



Emerging Markets Debt

Objective

The investment objective of the Emerging Markets Corporate Fixed Income strategy is to achieve 1.5 to 2% over the Bloomberg Emerging Markets Corporate Bond Index over a market cycle by targeting long-only credit opportunities across global Emerging Market Corporate Bonds, Emerging and Frontier Sovereigns and Provincial Debt Markets.

“RVX believes emerging markets are experiencing positive fundamental change and present attractive investment opportunities for investors.

RVX believes these opportunities are created by misunderstood and mispriced risks that lead to inefficiencies and anomalies that can be exploited.

RVX believes an active, top-down, fundamental, relative value approach to evaluate countries, sectors and companies is the best way to exploit these inefficiencies.

Investment Team

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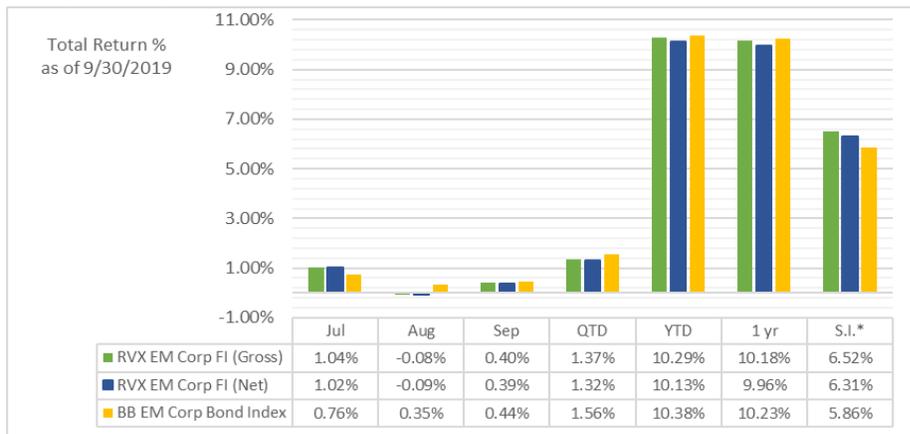
Inception Date

December 31, 2016

Strategy Profile

Perf. Benchmark.....BB EM Corp Style.....Relative Value Credit Quality.....Ba2/BB min. avg. Duration.....85 to 115% of index Security.....5% max Country.....25% max Industry.....30% max Currency.....USD only

PERFORMANCE:



SOURCE: RVX ASSET MANAGEMENT, BLOOMBERG PORTFOLIO. *RETURNS 1 YEAR + ARE ANNUALIZED

1. THE PERFORMANCE REFERENCED ABOVE IS FOR THE RVX EMERGING MARKETS CORPORATE BOND HYPOTHETICAL MODEL PORTFOLIO, NOT A LIVE INVESTED PORTFOLIO. PLEASE REFER TO THE BACK PAGE FOR FURTHER VALUABLE INFORMATION REGARDING THE LIMITATIONS OF HYPOTHETICAL MODEL PERFORMANCE.
2. NET PERFORMANCE IS NET OF HYPOTHETICAL MANAGEMENT FEES AND TRADING COSTS.

COMMENTARY:

After a volatile quarter in EM primarily driven by unusually low global interest rates, Argentine elections, Brexit uncertainty, protest in Hong Kong, and trade uncertainty, the RVX Emerging Markets Debt strategy closed the third quarter of 2019 up 10.29% YTD, underperforming the Bloomberg Barclays Emerging Market Corporate Index by 9bps. When disaggregating performance from a country perspective, our performance was mainly driven by allocations in Turkey and Brazil. From a sector perspective, basic materials, communications and consumer cyclicals were the biggest contributors to the performance for the quarter.

Through a country perspective, our overweight in Brazil reflected the government’s progress towards the long-awaited pension reform. With the reform having passed the house vote, the Workers Party (WP) is expected to make final amendments for Congress to turn the bill into law. The duration of this process will vary depending on the severity of the amendments made by the WP. If the amendments do not materially affect the bill, it will not need to go back to the house for approval and the senate will “shortly” turn the bill into law. However, as reflected by spreads, we believe the market has priced-in much of the positive news surrounding pension reform.

In regard to Turkey, although we are slightly underweight compared to the index, our security selection process in Turkey has propelled us to outperform the index. In our view, eliminating political headlines and noise, Turkey’s fundamentals remain strong, particularly in the export sector. Lastly, we remain overweight Mexico as we continue to find value in Mexican blue-chip companies given the markets overpricing of AMLO’s political risk. In contrast, China is our most significant underweight when compared to the Bloomberg Emerging Markets Corporate Index. We remain cautious on China because of trade conflict with the U.S., economic stimulus concerns, and we continue to closely monitor a pick-up in domestic corporate defaults.

Argentina was the biggest detractor for the performance of the quarter on the back of the first round of presidential elections. On Sunday, August 11th, Argentines casted their votes in El Paso elections (non-binding elections) where the Peronist party candidates Alberto Fernandez and former president Cristina Fernandez de Kirchner surprised the markets by beating current President and Cambiemos party candidate Mauricio Macri by 15 percentage points. Signaling an imminent victory for the Peronist presidential candidates, the Argentine equity markets dropped around 38% overnight, while Argentine credits also fell about 35-40 points on average. While in the same period, the Argentine Peso depreciated around 17%. With formal elections having taken place on Sunday, October 27th, we will continue to closely monitor Argentina as the new government takes power and begins their political agenda. Our view in Argentina remains cautious; However, we do expect some normalization in asset prices over the coming months.

In our view, from a sector perspective, given trade tension, political tension and global slowdown, our underweight in basic materials and consumer cyclicals were contributors to our performance for the quarter. On the opposite end, we remain positive in the communications sector as we believe that EM demographics along with population growth and industry under-penetration allows our security selection process to thrive in a capital-intensive sector.

Moving forward, due to global interest rate environment and the \$14 trillion of negative yielding debt, we still firmly believe that EM offers both relative and absolute spreads. We also envision dollar yields trending lower based on global interest rate intermediation. As such, we are running longer duration in order to capture this pull down in yields.

