

Share Class: A | SEKAX C | SEKCX S | SEMGX INST | SEKIX R6 | SEKRX

Objective

The fund seeks long-term growth of capital.

Strategy

Countries and currencies matter when it comes to investing in Emerging Markets. The team's process, therefore, starts with country selection, balanced with fundamental bottom up stock selection. The portfolio is managed within a very robust risk framework, where the aim is to outperform across varying market conditions. Relevant environment, social and governance issues are taken into consideration during the process.

EXPENSE RATIO (as of latest prospectus)

| Class | Net | Gross | Contractual Waiver |
|-------|-------|-------|--------------------|
| A | 1.19% | 1.35% | 09/30/2022 |
| C | 1.94% | 2.06% | 09/30/2022 |
| S | 1.02% | 1.13% | 09/30/2022 |
| INST | 0.94% | 1.04% | 09/30/2022 |
| R6 | 0.94% | 1.30% | 09/30/2022 |

Without a waiver, returns would have been lower and any rankings/ratings might have been less favorable.

AVERAGE ANNUAL TOTAL RETURNS* (as of 12/31/21)

| Share class | YTD | 1-year | 3-year | 5-year | 10-year | Since inception | Inception date |
|---|---------|---------|--------|--------|---------|-----------------|----------------|
| Share classes with no sales charge | | | | | | | |
| S | -11.61% | -11.61% | 7.73% | 8.60% | 5.03% | 5.15% | 5/8/96 |
| INST | -11.55% | -11.55% | 7.83% | 8.67% | 5.07% | 0.74% | 3/3/08 |
| R6 | -11.54% | -11.54% | 7.86% | – | – | 6.07% | 9/7/18 |
| MSCI Emerging Markets Index ¹ | -2.54% | -2.54% | 10.94% | 9.87% | 5.49% | – | – |
| Unadjusted for sales charge (would be lower if adjusted) | | | | | | | |
| A | -11.76% | -11.76% | 7.55% | 8.40% | 4.81% | 4.90% | 5/29/01 |
| C | -12.43% | -12.43% | 6.75% | 7.58% | 4.02% | 4.08% | 5/29/01 |
| Adjusted for maximum sales charge | | | | | | | |
| A (max 5.75% load) | -16.84% | -16.84% | 5.45% | 7.13% | 4.19% | 4.66% | 5/29/01 |
| C (max 1.00% CDSC) | -12.43% | -12.43% | 6.75% | 7.58% | 4.02% | 4.08% | 5/29/01 |

HISTORICAL TOTAL RETURNS (as of 12/31/21)

| | 2021 | 2020 | 2019 | 2018 | 2017 | 2016 | 2015 | 2014 | 2013 | 2012 |
|---|---------|--------|--------|---------|--------|-------|---------|--------|--------|--------|
| S | -11.61% | 18.64% | 19.22% | -12.25% | 37.71% | 9.95% | -12.96% | -0.24% | -1.84% | 15.35% |

Performance is historical and does not guarantee future results. Investment returns and principal fluctuate so your shares may be worth more or less when redeemed. Current performance may differ from the data shown. Please visit www.dws.com for the fund's most recent month-end performance. Performance includes reinvestment of all distributions. Index returns assume reinvestment of all distributions and do not reflect fees or expenses. It is not possible to invest directly in an index. Not all share classes are available to all investors. A minimum investment of \$1 million is required to open an account for Institutional shares.

* This fund's performance prior to inception reflects that of Class S shares. Returns prior to inception reflect the original share class performance, adjusted for higher operating expenses and/or the maximum sales charge.

PORTFOLIO AND RISK STATISTICS² (12/31/21)

| | |
|---------------------------------|----------------|
| Fund inception date | 5/8/1996 |
| Number of holdings | 71 |
| Total net assets | \$411 million |
| P/E ratio ^s | 11.80 |
| Beta ^s | 0.90 |
| Average market cap ^s | \$93.4 billion |

PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT/INDUSTRY EXPERIENCE

| | |
|-------------|----------|
| Sean Taylor | 29 years |
| Marc Currat | 10 years |

FUND INFORMATION

| Class | Symbol | CUSIP |
|-------|--------|-----------|
| A | SEKAX | 25156G103 |
| C | SEKCX | 25156G301 |
| S | SEMGX | 25156G400 |
| INST | SEKIX | 25156G780 |
| R6 | SEKRX | 25156G426 |

FUND DETAILS (fund data as of 12/31/21)

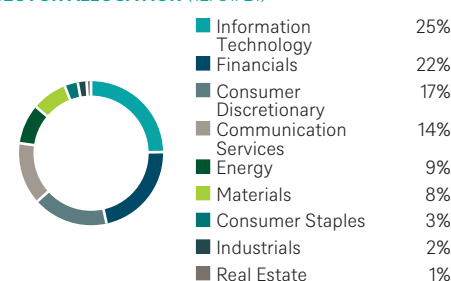
| | |
|---------------------|---------------|
| Fund inception date | 5/8/1996 |
| Total net assets | \$411 million |

SECURITY TYPE (12/31/21)

| | |
|-----------------------|-----|
| Common stocks | 90% |
| Exchange-traded funds | 8% |
| Cash equivalents | 2% |

GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION (12/31/21)

| | |
|---------------|-----|
| China | 27% |
| Taiwan | 15% |
| India | 14% |
| Korea | 11% |
| Hong Kong | 7% |
| Brazil | 6% |
| Mexico | 5% |
| Indonesia | 3% |
| United States | 3% |
| Russia | 3% |
| Singapore | 2% |
| Chile | 1% |
| Argentina | 1% |
| South Africa | 1% |

SECTOR ALLOCATION (12/31/21)**TOP EQUITY HOLDINGS** (12/31/21)

| | |
|------------------------------------|-------|
| Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing | 10.1% |
| Tencent Holdings | 6.5% |
| Samsung Electronics | 3.9% |
| Alibaba Group | 3.6% |
| HDFC Bank | 3.2% |
| Reliance Industries | 3.0% |
| Infosys Technologies | 2.5% |
| Meituan Dianping | 2.4% |
| Fomento Economico Mexicano | 2.2% |
| BYD | 1.9% |

Holdings-based data is subject to change.

¹ MSCI Emerging Markets Index tracks the performance of stocks in select developing markets.

² Price-to-earnings ratio (P/E) is a stock's current price divided by the company's trailing 12-month earnings per share from continuous operations. **Beta** is a historical measurement of a fund's sensitivity to the movements of the fund's benchmark index. A fund with a beta greater than one is more volatile than the benchmark. A fund with a beta less than one is less volatile. Beta is based on a three-year period relative to the index. Average market capitalization measures the size of the companies in which the fund invests. ³Source: Morningstar, Inc. as of 11/30/2021.

War, terrorism, economic uncertainty, trade disputes, public health crises (including the recent pandemic spread of the novel coronavirus) and related geopolitical events could lead to increased market volatility, disruption to U.S. and world economies and markets and may have significant adverse effects on the fund and its investments.

Fund risk: Stocks may decline in value. Investing in foreign securities presents certain risks, such as currency fluctuations, political and economic changes, and market risks. Emerging markets tend to be more volatile and less liquid than the markets of more mature economies, and generally have less diverse and less mature economic structures and less stable political systems than those of developed countries. The fund may lend securities to approved institutions. Please read the prospectus for details.

Consider the investment objective, risks, charges and expenses carefully before investing. For a summary prospectus, or prospectus that contains this and other information, download one from www.dws.com or talk to your financial representative. Read the prospectus carefully before investing.

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