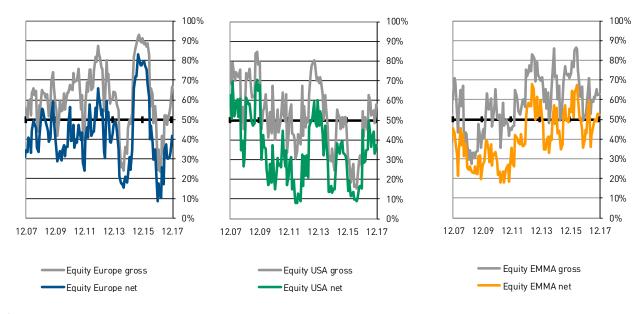
Research News January 2018



A. fundinfo outperformance index: How many funds within a peer group are ahead of benchmark?



Comment

In 2017, the majority of active managers in all regions could outperform their respective indices gross of fees. The main reason for this outperformance was a style bias of most active managers. Over the whole year, most of the active managers had a growth bias in their portfolio and growth stocks outperformed value stocks significantly. In addition to that, mid-caps showed in Europe a better performance than large caps and most European managers have an overweight in this market cap cluster.

On a net basis though, after deductions of fees, the picture changes significantly and only emerging markets managers still outperformed slightly. 52% of emerging market managers, 42% of Europe managers and 37% of US managers have been able to outperform their benchmarks. Nevertheless, results are much better than in 2016, where only 8% of Europe managers, 14% of US managers and 39% of emerging markets managers could beat their benchmarks net of fees.

In December 65% of US managers, 40% of Europe managers and 37% of emerging markets managers could outperform their benchmarks net of fees. The good results in the US were mainly driven by good stock selection.

Marcus Stigler

Percentage of funds that have beaten their benchmark

| net | Europe | USA | EmMa | gross | Europe | USA | EmMa |
|-----------|----------|----------|----------|-----------|----------|----------|----------|
| 2017 | 42% | 37% | 52% | 2017 | 67% | 58% | 63% |
| 1 month | 40% | 65% | 37% | 1 month | 48% | 68% | 41% |
| 3 months | 45% | 50% | 38% | 3 months | 56% | 58% | 48% |
| 12 months | 42% | 37% | 52% | 12 months | 67% | 58% | 63% |
| Bloombera | IFOPEUYN | IFOPUSYN | IFOPEMYN | | IFOPEUYG | IFOPUSYG | IFOPEMYG |

Methodology

The fundinfo outperformance indices show the percentage of around 350 actively managed funds that have exceeded their official benchmark index (MSCI Europe, S&P 500, MSCI Emerging Markets, including net dividends), reporting on a rolling 12-month basis. The gross values show the added value that fund managers have generated before administration and distribution costs; the net values show the added value provided to investors.

Research News January 2018



B. Manager meetings: Insights from our key meetings

| Month | Manager / Fund | Conclusion |
|----------|---|---|
| December | Enzo Puntillo GAM Emerging Markets Opportunities Bond | Puntillo still sees opportunities in the emerging markets as the economic cycle is still positive as well as growth in general with still moderate valuations. |
| December | Ralph Hüppin Swisscanto Bond Fund Corporate | Due to the realignment of the fund, Ralph Hüppin will increasingly also play the duration as well as the crossover segment with BB bonds in the future. He also sees interesting opportunities in the CoCo segment. |

Analysts: Michael Mahler, Michael Partin, Pascal Probst, Marcus Stigler, Matthias Weber and Thomas Züttel. fundinfo provides fund research and digital-advice based on liquid investment funds. Clients include banks, asset managers, family offices, pension funds and insurance companies in Europe.

Digital-Advisor - Your expert system for professional fund selection

Digital-Advisor helps you to:

- Generate a shortlist of high-quality investment funds that also meet the individual preferences of your clients
- Do a quick and comprehensive screening of thousands of funds and ETFs based on their attributes and quality
- Perform in-depth analysis by giving you direct access to DDQs and Fund Manager Presentations, plus all components of the scoring
- Evaluate an existing portfolio of funds within seconds

What else can you do with Digital-Advisor?

- Find funds with highest MSCI ESG scores
- Create a shortlist of quant funds
- Find long-term boutique managers
- Find the characteristics of an ideal fund
- Look for funds with low exposure to ESG exclusion industries

...and much more

<u>Click here</u> to go to view the Digital-Advisor video, or <u>contact us</u> for more information.

Disclaimer

By reading and using this document you indicate your acknowledgment, understanding and acceptance of the terms of use and legal information contained herein. The prospectus does not constitute an offer in the legal sense. No contractual relationship is created by using this document. Any decisions made on the basis of this document are made entirely at the investor's own risk. This document is not intended for persons located in jurisdictions which prohibit the use of the products mentioned in this document. This document may be distributed in other jurisdictions only in accordance with the law of the jurisdiction in question, and any persons receiving this document should inform themselves about and comply with the laws in force there. The information provided in this document is not to be relied upon as a basis for making decisions of a legal, fiscal or other nature. Good performance in the past does not guarantee good performance in the future. Investors are advised to consult a professional advisor before making any investment decisions. Under no circumstances shall fundinfo AG be held liable for any direct or indirect damages resulting from the use of this document. fundinfo AG declines all responsibility for any loss or damages whatsoever. All legal relationships shall be governed by Swiss Law. The place of jurisdiction is Zurich (Switzerland). The information in this document may not be modified, copied or used for commercial purposes without the prior written permission of fundinfo AG.