

JK Global Opportunities Fund

August 2021

USD Class +0.36%, GBP Class +0.34%, YEN Class +0.33%, EUR Class +0.30% in August.

The Fund rose +0.36% (USD Class, net of fees) in August. Our long Japan and Nasdaq positions drove gains, which were partially offset by weakness in our China-sensitive exposures, such as Wuxi Apptec, European Luxury goods, and Global Mining stocks, as weak data and talks of wealth redistribution in China weighed on sentiment.

Powell stuck to the script at the FED's Jackson Hole meeting last month, reiterating that tapering could be appropriate sometime this year if the economy evolves as expected. He also stated that tapering shouldn't be seen as a signal for rate hikes soon after, giving a slightly dovish tilt to his remarks. In summary, Powell appears to be in no rush to tighten policy and gave himself enough flexibility to delay tapering if required. This provided some relief for investors, as it contrasted with the hawkish rhetoric of several regional FED presidents before the symposium; who had been calling for swifter tightening. Investors will now be carefully monitoring data for clues on the tapering path.

With regards to the economy, data has generally been on the weaker side as of late, with the delta variant dampening consumer confidence and causing further disruptions to labour markets and supply chains. The narrative (still) is that these issues will be temporary and subside as delta fades, however we have seen this playbook before and think it is time to acknowledge that the root cause is not the virus itself, but government policy. As long as mass testing and quarantining continue, businesses and supply routes will be at the mercy of even the most minor of Covid outbreaks. Any introduction of vaccine mandates or passports will strike a further blow to the services industry in our view, and that's before we get to the more draconian 'Zero Covid' strategies being employed in places like Australia. Unless there is a sea-change in government policy, it is hard to see how we escape this perpetual cycle of supply/labour shortages whenever a new variant comes along (as it inevitably will). What's more, the behaviours exacerbating current supply issues (e.g. inventory-loading), will only become more entrenched the longer this goes on. Anecdotal evidence of supply shortages persisting into 2022/23 for certain industries (autos, semis), suggests that these are already structural, as opposed to temporary, issues.

Other concerns we have on the growth outlook are expiring unemployment benefits in the US and more hawkish fiscal policy (higher taxes, lower spending). Whilst unemployment benefits ending may help alleviate labour shortages, it is likely to further constrain consumer spending and confidence near-term, especially if this is accompanied by tax increases. On the spending front, Democrats have a few hurdles to clear before passing their infrastructure package, namely resolving the debt ceiling and negotiating a reconciliation bill in the Senate, where moderate Democrats are still sceptical on some of the spending proposals. We expect these to be trickier feats than some are anticipating.

With all this said, we feel that economic data will continue to disappoint, whilst inflation could remain stickier than expected. This is likely to complicate the FED's plan to taper and why we think any upside in bond yields could be limited short-term. We have noted previously how tech should do well under such a stagflationary environment, as their revenues are less sensitive to the economic cycle, and cost structures immune to higher input prices. This gives them the best chance at shielding margins.

Indeed, earnings from tech companies in the US have been exceptional as of late, and why we have been rebuilding exposures in names that have been out-of-favour for a while such as Amazon, Apple and Paypal.

Japan has been another area of interest for us recently, as it is finally playing catch-up to other equity markets. The resignation of Suga and potential for more fiscal stimulus seems to have provided the catalyst for this latest rally, however we are more interested in the relative value of this asset class and 30-year breakout on the TOPIX. This market is also under-owned by global investors and presents opportunities for significant alpha-generation in our view. We will be looking to increase our weighting here on weakness.

We remain on the side-lines in China, although we sense things are starting to settle down there. The news flow recently has centred around details of previously announced regulations, as opposed to any new, broad sweeping policy shifts. The situation in the real estate market, in particular Evergrande, might provide the opportunity we are waiting for to rebuild exposures.

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USD Class (%)													
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Ytd
2021	+2.69	+1.99	-0.98	+1.91	-1.61	+1.11	-1.20	+0.36					+4.26
2020	-0.27	-1.87	-5.25	+6.27	+2.16	+5.24	+6.50	+2.75	-3.05	+1.43	+6.40	+7.77	+30.72
2019	+3.17	+2.05	+1.37	+2.21	-6.21	+2.59	-0.08	-1.19	-1.06	+2.89	+1.52	+4.79	+12.22
2018	+6.49	-1.25	-1.89	-0.89	+3.75	-3.06	+0.12	+1.25	-2.14	-6.91	+0.28	-4.47	-9.02
2017	+3.07	-1.06	+2.06	+3.56	+2.15	-0.31	+2.96	+2.35	+0.63	+5.47	+2.60	+1.71	+28.09
2016	-5.53	+0.16	+6.52	-0.81	+0.93	-1.32	+3.74	-0.81	+1.53	+1.86	+0.22	-1.82	+4.26
2015	+1.95	+3.92	+0.28	+2.17	+3.81	-4.75	-0.15	-8.28	-6.48	+6.34	+1.36	-0.74	-1.65
2014	-4.07	-1.88	-0.95	-4.73	+0.85	+1.92	+0.05	-1.59	+1.97	+0.18	+7.70	-2.84	-3.91
2013	+6.06	-1.22	+3.54	+8.83	-2.63	-3.09	+3.02	-0.86	+6.57	+1.00	+4.52	+3.38	+32.33
2012	+2.43	+4.80	-0.65	-2.03	-1.50	-0.87	+0.72	+1.52	-0.56	-1.22	+1.23	+4.79	+8.72
2011	-0.95	-0.20	-1.13	+0.82	-2.88	-1.55	-1.50	-1.17	-3.51	+0.94	-2.63	+0.34	-12.73
2010	+0.81	+0.84	+3.74	+1.92	-3.95	+1.76	+0.74	+0.87	+0.01	+1.39	-0.88	+1.72	+9.13
2009	-2.51	+0.03	+3.13	+2.13	+13.8	+3.42	+6.08	+1.06	+0.99	+1.58	-1.10	+3.14	+35.61
2008	-1.76	-0.01	-0.50	+1.22	-1.15	-4.74	-1.58	-1.00	-1.93	-0.05	-0.44	+2.83	-8.92
2007	+2.01	-1.34	-2.35	-0.81	+1.63	+4.04	+0.41	-6.10	+0.14	-1.38	-3.97	-3.74	-11.27
2006	+0.13	-3.78	+3.72	-2.27	-3.75	+1.57	-4.58	+3.13	-0.84	+2.73	-1.03	+1.61	-3.75
2005	-0.75	+1.04	+0.36	-0.65	-1.05	+0.90	+2.01	+1.99	+9.65	+4.55	+7.71	+9.41	+40.31
2004	+0.82	+2.03	+6.57	+0.16	-2.15	+1.61	-1.66	-0.96	-0.48	-0.78	-0.27	+2.18	+6.98
2003											+0.01	+0.39	+0.40

GBP Class (%)													
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Ytd
2021	+2.54	+1.97	-1.12	+1.86	-1.59	+1.11	-1.20	+0.34					+3.88
2020	-0.32	-2.00	-5.86	+6.18	+2.13	+5.73	+6.30	+2.64	-3.22	+1.35	+6.39	+7.67	+29.26
2019	+2.98	+1.93	+1.23	+2.13	-6.37	+2.45	-0.32	-1.37	-1.19	+2.72	+1.43	+4.62	+10.20
2018	+6.32	-1.45	-2.01	-1.05	+3.67	-3.30	-0.01	+1.14	-2.35	-7.11	+0.08	-4.64	-10.85
2017	+2.97	-1.11	+1.97	+3.52	+2.16	-0.43	+2.84	+2.19	+0.46	+5.38	+2.54	+1.55	+26.66
2016	-5.68	+0.15	+6.37	-0.85	+0.92	-1.35	+3.67	-0.87	+1.49	+1.80	+0.20	-1.92	+3.50
2015	+1.87	+3.87	+0.24	+2.11	+3.89	-4.65	-0.16	-8.20	-6.51	+6.29	+1.40	-0.77	-1.69
2014	-4.02	-1.96	-0.93	-4.69	+0.89	+1.90	+0.06	-1.61	+2.02	+0.09	+7.77	-2.86	-3.86
2013	+6.18	-1.23	+3.52	+8.65	-2.79	-2.93	+3.05	-0.77	+6.43	+0.96	+4.15	+3.23	+31.51
2012	+2.43	+4.74	-0.62	-1.98	-1.54	-0.84	+0.73	+1.49	-0.54	-1.21	+1.25	+4.75	+8.68
2011	-0.92	-0.19	-1.13	+0.80	-2.89	-1.55	-1.43	-1.14	-3.60	+0.94	-2.67	+0.37	-12.71
2010	+0.83	+0.90	+3.77	+1.93	-4.44	+1.69	+0.70	+0.87	+0.02	+1.38	-0.88	+1.74	+8.62
2009				+1.73	+10.1	+2.66	+5.01	+1.23	+1.25	+1.57	-1.14	+3.32	+28.40

YEN Class (%)													
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Ytd
2021	+2.61	+2.12	-1.02	+1.87	-1.65	+1.09	-1.21	+0.33%					+4.13
2020	-0.46	-1.91	-5.67	+6.00	+2.17	+5.97	+6.45	+1.93	-3.11	+1.38	+6.34	+7.67	+29.02
2019	+2.95	+1.87	+1.16	+1.97	-6.37	+2.35	-0.27	-1.42	-1.29	+2.63	+1.38	+4.47	+9.36
2018	+6.38	-1.42	-2.06	-1.14	+3.59	-3.26	-0.11	+1.15	-2.45	-7.06	+0.07	-4.74	-11.15
2017	+2.87	-1.14	+1.88	+3.57	+2.21	-0.63	+2.83	+2.20	+0.54	+5.33	+2.42	+1.49	+26.07
2016	-5.47	+0.00	+6.50	-0.83	+0.89	-1.40	+3.87	-0.93	+1.38	+1.74	+0.07	-2.01	+3.36
2015	+1.96	+3.85	+0.29	+2.08	+3.93	-4.77	-0.19	-8.07	-6.54	+6.33	+1.42	-0.85	-1.63
2014	-4.10	-1.86	-0.96	-4.74	+0.82	+1.90	+0.03	-1.61	+2.03	+0.51	+7.92	-2.93	-3.53
2013	+6.31	-1.17	+3.49	+9.16	-2.78	-3.02	+2.98	-0.88	+6.62	+0.99	+4.61	+3.52	+33.21
2012	+2.35	+5.36	-0.68	-2.00	-1.50	-0.92	+0.66	+1.49	-0.58	-1.26	+1.24	+4.98	+9.18
2011	-0.99	-0.21	-1.17	+0.78	-2.91	-1.54	-1.47	-1.21	-3.52	+0.90	-2.67	+0.25	-13.02
2010	+0.76	+0.82	+3.93	+1.90	-3.62	+1.67	+0.68	+0.83	-0.02	+1.32	-0.92	+1.62	+9.17
2009	-0.44	+2.14	+2.41	+3.29	+17.6	+5.35	+2.75	+1.22	+1.17	+1.98	-1.32	+3.85	+46.57
2008	-1.92	-0.22	-0.69	+1.09	-1.31	-4.88	-1.77	-1.32	-1.87	-1.00	-0.86	+2.31	-11.89
2007	+1.64	-1.67	-2.71	-1.19	+1.26	+3.72	-0.03	-6.09	-0.28	-1.75	-4.16	-4.10	-14.68
2006	-0.31	-4.10	+3.40	-2.55	-4.13	+1.21	-5.00	+2.76	-1.23	+2.29	-1.43	+1.25	-7.99
2005	-0.94	+0.93	+0.20	-0.96	-1.36	+0.67	+2.08	+1.71	+9.66	+4.45	+7.66	+8.98	+37.47
2004	+0.74	+2.04	+6.20	+0.45	-2.20	+1.52	-1.82	-1.04	-0.61	-0.88	-0.40	+2.01	+5.88
2003											-0.06	+0.31	+0.25

EURO Class (%)													
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Ytd
2021	+2.64	+1.99	-2.45	+1.67	-1.64	+1.06	-1.23	+0.30					+2.25
2020	-0.44	-1.95	-5.69	+6.11	+2.05	+5.98	+6.39	+2.60	-3.15	+1.33	+6.36	+7.11	+28.92
2019	+2.90	+1.82	+1.11	+1.96	-6.46	+2.34	-0.22	-1.44	-1.31	+2.63	+1.38	+4.49	+9.07
2018	+6.36	-1.44	-2.09	-1.16	+3.59	-3.39	-0.10	+1.12	-2.53	-7.19	+0.03	-4.75	-11.61
2017										+3.69*	+2.47	+1.43	+7.77*

*Euro Class started on 04-Oct-17

NAV as at 31-Aug-21	
GBP class	284.38
USD class	382.49
Yen class	32,982.4
Euro Class	136.96

Source: Apex Fund Services (Ireland) Ltd.

Asset Type as at above date (market exposure % of Total NAV)		
	Long	Short
Level 1	89	0
Level 2	15	0
Level 3	0	0
Total	104	0

Source: JK Investment Management LLP

For more information on the Fund, please see www.jkim.co.uk

Administrator for JK Global Opportunities Fund (Orders by 3pm on a Tuesday)

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All data is Net of management and performance fees. Fund was launched on November 3rd 2003. GBP Class launched 1st April 2009.

Mandate broadened to Asia Inc Japan and Name of Fund changed April 1st 2009. Please note that performance from 1st April 2009 to 30th August 2013 is for the JK Absolute Return Fund. This Fund re-domiciled from Cayman to Ireland becoming an Irish UCITS on 30th August 2013 and changed its name to The JK Global Opportunities Fund. Management and performance fees have also been reduced from this date (see Prospectus in for details). Historic performance is not a guide to future returns.

Source: JKIM LLP, Apex Fund Services (Ireland) Ltd.

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