

NORTHERN FUNDS

Multi-Manager Emerging Markets Debt Opportunity Fund (NMEDX)

3Q 2020 Performance Review

September 30, 2020

Must be preceded or accompanied by a current prospectus

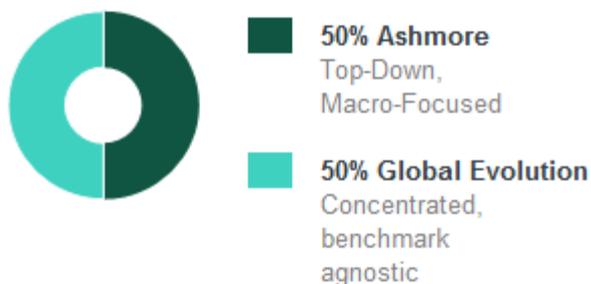
MULTI-MANAGER EMERGING MARKETS DEBT OPPORTUNITY FUND (NMEDX)

FUND OVERVIEW

FUND

Benchmark/Index	JPM Blended Index ¹
Morningstar Category	Emerging Markets Bond
Inception Date	12/3/13
Total Net Assets	\$171.8 Million
Symbol/CUSIP	NMEDX
Dividend Schedule	Quarterly
Redemption Fee	2% on shares sold or exchanged within 30 days of purchase
Expense Ratio - Gross (%)	1.01
Expense Ratio - Net (%)	0.94

Sub-Adviser Target Allocations*



*Actual allocations may vary.

Strategy Objectives

- Add value through the combination of sub-advisers who are specialists in their respective styles. This approach should isolate the security selection skills of the sub-advisers as the primary source of value added for the Fund over time.
- Leverage a disciplined and consistent research process to identify sub-advisers who show high probability of success.
- Maintain the target allocations of the sub-advisers while continuously monitoring the style and characteristics of the Fund and sub-advisers.

By properly combining sub-advisers, we can reduce low conviction bets such as style and size and focus the risk of the portfolio on higher conviction bets – the security selection skills of the sub-advisers.

Portfolio Characteristics

- Well diversified portfolio, benchmarked to 150% JP Morgan Government Bond-Emerging Market Index Global Diversified (GBI-EM Global Diversified) and 50% JP Morgan Emerging Markets Bond Index Global Diversified (EMBI Global Diversified).
- The Fund currently uses multiple sub-advisers with various investment approaches.
- At least 80% of net assets are invested in fixed income securities that provide exposure to issuers tied to emerging or frontier markets.
- The Fund's investments provide exposure to a blend of local and hard currency emerging markets debt and opportunistically invest in emerging market corporate bonds.



MULTI-MANAGER EMERGING MARKETS DEBT OPPORTUNITY FUND (NMEDX)

Fund Performance & Quarterly Fund Commentary

3Q | 2020

QUARTERLY COMMENTARY

- During the third quarter, external emerging markets debt generated a return of 2.32% as measured by the J.P. Morgan Emerging Markets Bond Index Global Diversified. On a regional basis Latin America was the best performer returning 3.97% while Africa was the relative laggard with a return of 0.42%. On an individual country level, Suriname (36.65%), Venezuela (21.94%) and Ecuador (10.89%) were the top performers. Lebanon had the worst performance returning negative -11.20%. Investment grade (2.58%) outperformed high yield (1.99%) during the quarter. Local markets returned 0.61% for the quarter as measured by the J.P. Morgan Government Bond Index - Emerging Markets Global Diversified. The region of Middle East/Africa was the primary driver on positive total returns with a 5.55% return for the quarter. The Europe region performed worst of the group with a -1.67% return for the quarter. On a country level, Dominican Republic (13.11%) and Uruguay (11.13%) were the top performers while Turkey (-13.85%) and Russia (-8.25%) were the worst.
- The Multi-Manager Emerging Markets Debt Opportunity Fund outperformed its blended benchmark for the quarter with a return of 2.09% compared to 1.46% for the index. During the quarter, both sub-advisers added value. Global Evolution outperformed the benchmark with an overweight to external emerging markets debt, while country positioning in Turkey, Uruguay and Paraguay was additive for the quarter. Ukraine positioning was the largest detractor for the quarter. Ashmore also outperformed the benchmark driven by high yield holdings and positioning in Ecuador, Brazil and Turkey. The strongest contributor was a corporate position.

as of September 30, 2020				Annualized				Calendar Year				
	Quarter	YTD	1 Year	3 Years	5 Years	10 Years	Inception to Date	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
FUND	2.09	(6.08)	(2.72)	(0.35)	3.58	--	0.90	11.27	(6.29)	12.29	7.93	(8.72)
Blended Benchmark*	1.46	(3.41)	(0.02)	1.89	5.53	--	3.00	14.31	(5.15)	12.74	10.16	(7.14)
Morningstar Category Avg. Emerging Mkts Bond	2.51	(1.56)	1.21	2.09	5.37	--	--	12.59	(4.93)	10.25	10.51	(5.98)

Fund inception: December 3, 2013

Annual Expense Ratio: Gross 1.13%, Net 0.96%¹

*Blended Benchmark: 50% JP Morgan GBI-EM Global Diversified Index/50% JP Morgan Emerging Markets Bond Global Diversified Index

Returns quoted represent past performance, which does not guarantee future results. Investment return and principal value will fluctuate so that shares, when redeemed, may be worth more or less than their original cost. Current performance may be lower or higher. Call 800-595-9111 for returns current to the most recent month-end. Returns for periods greater than one year are annualized. Net expense ratio reflects voluntary expense reimbursements by the Fund's investment advisors that may be changed or terminated at any time. See the Appendix for additional disclosure about performance.

¹The Gross and Net Expense Ratios are as of the most recent prospectus. The Net Expense Ratio includes contractual expense reimbursements that, if not extended, will end on July 31, 2020.



NORTHERN FUNDS

Fund and Sub-Advisers 3Q 2020 Review

MULTI-MANAGER EMERGING MARKETS DEBT OPPORTUNITY FUND (NMEDX)

Sub-Adviser Allocation and Portfolio Characteristics

3Q | 2020



50% Ashmore
Top-Down,
Macro-Focused

50% Global Evolution
Concentrated,
benchmark
agnostic

SUB-ADVISER ALLOCATION

Sub-Adviser	Target Allocation*	Role in Portfolio
Ashmore Investment Management Limited	50%	An emerging debt specialist with a value driven approach, utilizing a top-down active management process. Focus on forward looking global analysis complemented by bottom-up credit research.
Global Evolution USA, LLC	50%	Bottom-up focused strategy with a concentrated and benchmark agnostic approach. ESG is an integral part of the investment process and the portfolio is expected to have a higher allocation to frontier debt markets versus peers.

PORTFOLIO CHARACTERISTICS

	Global Evolution	Ashmore	FUND	Benchmark
Yield To Maturity (%)	5.04	6.87	5.81	4.24
Current Yield (%)	5.34	6.61	5.83	4.96
Avg. Coupon (%)	5.61	6.56	5.94	5.14
Average Life (yrs)	11.56	12.72	11.85	10.11
Effective Duration (yrs)	7.33	7.71	7.34	6.78
Number of Holdings	184	476	577	1056
30-Day SEC Yield w/Waivers (%)			4.35	
30-Day SEC Yield w/o Waivers (%)			4.27	

*Actual allocations may vary.
Portfolio composition may change at any time.
Source: Wilshire Atlas



MULTI-MANAGER EMERGING MARKETS DEBT OPPORTUNITY FUND (NMEDX)

Sector and Quality Distribution Allocations

3Q | 2020

SECTOR ALLOCATIONS (%)	Global Evolution	Ashmore	FUND	Benchmark
Cash Equiv.	3.84	3.08	5.78	0.00
Corp IG	0.00	0.25	0.12	2.24
Corp HY	0.00	4.82	2.35	0.50
Foreign	1.01	0.32	0.65	0.00
EMD	94.94	83.66	87.18	96.86
Emerging Markets USD Corps	0.21	7.86	3.92	0.40
Other	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

QUALITY DISTRIBUTION (%)	Global Evolution	Ashmore	FUND	Benchmark
Cash Equivalents	4.33	3.17	6.07	0.00
A3/P3	0.00	0.03	0.02	0.00
AA/Aa	7.50	3.09	5.17	6.99
A/A	9.88	8.68	9.05	23.29
BBB/Baa	40.13	33.75	36.06	41.97
BB/Ba	19.40	17.41	17.97	16.65
B/B	14.19	20.47	16.90	8.75
CCC/Caa and below	3.28	12.13	7.51	1.72
NR	1.29	1.27	1.24	0.62

Totals may not sum to 100% exactly due to rounding.

Portfolio composition may change at any time.

Source: Blackrock

See pages 8-10 for important risk and disclosure information



Appendix

Disclosure of additional information

DISCLOSURE AND RISKS

All data is as of date indicated and subject to change.

Bond Risk: Bond funds will tend to experience smaller fluctuations in value than stock funds. However, investors in any bond fund should anticipate fluctuations in price, especially for longer-term issues and in environments of rising interest rates.

Credit/Default Risk: is the risk that the inability or unwillingness of an issuer or guarantee of a fixed-income security to meet its payment or other financial obligations will adversely affect the value of the Funds investments and its returns. Changes in the credit rating of a debt security held by the Fund could have a similar effect.

Currency Risk: Foreign currencies will fluctuate in value relative to the U.S. dollar; therefore you may lose money if the local currency of a foreign market depreciates against the U.S. dollar.

Emerging and Frontier Markets Risk: Emerging and frontier market investing may be subject to additional economic, political, liquidity and currency risks not associated with more developed countries. Additionally, frontier countries generally have smaller economies or less developed capital markets than traditional emerging markets and, as a result, the risks of investing in emerging market countries are magnified in frontier countries.

Interest Rate Risk: increases in prevailing interest rates will cause fixed-income securities, including convertible securities, held by the Fund to decline in value.

Liquidity Risk: Some securities held by the Fund may be difficult to sell, or illiquid, particularly during times of market turmoil. Illiquid securities also may be difficult to value. If the Fund is forced to sell an illiquid asset to meet redemption requests or other cash needs, the Fund may be forced to sell at a loss.

Multi-Manager Risk: is the risk that the sub-advisers' investment styles will not always be complementary, which could affect the performance of the Fund.

Non-Diversified Risk: The Fund invests in a smaller number of securities than the average mutual fund. The change in value of a single holding may have a more pronounced effect on the Fund's net asset value and performance than for other funds.

Market Turbulence Resulting from COVID-19: The outbreak of COVID-19 has negatively affected the worldwide economy, individual countries, individual companies and the market in general. The future impact of COVID-19 is currently unknown, and it may exacerbate other risks that apply to the Fund.

DEFINITIONS

50% JP Morgan Emerging Markets Bond Index Global Diversified (EMBI Global Diversified) is a uniquely weighted USD-denominated emerging markets sovereign bond index. The EMBI Global Diversified has the same instrument composition as the market-capitalization weighted EMBI Global, which includes USD-denominated fixed and floating rate instruments issued by sovereign and quasi-sovereign entities. The EMBI Global Diversified limits the weights of the index countries by only including a specified portion of those countries' eligible current face amounts of debt outstanding.

50% JP Morgan Government Bond-Emerging Market Index Global Diversified (GBI-EM Global Diversified) tracks the performance of local currency debt issued by emerging market governments. The index incorporates a constrained market-capitalization methodology in which individual issuer exposures are capped at 10% (with the excess distributed to smaller issuers), for greater diversification among issuing governments. It is not possible to invest directly in an index.

Please refer to the Fund's prospectus for further information relating to principal risks.

See pages 8-10 for important risk and disclosure information

DISCLOSURE AND RISKS

All data is as of date indicated and subject to change.

Average Coupon: The weighted average coupon rate of all securities in the portfolio. The coupon is the fixed payment portion of the security, or similarly, the rate of interest on the principal.

Current Yield: The market-value weighted average of the current yields of the securities in the portfolio. The current yield is the coupon rate divided by the market price of the bond.

Effective Duration: Effective Duration measures percent change in price for 100 basis point parallel shift.

Quality Distribution: Quality Distribution: Credit quality ratings are based on Moodys, Standard & Poors and Fitch ratings. If ratings from all three rating agencies disagree, the security is assigned the middle rating. If two of the three agree, the security is assigned the rating from those two. If two of these rating agencies have assigned different ratings, the security is assigned the lower rating from those two. If none of these three rating agencies have assigned a rating, the security is assigned a rating of not rated. The ratings, expressed in Standard & Poors nomenclature, range from AAA (extremely strong capacity to meet its financial commitment) to D (in default). Short-term ratings, when applicable, are expressed in Standard & Poors nomenclature, range from A-1 (obligors capacity to meet its financial commitment on the obligation is strong) to A-3 (exhibits adequate protection parameters). The ratings represent the rating agencies opinions of the quality of the securities they rate. Ratings are relative and subjective and are not absolute standards of quality.

Yield to Maturity: The rate of return an investor can expect from a bond at the purchased price if it is held to the maturity date. It is assumed that coupon payments can be reinvested at this same rate until maturity.

30 Day SEC Yield w/Waivers: Reflects an estimated yield to maturity and takes into account a fund's expense reduction. It should be regarded as an estimate of the fund's rate of investment income, and it may not equal the fund's actual income distribution rate, which reflects a fund's past dividends paid to shareholders.

30-day SEC Yield w/o Waivers: Reflects an estimated yield to maturity and does not take into account a fund's expense reduction. It should be regarded as an estimate of the fund's rate of net investment income, and it may not equal the fund's actual income distribution rate, which reflects a fund's past dividends paid to shareholders.

Please refer to the Fund's prospectus for further information relating to principal risks.
See pages 8-10 for important risk and disclosure information



APPENDIX: DISCLOSURES

- **Past performance does not guarantee future results.**
- Total return is based on net change in NAV, assuming reinvestment of all distributions. Returns for periods greater than one year are annualized. Sub-adviser returns are represented gross of Fund expenses. Returns of an index do not reflect the deduction of any management fees, transaction costs or other expenses. Direct investment in an index is not possible.
- This presentation is provided for informational purposes only and does not constitute an offer or solicitation to purchase or sell any funds. Information should not be considered investment advice, a recommendation to buy or sell any security or an endorsement of any underlying sub-advisers' investment strategies. There is no assurance that the securities discussed are still in the Funds' portfolio or that securities sold have not been repurchased. It should not be assumed that any of the securities transactions or holdings discussed was or will be profitable, or that the investment decisions made in the future will be profitable or will equal the investment performance of the securities discussed herein.
- Portfolio sector and characteristics comparisons are provided to illustrate sector allocations and characteristics for each Fund versus its respective benchmarks as of the date indicated. The information in this presentation reflects prevailing market conditions and our judgment as of this date, which are subject to change. In preparing this presentation we have relied upon and assumed without independent verification, the accuracy and completeness of all information available from public sources.
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