

# OPPORTUNITY FUND

### Monthly Investment Manager's Report

#### Investment Objective and Strategy

Weiss Korea Opportunity Fund ("WKOF") seeks to provide shareholders with an attractive return on their investment primarily through long-term capital appreciation, investing largely in listed preferred shares issued by South Korean companies. In many cases, these listed preferred shares trade at a discount to the corresponding common shares of the same issuers. Unlike many preferred stocks throughout the world, while the listed preferred shares targeted by WKOF are called "preferred," they are generally more similar to nonvoting common shares; they may not have any preference in liquidation and they typically do not have a fixed dividend -- dividend rates typically grow with economic growth in the underlying issuer. As a result, the preferred shares' price-to-earnings ratios are substantially lower and the dividend yields are higher than their respective common shares. While WKOF invests primarily in Korean preferred shares, it may invest some portion of its assets in cash and other securities, including exchange-traded funds, futures contracts and other securities.

#### Important Disclosures

Top 10 Holdings Summary

All investments involve risks, including possible loss of principal. Investing in international and emerging markets may involve additional risks, such as social and political instability, market illiquidity, exchange-rate fluctuations, a high level of volatility and limited regulation. In addition, single-country and sector funds may be subject to a higher degree of market risk than diversified funds because of concentration in a specific industry, sector or geographic region. Please see WKOF's Admission Document for a more complete discussion of the investment objective, strategy and risks associated with WKOF.

Net Asset Value (NAV) performance is not linked to share price performance, and shareholders may realise individual returns that are lower or higher than the performance of NAV. The annual investment management charge and other charges are deducted from capital.

Performance and NAV data for WKOF are estimates, based on unaudited valuations. Final performance and NAV based on audited data may differ materially from that presented herein. While the information contained herein has been prepared in good faith from sources believed to be reliable, no representations, warranties or undertakings (express or implied) are given as to, or in relation to, the accuracy, reliability or completeness of the information contained herein, and all liability therefore is expressly disclaimed.

Given the current escalation of political tensions in Asia, the Manager, after consulting with the Board of Directors, caused the Company to purchase certain credit default swaps on the sovereign debt of South Korea and put options on iShares MSCI South Korea as general market and portfolio hedges.

#### Performance Analysis Trailing 12-Month Period Since Inception7 Past Month WKOF NAV/Share<sup>2,8</sup> 62.3% -3 9% -20 2% MSCI South Korea Index1,8 38.2% -1.3% -15.2%

Top 10 Holdings <sup>9</sup>		
	Ticker	% of NAV
Samsung Electronics Co., Ltd., Pfd.	005935 KS	23%
LG Electronics Inc., Pfd.	066575 KS	7%
Samsung Electro-Mechanics Co., Ltd., Pfd.	009155 KS	6%
Samsung SDI Co., Ltd., Pfd.	006405 KS	5%
CJ CheilJedang Corp, Pfd.	097955 KS	5%
Hyundai Motor Company, 1st Pfd.	005385 KS	5%
Korea Investment Holdings Co., Ltd., Pfd.	071055 KS	4%
Daelim Industrial Co., Ltd., Pfd.	000215 KS	4%
LG Household & Health Care Ltd., Pfd.	051905 KS	3%
CJ Corporation, 1st Pfd.	001045 KS	3%

#### **Fund Information**

**Bloomberg Ticker** WKOFIN Inception 14 May 2013

MSCI South Korea Index Benchmark<sup>1</sup>

Net Assets<sup>2</sup> £ 123,860,751 NAV/Share<sup>2</sup> £ 1.4682 Closing Share Price £ 1 4700 Premium/(Discount) to NAV 0.1% Number of Positions<sup>3</sup>

#### Statistics of Preferred Share Holdings

Weighted Average Discount of Preferred Shares Held4 Trailing Net Dividend Yield 2 9% of Preferred Shares Held<sup>5</sup> Average Trailing 12-Month P/E Ratio of Preferred 4.2x

Shares Held<sup>6</sup>

## **Dealing Information**

Listed AIM ISIN GG00B933LL68 SEDOL B933LL6

#### Advisors & Contact Information

Investment Manager Weiss Asset Management LP **Broker & Nominated Advisor** Nplus1 Singer Advisory LLP

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Northern Trust International Fund **Fund Administrator** 

**Administration Services** (Guernsev) Limited

KPMG Channel Islands Limited Auditor

Website www.weisskoreaopportunityfund.com

- MSCI Korea 25/50 Net Total Return Index, denominated in British pounds sterling.
- 2. As noted in the Admission Document, dividends from Korean preferred shares are not accounted for or accrued in the NAV until the amount of each dividend is received. As a result of the foregoing, the NAV published above may not reflect all income contractually due to the Company as at the stated NAV date. The Company expects that there are dividends receivable by the Company as at the stated NAV date but such dividends have not yet been received so they are not yet included in the NAV. The amount of such dividends is not yet known as of the report date. The NAV published in the Company's audited financial statements may be different from above as the Company's audited financial statements are prepared under IFRS, which will include dividends receivable as part of the NAV. Please refer to the Admission Document for more information regarding the announcement and payment of Korean dividends.
- 3. Number of Positions does not include credit default swaps or options held by the portfolio for hedging purposes.
- 4. Weighted Average Discount of Preferred Shares Held is the average discount of the last traded price of the preferred shares held by WKOF to the last traded price of the respective common shares of the same issuer, weighted by the market value of each investment on the report date.
- 5. Trailing Net Dividend Yield of Preferred Shares Held represents the weighted average dividend yield of the preferred shares owned by WKOF over the 12-month period ending on the report date as reported by Bloomberg, after accounting for Korean taxes applicable to WKOF, and weighted by the market value of each investment on the report date. This figure does not estimate or forecast future dividend payments on WKOF's investments.
- 6. The Average Trailing 12-Month P/E Ratio of Preferred Shares Held is based on the consolidated diluted earnings per share over the trailing 12-month period as reported by Bloomberg, and is calculated as the total market value of WKOF's preferred share portfolio on the report date divided by the total earnings allocable to WKOF based on WKOF's holdings on the report date. Investments with negative reported earnings are excluded.
- 7. Since inception of Weiss Korea Opportunity Fund on 14 May 2013. The WKOF return since inception is calculated on the basis of the Initial Net Asset Value per Ordinary Share
- 8. MSCI total return indices are calculated as if any dividends paid by constituents are reinvested at their respective closing prices on the ex date of the distribution. WKOF's performance figures include such distributions, but the distributions are not assumed to be reinvested in WKOF when calculating WKOF's performance
- 9. Top 10 Holdings is calculated using the market value of all holdings including portfolio hedges.

Past performance should not be seen as an indication of future performance. The information on this factsheet is as of 31 December 2018 unless stated otherwise. The value of investments and any income may fluctuate and investors may not get back the full amount invested. The views expressed are those of Weiss Asset Management LP at the time of writing, are subject to change without notice and should not be interpreted as investment advice. This document is provided for the purpose of information only.

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