## A Sub-Fund of Morgan Stanley Investment Funds

# Emerging Markets Debt Fund

**EMERGING MARKETS DEBT TEAM** 

## **Important Information**

- The Fund invests primarily in the debt securities of government and government-related issuers located in emerging countries, and the Fund may also invest in debt securities of entities organised to restructure outstanding debt of such issuers, together with investing in the debt securities of corporate issuers located in or organised under the laws of emerging countries.
- Investment involves risks. Key risks for this fund include Emerging Market Risk, Credit Risk, Interest Rate Risk, High Yield Securities Risk, Derivatives Risk, Downgrading Risk, Unrated Securities Risk, Risk of Exposure to the Euro and the Eurozone and Risk of Discretionary Distributing Share Class.
- The Fund may pay distributions out of capital. Payment of dividends out of capital amounts to a return or withdrawal of part of a Shareholder's original investment or from any capital gains attributable to that original investment. Any distribution involving payment of dividends out of capital may result in an immediate decrease of the NAV per share.
- There is a risk that you may potentially lose your entire investment in this Fund.
- The investment decision is yours but you should not invest unless the intermediary who sells it to you has advised you that it is suitable for you and has explained why, including how buying it would be consistent with your investment objectives. You should not make any investment decision solely based on this document. Please read the relevant offering document carefully for further fund details including risk factors.
- The Fund may use derivatives for investment or efficient portfolio management (including hedging) purposes which may expose to higher counterparty, liquidity and valuation risks. The Fund may suffer losses from its derivatives usage.

#### **Performance Review**

In the one month period ending 30 September 2025, the Fund's A shares returned 1.67% (net of fees)<sup>1</sup>, while the benchmark returned 1.78%.

#### Contributors to Relative Performance

- An overweight to Ukrainian sovereign credit contributed to performance as President Trump renewed his support for Ukraine while expressing frustration with President Putin.
- An overweight to Ethiopian sovereign credit contributed to performance as negotiations with investors to restructure its \$1 billion Eurobond started.

#### **Detractors from Relative Performance**

- An overweight to Brazilian petrochemical company Braskem detracted from performance as the company came under stress due to continued weak chemical prices, disputes at the shareholder level, and a surprise announcement that the company hired financial advisors and counsel to guide on the capital structure.
- An overweight to Mexican real estate developer Murano detracted from performance as the company defaulted on a coupon payment due during the month.

## **Market Review**

Performance was positive for emerging markets debt (EMD) for the third quarter. Emerging markets (EM) currencies broadly strengthened for most of the period against a weakening U.S. dollar (USD), although the USD weakened at a slower pace than the first half of the year. The USD briefly strengthened in July as some trade agreements with the U.S. reduced uncertainty and U.S. economic data remained strong, despite lingering tariff noise. U.S. policy was top of mind for many investors, given tariffs and an anticipated September interest rate cut. The European Union (EU), Indonesia and Japan established new trade agreements with the U.S., while Brazil and India continued to navigate the threat of elevated tariffs. China has displayed a strong negotiating position with the U.S., first through rare earth metals, and now TikTok and a potential meeting with President Xi as leverage tools. Israel expanded its military operations in Gaza and began to take control of Gaza City in September. In early September, Israel also launched an airstrike on Doha targeting Hamas leadership. The Israeli government lifted its deficit target to finance the ongoing war. EU leaders are looking to leverage frozen Russian central bank reserves as collateral for a reparations loan to Ukraine, for support for the ongoing war. The asset class continued to attract strong inflows, with its tenth straight week of inflows to end the quarter. This is a sharp contrast to the first four months of the year, which saw large outflows. The hard currency segment of the asset class saw \$7 billion in inflows during the third quarter, while the local currency segment saw \$4.3 billion in inflows.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Source: Morgan Stanley Investment Management Limited. Data as of 30 September 2025.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Source: J.P. Morgan. Data as of 30 September 2025.

Performance for the underlying EMD indexes was positive for the month. Performance for the hard currency segment of the asset class was driven by both sovereign and corporate spreads tightening and U.S. interest rates falling. The USD-denominated sovereign index, the J.P. Morgan EMBI Global Diversified Index, was up 1.78%. The EM corporate bond index — the J.P. Morgan CEMBI Broad Diversified Index — was up 0.95%. Finally, the local segment of the asset class, represented by the J.P. Morgan Government Bond Index-Emerging Markets Global Diversified, was up 1.40%.

## **Portfolio Activity**

During the month, we increased the allocations to Panama and Kuwait sovereign credit and reduced exposures to Argentine and Suriname sovereign credit.

## **Strategy and Outlook**

Asset class fundamentals remain strong as many countries pursue strong reform agendas. Valuations are also still attractive, particularly for local assets. Many EM currencies are relatively cheap and are supported by the weakening U.S. dollar, while real yield differentials between emerging and developed markets remain appealing. The U.S. Federal Reserve (Fed) cut interest rates in September, which was largely expected by the market. Additional rate cuts are expected for 2025, but how many is up for debate. The Fed is caught between balancing inflation, which could increase at any time due to tariffs, and a worsening labor market. Many EM countries are experiencing further disinflation due to decreased demand, which should allow many central banks to continue their easing cycles. Demand for EM assets picked up during the quarter and is likely to continue. Investors are continuing to look outside the U.S. considering uncertain policy. The broad asset class has performed well year-to-date, aided by macro factors and individual country-level fundamentals. We think that bottom-up country level evaluation will continue to be key to uncover value in the very differentiated landscape.

For further information, please contact your Morgan Stanley Investment Management representative.

### **Fund Facts**

Launch date	01 April 1995
Base currency	U.S. dollars
Benchmark	Custom- Blended Benchmark

## Calendar Year Returns (%)

Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future results.

	YTD	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
Class A Shares	9.12	11.07	12.56	-19.17	-2.86	6.06	13.73	-7.59	9.41	9.81	-2.71
Blended Benchmark	10.66	6.54	11.09	-17.78	-1.80	6.45	14.42	-4.61	9.32	10.19	1.23

Investment involves risks. All performance data is calculated NAV to NAV, net of fees, and assume the reinvestment of all dividends and income. The sources for all performance and index data is Morgan Stanley Investment Management ('MSIM Ltd'). Please refer to the relevant offering documents for fund details, including risk factors.

Applications for shares in the Sub-Fund should not be made without first consulting the current Prospectus and the Key Information Document ("KID") or Key Investor Information Document ("KID"), which are available in English and in the language of countries authorized for fund distribution and is available online at Morgan Stanley Investment Funds Webpages or free of charge from the Registered Office at European Bank and Business Centre, 6B route de Trèves, L-2633 Senningerberg, R.C.S. Luxemburg B 29 192.

The summary of investor rights is available in the aforementioned languages and website location under the General Literature section.

Information in relation to sustainability aspects of the Fund is available in English online at: Sustainable Finance Disclosure Regulation.

If the management company of the relevant Fund decides to terminate its arrangement for marketing that Fund in any EEA country where it is registered for sale, it will do so in accordance with the UCITS rules.

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The use of leverage increases risks, such that a relatively small

movement in the value of an investment may result in a disproportionately large movement, unfavourable as well as favourable, in the value of that investment and, in turn, the value of the Fund. Investment in the Fund concerns the acquisition of units or shares in a fund, and not in a given underlying asset such as building or shares of a company, as these are only the underlying assets owned.

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## **INDEX INFORMATION**

**Blended Benchmark** refers to performance of Fund's benchmark since inception - April 1st, 1995 to June 8th, 2020 – **J.P. Morgan Emerging Markets Bond Index Global**; June 8th, 2020 and beyond – **J.P. Morgan Emerging Markets Bond Index Global Diversified**.

J.P. Morgan Emerging Markets Bond Index Global Diversified — tracks total returns for traded external debt instruments in the emerging markets, and is an expanded version of the EMBI+. As with the EMBI+, the EMBI Global includes US dollar-denominated Brady bonds, loans, and Eurobonds with an outstanding face value of at least \$500 million.

The index is unmanaged and does not include any expenses, fees or sales charges. It is not possible to invest directly in an

index.

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A blended benchmark has been used because there has been a change in benchmark during the reporting period shown.

The **JP Morgan CEMBI Broad Diversified Index** is a global, liquid corporate emerging-markets benchmark that tracks U.S.-denominated corporate bonds issued by emerging-markets entities.

The J.P. Morgan EMBI Global Diversified Index tracks liquid, U.S. dollar emerging market fixed and floating-rate debt instruments issued by sovereign and quasi-sovereign entities.

The JP Morgan GBI-EM Global Diversified Index is a comprehensive global local emerging markets index that consists of regularly traded, liquid fixed-rate, domestic currency government bonds and includes only the countries which give access to their capital market to foreign investors (excludes China, India). The index is market capitalization weighted, with a cap of 10% to any one country.

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