PROVIDING ACCESS TO THE RAPID GROWTH OF THE ETF MARKET Jennifer Schmitz

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After years of strong growth for the European ETF market, 2024 started with record flows. In fact, during the first half of the year the industry approached the threshold of 100 billion euros in asset gathering, the second highest on record after 2021. This success is not only due to institutional clients. The interest in these instruments is also growing enormously among retail investors who increasingly find ETFs a suitable tool to satisfy their investment needs, ranging from standalone investment in highly diversified indices, saving plans and more tactical exposure.

The availability of our ETFs on Spectrum Markets is part of a strategy that reinforces our commitment to promoting better access to retail investment.

At Xtrackers, the ETF and ETC product suite of DWS, we prioritise empowering investors not only by offering a wide range of products, but also by focusing on training and raising awareness, whether they are beginners or experts.

Like Xtrackers, Spectrum Markets also operates across Europe, providing exposure to a broad investor audience. The recent listing launch of our ETFs on their trading venue allows us to cater to local preferences and market dynamics,

thereby enhancing the visibility of our products. Spectrum actively supports ETF issuers in enhancing services for retail investors. Through participation in initiatives and leveraging the platform, Xtrackers can offer educational content and innovative trading features. This collaboration is aligned with Xtrackers' focus on technological advancements and the introduction of thematic ETFs to capitalise on trends such as artificial intelligence and big data, while also ensuring that our 'Core' ETFs serve as a solid foundation for diversified portfolios.

Xtrackers is also committed to providing tailored solutions for diversification, such as an ETF dedicated to the Indian market. Making available such specialised ETFs on Spectrum Markets enables European retail investors to access and benefit from the growth potential of India's economy. This approach resonates with Xtrackers' mission

to empower investors through innovative and diversified investment strategies that cater to both broad market trends and specific opportunities like India.

A breakout moment for India?

India is expected to emerge as a dominant global player with its vibrant investment environment, strong demographics, accelerating urbanization and rising affluence. Investors interested in benefiting from this growth

story may consider ETFs, since these financial instruments are logical and simple market access tools that are cost-efficient, liquid and enable a diversified exposure.

Why India?

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The macroeconomic investment case for India is becoming increasingly compelling. A decade ago, India was part of the "fragile five", but it has since transformed into a favoured destination for Emerging Market investors. India's demographic advantages are well recognised, stemming from a combination of the world's second-largest labour force, with approximately 694 million people (second only to China), and a relatively young population with a median age below 30. This "demographic dividend" could provide a significant boost to what is already the world's most populous country¹. The Indian government's capital expenditure strategy, growing exports, and the partial

Chart: India vs. China year-over-year GDP growth, in %

liberalisation of the bond market are fueling robust momentum for markets.

India's medium-term growth outlook remains higher than in China

15



These reflect 4.5% of global services exports, a significant leap compared to goods exports, which constitute 1.8% of global goods exports. The so-called Global Capability Centers play a pivotal driver of this robust rise in service

exports. They have evolved from offering simple call, IT, and back-office services for multinational corporations to

providing research and development, process automation, machine learning, and cloud computing².

Especially India's strategic focus on digitalisation continues to impact key sectors. Service exports have seen a surge and now cover an array of high-tech services, R&D, analytics, robotic process automation and cloud computing.

On the macro risk side, India's reliance on oil is declining. While oil remains the key source of energy, efforts are ongoing to diversify its energy sources and enhance energy efficiency. With approximately 85% of India's oil consumption needs being met through imports, oil however is still the country's major import. Meanwhile, fiscal policy has become more prudent, and overall rising exports support the improvement in the current account. This positive economic trajectory has not gone unnoticed. In May 2024 S&P Global signaled that it might upgrade India's credit rating over the intermediate term. For now, the outlook on India has been revised to positive from stable, and the investment grade rating at BBB- has been affirmed³.

Why Indian Equities?

India still appears to be a niche topic for many global investors, but this will likely change over time driven by the simplified market access and its superior growth contribution to global GDP⁴.

The rising economic outlook for India has seen robust association with equity market performance. Over the past three years, the MSCI India Index has gained over 40%, while the MSCI EM Index has lost close to 15% and MSCI China Index has lost more than 45%⁵. Over the past 10 years, Indian equity markets have outperformed the MSCI EM index by around 7% per year⁶. This is already impacting allocation realities, as an EM benchmark investor will

to changing long-term trends. More importantly, India is becoming the second country exposure after China that investors may want to manage on a stand-alone basis. When it comes to implementation, investors benefit from a straightforward index landscape, with the Nifty 50 and MSC India being broadly aligned and closely connected to

10Y net total return index performance

continue to trade at a premium.

average correlation with the DMs8.

Why Indian Government Bonds?

300

straightforward index landscape, with the Nifty 50 and MSCI India being broadly aligned and closely connected to domestic consumption.

now find almost 20% of their allocation in India, only trailing China by about 8%, and up from only 8% in 20207.

This is another powerful reminder that broad-based benchmark investing remains sufficiently flexible to adjust



indicator of short- to medium-term price trends. If India's double-digit earnings' growth continues to develop at an above-average rate and the government's reform efforts develop greater momentum, we expect India should

Moreover, India could act as a diversifier in global portfolios since both Indian Equities and Bonds have below-

Looking beyond Equities however, the representation of India in portfolios is scarce. With a mere 1% foreign ownership⁹, the Indian bond market is significantly under-owned by international investors. The inclusion of Indian Fully Accessible Route government bonds into J.P. Morgan's flagship local government bond indices may change these market dynamics fundamentally. 35 bonds with a combined notional value of about \$450 billion have now

While valuation may not provide an obvious reason to invest in India, the premium to other EMs is in part also a direct consequence of China's currently low valuation dragging down overall & regional indices. As the major U.S. technology stocks (the so-called Magnificent 7) have recently demonstrated, valuation alone is often a poor

Market access: India's weight in EM and global benchmarks is growing

Indian Bonds: as source of both return and diversification

Turkey

Indonesia

0.1

Malaysia

0.2

China

1.2

0.8

0.4

0.2

0 ⊢ -0.1

0

is not a reliable indicator of future results.

Current Yield / 10Y USD Price Volatility

Source: DWS GmbH, Bloomberg as of June 2024. Past performance, actual or simulated, is not a reliable indicator of future results.

Changing market realities: India is benefitting from China weakness

Chart: India vs. China 10-year return comparison (based on net total return index performance)

become eligible and will be phased in over the next ten months at roughly 1% weight per month, up to a maximum weight of 10%. This inclusion is estimated to translate into an influx of foreign capital of over \$20 billion. If the inclusion of China into fixed income benchmarks from 2019 onwards, which attracted over \$250 billion in foreign portfolio investment, serves as any guide, this might just be the beginning¹⁰. In the longer term, India may be included in other major benchmarks.

Chart: EM countries Local Government Bonds' 10-year risk-adjusted yield and correlation with Global Bonds

1.4

Egypt

Egypt

Mexico

Chile

0.4

S. Africa

Colombia

Thailand

0.3

U.S. Treasury

Japan

0.8

France

Germany

0.9

Czech Republic

Romania

Poland

United Kingdom

0.7

0.6

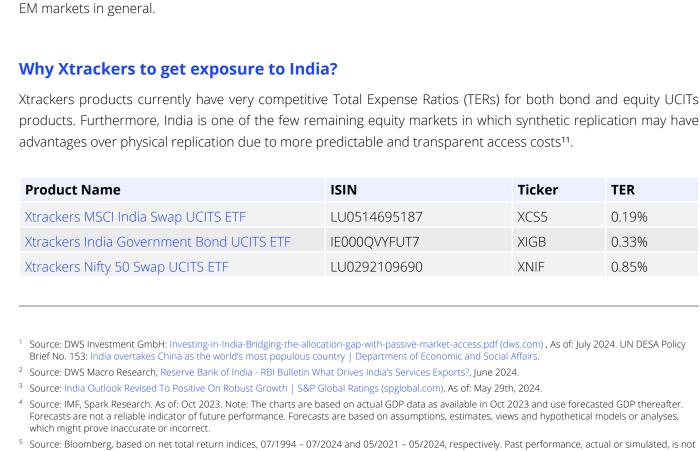
Hungary

0.5

10Y USD Correlation Global Agg

Based on Bloomberg EM Local Bond index components. Source: Bloomberg, DWS International GmbH, As of April 2024. Past performance, actual or simulated,

Furthermore, falling interest rates in the US and Europe could drive more demand again for spread products and



Source: DWS International GmbH, J.P. Morgan estimates as of April 2024. China data is inclusive of all local currency bonds including CGBS, FBs and NCDs.
 Swap rates are published on the Xtrackers website and locked in for 12-months with Swap counterparties. Physical funds may incur capital gains taxes that

- The Fund may have exposure to a small number of investments or have exposure to a few countries, industries, sectors of the economy or issuers. This can

- The value of your investment may go down as well as up and past performance does not predict future returns. Investor capital may be at risk up to a total

Key Risk Factors - Xtrackers India Government Bond UCITS ETF

- The value of your investment may go down as well as up and past performance does not predict future returns. Investor capital may be at risk up to a total loss.

- The Fund is exposed to less economically developed economies (known as emerging markets) which involve greater risks than well developed economies.

Political unrest and economic downturn may be more likely and will affect the value of your investment.

are not always known in advance to all investors. Source: DWS Investment GmbH, Bloomberg L.P. As of: March 2024.

The Fund is exposed to market movements in a single country or region which may be adversely affected by political or economic developments, government action or natural events that do not affect a fund investing in broader markets.
Bonds are exposed to credit risk and interest rate risk. There is a risk that the bond issuer may be unable to pay interest or repay the bond principal, resulting in your investment suffering a loss. If interest rates rise, typically the value of the bond will fall, which could also affect the value of your investment.

make the share price of the Fund fluctuate significantly.

a reliable indication of future performance.

Source: DWS Investment GmbH. As of: June 2024.
 Source: Reserve Bank of India as of April 2024.

⁷ Source: Source: DWS, MSCI, June 2024.

 $^{\rm 6}~$ Source: DWS Investment GmbH, Bloomberg L.P. As of: March 2024.

The Fund is exposed to less economically developed economies (known as emerging markets) which involve greater risks than well developed economies.
Political unrest and economic downturn may be more likely and will affect the value of your investment.
The value of an investment in shares will depend on a number of factors including, but not limited to, market and economic conditions, sector, geographical region and political events.

Key Risk Factors - Xtrackers MSCI India Swap UCITS ETF/ Nifty 50 Swap Ucits ETF

- region and political events.

 The Fund is exposed to market movements in a single country or region which may be adversely affected by political or economic developments, government action or natural events that do not affect a fund investing in broader markets.

 The Fund will enter into a derivative with a counterparty. If the counterparty fails to make payments (for example, it becomes insolvent) this may result in your investment suffering a loss.DISCLAIMER
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dealing in financial instruments for the European retail investing market; introducing a purpose built 24/5 lit trading venue, with complete

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Any information provided does not have regard to the specific investment objectives, financial situation and needs of any specific person who may receive it.

transparency, increased choice and maximum control.