

# Global Developed Equity Allocation Fund

Year Ending December 31, 2018

## OVERVIEW:

The GMO Global Developed Equity Allocation Fund seeks total return greater than that of the MSCI World Index. The Fund uses multi-year forecasts of returns and risk among asset classes to build a portfolio that primarily provides exposure to non-U.S. and U.S. equity markets.

## Performance (%)

Net of Fees, Class III, Fair Value, USD	-13.02
Gross of Fees, Class III, Local Close, USD	-12.69
MSCI World <sup>1</sup>	-8.71
<b>Value Added</b>	<b>-3.98</b>

## GROUP ALLOCATION: -1.2%

Developed



Emerging



## SECURITY SELECTION: -2.7%

Developed



Emerging



## Major Performance Drivers

### Emerging Markets

**Characteristics:** Our emerging market positioning emphasizes undervalued stocks within attractively valued countries/sectors.

**Positioning:** Emerging markets accounted for 9.9% of our total portfolio weight on average during the year.

**Results:** Our overweight position in emerging markets resulted in a large negative allocation impact as they underperformed the MSCI World index by almost 6% for the year. Security selection was helpful, however, as it proved to be a decent year for a valuation-driven approach to investing. Strong stock selection in China helped, as did being overweight in Russia. An overweight to Turkey detracted from relative performance.

### United States

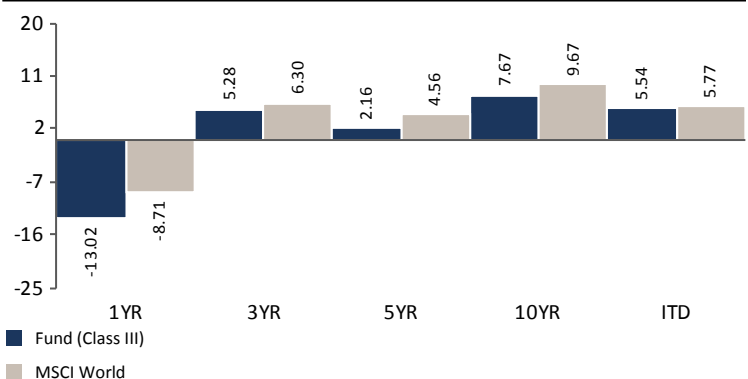
**Characteristics:** Our allocation in the US includes stocks that we believe are attractively valued as selected by our quantitative valuation approach.

**Positioning:** We allocated 21.8% of our total portfolio weight on average during the year to US equities.

**Results:** US equities strongly outperformed the MSCI World index and so our underweight position detracted value to relative performance against the benchmark. Our stock selection impact was also negative, hindered by US value investing having a terrible year as the Russell 3000 Value Index underperformed the Russell 3000 Growth Index by almost 6.5%. Our zero percent holding in Amazon was the second biggest individual detractor from relative performance at the total portfolio level.

Performance data quoted represents past performance and is not indicative of future results. The investment return and principal value of an investment will fluctuate so that an investor's shares, when redeemed, may be worth more or less than their original cost. Current performance data may be lower or higher than the performance data provided herein. To obtain performance information to the most recent month-end, visit [www.gmo.com](http://www.gmo.com). Gross Expense Ratio of 0.60% is equal to the Funds Total Annual Operating Expenses set forth in the Funds most recent prospectus dated June 30, 2018.

## Annualized Return (%) as of December 31, 2018



Inception date: 06/16/2005

Chart returns include purchase premiums and redemption fees impact if applicable.

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## High Quality

*Characteristics:* More than 80% of our position in high quality equity is domiciled in the US, but it is comparatively multinational and carries less cyclical economic exposure than the broad US market.

*Positioning:* Our allocation to high quality accounted for 22.0% of our total portfolio weight on average during the year.

*Results:* Our position in high quality had a strong positive allocation impact for the year as the S&P 500 Index outperformed the MSCI World Index by over 4% for the year (although in aggregate we remain significantly underweight the US market). Further, high quality outperformed the S&P by an impressive 5.3% for the year. An underweight to Energy and overweight positions in Information Technology and Health Care, along with excellent stock selection within Health Care, were some of the key drivers of the strong performance.

## Europe

*Characteristics:* Our position in Europe carries a fair amount of exposure to some of the more cyclically exposed segments of the market.

*Positioning:* Europe accounted for 28.9% of our total portfolio weight on average during the year.

*Results:* From a top-down allocation perspective, our overweight position in European stocks had a negative impact on relative performance during the year as MSCI Europe performed significantly worse than MSCI World. Stock selection also had a negative impact on relative performance, driven by France, Sweden, the UK (the overweight in British American Tobacco was the biggest individual detractor from relative performance at the total portfolio level) and the Netherlands (the overweight in ING was the third biggest individual detractor from relative performance at the total portfolio level).

Year-ending weights, as a percentage of equity, for the positions mentioned were: Amazon (0.0%), British American Tobacco (0.8%), and ING (0.9%).

**An investor should consider the fund's investment objectives, risks, charges and expenses before investing. This and other important information can be found in the fund's prospectus. To obtain a prospectus please visit [www.gmo.com](http://www.gmo.com). Read the prospectus carefully before investing.**

Risks associated with investing in the Fund may include Market Risk - Equities, Management and Operational Risk, Non-U.S. Investment Risk, Liquidity Risk, and Derivatives Risk. For a more complete discussion of these risks and others, please consult the Fund's prospectus. Distributor: Funds Distributor LLC. GMO and Funds Distributor LLC are not affiliated.

<sup>1</sup> The MSCI World Index (MSCI Standard Index Series, net of withholding tax) is an independently maintained and widely published index comprised of global developed markets. MSCI data may not be reproduced or used for any other purpose. MSCI provides no warranties, has not prepared or approved this report, and has no liability hereunder.