# JK Global Opportunities Fund

USD Class -2.06%, GBP Class -2.12%, YEN Class -2.28%, EUR Class -2.26% in July.

The Fund fell -2.06% (USD Class, net of fees) in July, as we got caught the wrong way on our Chinese equities and short futures hedges. Once again, our long Dollar position helped cushion these losses.

Global equities had their best month of the year in July, however there was some notable dispersion beneath the surface. US equities led the way, as a slew of weak economic data combined with Powell's dovish tone post FOMC, forced investors to recalibrate their expectations for future FED interest rate hikes. Having expected hikes all throughout 2023 only a few months ago, futures markets are now pricing in a terminal rate of 3.6% in Q1 next year, before subsequent cuts for the rest of 2023.

Heightened recessionary fears and a more dovish monetary policy outlook, led to a meaningful easing in financial conditions: bonds rallied, oil prices fell, the dollar sold off, and equities rose. This was no doubt exacerbated by the extreme positioning we were starting to see in markets – leading to somewhat of a "pain trade" as overcrowded positions unwound. Part of our scepticism about this rally is the technical-driven nature of it. Short-covering in illiquid markets, particularly by the CTA community, has likely driven an overshoot to the upside.

Meanwhile, returns from Asia ex. Japan were less inspiring, primarily driven by weakness in China. The main culprit for this was a continued deterioration in its property market, with developers like Country Garden seeing their share prices collapse and certain bonds trade at 30 cents on the dollar. The latest catalyst stems from a mortgage boycott, which started out as a local protest but has now morphed into a nationwide movement, including building suppliers refusing to repay their bank loans. To us, this remains one of the biggest systemic risks for China and the global economy. So far, Chinese authorities are leaning on local governments and banks to provide relief to developers, however their resources are clearly inadequate in the event of a broader crisis. At some point, we feel the central government will have to step in with more wholesale easing, which is why we remain short the RMB.

In addition, geopolitical risks surrounding Taiwan continue to swirl, with Nancy Pelosi becoming the highest-ranking American politician to visit the island in 25 years. China has responded to this provocation by encircling Taiwan with "military exercises", which looks suspiciously similar to a trade blockade (planes and ships have already been disrupted). An air and sea blockade has long been touted as the most effective way to force Taiwan into submission according to many military strategists. Taiwan imports 98% of its energy, for example, which is a clear vulnerability. While not our base case, we are mindful of how quickly Russian "military exercises" turned into a full-scale invasion of Ukraine. In addition, it's hard to ignore how convenient the timing would be for China just before their party conference later this year. A distraction from domestic woes, perhaps?

Having initially rallied to the "bad news equals good news" mantra (and the prospect of less tightening), a decent earnings season has given Western markets an extra fillip, in the hope that central banks may be able to achieve the holy grail of lowering inflation alongside a "softish landing".

This is even despite the FED pushing back against the pivot idea, reiterating how they still have some way to go before they get inflation under control. Perhaps the market is right in calling their bluff, however, regardless of what the FED does, we feel that the long-end of the bond market is relatively anchored around these levels. The implication being that we are approaching neutral, so however far the FED raises rates from here, they will only invert the curve further, cause a deeper recession, and have to cut rates just as quickly.

If we're right in this assessment, then the P/E reset from higher long rates is virtually complete – which explains the rally we're seeing in high-duration names at the moment. The question now is how bad the 'E' (earnings) component gets. Obviously, this earnings season has provided some relief to investors, coming in better than expected. In addition, we're also starting to see companies aggressively cut costs, particularly in the US, which should cushion earnings.

However, this by no means suggests we're out of the woods. The reason rates are falling in the first place is because of a slowing economy. Investors hoping for some sort of "Goldilocks" outcome where inflation and rates come down, with minimal economic damage, are having their cake and eating it in our view. And while we're aware that the "stock market isn't the economy", it's hard to ignore how ugly the macro is at the moment.

The energy crisis in Europe keeps going from bad to worse, and the China-Taiwan situation has the potential to become another inflationary "black-swan" event. The hurdle remains too high for earnings to come out of this unscathed in our view, which contradicts with the perfect outcome currently priced by markets. As such, we remain defensively positioned, reflecting our view that markets have got ahead of themselves regarding a FED pivot and "soft landing".

JK Global Opportunities Fund is a weekly dealing UCITS fund. It can be held by ISA's, SIPP's, Pensions, Charities, Family Offices, Endowments, as a direct holding or through a Private Wealth Manager. All classes have UK Reporting Status.

	USD Class (%) ISIN IE00BBCR2L08												
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Ytd
2022	-7.34	-2.04	-0.96	-3.36	-0.40	-4.50	-2.06						-19.07
2021	+2.69	+1.99	-0.98	+1.91	-1.61	+1.11	-1.20	+0.36	-1.44	+0.51	-2.44	-0.35	+0.42
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 (%) ISIN IE00BBCR2K90												
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Ytd
2022	-7.37	-2.00	-1.04	-3.51	-0.44	-4.55	-2.12						-19.37
2021	+2.54	+1.97	-1.12	+1.86	-1.59	+1.11	-1.20	+0.34	-1.49	+0.49	-2.42	-0.43	-0.09
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 (%) ISIN IE00BBCR2M15												
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Ytd
2022	-7.35	-2.03	-1.13	-3.53	-0.53	-4.55	-2.28						-19.67
2021	+2.61	+2.12	-1.02	+1.87	-1.65	+1.09	-1.21	+0.33%	-1.48	+0.49	-2.41	-0.45	+0.15
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 (%) ISIN IE00BBCR2N22												
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Ytd
2022	-7.47	-2.08	-1.14	-3.55	-0.56	-4.63	-2.26						-19.93
2021	+2.64	+1.99	-2.45	+1.67	-1.64	+1.06	-1.23	+0.30	-1.48	+0.46	-2.41	-0.48	-1.72
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-Jul-22							
GBP class	220.53						
USD class	298.18						
Yen class	25,483.05						
Euro Class	105.41						

Source: Apex Fund Services (Ireland) Ltd.

Asset Type as at above date (market exposure % of Total NAV)							
	Long	Short					
Level 1	66	-58					
Level 2	8	0					
Level 3	0	0					
Total	74	-58					

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)

Apex Group Ltd, Dublin Tel: +353 1 411 2949, Fax: +353 1 411 2948 Email: <u>ApexTA@apexfunds.ie</u>

All data is Net of management and performance fees. Fund was launched on November 3<sup>rd</sup> 2003. GBP Class launched 1st April 2009. Mandate broadened to Asia Inc Japan and Name of Fund changed April 1<sup>st</sup> 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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