

Maple-Brown Abbott Asian Dividend Growth Fund

Asian Equities
August 2021

Portfolio managers



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Maple-Brown Abbott Asian Dividend Growth Fund

- Aims to deliver consistent and reliable income
- Focuses on companies with ability and intention to offer sustainable and growing income
- Utilises Maple-Brown Abbott's own quantitative screening tools
- Includes a qualitative overlay including ESG assessment
- Leverages nearly 20 years' experience managing Asian equity portfolios

Why Asia?

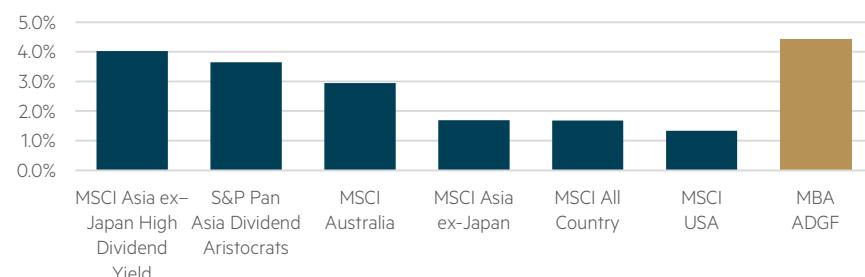
The Asian region is recognised as one of the most dynamic and fastest growing economic destinations globally. Did you know that Asian corporates also possess some of the strongest balance sheets in the world? As well as a strong financial footing, the aggregate payout ratio across Asia remains modest by global standards.

Why a dividend growth fund?

The Maple-Brown Abbott Asian Dividend Growth Fund (the Fund) exists because we recognise the importance dividends play in the long-term return provided by equity markets. The Fund is designed to provide investors with a portfolio exposed to both sustainable and growing income streams across Asia.

The chart below compares the weighted average yields of six broad market indices with the Fund, each calculated based on portfolio composition as at 30 June 2021 having regard to actual dividends paid on those securities over the 12 months to 30 June 2021. It shows that over that period the Fund, as an actively managed portfolio, calculates a more favourable yield when compared to those other broad-based market indices referred to below. We believe the Fund provides investors with an opportunity to diversify their equity portfolio through exposure to investments in income generating Asian securities.

Comparison of dividend yields for certain market indices vs the Fund*



Source: MBA, FactSet, data as at 30 June 2021

*The yield depicted above for the Fund reflects the weighted average yield for the portfolio composition of the Fund as at 30 June 2021 based on the actual dividends paid on those securities over the 12 months to 30 June 2021. The yield shown does not represent actual results of the Fund over that 12-month period or the effect of material economic and market factors on the decision-making process. The Fund was launched on 23 June 2021. Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future performance. Maple-Brown Abbott Limited does not make any representation or give any guarantee as to the future performance or success of, the rate of income or capital return from, the recovery of money invested in, or the income tax or other taxation consequences of, any investment.

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“ Compound interest is the eighth wonder of the world. He who understands it, earns it ... he who doesn't ... pays it.

Albert Einstein ”

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How is this fund different?

The Fund aims to deliver an attractive total return over a five-year period whilst maintaining a dividend yield in excess of the MSCI All Countries Asia excluding Japan Net Index (AUD).

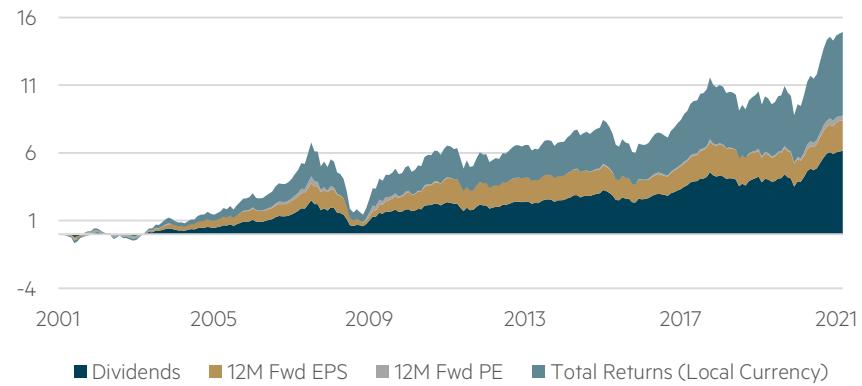
The investment universe captures around 4,300 securities listed across the Asian region with a market capitalisation above US\$1 billion dollars. This opportunity set is narrowed considerably as we apply two distinct quantitative screening models designed to identify only those companies with the ability to pay a sustainable and attractive dividend stream and the intention to reward shareholders with a growing dividend profile going forward. The focus on both the ability and intention is what differentiates the Fund from many other high yield strategies that are purely driven by the absolute dividend yield. Our strict scrutiny with regards to balance sheet strength and cash flow generation assists in shielding the portfolio from adverse impacts from changes in interest rates.

As well as the rigorous quantitative screening, our experienced team of analysts applies a qualitative overlay to all portfolio holdings including a thorough assessment of relevant ESG factors. Only those companies that satisfy both the quantitative and qualitative process are eligible for inclusion.

As a consequence of our strict selection criteria, the Fund is benchmark unaware, comprising a high conviction portfolio of 25–40 securities with an emphasis on both preserving capital and delivering favourable risk adjusted returns.

Why Maple-Brown Abbott?

With nearly 20 years' experience in managing Asian equity portfolios across multiple market cycles, our disciplined investment approach is well suited to capturing the growing income thematic across Asia.

**The importance of re-invested dividends can not be overstated
MSCI AC Asia ex-Japan – Cumulative total return since 2001**

Source: FactSet, data as at 30 June 2021.

Links

- > [Asian Dividend Growth Fund](#)
- > [Fact sheet](#)
- > [Monthly commentary](#)



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