

Brazil shines as emerging markets lag behind developed peers

- NU Holdings drives Brazil's strong performance amid regional weakness
- AI infrastructure stocks continue impressive rally despite mixed results
- Defensive portfolio with stable stocks at attractive valuation and yield levels

Emerging markets trailed developed markets in August, as major players like Korea—after an impressive first-half rally—and India lost momentum. In contrast, Brazil stood out, boosted by a 21% surge in its largest constituent, digital bank NU Holdings, which delivered a strong earnings beat during the month. On a one-year view, return dispersion across countries remains wide, with Korea, China, and Latin America clearly outpacing India and Southeast Asia. AI infrastructure play Delta Electronics, a key supplier of power and cooling systems for AI data centers, extended its strong rally in August, bringing its three-month return to an impressive +84%. Meituan, China's dominant food delivery platform with a commanding 70% market share, fell 16% as it is locked in an intense price war with Alibaba and JD.com. The battle has taken a heavy toll on its bottom line, with Q2 net income plunging 97%. Factor return dispersion was low, with quality and growth stocks outperforming low-risk and value.

Table 1 – Performance of EUR and USD share class (gross of fees)

Performance (EUR)	Aug/25	YTD	1 year	3 year	Since inception (March 2011)	Volatility since inception	Return/volatility since inception
Emerging Conservative Equities	-1.24%	1.56%	5.57%	8.90%	7.43%	10.74%	0.69
MSCI Emerging Markets Index	-0.96%	5.29%	10.46%	5.35%	4.58%	13.92%	0.33
MSCI Emerging Markets Minimum Volatility Index (USD optimized)	-1.49%	-3.78%	1.49%	2.74%	5.42%	10.39%	0.52

Performance (USD)	Aug/25	YTD	1 year	3 year	Since inception (September 2012)	Volatility since inception	Return/volatility since inception
Emerging Conservative Equities	0.99%	14.80%	11.64%	14.55%	5.93%	12.68%	0.47
MSCI Emerging Markets Index	1.28%	19.02%	16.80%	10.82%	4.69%	16.03%	0.29
MSCI Emerging Markets Minimum Volatility Index (USD optimized)	0.74%	8.76%	7.32%	8.08%	3.87%	11.83%	0.33

Source: Robeco Performance Measurement. All figures are gross of fees. In reality, costs such as management fees and other costs are charged. These have a negative effect on the returns shown. These figures are preliminary based on the most recent month's performance results. These numbers may deviate from the final performance figures. The value of your investment may fluctuate. Results obtained in the past are no guarantee of future performance.

PORTFOLIO MANAGER'S UPDATE - AUGUST 2025

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From left to right: Pim van Vliet, Arlette van Ditschuijzen, Maarten
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1. Market developments

Table 2 – Market dashboard

Market dashboard	1M	12M	USD return	1M	12M	USD sector returns	1M	12M	Factors (USD) Equal-weighted	1M	12M
MSCI Europe USD	3.4%	13.3%	Brazil	10.3%	6.1%	Materials	7.1%	14.6%	Equal-weighted	4.9%	22.5%
MSCI World Equal USD	3.4%	14.3%	South Africa	6.7%	30.2%	Communication Services	5.6%	39.7%	Small caps	2.6%	10.1%
MSCI World USD	2.6%	15.7%	China	4.9%	47.6%	Consumer Discretionary	3.0%	20.8%	Quality	2.3%	4.7%
MSCI World local	2.1%	14.8%	Malaysia	4.7%	-0.3%	Utilities	1.9%	-3.1%	Growth	2.3%	21.5%
S&P 500 USD	2.0%	15.9%	Mexico	3.2%	22.1%	Consumer Staples	1.8%	0.6%	Momentum	2.1%	16.3%
MSCI EM Local	1.4%	17.1%	Indonesia	0.1%	-18.9%	Information Technology	0.4%	19.8%	Market	1.3%	16.8%
MSCI EM USD	1.3%	16.8%	Thailand	-0.3%	-0.9%	Industrials	0.0%	16.2%	Value	0.9%	19.8%
MSCI Europe EUR	1.1%	7.1%	Taiwan	-0.8%	20.8%	Real Estate	-0.4%	15.3%	MinVol	0.7%	7.3%
MSCI World EUR	0.3%	9.4%	Saudi Arabia	-0.9%	-6.1%	Financials	-0.7%	17.1%	High Dividend	0.6%	16.3%
S&P 500 EUR	-0.3%	9.2%	South Korea	-1.9%	11.3%	Health Care	-1.5%	11.5%			
MSCI EM EUR	-1.0%	10.5%	India	-3.1%	-11.8%	Energy	-1.8%	-10.8%			

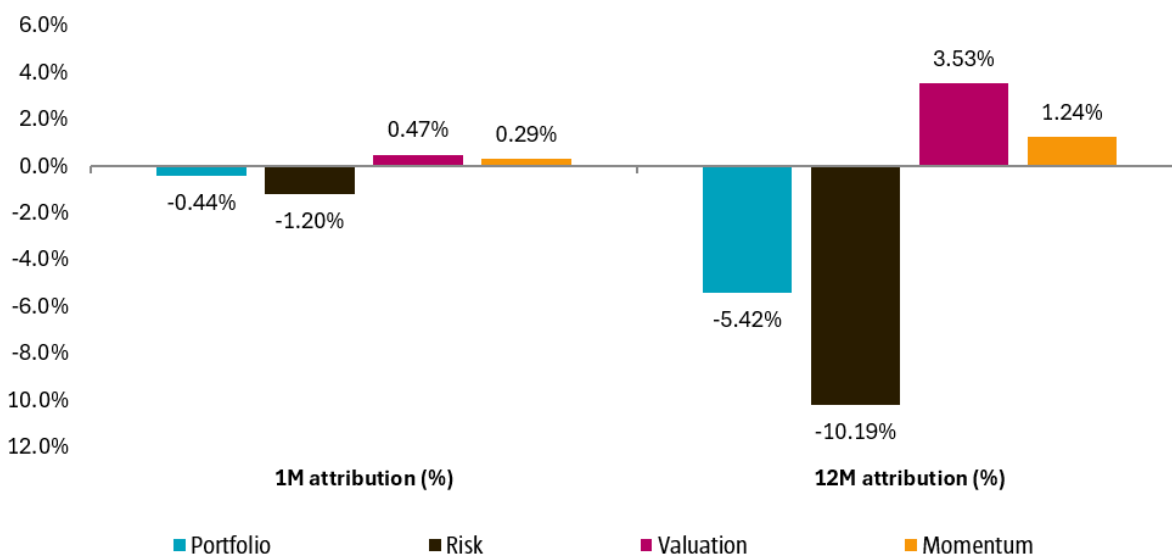
Source: Robeco, MSCI, Bloomberg.

2. Performance attribution

Performance lagged the benchmark slightly. Chinese financial holdings such as Bank of China and Bank of Communications, combined with underweights in Tencent, Trip.com, and Pop Mart, hurt returns. Most bank stocks had surged to record highs over the summer, but recent cost pressures triggered a pullback. Offsetting factors included underweights in index heavyweight TSMC, in Meituan, and in India's HDFC Bank. Defensive holdings like Telefonica Brasil and Chinese insurer PICC also added resilience.

Last month, our portfolio slightly underperformed the benchmark. The primary contributors to performance were valuation and momentum, both of which had positive impacts. However, low-risk acted as a detractor.

Over the past 12 months, the portfolio also experienced underperformance. Valuation was the largest contributor, followed by momentum, both positively impacting the overall return. Nonetheless, low-risk was a significant detractor during this period.

Figure 1 – Factor attribution


Source: Robeco Performance Measurement. The figures show relative portfolio returns versus the index. The relative portfolio return is gross of fees and net of transaction costs and is the sum of the allocation effect and stock selection contribution, excluding cash & other. The relative portfolio return is entirely attributed to underlying Robeco factors. All stocks in the portfolio and index are ranked on Robeco factors and grouped into five market value-weighted quintiles. The portfolio factor exposures are averages over the previous month. The returns are over the whole period.

Table 3 – Top contributors – Top detractors

Name	Effect	Country	Sector	Active Weight	Return	Index Return
Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing	0.25%	Taiwan	Information Technology	-6.58%	-2.36%	-2.36%
People's Insurance Co (Group) of China	0.19%	China	Financials	1.34%	16.37%	16.37%
Meituan	0.14%	China	Consumer Discretionary	-0.84%	0.00%	-14.96%
HDFC Bank	0.12%	India	Financials	-0.69%	-15.73%	-15.73%
Telefonica Brasil	0.12%	Brazil	Communication Services	1.30%	11.18%	11.18%
Name	Effect	Country	Sector	Active Weight	Return	Index Return
Hon Hai Precision Industry	-0.09%	Taiwan	Information Technology	-0.91%	0.00%	11.63%
Delta Electronics	-0.09%	Taiwan	Information Technology	-0.46%	0.00%	22.44%
Nu	-0.09%	Brazil	Financials	-0.46%	0.00%	21.11%
Bank of China	-0.10%	China	Financials	1.40%	-5.52%	-5.52%
Sun Pharmaceutical Industries	-0.10%	India	Health Care	1.12%	-7.24%	-7.24%

Source: Robeco Performance Measurement and MSCI.

3. Positioning

Robeco QI Emerging Conservative Equities selects from an investable universe of around 2,000 EM stocks, buying securities with low-risk characteristics, such as low volatility, low market sensitivity, and low distress risk. Simultaneously, these low-risk stocks are characterized by attractive valuations, a high and stable dividend, positive price momentum, and favorable analyst revisions.

Figure 2 – Sector and country positioning matrix

Positioning	Brazil	United Arab Emirates	Malaysia	Thailand	Taiwan	Greece	Mexico	Saudi Arabia	China	Korea	India	Total
Financials	1.6	1.6	1.5	1.8	2.8	-0.4		-1.5	4.4	0.5	-3.5	8.9
Communication Services	1.4			1.2	3.2	0.3		0.9	-2.4	1.5	-0.5	6.0
Consumer Staples	-0.3		0.3		0.6		2.0		0.3		1.5	4.2
Utilities	1.8								0.4		-0.5	1.7
Health Care									-0.8	-0.6	2.5	1.1
Real Estate		0.4									-0.3	
Industrials	-0.4		0.9						2.8	-1.7	-1.5	
Energy	-0.6	0.6							-0.8		-1.5	-2.1
Materials	-0.5				0.9		-0.4	-0.4		-0.3	-0.9	-3.3
Consumer Discretionary		0.3				1.3		0.7	-7.3	0.5	-1.6	-7.2
Information Technology					-6.0				-0.3	-4.5	1.1	-9.3
Total	3.2	2.9	2.8	2.6	1.5	1.3	1.1	-0.5	-3.9	-5.0	-5.1	

Source: Robeco. Figures show relative portfolio positioning versus the index. Only the largest countries are shown. Sector totals include all countries. Only relative positions of >0.25%/<-0.25% are highlighted. Excludes cash positions.

Table 4 – Portfolio exposures

Relatively large portfolio weight		Relatively small portfolio weight	
Financials (China)	Strong low-risk profile with favorable low price/earnings ratios. Key overweighted securities in this sector include Agricultural Bank of China and Bank of China.	Consumer Discretionary (China)	Underweighted due to high volatility. Key underweighted securities in this sector include Meituan and Pop Mart International.
Communication Services (Taiwan)	Strong low-risk profile with low distress risk. The sector also presents good value opportunities. A notable overweighted security in this sector is Taiwan Mobile.	Information Technology (Taiwan)	Underweighted in the Information Technology sector in Taiwan, primarily due to low price momentum. Key underweighted securities include Wistron and Gigabyte Technology.
Financials (Taiwan)	Strong low-risk profile, highlighted by low distress risk. Key overweighted securities in this sector include First Financial and Taiwan Cooperative Financial.	Information Technology (Korea)	Underweighted due to high distress risk. Notable underweighted securities in this sector include SK hynix and Samsung SDI.

Source: Robeco.

The fund is characterized by a portfolio of low-risk stocks, offering high and stable dividends and a price-to-earnings ratio lower than the market. A comparison of various characteristics of the portfolio versus those of its benchmark – the MSCI Emerging Markets Index – shows a consistent picture, where the strategy remains well-positioned towards the model factors.

Given these characteristics, we firmly believe the strategy is well-positioned to continue harvesting the model factor premiums in Emerging Markets.

Table 5 – Portfolio characteristics

June 2025	Portfolio	MSCI EM	MSCI MinVol		Portfolio	MSCI EM	MSCI MinVol
Risk: Statistical & Distress				Active Positioning			
Volatility (holdings-based 3y)	21.5%	32.4%	23.3%	Number of securities	221	1203	323
Beta (holdings-based 3y)	0.5	1	0.5	Active share	78.0%	-	72.4%
Distance-to-default	6.7	4.6	6.4	Off benchmark	15.0%	-	-
				Expected Turnover	25.0%	-	20.0%
				Realized Turnover	14.0%	8.0%	22.0%
Income & Sentiment				Sustainability			
Dividend yield	4.3%	2.6%	3.2%	Sustainalytics ESG Risk Rating	22.5	22.7	25.0
Net payout yield	4.3%	2.6%	3.1%	GhG emissions (t CO2-eq/mUSD)	81.9	180.8	160.7
Price/Earnings	12.0	14.5	15.3	Positive SDG exposure	52.8%	52.1%	48.7%
Price momentum (12-1M)	25.4%	19.4%	15.4%				
Earnings revisions (3M, % net positive)	31.7%	35.7%	24.2%				
Market capitalization				Summary			
>10 bn USD	62.8%	84.5%	77.9%	Lower risk than market, similar to minvol index			
2-10 bn USD	31.5%	15.4%	22.0%	Attractive income/sentiment. Increased opportunity set with small/mid caps			
<2 bn USD	5.7%	0.1%	0.1%	Active and 3D portfolio with low turnover			

Source: Robeco, FactSet. The fund aims for a better sustainability profile compared to the benchmark by promoting certain sustainability characteristics within the meaning of Article 8 of the European Sustainable Finance Disclosure Regulation and integrating sustainability in the investment process. More specifically, the binding elements as per the prospectus and sustainability disclosure (SFDR disclosure) pertain to applying the Robeco Level 1 exclusion list, targeting a Sustainalytics ESG risk rating that is better than the benchmark, and pursuing better carbon, waste and water footprints than the benchmark.

Table 6 below shows the current main over- and underweights as a result of our bottom-up stock-selection process.

The portfolio's highest overweight positions were in Chunghwa Telecom at 1.52% and Malayan Banking at 1.48%. Conversely, the most underweighted securities were Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing at -6.58% and Alibaba at -2.87%.

Table 6 – Main active over and underweights of the fund

Name	Sector	Country	Active Weight
Chunghwa Telecom	Communication Services	Taiwan	1.52%
Malayan Banking	Financials	Malaysia	1.48%
Agricultural Bank of China	Financials	China	1.44%
Bank of China	Financials	China	1.40%
People's Insurance Co (Group) of China	Financials	China	1.34%
Bank of Communications	Financials	China	1.32%
Telefonica Brasil	Communication Services	Brazil	1.30%
HCL Technologies	Information Technology	India	1.29%
SinoPac Financial	Financials	Taiwan	1.29%
Arca Continental	Consumer Staples	Mexico	1.21%
Name	Sector	Country	Active Weight
Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing	Information Technology	Taiwan	-6.58%
Alibaba	Consumer Discretionary	China	-2.87%
Samsung Electronics	Information Technology	Korea	-2.66%
SK hynix	Information Technology	Korea	-1.14%
Tencent	Communication Services	China	-1.11%
Reliance Industries	Energy	India	-1.07%
Hon Hai Precision Industry	Information Technology	Taiwan	-0.91%
PDD	Consumer Discretionary	China	-0.91%
Meituan	Consumer Discretionary	China	-0.84%
MediaTek	Information Technology	Taiwan	-0.76%

Source: Robeco.

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This document has not been registered with the Monetary Authority of Singapore ("MAS"). Accordingly, this document may not be circulated or distributed directly or indirectly to persons in Singapore other than (i) to an institutional investor under Section 304 of the SFA, (ii) to a relevant person pursuant to Section 305(1), or any person pursuant to Section 305(2), and in accordance with the conditions specified in Section 305, of the SFA, or (iii) otherwise pursuant to, and in accordance with the conditions of, any other applicable provision of the SFA. The contents of this document have not been reviewed by the MAS. Any decision to participate in the Fund should be made only after reviewing the sections regarding investment considerations, conflicts of interest, risk factors and the relevant Singapore selling restrictions (as described in the section entitled "Important information for Singapore Investors") contained in the prospectus. Investors should consult their professional adviser if you are in doubt about the stringent restrictions applicable to the use of this document, regulatory status of the Fund, applicable regulatory protection, associated risks and suitability of the Fund to your objectives. Investors should note that only the Sub-Funds listed in the appendix to the section entitled "Important information for Singapore Investors" of the prospectus ("Sub-Funds") are available to Singapore investors. The Sub-Funds are notified as restricted foreign schemes under the Securities and Futures Act, Chapter 289 of Singapore ("SFA") and invoke the exemptions from compliance with prospectus registration requirements pursuant to the exemptions under Section 304 and Section 305 of the SFA. The Sub-Funds are not authorized or recognized by the MAS and shares in the Sub-Funds are not allowed to be offered to the retail public in Singapore. The prospectus of the Fund is not a prospectus as defined in the SFA. Accordingly, statutory liability under the SFA in relation to the content of prospectuses does not apply. The Sub-Funds may only be promoted exclusively to persons who are sufficiently experienced and sophisticated to understand the risks involved in investing in such schemes, and who satisfy certain other criteria provided under Section 304, Section 305 or any other applicable provision of the SFA and the subsidiary legislation enacted thereunder. You should consider carefully whether the investment is suitable for you. Robeco Singapore Private Limited holds a capital markets services license for fund management issued by the MAS and is subject to certain clientele restrictions under such license.

Additional information for investors with residence or seat in Spain

Robeco Institutional Asset Management B.V., Sucursal en España with identification number W0032687F and having its registered office in Madrid at Calle Serrano 47-14º, is registered with the Spanish Commercial Registry in Madrid, in volume 19.957, page 190, section 8, sheet M-351927 and with the National Securities Market Commission (CNMV) in the Official Register of branches of European investment services companies, under number 24. The investment funds or SICAV mentioned in this document are regulated by the corresponding authorities of their country of origin and are registered in the Special Registry of the CNMV of Foreign Collective Investment Institutions marketed in Spain.

Additional information for investors with residence or seat in South Africa

Robeco Institutional Asset Management B.V. is registered and regulated by the Financial Sector Conduct Authority in South Africa.

Additional information for investors with residence or seat in Switzerland

The Fund(s) are domiciled in Luxembourg. This document is exclusively distributed in Switzerland to qualified investors as defined in the Swiss Collective Investment Schemes Act (CISA). This material is distributed by Robeco Switzerland Ltd, postal address: Josefstrasse 218, 8005 Zurich. ACOLIN Fund Services AG, postal address: Leutschenbachstrasse 50, 8050 Zürich, acts as the Swiss representative of the Fund(s). UBS Switzerland AG, Bahnhofstrasse 45, 8001 Zurich, postal address: Europastrasse 2, P.O. Box, CH-8152 Opfikon, acts as the Swiss paying agent. The prospectus, the Key Information Documents (PRIIP), the articles of association, the annual and semi-annual reports of the Fund(s), as well as the list of the purchases and sales which the Fund(s) has undertaken during the financial year, may be obtained, on simple request and free of charge, at the office of the Swiss representative ACOLIN Fund Services AG. The prospectuses are also available via the website.

Additional information for investors with residence or seat in Taiwan

The Funds may be made available outside Taiwan for purchase outside Taiwan by Taiwan resident investors, but may not be offered or sold in Taiwan. The contents of this document have not been reviewed by any regulatory authority in Taiwan. If you are in any doubt about any of the contents of this document, you should obtain independent professional advice.

Additional information for investors with residence or seat in Thailand

The Prospectus has not been approved by the Securities and Exchange Commission which takes no responsibility for its contents. No offer to the public to purchase the Shares will be made in Thailand and the Prospectus is intended to be read by the addressee only and must not be passed to, issued to, or shown to the public generally.

Additional information for investors with residence or seat in the United Arab Emirates

Some Funds referred to in this marketing material have been registered with the UAE Securities and Commodities Authority ("the Authority"). Details of all Registered Funds can be found on the Authority's website. The Authority assumes no liability for the accuracy of the information set out in this material/document, nor for the failure of any persons engaged in the investment Fund in performing their duties and responsibilities.

Additional information for investors with residence or seat in the United Kingdom

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Additional information for investors with residence or seat in Uruguay

The sale of the Fund qualifies as a private placement pursuant to section 2 of Uruguayan law 18,627. The Fund must not be offered or sold to the public in Uruguay, except under circumstances which do not constitute a public offering or distribution under Uruguayan laws and regulations. The Fund is not and will not be registered with the Financial Services Superintendency of the Central Bank of Uruguay. The Fund corresponds to investment funds that are not investment funds regulated by Uruguayan law 16,774 dated 27 September 1996, as amended.