

RobecoSAM Smart Energy Fund GBP

Share class C / Currency GBP

31.01.2018

Marketing Material

Comments

Market review

Equity markets had a good start to the new year overall.

Performance contribution and portfolio changes

The strongest positive performance contribution came from stocks from the power electronics area. ON Semiconductor, Microsemi and Xilinx all rose. SMA Solar Technology also posted good performance after a successful investors' day. The Japanese electric engine company Nidec rose further after presenting its expansion plans for the car sector. The silicon carbide maker Cree and II-VI suffered from profit taking, companies from the area of crude gas distribution networks from the rising interest rates. New positions in Rohm and Maxim Integrated were established over the month.

Outlook and strategy

The balanced alignment of the portfolio with an emphasis on growth sectors with varying cycles will be maintained for the time being.

Opportunities

The fund invests in a broadly diversified equity universe and seeks opportunities for returns wherever they exist.

The fund gives investors easy access to the emerging markets. Many of these countries may offer attractive potential returns in various asset classes.

A highly qualified and experienced management actively manages the fund on the basis of a fundamental valuation approach. The objective is to identify the potential investments that, in the Investment manager's opinion, are most attractive and to generate interesting and profitable opportunities for investors.

Risks

The fund invests in equities (directly or indirectly via derivatives) which may be subject to significant fluctuations in value.

The fund may invest in derivatives, which are subject to the risks of their underlying markets or underlying instruments as well as issuer risks and often involve higher risks than direct investments.

The fund may invest in securities from emerging markets where prices can fluctuate significantly and where, in addition to social, political and economic uncertainties, operating and supervision conditions may deviate from the standards prevailing in developed markets.

The fund may invest in assets denominated in various currencies, giving rise to exchange rate risks which may be hedged. If the currency in which the past performance is displayed differs from the currency of the country in which an investor resides, due to exchange rate fluctuations, the performance shown may increase or decrease if converted into the investor's local currency.

The performance of the fund's market price depends on the general economic development but also on factors that are specific to companies or countries. Please refer to the section on risks in the full prospectus for more details.

Glossary

Alpha (Jensen's): Jensen's Alpha measures the performance of an investment (fund) in relation to its benchmark. A positive alpha means that the value of the fund has generated a higher return than the benchmark.

Benchmark (BM): An index that can be used by an investment fund as the basis of comparison for assessing the performance achieved.

Beta: the beta coefficient describes to what extent the price of a share tracks the value of an index, i.e. if the share performs better or worse than the market. Correlation: a statistic measurement which shows the linear relationship (or degree of parallel movement) between two series of figures, for example the performance of two equity investments.

Duration: refers to the period of time that capital is tied into a monetary or bond investment or in other debt securities, and determines the sensitivity of the price to interest rate changes. Unlike residual maturity, the duration also takes into account interest payments and other inflows from invested capital.

Funds of Funds: These are investment funds which invest their fund assets in other target funds.

High water mark: the high water mark principle establishes a cap on or allows for a potential rise in performance fees. According to this principle, the investment fund manager only receives the relevant remuneration when the fund exceeds the highest level of return that it has ever achieved.

Information ratio: the information ratio expresses the ratio of additional returns generated to the extra risk involved. The value generated can be used to evaluate active management.

Modified duration: a risk indicator that measures the effect of price fluctuations on a bond issue or a portfolio of bond issues.

Residual maturity: time remaining until a bond must be repaid.

Sharpe ratio: the Sharpe ratio (risk-adjusted performance) is generated by calculating the difference between the average annualised return and the risk-free return. The resulting figure is divided by the annualised standard deviation of the returns. The higher the Sharpe ratio, the better the fund performance in relation to the risk potential of its portfolio.

Total Expense Ratio (TER): the TER is a measure of the total annual expenses incurred by a fund and is expressed as a percentage. It allows an accurate comparison of the costs of funds from different companies to be made.

Tracking error: the tracking error measures the divergence between the return of a fund in relation to its benchmark.

Volatility: a risk indicator demonstrating the fluctuation range (for example of the price or return of a security or fund unit) over a defined period; volatility is most often calculated using standard deviation. The higher the volatility, the greater the fluctuation range.

Yield to maturity: the yield to maturity is the average yield generated by an investment each year if it is held until expiry.

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