity mandates managed by DGAM. Accounts in the composite may have investment guidelines that differ from those of the model portfolio. The inception date of the composite is February 1, 2011. Performance results are presented gross of management and custodial fees but net of all trading commissions. Returns for periods greater than 12 months are annualized. Past performance is not necessarily indicative of future performance.

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