# Aegon Emerging Market ESG Equity Investment Fund



P series

MONTHLY report - 2022 APRIL (made on: 04/30/2022)

#### INVESTMENT POLICY OF THE FUND

The aim of the fund is to benefit on the economical growth of emerging countries. The fund accomplishes this goal basically via individual equity investments, however it may also hold collective investment instruments, if it is necessary for the efficient management of the portfolio. These can primarily be ETFs listed on the stock exchange, and open-end public investment funds. In the course of selecting the equities the Fund dedicates special attention to the compliance of individual companies with ESG (environmental, social, governance) criteria, so in addition to analyzing the financial factors, Portfolio managers also take into consideration environmental, social and governance factors during the investment decision making process. The Fund Manager seeks to build a portfolio in which the positive ESG characteristics of companies prevail, i.e. companies with high ESG scores are overrepresented in the portfolio as compared to companies with low ESG scores. The environmental criterion covers the elements where a business interacts with the environment. Environmental criteria include elements in the course of which the company comes into contact with the environment. These include for example the energy utilization, waste management, pollutant emission and/or the preservation of natural resources. Social criteria include all relations maintained by the company with its external partners, customers and internal employees. Corporate governance criteria are legal factors impacting reliable operation of a company. The Fund's main strategy is to provide broad emerging equity market exposure and to achieve performance above the emerging market index through active equity market allocation. An active strategy enables the Fund to achieve a return in excess of the benchmark. The Fund's risk exposure due to its geographical distribution is close to the benchmark.

#### MARKET SUMMARY

Although the war between Russia and Ukraine is still ongoing, the investment world is much more concerned about inflation and how central banks will respond to it. Inflation around the world is at multi-decade highs. In the Eurozone it is at levels that is similar the early 2000s, in the US it is at a 40-year high, while Hungary has also not seen such high inflation for more than 20 years. The question on everyone's mind is what central banks will do to curb inflation, and whether they can do anything at all.

In March, the US Federal Reserve raised the Fed Funds rate by 25 basis points, which seems ridiculous in the face of inflation of almost 9%. The Fed is not in an easy position. If it raises rates too high, it could very easily create a recession, but if it raises them by only 25-50 basis points, it could be too slow and inflation could rise further. Let's not forget that over the past decade, the US national debt has more than doubled and a sustained rise in interest rates would be disastrous for the US economy. Europe is not better off. Since the 2008-2009 crisis, the ECB's main task has been to support the bond markets of the South-European countries by continuously buying them. If the ECB also raises interest rates, it will hit the South-European countries very badly, and some of them could enter into bankruptcy. The MNB continued to raise interest rates in April in response to high inflation figures. In April, the MNB raised the base rate by 100 basis points to 5.40% and the one-week deposit rate to 6.45%. The EURHUF exchange rate was highly volatile in April due to the Russian-Ukrainian conflict. During the month, the forint weakened from 367 to 377 against the euro. Currently, higher interest rates are unable to strengthen the Hungarian currency.

The fund achieved a positive return in April and outperformed its benchmark index. The good performance was mainly due to overweighs in Indonesia and Saudi Arabia. The Fund's strategy in the recent period has been to establish overweighs in emerging market commodity exporting countries, a strategy that contributed significantly to the outperformance. The exposure to the Chinese internet sector has taken away from the Fund's performance. These stocks were already very cheap and the Chinese growth sector pricing have effectively been transformed into a value priced sector. The Chinese government continues to insist on 5.50% GDP growth, but analysts now expect only 4.90%. If the target is to be met, a lot of economic stimulus will have to come in the future. We continue to underweight Korea and the Thailand, and Latin America, Saudi Arabia and Indonesia remain overweight. We are also overweight emerging market small cap stocks. The fund is slightly overweight against the benchmark index at 105%.

## **GENERAL INFORMATION**

Fund Manager: AEGON Hungary Fund Manager Ltd.

Custodian: Unicredit Bank Hungary Zrt.

Main distributor: AEGON Hungary Fund Manager Ltd.

Benchmark composition: 100% MSCI EM (EMERGING

MARKETS) ESG

ISIN code: HU0000723671

Start: 06/16/2020

Currency: PLN

Net Asset Value of the whole Fund: 12,612,129,088 HUF

Net Asset Value of P series: 15,451 PLN

Net Asset Value per unit: 1.188518 PLN

#### **DISTRIBUTORS**

ERSTE Group Bank AG Austria

SUGGESTED	MINIMUM	INVESTM	1ENT PERIOD

3 mths	6 mths	1 yr	2 yr	3 yr	4 yr	5 yr

ASSET ALLOCATION OF THE FUND			
Asset	Weight		
Collective securities	75.42 %		
International equities	19.24 %		
Hungarian equities	1.26 %		
Current account	4.10 %		
Liabilities	-0.33 %		
Receivables	0.31 %		
Total	100,00 %		
Derivative products	8.08 %		
Net corrected leverage	107.83 %		
Assets with over 10% weight			
There is no such instrument in the portfolio			
RISK PROFILE			
1 2 3 4 5 6	7		
Lower risk	Higer risk		

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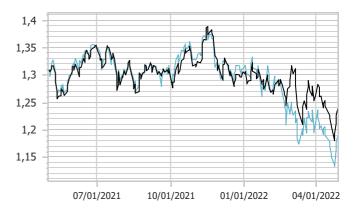
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NET YIELD PERFORMANCE OF THE SERIES			
Interval	Yield of note	Benchmark yield	
From start	9.67 %	13.35 %	
2021	4.11 %	5.02 %	

# NET PERFORMANCE OF THE SERIES

net asset value per share, 05/01/2021 - 04/30/2022



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Benchmark

RISK INDICATORS FOR THE LAST 12 MONTHS	
Annualized standard deviation of the fund's weekly yields	16.47 %
Annualized standard deviation of the benchmark's weekly yields	16.32 %
WAM (Weighted Average Maturity)	0.00 years
WAL (Weighted Average Life)	0.00 years

TOP 5 POSITIONS				
Asset	Туре	Counterparty / issuer	Maturity	
Lyxor MSCI India UCITS ETF	investment note	Lyxor MSCI India UCITS ETF		
Invesco MSCI Saudi Arabia UCITS	investment note	Invesco MSCI Saudi Arabia UCITS ETF		
iShares MSCI Taiwan UCITS ETF	investment note	iShares MSCI Taiwan UCITS ETF		
Xtrackers MSCI EM ESG Leaders	investment note	Xtrackers MSCI Emerging Market		
Lyxor MSCI Brazil UCITS ETF	investment note	Lyxor MSCI Brazil UCITS ETF		

### Legal declaration

The recent document qualifies as Portfolio Report according to the Kbftv. requirements. It contains the following elements based on the last net asset value of the reporting month: presentation of the assets of the fund regarding asset type of portfolio investment and regarding other categories detailed in its investment policy; list of assets (issuers) representing more than 10% of the portfolio; net asset value of the fund, including the cumulated and the calculated value per unit share. Investors are kindly advised, that past performance of the fund does not guarantee future performance. The returns presented are to be considered without applicable taxes, distribution fees and commissions, fees related to account keeping and other costs in relation with holding an investment fund unit. Information presented in the Portfolio Report are for information purposes only, not intended to serve as investment advice, or any other offer. Investors are kindly advised to carefully read the Key Investors Document and Prospectus of the fund, in order to understand the risks of investing into the fund, and to be able to make an informed investor decision. The referred documents are available at the distribution locations and on the official website of Aegon Alapkezelő Zrt. | 1085 Budapest, Kálvin tér 12-13. | +36 1 477 4814 | alapkezelo@aegon.hu | www.aegonalapkezelo.hu