### JK INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT LLP

# **JK Global Opportunities Fund**

June 2019

USD Class +2.59%, GBP Class +2.45%, YEN Class +2.35%, EUR Class +2.34% in June.

The Fund rose +2.59% during June as risk assets rallied after the sharp sell-off in May. The FED's abrupt volte-face in direct response to the weakness in markets suggested a re-emergence of the 'FED put', which when combined with a somewhat more conciliatory tone out of the G20 meeting between Trump and Xi (particularly in relation to the Huawei ban), managed to calm investors' nerves. How long this lasts is anyone's guess, and the mounting geopolitical tensions with the Middle East, and in particular Iran, remain a source of considerable concern. The protests in Hong Kong remain a big feature for markets in the region, and certainly add to market risk in the near term.

Bond markets continued their impressive rally, with yields in many regions heading back to all-time lows. Collapsing inflation expectations combined with generally weak global economic data are fuelling this rally. Whilst the action in the bond market is supportive of equity prices, they do imply a degree of earnings risk (due to the weak economic backdrop) that is likely to manifest itself over the coming quarters.

Whilst the trade related headlines will continue to dominate market sentiment in the near-term, we believe that the economic data will soon start to show signs of stabilisation, given favourable base effects, reduction in inventory overhang, and widespread policy easing. The FED should start cutting rates this month, the US Dollar seems unlikely to strengthen much from here, and the curve has stopped flattening. Investor positioning and flows remain cautious, and equity valuations look attractive to us.

The shift in FED policy will prove highly supportive for risk assets and equities could move significantly higher before the next recession hits. As such, we intend to maintain a pro-risk stance, focussing on a diversified portfolio of quality growth stocks. Regardless of what happens to the trade negotiations in the future, China will continue to stimulate its economy, which in turn will benefit global growth.

The FED meeting this month will likely result in a 25 basis point cut in the Fed Funds rate (FFR), in our view, as the differential between the current FFR and the two year bond stands at around 50 basis points which is unusual. Some commentators have become too dovish, expecting up to 50 basis points of cuts, which we think unlikely. This leaves open the possibility that the market might be 'disappointed' with just 25 basis points but we believe any weakness would be short-lived. Markets currently price in about 75 basis points over the next twelve months.

The focus of the Fund remains on equities, and within that, quality growth companies that are relatively immune to economic cycles, and that have high and consistent returns on capital. We expect this group of stocks to continue to be re-rated as central banks once again look to stimulate growth through further interest rate cuts and quantitative easing. Whilst we are clearly coming to the end of the road for ultra-loose monetary policy, we are not there yet, suggesting further gains for equities. Currently the Fund has a 40% weighting in the US (where many of the companies with these characteristics reside), 30% in Asia (mainly China and Hong Kong), and 10% in the U.K. We have virtually no exposure to Europe, and we have a 5% weighting within Asia to Japan which has a value

focus (somewhat at odds with the core of the portfolio) but we just feel that these stocks are ridiculously cheap. As the global economy starts to bottom out, there could be an interesting trade here.

The volatility over the last couple of months is throwing up some interesting opportunities, mainly in Asia and in particular China/H.K. where many stocks are down -20 - 30%+ over the last few months, and we are looking to use this weakness as an opportunity to buy back into the likes of Baidu, Tencent, and Hangzhou Hikvision. We initiated a position in Facebook last month where we feel the bad news cycle has run its course, valuations are compelling, and we are optimistic for its new Libra 'cryptocurrency' (it isn't really a crypto, but it might just provide a legitimate means whereby consumers can move money around the world in a low cost and secure way). Regulators and the banking system will, of course, be terrified of allowing such individual freedoms, and thus there is a decent possibility that it gets stopped (regulated out of existence), but we feel that this has such potential that we need to be exposed. Longer term investors will know that we have been following and have invested in the cryptocurrency area for some time – profitably it should be added – and it is of particular interest to us.

We have little in the way of tactical currency 'bets' right now, on balance feeling that the US Dollar will remain firm, but not expecting too much in the way of upside. We remain long YEN, and we have a small Sterling short position. We also remain short the Renminbi as a hedge against a further deterioration in US-China relationships.

The rally in the bond market is a trade that we have clearly missed out on – the best that can be said is that we covered our shorts prior to this latest extraordinary move – and whilst we feel that the likes of Italy, France, and frankly all global bond yields are an accident waiting to happen, timing this in the face of central banks that have run out of ideas (if they had any sensible ones in the first place), and will just keep buying is challenging. However, we are watching closely, and feel the likely 'tipping point' will come when we start to hear policies such as Modern Monetary Theory (MMT) become legitimised by the 'bien pensant'. In lieu of this eventuality, we have started to buy back into gold.

**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 (%)												
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Ytd
2019	+3.17	+2.05	+1.37	+2.21	-6.21	+2.59							+4.97
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
2019	+2.98	+1.93	+1.23	+2.13	-6.37	+2.45							+4.08
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
2019	+2.95	+1.87	+1.16	+1.97	-6.37	+2.35							+3.66
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
2019	+2.90	+1.82	+1.11	+1.96	-6.46	+2.34							+3.39
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*

<sup>\*</sup>Euro Class started on 04-Oct-17

NAV as at 30-Jun-19						
GBP class	200.03					
USD class	262.51					
Yen class	23,271.51					
Euro Class	98.49					

Source: Apex Fund Services (Ireland) Ltd.

Asset Type as at above date (market exposure % of Total NAV)								
	Long	Short						
Level 1	96	0						
Level 2	21	0						
Level 3	0	0						
Total	117	0						

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 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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